

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Oyster Season—1996-97

In accordance with emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953 (B) and 967, and under the authority of R.S. 56:433 and R.S. 56:435.1, notice is hereby given that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declare:

1. The Public Oyster Seed Grounds not currently under lease and the Bay Junop, Bay Gardene, Hackberry Bay, and the Sister Lake Oyster Seed Reservations will open one-half hour before sunrise September 4, 1996.

2. A designated sacking only area east of the Mississippi River will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 4, 1996. The sacking only area of the public grounds is generally Lake Fortuna and Lake Machias to a line from Mozambique Pt. To Pt. Gardner to Grace Pt. at the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet.

3. The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action if necessary, to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads.

4. The secretary is authorized to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource subsides.

5. The Calcasieu and Sabine Lake tonging areas will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 16, 1996 and remain open until one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 1997.

6. Notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

Perry Gisclair
Vice-Chairman