

WMA	TRAPPING	RACCOON (nighttime)
<b>ACADIANA CONSERVATION CORRIDOR</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (2,285 acres)	Closed	Closed
<b>ALEXANDER STATE FOREST</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (283 acres); Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry (7,875 acres)	Same as outside	Closed
<b>ATCHAFALAYA DELTA</b> <i>Owner:</i> State of Louisiana (137,695 acres)	Same as outside (Only by written agreement with LDWF, 200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-735-8689)	Closed
<b>ATTAKAPAS</b> <i>Owners:</i> State of Louisiana (25,730 acres); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2,232 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 18 - Feb. 28
<b>BAYOU MACON</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (6,919 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 1-16 Jan. 2 - Feb. 28
<b>BAYOU PIERRE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (2,799 acres)	Same as outside, EXCEPT waterfowl refuge closed to trapping	Dec. 19 - Feb. 28
<b>BIG COLEWA BAYOU</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (899 acres)	Same as outside	Closed
<b>BIG LAKE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (19,231 acres)	Same as outside	Jan. 9 - Feb. 28
<b>BILOXI</b> <i>Owner:</i> Biloxi Marsh Land Corporation (42,747 acres)	Closed	Closed
<b>BODCAU</b> <i>Owner:</i> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (33,766 acres)	Same as outside	Dec. 7 - Feb. 28
<b>BOEUF</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (51,110 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 2 - Feb. 28
<b>BUCKHORN</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (11,121 acres)	Same as outside	Jan. 16 - Feb. 28
<b>BUSSEY BRAKE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (2,614 acres)	Closed	Closed
<b>CAMP BEAUREGARD</b> <i>Owner:</i> Louisiana National Guard (12,500 acres)	Same as outside	Jan. 30 - Feb. 28

WMA	TRAPPING	RACCOON (nighttime)
<b>CLEAR CREEK</b> <i>Owner:</i> Hancock Timber and Roy O. Martin (52, 559 acres)	Same as outside	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28
<b>DEWEY W. WILLS</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (62,108 acres); LaSalle Parish School Board (1,530 acres); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (256 acres)	Same as outside (Prohibited in greentree reservoir and restricted area)	Jan. 11 - Feb. 28 <b>Nighttime Chase Only:</b> May 1 - Sept. 25 Tuesdays and Thursdays only
<b>ELBOW SLOUGH</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (160 acres)	Closed	Closed
<b>ELM HALL</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (2,839 acres)	Same as outside	Closed
<b>FLOY WARD McELROY</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (681 acres)	Closed	Closed
<b>FORT POLK-VERNON</b> <i>Owners:</i> U.S. Army & U.S. Forest Service (105,545 acres)	Same as outside	Closed
<b>GRASSY LAKE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (12,983 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Dec. 14-25 Jan. 4 - Feb. 28
<b>HUTCHINSON'S CREEK</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (129 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 2 - Feb. 28
<b>J.C. SONNY GILBERT</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (7,524 acres)	Same as outside	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28
<b>JOYCE</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (35,562 acres); Joyce Foundation (851 acres); Tangipahoa School Board (484 acres)	Same as outside	Feb. 1-28
<b>LAKE BOEUF</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (802 acres)	Same as outside (Only by written agreement with LDWF, 200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-735-8689)	Closed
<b>LAKE RAMSEY SAVANNAH</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (796 acres)	Same as outside (Foot traffic only - all vehicles restricted to parish roads and designated parking areas)	Closed
<b>LITTLE RIVER</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (4,936 acres); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1,109 acres); Lasalle Parish School Board (441 acres)	Same as outside	Jan. 11 - Feb. 28 <b>Nighttime Chase Only:</b> May 1- Sept. 25 Tuesday and Thursdays only

