



When it rains, it pours, in Louisiana

In Louisiana, there's always something to harvest or catch, but finding suitable weather to do it in can be difficult. Why? Well, for starters, Louisiana is the wettest state in the lower 48 and southern Louisiana averages over 60 inches of rainfall annually.

Roughly 30 percent or 110 days a year have precipitation. These rain days produce approximately 450 rainy hours per year, translating to 5 percent of the annual hours. During wet years it has rained up to 675 hours (or 7.7 percent of the time) and during dry years as little as 240 hours (2.75 percent of the time). One particularly dry year was 1952, when Lake Charles and New Orleans went for 1,097 and 1,090 consecutive hours without rainfall, respectively. This equates to roughly 45 straight days with no rain. This event occurred during the fall which is not surprising considering the longest duration or interval between rainfall events for southern Louisiana occurs during spring and fall. In the transition season there are roughly 60-70 hours between rainfall events, on average.

However, anyone in southern Louisiana knows our rainfall is not evenly spaced. Heavy rainfall events produce a large amount of precipitation across the state. In fact, on average, 44-48 individual hours produce roughly 50 percent of the total annual accumulation. This means that if you condense the entire year down into one minute, roughly 50 percent of the precipitation falls in one-third of a second. Forty percent of these heavy events occur during the afternoon (12-5 p.m.) and primarily during summer. In summer, roughly one-third of the days have rain, but these rainfall events tend to be short, with an average duration of less than three hours. In winter, precipitation events last roughly 5-5.5 hours and tend to be less intense on average compared to summer rainfall.

Recent research on precipitation trends across Louisiana and the southeast region as a whole has found that precipitation events have become more intense and of a shorter duration since 1950. While the causes of these observed changes could be related to natural fluctuation in the climate system, they could also be related to observed changes in temperature, which will have large implications for Louisiana. For example, it could lead to more runoff, flooding and issues with water quality that could impact the livelihood of many across the state, given credence to the claim that when it rains it really does pour.

Other Rainy Facts:

- The one-day precipitation record for Louisiana is 22 inches near Hackberry set in 1962.
- The two-day precipitation record was 24.5 inches at Abita Springs in 1995, but was recently broken by the southern Louisiana flood of August 2016, where 31.4 inches fell in 48 hours.
- The greatest two-hour period of rainfall at Baton Rouge Airport was 4.96 inches in 1995, and the greatest 12-hour period was 11.45 inches in 1967.
- The greatest two-hour period of rainfall at New Orleans International Airport was 7.5 inches in 1975, and the greatest 12-hour period was 13.44 inches in 1995.

— Vincent Brown
Louisiana State University, Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program

Callam Named Oyster Lab Director

After an international search, Louisiana Sea Grant (LSG) has appointed Brian Callam, PhD, to be the new director of the Grand Isle Oyster Research Lab (GIORL). Operated through a partnership between Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and LSG, the GIORL helps support the work of the Michael C. Voisin Oyster Hatchery. As director of GIORL, Callam will develop a program of research and extension in support of both the wild and farmed oyster industry, looking for innovative approaches to adapting to future environmental changes to the coast.

Callam already had extensive experience working with triploid oysters, stemming back to his master's degree work in Virginia. While at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, he held positions as an oyster restoration assistant, a field and hatchery technician and ultimately a graduate research assistant.

In 2014, he arrived in coastal Louisiana to begin work on his PhD dissertation entitled *"Transforming lives in coastal communities through economic development: Breeding Crassostrea virginica for alternative oyster culture"*. After defending, Callam stayed on as research associate at GIORL. This year will mark half a decade of his effort at the facility.

In an industry bracing for change, Callam has a strong vision for the future of the lab and what it will be able to provide. That vision includes working in research, extension and education to address the concerns of multiple stakeholders.

"The burgeoning oyster aquaculture industry in the Gulf of Mexico offers a wealth of potential; I am interested in developing, improving and expanding shellfish aquaculture. I intend to conduct collaborative research with industry partners to develop and adapt both oyster aquaculture gear and practices for conditions specific to Gulf of Mexico oyster farms and hatcheries," said Callam.

Callam has numerous lines of inquiry he would like to follow, some of which include the exploring differences in genetics across populations, chromosome set manipulation, further examining shellfish physiology and expanding shellfish husbandry techniques and technologies.

"The Research Lab has had a close working relationship with the oyster industry. It is my goal to continue to strengthen this relationship to better guide research questions to have maximum positive impacts," said Callam.

