DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2022 Recreational Red Snapper Season Closure

Louisiana’s private and state charter season for the harvest of red snapper was previously opened on May 27, 2022 as a weekends only season (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) to include the Mondays of Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day. Under the provisions of state management, NOAA Fisheries has delegated season and bag limit authority as well as allocated a quota to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Landings estimates generated from the LA Creel program indicate that Louisiana’s annual allocation of red snapper is projected to be met, or could be met by September 6, 2022. In order to avoid exceeding the established allocation, the season must be closed.

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 Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, the authority given to the secretary by the commission at its regular April 2022 meeting and in LAC 76:VII.335.G.5 to modify the red snapper season under the provisions of NOAA delegated state management, the secretary hereby declares:

The season for the private recreational and state charter harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters shall close at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, September 19, 2022 and shall remain closed until further notice. Effective with this closure, no person shall recreationally harvest or possess red snapper whether within or without Louisiana waters, except for federally permitted charter boats or commercial Individual Fishing Quota holders operating under federal law during federally established seasons and rules for those vessels.

Jack Montoucet
Secretary

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