

June 1, 1995 Volume 19, No. 6 Jefferson Parish Office 1855 Ames Blvd. Marrero, LA 70072 (504) 349-5644 Fax: (504) 349-8817



WETLANDS WORKSHOP

The Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program will be holding a workshop to get public input on a management plan for the estuary. This 4 million acre area extends from the Atchafalaya Basin to the Mississippi River down to the Gulf. The area produces nearly a billion dollars worth of seafood, agriculture, oil and gas.

This area is threatened by erosion, pollution and other problems. Major changes will be made to protect this area. These workshops are part of the process of developing a long-term management plan for the area.

June 13, 1995 7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception School Cafeteria 601 Avenue C, Marrero, LA

COUNCIL APPROVES RED SNAPPER LIMITED ENTRY

At its May meeting, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council gave its final approval to the development of a red snapper Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ program). ITQ's are a form of limited entry where people who can prove that they produced fish commercially in the fishery in the past, will get a share in the overall quota on the fishery. ITQ holders can either produce the fish themselves or sell, give away or lease their share to another person.

The ITQ program that the Council approved is now on the desk of the U.S.

Secretary of Commerce. Final approval or denial will come within 90 days. A possible problem is that the U.S. Congress is considering legislation putting a moratorium on the development of federal fisheries ITQ programs.

If that takes place, the council may change its red snapper limited entry program to a license limitation program. Under the license limitation program anyone with 500 pounds of red snapper landings in at least one of the years 1990, 1991, or 1992 will get a class 2 license. This license allows a person to land 200 pounds of red snapper per trip. If a person can prove landings of 5000 pounds in two of the same three years, he can get a class 1 license. This license allows landings of 2000 pounds per trip.

TRAWL MESH SIZE INCREASE

Beginning this year, the minimum mesh size on trawls, skimmers and butterfly nets <u>used in inshore waters</u> during the <u>fall white shrimp</u> season has been increased to 1½ inches stretched. The minimum mesh size remains at 1¼ inches during the inshore brown shrimp season and in outside state waters (beach to 3 miles out) year around. This measure was passed by the 1993 State Legislature but was not effective till this year.

TED VIOLATIONS UP

TED violations for the Gulf of Mexico and the south Atlantic were up in 1994. The 297 violations were the highest in three years.

YEAR	NO. OF CASES
1989	378
1990	340
1991	212
1992	132
1993	139
1994	297

FLORIDA PLANS COMPENSATION FOR NETTERS

While the plans are not final, the preliminary word is that the Florida commercial netters who were put out of business by their net ban will receive some compensation from the state. The figure is \$20 million, which will come from the states general revenue funds.

Part of the plan is a net purchase program. A maximum of 10 to 12 nets will be purchased from each fisherman. The number of nets purchased from a fisherman will depend on his income level.

Unemployment benefits are also included. The Florida Department of Labor will pay up to \$250 per week for six months. Unemployment benefits can extend another six

months if a person is in school.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

We have a supply of fact sheets on the following topics available. If you would like a copy of any of them, call or write my office.

- 1. Navigable Water Bottoms and the Public Trust Doctrine in Louisiana
- 2. Mullet Management
- 3. Allocating Fish
- 4. Recreational Oyster Fishing
- 5. Handling Your Catch in the Field
- 6. Crawfish Facts and Fallacies
- 7. Handling and Freezing Fish and Seafood
- 8. Speckled Trout Facts
- 9. Understanding Sustainable Yields of Fish and Wildlife
- 10. Spaghetti Worms in Fish
- 11. Mariculture
- 12. Who Manages Our Fishery Resources
- 13. Understanding Redfish Biology
- 14. Trailer Maintenance
- 15. Crab Trap Tagging Regulations
- 16. Releasing Your Catch
- 17. Largemouth Bass Facts

THE GUMBO POT

EASY OYSTER DIP

1/2 cup margarine

1 large chopped onion

- 1 pkg.(10 oz.) frozen chopped broccoli 1 roll (6 oz.) garlic cheese
- can (4 oz) chopped mushrooms, drained 1/2 roll (3 oz) jalapeno cheese
- can (4 oz) chopped mushrooms, drained
 can (10 3/4 oz) cream of mushroom
- 1 cup chopped oysters
- soup

Prepare broccoli according to package directions. Saute' onion in margarine. Mix all other ingredients and cook over low heat until cheese is melted. Serve with crackers or other appetizers. This dish also freezes well.

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