LOUISIANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

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LAGNIAPPE

PRESENT STATUS OF FISHING BILLS

I have listed below a number of bills which are of concern to the fishing industry. After each bill number is the present status of the bill as of the week of July 4-8. Bills marked passed are awaiting the signature of the governor, bills marked call calender are out of committee and can be called up for vote and those on the regular calender are in line to be voted on.

SLAT TRAP BILLS

House Bill 274 Dead

Designates that cans and slat traps shall be illegal in Cameron and part of Vermillion Parish south of the Intracoastal Waterway.

House Bill 281 Dead

Allows use of cans and slat traps only in the parishes of Iberia, St. Landry, Avoyelles, Evangeline, St. Charles, St. John, St. James, Jefferson, Rapides, E. Carroll, Lafourche, and a portior of St. Martin.

House Bill 334 Dead

Prohibits the use of cans and slat traps statewide.

House Bill 342 Dead

Same as H.B.-281 but <u>also</u> adds LaSalle, Grant and Ouachita Parishes.

House Bill 431 Dead

Adds Assumption Parish to prohibited areas for use of cans and slat traps.

House Bill 533 Very Probably Dead

Provides for a license fee to use slat traps, \$5.00 for each 15 traps.

House Bill 553 On Call Calender

Prohibits the use of cans or slat traps statewide.

House Bill 585 In Committee

Increase legal size of channel catfish from 11 to 13 inches.

House Bill 635 Passed

Provides for a definition for slat traps. "A device, used solely for the harvest of catfish, which measures no more than six feet in length, two feet in width and two feet in height, and which is constructed of slats not more than six inches in width placed at least one inch apart and having one or more entrances."

Senate Bill 250 On Call Calender

Prohibits the use of slat traps and cans in Washington Parish.

CRAWFISH FARMING

Senate Bill 785 On Regular Calender

Makes it unlawful to take crawfish from a pond without the consent of the owner and provides penalties for violations.

SHRIMPING

House Bill 110 In Committee

Increases minimum mesh size of beam trawls or butterfly nets from 5/8-inch bar to 3/4-inch bar.

House Bill 626 In Committee

Adds penalties for pulling double trawls in inside waters, \$500-\$1,000 plus mandatory jail sentence. Also changes words "rigged for double trawls" to "pulling two or more trawls".

CRABBING

House Bill 258 Dead

Provides for licensing, tagging and marking of crab traps with a starting fee of \$50.00.

House Bill 1006 In Committee

Provides for regulations and licenses. Anyone who sells crabs is required to pay an annual license fee of \$100 for residents and \$500 for non-residents. The license fee provides tags for 100 traps. Additional traps will demand a fee of \$25 per 100 traps.

House Bill 1601 In Committee

Provides for regulations and licensing of crab traps. One provision asks that a five dollar fee per trap be paid annually.

OYSTERS

House Bill 1003 Passed

Provides for Department regulation of oyster dredges on natural reefs.

House Bill 1005 In Committee

Provides for distribution of tags by the Department for tagging all oysters as they are sacked.

House Bill 1322 Dead

Provides that oysters shall be kept at certain temperature range, $(38^\circ-45^\circ F)$.

House Bill 1611 In Committee

Designates areas closed to oystering except for the oyster lessee who may work his private oyster lease.

HOOP NETS

House Bill 32 Passed

Add Lafayette Parish to areas where 1-inch square mesh is permitted for hoop nets and seines.

Senate Bill 221 Dead

Permits the use of 1-inch square mesh for hoop nets and seines in Catahoula and Concordia Parishes.

GILL NETS

Senate Bill 14 Dead

Prohibits the use of monofilament gill nets in Jefferson Parish.

Senate Bill 28 Dead

Prohibits the use of gill net in <u>all</u> waters within Jefferson Parish.

Senate Bill 61 Dead

Prohibits the use of gill nets statewide.

Senate Bill 80 Dead

Prohibits the use of gill nets south of the Intracoastal Waterway.

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Prohibits the use of monofilament gill nets statewide.

House Bill 713 On Call Calender

Provides that nets with $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch square mesh shall be allowed east of U.S. Hwy 51 for taking of commercial fish.

House Bill 721 Dead

Prohibits use of gill nets by non-resident vessels.

House Bill 957 Dead

Prohibits use of gill nets south of Intracoastal Waterway in St. Mary, Iberia and Vermillion Parishes.

House Bill 1117 On Regualr Calender

Prohibits use of monofilament gill nets with a mesh size less than 4 inches bar in Lakes Maurepas, Ponchartrain and St. Catherine and within all waters bound on the north by a line delineated by the following physical markers: the Intracoastal Waterway from the Texas-Louisiana line to Bayou Barataria; Bayou Barataria to the Harvey Canal; Harvey Canal to the Mississippi River; the Mississippi River to the Industrial Canal; the Industrial Canal to the Rigolets to the Mississippi State line. And bound on the south by a line 750 feet seaward from the inside-outside shrimp line.

House Bill 1132 Dead

Prohibits the use of monofilament gill nets south of the freshwater-saltwater line.

House Bill 1305 Dead

Prohibits the use of gill nets in all waters of the state.

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House Bill 1529 Dead

Prohibits the use of monofilament gill nets between freshwater. line and inside-outside shrimp line.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

House Bill 433 Withdrawn

Provides for licensing and inspection of roadside stands selling seafood, etc.

House Bill 1191 In Committee

Provides that each Yo-Yo shall be marked with owner's name and address and can't be left unattended.

These are most but not all of the bills concerning with the fishing industry. If you have a question concerning these or any other bills, you can call the toll-free legislative information number 1-800-272-9852.

THE GUMBO POT Crab Meat Casserole

5 tablespoon butter2 tablespoons sherry3 tablespoons flour1 egg, beaten2 cups milkDash of hot sauce2 tablespoons mince onion1 teaspoon salt2 tablespoon celery saltDash of black pepper1 tablespoon minced parsley1 pound crab meat1 tablespoon minced green pepperBread Crumbs1 tablespoon butter1 tablespoon butter

Make white sauce of butter, flour and milk, then add next four ingredients. Remove from heat and add sherry. Add a little sauce to egg and then add egg to rest of sauce. Add hot sauce, salt, pepper and crabmeat. Put in $1\frac{1}{2}$ quart casserole and sprinkle top with bread crumbs mixed with 1 tablespoon melted butter. Bake in a 350° oven for 15 to 20 minutes. Serves 6.

This newsletter is free. Tell your friends to drop me a line or call me if they want to get on the mailing list.

Sincerely, Jerald Horst

Asst. Area Agent (Fisheries) Orleans, Jefferson, St. Charles

The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service follows a nondiscriminatory policy in programs and employment.