

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Freshwater and Saltwater Passive Hooked Fishing Gear Regulations (LAC 76:VII.116 and 389)

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby provide notice of their intent to amend the Rules for marking, setting, and tending requirements to freshwater and saltwater recreational and commercial passive hooked gear (LAC 76:VII.116 and 389). The rule modification is intended to extend the time allowance for rebaiting yo-yos, trigger devices, trotlines, limb lines, jugs, or other passive fishing devices containing a hook or hooks, whether recreational or commercial, from at least once every 24 hours to at least once every 48 hours. This change is being proposed upon consultation with the Louisiana Finfish Task Force in order to account for unforeseen events that may delay the rebaiting of gear such as weather and mechanical breakdowns.

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 promulgate the final rule.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic life

Chapter 1. Freshwater Sports and Commercial Fishing

§116. Freshwater Yo-Yos, Trigger Devices, Trotlines, Limb Lines, Jugs, and all Passive Fishing Devices Containing a Hook or Hooks

A.-A.3. ...

4. Each yo-yo, trigger device, trotline, limb line, jug, or other passive fishing device containing a hook or hooks, whether recreational or commercial, shall be rebaited at least once every 24 48 hours, and all fish and any other animal caught, entangled, ensnared, or hooked, shall be immediately removed from the device.

A.5.-B. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6, R.S. 56:8, and R.S. 56:320.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 37:355 (January 2011), amended LR 48:2610 (October 2022), LR 50:1504 (October 2024), LR

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishery

§389. Passive Saltwater Hooked Fishing Gear Regulations

A.-A.3. ...

4. Each yo-yo, trigger device, trotline, limb line, jug, or other passive fishing device containing a hook or hooks, whether recreational or commercial, shall be rebaited at least once every 24 48 hours, and all fish and any other animal caught, entangled, ensnared, or hooked, shall be immediately removed from the device.

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AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6, R.S. 56:8, and R.S. 56:320.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 50:1505 (October 2024), amended 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 economic 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 written comments relative to the proposed rule to Robby Maxwell, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 1025 Tom Watson Rd, Lake Charles, LA 70615, or via e-mail to rmaxwell@wlf.la.gov prior to 3 p.m. on July 28, 2026.

Kenneth A. “Andy” Brister

Chairman