LOUISIANA’S ALLIGATOR MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CITES

U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR (U.S.F.W.S.)

OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC AUTHORITY

1) NO DETRIMENT REVIEW,
2) OVERVIEW OF STATE PROGRAMS, AND
3) IMPORT/EXPORT APPROVAL & INSPECTIONS

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

LOUISIANA'S ALLIGATOR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES
DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DEPT. OF HEALTH & HOSPITALS
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR WILD AND RANCH PROGRAMS [TITLES 56 & 76]

ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

COASTAL & NONGAME RESOURCES DIVISION

ALLIGATOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

ENFORCE TITLE 56 STATUTES

WILD ALLIGATOR MANAGEMENT

FARM/RANCHING

RESEARCH

NUISANCE PROGRAMS

MARKETING PROGRAMS

ENFORCE DEPARTMENT ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS

EDUCATION PROGRAMS
LOUISIANA’S 2008 COASTAL MARSH ALLIGATOR NEST SURVEY
LOUISIANA’S ALLIGATOR HABITATS

- COASTAL MARSHES: 69%
- CYPRESS-TUPELO SWAMPS: 17%
- DEWATERED WETLANDS: 8%
- ATCHAFALAYA BASIN SWAMPS: 5%
- LAKES: 1%
Louisiana’s Coastal Marsh Alligator Habitats By Ownership

- **PRIVATE**: 79%
- **PUBLIC**: 21%

Total Acreage: 2,963,014
Louisiana’s Coastal Marsh Alligator Habitats

- **FRESH**: 42%
- **INTERMEDIATE**: 24%
- **BRACKISH**: 5%
- **TRANSITIONAL**: 29%

Total Acreage: 2,963,014
ANNUAL ALLIGATOR NEST SURVEY

- 9 day helicopter survey
- 2,885 miles flown
- 138,729 acres surveyed
- Survey 3.4% of coastal marsh
ALLIGATOR NEST SURVEY EVALUATION

- Estimate total coastal nest production
- Calculate current & 5-year average nest densities & nest production for:
  - each parish/sub-parish or public area by habitat type
  - regions & ownership by habitat type
- Compare to previous years
Louisiana’s Coastal Marsh Alligator Habitat Acreages & Nest Production

2,963,014 acres

40,633 nests

2003-08 average nest production (excludes 2006)
Louisiana’s Coastal Marsh Alligator Habitats by Regional Ownership

- SW Private: 10%
- SW Public: 11%
- SE Private: 52%
- SE Public: 27%

Total Acreage: 2,963,014
Louisiana’s Coastal Marsh Alligator Nest Production by Regional Ownership
1984-2008

Based on Aerial Surveys

Thousands of Nests


SW Private  SW Public  SE Private  SE Public
Louisiana’s Coastal Marsh Alligator Nest Densities by Regional Ownership and Habitat Type, 2004-2008

- Fresh: 107.4 acres
- Intermediate: 63.6 acres
- Brackish: 78.9 acres
- Fresh: 55.2 acres
- Intermediate: 45.4 acres
- Brackish: 206.6 acres

Legend: SW Private, SE Private
Louisiana’s Coastal Marsh Alligator Nest Densities (Southeast Private) 2000-2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat Type</th>
<th>2000-04</th>
<th>2001-05</th>
<th>2002-06</th>
<th>2003-07</th>
<th>2004-08</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fresh</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>69</td>
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<td>57</td>
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<tr>
<td>brackish</td>
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<td>227</td>
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</table>
LOUISIANA COASTAL MARSH ALLIGATOR NEST PRODUCTION, 1970-2008

Thousands of Nests

Based on Aerial Surveys

Year

1970: 8.6
1972: 6.7
1974: 7.7
1976: 14.1
1978: 14.3
1980: 20.0
1982: 14.5
1984: 18.4
1986: 19.0
1988: 20.5
1990: 23.4
1992: 19.9
1994: 26.2
1996: 24.2
1998: 25.9
2000: 27.5
2002: 34.5
2004: 34.7
2006: 31.7
2008: 29.4
QUESTIONS?
April 1, 2009
2008 ALLIGATOR NEST PRODUCTION

- Second highest estimated nest production
- 3% increase from 2007
- Southwest Louisiana increased by 8.7%
- Southeast Louisiana increased by 0.3%
2006 HARVEST RESULTS

- Issued 32,211 tags
- Harvested 30,852 alligators

2007 HARVEST RESULTS

- Issued 37,724 tags
- Harvested 35,005 alligators
WILD ALLIGATOR HARVEST QUOTAS

- Calculate nest densities by parish, habitat type and land ownership (private vs public)
- Utilize a 5-year average nest density
- Review prior year harvest statistics
- Assess habitat status
- Calculate over 50 wild alligator harvest quotas
2008 TAGS ISSUED

~ 36,325 Standard Tags
~ 4,423 Bonus Tags
40,748 Total Tags
LOUISIANA'S WILD ALLIGATOR SEASON ZONES

Legend
- Red: Parishes
- Yellow: West
- Green: East
2008 WILD SEASON

• East Zone - Opened Aug 27th

• West Zone - Opened Sept 3rd

• Statewide - Closed Oct 19th
2008 WILD SEASON

- Estimated harvest – 35,000
- Average skin length – 7.5’
- Average price – $34.50/ft.
Sex Ratio of Sub-adult Alligators Harvested During September Seasons (<6’)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>MALE</th>
<th>FEMALE</th>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
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<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>46%</td>
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Sex Ratio of Adult Alligators Harvested During September Seasons (6'+)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Female (%)</th>
<th>Male (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>28%</td>
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<td>2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Louisiana Wild Alligators Harvested, 2004-08
Regular Harvest Skin Lengths

Size Class (Feet)

Percent

<5 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12+

Updated 1/30/09
Louisiana Wild Alligators Harvested, 2004-08
Bonus Harvest Skin Lengths

Size Class (Feet)

Percent

Updated 1/30/09
Louisiana Wild Alligators Harvested, 2004-08
Bonus Harvest Skin Lengths

Size Class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>&lt;5'</th>
<th>5'</th>
<th>6'</th>
<th>7'</th>
<th>8'</th>
<th>9'</th>
<th>10'</th>
<th>11'</th>
<th>12'+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>43.4</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

N = 18,048

6.0’ average skin length

Updated 2/16/09
Louisiana Wild Alligators Harvested, 2004-08
Regular & Bonus Harvest Skin Lengths

Regular & Bonus Harvest Skin Lengths

- Size Class: <5'
  - 1.4%

- Size Class: 5'
  - 12.5%

- Size Class: 6'
  - 32.1%

- Size Class: 7'
  - 28.6%

- Size Class: 8'
  - 13.9%

- Size Class: 9'
  - 6.4%

- Size Class: 10'
  - 3.3%

- Size Class: 11'
  - 1.5%

- Size Class: 12'
  - 0.4%

7.3' average skin length

N = 165,317

Updated 2/16/09
VALUE OF ALLIGATORS HARVESTED IN LOUISIANA, 1979-2008

Updated 1/14/09
QUESTIONS?