LDWF to Begin Accepting Applications for $14.6 Million CARES Act Funds

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is now accepting applications for $14.6 million in financial assistance that will be available to Louisiana fishermen and others in the industry who have been financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The funds are part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Applications opened at 8 a.m. Monday, Sept. 14, and must be submitted online. To access the application, please visit *https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/cares-act-assistance*.

The application process will be open for a six-week period. The deadline to submit applications is 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 26. Funding allocation is structured so that all applications submitted before the deadline will be considered.

LDWF is aware that Hurricane Laura may have adversely impacted many individuals wishing to apply for this program. LDWF will continually assess the application process and make adjustments as necessary.

The funds will be distributed as direct aid payments by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission to those applicants who qualify. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently approved the department's spending plan for the federal funding dedicated to the state's fishing industry.

The CARES Act and NOAA Fisheries have established that to be eligible, participants:

- Must be a "Fishery Participant" – This includes tribes, persons, fishing communities, aquaculture businesses, processors or other fisheries-related businesses. NOTE: Gear and vessel suppliers, repair facilities, retailers, restaurants and bait and tackle operations are not viewed as fisheries-related businesses. In addition, freshwater fisheries, including wild crawfish, are ineligible.
- Must have incurred economic revenue losses greater than 35 percent as compared to the prior five-year average revenue. NOTE: New businesses and entrants in 2020 with no prior revenue history are ineligible.
- Must reside in the state that is providing funding.

The qualifying criteria are intended to include individuals directly affected by COVID-19 and not those who have either entered or exited the fishery prior to or after COVID-19, while also taking into consideration the impacts of the 2019 flood disaster.

Payments will be issued in a two-phase process that will include an initial minimum payment followed by a second payment, the amount of which will be determined by the funds remaining after all applications have been processed. LDWF will withhold a percentage of funding from each sector to ensure funding is available for every eligible applicant.

Over the past several months, LDWF Fisheries staff gathered input from members of the fishing industry and worked with Louisiana Sea Grant (LSG) to develop criteria for the delivery of the CARES funds. The funds are part of a larger national federal funding package that included $300 million to assist all states' fishing industries affected by the pandemic.

Sea Grant Louisiana

A Joint Publication of Louisiana Sea Grant and LSU AgCenter

LSU AgCenter Research · Extension · Teaching

Sea Grant Team Announces GoMRI "Decade of Discovery" Events around the Gulf

The Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI) is nearing the end of its ten-year mission to "investigate the impacts of the oil, dispersed oil, and dispersant on the ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico and affected coastal States in a broad context of improving fundamental understanding of the dynamics of such events and their environmental stresses and public health implications." In light of that, the Sea Grant oil spill outreach team will host a series of events to honor GoMRI's unique contributions to research, recovery, and resilience in each Gulf state over the past decade.

Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative
DECADE OF DISCOVERY STATE SHOWCASES

Texas – Sept. 25
Florida – Oct. 16
Alabama – Oct. 23
Mississippi – Oct. 29
Louisiana – Nov. 10

Please join us for one or all of these events, which like all of our online events can be viewed on Zoom or via Facebook Live. To learn more or register: *https://gulfseagrant.org/celebrating-gomri-around-the-gulf/*.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Flood Insurance Policy Grace Period

Due to Covid-19, there is a 120-day grace period to renew policies without a lapse in coverage. This means that if your policy lapsed earlier this summer and you suffered flood damage during Laura/Sally (or other event) you may be able to renew your policy now and still get coverage. But those deadlines are quickly approaching (and earliest deadlines have passed). This only applies to existing NFIP policies that have lapsed within the 120 days. This would not apply to new policies.

Date Range Policy Expired							
4/26 – 5/2	5/3 – 5/9	5/10 – 5/16	5/17 – 5/23	5/24 – 5/30	5/31 – 6/6	6/7 – 6/13	6/14 – 6/15
Date Range 120-Day Grace Period Ends							
8/23 – 8/29	8/30 – 9/5	9/6 – 9/12	9/13 – 9/19	9/20 – 9/26	9/27 – 10/3	10/4 – 10/10	10/11 – 10/12
Number of Louisiana Policies Expiring During Each Time Period							
688	592	611	713	726	710	838	298

For more information, visit: *https://www.floodsmart.gov/hurricane*

Important Dates & Upcoming Events

Sept. 1, 2020: Recreational Harvest of Gray Triggerfish in Louisiana and Federal Waters of the Gulf of Mexico opens until Oct. 26.

