

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

General and WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations (LAC 76:XIX.113)

Notice is hereby given that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission proposes to amend the turkey hunting areas for the 2024 hunting season. The department manages the take of resident game, outlaw quadrupeds and migratory birds in Louisiana and this action defines legal turkey hunting areas during 2024 turkey hunting season.

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 XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§113. General and WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations

A.-E. ...

F. Turkey Hunting Area Descriptions

1. Area A

a. All of the following parishes are open:

- i. Beauregard;
- ii. Bienville;
- iii. Bossier;
- iv. Claiborne;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

- v. East Baton Rouge;
- vi. East Feliciana;
- vii. Grant;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates;

- viii. Jackson;
- ix. LaSalle;
- x. Lincoln;
- xi. Livingston;
- xii. Natchitoches;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

- xiii. Sabine;
- xiv. St. Helena;
- xv. St. Tammany;
- xvi. Tangipahoa;
- xvii. Union;
- xviii. Vernon;

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

- xix. Washington;
- xx. Webster
- xxi. West Feliciana (including Raccourci Island);
- xxii. Winn.

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

- i. Allen—north of US 190 east of Kinder, west of US 165 south of Kinder;
- ii. Calcasieu—north of I-10;
- iii. Caldwell—west of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line;
- iv. Catahoula—south and west of the Ouachita River from the Caldwell Parish line southward to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, north and west of LA 8 from Harrisonburg to the LaSalle Parish line, also that portion lying east of LA 15;
- v. East Carroll—that portion east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;
- ~~v~~ vi. Evangeline—north and west of LA 115, north of LA 106 west of LA 115 to US 167, west of US 167 south to LA 10, north of LA 10 west of US 167 to LA 13, west of LA 13 south of LA 10 to Mamou and north of LA 104 west of Mamou;
- ~~vi~~ vii. Jefferson Davis—north of US 190 from junction with LA 26 to Kinder, west of US 165 and north of I-10 west from junction of US 165;

viii. Madison—that portion east of the main channel of the

Mississippi River;

~~vii~~ ix. Morehouse—west of US 165 from the Arkansas line to the junction of LA 140 at Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to US 165 at Bastrop, south of US 165 to junction of LA 3051 (Grabault Road) south of LA 3051 to junction of LA 138, west of LA 138 to junction of LA 134, north of LA 134 to the Ouachita Parish line;

~~viii~~ x. Ouachita—all west of the Ouachita River. That portion east of the Ouachita River lying north of US 80;

~~ix~~ xi. Rapides—all west of Red River and north of LA 28 east from Pineville, LA east to LaSalle Parish line;

xii. Tensas—that portion east of the main channel of the

Mississippi River.

Exception: see federal lands hunting schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates.

2. Area B

a. All of the following parishes are open:

- i. Caddo;
- ii. DeSoto;
- iii. Red River.

3. Area C

a. All of the following parishes are open:

- i. Ascension;
- ii. Concordia;

- iii. Franklin;
- iv. Iberville;
- v. Pointe Coupee;

~~vi. Tensas;~~

~~vii~~ vi. West Baton Rouge.

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Avoyelles—that portion bounded on the east by the Atchafalaya River, on the north by Red River to the Brouillette Community, on the west by LA 452 from Brouillette to LA 1, on the south by LA 1, eastward to Hamburg, thence by the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee southward;

ii. Caldwell—all east of the Ouachita River;

iii. Catahoula—all of the parish except for that portion located in area A;

iv. Iberia—east of the west Atchafalaya Basin protection levee;

v. Madison—that portion lying east of US 65 from East Carroll Parish line to US 80 and south of US 80; ~~Also, all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;~~

vi. Richland—west of LA 17 from Franklin Parish line to Ringle Road, south of Ringle Road to Ferguson Road, south of Ferguson Road to Little Road, south of Little Road to Big Creek, east of Big Creek to Franklin Parish line and that portion south of US 80 and east of LA 17;

vii. St. Landry—that portion bounded on the west by the west Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east by the Atchafalaya River; Exception: the Indian Bayou area; see federal lands hunting schedule for Indian Bayou area dates.

viii. Tensas—that portion west of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

viii ix. Upper St. Martin—all within the Atchafalaya Basin; in addition, that area bounded on the North by LA 352; on the West by LA 349, to LA 3039, to LA 347, to the Catahoula Hwy. (LA 96), to LA 679, to LA 345; and on the south by LA 3242; Exceptions: Indian Bayou area, see federal lands hunting schedule for Indian Bayou dates.

4. Turkey season dates on wildlife management areas, national wildlife refuges, Kisatchie National Forest and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land located within areas A, B, and C may vary from the season set for the parish in which they are located. Seasons for these lands are specified in LAC 76:XIX.115.

G.-G.2.a. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2263 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2375 (November 2002), LR 29:2512 (November 2003), LR 30:2874 (December 2004), LR 31:3167 (December 2005), LR 32:2272 (December 2006), LR 33:2469 (November 2007), LR 35:91 (January 2009), LR 35:2478 (November 2009), LR 36:2581 (November 2010), LR 37:3535 (December 2011), LR 38:2941 (November 2012), LR 40:96 (January 2014), LR 40:1554 (August 2014), LR 41:977 (May

2015), LR 42:1127 (July 2016), LR 43:1426 (July 2017), LR 44:1303 (July 2018), LR 45:964 (July 2019), LR 46:988 (July 2020), LR 47:934 (July 2021), LR 48:1897 (July 2022), LR 49:1266 (July 2023), LR .

Family Impact Statement

In accordance with Act 1183 of 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues 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

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

Provider Impact Statement

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

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.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed Rule until February 5, 2024, to Cody Cedotal, Office of Wildlife, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 or via e-mail to ccedotal@wlf.la.gov.

Andrew J. Blanchard

Chairman