

EXPERIMENTAL WHITE LAKE WETLANDS CONSERVATION AREA 2024 ALLIGATOR HUNTING BID APPLICATION NOTIFICATION

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) will select eligible hunters to harvest alligators in 2024 on White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area (WLWCA) based on a bid system. The highest bidders will be selected, provided that the bidder meets the minimum criteria and the bid application form is also acceptable. Bids will be submitted as both the number of years hunting alligators in coastal Louisiana and the number of days anticipated to fill tags issued, and valued as “the quicker turnaround, the higher the value” (i.e. 7 days will be of a higher value than 9 days). Bids will be ranked and highest combined rank will be selected.

For clarification these bids will only apply to alligator harvests for the 2024 season. Alligator harvests for 2025-2027 seasons will be bid out in 2025.

Bid application forms must be completed and received in Room 1007 of the La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries Office at 200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506 by 10:00 a.m. on **July 16, 2024.**

Bid opening will be at 10:30 a.m. on July 16, 2024 at the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Lafayette Office Building, 1st Floor Conference Room #1002, 200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506. Selected hunters will be notified by phone.

Minimum Criteria for Bid Submittal

Applicants must meet the following criteria in order to submit a bid:

- Must be a Louisiana resident at least 18 years of age.
- Must have 5 years previous alligator hunting experience in coastal Louisiana.
- Must be able to provide essential equipment for alligator hunting on WLWCA (Multiple vessels may be required contingent upon selected Unit/Location).
- Must be able to report to WLWCA each morning until the alligator tag quota is completed, or an exception is granted by the area manager for an otherwise specified reason.
- Must follow specific instructions and abide by agreements issued by WLWCA personnel.
- Must maintain and submit required records and reports.
- Must be able to pass a wildlife violation background check. All applicants will be screened for past wildlife violations. Applicants that have pled guilty to, paid a fine for, negotiated/agreed to a pretrial intervention (PTI)/diversion for or been convicted of Class Two or above wildlife or WMA/WCA/Refuge violations within the last five years, as determined by the Enforcement Division, shall be disqualified.
- Must **not** have been a 2023 alligator hunter selected via LDWF’s 2022-2024 Alligator Hunting Bids for WMAs/USACOE properties/Refuges.

Restrictions

- **NO guiding/outfitting** activities for sport alligator hunting will be allowed while conducting any activities on WLWCA.
- **Selected hunters will not be allowed to participate in any television or reality show production.** Any video activity must be specifically approved by the Alligator Program Manager and Area Manager.
- **Access on the property will be restricted during the Louisiana 2024 teal hunting season.** The area manager must be notified prior to accessing the WLWCA property during the Louisiana 2024 teal hunting season, and the area manager has the authority to deny that access.

Bid Information

- A bid will be submitted as the number of years hunting alligators in coastal Louisiana, AND anticipated turnaround time (ie. 7 days, 9 days, 15 days, etc.) needed to fill issued tags. Experience and turnaround time will be ranked separately for all bidders, and successful bidders will be awarded based off the combined rank.
- The minimum acceptable bid is 40 days & maximum acceptable bid is 1 day.
- Successful bidders will be responsible for meeting the timeline he/she bid on. (If the timeline surpasses that which was bid on, a fee of \$250.00 will be charged daily for each day thereafter the agreed upon timeline up to the 40 day minimum acceptable bid timeline).
- All alligators that are sold, must be sold to the alligator buyer/dealer selected by LDWF via public bid.
- A set price of 40% will be charged by the department for all alligators harvested on WLWCA.
- The 40% applies to the total income of **hide and meat** whether alligators are sold whole or hide and meat is sold separately.
- If alligators are sold whole the total income will be determined by the Dealer Sale Transaction forms and must reflect both **feet and inches** of each hide and **price per foot paid**.
- If alligator hide and meat are sold separately,
 - The total hide income will be determined by the Dealer Sale Transaction forms and must reflect both **feet and inches** of each hide and **price per foot paid** and
 - The total meat income will be determined by the Dealer Sale Transaction forms and must reflect the **price per pound paid, total weight (pounds)** of meat sold, whether the meat was **bone-in** carcass or **deboned** and **corresponding tag numbers** associated with the alligator meat sold.
- If alligators are not sold, total value will be determined by LDWF (see specifics under Winning Bidders).
- An individual can bid on more than one White Lake Unit/Location and WMA/Refuge but will only be selected for one Unit/Location or WMA/Refuge. Bidders applying for more than one White Lake Unit/Location must rank their choices on this bid application form. Successful bidders will be offered alligator hunting authorization for the unit/location of their highest ranked winning bid only. Successful bidders for more than one WMA/WCA/Refuge will have to select one area for alligator hunting.
- Bids will not be accepted unless the bid application (page 4 of this packet) is filled out completely and received at the designated locations by the deadline.
- The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Hunter Education

Persons born on or after September 1, 1969 must have successfully completed an approved hunter education course **OR** be under the direct supervision of a person: 1) who was born before September 1, 1969 and who has a valid hunting license **or** 2) who is at least 18 years old and has successfully completed an approved hunter education course.