Sept. 14, 2020: CARES applications open

Oct. 26, 2020: Deadline to apply for Louisiana CARES

2020-2021 Oyster Season

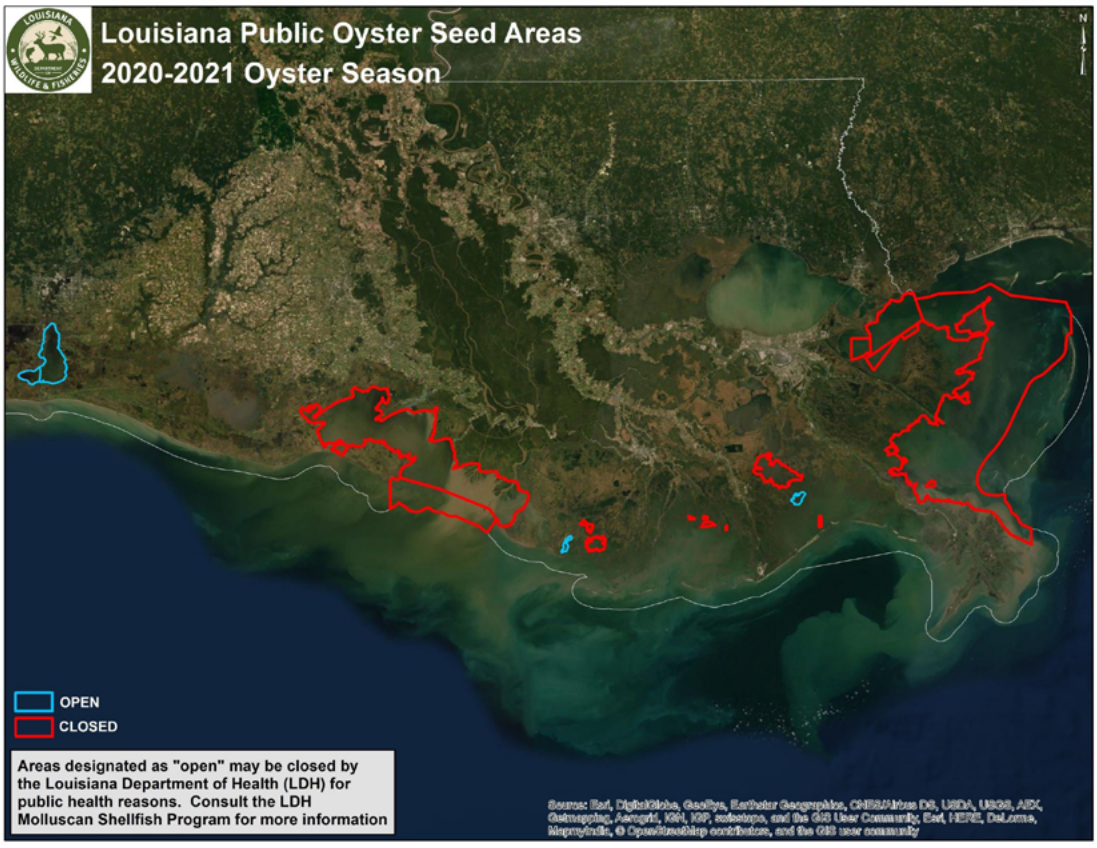
The following dates were set for the upcoming oyster season:

- The Calcasieu Lake Public Oyster Area will open solely for sacking of market size oysters one half-hour before sunrise on Friday, Oct. 30, 2020 (Closed on Saturdays and Sundays).
- The Hackberry Bay and Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation will open for bedding purposes only one half-hour before sunrise on Monday, Nov. 16, 2020, and will close one half-hour after sunset that same day.
- The Hackberry Bay and Bay Junop Public Oyster Seed Reservation will open for sacking of market size oysters only one half-hour before sunrise on Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2020, and will close at one-half hour after sunset on Monday, Nov. 23, 2020 (Closed on Saturdays and Sundays).

To see provisions and closed areas, please visit *www.wlf.louisiana.gov/news/the-louisiana-wildlife-and-fisheries-commission-sets-the-20202021-oyster-season*.

