

July 1, 1993 Volume 17, No.7 Jefferson Parish Office 1825 Bonnie Ann Drive Marrero, LA 70072 (504) 349-5640

SEA GRANT PROGRAM LAGNIAPPE

TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGE

Our telephone number has changed due to the fact that all of the Extension Service programs offices except fisheries will move to 6640 River Side Dr. Suite 100 in Metairie. For the time being I will remain at our office on Bonnie Ann Dr. in Marrero but my new telephone number will be 349-5644.

If you would like to reach the Agriculture, Horticulture, Home Economics or 4-H agents you need to call 838-1170. Please make a note of these changes to avoid any inconvenience later.

NAVIGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Algiers Lock will be closed until September 18 for major repairs. After these repairs, work on the canal-end guide wall will cause short closures of up to 8 hours until December. The Algiers Lock may be contacted on VHF-FM channel 14 for information on these closures. During these closure periods, the Harvey Lock may be used as an alternate route.

Also due to repairs to the Judge Seeber Bridge, the Florida Ave. and St. Claude Avenue Bridges will not open for vessel traffic from 6 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on week days. At all other times, the bridges will operate to pass navigation.

REPORTING BEACON AND BUOY PROBLEMS

Aids to Navigation are markers or lights used to mark channels and hazards to navigation. The Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) in New Orleans maintains and repairs lights and markers. Their area includes the Mississippi River, MRGO, Lakes Pontchartrain, Maurepas, Borgne, Salvador and surrounding waterways

They visit each aid annually to be sure it is working properly. Sometimes because of storms or other unknown reasons the aid may get damaged or destroyed. When this happens they often don't find out about it until someone reports it to them. They repair the lights or place a temporary marker as soon as possible after receiving a report. Another problem they handle are hazards to navigation. When a boat sinks, it is the owner's responsibility to place a marker on it. If the owner does not mark it or the hazard is something like pilings, pipes, shoaling, they will investigate. If they determine that a hazard exists, they will place a marker on it until the hazard can be removed by owner or Corps of Engineers.

The safety of the boater is very important to the Coast Guard. When aids to navigation problems or a hazard to navigation goes unreported, it creates safety problems. If you wish to report a problem or a hazard, contact the nearest Coast Guard unit via CH. 16 VHF-FM or by telephone. In the New Orleans area, call Coast Guard Group New Orleans at 942-3001 or ANT New Orleans at 942-3012. The information they will ask for is name of light or hazard, position and description of problem. They will also ask your name and phone in case they need additional information. Source Larry Davis, U.S. Coast Guard.

NEW REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN LICENSE

Licenses for the commercial collecting of reptiles and amphibians in Louisiana are now on sale. The new license is part of a new program designed to regulate the harvest and sale of turtles, snakes, lizards, frogs, toads and salamanders. The only reptile not included is the alligator, which has its own set of harvesting licenses. The license applies to the commercial take of these animals whether they are sold for food or to the pet or biological supply market. Licenses purchased at this time will be good until December 31, 1994. Licenses purchased after that will be good for one year only.

These commercial collectors license is on sale at The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries office at 2000 Quail Dr. in Baton Rouge and at 400 Royal St. in New Orleans. The cost is \$25 for residents who are 16 years old or older and \$200 for non-residents regardless of age.

Residents over 18 years old, catching reptiles and amphibians from the wild for their own use and not for sale, only need a basic recreational fishing license at the cost of \$5.50. Resident Commercial dealers handling any species of native reptile or amphibian must have a \$105 amphibian/reptile wholesale/retail license. For nonresidents the cost is \$405.

MARINE ADVISORY BOARD NEWS

The development of the marine fisheries museum received a boast recently when Jefferson Parish Councilman Donald R. Jones authorized the expenditure of \$2000 for further development of the museum. The museum will be located on Louisiana Avenue near Bayou Segnette in Westwego. Fisheries has played (and still does) a very important part in the economy of Jefferson Parish. Councilman Jones represents District 3, which

takes in large parts of Westwego, Lafitte, Barataria and Grand Isle, all of which are important fishing ports.

