



# Lagniappe

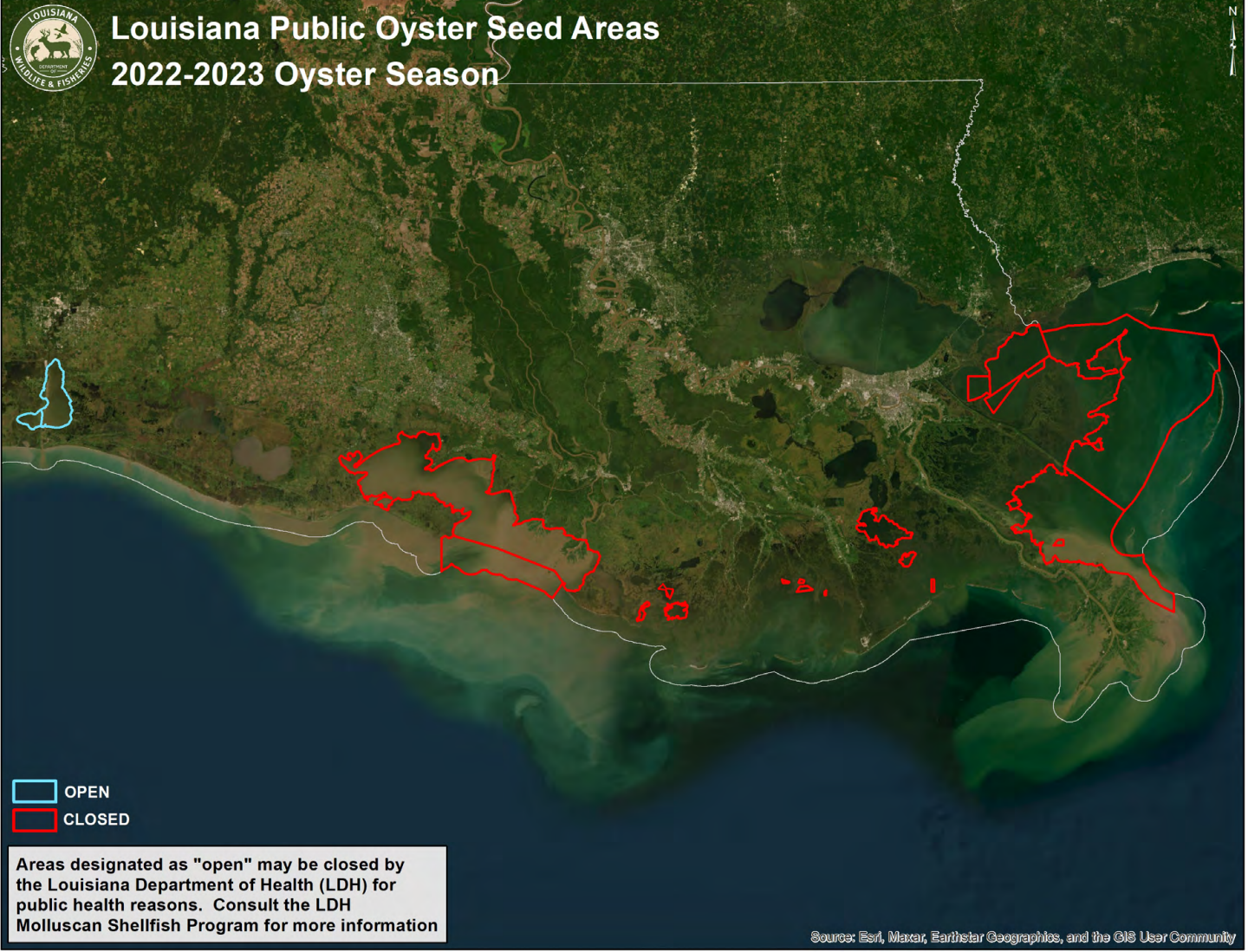
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## Oyster Season Closed in Most Public Areas

All public oyster seed areas open in the eastern part of the state (Vermilion Basin to the Mississippi state line) closed on Saturday, April 1, 2023, as set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. After April 1, 2023, the only public areas that will remain open are the East Side and West Cove in Calcasieu Lake.