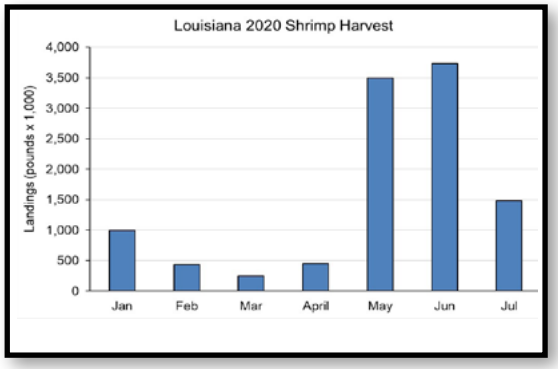
AREA / PUBLIC GROUND	SEASON	LIMIT
East of MS River, North of MRGO	No Season	
East of MS River, South of MRGO	No Season	
Hackberry Bay and Bay Junop- Bedding	Open Nov. 16, 2020 (One day only)	No more than 15% of non-living material allowed in bedding loads.
Hackberry Bay and Bay Junop- Sacking*	Open Nov. 17, 2020 (Closes November 23, 2020)*	25 sacks/vessel/day (take and possession)
Lake Tambour, Lake Chien, Lake Felicity, Deep Lake, Lake Mechant, Barataria, Little Lake	No Season	
Sister Lake	No Season	
Vermilion/Atchafalaya Basin	No Season	
Calcasieu Lake (East side and West Cove)*	Open Oct. 30, 2020*	East Side: 10 and West Cove: 15 sacks/vessel/day (take and possession) No scrapers: Tong or hand only

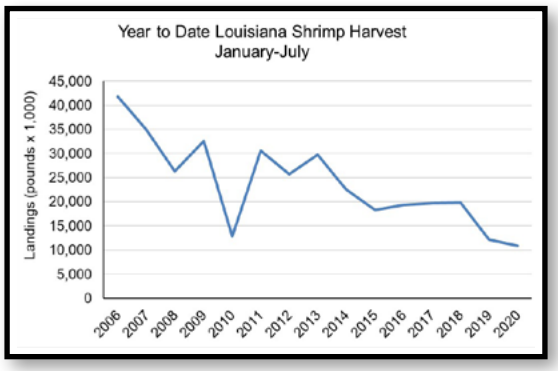
*no fishing on Saturdays and Sundays

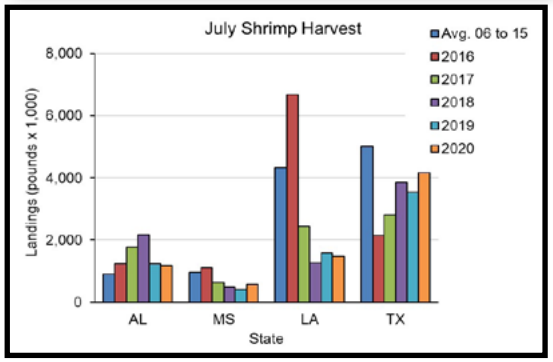


Louisiana Shrimp Watch

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. Missing, inadequate or withheld reports are portrayed as "zero" in these graphics. For more information, please refer to: *www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/market_news/index.html*.







THE GUMBO POT

COCONUT 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:

1/2 cup pineapple juice or water
1 cup hot pepper jelly
vegetable oil
24 jumbo Louisiana shrimp
2 large eggs
1/2 cup cornstarch
Creole seasoning
1 cup sweetened flaked coconut
1 cup panko breadcrumbs

Method:

Pour pineapple juice into a small saucepan; bring to a low simmer over medium-low heat. Add pepper jelly, whisking just until jelly has melted fully; keep warm.

Pour vegetable oil to a depth of 2 inches in a heavy-bottomed Dutch oven. Preheat oil to 375°F and maintain temperature using a deep-fry thermometer.

Peel and devein shrimp, leaving tails intact, if desired. Rinse and pat dry with paper towels; thread onto bamboo skewers.

Separate eggs, saving egg yolks for other uses. Beat egg whites until frothy in a bowl with 1 tablespoon cold water; set aside. Combine cornstarch and 1 teaspoon Creole seasoning in a bowl; mix well and set aside. In another bowl, combine shredded coconut, breadcrumbs, and ½ teaspoon Creole seasoning.

Dredge shrimp in cornstarch mixture, dip in egg whites, then roll in coconut mixture, pressing to adhere. Fry, in batches, 2 to 4 minutes or until shrimp are fully cooked. Drain over paper towels. Lightly season, if desired; serve with warm pepper jelly glaze.

*Serves six to eight.

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

Carol D. Franze
Marine Agent
Southeast Region
Phone: (985) 875-2635
cfranze@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

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

Nicole Lundberg
Area Agent – Fisheries/Natural Resources
Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes
Phone: (985) 873-6495
nlundberg@agcenter.lsu.edu

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

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