WMA	TRAPPING	RACCOON (nighttime)
<b>LOGGY BAYOU</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (4,262 acres); State Lands Office (159 acres); USACE (2,138 acres)	Same as outside	Dec. 19 - Feb. 28
<b>MANCHAC</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (8,328 acres)	Same as outside	Feb. 1-28
<b>MARSH BAYOU</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (655 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 2 - Feb. 28
<b>MARSH ISLAND REFUGE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (70,733 acres)	Same as outside (Only by written agreement with LDWF, 200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-735-8689)	Closed
<b>MAUREPAS SWAMP</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (112,615 acres)	Same as outside	Feb. 1-28
<b>PASS-A-LOUTRE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (115,596 acres)	Same as outside (Only by written agreement with LDWF, 200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-735-8689)	Closed
<b>PEARL RIVER</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (35,619 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 4 - Feb. 28
<b>PEASON RIDGE</b> <i>Owner:</i> U.S. Army (74,309 acres)	Same as outside	Closed
<b>POINTE-AUX-CHENES</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (35,267 acres)	Same as outside (Only by written agreement with LDWF, 200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-735-8689)	Closed
<b>POMME DE TERRE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (6,434 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 18 - Feb. 28
<b>RICHARD K. YANCEY</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (57,235 acres); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (12,802 acres); Office of State Lands (835 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 4 - Feb. 28
<b>ROCKEFELLER REFUGE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (85,745 acres)	Same as outside (Only by written agreement with LDWF, 5476 Grand Chenier Hwy., Grand Chenier, LA 70643, 337-735-8689)	Closed
<b>RUSSELL SAGE</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (34,018 acres); Ouachita Parish School Board (1,240 acres); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2,955 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 5-20 Dec. 26 - Feb. 28

WMA	TRAPPING	RACCOON (nighttime)
<b>SABINE</b> <i>Owners:</i> Hancock Timber, Red Oak Timber Company and Roy O. Martin (7,554 acres)	Same as outside	Dec. 19 - Feb. 28
<b>SABINE ISLAND</b> <i>Owners:</i> State of Louisiana (7,143 acres); Calcasieu Parish School Board (600 acres); Rayonier (600 acres)	Same as outside	Jan. 4 - Feb. 28
<b>SALVADOR/TIMKEN</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (31,956 acres); New Orleans City Park Improvement Association (2,867 acres)	Same as outside (Only by written agreement with LDWF, 200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-735-8689)	Closed
<b>SANDY HOLLOW</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (4,473 acres); Tangipahoa Parish School Board (182 acres)	Closed	Jan. 4 - Feb. 28
<b>SHERBURNE</b> <i>Owners:</i> LDWF (11,800 acres); U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (15,220 acres); USACE (16,618 acres)	Same as outside (State and USACE lands only. Permit required from Lafayette Office)	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 18 - Feb. 28
<b>SODA LAKE</b> <i>Owners:</i> Caddo Levee District (1,300 acres); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1,200 acres)	Same as outside	Closed
<b>SPRING BAYOU</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (12,506 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 18 - Feb. 28
<b>STATE WILDLIFE REFUGE</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (14,804 acres)	Same as outside (Only by written agreement with LDWF, 200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506, 337-735-8689)	Closed
<b>TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD</b> <i>Owner:</i> Tangipahoa Parish School Board (1,643 acres)	Same as outside	Feb. 1-28
<b>THISTLETHWAITE</b> <i>Owner:</i> Thistlethwaite Heirs (11,100 acres)	Same as outside	Closed
<b>TUNICA HILLS</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (5,906 acres); Office of State Parks (597 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 2 - Feb. 28
<b>WALNUT HILL</b> <i>Owner:</i> LDWF (595 acres)	Same as outside	Sept. 12-27 Jan. 2 - Feb. 28
<b>WEST BAY</b> <i>Owners:</i> Hancock Timber, Roy O. Martin, Forest Investments and Rayonier (59,189 acres)	Same as outside	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28

# LOUISIANA TRAPPING REGULATIONS

## 2020-2021



Beaver photo by Shutterstock.com



**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES**  
 P.O. Box 98000  
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**For updated information and the latest regulations visit us online at [www.wlf.louisiana.gov](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov)**

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## HELP STOP POACHING REPORT GAME VIOLATIONS

**Operation Game Thief**  
**1-800-442-2511**  
**24 hours a day - 7 days a week**

No bobcat or river otter pelt shall be shipped from the state without a CITES tag attached. Dealers will obtain CITES tags for bobcat and river otter by providing the department with one completed possession tag for each pelt to be shipped from the state. It shall be illegal to falsify possession tags or attach Louisiana CITES tags to out-of-state bobcat or river otter pelts. Once possession tags have been received and counted by department personnel, CITES tags will be mailed immediately. Trappers shipping bobcat or river otter out of state must provide completed possession tags to the department in order to receive CITES tags (title 76.129).

