

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, July 10, 1984

GEORGE N. GRAY

CHAIRMAN

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

July 10, 1984

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

July 10, 1984

Chairman George N. Gray, presiding:

Members present:

Dr. Jack Cappel  
Mr. Wayne Ducote  
Mr. James Farrelly

Secretary J. Burton Angelle was present.

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. George N. Gray, on Tuesday, July 10, 1984 at 10:00 AM at the Quail Drive office in Baton Rouge.

A roll call of members was taken.

The invocation was offered by Dr. Jack Cappel.

A motion was made by Dr. Jack Cappel to go into a committee as a whole.

A motion was made by Dr. Cappel, seconded by Mr. Farrelly, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of June 5, 1984.

Mayor Charles Dickey of Oil City recommended that the Commission permit the use of gill, trammel and flag nets having a minimum mesh size of four inch bar. Bennie Fontenot recommended that the Caddo Lake netting recommendations remain unchanged and that these nets not be allowed.

Marc Dupuy, former Commission member, made a presentation concerning Operation Game Thief. He said it was an exciting new program, a cooperative effort by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the private non-private corporation called Louisiana Operation Game Thief, Inc. This was the formal announcement that the program is operational. Thirty-five sportsmen met January 21, 1984 and formed the corporation consisting of eleven board members, three at-large and thirty-five members who act as an advisory committee. The objectives are to enhance the efforts of enforcement of wildlife and fisheries laws by providing an incentive in the form of cash rewards for reporting violations and facts that lead to arrest of violators and to promote public interest and citizen involvement in stopping violations of our laws. Every contribution made is tax deductible.

Corky Perret presented two resolutions to the Commission to set the oyster season. A motion was made by Mr. Farrelly to accept recommendations, seconded by Dr. Cappel, and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolutions here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the natural oyster reefs (oyster seed grounds) under the managerial supervision of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission must open on the first Wednesday following Labor Day, September 5, 1984 as provided for by Louisiana Law Title 56, Section 433, which also authorized the Commission to regulate the size limit and area closures after January 1 of each year on state controlled grounds, and

WHEREAS, "Oyster Seed Reservations" are small portions of the "Oyster Seed Grounds" managed and controlled for seed oyster production which are opened on alternate years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby open the "Hackberry Bay (Du Chene) Oyster Seed Reservation" and the "Sister Lake (Cailou Lake) Oyster Reservation" in accordance with Louisiana Law Title 56, Section 433, which opens said season one-half hour before sunrise on the first Wednesday following Labor Day, September 5, 1984 with the exception of "Sister Lake (Cailou Lake) Oyster Seed Reservation". Said season on the other reservations shall remain open with the same regulations as the regular oyster season; however, the secretary shall be authorized and empowered to close the two areas if it is deemed necessary by biological investigations and sampling.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the "Sister Lake Oyster Seed Reservation" will remain open for the period (September 5 through September 30) for bedding only, close and then reopen October 15 for both bedding and sacking for the remaining portion of the public oyster season.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 1984 shell plant areas in Lake Borgne, Black Bay, Pelican Island and Sister Lake which have been properly marked will remain closed for the 1984-85 season.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there will be no sacking within the area described under the reciprocating agreement area (RS56:561) until October 29, 1984. This is an emergency action. The reason for this emergency action is that the biological surveys to determine the amount, size, and condition of the oysters and oyster seed grounds have to be made continually until the week prior to the Commission meeting in which this matter is the subject on the agenda.

WHEREAS, the Commission biologists and the Chief of the Seafood Division have recommended the fishing of the oysters in Calcasieu Lake with the exception of the Calcasieu River and Ship Channel, East Fork, West Fork, and Oyster Bayou, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Resources will examine the growing oysters of this aforementioned areas approve the waters for fishing oysters if the health standards are met, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission that the Calcasieu Lake Oyster Season for 1984-85 be set in accordance with the following rules and regulations:

