

## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

#### **Alligators (LAC 76:V.701)**

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the alligator regulations governing wild alligator season length. The action extends the wild alligator hunting season through December 31.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement, the filing of the Notice of Intent and compiling public comments and submissions for the commission's review and consideration. In the absence of any further action by the commission following an opportunity to consider all public comments regarding the proposed rule, the Secretary is authorized and directed to prepare and transmit a summary report to the legislative oversight committees and file the final Rule.

## **Title 76**

### **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

#### **Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds**

##### **Chapter 7. Alligators**

##### **§701. Alligator Regulations**

A. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish regulations governing the harvest of wild populations of alligators and alligator eggs, raising and propagation of farmed alligators, tanning of skins and regulations governing the selling of hides,

alligator parts and farm raised alligators. The administrative responsibility for these alligator programs shall rest with the department secretary, and the assistant secretary, Office of Wildlife.

A.1. – A.6.f.vii. ...

7. Open Season, Open Areas, and Quotas

a. Open seasons are as follows.

i. The state shall be divided into the east and west alligator hunting zones by the following boundary: beginning at the southwestern most part of Point Au Fer Island thence north along the western boundary of Terrebonne Parish to the Atchafalaya River, thence north along the Atchafalaya River to the East Atchafalaya Protection Levee, thence north along the East Atchafalaya Protection Levee, to Interstate 10, thence east along Interstate 10 to Interstate 12, thence east along Interstate 12 to Interstate 55, thence north along Interstate 55 to the Mississippi state line. The season for taking alligators in the wild shall open on the last Wednesday of August in the east zone and the first Wednesday of September in the west zone and will remain open until December 31 thereafter in each zone. The secretary shall be authorized to close, extend, delay, or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

A.7.a.ii – A.18.c. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115 and Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, Chapter 1, Part V, Subpart A.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 16:1070 (December 1990), amended LR 17:892 (September 1991), LR 19:215 (February 1993), LR 20:321 (March 1994), LR 26:1492 (July 2000), LR 28:1996 (September 2002), LR 30:2338 (October 2004), LR 30:2878 (December 2004), LR 31:2267 (September 2005), LR 33:677 (April 2007), LR 35:690 (April 2009), LR

37:2421 (August 2011), LR 39:2291 (August 2013), LR 42:909 (June 2016), LR 43:90 (January 2017), LR46:50 (January 2020), LR46:1398 (October 2020), LR 48:508 (March 2022), LR 48:2992 (December 2022), LR .

### **Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with Act 1183 of 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent. This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

### **Poverty Impact Statement**

The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in R.S.49:973.

### **Provider Impact Statement**

This Rule has no known impact on providers as described in HCR 170 of 2014.

### **Small Business Analysis**

This proposed Rule may have a positive impact on small businesses as described in R.S. 49:965.2 through R.S. 49:965.8.

### **Public Comments**

Written comments may be addressed to Jeb Linscombe, Program Manager, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA, 70506 or via email to [jlinscombe@wlf.la.gov](mailto:jlinscombe@wlf.la.gov), no later than 4:30 PM on May 1, 2025.

Kevin Sagrera

Chairman

SUMMARY  
(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 961 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

There is no anticipated impact on the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) expenditures as a result of the proposed rule change. The proposed rule change establishes December 31<sup>st</sup> as the statewide closing date for alligator trapping season.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The proposed rule may have a moderate, positive effect on revenue collections of the LDWF if the lengthening of the season prompts an increase in the issuance of licenses that are required to harvest alligators. Resident Alligator Sport Hunter licenses are available at a fee of \$25. Nonresident Alligator Sport Hunter licenses are available at a fee of \$150. The LDWF issued an average of 749 resident and 1,294 non-resident alligator sport hunting licenses between license year (LY) 2021 and LY 2023. The number of additional licenses that may be issued under the proposed rule change cannot be assessed with the available data.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

The proposed rule change is expected to have positive impacts on individuals and small businesses that participate in the harvesting and processing of alligators.

It may also benefit persons who are at risk of negative encounters with alligators to the extent that the proposed lengthening of the alligator trapping season achieves the intended goal of reducing negative human interactions with alligators.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

There is no estimated effect on competition and employment due to the proposed rule changes.