

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2023 Recreational Red Snapper Bag Limit Modification

Louisiana's private recreational and state charter red snapper season was previously set by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular April 2023 meeting to be open daily with a bag and possession limit of three fish per person per day and a sixteen inch total length minimum size limit until further notice. Under the provisions of state management, NOAA Fisheries has delegated season and bag limit authority as well as allocated a quota to Louisiana. Landings estimates generated from the LA Creel program indicate that harvest rates are lower than previously projected and an increase in the daily bag and possession limit is warranted in order to meet the annual quota allocated to Louisiana.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:962, which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency rules to set finfish seasons, R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the commission may set seasons for saltwater fish, and the authority given to the secretary by the commission at its regular April 2023 meeting and in LAC 76:VII.335.G.5 to modify the recreational red snapper season, size, and bag limits under the provisions of NOAA delegated state management, the secretary hereby declares:

The season (daily) and size limit (sixteen inches minimum total length) for the private recreational and state charter harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters and federal waters off Louisiana shall remain as previously established. The bag and possession limit for private recreational and state charter anglers harvesting red snapper shall be four fish per day per angler effective July 17, 2023 until further notice. This modification does not apply to federally permitted charter boats operating under federal law during federally established seasons and under federally established rules for those vessels.

Robert E. Shadoin
Secretary

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