- (1) That the oyster season in Calcasieu Lake be fixed to extend from one-half hour before sunrise on Monday, November 12, 1984 through one-half hour after sunset on Friday, March 15, 1985 with the right being reserved to close said season sooner if biologically justifiable.
- (2) That oyster fishing be limited only to the use of tongs and to daylight hours.
- (3) The open areas shall be confined to the area of Calcasieu Lake with the exception of Calcasieu River and Ship Channel, East Fork, West Fork, and Oyster Bayou which shall be closed.
- (4) The three inch culling law shall be observed by all fishermen fishing the area and the culls shall be scattered around the perimeter of the reefs to provide for expansion of future harvesting.
- (5) The taking of oysters for commercial purposes shall be limited to 10 sacks per boat per day by law.
- (6) All oysters shall be put into sacks before leaving the oyster fishing area in Calcasieu Lake. Oysters not in sacks leaving the fishing area in Calcasieu Lake shall be confiscated and violator subject to penalty set forth in Title 56, Section 115.
- (7) The taking of oysters for home consumption shall be limited to three bushels (two sacks per boat per day).
- (8) All commercial fishing of oysters shall be done only with proper licenses, and the sacks of oysters be properly tagged before leaving the fishing vessel. All sacks entering into commerce shall be tagged.

Ray Montet gave the enforcement report for the month of May. There were eighteen boating accidents, sixteen injuries and six fatalities.

Harry Schafer presented the Survey Section Report for the period of June 11 - June 28, 1984. During that period, field activity consisted of 88 surveys scheduled, 70 of which were surveyed. Thirteen applications were unable to be surveyed due to bad weather or low tide. Five applicants failed to appear for survey. He presented a resolution to the Commission to adjust Sister Lake Seed Reservation boundary. A motion was made by Mr. Farrelly, seconded by Mr. Gray and passed unanimously to adopt recommendation for the adjustment of the Sister Lake Seed Reservation boundary.

(The full text of the resolution here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, two oyster leases that reverted to the Department because of non-payment of rental fees, and

WHEREAS, these leases were on the edge of the seed reservation and over the years due to erosion and subsidence they are now in open waters and difficult to distinguish from the seed reservation, and

WHEREAS, there is difficulty in keeping the people who fished these leases from going into the reservation and harvesting oysters in violation of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that these two areas will become a part of the Sister Lake Oyster Seed Reservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a complete corrected description of the boundary of the Seed Reservation is included as part of the record. (Copy attached)

Allan Ensminger presented a resolution to set the alligator season. A motion was made by Mr. Ducote, seconded by Dr. Cappel, and passed unanimously to accept the alligator season as September 8 through October 7, 1984.

(The full text of the resolution here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under the Endangered Species Act to establish and alligator season; and

WHEREAS, the alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the surplus animals is considered to be a wise use of this natural resource of the State of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules, regulations and guidelines for administering the 1984 alligator season. (Copy attached)

Allan Ensminger presented another resolution to the Commission to purchase property adjacent to the New Iberia office. A motion was made by Mr. Ducote, seconded by Dr. Cappel, to authorize the purchase of the property, and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the expansion of programs, including additional personnel assigned to the New Iberia office, and

WHEREAS, the original office did not include a laboratory for analysis of field collections, including stomach content, reproductive tracts, autopsies and general condition of various animal carcasses that is presently conducted in a small metal building not attached to the main office because of lack of space and the odors associated with that activity, and

WHEREAS, a rare opportunity to purchase additional property (2.215 acres), and a combination laboratory and storage building at a very reasonable price (\$86,225),

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby resolve and approve the purchase of said property.

Mary Mitchell presented a resolution for a reciprocal agreement with Texas on fishing for persons 65 years and over. A motion was made by Mr. Ducote, seconded by Dr. Cappel, and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Commission to enter into a reciprocal agreement with the State of Texas to allow citizens of either Texas or Louisiana who are 65 years of age or older to fish without the payment of a license fee and the requirement of a license when fishing recreationally in the other state, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that said reciprocal agreement, as attached hereto, be and is hereby approved.

Joe Herring presented a resolution for approval of small land acquisition tracts. A motion was made by Mr. Farrelly, seconded by Dr. Cappel, and passed unanimously to approve acquisition.

