

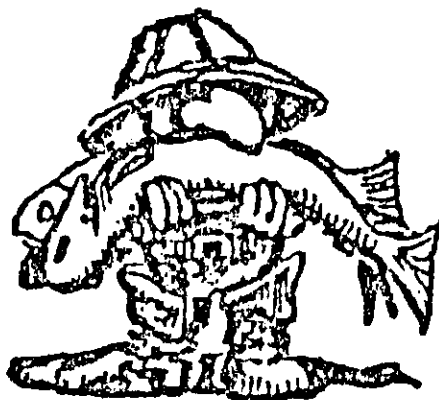


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SEA GRANT PROGRAM



LAGNIAPPE

FISHERMENS MEETINGS

The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service will be sponsoring two educational meetings in April to update fishermen on recent changes in fishing regulations and on expected changes this year. We will also answer questions on any other subject that people are interested in. Some of the subjects that will be discussed include:

- * the new crab trap tagging requirements
- * expected TED regulations in inside waters
- * the new commercial fishing safety regulations that the Coast Guard will be enforcing this year
- * black drum, and shark permits
- * skimmer regulations
- * update on finfish bycatch and salt barrels
- * federal water shrimping permits

The meetings will be held as follows:

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**LAFITTE CIVIC CENTER
LAFITTE
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 7:00 P.M.**

**ST GERTRUDE CHURCH HALL
DES ALLEMANDS
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 7:00 P.M.**

FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

The only thing that has kept up with the increase in fishing regulations is the increase in number of permits and licenses needed to fish. In saltwater areas (generally south of the Intracoastal Waterway, with some exceptions) at least three licenses are needed; a Commercial Fisherman-Captains license for \$55.00, a Vessel License for \$15.00 (commercial fishermen in freshwater areas do not need a vessel license) and at least one gear license. Gear licenses and costs are listed below:

| Type of gear | Resident Fees | Non-Resident Fees |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hoop Net-any legal number | \$25 | \$100 |
| Freshwater gillnet-any legal no. | \$25 | \$100 |
| Saltwater gillnet-any legal no. | \$250 | \$1,000 |
| Trammel Net-any legal number | \$25 | \$100 |
| Fish Seine-any legal number | \$25 | \$100 |
| Slat Trap-any legal number | \$25 | \$100 |
| Crab Trap on Trot Line (per trap up to 25) | \$1 | \$4 |
| Shrimp Trawl-per trawl | \$25 | \$100 |
| Skimmer Net-per net | \$25 | \$100 |
| Butterfly Net-per net | \$25 | \$100 |
| Oyster Tong-per tong | \$30 | \$240 |
| Oyster Dredge-per dredge | \$25 | \$200 |
| Purse/Menhaden Seine-per seine | \$505 | \$2,020 |
| Frog Gig | \$25 | \$100 |
| Eel Pot | \$25 | \$100 |
| Minnow Trap | \$25 | \$100 |
| Set Lines-Trot, Bush, etc. | \$25 | \$100 |
| Dip/Cast Nets | \$25 | \$100 |
| Flounder, Gig | \$25 | \$100 |
| Cans, Buckets, Pipes, Drums, Tires | \$25 | \$100 |
| Spear Gun | \$25 | \$100 |

Other commercial permits and licenses which may be required in addition to those above are as follows:

| Type of gear | Resident Fees | Non-Resident Fees |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Mullet Permit | \$100 | \$400 |
| Oyster Harvester License | \$100 | \$400 |
| Special Bait (shrimp) Dealers Permit | No Charge/\$1,000 bond | |
| Bull Drum Permit | NC | NC |
| Shark Permit | NC | NC |
| Chandeleur/Breton Pompano Permit | NC | NC |
| Menhaden Bait Season Permit | NC | NC |

Recreational or sportfishing licenses are not issued on a calendar year basis as are commercial licenses. They are valid from July 1 through June 30 of the following year. If a person buys a license after May 1, it will be good for the rest of the license year plus the entire new license year. All recreational fishermen are required to have either a Basic License at \$5.50 or a Universal (cane pole) License at \$2.50. Recreational fishermen fishing below the saltwater line, for saltwater fish, must have the Saltwater Anglers License at \$5.50 in addition to the basic license. The Basic License covers the use of hook and line, bow and arrow, barbless spear, frog gig/catcher, scuba gear or cast net, 6 feet radius or less. No license at all is required for recreational crab trotlines, crab and crawfish lift-nets or crawfish traps. People under 16 years old and 60 or over who have lived in the state for two years do not need recreational licenses, but must keep proof of age on hand.

Recreational Gear Licenses are also available. Anyone purchasing a gear license must also have a basic license regardless of age.

| Type of gear | Resident Fees | Non-Resident Fees |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Crab traps (up to 10) | \$10 | \$20 |
| Crab traps on trotline (up to 10) | \$1/trap | \$2/trap |
| Hoop nets (up to 5) | \$20 | \$40 |
| Slat traps (up to 5) | \$20 | \$40 |
| Trawls (16 ft. maximum) | \$25 | \$50 |
| Oyster tong (per tong) | \$5 | \$10 |

Non-resident licenses are as follows:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Season basic | \$15.50 |
| 7-day trip basic | \$10.50 |
| Season saltwater angler (must also have basic) | \$25.50 |
| 7-day trip saltwater angler | \$15.50 |
| 2-day trip combination basic and saltwater angler | \$8.50 |

The following Lifetime licenses are also available:

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|--|----------|
| Lifetime fishing (over 13 years of age) | \$300.00 |
| Lifetime fishing (under 13 years of age) | \$200.00 |
| Lifetime fishing/hunting (over 13 years of age) | \$500.00 |
| Lifetime fishing/hunting (under 13 years of age) | \$300.00 |

SEVERAL BOOKS AVAILABLE TO IDENTIFY YOUR CATCH

With new seasons, creel limits and size limits appearing almost monthly, fishermen are finding it necessary to be able to identify any fish that they catch and plan to keep. Unfortunately, not many fish identification books and guides are available and many of them are incomplete. Listed below are what I consider to be the best books on the subject available. If your favorite bookstore doesn't stock them (and they probably don't) they will gladly order them for you.

For saltwater fish identification, I would recommend that you order both of the first two books. If you plan to fish for sharks, the shark identification book is also very important. The new shark management plan going into effect this year will create many new regulations for sharks.

- * A Field Guide to Atlantic Coast Fishes of North America
by C.R. Robins and G.C. Ray
Houghton Mifflin Company \$14.95
- * Fishes of the Gulf of Mexico, Texas, Louisiana and Adjacent
Waters by H.D. Hoese and R.H. Moore
Texas A & M University Press \$19.95
- * The Sharks of North American Waters by J.I. Castro
Texas A & M University Press \$9.95
- * A Field Guide to Freshwater Fishes: North America North of
Mexico by L.M. Page and B.M. Burr
Houghton Mifflin Company \$16.95

SHRIMP AMENDMENT 6 STALLED

The amendment to the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Management Plan that would have required permits for shrimp vessels in federal waters has hit a snag. Over 100 people attended Brownsville-Port Isabel hearing and testified against it. The National Marine Fisheries Service has also advised the Gulf Council that not enough social and economic impact study had been done.

The amendment also defines overfishing of white shrimp and requires selected vessels in federal waters to carry an observer on a trip to monitor shrimp and bycatch.

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