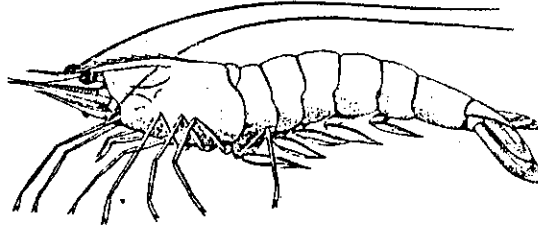


## SEA GRANT PROGRAM



## LAGNIAPPE

### SHRIMP-RED SNAPPER HEARINGS

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is proposing some major regulation changes to rebuild the overfished red snapper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico. The proposed regulations are as follows:

- \* Reducing the commercial red snapper quota from 3.1 to 1.0 million pounds.
- \* Reducing the sport bag limit on red snapper from 7 to 2 fish per person.
- \* Closing the shrimp trawling season in the Gulf during the entire months of May, June and July.
- \* More shrimp trawling closures or mandatory fish excluders in 1993.

The Council's information is that an estimated 12 million small red snappers are killed in trawls each year and that the population of red snappers cannot increase unless trawl bycatch is reduced. Public comment on these proposed rules will be taken at the meetings. All meetings are from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the following places in our area:

Wednesday, August 29, 1990  
Gulf Coast Research Lab  
J.L. Scott Marine Education  
Center & Aquarium  
1650 East Beach Blvd.  
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

Wednesday, August 29, 1990  
Galveston County Courthouse  
Jury Assembly Room  
722 Moody  
Galveston, Texas 77550

Thursday, August 30, 1990  
Holiday Inn Central-Holidome  
Purple Dawn Room  
2032 N.E. Evangeline Thruway  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501

Thursday, August 30, 1990  
University of New Orleans  
Auditorium BA 179  
Office of Academic Affairs  
Business Administration - Lake Front  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70148

Written comments will be accepted until September 7, 1990 by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 5401 West Kennedy Blvd., Suite 881, Tampa, Florida 33609. The Council is expected to make its final decision at its next meeting in New Orleans during the week of September 17.

### LONGLINE CONTROL NOTICE

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council has announced that longline vessels which cannot show either that they landed fish in Hawaii or have made an investment in longlining in Hawaii before June 21, 1990, may be cut-off from being able to fish there soon.

The longline fishery for swordfish has exploded from only 500,000 pounds in all of 1989 to 2,500,000 pounds in the first five months of this year and overfishing is feared.

The longline fleet has doubled in two years, with many of the boats coming from the Gulf of Mexico yellowfin tuna fishery. Moving a vessel from the Gulf to Hawaii at this time will involve the risk of not being able to fish.

Source: Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council News Release  
July 12, 1990.

#### WETLANDS PUBLIC HEARINGS

The U.S. Department of the Interior will be holding a public hearing from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on August 27, 1990 at the Airport Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans on the national goal of "no net loss" of wetlands. Wetlands are very important to Louisiana, producing most of its seafood, sport-fishing, and duck and goose hunting.

#### STATE HANG FUND REPORT

In the fiscal year 1990, which ended June 30, 1990, the Louisiana Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund paid 412 claims for \$816,274. The average claim paid was \$1870. Louisiana commercial fishermen are allowed two claims per year. Of the 412 claims, 61 people filed two claims and 290 filed one claim. The telephone number to report a claim is (504) 342-0122 in Baton Rouge.

#### NEW FISHERIES LAWS

The following bills were passed by the 1990 Louisiana legislature and will go into effect September 7, 1990 (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 342 (Act 307) - Roach and others

Makes it illegal to issue commercial gear licenses for gill nets and purse seines to nonresidents whose home state does not allow the use of these nets in commercial fishing.

##### House Bill 535 (Act 181) - Melancon and Diez

Closes the season on frogs in April and May.

##### House Bill 717 (Act 873) - Patti and others

Increases the penalty for oyster fishing during illegal hours from a class two to a class four violation.