(The full text of the resolution here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission recognizes the need to continue its land acquisition program which has resulted in preservation of 300,000 acres of valuable wildlife habitat in Louisiana for public use, and

WHEREAS, there now exists three small parcels of property totaling 210 acres and lying adjacent to Department owned lands in Ouachita and Catahoula Parishes, and

WHEREAS, all three tracts have been made available to the Department at or below the appraised value and would be valuable additions to the Ouachita Wildlife Management Area and Sicily Island Hills Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, the \$152,000 needed for purchase of these three tracts is presently available in special accounts, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby recommends and approves the immediate purchase of these additions to the Ouachita Wildlife Management Area, 180 acres and the Sicily Island Hills Wildlife Management Area, 30 acres by the Department.

Joe Herring presented a resolution to ratify the 1984-85 resident game hunting seasons. A motion was made by Mr. Farrelly, seconded by Dr. Cappel, and passed unanimously, to ratify the 1984-85 resident game hunting seasons.

(The full text of the resolution here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission set the proposed 1984-85 resident game hunting season, and

WHEREAS, these proposals for the 1984-85 resident game hunting seasons were then sent to the Legislative Oversight Committee, and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Oversight Committee has approved the 1984-85 resident game hunting seasons as submitted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on this date July 10, 1984 approved and ratified the resident game seasons set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its April, 1984 meeting and later approved by the Louisiana Legislative Oversight Committee.

Joe Herring also presented a resolution for doves and migratory sepcies other than waterfowl for approval. A motion was made by Dr. Cappel, seconded by Mr. Farrelly, and passed unanimously, to approve these dates.

(The full text of the resolution here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, personnel from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries attended the public hearing held by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, DC for migratory species other than waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is making no recommended changes to the states on doves, rails, gallinules, snipe, woodcock and teal from last year, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has heard the staff's recommendations for the 1984-85 migratory bird species other than waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the recommendations are:

(1) Doves: Framework - Sept. 1 - Jan. 15 (3-Way Split Permitted).

<u>North Zone</u>	<u>Bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>
Sept. 1-9 (9 days)	15	30
Oct. 13-Nov. 4 (23 days)	15	30
Dec. 8-Jan. 4 (28 days)	15	30
Total: <u>60 days</u>		

South Zone

Oct. 13-Nov. 18 (37 days)	15	30
Dec. 8-30 (23 days)	15	30
Total: <u>60 days</u>		

(2) Rails: Framework - Sept. 1 - Jan. 20 (2-Way Split Permitted).

Sept. 22-30 (9 days)	15	30
Nov. 3-Jan. 2 (61 days)	15	30
Total: <u>70 days</u>		

- (3) Gallinules: Framework - Sept. 1 - Jan. 20 (2-Way Split Permitted)
- |                         |    |    |
|-------------------------|----|----|
| Sept. 22-30 (9 days)    | 15 | 30 |
| Nov. 3-Jan. 2 (61 days) | 15 | 30 |
| Total: <u>70 days</u>   |    |    |
- (4) Snipe: Framework - Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 (2-Way Split Permitted).
- |                           |   |    |
|---------------------------|---|----|
| Nov. 3-Feb. 17 (107 days) | 8 | 16 |
|---------------------------|---|----|
- (5) Woodcock: Framework - Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 (2-Way Split Permitted)
- |                          |   |    |
|--------------------------|---|----|
| Dec. 8-Feb. 10 (65 days) | 5 | 10 |
|--------------------------|---|----|
- (6) Teal: Framework Sept. 1 - 30 (No Split Permitted).
- |                      |   |   |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Sept. 22-30 (9 days) | 4 | 8 |
|----------------------|---|---|

Shooting Hours:

Doves: 12:00 Noon to Sunset  
 Rails, Gallinules, Snipe and Woodcock: 1/2 Hour Before  
 Sunrise to Sunset  
 September Teal Season: Sunrise to Sunset

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on this date July 10, 1984 adopts the migratory bird season as recommended by the Game Division Staff for the 1984-85 hunting season.

J. Burton Angelle, Secretary, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries announced that Hugh Bateman was the new Chief of the Game Division

Mr. Angelle also gave a report on thirty bills pertaining to wildlife and fisheries that became law during the legislative session.

A motion was made by Mr. Farrelly, seconded by Mr. Ducote, and passed unanimously, to hold the October meeting on the 8th and 9th in New Orleans.

