

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

#### Fall Inshore Shrimp Season Opening Dates

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission received information regarding biological sampling for white shrimp in state inshore waters. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) provided the Commission with data that projected the date when white shrimp will reach marketable size. After considering biological information and public input, the Commission took action to set the fall shrimp season within state inshore waters. Notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all or part of inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close outside waters and to increase the minimum mesh size provided in R.S. 56:499 for any trawl, skimmer net, or butterfly net for the duration of any special shrimp season or regular shrimp season extension, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 2019 Fall Shrimp Season in Louisiana state waters to open as follows:

That portion of state inside waters from the Mississippi/Louisiana state line westward to the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the red Channel Buoy Line to open at 6:00 p.m., August 5, 2019; and,

That portion of state inside waters from the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the red Channel Buoy Line westward to the western shore of Freshwater Bayou to open at 6:00 a.m., August 5, 2019; and,

That portion of state inside waters from the western shore of Freshwater Bayou westward to the Louisiana/Texas state line to open at 6 p.m., August 5, 2019.

The Commission also hereby grants authority to the secretary of LDWF to delay or advance these opening dates if biological and/or technical data indicate the need to do so, and; to close any portion of Louisiana's inside or outside waters to protect small juvenile white shrimp if biological and technical data indicate the need to do so, or enforcement problems develop.

The secretary is further granted the authority to open any area, or re-open any previously closed area, and to open and close special shrimp seasons in any portion of state waters.

Notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season by the secretary will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

Alfred R. Sunseri  
Chairman