



Commercial Fishing Workshops Slated

A number of workshops and training events for commercial fishermen are scheduled in 2015 as part of the Louisiana Fisheries Forward program, a partnership between Louisiana Sea Grant (LSG), the LSU AgCenter and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF).



The workshops will provide opportunities for hands-on learning and are free to all participants. Events scheduled to date are:

- Louisiana Fisheries Forward Summit – March 11 – Houma
Register at www.fisheriesforwardsummit2015.eventbrite.com
- Vermilion Bay Area Shrimpers Summit – March 24 – Delcambre
- Vermilion Bay Area Crabbers Summit – March 24 – Delcambre
- Terrebonne Parish Dock Day – April 7 – Dulac
- Lafourche Parish Dock Day – April 22 – Larose

For more details on the workshops, as well as for information on other training events, visit www.laseagrant.org/resources/calendar/.

Louisiana Commercial Fishing Resources Online

The new Louisiana Blue Crab Management Plan has been updated by LDWF and is online at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/page/37762-fishery-management-plans-marine/final-bluecrabfmp11-7-14.pdf>.



A Joint Publication of Louisiana Sea Grant and LSU AgCenter



The following 2015 Commercial Rules and Regulation are online:

Blue Crab: <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/page/37779-fisheries-brochures/crabbrochure20149-26-14sm.pdf>.

Freshwater Finfish: <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/page/37779-fisheries-brochures/freshwaterfinfishbrochure201411-20-14sm.pdf>.

Saltwater Finfish: <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/page/37779-fisheries-brochures/saltwaterfinfishbrochure201411-19-14sm.pdf>

Oyster: <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/page/37779-fisheries-brochures/oysterbrochure2014-9-26-14sm.pdf>.

Shrimp: <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/page/37779-fisheries-brochures/shrimpbrochure2014-9-26-14sm.pdf>.

LDWF Enforcement Division Academy

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' (LDWF) Law Enforcement Division will begin training up to 24 cadets in May of 2015 to bolster the ranks of agents in the field.

The cadets will train at the department's training facility housed within the Waddill Outdoor Education Center in Baton Rouge. Successful completion of six months of intensive physical and academic training is required to graduate.

LOUISIANA REGULATIONS

Commercial King Mackerel Season

The 2015 commercial king mackerel season will open July 1. Once the season opens, it will remain open until the quota is met or projected to be met.

King mackerel is a significant commercial fishery in Louisiana. From 2000 through 2013, Louisiana landed on average an amount equal to approximately 75 percent of the allotted western Gulf of Mexico quota. In 2013, approximately 731,000 pounds were landed in Louisiana. A significant amount of the king mackerel landed in Louisiana is shipped to markets in the northeastern U.S.



King Mackerel. Photo credit: Diane Rome Peebles

Fall Shrimp Season

A closure of the fall shrimp season in remaining state inside waters and in a portion of state outside waters was effective Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2015, at official sunset.

Specifically, those waters closed to shrimping include:

- Lake Pontchartrain, Chef Menteur and Rigolets Passes, Lake Borgne, Mississippi Sound and the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO)
- The portion of state outside waters extending a distance of three nautical miles seaward of the inside/outside shrimp line from the northwest shore of Caillou Boca at -90 degrees 50 minutes 27 seconds west longitude westward to the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the channel red buoy line

The following state waters remain open to shrimping until further notice:

- The open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as described by the double-rig line in R.S. 56:495.1(A)2
- All state outside waters east of Caillou Boca as well as all state outside waters west of Freshwater Bayou Canal
- All fishery jurisdiction waters claimed by the state beyond the three nautical mile closure zone

GULF OF MEXICO REGULATIONS

Comments Sought for Two Recreational Sub-Quotas for Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper

NOAA Fisheries is seeking public comment on a proposed rule that would establish distinct private angling and federal for-hire sub-quotas for red snapper. These measures are outlined in Amendment 40 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico submitted by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. The proposed rule published in the *Federal Register* on Jan. 23, 2015, with the comment period ending March 9, 2015.

NOAA Fisheries encourages constituents to access the proposed rule and Amendment 40 at http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_fisheries/reef_fish/2013/am40/index.html for more complete information.

Proposed Management Measures

The rule would establish sub-quotas for federally permitted for-hire vessels and private anglers who fish for red snapper for a three-year period beginning in 2015.

Lagniappe Fisheries Newsletter

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Copy editor: Roy Kron

Layout/design: Jessica Schexnayder

- The federal for-hire component would be comprised of all for-hire operators with a valid or renewable federal reef fish charter vessel/headboat permit.
- The private angling component would be comprised of private recreational anglers and other for-hire operators who do not have a federal reef fish charter vessel/headboat permit.