##### House Bill 719 (Act 874) - Patti and others

Provides that residents 16 years old or younger and the spouse of the vessel's owner while on the vessel do not have to buy an oyster harvesters license. Also provides that the license requirement only apply to commercial fishermen.

##### House Bill 720 (Act 875) - Patti and others

Gives a more technically correct description for the waters of Breton and Chandeleur Islands where nets are outlawed.

##### House Bill 742 (Act 55) - Roach and others

Increases the penalty for violations on sport fishing sizes and limits on redbfish and speckled trout from a class one to a class two violation.

##### House Bill 743 (Act 434) - Roach and others

Creates a fine of \$25 per fish for sports fishermen who keep undersized redbfish and trout.

House Bill 818 (Act 492) - Bolin and others

Allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to change the dates or split seasons and quotas for popular restaurant fish except speckled trout.

House Bill 840 (Act 299) - Glover

Extends the time period for use of the experimental mariculture permit until November 1, 1991.

House Bill 865 (Act 441) - Roach

Creates a "Commercial Fisherman's Sales Card" to be used instead of a license. It will be shaped like a credit card and used to make receipts. The fisherman will get one copy of the receipt, the dealer another and the last copy will go to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. This program shall go into effect no later than January 1, 1992.

House Bill 994 (Act 261) - Benoit and Bankston

Allows a person using a transport license which was purchased in connection with a dealer's license to buy fish for the dealer license holder. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1092 (Act 162) - Laborde and others

Provides that the Department of Revenue and Taxation rather than the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, shall issue tax exemption certificates for commercial fishermen.

House Bill 1115 (Act 363) - Downer and others

Allows game wardens, who are trying to catch game and fish violators, to park anywhere, run red lights and stop signs, to speed, to ignore one-way street signs and to drive at night without lights, so long as they don't endanger life or property.

House Bill 1125 (Act 497) - Siracusa

Allows eel pots to be fished in saltwater lakes north of the freshwater-saltwater line (except Lake Maurepas) by permit.

House Bill 1126 (Act 975) - Siracusa and others

Authorizes the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to grant oyster leases according to present law and approves all leases now in effect. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1129 (Act 129) - Ellington

Creates the Louisiana Catfish Promotion and Research Board and Program to promote farm-raised catfish.

House Bill 1146 (Act 889) - Siracusa

Provides that oyster lease applications and claims are inheritable or salable.

House Bill 1167 (Act 770) - Hebert and Ater

Transfers regulation of the pet turtle industry from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to the Department of Agriculture and creates regulations for the industry.

House Bill 1191 (Act 894) - Dastugue and others

Requires registration of sail boats.

House Bill 1235 (Act 581) - Odinet

Allows the use of a single 22 foot by 22 foot butterfly net from any structure that has a Corps of Engineers permit from before 1988, in the Chef Menteur and Rigolets Passes.

House Bill 1265 (Act 899) - Adley and Thompson

Provides for civil penalties for a class one violation.

House Bill 1345 (Act 498) - Roach and others

Creates the Auxiliary Enforcement Program, made up of trained volunteer game wardens.

House Bill 1385 (Act 583) - Patti

Outlaws any oyster dredge larger than six feet.

House Bill 1472 (Act 368) - Triche and others

Provides that any violation of commercial fish size and possession limits that do not already have a specified penalty shall be a class three violation.

House Bill 1515 (Act 455) - Bajoie and others

Allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to sell freshwater trout fishing licenses to support a freshwater trout program.

House Bill 1526 (Act 194) - Sam Theriot and others

Creates a special set of penalties for violations of alligator laws. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1556 (Act 372) - Deano and others

Outlaws the use of aircraft in fishing for any fish except menhaden and herring-like fish. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1768 (Act 794) - Melancon and others

Adds hoop nets and slat traps to the list of sport fishing gear.

House Bill 1769 (Act 376) - Sam Theriot and others

Gives the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission the right to change or set rules on times and places for fishing for all fish except speckled trout and redbfish.

