

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

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

#### **Modification and Closure of the 2019 Private Recreational Red Snapper Season**

Louisiana's private recreational red snapper season was previously set by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular meeting on May 2, 2019 to be open on weekends only (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) including the Monday of Memorial Day and the Fourth of July beginning on May 24, 2019. The recreational season did not originally include the Monday of Labor Day (September 2, 2019) which is added to the season in this action. LA Creel data indicate that harvest rates are such that the state recreational allocation may be met or is projected to be reached, and a closure is warranted.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953, 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, and the authority given to the secretary by the Commission at its regular meeting on May 2, 2019, the secretary hereby declares:

The season for the recreational harvest of red snapper in Federal and state waters off Louisiana will remain open on weekends only (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) as previously specified, but shall now include the Monday of Labor Day (September 2, 2019). The season shall then close at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 and remain closed until further notice.

Any closure shall prohibit the possession and/or landing of red snapper in state 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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