



## L.D.W.F. TRANSLOCATES BROWN PELICANS

**L**DWF personnel started work today on moving 100 to 150 brown pelican fledglings from Last (Raccoon) Island to Whiskey Island on the Louisiana coast.

“Following the hurricanes of 2005, brown pelican colonies were impacted and several were lost to erosive forces primarily east of the Mississippi River,” said Michael Carloss, LDWF Fur and Refuge Division biologist program manager. “This project will help spread the brown pelican population out that will in time produce more nesting sites and thus a healthier pelican population.”

The brown pelican translocation is the first year of a three-year translocation project that will introduce new nesting colonies in the vicinity of traditional brown pelican nesting areas. The hurricanes reduced nesting potential on many remaining colony sites as a result of erosion and reduction in land elevation from wave scouring.

This translocation project is being funded by a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) \$200,000 grant. USFWS received a special congressional appropriation for monitoring and conservation of wildlife in response to the 2005 hurricanes. LDWF developed several grant proposals for hurricane impact related projects.

“Supporting this project is essential to effective stewardship of this protected species,” said Jim Boggs, Field Supervisor for the Service's Ecological Services office in Lafayette.

Boggs went on to say this effort “melds perfectly with our desire to also try to replenish the coastal area with splays from the Mississippi to replicate the natural land-building process so long altered by channelizing the river.”

Translocation is a proven wildlife management technique that will assure quality brown pelican nesting sites west of the Mississippi River. LDWF used this strategy from 1984 to 1986 when they translocated fledglings from Queen Bess Colony to Raccoon Island. LDWF biologists esti-



Photo by Adam Einck

mated 3,600 brown pelican nesting pairs at Raccoon Island on May 10, 2007.

Biologists are targeting young birds that still have about three weeks before taking to the air; this will help ensure that they stay on the island instead of returning to their original nests. LDWF is also tagging the fledglings that will be used to monitor the project and future research.

A University of Louisiana Lafayette doctoral student, who will have to feed the pelicans daily for the first three weeks as they become accustomed to their new surroundings, will monitor the relocated pelicans.

*For more information, contact Michael Carloss at 337-373-0032 or [mcarloss@wlf.louisiana.gov](mailto:mcarloss@wlf.louisiana.gov).*

### LDWF Administration

Bryant Hammett, *Secretary*  
Janice Lansing, *Undersecretary*  
John Roussel, *Deputy Asst. Sec., Fisheries*  
Brandt Savoie, *Deputy Asst. Sec., Wildlife*

### 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  
Stephen J. Oats





## L.D.W.F. COORDINATING OYSTER REEF REHABILITATION

Federally funded reef building activities, overseen by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), are rehabilitating sections of the state's public oyster resources that were impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

Public oyster reefs in two areas - Black Bay in Plaquemines Parish (completed in May) and Mississippi Sound in St. Bernard Parish (beginning in June) - are being rehabilitated with approximately \$2.3 million federal hurricane disaster grant funding, part of \$53 million in resource recovery funds provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) through the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC).

"These initial expenditures of federal dollars will greatly assist our efforts to stimulate productive reef growth, and both commercial and recreational fishing interests will see the benefit," said Bryant Hammett, LDWF secretary. "Our congressional delegation and the state's fishing industry leaders came together quickly after the hurricanes of 2005, the recovery funding needs were determined and today we are seeing the results of those efforts."

Approximately 200 acres of existing oyster reefs are being rehabilitated in each area this spring. The process involves placing cultch material (limestone, crushed concrete, oyster shell, etc.) on the reefs to provide suitable substrate for larval oyster attachment.

Approximately \$10 million is currently programmed for oyster rehabilita-

tion in the public oyster areas. Additional funds will be spent in subsequent years in various public oyster areas throughout the Louisiana coast. In addition to the \$10 million for public oyster rehabilitation, approximately \$12 million is being used to assist with rehabilitation work performed on private oyster leases under the Private Oyster Lease Rehabilitation (POLR) program.

The Louisiana oyster industry in 2003 produced a harvest valued at \$33.4 million annually, supporting 3,300 jobs and generating \$11 million in tax revenue for the state.