Visit [www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/oyster-season](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/oyster-season) for detailed maps.

Public notice of any opening, delay or closure of a season will be provided at least 72 hours prior to such action unless the Louisiana Department of Health orders such closure for public health concerns. Call (800) 256-2775 for Calcasieu Lake conditional status.



## Commercial Fishing License Sale Locations and Dates

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will offer new or renewal commercial fishing licenses and boat registration transactions at the following locations:

### Lake Charles Office **\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\***

1025 Tom Watson Rd.  
Lake Charles, LA  
April 24-25  
9 am – 3:30 pm

### New Orleans Office

2045 Lakeshore Drive, Suite 438  
New Orleans, LA  
May 2-4  
8 am – 3:30 pm

### Lafayette Office

200 Dulles Drive  
Lafayette, LA  
April 26-27  
9 am – 3:30 pm

### Bourg Office

468 Texas Gulf Rd.  
Bourg, LA  
May 8-10  
9 am – 3:30 pm

Acceptable forms of payment will include personal checks, cashier's checks, money orders and cash. To avoid processing delays, customers purchasing licenses are asked to bring their license renewal notices with them.

First-time applicants can apply by mail or in person. When applying in person, you must provide the following:

- Resident applicants must provide proof of residency, such as a Louisiana driver's license (held continuously for 12 months), voter's registration, vehicle registration and state income tax.
- Non-resident applicants must provide proof of residency from their domiciliary state, such as a driver's license, voter's registration, vehicle registration and state income tax.
- Applicants applying for a license in a business name must provide documentation showing proof of valid federal tax ID number assigned to the business name and proof of authorized signature, or an occupational license will be required.

For commercial license inquiries, contact (225) 765-2898.

## Court of Appeals Decision of the Gulf of Mexico Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting Program Lawsuit

On Feb. 23, 2023, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit set aside the final rule implementing the Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting Program (SEFHIER) in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf). This means the Gulf program is currently not in effect.

### 1. What does this mean for current participants of the Gulf SEFHIER Program?

For Gulf SEFHIER participants:

- You may leave on trips without submitting a Gulf SEFHIER hail-out.
- You may land at any location and are no longer restricted to SEFHIER pre-approved landing locations.
- After returning from a fishing trip, you do not have to submit a logbook through an app or the VMS unit, unless you are part of the Southeast Region Headboat Survey Program.
- You may turn off or remove your VMS unit without submitting a Power Down Exemption, unless you have a Commercial Reef Fish Permit.
- You will no longer be approached by SEFHIER Validation Survey samplers.

The Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) dockside sampling program is not affected by this ruling. NOAA Fisheries continues to encourage participation in the MRIP program as these data inform the assessment and management of Gulf stocks. If you are a Gulf Southeast Region Headboat Survey participant, please see Question 2 for more information. If you are a Gulf commercial reef fish participant, please see Question 3 for more information.

### 2. What are the reporting requirements if I have both a Gulf and Atlantic/South Atlantic federal for-hire permit?

Federally permitted vessels with both Gulf and Atlantic/South Atlantic for-hire permits that have been reporting under the Gulf requirements must now report under the Atlantic/South Atlantic reporting requirements. Atlantic/South Atlantic

reporting requirements include weekly trip level reporting through an approved vendor (reporting week is Monday-Sunday), trip-level logbooks for any for-hire fishing trip due by the Tuesday following the reporting week and a Did Not Fish report in place of the logbook if no fishing occurred within the fishing week. For more information on Atlantic/South Atlantic reporting requirements, see the link below to the South Atlantic Compliance Guide.

### **3. If I have a Gulf for-hire and a Gulf commercial reef fish permit, what do I report?**

Federal Gulf for-hire permitted vessels that also hold a Gulf commercial reef fish permit must continue to abide by commercial reef fish reporting requirements but are not required to comply with the Gulf for-hire VMS or electronic logbook reporting requirements.