The rule would implement sub-quotas from the 5,390,000-pound red snapper recreational quota using Amendment 40's allocation of 42.3 percent to the federal for-hire component and 57.7 percent to the private angling component.

- The federally permitted for-hire quota would be 2,279,970 pounds.
- The private angling quota would be 3,110,030 pounds.

Finally, the rule would establish separate red snapper annual catch target and season closure provisions for the federal for-hire and private angling components. For both components, each season would start June 1 and continue until the individual component's annual catch target is projected to be caught.

How to Submit Comments

You may submit comments on the proposed rule, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2014-0107, by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2014-0107>, click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Mail: Submit written comments to Peter Hood, NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Regional Office, Sustainable Fisheries Division, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505.

King Mackerel, Spanish Mackerel, and Cobia Regulations

A new rule effective March 1, 2015, will change regulations for king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia. The rule will:

- Eliminate the 500-pound trip limit that is effective when 75 percent of the respective quotas are landed for king mackerel in the Florida west coast Northern and Southern Subzones.
- Change the fishing year for king mackerel in the Florida west coast Northern Subzone to October-September beginning Oct. 1, 2015. Currently, the fishing year is July-June.
- Allow transit of commercial vessels with king mackerel through areas closed to king mackerel fishing, if gear is appropriately stowed.
- Create Northern and Southern Zones for Atlantic migratory group king and Spanish mackerel, each with separate quotas. NOAA Fisheries will close each zone when the respective quota is met or expected to be met. The dividing line between the zones is at the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.

- Make administrative changes to the framework procedure for modifying management measures.
- Increase annual catch limits and catch targets for cobia.
- Create a Florida East Coast Zone for cobia to adjust for differences between the Councils' jurisdictional areas and the biological distribution of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic stocks. This zone will have its own quota, and NOAA Fisheries will close the zone when the quota is met or expected to be met.

Electronic copies of the amendment, final rule, supporting materials, and frequently asked questions may be obtained from the NOAA Fisheries Web site http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_sa/cmp/2014/am20b/index.html.

Recreational Gray Triggerfish

NOAA Fisheries is closing federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico to the recreational harvest of gray triggerfish at 12:01 a.m., local time, Feb. 7, 2015.

Fish Gear Coordinates

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 56:700.1 et. seq., notice is given that 11 claims in the amount of \$41,789.76 were received for payment during the period Dec.1-31, 2014.

There were nine paid and two denied.

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates, in Degree Decimal Minutes, of reported underwater obstructions are:

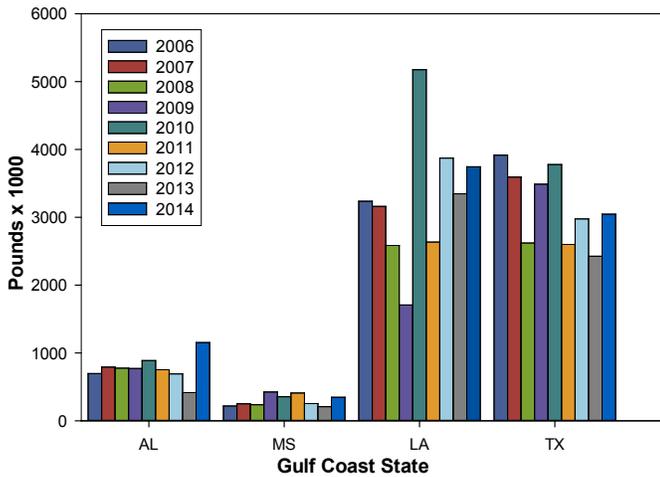
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29 10.991	90 21.540	LAFOURCHE
29 13.532	89 56.976	JEFFERSON
29 16.761	89 39.006	PLAQUEMINES
29 18.282	89 44.486	PLAQUEMINES
29 20.457	89 47.916	PLAQUEMINES
29 24.448	89 59.776	JEFFERSON
29 32.455	90 02.194	JEFFERSON
29 44.409	89 25.752	SAINT BERNARD
30 01.572	89 52.218	ORLEANS
30 04.493	89 30.333	SAINT BERNARD

A list of claimants and amounts paid can be obtained from Gwendolyn Thomas, administrator, Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund, P.O. Box 44277, Baton Rouge, LA 70804 or you can call (225) 342-9388.

