

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Spring Inshore Shrimp Season Closure in State Inside Waters

The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has been notified that the occurrence of small juvenile white shrimp collected in biological samples within inside state waters has rapidly increased. Closing these waters is necessary to protect developing white shrimp.

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 a Declaration of Emergency adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on May 7, 2020 which authorized the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 2020 spring inshore shrimp season in any portion of Louisiana's inside waters to protect small white shrimp if biological and technical data indicate the need to do so or if enforcement problems develop, the secretary hereby declares:

The 2020 spring inshore shrimp season will close on Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in state inside waters from the Mississippi/Louisiana state line westward to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River except for the following waters:

The open waters of the Louisiana portion of Mississippi Sound and the open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as bounded by the double-rig line described in R.S. 56:495.1(A)2. The open waters of the Louisiana portion of Mississippi Sound are defined as beginning at a point on the Mississippi/Louisiana state line at 30 degrees 10 minutes 21.95 seconds north latitude, 89 degrees 26 minutes 12.99 seconds west longitude; thence southerly to a point at 30 degrees 08 minutes 03.07 seconds north latitude, 89 degrees 26 minutes 27.05 seconds west longitude; thence southwesterly to a point at 30 degrees 04 minutes 40.57 seconds north latitude, 89 degrees 28 minutes 46.59 seconds west longitude; thence southeasterly to a point on the western shore of Three-Mile Pass (30 degrees 03 minutes 00.00 seconds north latitude, 89 degrees 22 minutes 23.00 seconds west longitude); thence northeasterly to a point on Isle Au Pitre (30 degrees 09 minutes 20.50 seconds north latitude, 89 degrees 11 minutes 15.50 seconds west longitude), which is a point on the double-rig line as described in R.S. 56:495.1(A)2.

All state outside waters seaward of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line, as described in LAC 76:VII.370 will remain open to shrimping until further notice.

Jack Montoucet
Secretary