

### Salvinia Control

Two species of the invasive aquatic salvinia are found throughout Louisiana.

Common salvinia, *Salvinia minima*, which is native to Central and South America, was first identified in Florida in the 1930s. From there it has spread to every southern state in the U.S. Giant salvinia, *Salvinia molesta*, also native to South America, has spread to almost every temperate and tropical country worldwide. It has become known as the most noxious of all aquatic weeds.

While giant salvinia at maturity is quite a bit larger than its cousin the common salvinia, the two can be distinguished from one another through close observation of the upper leaves. Both species have many small spike-like hairs on the upper leaf surface. The giant

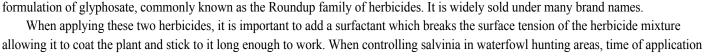
salvinia's hairs split into four prongs that rejoin at the tips to form a structure that resembles an eggbeater or cage. The four prongs on common salvinia do not rejoin at the tip. The giant's young plant leaves lie flat on the water similar to the common salvinia in size and appearance, however as the giant salvinia grows and matures the leaves begin to fold upward and inward.

Giant salvinia is much more damaging than its smaller cousin because of its ability to grow into dense mats that can cover entire water bodies with a thick layer of vegetation. These mats smother native plants by blocking the penetration of sunlight into the water.

Other consequences of giant salvinia are reduced dissolved oxygen in shaded waters, causing fish kills and reduced production of submerged aquatic plants. This severely reduces the value of an area as waterfowl habitat. Solid mats of giant salvinia may also reduce or eliminate boating and fishing opportunities simply because boats are not able to push through the thick mats.

Controlling salvinia is difficult and can be quite costly. Common salvinia does not tolerate salinities and dies in a few days at levels at or above three to four parts per thousand. Giant salvinia is more tolerant requiring salinities of 7-10 parts per thousand for a week to begin killing it. In areas where salt water is not an option, such as in fishponds and freshwater marshes, herbicides can be used.

Diquat dibromide, commonly sold under the brand name of REWARD is a contact herbicide that is effective at controlling salvinia. Another option is to use an aquatic labeled formulation of glyphosate, commonly known as the Roundup family of herbicides. It is widely



should be considered. It is most desirable to control unwanted vegetation without killing desirable waterfowl foods, if possible.

The ideal time is early in spring before the peak of growing season when infestations are light, water levels allow easy access, and it is less costly to spray small areas of growth. Spot spraying throughout the summer to maintain control should follow this.

The salvinia weevil is also being raised and released for biological control by LSU AgCenter, and this program is showing success. A manual about release and use of the weevil is available through LSU AgCenter. <a href="https://www.lsuagcenter.com/articles/page1513369199022">https://www.lsuagcenter.com/articles/page1513369199022</a>

Giant salvinia (at top) and common salvinia.

Kevin Savoie





# New Modifications to Sea Turtle Release Gear for the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery

NOAA Fisheries announces new modifications to sea turtle release gear for the reef fish fishery in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf). These modifications include three newly approved sea turtle release devices, and clarification to regulations to specify exactly which release gear is required and approved for use, including dimensions where appropriate. Regulations will be effective June 17, 2019.

### SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

- A collapsible hoop net and small turtle hoist are approved as alternatives to the dip net requirement.
- A new squeeze handle dehooker is approved to fulfill the requirement for a short-handled dehooker for external hooks.
- The use of 316L and 304L grade stainless steel for internal and external device construction are approved for other short-handled and long-handled dehookers.
- There is no longer a requirement for the end coverings on canine mouth gags.
- The minimum blade length for the monofilament line cutters is one inch with a minimum total length of six inches.
- The minimum total length for the long-nose, needle-nose pliers is 11 inches.
- The minimum blade length for the bolt cutters is four inches with a minimum total length of 14 inches.
- The specific length for the hank of rope, used as a mouth opener/gag, has been removed.
- The block of hard wood, used as a mouth opener/gag, dimensions must be 10 inches x <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch x <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch.
- The requirement for a sea turtle cushion or support device was updated to specify a dedicated cushion for the turtle must be on board, which cannot be also used as a personal flotation device.
- An electronic version of the document entitled "Careful Release Protocols for Sea Turtle Release with Minimal Injury" kept on an electronic device is now allowed on board a vessel instead of a written copy.

FORMAL FEDERAL REGISTER NAME/NUMBER: FR 84 FR 22383, published May 17, 2019.

This bulletin serves as a Small Entity Compliance Guide, complying with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996.

### Report Marine Mammal Strandings

Anyone observing a stranding, dead or alive, should take a picture of the animal, the time the animal was observed and location (GPS position) of the animal. The public can report strandings to the NOAA Southeast Region Marine Mammal Stranding Network Hotline at 1-877-433-8299.

"It is important for the public to notify us about a marine mammal stranding or an out of habitat animal as soon as possible," said LDWF biologist Mandy Tumlin, the Louisiana Marine Mammal Stranding and Rescue Program Coordinator. "We simply cannot be everywhere at all times and the public greatly assists us with these observations and reporting. Each and every stranding is important for obtaining valuable information about these protected



animals. The sooner we know about the stranding, the quicker we can gather vital information and obtain more diagnostic samples."

