



Louisiana Offshore Permit and Yellowfin Reporting

Jason Adriance | HMS Advisory Panel | March 15, 2012

Louisiana Offshore Recreational Landing Permit



Offshore Recreational Landing Permit

Who

Any person possessing any of the following fish species or species groups on board a vessel taken from within or without Louisiana waters:

Highly Migratory Species

- Tunas
- Billfish
- Swordfish

*Must have in immediate possession and available for inspection

*Exempted seniors born before June 1, 1940 must also obtain a permit.



Offshore Recreational Landing Permit

Why

- Characterize the universe of anglers fishing beyond state territorial waters for Highly Migratory Species that land their catch in Louisiana.
- Generate valuable reference data to incorporate with new MRIP protocols.
- Reliable recreational harvest figures.



Offshore Recreational Landing Permit

How

- Permit will be available online, by phone, or in person at a LDWF office.
- Permit is no-cost and will match saltwater license number once activated.
- Exempted seniors will receive a permit number.
- Permit will be issued annually in conjunction with the saltwater license year (July 1 – June 30).

Available at:

www.wlf.la.gov/yellowfin

1-800-XXX-XXXX

LDWF Offices



Offshore Recreational Landing Permit

When

- Implementation with the new 2012-2013 Recreational License Year and start around June 15, 2012.



Yellowfin Tuna Harvest Reports and Reporting



Yellowfin Tuna Harvest Reports and Reporting

- Produce more accurate yellowfin tuna harvest figures.
 - Existing programs have low dockside intercept rate which creates highly variable catch rates with low confidence level.
- Data will be shared with National Marine Fisheries Service.
- Creates a database of each yellowfin tuna harvested.



Yellowfin Tuna Harvest Reports and Reporting

Harvest Reports

- Every yellowfin tuna brought on board a vessel will need to have an associated harvest report maintained on the vessel.
- Responsibility of the person catching the fish, the guardian of a minor catching a fish, or in the case of a charter boat, the captain.
- One format for harvest reports will be available for download online. www.wlf.la.gov/yellowfin
- Online example shows the required fields.
- Failure to maintain harvest reports is punishable by a class one violation pursuant to R.S. 56:31 and may result in revocation of an individual's recreational offshore landing permit.

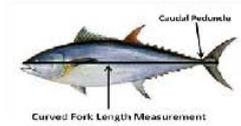




Louisiana Yellowfin Tuna Harvest Reporting Form (Recreational and Charter Only)

LA Offshore Permit Number:

