



Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

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DISCOVER LOUISIANA HUNTING WEEKEND SCHEDULED

LDWF will again offer new hunters the opportunity to participate during Discover Louisiana Hunting (DLH) promotional hunting days set for Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 24-26.

“We’re encouraging both Louisiana residents and non-residents, 16 years of age and older, to experience recreational hunting for the first time or enjoy the sport again with a DLH permit,” said LDWF Secretary Dwight Landreneau.

Program participants must obtain a DLH permit online through www.discoverlouisianahunting.com before Nov. 20. To ensure a safe experience for DLH participants and fellow outdoorsmen, hunter education certification is required and participants must also partner with a licensed Louisiana resident hunter who will serve as a host hunter. DLH permit applicants can begin using the online permit request system starting Sept. 1.

All interested participants who need to obtain hunter education certification are urged to sign up for a class in a location near their home town. A list of courses around the state is available on the DLH Web site - www.discoverlouisianahunting.com. An on-line version of the course is available through the DLH Web site or a CD-ROM version can be obtained by calling the LDWF office nearest the participant. Participants should have completed or be enrolled in a hunter education class by Oct. 31. Hunter education courses are free and certification obtained in another state will be accepted.

During the Discover Louisiana Hunting weekend, only quail, rabbit, squirrel and deer can be hunted by DLH-permitted hunters. For daily bag and possession limits, and deer zone restrictions, refer to the 2006-07 Louisiana Hunting Season and WMA Regulations Booklet or go to www.discoverlouisianahunting.com and click on “Regulations.”

The DLH permit offer is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Once a participant utilizes the no-cost weekend hunting option, appropriate licenses and permits must be obtained for all future hunting trips in Louisiana.

Any interested participant without Internet access can call any of the following LDWF offices Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., for permit application assistance:

- Alexandria: 1995 Shreveport Hwy., Pineville, LA 71360; ph. 318-487-5885
- Baton Rouge: 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808; ph. 225-765-2346
- Ferriday: 261 Wildlife & Fishery Road, Ferriday, LA 71334; ph. 318-757-4571
- Grand Chenier: 5476 Grand Chenier Hwy., Grand Chenier, LA 70643; ph. 337-538-2276
- Lake Charles: 1213 North Lakeshore Dr., Lake Charles, LA 70601; ph. 337-491-2575
- Minden: 1401 Talton Street, Minden, LA 71055; ph. 318-371-3050
- Monroe: 368 Century Tel Drive, Monroe, LA 71203; ph. 318-343-4044
- New Iberia: 2415 Darnall Road, New Iberia, LA 70560; ph. 337-373-0032
- Opelousas: 5652 Highway 182, Opelousas, LA 70570; ph. 337-948-0255

DLH Weekend supporting sponsors and partners include: Academy Sports & Outdoors, Bass Pro Shops/Bossier City, Bayou State Bowhunters Association, Bowie Outfitters, Delta Waterfowl, Ducks Unlimited, Hunter's Run Gun Club, Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Foundation, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, National Wild Turkey Federation and Safari Club International.

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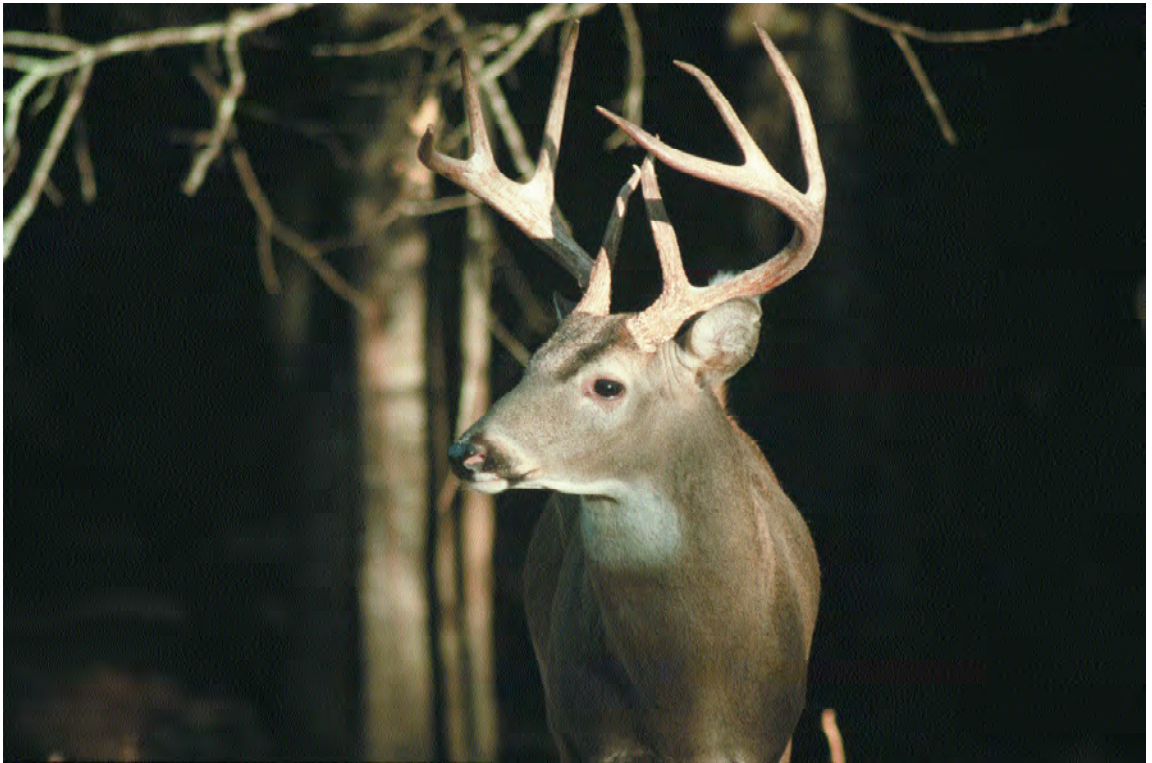