### SHIPMENT OF RAW FURS

No **fur trapper or fur dealer** shall transport or ship raw furs out of the state without first obtaining an **official out-of-state shipping tag** from the department. No fur buyer may transport or ship raw fur or skins out of the state except to a licensed non-resident fur dealer (RS 56.253). For information regarding the shipment of alligator meat, parts or skins call the Lafayette Field Office at 337-735-8689.

**Severance Tax:** There is levied a severance tax on all skins or hides taken from any furbearing animals, within the state, payable to the state through the department by the fur trapper shipping or taking his own catch out-of-state or by the dealer shipping skins or hides out-of-state or tanning fur pelts in the state. A fur trapper must pay this tax at the time the fur or skin is transported or shipped out-of-state. A fur dealer shipping or transporting fur pelts out-of-state or tanning fur pelts within the state must pay this tax within 10 days following the department's annual audit. A fur dealer shipping or transporting alligator skins out-of-state or tanning alligator skins within the state must pay the severance tax at the time of shipment or prior to tanning (RS 56.253-258).

The tax is as follows: beaver, bobcat, coyote, fox, muskrat, opossum, raccoon and skunk, one cent (.01) on each pelt; nutria, two cents (.02) on each pelt; mink, ten cents (.10) on each pelt; river otter, twenty-five cents (.25) on each pelt or skin.

### WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

**Trapping:** Self-clearing permit for trapping on a WMA is required. Other special trapping exceptions are listed under respective WMA season schedules. All traps must be run daily. Traps with teeth are illegal. Hunter orange or blaze pink is required when a deer firearms season is in progress.

**Raccoon Hunting (Experimental):** Self-clearing permit for raccoon hunting on a WMA is required. A licensed hunter may take raccoon or opossum, two per person per day, during daylight hours only, during the open hunting season on WMAs. No bag limit for nighttime or daytime raccoon or opossum hunting during the open trapping season.

Requests for information on maps, permits and WMAs may be directed to any field office or Coastal & Nongame Resources Division office:

OFFICE	ADDRESS	PHONE
<b>Minden</b>	9961 Hwy. 80, Minden, LA 71055	318-371-3050
<b>Monroe</b>	368 Century Link Drive, Monroe, LA 71203	318-343-4044
<b>Pineville</b>	2500 Shreveport Hwy., Pineville, LA 71360	318-487-5885
<b>Lake Charles</b>	1213 N. Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA 70601	337-491-2575
<b>Lafayette</b>	200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506	337-735-8689
<b>Baton Rouge</b>	P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898	225-765-2360
<b>New Orleans</b>	2021 Lake Shore Drive, New Orleans, LA 70122	504-284-5369
<b>Hammond</b>	42371 Phyllis Ann Drive, Hammond, LA 70403	985-543-4777
<b>Lafayette Coastal &amp; Non-game</b>	200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506	337-735-8689
<b>Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge</b>	5476 Grand Chenier Hwy, Grand Chenier, LA 70643	337-538-2276

### TRAPPERS

When you purchase a \$25 trapping license, you are investing in your future and the future of the Louisiana fur or alligator industry. Twenty dollars of every trapping license are dedicated to a special fund (respectively). Each of these funds is being used to achieve two major goals:

- To provide for PUBLIC EDUCATION concerning the role of trapping and hunting in wildlife management and the role of furbearers as a sustainable natural resource.
- To develop FUR MARKET STABILITY & ENHANCEMENT through promotion, advertisement, and new product development.

A nine-person council made up of trappers and land managers meets quarterly with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to ensure the wise use of these funds. The Fur Advisory Council works to improve the future for fur resources, trappers, and the industry. For more information contact the Louisiana Fur Advisory Council at 200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, LA 70506.

No trap, snare or other device used to capture furbearers shall be set more than one day prior to the open trapping season. No traps shall remain set after the closing day of the trapping season. All traps must be checked daily and all traps must be removed from the trapping grounds the closing day of the trapping season (RS 56.260).