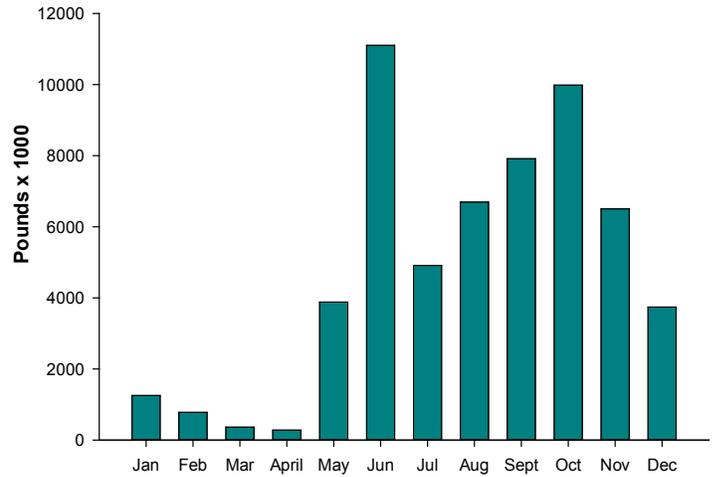
Louisiana Shrimp Watch

Louisiana specific data portrayed in the graphics are selected from preliminary data posted by NOAA on its website. All data portrayed are subject to final revision and approval by NOAA. Shrimp landings are ex-vessel prices, inclusive of all species harvested. Missing, inadequate or withheld reports are portrayed as “zero” in these graphics. Price graphics reflect central Gulf states only (Texas and Florida are reported independently). For more information, please refer to: www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/market_news/index.html.

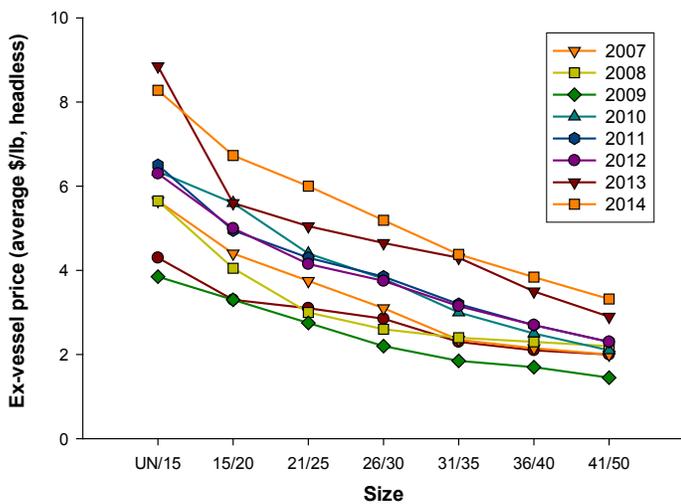
December Shrimp Harvest



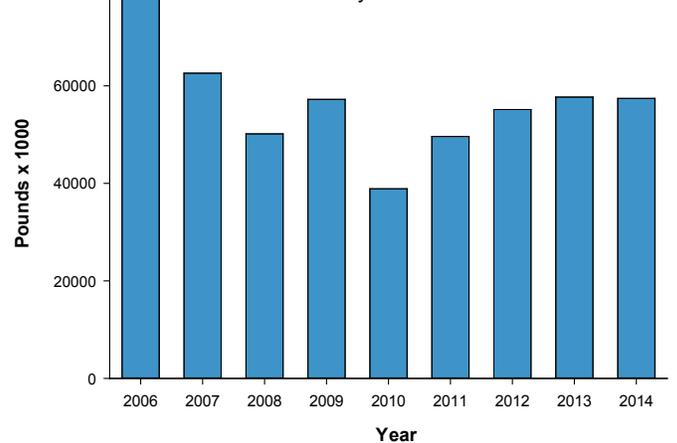
Louisiana 2014 Shrimp Harvest



December 2014 Northern GoM Shrimp Prices



Louisiana Year to Date Shrimp Harvest January- December



The Gumbo Pot

Recipe courtesy of *Louisiana Kitchen & Culture*. For more recipes or to subscribe to their magazine or free newsletter, please visit <http://louisiana.kitchenandculture.com/>

Joe Patti's Hot Crab Dip

Ingredients:

1 lb blue crab meat
1 lb cream cheese, softened
1 bunch green onions, green and white parts finely chopped
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
2 splashes hot sauce
1/2 up almonds, sliced, lightly toasted
Crackers or pita chips for serving

Method:

Heat oven to 350°F. Blend crab, cream cheese, green onions, mayonnaise and Worcestershire sauce in the bowl of electric mixer. Scrape down sides of bowl and stir in hot sauce. Spray a 1-quart glass baking dish with nonstick spray. Spoon crab mixture into dish and spread almonds over the top. Bake until edges are bubbly, 20 to 30 minutes.

Serve with crackers or pita chips.

If you have a favorite seafood recipe that you would like to share, please send it to Julie Lively janderson@agcenter.lsu.edu for inclusion in future issues.



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We would like to hear from you! Please contact us regarding fishery questions, comments or concerns you would like to see covered in the Lagniappe. Anyone interested in submitting information, such as articles, editorials or photographs pertaining to fishing or fisheries management is encouraged to do so.

Please contact Lagniappe editor Julie Anderson Lively at janderson@agcenter.lsu.edu.

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