"We are thrilled to have the leadership of Dr. Callam to develop LSG efforts in research and extension at GIORL in collaboration with LDWF and the oyster industry to promote innovation in a time of coastal change," said Robert Twilley, Louisiana Sea Grant Executive Director. "We see increased national investments in research and development for the aquaculture and seafood industry, and we need leadership at LSG to bring those investments to our seafood industry here in Louisiana."



Brian Callam

Oyster Hatchery Field Day

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) will host a field day at the Michael C. Voisin Oyster Hatchery in Grand Isle. This event is free and open to the public. Attendees will begin with a tour of the oyster hatchery followed by a tour of the LSU Oyster Research and Demonstration Farm, and end their day with a visit to Grand Isle Sea Farms, a commercial oyster nursery and cage culture operation. The state run hatchery is run as a partnership between LDWF and Louisiana Sea Grant (LSG). Since 1993, an oyster hatchery has operated on Grand Isle, and in 2009, the hatchery operation was moved to its current location at the LDWF Fisheries Research Lab. This allows LDWF and LSG to merge their academic research projects and programs to benefit the commercial harvesting sector and aid in management of the public seed grounds.

WHEN: Monday, March 18 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WHERE: Michael C. Voisin Oyster Hatchery, 133 LSU Drive, Grand Isle, La.

Complications for Louisiana Shark Harvest

Most of Louisiana harvested shark goes through a Texas company on the way to Mexico City, Mexico, where it is filleted and processed. Shark fins go to another company and are shipped to China. This makes the removal of the fins and tail standard practice at the dock. It helps bleed the sharks for meat quality, makes it easier to weigh the carcass and fins separately as required by federal weighing requirements, and allows the carcass and fins to go separate directions for sale. However, Texas has a relatively new law banning the removal of the fin on all sharks in the state, and shipments were stopped last summer on their way to Mexico. Texas and Louisiana companies, as well as some industry groups, are challenging the Texas law in court, but in the meantime, harvest is impacted in Louisiana as there is no place for the shark meat to go.

– Julie Lively

Fish Gear Coordinates — January and December

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 56:700.1 et. seq., notice is given that four claims in the amount of \$14,752.75 were received for payment during the period Dec. 1-31, 2018.

There were four paid and zero denied.

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates, in degree decimal minutes, of reported underwater obstructions are:

29 04.988	90 27.716	TERREBONNE
29 11.135	89 05.628	PLAQUEMINES
29 21.676	89 49.606	PLAQUEMINES
29 41.737	89 47.289	PLAQUEMINES

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 56:700.1 et. seq., notice is given that zero claims in the amount of \$0.00 were received for payment during the period Jan. 1-31, 2019.

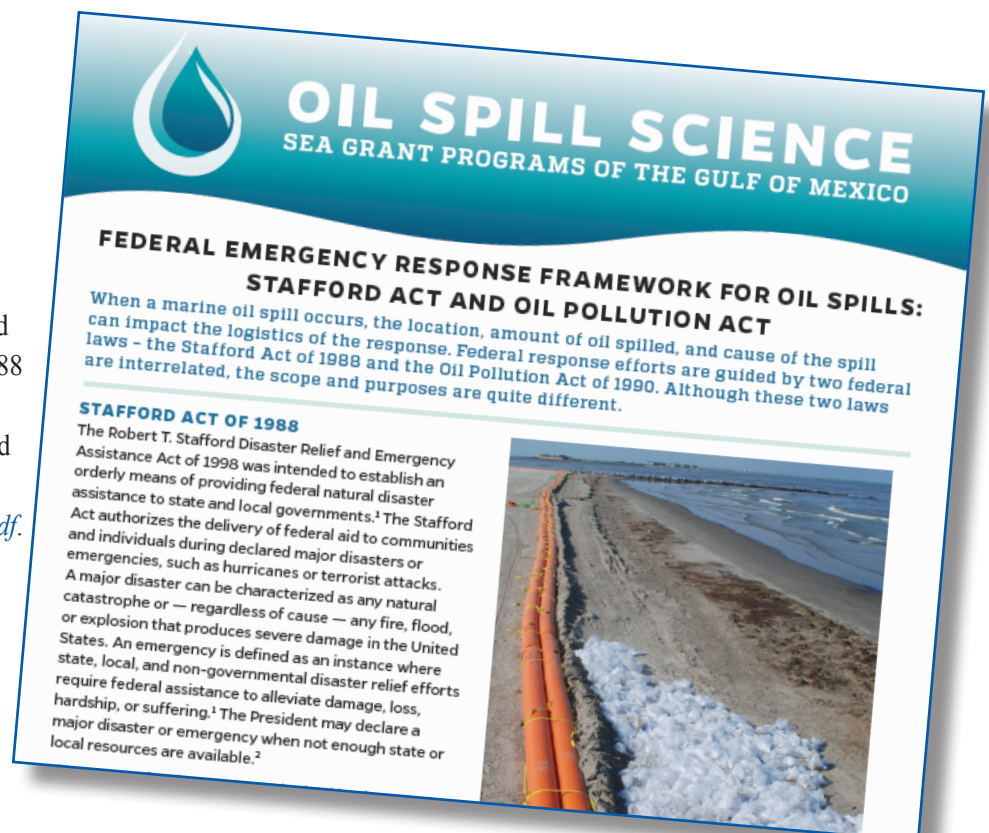
There were zero paid and zero denied.