Any type of trap with permanent teeth or insert teeth is illegal and cannot be used in Louisiana (RS 56.121.1).

Furbearers can be taken only with traps. Firearms are illegal except as provided for to take nutria, coyote, bobcat, raccoon and opossum, which may be taken with firearms as per provisions below.



*The dark gray area depicts where bears are most common.*

The use of dogs to chase or take furbearers is illegal except as provided for when hunting raccoon, opossum, coyote, foxes and bobcats. Dogs may be used during the taking of nutria between the hours of sunrise and sunset. The exceptions are during deer season where still hunting only is allowed and during turkey nesting season as determined by the La. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

The use of snares is not recommended in areas frequented by bears (see

map). Chances of accidental catches of non-target species can be reduced by referring to guidelines found on [www.fishwildlife.org/afwa-inspires/furbearer-management](http://www.fishwildlife.org/afwa-inspires/furbearer-management).

Enclosed traps for feral hogs are required to have a 22 inch x 22 inch opening in the top to allow bears to escape (title 76.130). Any bait used to attract coyotes or hogs will attract bears. If you catch a bear, please call 800-442-2511 for immediate assistance.

**Pelting:** No pelting during the closed trapping season shall be permitted at any time, except with department authorization. The sale of carcasses of nongame quadrupeds is prohibited during the closed trapping season, except with department authorization. These provisions do not apply to nongame quadrupeds raised on farms.

### FOX, BOBCAT AND COYOTE

Foxes and bobcats may be run with dogs for "chase only" by licensed hunters. Foxes can be taken only by trappers during the open trapping season (RS 56.140). A big game licensee shall only take bobcat during the time period from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset with approved archery equipment, shotgun, primitive firearm or center firearm. A big game licensee shall not take more than one bobcat per calendar year. This regulation applies only to property that is privately owned, state WMAs, Kisatchie National Forest, and the Bayou des Ourses, Bonnet Carre, and Indian Bayou tracts owned by the Corps of Engineers, but does not apply to state wildlife refuges or other federally owned refuges and lands. On state WMAs the take of bobcat is restricted to those open seasons on the WMAs which require the respective legal weapons noted above (title 76.111). Bobcats cannot be pelted or sold without a trapping license. Holders of hunting licenses may take coyotes year round during legal daylight shooting hours. The running of coyotes with dogs is prohibited in all turkey hunting areas during the open turkey season. Coyote hunting is restricted to chase only during still hunting segments of the firearm season for deer.

### RACCOON & OPOSSUM HUNTING: NO CLOSED SEASON

Raccoon and opossum can be taken at night by one or more licensed hunters with one or more dogs and one .22 rimfire rifle. No bag limit for nighttime or daytime raccoon or opossum hunting during the open trapping season except on certain WMAs as listed. The remainder of the year, raccoon and opossum bag limit for daytime or nighttime is two per person per day or night. No one who hunts raccoons or opossums as prescribed above shall pelt or sell skins or carcasses of raccoons and opossums taken during the open trapping season unless he is the holder of a valid trapper's license which shall be required in addition to his basic hunting license. Hunting from boats or motor vehicles is prohibited (RS 56.116.1).

### BOBCAT & RIVER OTTER: TAGGING REQUIREMENTS

To obtain federal approval to export bobcat and river otter outside the United States, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is required to ensure that only Louisiana trapped river otter and bobcat are tagged with Louisiana CITES tags. To accomplish this, a special possession tag will be made available to fur buyers, fur dealers and trappers.

A blue tag for river otter and a red tag for bobcat must be filled out by the trapper at the time the pelt is first sold. The information required includes trapper name, trapper license number, parish caught in and date trapped. No bobcat or river otter pelts shall be purchased from a trapper or be in the possession of a fur buyer or dealer without a possession tag until they are submitted to the department in exchange for CITES tags. Dealers shall not purchase bobcat or river otter pelts without an accompanying possession tag.

### FURBEARERS

The following animals are classified as furbearers: beaver, bobcat, coyote, gray fox, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, river otter, red fox, raccoon and skunk.

