

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Poverty Point Reservoir Netting Season Extension

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission is exercising its authority to modify freshwater finfish seasons under R.S. 49:953(H) of the Administrative Procedure Act by reopening the special commercial netting season on Poverty Point Reservoir. Freshwater trammel and gill nets are prohibited by Rule (LAC 76:VII.106) in Poverty Point Reservoir in Richland Parish, except for the legal harvest of commercial fish during a special recurring netting season. The special netting season commences annually on October 1 and closes on the last day of February of the following year. This extension provides additional commercial fishing opportunity, and simultaneously improves the recreational fishery by removing undesirable rough fish in Poverty Point Reservoir. This Emergency Rule is effective as of official sunrise on Friday, March 5, 2021 and shall remain in effect until March 31, 2021 at sunset.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(H) of the Administrative Procedure Act, which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to promulgate rules relative to finfish seasons, and under the authority of R.S. 56:6(25)(a), R.S. 56:325(C) and R.S. 56:326.3, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

The 2020–2021 special commercial netting season on Poverty Point Reservoir, Richland Parish, Louisiana, shall reopen at official sunrise on Friday, March 5, 2021 and shall close at sunset on Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Jerri G. Smitko
Chair