A motion was made by Mr. Ducote, seconded by Dr. Cappel, to adjourn the meeting.

Description of Caillou Lake (Sister Lake) Seed Oyster Reservation in T.21S,--  
15E Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana.

Beginning at LWL&F Monument I-1 (x-2126463.970) (y-216344.108) on north shore of Sister Lake and west shore of Grand Pass going S 56° 47' 31" E 71.065' (x-2126523.429) (y-216305.186). Thence S 69° 10' 06" E 183.776' (x-2126695.192) (y-216239.83). Thence S 89° 23' 41" E 1560.560' (x-2128255.665)(y-216223.346). Thence N 50° 33' 29" W 477.719' (x-2127886.738)(y-216526.84) Thence N 03° 46' 24" E 75.000' to LWL&F Monument K-2 (x-2127891.673)(y-216601.678). Thence in a easterly direction along the north shore to LWL&F Monument K-3 (x-2135583.521)(y-216662.538). Thence S 71° 04' 17" E 374.630' to LWL&F Monument K-4 (x-2135937.893)(y-216541.012). Thence easterly along the north shore of Lake Cove to LWL&F Monument K-5 (x-2143774.557)(y-215900.240) on west shore of Bayou Jones. Thence S 69° 43' 04" E 1008.738' to LWL&F Monument K-6 (x-2144720.751)(y-215550.566) on east shore of Bayou Jones. Thence in a southerly direction to LWL&F Monument K-7 (x-2144250.939)(y-211478.001) on the north shore of a cut. Thence S 42° 32' 03" W 544.420 to LWL&F Monument K-8 (x-2143882.895)(y-211076.831) on south shore of a cut. Thence in a westerly direction along north shore of an island to LWL&F Monument K-9 (x-2141782.265)(y-210078.168). Thence S 80° 34' 48" W 310.0' (x-2141476.445)(y-210027.4302). Thence S 13° 42' 14" E 300.034' (x-2141547.525)(y-209735.937). Thence S 70° 39' 57" W 1312.037' (x-2140309.483)(y-209301.549). Thence S. 23° 10' 32" E 1026.03' (x-2140713.278)(y-208358.3159). Thence N 58° 54' 38" E 3333.85' (x-2143568.264)(y-210079.8305). Thence S 19° 01' 00" E 100.784' to LWL&F Monument K-12 (x-2143601.104)(y-209984.547) on south shore of Mile Pass. Thence in an easterly direction along the south shore of an island to LWL&F Monument K-13 (x-2144158.393)(y-209644.614) on north shore of a cut to Monclouse Bay. Thence S 27° 59' 40" E 814.715 to LWL&F Monument K-14 (x-2144540.809)(y-208925.226) on south shore of a cut to Monclouse Bay. Thence in a southerly direction along the east shore to LWL&F Monument K-15 (x-2144228.117)(y-207494.924). Thence S 18° 09' 37" E 707.928' to LWL&F Monument K-16 (x-2144448.761)(y-206822.259) Thence in a southerly direction along the east shore to LWL&F Monument K-17 (x-2143603.797)(y-203824.295). Then S 06° 44' 40" W 3020.388' to LWL&F Monument K-18 (x-2143249.080)(y-200824.808) on west shore of and island. Then S 75° 56' 36" W 4863.660' to LWL&F Monument K-19 (x-2138531.057)(y-199643.516). Thence S 53° 51' 59" W 885.841 to LWL&F Monument K-20 (x-2137815.612)(y-199121.162). Thence in a westerly direction along the south shore of the Lake to LWL&F Monument K-21 (x-2122568.871)(y-199634.866) on east shore of Grand Bayou Du Large. Thence N 68° 15' 32" W 132.106' (x-2122446.162)(y-199683.7997). Thence S 9° 11' 23" W 2083.741' (x-2122113.380)(y-197626.8037). Thence N 67° 24' 13" W 1312.948' (x-2120901.222)(y-198131.2881). Thence N 25° 48' 15" E 632.447' (x-2121176.525)(y-198700.6714). Thence N 22° 26' 46" E 2988.627' (x-2122317.623)(y-201462.828). Thence N 69° 15' 22" W 19.85. To LWL&F Monument K-22 (x-2122299.059)(y-201469.909) on west shore of Grand Bayou Du Large. Thence N 07° 35' 49" E 38.127' (x-2122304.100)(y-201507.702). Thence N 22° 53' 59" W 486.595' (x-2122114.756)(y-201955.948). To a point on the north shore of a Bayou at its entrance to Sister Lake. Thence in a northerly direction along the west shore of to LWL&F Monument K- 23 (x-2121123.724)(y-202433.290). Thence N 04° 13' 06" E 50.000' (x-2121127.296)(y-202483.154). Thence N 39° 27' 50" W 2863.635' (x-2119307.296)(y-204693.951). Thence N 25° 47' 17" W 243.559' to LWL&F Monument K-24 (x-2119201.337)(y-204913.254). Thence in a northerly direction along the westshore of the Lake and coves to LWL&F Monument K-25 (x-2126415.433)(y-212526.111). Thence in a northerly direction along west shore of lake to the point of beginning.