Winning Bidders

- Only one winner allowed per household.
- Successful bidders will be notified by phone.
- Selected hunters will be allowed to harvest alligators for the 2024 season only. All available opportunities will be bid out in 2025 for the 2025-2027 seasons.
- If a selected hunter does not fill his/her alligator harvest quota or does not sell alligators, then the selected hunter will be required to pay the Department its expected share of alligator hide/meat values for alligators not harvested/not sold, with payment based on the number of unfilled tags/unsold alligators paid at the average rate of compensation for the year's harvest applied to an average size for the nearest LDWF property allowing alligator harvest. The Department, at its sole discretion and determination, may consider exceptions to the previous payment requirement.
- Successful bidders will be responsible for meeting the timeline he/she bid on. (If the timeline surpasses that which was bid on, a fee of \$250.00 will be charged daily for each day thereafter the agreed upon timeline up to the 40 day minimum acceptable bid timeline). The area manager reserves the right to grant exceptions upon written justification explaining why the agreed upon timeline was not met.
- Selected hunters must abide by agreements issued by LDWF. Failure to abide by LDWF agreements can result in the suspension, revocation or cancellation of alligator harvest privileges.

Do not submit a bid application form unless you have met all the minimum criteria described above.

Additional bid application notifications and forms can be printed from LDWF's website at <https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/alligator-hunting>, be requested by phone at the phone numbers below or from the following address:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Attn: Kelly Stanford
2024 WLWCA Alligator Harvest Bids
200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506

If additional information is needed, please call White Lake WCA 337-536-6061 or email at LAalligatorprogram@wlf.la.gov or lardoin@wlf.la.gov.

Completed bid application forms must be received by 10:00 a.m. on July 16, 2024 in Room 1007 of the LDWF Office at 200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506. Labels on envelopes or other items containing bid application forms should include LDWF, 2024 WLWCA Alligator Bids, Attn: Kelly Stanford and the appropriate address. However, bidders are hereby notified that LDWF is not responsible for any delays caused by the bidder's chosen method of bid delivery. Failure of bid to reach Room 1007 by the designated time and date shall result in rejection of the bid.

WHITE LAKE WCA AREAS AVAILABLE FOR ALLIGATOR HUNTING BIDDING IN 2024

Unit/Location	# of Hunters*	# of Tags per Hunter*
Units 1 & 2**	1	150
Unit 3	1	25
Florence Canal	1	40

* Approximate numbers, subject to change without notification

** Units 1 & 2 are landlocked and only accessible over a levee. Successful bidders in these units will need to provide additional vessels to be staged on the inside of the units.

EXPERIMENTAL WHITE LAKE WCA 2024 ALLIGATOR HUNTING BID APPLICATION FORM

SSN: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	City: _____ State: <u>LA</u>
Zip: _____	Phone: _____ Phone (Cell/Other): _____
Email: _____	DOB: _____ Driver's License #: _____
Race: _____	Sex: _____ Color Hair: _____ Color Eyes: _____
Height: _____ ft _____ in	Weight: _____ Hunter Education #: _____

NOTE: Bid application forms received with incomplete information or an incorrect social security number will not be processed.

You are allowed to bid on more than one unit/location, however you will be selected for only one. By preference, indicate your first choice with a "1" and your second choice with a "2" and so on in the selection columns below. Successful bidders will be offered alligator hunting authorization for the area of their highest ranked winning bid only. You must have at least one selection to be considered. Record your hunting experience and bid days in the appropriate columns below. The minimum acceptable bid is 40 days & maximum acceptable bid is 1 day.

Years of Alligator Hunting Experience in coastal Louisiana: _____

Selection <small>Mark w/ 1, 2, 3...</small>	Bid (days)	UNIT/LOCATION
		Units 1 & 2
		Unit 3
		Florence Canal

I certify that the information I have provided in this bid application is correct and that I have read, understand and agree to stipulations in the corresponding notification. Falsification of this information may cause my application to be rejected, my name removed from the eligible register, and/or subject me to immediate dismissal from this experimental harvest.

_____ **Signature of Applicant** _____ **Date**

Do you possess or have access to the equipment (e.g., flat boats, go-devil type boats, shallow drive boats, etc.) necessary to efficiently harvest alligators on the WLWCA Unit/Location you are bidding on? _____ Yes _____ No

Previous Alligator Hunting Experience:

Year	License Number	Landowner Name	Tags Issued	Tags Used

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