

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, July 10, 1973

2:00 p. m.

J. G. JONES, Chairman

District VII Office
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

P R O C E E D I N G S

. . .The Board Meeting of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 2:00 o'clock p. m. on Tuesday, July 10, 1973, at the Wild Life and Fisheries District Office, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Lloyd Autin, Vice-Chairman, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

LLOYD AUTIN, Vice-Chairman

MARC DUPUY, JR.

H. CLAY LUTTRELL

J. BURTON ANGELLE, Director

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A G E N D A

JOE HERRING:

1. Setting of Migratory Bird season.

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THE CHAIRMAN: The meeting will come to order.

Mr. Herring.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The are recommendations that we have here/for the lesser migratory species. They have been made by our technical staff from the suggestions drawn from the public hearing in Alexandria and some have been drawn from the Federation Convention and

and the numerous letters that we have received. First, I would like to say that back in the 50's we tried to zone our state for the north and south. This was always turned down by the Bureau and in the 60's they did give us a three-way split on the dove season, which has worked out very good. In the last few years we have been trying to zone and split and so this year the Bureau did give us a split in the state, which the map, if everyone can see it that's here, it would split the state on Highway 90 and 190 and we got a three-way split which we can have north of it and south of it.

So our recommendations on this would be in the northern zone, September 1st until September 16th. Mr. Soileau will point that out or hold it where you can see it better. Thank you, Larry. O. K. The first season we are recommending would be September 1 until September 16 which will be 16 days. Now, these are shooting half days.

The second segment that we are recommending would be October 13 until November 11, for 30 days.

The third segment then would be December 22 until January 14, which would be 24 days. Now, that's taking in as many Saturdays and Sundays as we possibly can in those dates and this would be for 70 days in the northern zone.

MR. ANGELLE: What is your recommendation for the third split?

MR. HERRING: The third split would be December 22 until January 14. That is a total of 24 days, Mr. Angelle, in the third part. In the southern zone then we are also allowed the same thing, but we have had in the past few years a lot of people in the southern part of our state stating that the doves are still in the nest. We have young doves during this first part which has always been, you might say, a north Louisiana season, September 1st through 16th. The doves are a little bit earlier there so we have always given them 16 days early and the remainder would be for the central and southern part of the state. So, we are recommending for the southern part, which would be south of the red line across the state, October 13, which is for the first segment of it, until November 13. October 13 until November 13, that is a total of 32 days.

The second segment then would be December 8 until January 14, which is a total of 38 days, which gives you a total of 70 days for the southern part. Now, really, rather than having three seasons in Louisiana, we have, you might say, four or five here, which has increased our hunting potentials in our state. The bag limit is 12 and the possession limit is 24. So, these would be the recommendations on the dove season, as to the splitting of the zone and three-way split and two-way in the south.

Gentlemen, the recommendations from the same, on rails we have 70 consecutive days and we are recommending November 3 until January 11. That would be November 3 until January 11. I'll go a little slower. Charlie Bosch last year said I went too fast, so we will go slow.

Woodcock--we have 65 consecutive full days. That is, December 8, the recommendations, until February 10, December 8 until February 10. This normally falls within the recommendations we have each year for the quail season because many people woodcock and quail hunt at the same time.

The snipe season--we have 65 consecutive days, which would be December 15 until February 17. That is, December 15 until February 17.

The gallinules--we have 70 days and two periods. Our recommendations would be the first segment, September 1 until September 30. I would like to say that would go through our teal season that we already have, which is September 22 to the 30, so we would have our teal season within these dates. Also, the dove season if it would be acceptable, a part of it. The second segment then would be November 3 until December 12. That's November 3 until December 12, for 40 days, which gives us a total of 70 days.

Gentlemen, that's the recommendations that have been taken from the technical staff of the Wild Life and

Fisheries Commission, the recommendations you heard at the public hearing in Alexandria, the recommendations from the Federation at the convention they had, letters that we have received, numerous letters from different people, recommendations for seasons and just incidental phone calls that we have received in our office. We have tried to combine them all to come up with these recommendations and this is what we have to recommend to the Commission.

MR. ANGELLE: Joe, would you give us the bag limit and possession limit on your rails, woodcock, etc.

MR. HERRING: O. K. Dove 12 and 24. Your rail, that would be your king and sora. King and clapper rails would be 15 a day, 30 possession. That represents the two. Sora and virginia rails is 25 daily and possession. That's an aggregate of the two, sora and virginia. Your woodcock is a daily bag limit of 5, possession limit of 10, and your snipe has a bag limit of 8 daily, possession limit of 16.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, what is your recommendation? Do you have a motion for adoption?

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question for discussion before we vote on it. Gentlemen with regard to snipe, I noticed that snipe and gallinule seasons may be selected in August along with waterfowl. Have you considered the possibility of a snipe season that would be identical to the duck season and not set the snipe

season at this time and set it the same time as the duck season. Is there any biological reason for doing this other than a practical enforcement matter.

MR. HERRING: Normally we do get in these dates during the waterfowl season. I mean it falls within sometime but normally these birds are here at a later period and especially the snipe. They are later appearing than our waterfowl. We usually cut off way before this time and we have more snipe in the state. It is a marsh type bird getting into the fields and would work out better to continue this a little bit later than your normal waterfowl seasons. So setting it this way would get into your waterfowl season but then it is better to go ahead later on. Later than your waterfowl season, because of the moist field and the method that these birds feed. We do get some strictly snipe hunters and this works out a little better with them. It has been in the past, yes sir.

MR. DUPUY: I would like to comment that I'm very pleased with the dove season, particularly with the northern zone which I am more familiar with and with the woodcock seasons as recommended. Mr. Chairman, I would so move that we adopt the recommendations of the biologists.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any further discussion?

MR. HERRING: I think Mr. Angelle has one question, too.

MR. ANGELLE: Do we have to adopt any shooting hours or is that within the framework that we have.

MR. HERRING: We will go ahead with the Bureau shooting hours, the same as last year on that.

MR. ANGELLE: Do we need this to put in the records today?

MR. HERRING: O. K. We can put it in. The dove would be 12 noon to sunset. Teal would be sunrise until sunset in September and ducks, except teal seasons, would be one half hour before sunrise until sunset and so we'll go ahead and put that in.

MR. DUPUY: What would count for a half hour after sunset which is the only time they fly. (Laughter)

MR. HERRING: That's a good time.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded. All in favor say "aye." No objection. Hearing none. No ordered.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, the recommendations of these migratory species have been heard by the Chief of the Game Division, and

WHEREAS, these recommendations will be in the best interest of the sportsmen of our state, and

WHEREAS, these recommendations have taken in as many holidays and weekends as possible for the sportsmen, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission accept these recommendations as presented by the Chief of the Game Division.

MR. ANGELLE: We have a lot of other business but then in calling of the special meeting that was the only item on the agenda that we called for and advertised for. I think that maybe we would be out of line if we discussed any business at this time officially.

MR. LUTTRELL: I move that we adjourn.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Luttrell, seconded by Mr. Dupuy that we adjourn.

. . . Thereupon, at 10:10 o'clock, Tuesday,

July 10, 1973, the special meeting
of the Louisiana Wild Life and
Fisheries Commission, held in
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was
adjourned. . . .