All coordinates are derived from a boundary Survey Traverse Closure of the Lake, a copy of which is included as part of this description.

ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE LOUISIANA WILDLIFE  
AND FISHERIES COMMISSION AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD IN BATON  
ROUGE, LOUISIANA ON TUESDAY, JULY 10, 1984\*

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries recommends

that an alligator season be hereby established in accordance with the following regulations: No exceptions of these procedures will be permitted, and anyone taking alligators contrary to these regulations will be charged in accordance with Title 56 of the Louisiana Laws Pertaining to Wildlife and Fisheries, appropriate federal laws, and/or Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations;

1. Open area - Alligator habitat in the state of Louisiana. Harvest quotas will be rigidly controlled according to alligator population estimates within all of the state's wetland habitat types.
2. Harvest season - The open season shall run for a 30-day period beginning on September 8, 1984, and continue through October 7, 1984. Size - no alligators under four feet in length may be taken.
3. Harvest methods - Alligators may be taken only during daylight hours, between official sunrise and official sunset. If a licensed hunter is cited for hunting alligators out of season, at night, or on property other than that for which tags were assigned, all tags and skins for the current season will be confiscated in addition to revocation of the alligator hunting license. Special instructions will be issued to the holders of alligator hunter licenses shortly before the opening of the season describing detailed methods regarding the skinning of

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\*Harvest rates will be submitted upon completion of data analysis.

alligators. Skins processed contrary to the specific requirements of the Department will be considered illegal and will be confiscated by Department personnel. Pole hunting is prohibited to protect the nesting female population. Hooks and lines may be set no more than one day prior to the season opening. No hook and line shall remain set after the closing day of the alligator season. All alligator hooks and lines must be checked daily and all hooks and lines must be removed when a hunter's tag quota is reached. Alligators cannot be cut loose from hooks and lines for purposes of selecting larger alligators.

4. Licenses - An alligator hunter must have in possession a valid commercial alligator hunter license to take or sell alligators or their skins or other alligator parts. The fee for the resident license is \$25.00 per year and for the non-resident \$150.00. These licenses are non-transferable. In order to obtain a resident license, the hunter must have resided within the state for a period of 90 days immediately preceding the season and established bona fide residence in the state. A hunter must complete application forms provided by the Department and furnish proof that he owns the land or has an agreement with the landowner or another authorized hunter to hunt alligators on the specified property. Information as to the location and acreage of the property must be provided (all land descriptions must include parish, township, range, and section delineation figures). Applications must be submitted beginning August 1, 1984. Property ownership and