### 2020-2021 SEASON

The trapping season will open STATEWIDE on November 20, 2020, and will close on March 31, 2021 (title 76.129). **For trapping season on wildlife management areas see the individual WMA schedules.**

### LICENSES

**Trapper:** No person shall set or run traps of any type to catch furbearers during the open trapping season without a current trapping license. **No person shall sell pelts or carcasses of furbearers without a current trapping license.** (This includes bobcat, raccoon and/or opossum hunters selling pelts and/or meat.) Every fur trapper must at all times have his current trapping license in possession while trapping or selling pelts or carcasses.

**Fur Buyer:** No person shall buy whole nongame quadrupeds for the purpose of pelting, carcasses of furbearing animals, raw furs or skins from fur trappers, alligator hunters, alligator farmers, fur buyers or fur dealers and sell within the state without a current fur buyer's license in his possession while conducting business.

**Fur Dealer:** No person shall buy whole nongame quadrupeds for the purpose of pelting, carcasses of furbearing animals, raw furs or skins from fur trappers, alligator hunters, alligator farmers, fur buyers or fur dealers and ship or export these furs or skins from the state without a current fur dealer's license in his possession while conducting business.

RESIDENT FEES	
<b>Trapper (under 15 yrs. of age)</b>	<b>\$5</b>
<b>Trapper (15 yrs. of age or older)</b>	<b>\$25</b>
<b>Fur Buyer</b>	<b>\$25</b>
<b>Fur Dealer (\$500 deposit required)</b>	<b>\$150</b>
NON-RESIDENT FEES	
<b>Trapper</b>	<b>\$200</b>
<b>Fur Buyer</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Fur Dealer (\$1,000 deposit required)</b>	<b>\$300</b>
OTHER FEES	
<b>Non-game Quadruped Breeder</b>	<b>\$25</b>
<b>Non-game Quadruped Exhibitor</b>	<b>\$10</b>

### CAPTIVE FURBEARERS

Licensed trappers may hold in captivity live furbearers during the open trapping season. Such animals must have been obtained by legal trapping methods. Such animals must be released or pelted by the last day of the open trapping season (RS 56.259).

For detailed information on furbearer regulations and trapping, contact a local enforcement agent or one of the Coastal & Nongame Resources Division offices.

#### LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

- P.O. Box 98000 - Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 - (225-765-2811)
- 200 Dulles Dr. - Lafayette, LA 70506 - (337-735-8689)

#### Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge

- 5476 Grand Chenier Hwy. - Grand Chenier, LA 70643 - (337-538-2165)

### METHODS OF TAKING FURBEARERS

All animals listed as furbearers may be taken only during the open trapping season and only by means of a trap or snare. Nutria may also be taken by licensed trapper for fur and/or meat during the open season by the use of a rifle, only between the hours of sunrise and sunset (RS 56.259).

On WMAs and private property, nutria may be taken recreationally by licensed hunters from Sept. 1 - Feb. 28, during legal shooting hours by any legal hunting method with a daily limit of five (5). **EXCEPT** nutria may be taken on Atchafalaya Delta, Salvador/Timken, Pointe-Aux-Chenes and Pass-a-Loutre WMAs from Sept. 1 to March 31. When taken with a shotgun, non-toxic shot must be used. On WMAs during waterfowl seasons, nutria may be taken only by the use of shotguns with shot not larger than F steel; during gun deer seasons on WMAs, anyone taking nutria must display 400 square inches of "Hunter Orange or Blaze Pink" and wear a "Hunter Orange or Blaze Pink" cap or hat. Recreational nutria hunters must remove each nutria carcass in whole condition from the hunting area, except that nutria may be gutted. Possession of detached nutria parts, including nutria tails, by recreational hunters is illegal. Nutria harvested recreationally may not be pelted nor may such nutria or any nutria parts from recreationally taken nutria be sold, including the tail. Trespassing upon private property for the purpose of taking nutria or other fur bearing animals is punishable by fines and possible jail time (R.S. 56.265). The **Coastwide Nutria Control Program** is a separate program and is in no way related to the nutria recreational season (title 76.123). For questions on the Coastwide Nutria Control Program call the Lafayette Office 337-735-8689.