

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

Friday, September 6, 1985

GEORGE N. GRAY
CHAIRMAN

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

September 6, 1985

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

September 6, 1985

Chairman George N. Gray, presiding:

Members Present:

Dr. Jack Cappel
Mr. Lyle Crain
Dr. Don Hines
Mr. Joe Palmisano
Mr. Dale Vinet

Mr. J. Burton Angelle was also present.

The minutes of the meeting of August 9, 1985 were approved.

Ray Montet gave the Monthly Enforcement Report at Thursday's meeting.

Harry Schafer gave the Monthly Survey Report at Thursday's meeting. During the period of August 5 - August 30, 1985 116 surveys were scheduled, 74 surveys were unable to be done due to bad weather and 2 no shows. Lease rental collected was \$811.75, survey fees collected were \$1,082.01 and 20 leases were issued.

Gerald Adkins presented the proposed changes in the Rules and Regulations for Underutilized Species at Thursday's meeting. Frank Tullos, Chairman of the Seafood Marketing and Promotion Board was satisfied with the changes and Ed Glosmann of the Gulf Coast Conservation Association suggested one change. On page 7, No. 1 under the following points will delineate the criteria which will be used in the issuance of permits was changed to read "Permits will not be issued for species unless the Department is satisfied that harvesting will not adversely affect that species. In no instance shall permits be issued for thretened or endangered species or for fisheries or gear types which we specifically prohibit by law".

Corky Perret presented a resolution to the Commission for these changes. A motion was made by Mr. Vinet, seconded by Dr. Hines and passed unanimously.

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

WHEREAS, Legislative Act 331 was passed by the Louisiana Legislature in 1978 creating the Experimental Fisheries Program, and

WHEREAS, this program is authorized under R.S. 56:571 A, B, & C, and the authority to promulgate rules and regulations was delegated to the Secretary of the Department by this Act, and

WHEREAS, this program has been initiated since 1978 and has provided a means of additional employment to both resident and non-resident fishermen who have taken fish species not historically utilized, and

WHEREAS, new, additional markets benefiting consumers, the fishing industry, Louisiana's economy, and the program participants have been developed, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does recommend and approve such changes in the regulations governing the Experimental Fisheries Program as proposed by the Secretary of the Department.

Phil Bowman presented the Notice of Intent to close Louisiana Outside Waters to Shrimping. Mr. Palmisano made a motion to accept this resolution, seconded by Mr. Vinet and approved unanimously.

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

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission is bound by the "Administrative Procedures Act" and procedures of the "Oversite Committee of the Louisiana Legislature" to indicate their intent to promulgate a rule, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has the authority as expressed in LA R. S. 56:497A to alter the closing and reopening of the outside water to shrimping by 15 days either side of the January 15 closing and March 15 reopening dates, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission proposed to take action at its regularly scheduled December 13 meeting to set the closure for the shrimping season in Louisiana's outside waters between January 1, 1986 and April 1, 1986, now

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule until 4:30 PM December 19, 1985 at the following address: Mr. Philip Bowman, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Box 15570, Baton Rouge, LA 70895

Johnnie Tarver presented some information on Hurricane Danny Damage at Marsh Island and other facilities that are managed by the Department at Thursday's meeting. Greg Linscombe gave a report on the damage using a slide series and a video.

Janice Hughes presented an update on the status of grass carp in Louisiana and the Nation. A slide series was used in this presentation. Mr. Gray commented that they would hold open the possibility of the introduction of grass carp for research purposes.

Reggie Wycoff gave a slide presentation on the activities of District IV. There are six wildlife management areas in this district and a detailed report was given for each one. These areas are Big Lake, Boeuf, Sicily Island Hills, Saline, Red River and Three Rivers.

Hugh Bateman presented a resolution to ratify the waterfowl season for 1985-86. Mr. Vinet made a motion to accept the resolution, seconded by Mr. Crain, and passed unanimously.

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

WHEREAS, personnel of the Department have surveyed major duck breeding grounds in Canada and attended waterfowl meetings concerning the present status of ducks and geese in Denver, Colorado; Indianapolis, Indiana and Washington, D.C., and

WHEREAS, the Commission at the regular meeting on Friday, August 9, 1985, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana tentatively set the 1985-86 duck and goose hunting season dates based on recommendations of Department personnel who attended these technical meetings as well as public testimony from numerous Louisiana sportsmen interested in waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the season length framework dates, shooting hours, bag limits, etc., are set by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a formal letter which was received on August 29, 1985, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on this date, September 6, 1985, does hereby ratify and adopt the 1985-86 season dates and other waterfowl hunting regulations set by the Commission on August 9, 1985.

Hugh Bateman also gave a land acquisition update at Thursday's meeting. This brought the Commission up to date on the Department's land acquisition program. This land purchase of 2,007 acres was added to the Pearl River WMA.

Hugh Bateman informed the Commission that one small item that has been printed in the pamphlet concerning the Pearl River WMA

will have to be changed. Dr. Hines made a motion to make this into the form of a resolution and made a motion to accept this resolution, seconded by Mr. Vinet and passed unanimously.

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

WHEREAS, use of horses for hunting and trapping on Wildlife Management Areas (except for quail) has presented law enforcement and user conflicts in the past; and

WHEREAS, through an oversight the use of horses or mules for raccoon hunting was allowed on Pearl River Wildlife Management Area for 1984 and 1985; and

WHEREAS, the Game Division has been contacted by individuals interested in expanding this regulation to other areas because it was permitted through error on Pearl River Wildlife Management Area; and

WHEREAS, proliferation in use of horses is not desirable on Wildlife Management Areas because of law enforcement problems, user conflicts, safety and inconsistency of regulations; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on this date, September 6, 1985, does hereby approve the Department's recommendation to prohibit the use of horses or mules for any purpose (except quail hunting) on Department administered wildlife management areas.

At Thursday's meeting Mary Mitchell presented the Commission with a news release to be issued the next day that would inform the public that motorboat registrations processing is now done in 8 to 10 working days. She also stated that license processing is also up to date.

Mr. Gray mentioned that in November we will hold the election of officers; since he may not be at the meeting, he proposed for the Commission to consider that Dr. Cappel to be Chairman and Mr. Crain, Vice-Chairman. The January meeting was set for Thursday and Friday, the 16th and 17th in Baton Rouge.

Corky mentioned the award that was given by the FDA to the Seafood and Enforcement Divisions for exceptional cooperative effort to protect the health of consumers by applying the collective weight of federal and state laws to halt illegal oyster harvesting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.