A list of claimants and amounts paid can be obtained from Charles Reulet, administrator, Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund, P.O. Box 44487, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, or call (225) 342-7591.

Who responds to an Oil Spill? New Oil Spill Fact Sheet

When a marine oil spill occurs, the location, amount of oil spilled, and cause of the spill can impact the logistics of the response. Federal response efforts are guided by two federal laws – the Stafford Act of 1988 and the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. Although these two laws are interrelated, the scope and purposes are quite different. Read more at

<http://masgc.org/oilscience/OPA-vs-Stafford.pdf>.



January Gulf Fisheries Management Council Update

State Management of Recreational Red Snapper

The council heard a summary of comments for establishing state management programs for recreational red snapper and added a new preferred alternative, which would allocate the private angling annual catch limit among the states as follows:

Alabama	Florida	Louisiana	Mississippi	Texas
26.298%	44.822%	19.120%	3.550%	6.210%

This alternative uses the quotas initially requested by each state in the exempted fishing permit applications and distributes the remaining 3.78 percent between Florida and Alabama. The council also selected a preferred alternative that would allow states to create area or depth-specific regulations by requesting that NOAA Fisheries close areas of the federal waters adjacent to the states. Finally, the council clarified its intent to apply any necessary quota underage or overage adjustments in 2020 based on each state's 2019 landings under the exempted fishing permits. The council will take final action on this amendment at its April meeting.

Shrimp

Shrimp Amendment 18 considers increasing the amount of shrimp effort allowed in the special area that is monitored for juvenile red snapper bycatch. Analysis shows that the effort reduction threshold, which currently requires that shrimp effort in the area monitored for juvenile red snapper be 67 percent below the effort in the baseline years of 2001-2003, can be reduced to 60 percent without affecting the rebuilding of the red snapper stock. The council will host a webinar and solicit public input on this document before taking final action at the April meeting.

Gray Snapper

The council worked on an amendment that considers the criteria used to determine the overfishing and overfished status of gray snapper, and the annual catch limits for the stock. A recent gray snapper stock assessment determined that, gray snapper is experiencing overfishing and may be overfished. The council will review the revised public hearing draft and host a webinar public hearing to solicit comments on this document before taking final action this summer.

