

# DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

## Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Eagle Lake Crappie Length and Creel Regulations  
(LAC 76:VII.198)

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of  
Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 41:  
1498 (August 2015), amended LR 45:

Alfred R. Sunseri  
Chairman

1908#008

There is a 30 fish, 11 inch minimum total length limit on black and white crappie at Eagle Lake in Madison Parish, Louisiana. The current regulation expires on October 1, 2019. The Inland Fisheries Division of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (DWF) received results and recommendations from the Eagle Lake crappie population assessment and angler opinion survey conducted by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) on June 3, 2019. Upon evaluation, DWF recommends removing the expiration date and making the current regulation permanent.

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission finds that imminent peril to the public welfare requires adoption of a Rule upon shorter notice than that provided in R.S. 49:953(A), since the current regulation will expire before a Notice of Intent could be finalized, resulting in disparate regulations on a single waterbody with no physical means of identifying the state boundary. Failure to take emergency action would subject Louisiana residents to potential criminal action due to more liberalized limits on the Louisiana portion of Eagle Lake from October 1, 2019 until a final Rule could be adopted. This Emergency Rule shall take effect October 1, 2019 and shall remain in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Administrative Procedure Act (120 days), or until adoption of a final Rule to permanently establish compatible size and creel limits for crappie on Eagle Lake, whichever occurs first.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 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:

### **Title 76**

### **WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

### **Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic life**

### **Chapter 1. Freshwater Sport and Commercial Fishing**

### **§198. Crappie Regulations - Eagle Lake**

A. The recreational daily limit and total length limit for black crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*) and white crappie (*Pomoxis annularis*) on Eagle Lake located east of the Mississippi River in Madison Parish, Louisiana shall be as follows:

1. The recreational daily creel limit shall be thirty (30) fish, in the aggregate.
2. The minimum total length limit shall be eleven (11) inches.

B. This rule will remain effective provided identical minimum total length limit and daily creel regulations set by the Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Commission are effective on the Mississippi portion of Eagle Lake; otherwise the statewide crappie regulations will be effective on the Louisiana portion of Eagle Lake.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(25) (a), R.S. 56:325(C) and R.S. 56:326.3.