In the September 2005 to August 2006 harvest period following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the state's oyster harvest was reduced 26 percent when compared to the five-year, pre-storm average. That percentage is based on the 10.2 million pounds of oysters landed post-Katrina/Rita versus the 13.8 million-pound, average annual landings in the previous five years. The number of jobs within the state's oyster industry, post-Katrina/Rita, has not yet been determined.

"The Louisiana Fishing Community Recovery Coalition (LFCRC), working with the assistance of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, assessed resource damage in the fall of 2005 and determined recovery funding needs," said Mike Voisin, Louisiana Oyster Task Force Chairman and Co-Chair of the LFCRC. "The state's congressional leaders who worked to get us to this point are to be commended for their efforts as we work to rebuild the state's fishing industry."

Additional phases of the fisheries resource recovery work will include removing debris from the traditional coastal fishing grounds critical to the state's commercial and recreational fishing industries. The grant also will fund monitoring programs to track both the recovery of fishery resources as well as that of the fishing industries.

## DOVE HUNTERS ENTER GUILTY PLEAS

Anthony F. Tamporello, 49, of Norco and Kris P. Pfister, 19, of St. Rose, appeared before the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana in New Orleans and pled guilty on May 15 to taking migratory game birds over a baited area and taking over the daily limit of migratory game birds.

U. S. Magistrate Judge Louis Moore, Jr. accepted the guilty pleas and fined Tamporello \$1,825 and Pfister \$1,675. Moore also ordered the men to serve three years inactive probation, pay a \$20 special assessment fee, and both men are prohibited from entering any National Wildlife Refuge.

Agents were conducting surveillance of a baited area on the St. Charles Parish Hurricane Protection Levee, when Tamporello and Pfister arrived and began to hunt. The agents documented the hunt and watched each hunter shoot over his daily limit.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian Capitelli negotiated the plea agreement on behalf of the government.



## EUNICE MEN ARRESTED FOR ALLIGATOR VIOLATIONS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents arrested two men on June 11 for alleged alligator violations near Eunice in St. Landry Parish.

Jay Farque, 29, and Randy Koseck, 28, both of Eunice were arrested for stealing alligators and selling the meat.

Agents acting on a complaint set up surveillance at a local business and apprehended Koseck as he attempted to sell the alligators. Farque was arrested at a local seafood dealer where he was the driver of a seafood delivery truck. Agents seized 378 pounds of stolen alligators and returned them to the dealer.

Farque and Koseck were booked into the St. Landry Parish Jail and charged with theft of alligators, selling seafood



without a retail seafood dealer's license and failure to maintain required records of all alligator transactions.

The penalty for theft of an alligator is a fine up to \$2,000, or jail time with or without hard labor up to two years or both. Selling seafood without a retail dealer's license and failure to maintain required records of all alligator transactions each carry fines ranging from \$250 to \$500, jail time up to 90 days, or both plus court costs.

Agents participating in the case were Sgts. Travis Huval and Chris Carpenter, and Agent Lance Devillier

For more information, contact Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze at 225-765-2988 or [klacaze@wlf.louisiana.gov](mailto:klacaze@wlf.louisiana.gov).

## CAMERON MEN ARRESTED FOR SHRIMPING VIOLATIONS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement agents cited three men on May 22 for alleged shrimping violations near Calcasieu Pass in Cameron Parish.

Larry Boudoin, 42, of Lake Charles, Phillip Whittington, 30, of Cameron and Joe Wilson, 43, of Cameron were cited for shrimping with "butterfly nets" during a closed season.

Agents observed the vessels "butterflying" in state shrimp Zone 3 inshore waters, which are closed to the commercial harvest of shrimp until noon on May 28.

Agents seized four butterfly nets that are being held as evidence and 80 pounds of shrimp that were donated to the Salvation Army in Lake Charles.

Wilson was also cited for failing to possess a commercial license, taking or possessing commercial fish without a vessel license, taking commercial fish without a commercial gear license, obstruction of justice and unauthorized use of a vessel. The unauthorized use of a vessel charge came after the owner of the vessel that Wilson used filed a written statement with agents that claimed his shrimp boat was used without his knowledge.

