

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Alligators (LAC 76:V.701)

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the alligator regulations governing wild alligator season length. The action extends the wild alligator hunting season through December 31.

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 V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 7. Alligators

§701. Alligator Regulations

A. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish regulations governing the harvest of wild populations of alligators and alligator eggs, raising and propagation of farmed alligators, tanning of skins and regulations governing the selling of hides,

alligator parts and farm raised alligators. The administrative responsibility for these alligator programs shall rest with the department secretary, and the assistant secretary, Office of Wildlife, and the Coastal and Nongame Resources Division.

A.1. – A.6.f.vii. ...

7. Open Season, Open Areas, and Quotas

a. Open seasons are as follows.

i. The state shall be divided into the east and west alligator hunting zones by the following boundary: beginning at the southwestern most part of Point Au Fer Island thence north along the western boundary of Terrebonne Parish to the Atchafalaya River, thence north along the Atchafalaya River to the East Atchafalaya Protection Levee, thence north along the East Atchafalaya Protection Levee, to Interstate 10, thence east along Interstate 10 to Interstate 12, thence east along Interstate 12 to Interstate 55, thence north along Interstate 55 to the Mississippi state line. The season for taking alligators in the wild shall open on the last Wednesday of August in the east zone and the first Wednesday of September in the west zone and will remain open for 60 days until December 31 thereafter in each zone. The secretary shall be authorized to close, extend, delay, or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

A.7.a.ii – A.18.c. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115 and Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, Chapter 1, Part V, Subpart A.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 16:1070 (December 1990), amended LR 17:892 (September 1991), LR 19:215 (February 1993), LR 20:321 (March 1994), LR 26:1492 (July 2000), LR 28:1996 (September 2002), LR 30:2338 (October 2004), LR 30:2878 (December

2004), LR 31:2267 (September 2005), LR 33:677 (April 2007), LR 35:690 (April 2009), LR 37:2421 (August 2011), LR 39:2291 (August 2013), LR 42:909 (June 2016), LR 43:90 (January 2017), LR46:50 (January 2020), LR46:1398 (October 2020), LR 48:508 (March 2022), LR 48:2992 (December 2022), 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

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

Provider Impact Statement

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

Small Business Analysis

This proposed Rule may have a positive impact on small businesses as described in R.S. 49:965.2 through R.S. 49:965.8.

Public Comments

Written comments may be addressed to Jeb Linscombe, Program Manager, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA, 70506 or via email to jlinscombe@wlf.la.gov, no later than 4:30 PM on May 1, 2025.

Kevin Sagrera

Chairman