LOUISIANA BIG GAME RECORDS UPDATED

The Louisiana Big Game Recognition Program has officially scored and qualified 30 deer killed during the 2005-06 deer season that will be listed in the 2004-2006 records, announced David Moreland, coordinator of this program for LDWF. Moreland states that 11 of the 30 deer were officially scored at the recent Hunters Expo held in early August at the Bossier City Convention Center.

Photo by Dave Moreland



The largest buck taken in Louisiana during the 2005 deer season was a huge non-typical that scored 223 1/8. This deer won first place at the Expo and scored higher than deer entered from Canada, Texas and Arkansas. This buck will qualify for listing in the Boone and Crockett Big Game Record Book and ranks as the new number six deer on the state list for non-typical white-tails. Todd Tracy killed this buck on Dec. 20, while home on leave from the Army in Red River Parish. The buck had 25 measurable points.

The time period for the Louisiana Big Game Records 5th Recognition Program, 2004-2006 ends in December. All deer and turkey killed during this three-year period will be listed in a publication that will be developed in the fall of 2007. The current state listing is available at the LDWF's Web site at www.wlf.louisiana.gov.

Scott Durham, LDWF Deer Program Manager, reports an estimated harvest of 209,200 deer for the 2005-06 deer season. "The harvest was up from the 2004-05 season and the fact that 30 deer have qualified to date for the Recognition Program indicates the interest among our state's deer hunters with developing an older age class of bucks in the population," he said. "The new deer limits that are in place for this up-coming season should also help the deer management program in Louisiana."

Hunters are advised to contact their local LDWF regional office or the Deer Program in Baton Rouge for information about scoring a potential record book or recognition program deer.

For more information, contact Scott Durham at 225-765-2351 or sdurham@wlf.louisiana.gov.

NEW 2006 LICENSES AVAILABLE

LDWF is now selling several new hunting and fishing licenses based on actions taken during the 2006 legislative session. Legislators approved the following:

- * Hunter Education Deferral license (Act 528)
- * Active Military Dependent's license (Act 221)
- * La National Guard Non-active Member license (Act 497)

Non-resident Active Military and Dependent licenses are available at all hunting and fishing license sales outlets around the state. All other Active Military licenses, Hunter Education Deferral licenses, and the Louisiana National Guard Non-active Member license can only be purchased at designated LDWF offices and supporting documentation is required for each. Please visit www.wlf.state.la.us/licenses/hunting for more information.



L.D.W.F. PROMOTES WAYNE BRESCHER TO MAJOR

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division promoted Maj. Wayne Brescher on Aug. 21. Maj. Brescher was responsible for supervising the Region 7 section of the Enforcement Division as a Captain, but will now oversee Regions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7.

“I realize this is a big challenge, but it is one I eagerly accept,” said Brescher. “I will continue to work hard to ensure that hunting and fishing opportunities will be available for generations to come.”

Brescher was born in Philadelphia, Pa., but grew up in Ponchatoula and graduated from Ponchatoula High School in 1964. He then attended



Southeastern Louisiana University for two years and played professional baseball for six years. Brescher graduated from Mississippi State University in 1974 and was working on his masters when he was hired by LDWF in 1978.

“I love the outdoors and was raised hunting and fishing. I felt a career in conservation law enforcement would be an opportunity to continue my love and appreciation of the outdoors as well as protecting our natural resources,” Brescher said.

Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze said this promotion could not have happened to a more deserving person. “Major Brescher lead search and rescue operations in Tangipahoa and St. Tammany Parishes in the days following Hurricane Katrina, demonstrating leadership ability and his strong commitment to this agency and the people of Louisiana,” LaCaze said.