description requirements do not apply to public lake hunters. The alligator hunter license will be issued only after the hunter has satisfactorily complied with the above requirements. Commercial alligator hunter licenses will not be issued after September 14, 1984. Non-resident hunters and resident sport hunters must coordinate their hunt through landowners and licensed resident hunters. A non-resident hunter may take no more than 3 alligators per season. A fur buyer license or fur dealer license is required for purchasing and handling raw alligator skins in Louisiana. An alligator parts dealer license is required of any person who deals in alligator parts other than hides and who: (a) Buys from an alligator hunter or farmer for the purpose of resale; or (b) Manufactures within the state alligator parts into a finished product; or (c) Purchases, cans, processes, or distributes alligator meat for wholesale or retail. A retailer selling canned alligator parts or a retailer purchasing alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer or a restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption shall not be classified as an alligator parts dealer. The fee for the parts dealer license is \$50.00 per year. Persons or firms entering alligators or alligator skins and/or parts in interstate/foreign commerce in the course of a commercial activity must be licensed in accordance with state and federal regulations. Persons shipping alligators, or alligator skins and/or parts to another state must do so in accordance with the regulations of that state. (An alligator retail meat/parts license is required of each retailer selling canned alligator parts or each retailer purchasing

and selling alligator parts/meat and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption. The fee for the retail meat/parts license is \$5.00 per year).

5. Tagging - In addition to a valid commercial alligator hunting license, the hunter must also obtain from the Department, and have in his possession while hunting, official tags which must be firmly attached to each alligator skin immediately upon taking. Numbered tags will be issued to license holders for a sum of \$5.00 (one fee charged regardless of the number of tags involved). Alligator tags will not be issued after September 14, 1984. The tags must be attached and locked in the last 6 inches of the tail. The tag must remain attached to the skin until finally processed by the fabricator. It shall be illegal to possess alligator skins in Louisiana without valid official tags attached. Failure to properly tag an alligator or skin will result in confiscation of both the alligator or skin and tag. Official alligator tags will be issued only to alligator hunters, and farmers and only to those who have authorized applications. The number of tags will be issued on the basis of the quantity and quality of the habitat, and the rate per acre will be fixed based on extensive population estimates. Tags will be issued for alligator habitat only, based on final decision of Department biologists. Tags issued on public lakes are non-transferable and limited to 5 per hunter. No more than this fixed number of tags will be issued. Each official tag will bear a characteristic number, and the tag numbers issued to each hunter will be recorded. Hunters will be held accountable for all alligator tags issued to them.

Unused tags must be returned by the hunter to the Department no later than 15 days following the close of the season. Department personnel must be notified, within 15 days following the close of the season, of any alligator hides not sold to a commercial buyer or dealer on official Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries forms provided. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced but must be reported within 15 days of close of season. Tags can be used only on the lands applied for and approved on the application. Tags furnished by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries must be attached to all alligator meat/parts upon transfer by a hunter or farmer.

6. Alligator Farmers and Breeders - Licensed alligator farmers or breeders will be issued permits to kill and skin their alligators but must follow the same rules and regulations which apply to wild alligators (except farm alligators can be harvested during closed season with Department approval).
7. Sale of Alligator Skins - All alligator skins taken during the alligator season must be validated by personnel of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries prior to the hides leaving the state. Special skinning instructions will be verified, and any skins not prepared according to instructions issued in advance of season will be considered illegal. Buyers/dealers must abide by special skinning instructions or be subject to forfeiture of improperly skinned hides.
8. Buyer/Dealer Hide Records - All buyers and dealers making purchases of alligator hides shall maintain a complete set of records of all purchases and sales. Such records will

include names and addresses of buyers and/or sellers, alligator hide tag number and length, and date purchased. Dealers will submit reports as required by the Department for all hides purchased/sold. Every buyer or dealer having raw alligator hides in his possession shall file with the Department within sixty days after the close of the alligator season, or prior to shipping out of state, a complete report as specified on forms provided by the Department.

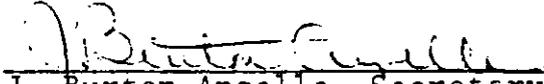
9. Shipment - All interstate shipments of raw alligator skins must be tagged with official out-of-state shipping tags provided by the Department. All shipments of skins within the state must be tagged with official Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in-state shipping tags. A severance tax of 25¢ per hide must be paid on all out-of-state shipments at the time skins are transported or shipped.
10. Sale of Meat and Parts - Meat and other parts from lawfully taken alligators can only be sold according to Louisiana Health Department regulations, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries regulations, and federal laws. Alligator meat sold for human food must be processed in a facility approved by the Louisiana Health Department. If a person or firm (corporation) is cited for buying or selling alligator meat that was not processed through a licensed alligator processing plant, all alligator meat in possession will be confiscated. Alligator hunters, farmers, and parts dealers shall maintain records of all transactions, purchases, and sales on forms provided by the Department. These forms shall be submitted to the Department