1992 SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION

The 1992 seafood consumption statistics of the U.S. have been released. The amount of seafood eaten per person dropped from 14.9 pounds to 14.8 pounds per year. But because there are 3 million more people, the total consumption of seafood increased by 19.4 million pounds. Shrimp consumption set a new record high of 2.5 pounds per person. Catfish consumption also increased to .9 pounds per person per year which is also a record.

Both catfish and shrimp are produced in increasing numbers on farms and with the large volume of production, the prices have remained relatively low. This may be the reason for their increase in consumption, while other seafoods went down. Pork, chicken and turkey consumption also showed increases and beef decreased slightly.

HURRICANE SEASON

Hurricane season is here again and hopefully this year will be less eventful than 1992 was. As usual, the National Hurricane Center in Miami Florida will be using data from ships, aircraft, radar and satellites to issue warnings and forecasts on these tropical storms. Hurricanes are categorized on the Saffir-Simpson scale in categories of 1 to 5. Hurricane Andrew was a category 3 storm when it entered Louisiana.

CATEGORY 1 MINIMAL damage; winds of 74 to 95 mph; storm surge of 4 to 5 feet.

Damage to shrubs, trees, and unanchored mobile homes. Low-lying roads may be flooded.

CATEGORY 2 MODERATE damage; winds of 96 to 110 mph; storm surge of 6 to 8 feet. Some trees may be blown down, damage to roofs, windows and doors. No major damage to buildings expected other than mobile homes. Most coastal roads under water.

CATEGORY 3 EXTENSIVE damage; winds of 111 to 130 mph; storm surge of 9 to 12 feet. Large trees blown down, mobile homes destroyed. Some structural damage to small buildings expected. Windows, roofs, and doors damaged. Serious flooding near coast, waves batter coastal structures.

CATEGORY 4 EXTREME damage; winds of 131 to 155 mph; storm surge of 13 to 18 feet. Roofs blown off many small residences, heavy damage to roofs, windows, and the doors. Flooding extends well inland. Major damage to coastal structures from coastal storm surge.

CATEGORY 5

CATASTROPHIC damage; winds of 156 mph and up; storm surge 18 feet and above. Massive damage to roofs, windows and doors, roofs blown off many small buildings, some complete building failures. Major damage to lower floors of all oceanfront structures from storm surge. Extensive flooding in low-lying inland areas.

NEW FISHERIES LAWS

The following bills were passed by the 1993 Louisiana Legislature and will go into effect August 15 (unless otherwise noted). If you would like more information on these new laws, call me at my office in Marrero.

House Bill 76 (Act 62) - Siracusa and others

Makes technical changes in the wording on the penalties for the use of aircraft in catching fish.

House Bill 77 (Act 81) - Sam Theriot

Puts a 50 pound catch limit on shrimp for recreational castnetters year-round.

House Bill 79 (Act 83) - Schneider and others

Creates penalties for violations of recreational clam laws.

House Bill 81 (Act 63) - Triche

Allows the closure or restriction of a fishing season by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries by publication of intent to do so twice in the official parish journal, instead of three times.

House Bill 85 (Act 240) - Adley and others

Tightens up the requirements for correct information on license applications.

House Bill 147 (Act 241)

Allows enforcement agents to use global positioning satellite (GPS) readings to determine if shrimping is in inside or outside waters.

House Bill 171 (Act 843) - Theunisson and Sam Theriot

Legalizes the use of elevated trotlines (high water lines) in White Lake in Vermilion Parish and Grand Lake and Lake Misere in Cameron Parish.

House Bill 300 (Act 68) - Odinet and others

Requires that all oysters taken from the reefs of this state must be landed in Louisiana with proper containers, tags and taxes.

House Bill 322 (Act 246) - Hammett and others

Requires non-resident sport fishermen to have their license in immediate possession when fishing.

House Bill 403 (Act 69) - Odinet

Outlaws the use of a trawl while using skimmers or butterfly nets. Provides that no skimmer or butterfly net may be mounted more than 24 inches from the side of the boat.

House Bill 412 (Act 72) - Jack Smith and others

Corrects the wording to include saltwater angling in the universal license. Effective July 1, 1993.

