

## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

#### **Spotted Seatrout Management Measures (LAC 76:VII.341)**

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of intent to amend a Rule (LAC 76:VII.341) by modifying the recreational minimum size for spotted seatrout from 12 inches minimum total length to 13.5 inches minimum total length statewide. Further modifications reduce the daily bag limit from 25 fish to 15 fish statewide. Modifications in this rule create one statewide size and bag limit, removing the separate regulations in coastal western Louisiana. Authority for amendment of this Rule is included in the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., and through the authority granted in R.S. 56:6(25)(a), 56:326.1, and 56:326.3 to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement, the filing of the Notice of Intent and compiling public comments and submissions for the commission's review and consideration. In the absence of any further action by the commission following an opportunity to consider all public comments regarding the proposed rule, the Secretary is authorized and directed to prepare and transmit a summary report to the legislative oversight committees and file the final Rule.

### **Title 76**

### **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

### **Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life**

## Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishery

### §341. Spotted Seatrout Management Measures

A. – B. ...

C. Recreational Regulations. ~~Within those areas of the state, including coastal territorial waters, south of Interstate 10 from its junction at the Texas-Louisiana boundary eastward to its junction with Louisiana Highway 171, south to Highway 14, and then south to Holmwood, and then south on Highway 27 through Gibbstown south to Louisiana Highway 82 at Creole and south on Highway 82 to Oak Grove, and then due south to the western shore of the Mermentau River, following this shoreline south to the junction with the Gulf of Mexico, and then due south to the limit of the state territorial sea, under the authority of the provisions of R.S. 56:325.1(A), the daily take and possession limit shall be 15 fish, regardless of where taken, with no more than 2 spotted seatrout exceeding 25 inches total length. Those spotted seatrout exceeding 25 inches in length shall be considered as part of the daily recreational take and possession limit.~~

1. The daily take and possession limit for Spotted Seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be 15 fish per day and in possession.

2. The minimum legal size for the recreational taking of Spotted Seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) shall be 13.5 inches total length.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with Act 157 of the 1991 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, R.S. 56:6(25)(a), R.S. 56:305.5, R.S. 56:305.7, R.S. 56:325.1 (A) and (B), R.S. 56:325.3, R.S. 56:326.3, Act 1316 of the 1995 Regular Session

of the Louisiana Legislature, and Act 1164 of the 2003 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 18:199 (February 1992), amended LR 22:238 (March 1996), LR 24:360 (February 1998), LR 26:2333 (October 2000), LR 30:1509 (July 2004), LR 30:2498 (November 2004), repromulgated LR 32:125 (January 2006), amended LR 32:1071 (June 2006), LR 37:355 (January 2011), **LR** .

### **Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with Act 1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issue its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent. This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

### **Poverty Impact Statement**

The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

### **Small Business Analysis**

This proposed Rule has no known impact on small businesses as described in R.S. 49:965.2 through R.S. 49:965.8.

### **Provider Impact Statement**

This proposed Rule has no known impact on providers as described in HCR 170 of 2014.

### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to Jason Adriance, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, or via e-mail to [jadriance@wlf.la.gov](mailto:jadriance@wlf.la.gov) prior to noon on Friday, December 30, 2022.

Joe McPherson

Chairman