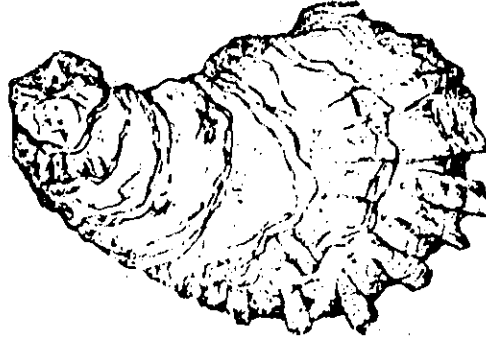


SEA GRANT PROGRAM



LAGNIAPPE

LEGAL TRAWLING TIMES SET

The Secretary of Commerce has issued regulations providing for trawling times for shrimpers who do not use TEDS in their nets. These trawling times will apply to all size boats fishing in waters outside the COLREGS line between March 1 and November 30.

These are temporary rules and they may or may not be changed on September 8, 1989. During the periods of no trawling the doors and nets must be out of the water. The following times are for the Central Time Zone which is where Louisiana is:

Time Trawling Allowed

11:00 p.m. - 12:45 a.m.
1:15 a.m. - 3:00 a.m.
3:30 a.m. - 5:15 a.m.
5:45 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
8:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. (only 1 hour)
11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
2:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.
4:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.
8:45 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Time No Trawling Allowed

12:45 a.m. - 1:15 a.m.
3:00 a.m. - 3:30 a.m.
5:15 a.m. - 5:45 a.m.
7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
3:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
8:15 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.
10:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

NEW FISHERIES LAWS

The following bills were passed by the 1989 Louisiana Legislature and will go into effect on September 3, 1989 (unless otherwise noted.) If you would like more information on these new laws, feel free to contact me at my office in Marrero.

House Bill 329 - (Act 498) - Ater

Adds one person who shall represent the commercial freshwater finfish industry to the Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board.

House Bill 404 (Act 414) - Benoit and Glover

Creates a 3000 metric ton quota for the catching of bait menhaden from the gulf after the regular menhaden season closes. The bait gulf menhaden season shall start when the regular menhaden season closes and last until December 1. If the quota has not been filled, then the bait menhaden season shall reopen on April 1 and last until the quota is filled. The law also prohibits any vessel with a seine, gill net, trammel net or hoop net on board from possessing bait gulf menhaden during the closed gulf bait menhaden season. Permits from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will be required and permit holders will have to pay for the cost of putting an observer on the boat.

House Bill 668 (Act 504) - Siracusa and Patti

Changes oyster lease fees from a one to five dollar range to a flat two dollars per acre per year.

House Bill 921 (Act 590) - Miller

Increases the number of undersized crabs which may be in possession from 5% to 10% in a 50 crab sample.

House Bill 922 (Act 591) - Miller

Makes it illegal to tend crab traps at night in Lake Des Allemands. (It's already illegal everywhere else in the state).

House Bill 923 (Act 592) - Miller

Reduces the penalty for taking or possessing undersized crabs from a class 4 violation to a class 3 violation. A class 3 violation does not provide for seizure of equipment on first offense.

House Bill 924 (Act 738) - Miller

Repeals the requirements on float size on crab traps and the requirement that crab traps in Lake Ponchartrain have floats marked with the fisherman's license number and gives the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission the authority to make regulations on a marking system for crab traps that will help game wardens identify the owner of the traps.

House Bill 925 (Act 739) - Miller

Provides that theft of crab traps is a class 4 violation. First offense is \$400-\$450 fine or up to 120 days in jail. Second offense is \$750-\$3000 and 90-180 days in jail. Third offense is \$1000-\$5000 and 180 days to 2 years in jail. All violations shall include loss of equipment.

House Bill 1024 (Act 510) - Roach and others

Requires the commission to hold a public hearing before opening or closing a regular or special shrimp season. Requires the commission to adopt written reasons for shrimp season openings and closures which specify the biological and technical reasons for the decision. Allows the commission to delegate these responsibilities to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

House Bill 1209 (Act 235) - Triche and others

Requires that all fish or game seized with a violation be forfeited upon conviction. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1216 (Act 236) - Scogin and others

Gives enforcement power to game wardens concerning theft, burglary and littering. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1217 (Act 237) - Odinet and others

Increases the non-resident commercial fisherman's license fee from \$105 to \$200. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1219 (Act 238) - Patti and others

Provides that anyone taking oysters from closed areas shall lose his licenses for one year on the first offense and three years on the second and following offenses.