House Bill 594 (Act 93) - Salter and Landry

Makes it against the law to damage or remove buoys or markers placed in stateowned waterways if the buoys or markers are marked to show public ownership.

House Bill 603 (Act 162) - Riddle

Authorizes federal agents to enforce state fish and game laws in Avoyelles Parish.

House Bill 644 (Act 753) - A. Alexander and Morial

Provides that, if federal funds are available, seafood plant inspections shall include a recommendation for testing the environment, including the water source if a health problem is indicated.

House Bill 655 (Act 754) - Hammett

Authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set fees for nonresident recreational fishing and hunting licenses.

House Bill 681 (Act 256) - Landrieu and others

Increases nonresident recreational fishing and hunting licenses by \$10.50 or to the amount that the person's state charges for non-residents, whichever is greater. Effective July 1, 1993.

House Bill 733 (Act 164) - Jack Smith

Creates a state income tax credit for state gasoline and fuel taxes paid for operating a commercial fishing boat.

House Bill 785 (Act 435) - Durand

Allows the taking of bowfin (Choupique) with nets during December, January and February in the following areas: Bayou Courtableu, Bayou Teche, Vermilion River, Carencro Bayou, Que de Tortue, Bayou Nez Pique, Mermentau River, Bayou Lacassine, Sabine River and Atchafalaya Basin within the levees and south of US Highway 190.

House Bill 789 (Act 99) - Ellington

Sets a minimum annual fee of \$1000 for nonresident freshwater mussel harvesters.

Dedicates half the money to the Enforcement Division and half to the Inland Fisheries Division. Effective June 1, 1993.

House Bill 1024 (Act 263) - Roach

Increases the minimum mesh size on trawls, butterfly nets and skimmers to 1 ½ inches stretched, in inshore waters, during the fall inshore shrimp season. Effective January 1, 1995.

House Bill 1026 (Act 443) - Roach

Provides that the count on white shrimp shall be determined by taking two 3-pound samples from each cargo lot. The enforcement agent takes one sample and the fishermen takes one sample. The average count will come from a combination of these two samples. A "cargo lot" is defined as a container, basket, box, chest, bin, hole or storage compartment in which shrimp are kept for transport. The minimum count shall apply only at the vessel level, not the buyer level. (Note: There is still no count size between October 15 and the third Monday in December). Effective immediately.

House Bill 1133 (Act 115) - Odinet

Authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to extend oyster season to May 15 rather than April 1, which is now the deadline. Directs the commission to consider the recommendations of the Oyster Task Force.

House Bill 1164 (Act 271) - Sam Theriot

Restructures the involvement of agencies in the Louisiana Artificial Reef Development Program.

House Bill 1169 (Act 121) - Patti and others

Makes corrections in the wording of the shrimp laws.

House Bill 1176 (Act 768) - Siracusa

Restricts the use of shrimp butterfly and bottom nets to vessels which are motor propelled and underway in Oyster Bayou and Grand Pass in Terrebonne Parish.

House Bill 1282 (Act 179) - Patti

Requires that oyster tags have on them the information required by the National shellfish Sanitation Plan Manual of Operations. Also repeals the requirement that tags be held by a commercial user for 60 days after the oysters are removed from the sack or container.

House Bill 1287 (Act 460) - Riddle

Makes the white perch (sac-a-lait) the official state freshwater fish.

House Bill 1305 (Act 285) - Roach

Requires the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to set seasons and areas on the taking of crabs during the inland shrimp season in Sabine Lake.

House Bill 1443 (Act 290) - Mitch Theriot

Allows people who have lost an arm or a leg to sportfish for free.

House Bill 1464 (Act 776) - Hopkins

Limits the number of yo-yo's or trigger devices to 12 per person on Caddo Lake, requires their attendance during daylight hours and their marking.

House Bill 1637 (Act 294) - Roach and others

Requires a shipping label fee for alligators processed in-state. Provides for free hide tags to alligator hunters and farmers. Effective September 1, 1993.

House Bill 1725 (Act 143) - Odinet

Creates operating rules for task forces, committees or other advisory groups formed to advise the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

House Bill 1986 (Act 301) - Sam Theriot

Change the name of the "Marine Recreational Fishing Development Board" to the "Louisiana Recreational Fishery Development Board". Adds 8 new members, including one each from the Louisiana Association of Coastal Anglers, the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, a tackle manufacturer or wholesaler, and 5 freshwater representatives.

