

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

#### 2024 Recreational Red Snapper Season Modification

Louisiana's recreational red snapper season was previously set by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular March 2024 meeting to be open daily until further notice and subsequently modified on July 7 to a weekends (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) only season including the Monday of Labor Day. Under the provisions of state management, NOAA Fisheries has delegated season and bag limit authority as well as allocated a quota to Louisiana. Landings estimates generated from the LA Creel program indicate that red snapper harvest rates are such that a season structure modification is necessary in order to maximize opportunities for Louisiana anglers. In order to fish to the established allocation, the season must be adjusted to a daily season.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:962, which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency rules to set finfish seasons, R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, and the authority given to the secretary by the commission at its regular March 2024 meeting and in LAC 76:VII.335.G.5 to modify the recreational red snapper season, size, and bag limits under the provisions of NOAA delegated state management, the secretary hereby declares:

The season for the private recreational and state charter harvest of red snapper in Louisiana state waters and federal waters off Louisiana shall be a daily season beginning at 12:01 a.m. on August 19, 2024 until further notice. The bag and possession limit (4 fish per person) and the size limit (16 inches minimum total length) shall remain as previously established.

This modification does not apply to federally permitted charter boats operating under federal law during federally established seasons and under federally established rules for those vessels.

Madison D. Sheahan  
Secretary