



Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Jan. 19, 2007 Volume 10, number 2

REGION 7 AGENTS WRITE 78 LITTER CITATIONS IN FIVE MONTHS

With the help of a \$15,000 grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful (KLB), the Region 7 Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) Enforcement Division wrote 78 gross littering citations from July 31 to Dec. 31, 2006.

“Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and its enforcement agents are some of our best partners,” said KLB Executive Director Leigh Harris. “These enforcement agents are serious about holding litter violators accountable for their actions. Keep Louisiana Beautiful is about changing attitudes, and only through enforcement, combined with education and awareness campaigns, can we hope for ultimate success.”

KLB chose Region 7, which consists of East and West Feliciana, East Baton Rouge, Ascension, Livingston, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, St. Tammany and Washington parishes, because they wrote the most littering citations in 2005.

The KLB grant money was spent to cover the cost of overtime hours accrued by LDWF agents. With the money, LDWF was able to add overtime patrols with a focus on gross litter violations in an effort to combat, prevent and deter gross littering.

“This grant money from Keep Louisiana Beautiful helped Region 7 write about 75 percent of the total statewide littering citations from July 31 to Dec 31 in 2006,” said LDWF Enforcement Division Region 7 Captain Len Yokum. “Littering is something that we take very serious as we all want to ensure that our 'Sportsman's Paradise' remains clean.”

Each first conviction gross littering citation carries a possible fine between \$500 and \$1,000 and eight hours of community service in a litter abatement work program.

“Region 7 has about 25 agents and everyone of them did a great job,” Yokum said. “They all wanted as many hours as we could give out and would volunteer on their days off to help.”



Keep Louisiana Beautiful is a volunteer-based service organization dedicated to litter reduction through education, enforcement and cleanups. The honorary chairman of the organization is Raymond Blanco, and partners in KLB's efforts include the Louisiana Governor's Office of Environmental Education, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Transportation and Development, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Department of Corrections, Department of Economic Development, Department of Natural Resources, and State Police.

Additional information on the statewide anti litter campaign and upcoming KLB events can be found at www.KeepLouisianaBeautiful.org.

For more information, contact Cpt. Len Yokum at 225-765-2999 or lyokum@wlf.louisiana.gov.

LDWF Administration

Bryant Hammett, Secretary
Janice Lansing, Undersecretary
John Roussel, Assistant Secretary

Division Administrators

Gary Tilyou, Inland Fisheries
Karen Foote, Marine Fisheries
David Moreland, Wildlife
Phil Bowman, Fur & Refuge
Col. Winton Vidrine, Enforcement

Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

Earl P. King, Jr., Chairman
Patrick C. Morrow
Wayne Sagraera
Frederic Miller
Henry Mouton
Robert Samanie, III





WHITE LAKE FISHING LOTTERY APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is now accepting applications to participate in a lottery drawing for fishing permit access to the White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area (WCA) between March 15 and Aug. 1, 2007.

A total of 75 permits will be issued in the lottery drawing and winning applicants will be notified of their opportunity to purchase a permit for \$30. White Lake WCA is located south of Gueydan in Vermilion Parish.

The area that will be open for fishing will be limited to the Florence Canal and Oil Field Location canals off of the Florence Canal.

There will be no fishing in any of the WCA's marsh areas or in the main camp canal or other areas that are marked "NO FISHING." Successful applicants will be provided a map of the fishing area.

Boats used by permittees will be limited to the use of motors with 40 horsepower or less. Additional rules and regulations are outlined in an attachment to the application.

A non-refundable administrative fee of \$5 must accompany each completed application in the form of a check or money order made payable to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Only one application per person will be accepted, and submitting more than one application will be considered grounds for disqualification. Completed applications must be received by LDWF by close of business on Feb. 20, 2007.

Applications may be mailed to: Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Attention: White Lake Fishing, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898. They may also be turned in to Room 461 of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters Building, located at 2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge.

Persons interested in obtaining an application may call the department at 225-765-2806 or download a copy from the department's Web site at www.wlf.louisiana.gov.

Applicants are advised that the department has surveyed the freshwater fisheries resource at White Lake WCA and found few recreational fish available due to the adverse impacts of Hurricane Rita.

For more information, contact Wayne Sweeney at 337-479-1894 or sweeneykw@bellsouth.net.

L.D.W.F. ENFORCEMENT AGENTS TO ATTEND KNOE BOAT AND OUTDOOR SHOW

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents will attend the KNOE Boat and Outdoor Show at the Monroe Civic Center from Jan. 26-28.

Agents will be manning an information booth throughout the show and will be prepared to answer questions concerning boating safety laws. Agents will also distribute important information to attendees to help boaters get ready for the upcoming boating season.

The boat and outdoor show will be held on Friday from 12-8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and on Sunday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

During the show, agents will pre-register anyone who wants to attend free boating safety classes held on the first Saturday of each month at the LDWF Region 2 office in Monroe. The public can also pre-register for a class by calling 318-343-2417. Boating safety courses are mandatory for anyone born after Jan. 1, 1988, who wants to operate a motorboat on the state's waterways.

LDWF is pleased to have the opportunity to attend this year's KNOE Boat and Outdoor Show to provide a public service to boaters and outdoor enthusiasts.

For more information, contact Maj. Wayne Brescher at 225-765 2469 or wbrescher@wlf.louisiana.gov.

**Please visit LDWF's Web site at
www.wlf.louisiana.gov
for all the latest news.**



POACHERS CAUGHT HUNTING WITH NIGHT-VISION EQUIPMENT

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents arrested two Oakdale men and cited another for alleged night hunting violations on Jan. 6 in Allen Parish.

