

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Wahoo - Harvest Regulations (LAC 76:VII.391)

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of intent to promulgate a Rule (LAC 76:VII.391) establishing recreational harvest regulations for wahoo in waters of the state and apply those regulations to federal waters off Louisiana. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has been considering management of wahoo in the absence of state regulations. In order to further the conservation of the species and maintain state management authority over the harvest regulations of wahoo, these regulations are necessary.

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 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishery

§391. Wahoo – Harvest Regulations

A. Recreational Take and Possession Limits

1. The recreational bag and possession limit for wahoo, *Acanthocybium solandri*, whether caught within or without Louisiana waters shall be five fish per person, per day.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(10) and R.S. 325.1(A).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, 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

The proposed rule change is anticipated to have no impact on receipts or income of 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 Jason Adriance, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, or via e-mail to jadriance@wlf.la.gov by May 1, 2025.

Kevin Sagrera

Chairman

DRAFT