House Bill 1220 (Act 661) - Downer and others

Makes it illegal to operate a boat while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs. Provides that if the boat operator refuses to take a chemical test he can lose his driver's license. Also provides that a boat operator can lose his driver's license if he has a blood alcohol level of .10 percent or more. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1222 (Act 239) - S. H. Theriot and others

Requires anyone fishing commercially for sharks to get a permit from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and to send in monthly reports showing the number, species and weight of their catch on each trip. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1387 (Act 246) - Glover

Creates a two-day non-resident temporary combination basic and saltwater sportfishing license at a cost of \$8.50. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1450 (Act 247) - Roach and others

Allows the use of trawls, butterfly nets, fyke net lines, gill nets or trammel nets within 500 feet of the mouth of any inlet or pass or within 500 feet of any water control structures, dams or weirs if a minimum passageway opening of 5 feet wide from the surface to the bottom in the deepest portion of the water is left open. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1494 (Act 248) - Patti and Siracusa

Provides that permits may be required on public oyster seed grounds or reservations. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1495 (Act 84) - Patti and others

Requires that culling of oysters must take place on seed grounds or leases on which a fisherman is authorized to take oysters. At no time will culling be allowed in areas closed to oyster harvesting. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1497 (Act 85) - Patti

Provides that when more than 50% by weight of saltwater shrimp catch is seabobs, that the by-catch of white shrimp smaller than 100 count cannot be over 10% of the weight. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1499 (Act 607) - S. J. Theriot and Patti

Changes the inside-outside shrimp line in Caminada and Barataria Passes. In Caminada Pass the line runs straight from point to point. In Barataria Pass the line runs from the light at the base of the rock jetty at Grand Isle State Park to the Fort Livingston ruins. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1590 (Act 516) - Siracusa

Creates an oyster harvester's license of \$100 for residents and \$400 for non-residents and requires that each person on a boat harvesting or possessing oysters must have such a license. This applies to both commercial and sport fishermen. The money from this license is to be used by the Departments of Wildlife and Fisheries and Health and Hospitals for oyster water monitoring.

House Bill 1701 (Act 254) - S. H. Theriot and others

Slightly moves the saltwater-freshwater line in Vermillion Parish.

Senate Bill 114 (Act 470) - Doland

Requires the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set up a special mussel and shellfish (oyster and clams) depuration fishery allowing harvest in certain closed areas of Calcasieu and Sabine Lakes. The rules for this fishery shall include the presence of a security officer, that each sack of oysters have a special colored tag and that buffer zones between these areas and open areas be created. Effective September 1, 1990.

Senate Bill 392 (Act 486) - Kelly and others

Allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set quotas, seasons, times and daily and possession limits for all freshwater and saltwater finfish for which no limits have been set by law except redfish and speckled trout. Effective immediately.

Senate Bill 393 (Act 487) - Kelly and others

Reduces the minimum size limit on blue catfish for sports fishermen from 14 to 12 inches. Sports fishermen are allowed to take 25 undersize catfish, buffalo fish or gaspergou. Effective immediately.

Senate Bill 394 (Act 488) - Kelly and others

Gives the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission the authority to amend size, daily and possession limits, and seasons and times which are set by law for freshwater gamefish.

Senate Bill 395 (Act 489) - Kelly and others

Provides that the 100 Count law on white shrimp applies to all white shrimp in possession except those documented as having been legally taken in other states or countries and imported into the state.

Also provides that when more than 50% by weight of saltwater shrimp taken or possessed is sea bobs, then the maximum allowable amount of undersized white shrimp shall not be more than 10% by weight of the shrimp. Effective immediately.

Senate Bill 396 (Act 473) - Kelly and others

Requires any commercial fisherman selling to anyone other than a resident wholesale or retail seafood dealer to file a return to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries by the tenth of each month showing in detail the quantity of each kind of fish or seafood sold during the month before.

Senate Bill 399 (Act 490) - Kelly and others

Repeals the requirement that Louisiana grant commercial fishing privileges to residents of other gulf coast states the same privileges that they grant to Louisiana residents in their states. Also repeals the law that prohibits non-residents from using butterfly nets in Louisiana if their state doesn't allow them to be used in their waters.

Senate Bill 750 (Act 830) - Kelly

Directs the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set rules and regulations on seasons, sizes, quotas, and daily and possession limits based on biological and technical data for all wildlife (including fish) in the state. These rules will override current laws. The authority to determine gamefish or commercial status of a species will be kept by the legislature.

House Concurrent Resolution 12 - Melancon

Directs the Shrimp Task Force to study the use of two trawls in inside waters and to determine better methods of law enforcement on their use.

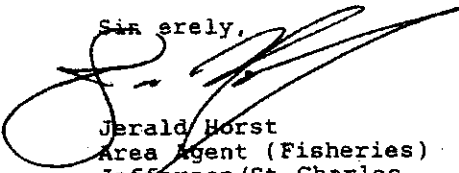
House Concurrent Resolution 74 - Patti

Creates the "Special Committee on Skimmer Nets" to study the use of skimmers and their effect on shrimp populations.

House Concurrent Resolution 180 - Siracusa

Creates a task force to study the use of a limited entry system for commercial saltwater use of gill nets, trammel nets and seines.

Sincerely,



Jerald Horst
Area Agent (Fisheries)
Jefferson/St. Charles

LOUISIANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE PROVIDES EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN PROGRAMS AND EMPLOYMENT. LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND A & M COLLEGE, LOUISIANA FARM GOVERNORS SCHOOLS, SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATING.

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