within 30 days following the close of the season and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold. All alligator meat and parts, excluding hides, shall be tagged with an official alligator parts tag (Color: Blue) to be furnished by the Department. Hunters, farmers, and alligator parts dealers (must be licensed by the Louisiana Health Department) shall furnish a bill of sale to all retailers and restaurants purchasing alligator parts. This bill of sale shall be maintained for a period of six months.

11. Nuisance Removal Program - A statewide alligator nuisance removal program will be administered on an annual basis. This program will allow the taking of problem alligators within the confines of municipal, ward, parish, or state responsibility where there are alligator-people conflicts. Alligators taken under this program must be taken in accordance with state regulations and local regulations/ordinances. Skinning instructions issued by the Department will be valid for one year, until the next year's skinning instructions are issued. This nuisance removal program depends upon close cooperation of state, parish, and local authorities. Tags may be issued by the Department to an approved licensed hunter who has been designated by Department supervisory personnel or officials of a local governing body. The number of tags issued will be based on the number of complaints received and the quantity and quality of alligator habitat involved. The Commission is hopeful this program will lessen the threat to people and property by reducing human/alligator contact.

12. Hunting on Public Lakes - The Department may select public lakes for an experimental alligator hunting program. The harvest will be controlled by a tag allotment for each lake as determined by population surveys by Department personnel. An alligator hunter can receive tags for and hunt on only one public lake each season. The tag quota for a public lake is 5 per hunter. Alligator tags issued on public lakes are non-transferable. Applicants for public lake hunting must be 16 years of age or older. In the event that the number of applicants for any particular public lake exceeds the number of allowable hunters; a public drawing will be held to select hunters. Applications for public lake hunting must be received at least 10 days prior to the season opening date.
13. Harvest Rates - Tags will be issued on the following basis, with the exception of alligator farmers, breeders and the nuisance complaint program. HARVEST RATES ARE PRESENTLY BEING CALCULATED AND WILL BE DETERMINED BY BIOLOGISTS OF THE FUR AND REFUGE DIVISION. AERIAL NEST COUNTS AND NIGHT COUNT SURVEYS WILL BE COMPLETED ON 3 JULY, 1984. THIS DATA WILL BE ANALYZED, HARVEST RATE FIGURED, AND ALLIGATOR TAG ALLOTMENTS WILL BE PRESENTED TO DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION ADMINISTRATORS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the excerpt of the meetings of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 10, 1984.

  
J. Burton Angelle, Secretary

RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN LOUISIANA  
AND THE  
STATE OF TEXAS

Whereas, the neighboring States of Louisiana and Texas each hold fishery resources which are enjoyed by citizens of these States; and

Whereas, the wildlife agencies of these two States desire to enter into a reciprocal agreement whereby citizens of Louisiana 65 years of age or older may fish in Texas at no charge with only proof of age required, and citizens of Texas 65 years of age or older may fish in Louisiana at no charge with only proof of age required;

Now, therefore, it is agreed by the State of Louisiana acting by and through the Secretary of its Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the State of Texas, acting by and through the Director of its Parks and Wildlife Department with the consent of its Board of Commissioners, as follows:

1. Louisiana residents 65 years of age or older may fish in Texas without a license, but proof of age is required.
2. Texas residents 65 years of age or older may fish in Louisiana without a license, but proof of age is required.
3. Proof of age must be in the form of a (or photostatic copy of a) birth certificate, drivers license, voter registration or military records which state age.
4. It is agreed that the fishing regulations of the state being fished shall apply to the non-resident fishing in that state.
5. Either party to this agreement may abrogate and cancel the same upon sixty (60) days written notice.
6. The parties hereto agree that this Agreement shall become effective as of the 1st day of January, 1985.

Witness our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 1984.

  
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J. Burton Angelle, Secretary  
Louisiana Department of Wildlife  
and Fisheries

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Charles D. Travis, Executive Director  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department