

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Prohibition of Fire on LDWF Owned or Managed Lands—Recision

In accordance with R.S. 49:962 of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under authority of R.S. 56:6, R.S. 56:32, R.S. 56:115 and R.S. 56:702, and LAC 76:XIX.111.A.1 and LAC 76:XIX.111.G.1.c, the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) adopts the following Emergency Rule:

The Office of State Fire Marshal issued a Cease and Desist Order dated August 7, 2023 for all private burning. On August 11, 2023, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation 141 JBE 2023, declaring a statewide emergency, authorizing and ordering all departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the state to cooperate in actions the State may take in this event. On August 25, 2023, the Office of State Fire Marshal issued a statewide burn ban prohibiting all private burning with no limitations. The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries executed a Declaration of Emergency dated September 1, 2023, prohibiting the ignition of fires of any kind upon LDWF owned or managed lands. On September 6, 2023, the Office of State Fire Marshal issued a news release stating that outdoor cooking can resume with safety measures in place, despite the continuation of the statewide burn ban. On September 7, 2023, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission issued a Declaration of Emergency rescinding and replacing the one previously issued by the secretary prohibiting all burning upon LDWF owned or managed lands, except for outdoor cooking, which is in effect and remains valid through December 7, 2023.

Louisiana has recently received rainfall sufficient for the Office of State Fire Marshal to lift the statewide burn ban previously in place. Now, the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, under the authority granted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, hereby rescinds the existing Declaration of Emergency prohibiting all burning upon LDWF owned or managed lands. This Declaration of Emergency is effective at 5:00 p.m. on November 21, 2023.

Robert E. Shadoin
Secretary