

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

East Portion of Calcasieu Lake Oyster Season Closure

In accordance with the emergency provisions of Revised Statutes (R.S.) 49:953, under the authority of R.S. 56:433, and under the authority of a Declaration of Emergency passed by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on August 2, 2018 which authorized the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to take emergency Action if oyster resources and/or reefs are being adversely impacted, notice is hereby given that the secretary of Wildlife and Fisheries hereby declares that the harvest of oysters from the East portion of the Calcasieu Lake Public Oyster Area shall close at one half hour after sunset on Monday, December 31, 2018.

The oyster population in Calcasieu Lake has been in decline for several years and the recommended harvest threshold in the East portion of the Calcasieu Lake Public Oyster Area is projected to be met by the closure date. Continued commercial harvest may threaten the long-term sustainability of remaining oyster resources in this area. Protection of these remaining oyster resources from injury is in the best interest of this public oyster area.

Notice of any opening, delaying, or closing of a season will be provided by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action, unless such closure is ordered by the Louisiana Department of Health for public health concerns.

Jack Montoucet
Secretary

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