House Bill 2066 (Act 911) - Odinet and Patti

Places a surcharge 20% of the permit fee, with a maximum of \$150, on water discharge permits in the Atchafalaya, Terreborne, Barataria, Lake Ponchartrain and Mississippi River water quality management basins. These monies will go into the "Oyster Sanitation Fund" to be used by the Departments of Health and Hospitals and Wildlife and Fisheries to improve sanitation and oyster water quality.

Senate Bill 359 (Act 504) - Barro and others.

Allows rehabilitation programs to apply for sportfishing licenses in the program's name.

Senate Bill 407 (Act 508) - Hines

Allows the use of up to 24 tagged yo-yo's per boat in Chicot Lake between November 1 and March 1 of each year.

Senate Bill 435 (Act 815) - Johnson and Hainkel

Makes the green tree frog the official state amphibian.

Senate Bill 870 (Act 551) - McPherson

Removes the power of the Wildlife and Fishers Commission to set special limits and issue permits for freshwater gamefish tournaments.

House Concurrent Resolution 95 - Odinet

Requests the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to allow bimonthly meetings of the Marine Finfish Panel.

House Concurrent Resolution 105 - Roach

Requests the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Department of Labor to develop and put into effect a job training program for displaced oyster fishermen.

House Concurrent Resolution 268 - Roach and others

Expresses the support of Legislature for Christmas tree recycling/coastal restoration projects.

House Concurrent Resolution 296 - John

Directs the House Committee on Natural Resources with the Subcommittee on Wildlife and Fisheries and the Senate Natural Resources Committee to conduct a study of the powers, duties, functions, structure and funding of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

House Resolution 1 - Odinet and others

Directs the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to study the possibility of allowing oyster fishermen to buy preprinted oyster tags.

House Resolution No. 38 - Sam Theriot

Creates an Alligator Industry Task Force to study alligator farming and alligator related industries and to make recommendations on ways of revitalizing and making these industries more profitable.

House Study Request 24 - Patti

Requests the House Committee on Natural Resources to study the possibility of purchasing sport fishing and hunting licenses with credit cards.

House Study Request 25 - Roach

Requests the House Committee on Natural Resources to study all aspects of outlawing the commercial harvest of seafood from coastal areas dammed off by manmade projects.

House Study Request 26 - Russo

Requests the House Committee on Natural Resources to study the supervision and control of enforcement officers and agents in the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

House Study Request 27 - Sam Theriot

Requests the House Committee on Natural Resources to study the possibility of increasing certain commercial license fees in order to fund the Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board.

House Study Request 29 - Hudson

Requests the House Committee on Natural Resources to study the possibility of limiting the number of biologist and specialist positions in the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Senate Concurrent resolution 11 - Ullo, Toomy and Patti

Creates a Task Force make to recommendations on the removal of underwater obstructions in coastal and marine waters.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 185 - Cain

Requests the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to study the possibility of charging a fee for the taking of fish and game on leased land in order to buy land for the public.

THE GUMBO POT

This recipe is a modification of one developed by Chef Victor A. L. Gielisse of Actuelle Restaurant in Dallas Texas. Chef Gielisse has twice been named the best seafood chef of Texas. This dish has a wonderful nutty taste.

Fillets with Pecan Crust

2 lbs fish fillets1/3 cup flour1 cup bread crumbs1 cup finely chopped pecans

2 eggs 2 Tablespoons olive oil salt and pepper

Cut fish into serving size portions. Salt and pepper and lightly dust with flour. Combine crumbs and nuts in a flat pan. Beat egg yolk and whites with 2 tablespoons water in another pan. Heat oil in skillet. Dredge each fish portion in egg wash, then in crumb-nut mixture. Saute fish on each side for 2 minutes or until golden brown. Carefully place fish on bake-and-serve platter and bake for 5 minutes at 350 degrees to finish. Makes 5 to 6 servings.

Sincerely,

Jerald Morst Area Agent (Fisheries)

LOUISIANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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