Verdie Longino, 43, and Robert Sauls, 27, Roger Johnson, 51, all from Oakdale, were arrested for hunting deer during illegal hours, hunting deer with illegal weapons and hunting with firearms equipped with electronic sights. Logino and Sauls were also charged and arrested for flight from a police officer.

Agents received information on Jan. 5 pertaining to a group of hunters who were using night vision and infrared scopes to hunt deer from box stands and by aid of four-wheelers after legal shooting hours ended on a private hunting lease. The investigating agents entered the hunting lease on foot and located a hidden truck at a camp off Ballard Road. After several hours of surveillance and searching, agents heard sounds of four-wheelers traveling down one of the lease roads without the use of headlights. At approximately 10:30 p.m., with the aid



of night vision equipment, the hunters were seen exiting a box stand and then leaving the area by four-wheelers. The agents attempted to stop one of the four wheelers occupied by Longino and Sauls, who then tried to flee resulting in them crashing the four-wheeler into a briar patch.

The three men were in possession of four different types of night vision equipment. A loaded .17 caliber bull-barrel rifle with a night vision scope, a loaded .22 caliber rifle with a red lensed night vision light mounted on top of a scope, a night vision monocular and a pair of night vision binoculars.

Over twenty items were seized in connection with the case, including the two four-wheelers, guns and the night vision equipment. Longino and Sauls were booked into the Allen Parish Jail with bond set at \$2,500 each. Johnson was released at Kinder Hospital due to a medical condition.

The penalty for hunting deer during illegal hours is a fine up to \$950, up to 120 days in jail, or both, plus court costs and forfeiture of anything seized. Hunting deer with an illegal weapon carries a fine up to \$300, up to 60 days in jail, or both plus court costs. Hunting with a firearm with electronic sights is punishable by a fine up to \$500, up to 90 days in jail, or both plus court costs. Flight from an officer carries a fine between \$150 to \$500, up to 180 days in jail, or both plus court costs.

Agents participating in the case were Lt. Jesse Savoie, Sgts. David Liles and Keith Aucoin, and Senior Agents Steven Vidrine and Ray Thomas.

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

SWIMMING DEER NETS FATHER AND SON CITATIONS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited Thomas E. Custis Jr., 63, and Troy E. Custis, 37, both of Campti, on Nov. 21, 2006, in Natchitoches Parish for allegedly killing a deer illegally.

Sgt. David McAlpin cited both men for hunting deer illegally from a boat after they each gave a voluntary written statement. Both men admitted that they were riding in a boat on Black Lake when they saw the large buck swim-

ming across a channel. They motored up to the deer, roped it, and then shot it with a pistol. The deer was seized and later donated to charity.

The penalty for hunting deer illegally from a boat, while the deer is in the water, is a fine between \$100 and \$350, or jail for not more than 60 days, or both plus court costs. Restitution in the amount of \$524.54 is also owed to LDWF for the illegally taken deer. Senior Agents Carla Rachal and Billy Shoemaker assisted in the case.



TWO WASHINGTON PARISH MEN JAILED FOR NIGHT HUNTING VIOLATIONS NORTH OF FRAKLINTON

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents arrested two Washington Parish residents on the night of Saturday, Jan. 6 for alleged night hunting violations that took place north of Franklinton.

David M. Mulina, 25, and Shane M. Husser, 51, both of Franklinton were arrested for taking deer during illegal hours with an artificial light, taking deer from a public road, hunting from a moving vehicle, discharging a firearm from a public road, and for no basic resident or resident big game hunting licenses.

Shortly after 11 p.m., agents watched Mulina and Husser spotlight and shoot

a deer in a rye grass field from their vehicle on Mt. Pisgah Road. Two rifles and a spotlight were seized along with the deer, which was found dead in the field and later donated to charity.

If convicted, each faces penalties including fines between \$900 to \$950, or jail for not more than 120 days, or both, plus court costs and forfeiture of anything seized for taking deer during illegal hours. Hunting from a moving vehicle carries a fine between \$250 and \$500, or jail for not more than 90 days, or both plus court costs. Taking deer from a public road is punishable by a fine between \$100 and \$350, or jail for not more than 60 days, or both plus court costs. Hunting without a

basic and big game hunting licenses each carry fines of \$50 or jail time up to for the first offense. The penalty for discharging a firearm from a public road is a fine up to \$50, or up to 30 days in jail, or both, plus court costs.

Mulina and Husser were also assessed civil restitution in the amount of \$524.54 payable to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for the value of the deer.

Agents participating in the case were Sgt. Darryl Galloway and Senior Agent Robert Larsen.

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

SWIMMING DEER NETS FATHER AND SON CITATIONS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited Thomas E. Custis Jr., 63, and Troy E. Custis, 37, both of Campti, on Nov. 21, 2006, in Natchitoches Parish for allegedly killing a deer illegally.

LDWF Sgt. David McAlpin cited both men for hunting deer illegally from a boat after they each gave a voluntary written statement. Both men admitted that they were riding in a boat on Black Lake when they saw the large buck swimming across a channel. They motored up to the deer, roped it, and then shot it with a pistol. The deer was seized and later donated to charity.

The penalty for hunting deer illegally from a boat, while the deer is in the water, is a fine between \$100 and \$350, or jail for not more than 60 days, or both plus court costs.

Restitution in the amount of \$524.54 is also owed to LDWF for the illegally taken deer.

Senior Agents Carla Rachal and Billy Shoemaker assisted in the case.

SPRING BAYOU W.M.A. HUNTING SEASON CORRECTION

The Spring Bayou WMA small game and waterfowl section, within the 2006-08 Louisiana Hunting Seasons and Regulations pamphlet, contains incorrect dates.

The sentence that reads "Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting Jan. 15-Feb. 28" on page 49 should have specified the dates of Jan. 22-Feb. 28.