## **Gulf Council Asks Fishermen for Information on Mutton Snapper**

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council would like to gain a better understanding of what's happening with mutton snapper in the Gulf of Mexico. The council recognizes that as active fishermen, you may notice trends or interesting things happening in the Gulf that the scientists and managers may not be aware of yet.

The council relies on your on-the-water expertise to guide the current understanding of what's happening. A scientific stock assessment of mutton snapper is set to begin this spring. The information you provide through our Fisherman Feedback Tool will help to inform scientists and managers as they formulate a current understanding of the mutton snapper stock.

Please submit your responses to our Fisherman Feedback tool for mutton snapper:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeN4LzlikeLg6XVHL6\\_PtvZ30ek7yN4eQFP77CVfbbuWnIMyQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeN4LzlikeLg6XVHL6_PtvZ30ek7yN4eQFP77CVfbbuWnIMyQ/viewform?usp=sf_link).

Responses are due by 5:00 PM, EST on April 7, 2023.

Contact [gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org](mailto:gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org) if you have any questions.

## **The Gulf of Mexico Greater Amberjack Recreational Fishing Season will not reopen May 2023**

The Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack recreational fishing season will not reopen for the month of May 2023. The recreational fishing season will reopen Aug. 1, 2023, at the start of the 2023/2024 fishing year.

The recreational fishing year for greater amberjack is Aug. 1 through July 31 as set by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and implemented by NOAA Fisheries.

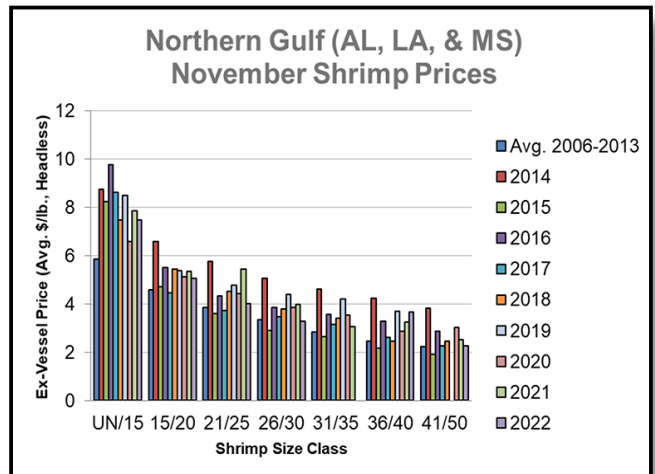
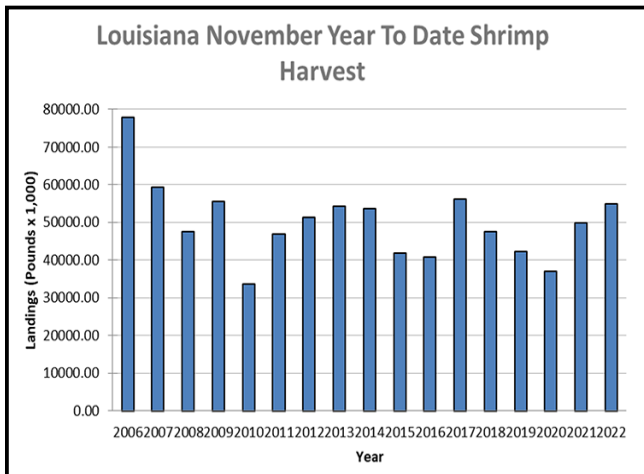
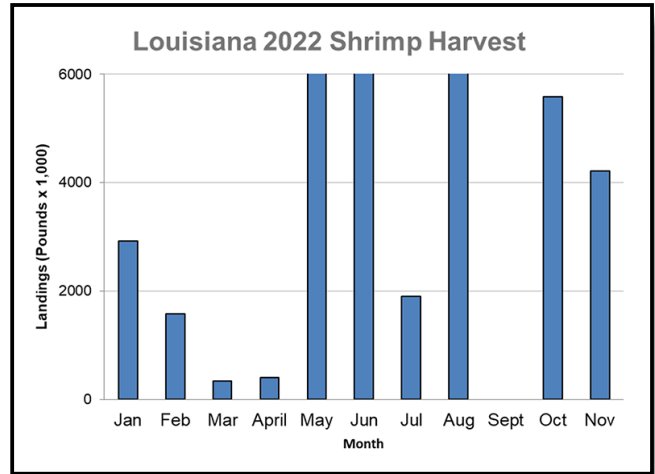
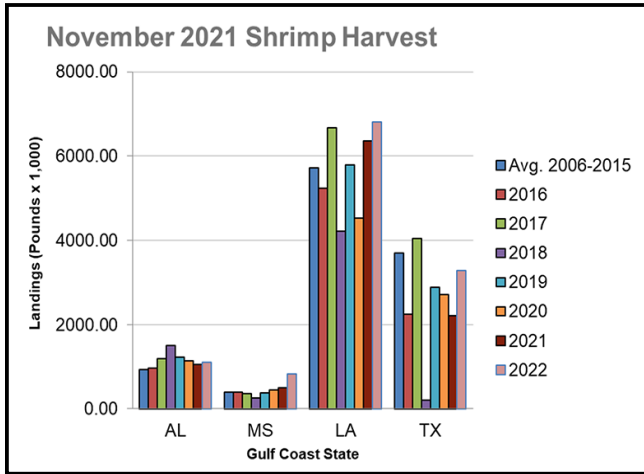
An emergency rule implemented by NOAA Fisheries on July 25, 2022, and extended on January 23, 2023, temporarily modified the recreational greater amberjack fixed closed season to be Aug. 1-31 and Nov. 1–July 31 (open Sept. 1–Oct. 31) for the 2022/2023 recreational fishing year.