For more information, contact Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze at 225-765-2985.

THREE FISHERMEN CITED ON MERMENAU RIVER

LDWF Enforcement Division agents cited three men in Cameron Parish on Aug. 20 for alleged boating safety and red drum violations.

As agents were checking fishermen under the Highway 82 bridge, a boat operated by James Voltaire Hamilton, 41, of Lake Charles passed the location slamming several boats into the concrete pilings. Upon stopping the vessel, the agents discovered undersized red drum and too many red drum in excess of 27 inches.

Hamilton was cited for several boating safety violations including careless operation, failure to comply with personal flotation device (PFD) requirements and no fire extinguisher. He was also cited for possession of undersized red drum and possession of too many red drum in excess of 27 inches.

Dwight Fitzgerald Martin, 42, and Brazil Coutee III, 36, both of Baton Rouge, were also cited for possession of undersized red drum and possession of too many red drum in excess of 27 inches.

Possession of undersized red drum and over the limit of red drum in excess of 27 inches each carry a fine between \$100 and \$350, or imprisonment up to 60 days, or both plus court costs. The Judicial District Court may also assess restitution for the value of the fish. The penalties for failure to comply with PFD requirements and no fire extinguisher are fines of \$50 for each offense. The penalty for careless operation of a watercraft is a fine up to \$300, or jail time up to 30 days, or both plus court costs.

Anglers are allowed to possess one fish in excess of 27 inches as part of their daily bag limit on red drum.

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division Agents participating in the case were Capt. Jubal Marceaux, Lt. Remy Broussard and Agent Beau Robertson.

For more information, contact Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze at klacaze@wlf.louisiana.gov or 225-765-2988.



APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR BAYOU PIERRE W.M.A. 2006 LOTTERY WATERFOWL HUNTS

LDWF is now accepting applications for the Bayou Pierre Wildlife Management Area (WMA) lottery waterfowl hunts.

Applications will be accepted until October 6. Each successful applicant along with no more than two guests will be permitted to hunt waterfowl for one weekend (Saturday and Sunday) on the Desoto Tract of Bayou Pierre WMA. The hunt dates are Dec. 16-17 and Dec. 23-24. The Desoto Tract of the WMA is that portion west of Bayou Pierre, located in Desoto Parish.

Two applicants will be selected by computer for each weekend. Hunters wanting to apply for the drawing can obtain an application from any Wildlife Division regional office or on-line at www.wlf.louisiana.gov/hunting/regulations/wma/lotteryhunts.

A \$5.00 non-refundable administrative fee is charged per application. Applications must be accompanied by a check or money order made payable to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Bayou Pierre WMA encompasses 2,212 acres of former agricultural fields and is located in Red River and Desoto Parishes approximately 20 miles south of Shreveport. In addition to the managed waterfowl areas on the Desoto Tract, LDWF manages approximately 100 acres in dove fields and has reforested several hundred acres in hardwoods. A 160 acres moist soils unit (refuge) has also been developed to provide habitat for resident and migrating waterfowl and shorebirds.

Archery-only deer hunting, small game hunting and year-around bird watching opportunities are available on the WMA. Anyone wanting additional information about the lottery hunt or Bayou Pierre WMA can refer to the 2006-07 Hunting Regulations pamphlet or the LDWF Web site at www.wlf.louisiana.gov. They can also contact Steve Hebert at 318-371-3050 or shebert@www.wlf.louisiana.gov.

For more information, contact Steve Hebert at 318-371-3050 or shebert@wlf.louisiana.gov.

BATON ROUGE MAN CITED FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE TO SHERBURNE W.M.A. BY L.D.W.F. AGENTS

On Aug. 26, 2006, agents from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division cited Austin B. Patureau, 17, of Baton Rouge, for criminal damage to state property after he allegedly vandalized the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area (WMA) shooting range.

Agents were called to investigate reported vandalism on the pistol range at Sherburne WMA located in Pointe Coupee Parish. Evidence suggested that a shotgun was used to cause

severe structural damage to the range. It was determined that the damage had been done on Aug. 22 in the evening. Significant evidence at the scene led to Patureau.

LDWF provides recreational shooting opportunities to the public at a minimal cost through several shooting ranges located across the state. These ranges provide a safe environment for those who wish to sharpen their shooting skills or just enjoy the sport of recreational target shooting. It is

through the public's cooperation that these ranges are managed and anyone witnessing acts of vandalism or unsafe conduct are encouraged to contact the nearest LDWF office.

Criminal damage to state property carries a fine of up to \$1,000, or imprisonment with or without hard labor for up to two years or both.

Agents participating in the case were Sgts. Brad Garon and Cliff Ortis.