The penalty for butterflying during a closed season is a fine between \$400-\$950, or jail time up to 120 days, or both plus court costs. For a second offense the fine is between \$750-\$999, and imprisonment for 90 to 180 days plus court costs.

Failure to have a commercial license,

take or possess commercial fish without a vessel license and take commercial fish without a commercial gear license each carry fines ranging from \$250-\$500, or jail time up to 90 days, or both plus court costs. The penalty for obstruction of justice is a fine up to \$10,000, imprisonment up to five years with or without hard labor, or both. The penalty for unauthorized use of a vessel is a fine not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment with or without hard labor for up to 5 years, or both.

Wilson was booked into the Cameron Parish jail and is awaiting bond.

Agents participating in the cases were Sgt. David Sanford, Sr. Agent Ray Thomas, Agent Chris Hoag and Agent Beau Robertson.



## SHRIMP SEASON TO CLOSE IN PORTION OF ZONE 2

The 2007 spring inshore shrimp season in a portion of Shrimp Management Zone 2 extending from the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the Channel red buoy line to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island will close on Monday, June 25, at one-half hour before official sunrise. The remaining portion of Zone 2 from the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the Channel red buoy line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River and all of Zones 1 and 3 will remain open until further notice. State territorial waters south of the Inside/Outside shrimp line, as described in Louisiana R.S.56:495, will also remain open to shrimping.

Zone 1 includes state waters from the Mississippi/Louisiana state line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River and Zone 3 includes

state waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island to the Louisiana/Texas state line.

The closure was announced today by Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Secretary Bryant O. Hammett, Jr. and was based on recommendations made by LDWF Marine Fisheries Division biologists.

The number, distribution and percentage of small juvenile white shrimp within the area to be closed has progressively increased in recent weeks. Analysis of current LDWF shrimp trawl sampling data indicates substantial population increases this week and these waters are being closed to protect these developing shrimp.

For more information, contact Martin Bourgeois at 225-765-2401 or [mbourgeois@wlf.louisiana.gov](mailto:mbourgeois@wlf.louisiana.gov).

## L.D.W.F. TO HOLD ALLIGATOR LOTTERY HUNTS

LDWF is now accepting alligator lottery hunt applications for five WMA lakes and six public lakes in the central portion of the state.

Region 3 alligator lottery hunts will select one hunter for Indian Creek in Rapides Parish and two hunters for Iatt Lake in Grant Parish. Region 4 alligator lottery hunts include three hunters for Lake Concordia in Concordia Parish and two hunters for Lake Bruin, four hunters for Lake St. John and four hunters for Lake St. Joseph all in Tensas Parish. WMA Region 4 alligator lottery hunts include two hunters for Big Lake WMA, four hunters for Boeuf WMA, one hunter for Buckhorn WMA, seven hunters for Red River WMA and nine hunters for Three Rivers WMA.

Each applicant can submit one application per region, but will only be chosen for one public or WMA lake hunt. All applications must be received by July 31 for a computerized random drawing on Aug. 17. Each application must be accompanied by a non-refundable \$5 check or money order made payable to LDWF. All winners will be notified by mail. Applications can be obtained from the Region 4 office in Ferriday, Region 3 office in Pineville or by downloading them from LDWF's Web site at [www.wlf.louisiana.gov/hunting/regulations/wma/lotteryhunts](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/hunting/regulations/wma/lotteryhunts). Applicants must be a legal Louisiana resident and 16 years of age or older. Any applicant born on or after Sept. 1, 1969 must also provide a valid hunter safety certification number.

In Region 4, successful applicants must attend a class in Ferriday on either Aug. 28 or 30. Region 4 WMA lake hunters must also agree to give LDWF 40 percent of all revenue gained from the commercial sale of alligator hides or meat or 40 percent of the fair market value of any alligator hide or meat kept for personal use or consumption. The Region 4 office is located at 261 Wildlife and Fishery Rd. in Ferriday and can be reached at 318-757-3072.

LDWF will provide a class on an individual basis for Region 3 lottery hunt winners when they pick up their license and tags from the Region 3 office. The Region 3 office is located at 1995 Shreveport Hwy. in Pineville and can be reached at 318-487-5885.