House Bill 1770 (Act 250) - Sam Theriot and others

Limits the lead line on a 50 foot trawl in inside waters to 66 feet long. Limits the lead line on double-rig 25 foot trawls in inside waters to 33 feet and limits their door size to 6 feet long and 34 inches high.

Also requires that on second offense of using oversize trawls, that the person's license be suspended for the rest of the year and one year after. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1777 (Act 199) - Sam Theriot and others

Increases the cost of a nonresident commercial fisherman's license from \$200 to \$400.

House Bill 1780 (Act 463) - Roach

Provides that restaurants and grocery stores that buy their fish only from licensed dealers do not have to make monthly reports to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

House Bill 1782 (Act 251) - Ellington and others

Requires that fish farmers transporting fish by road, must notify the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries at least 24 hours in advance.

House Bill 1818 (Act 128) - Lalonde

Provides for at-large appointments to the Crawfish Promotion and Research Board.

House Bill 2087 (Act 509) - Roach

Prohibits the use of gill, trammel or strike nets in Calcasieu Lake between sunset Friday and sunset Sunday between May 1 and September 30 of each year.

House Bill 2117 (Act 1022) - Diez

Allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to adopt rules and regulations for special tournament fishing permits which would allow fishing tournament participants to keep live fish that are of illegal size.

Senate Bill 496 (Act 545) - Kelly

Allows the use of minnow traps to take bream in Toledo Bend Reservoir.

Senate Bill 621 (Act 549) - Chabert

Moves the inside-outside shrimp line in Caminada Pass to the power lines and to the Sea Buoy (green blinking light on turning buoy) in Barataria Pass.

Senate Bill 695 (Act 552) - Doland and others

Authorizes the creation of a program to trap and control over-populated nutria causing damage to coastal lands.

Senate Bill 911 (Act 562) - Bankston and Roach

Creates the Louisiana Marine Recreational Fishing Development Board, to promote, market and develop marine sport fishing.

Senate Bill 949 (Act 564) - Bankston and others

Defines processing of seafood and provides that a transport license is not required for processed products.

Senate Bill 977 (Act 858) - Nunez and others

Adds "property rights or interests" to the provision that oyster leases can be sold or inherited.

Senate Bill 1066 (Act 999) - Cross

Authorizes placing a bounty on beavers destroying property.

Senate Bill 1097 (Act 949) - Doland Roach

Outlaws glass containers on Louisiana beaches.

House Concurrent Resolution 18 - Siracusa

Creates a committee to study transferring oyster industry regulation from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to the Department of Agriculture.

House Concurrent Resolution 37 - Patti

Re-creates the Oyster Task Force.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 76 - McPherson

Urges and requests the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to inform the legislature, the commission, the affected people and the public before reorganizing the Department internally.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 59 - Nunez

Urges the governor to fund the state's share of the cost of the Bonnet Carre' Freshwater Diversion Project.

House Concurrent Resolution 16 - Steve Theriot and Patti

Declares the St. Anthony Catholic Church Festival in the town of Jean Lafitte the "Crab Race Capitol of the World."

Senate Concurrent Resolution 22 - Hinton

Creates a task force to study the mussel (freshwater clam) resources of Louisiana.

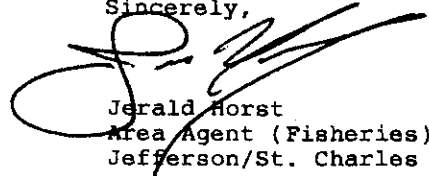
Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 - McPherson

Urges and requests the governor to provide money from the General Fund to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

House Concurrent Resolution 57 - Roach

Creates the Calcasieu Lake Fish and Shrimp Task Force to study the regulation of fishing and shrimping in Calcasieu Lake.

Sincerely,



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

JH/kwj

LOUISIANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE  
LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND A. & M. COLLEGE  
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