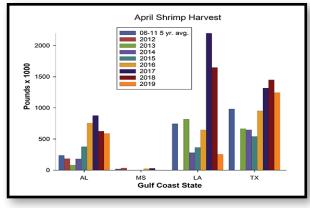
To report marine mammal violations, such as people feeding, attempting to feed, or harassing marine mammals in the wild, please contact the national NOAA Fisheries Enforcement Hotline at 1-800-853-1964 or LDWF's Operation Game Thief at 1-800-442-2511. Information may be left anonymously. It is illegal to harass or interact with marine mammals whether they are dead or alive.

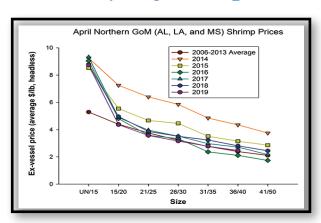
### DOS AND DON'TS FOR ENCOUNTERING MARINE MAMMALS

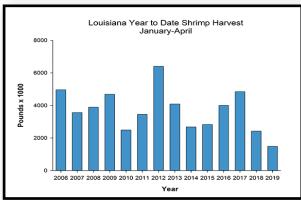
- Do immediately report all dead marine mammals, even if they are decomposed. Call the Southeast Region Stranding Network 24-hour hotline: 1-877-942-5343 to be connected to Louisiana's marine mammal stranding network. The stranding network will send out trained responders who will get to the scene quickly with appropriate equipment.
- Don't push the animal back out to sea. Stranded marine mammals may be sick or injured. Returning animals to sea delays examination and treatment and often results in the animal re-stranding in worse condition.
- If the animal returns to the water on its own, don't attempt to interact with it (swim with, ride, etc.).
- Do put human safety above animal safety. If conditions are dangerous, do not attempt to approach the animal.
- Do stay with the animal until rescuers arrive but use caution. Marine mammals can be dangerous and/or carry disease. Keep a safe distance from the head and tail. Also, minimize contact with the animal (use gloves if necessary) and avoid inhaling the animal's expired air.
- If the animal is alive, do keep its skin moist and cool by splashing water over its body. Use wet towels to help keep the skin moist and prevent sunburn.
- If the animal is alive, don't cover or obstruct the blowhole. Try to keep sand and water away from the blowhole.
- Do keep crowds away and noise levels down to avoid causing further stress to the animal.
- Do keep dogs/pets away from the live or dead marine mammal.
- Don't collect any parts (tissues, teeth, bones, or gear, etc.) from dead animals. It is illegal and a violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

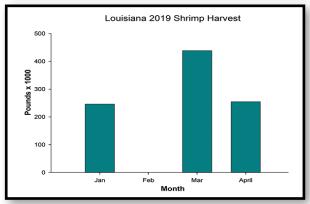
### **Louisiana Shrimp Watch**

Louisiana specific data portrayed in the graphics are selected from preliminary data posted by NOAA on its website. All data portrayed are subject to final revision and approval by NOAA. Shrimp landings are ex-vessel prices, inclusive of all species harvested. Missing, inadequate or withheld reports are portrayed as "zero" in these graphics. Price graphics reflect central Gulf states only (Texas and Florida are reported independently). For more information, please refer to: <a href="https://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/market\_news/index.html">www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/market\_news/index.html</a>.









# **Important Dates & Upcoming Events**

June 9 – Commercial Harvest of Greater Amberjack closes in Federal and State waters

July 29 – Sanitation Control Procedures for Fish and Fisheries Products, 212 Efferson Hall, Baton Rouge

July 30 - Aug 1 - Basic Seafood HACCP, 212 Efferson Hall, Baton Rouge

Aug 12 - 15 - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Meeting, Hyatt Centric French Quarter, 800 Iberville St., New Orleans

Aug 27 - 29 - Meat and Poultry HACCP, 212 Efferson Hall, Baton Rouge

## THE GUMBO POT

### ACADIAN PEPPERED SHRIMP

Recipe courtesy of Louisiana Kitchen & Culture.

For more recipes or to subscribe to their magazine or free newsletter, please visit http://louisiana.kitchenandculture.com/



### Ingredients:

- 4 pounds medium Louisiana shrimp, in the shell
- 1 cup unsalted butter
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 4 cloves garlic, crushed through a garlic press
- 2 tablespoons black pepper, finely cracked
- 2 teaspoons dried basil
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 bay leaf, broken in half
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper

dash of ground nutmeg

2 teaspoons minced fresh basil

### **Method:**

Rinse the shrimp and pat dry with paper towels.

In a large, deep nonreactive skillet, over medium heat, melt the butter. Stir in the lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce, garlic, cracked pepper, basil, oregano, bay leaf, salt, cayenne and nutmeg. Cook, stirring often, until the butter turns almost chestnut brown, 10-15 minutes.

Increase the heat to high, add the shrimp and sauté until the shrimp turn pink and the interiors are opaque throughout, 8-10 minutes. Remove from the heat. Remove and discard the bay leaf and stir in the fresh basil until well blended.

Working quickly and using tongs, arrange the hot shrimp in a spiral pattern on a large round serving platter, leaving space in the center for a small ramekin. Drizzle some of the butter sauce over the shrimp and pour the remaining sauce in the ramekin. Serve hot.

Serves 4

Be sure to visit the *Lagniappe* blog for additional news and timely events between issues. https://louisianalagniappe.wordpress.com/

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We would like to hear from you! Please contact us regarding fishery questions, comments or concerns you would like to see covered in the Lagniappe. Anyone interested in submitting information, such as articles, editorials or photographs pertaining to fishing or fisheries management is encouraged to do so.

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