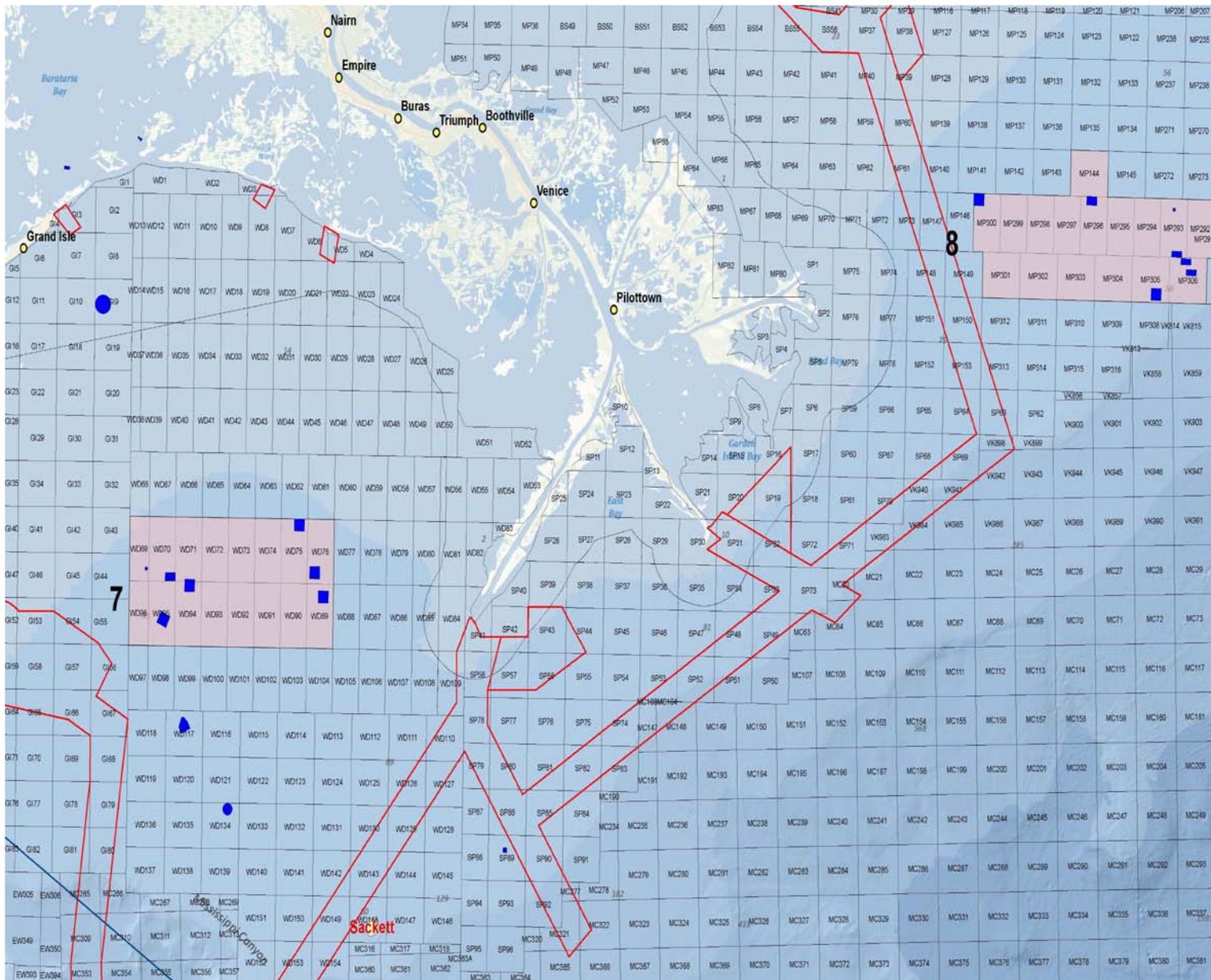
YEAR: 2012



	Date (Month and Day)	Time	a.m. or p.m.	Trip Type (Private or Charter)	Location (OCS Block)	Curved Fork Length (inches)	Authorization Number	Vessel Federal HMS Angling Permit Number
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								

*curved fork length is measured from the tip of the upper jaw to the middle of the fork of the tail along the middle contour of the body of the fish.





Yellowfin Tuna Catch Validation



Yellowfin Tuna Validation

Recreational (Non-Charter)

- Prior to offloading yellowfin tuna, taken recreationally from a vessel, a validation number must be obtained.
 - No at sea transfer
- Validation number can be obtained by submitting harvest reports via phone, online portal, or smartphone/tablet application.
- Validation number must be placed on corresponding harvest report prior to offloading.
- Failure to validate catches is punishable by a class one violation pursuant to R.S. 56:31 and may result in revocation of an individual's recreational offshore landing permit.



Yellowfin Tuna Validation

Recreational (Charter)

- Validation is through LDWF issued Validation Tags.
- Validation Tags must be placed on the yellowfin tuna when it is brought aboard the vessel.
 - Entire Validation Tag must be on fish, no trimming
 - No at sea transfer
- Validation Number is the unique number found on the Validation Tag.
- Validation Number must be placed on the corresponding harvest report prior to offloading.
- All harvest reports from charter vessels must be submitted to LDWF via the online portal at www.wlf.la.gov/yellowfin by the 10th of the month following the month the fish was harvested.



Yellowfin Tuna Validation

Recreational (Charter)

- Validation Tags are non-transferable and must be returned at the end of the recreational offshore landing permit year.
- New Validation Tags will not be issued if Harvest Reports are not up to date or records indicate that an individual captain has outstanding Validation Tags.
- Tampering with Validation Tags (including trimming tags), or failure to follow validation procedures is punishable by a class one violation pursuant to R.S. 56:31 and may result in revocation of an individual's recreational offshore landing permit.



Questions ?