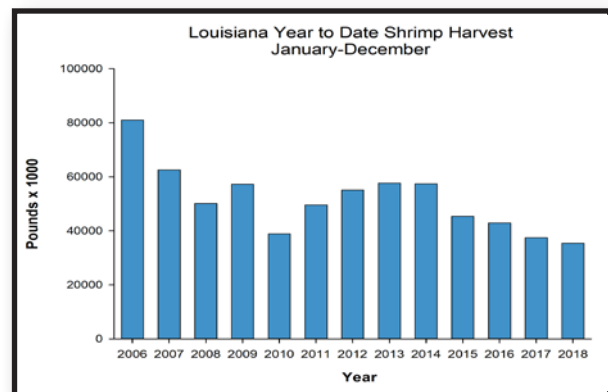
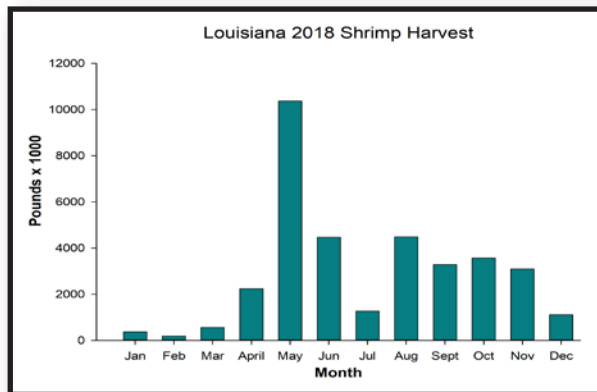
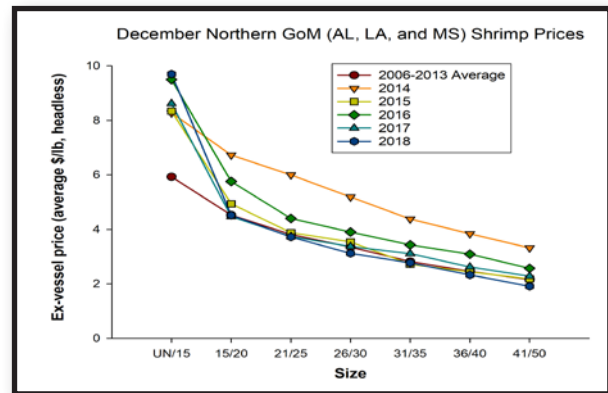
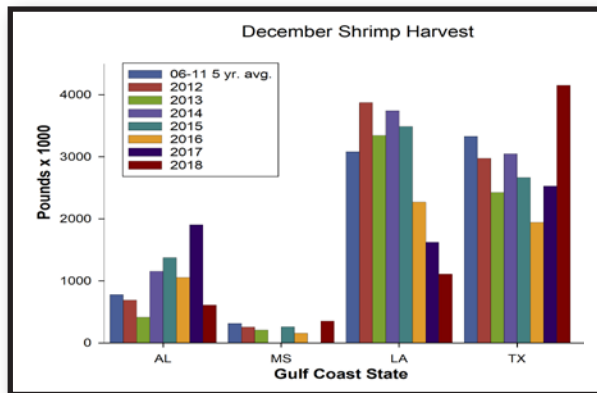
For many more updates, visit <http://gulfcouncil.org/press/2019/january-council-update/>.

Louisiana Shrimp Watch

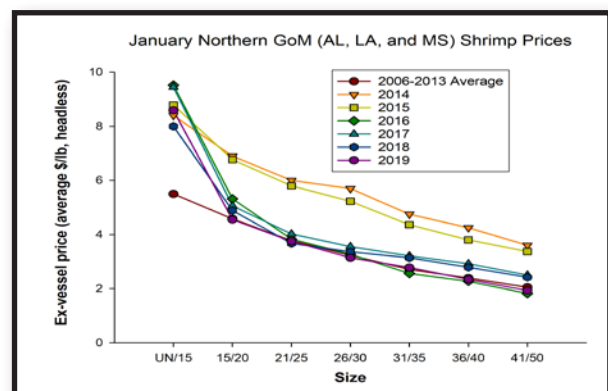
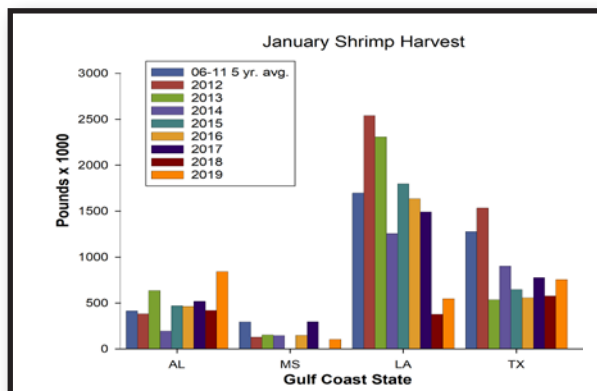
Due to delays with the federal government shutdown, two months of shrimp watch are included this month.

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: www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/market_news/index.html.

DECEMBER 2018



JANUARY 2019



Important Dates & Upcoming Events

LOUISIANA Fisheries Forward

QUALITY +
EDUCATION +
SUSTAINABILITY



Fishermen Meetings & TED Checks

Louisiana Sea Grant agents will be holding these fishermen meetings in the same areas and times as NOAA TED checks. The U.S. Coast Guard will also be available at some locations for dockside safety exams, with no enforcement actions taken. NOAA dates are tentative; contact NOAA Gear Specialist Canh Nguyen at (228) 355-8372, canh.nguyen@noaa.gov for more information.