Recreational greater amberjack fishing in the 2022/2023 fishing year for the month of May will remain closed due to the extension of the emergency rule.

The 2023/2024 recreational greater amberjack fishing season will reopen on Aug. 1, 2023.

# Louisiana Shrimp Watch

The Shrimp watch data is back, but there are some changes to the Monthly Gulf Coast Shrimp Statistics report passed by NOAA Fisheries. Changes were being made to make the report more consistent and reliable. All landing data will be based on trip ticket data provided by Gulf States and no estimations will be made.



# THE GUMBO POT

## **CRAWTATOR CRUSTED OYSTERS WITH RED BEAN GRAVY\***

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:

#### **Oysters**

- 1 bag ZAPP'S Crawtator Chips
- 2 cups instant potato flakes
- 1/8 cup Creole seasoning
- 1 cup Panko breadcrumbs
- 25 Gulf oysters (shucked and picked free of shells)
- Oil for frying
- salt and pepper to taste

#### **Red Bean Gravy**

- 1 stick butter
- 4 pieces sliced bacon, cut into small strips
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 1 bell pepper, diced
- 2 cups half and half
- 2 cups chicken stock
- 2 cups cooked red beans
- 1/4 tablespoon fresh thyme, chopped
- 1/4 tablespoon fresh oregano, chopped
- 1 tablespoon Louisiana-style hot sauce
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 teaspoons Creole seasoning
- salt and pepper to taste

### Method:

#### **Oysters**

Combine chips, instant potatoes, Creole seasoning and Panko in a food processor and process to fine consistency. Heat oil in heavy pot to 350° F. Dredge oysters in Panko mixture and deep fry until golden brown, about 1 to 1½ minutes. Drain fried oysters on paper towels and season with salt and pepper. Serve with Red Bean Gravy to dip.

#### **Red Bean Gravy**

Melt butter in heavy sauce pot over medium heat. Add bacon and cook until crispy. Add onion, garlic, celery and bell pepper. Cook until onions are translucent, 8 to 10 minutes. Stir in flour. Add half-and-half and chicken stock. Bring to simmer and reduce heat to low; add red beans and cook for 20 minutes on low heat. Add thyme, oregano, hot sauce, Worcestershire sauce, and Creole seasoning. Purée ingredients in blender until smooth. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

\*Serves 5

**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.

Please contact Lagniappe editor Julie Anderson Lively at [julieann@lsu.edu](mailto:julieann@lsu.edu)

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