Learn more about what's new in the industry, best practices, and coastal adaptation strategies.

Meeting Schedule

March 7 - Violet

Dockville, 5124 East Bernard Hwy
6:00 – 8:00 pm

March 8 – Port Sulphur

YMCA (building in the back), 278 Civic Dr.
6:00 – 8:00 pm

March 12 – Raceland

LSU AgCenter Office, 115 Texas Street
2 – 4:30 pm

March 14 – Houma

Dumas Auditorium, 301 W. Tunnel Blvd.
2 – 4:30 pm

March 19 - Abbeville

LSU AgCenter Office, 1105 W. Port St.
9 am – noon

March 21 – Cameron

Cameron Fisheries Facility, 325 Marshall St.
10 am – noon

April 8 - Lafitte

Lafitte Civic Center, 4917 City Park Dr.
10 am – noon

Have your TEDs measured and approved to be sure they are properly installed — NO enforcement actions will be taken during these courtesy checks.

Dock Schedule

March 7

Hopedale & Delacroix

March 8

Venice

March 11 – 13

Cutoff, Leesville, Port Fourchon & Grand Isle

March 13 – 15

Chauvin, Dulac & Cocodrie

March 18

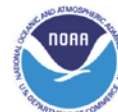
Cameron

March 19 -21

Delcambre & Intracoastal City

April 8

Lafitte



www.LaFisheriesForward.org



THE GUMBO POT

CRAWFISH PASTA

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:

1/2 stick butter
 1 small onion, minced
 1 small green bell pepper, minced
 2 celery ribs, minced
 1 tablespoon garlic, minced
 1 lb. Louisiana crawfish tails with fat
 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
 6 ounces jalapeño cream cheese
 Creole or Cajun Seasoning
 1 pound whole wheat corkscrew pasta, cooked to package directions

Method:

Add butter to a Dutch oven, preferably cast iron, set over medium-high heat. Add onion, green pepper and celery. Cook until onion is opaque. Add garlic and cook until fragrant. Add crawfish and cook until heated through. Add cream and cream cheese and cook until heated through and cream cheese is melted. Add your favorite Cajun seasoning to taste. Add pasta and heat through. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook until sauce is slightly thickened. Cook pasta according to package instructions. Divide among four bowls and top with crawfish sauce.

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

Lagniappe Fisheries Newsletter

Editor: Julie Lively

Web coordinator: Melissa Castleberry

Copy editor: Roy Kron



For more information, contact your local extension agent:

Thu Bui

Assistant Extension Agent, Fisheries
St. Mary, Iberia, and Vermilion Parishes
Phone: (337) 828-4100, ext. 300
tbui@agcenter.lsu.edu

Nicole Lundberg

Area Agent – Fisheries/Coastal Issues
Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes
Phone: (985) 873-6495
nlundberg@agcenter.lsu.edu

Carol D. Franze

Marine Agent
Southeast Region
Phone: (985) 875-2635
cfranze@agcenter.lsu.edu

Kevin Savoie

Area Agent (Southwest Region)
Natural Resources-Fisheries
Phone: (337) 475-8812
ksavoie@agcenter.lsu.edu

Albert ‘Rusty’ Gaudé

Area Agent, Fisheries
Jefferson, Orleans, St. Charles and St. John Parishes
Phone: (504) 433-3664
agaude@agcenter.lsu.edu

Dominique Seibert

Area Agent - Coastal Advisor
Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes
Phone: (504) 433-3664
dseibert@agcenter.lsu.edu

Thomas Hymel

Watershed Educator
Iberia, St. Martin, Lafayette, Vermilion,
St. Landry, & Avoyelles Parishes
Phone: (337) 276-5527
thymel@agcenter.lsu.edu

Mark Shirley

Area Agent (Aquaculture & Coastal Resources)
Jefferson Davis, Vermilion, Acadia, St. Landry,
Evangeline, Cameron, Calcasieu, Lafayette,
Beauregard, & Allen Parishes
Phone: (337) 898-4335
mshirley@agcenter.lsu.edu

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.

Please contact Lagniappe editor Julie Lively at janderson@agcenter.lsu.edu

Julie A. Lively

Associate Professor
LSU Agcenter & Louisiana Sea Grant
114 RNR Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Phone: 225-578-0771
Fax: 225-578-4227
janderson@agcenter.lsu.edu