



Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 1. Wild Quadrupeds

§123. Coastwide Nutria Control Program

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish regulations governing participation in the Coastwide Nutria Control Program. The administrative responsibility for this program shall rest with the Department Secretary; the Assistant Secretary, Office of Wildlife; and the Fur and Refuge Division.

1. The Coastwide Nutria Control Program objective is to provide economic incentive, by payment of \$5 per nutria tail to participants, to encourage the harvest of up to 400,000 nutria annually from coastal Louisiana. For the purpose of this program, coastal Louisiana is bounded on the north by Interstate 10 from the Louisiana-Texas line to Baton Rouge, Interstate 12 from Baton Rouge to Slidell, and Interstate 10 to the Louisiana-Mississippi line.

2. Participant Application Process

- a. Participants must acquire a valid Louisiana trapping license.
- b. Participants must submit a completed nutria control program participant application to the department or its contractor.
- c. To be considered complete, the application must contain the following information: name, address, telephone number, social security number, and trapping license number of applicant; tax receipt and a description of property to be trapped/hunted (acres, parish, township, range, section); name, address, and telephone number of landowner (private or public); signature of participant; and signature of landowner or designated representative indicating permission to hunt or trap nutria on the described property.
- d. For applications determined to be complete and valid, the participant will be notified by mail that his/her registration is finalized and a nutria control program registration number will be issued.
- e. The participant must indicate if an assistant will be delivering tails on his behalf to a collection center and the participant must provide the name of the assistant(s) on the application.
- f. Applications submitted to the department or its contractor by October 1 shall be processed by the opening of trapping season. Applications submitted to the department or its contractor after October 1 shall be processed in the order received.
- g. Applications listing only water bodies, without signature of an adjacent landowner or designated representative, shall be considered incomplete.
- h. Applications determined to be incomplete or invalid will be returned to the applicant

with an explanation as to why registration could not be finalized.

3. Harvest of Nutria

- a. Participants must possess a valid trapping license and a nutria control program registration number.
- b. Only nutria harvested during the open trapping season, from coastal Louisiana and taken from property permitted can be included in this program.
- c. Nutria may be taken by any legal method except that if taken with a shotgun, steel shot must be used.
- d. Participants are required to remove carcasses from the trapping/hunting area or if carcasses are not sold whole, they must be placed in such a manner as to prohibit feeding on the carcasses by birds, including southern bald eagles. Carcasses may be buried, placed in heavy overhead vegetation or concealed by any other means necessary to prevent consumption by birds.

4. Collection of Nutria Tails for Payment

- a. Collection stations will be established across coastal Louisiana by the department or its contractor.
- b. Evidence of nutria harvested shall be in the form of delivering severed nutria tails to a collection station during a designated period. Collections will begin on or about November 20th. Specific dates and times of collections will be established and advertised for each station.
- c. Participant or a designated assistant must present the nutria control registration number and proper identification to the department contractor.
- d. Participant or designated assistant shall present to the department contractor only fresh or well-preserved (iced, frozen, salted) nutria tails in a manner that allows counting of individual tails (e.g., tails cannot be frozen together in a block). Only whole tails, greater than 7 inches in length will be accepted.
- e. Participant shall declare parish, section, township, and range in coastal Louisiana where animals were taken and indicate method of take and carcass use. Tails from animals taken from outside of the participants permitted property shall not qualify for payment in this program.
- f. Participant shall sign the receipt/voucher provided by the department contractor to acknowledge number of tails presented and accuracy of information provided.

5. Violation of any part of these regulations is a class 2 violation and conviction may result in disqualification from the program.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR28 (October 2002).

Pat Manuel, Chairman

RULE (Night take Nov. 20 through last day of Feb. of CNCP Season)

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

Outlaw Quadruped, Nutria and Beaver Night Take Permits (LAC 76:V.126)

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission have promulgated rules and regulations governing the take of outlaw quadrupeds, nutria and beaver during the nighttime hours from September 1 of each year through the last day of February of the next year.

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WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

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Chapter 1. Wild Quadrupeds

§126. Outlaw Quadruped, Nutria and Beaver Night Take Permits

A. Purpose—to establish rules and regulations for the take of outlaw quadrupeds, nutria and beaver during the nighttime hours (one-half hour after official sunset to one-half hour before official sunrise) from September 1 of each year, through the last day of February of the next year.

B. Permits

1. On private property, the landowner, or his lessee or agent with written permission from the landowner may obtain a permit authorizing the take of outlaw quadrupeds, nutria, or beaver during nighttime hours from September 1 through the last day of February of the next year.
2. Permit applications shall be completed on forms provided by the department, with all required information including but not limited to: applicants name, date of birth, contact information, date of application, parish information for applicant, landowner, and location of property subject to the permit, map, acreage, legal description, landowner's expressed authorization to allow night take for these species and any other information required by the department for the proper administration of the permit issuance. Any change of information requires the submission of a new permit application. Applications must be submitted to the regional enforcement office in which the property is located or to the wildlife permits coordinator at the Baton Rouge headquarters.
3. Permits may be issued during business hours by the wildlife enforcement captain located in the applicable regional enforcement office, or by electronic means at the discretion of the department.
4. Permits shall be valid for a period of one year beginning July 1 and terminating on June 30 of the following year. Permits may be renewed annually without additional application upon submission of the annual report and affirmation of the permittee's desire to renew, so long as the permittee has adhered to the rules of the permit and all information contained in the application remains accurate. The permit may be terminated by the permittee, landowner, or lessee at any time. The department may terminate any permit at any time for a violation of any regulation associated with the permit or for any violation of law committed during the participation by any person during the permitted activity. The department may also terminate permits for biological issues or specific enforcement concerns that may arise.
5. Permits are not transferrable and are only valid for the property for which they were issued.
6. No person shall be issued or obtain a permit if they have been convicted of class 3 or greater wildlife violation within a five-year period or have been prohibited in any way from legally participating in a hunting activity.

C. General Rules

1. Permit holders may take or authorize the take of outlaw quadrupeds, nutria or beaver during nighttime hours on private property for which the permit was issued from (one-half hour after official sunset to one-half hour before official sunrise) during the dates of September 1 through

the last day of February of the next year.

2. Permittees are responsible for all participants and actions of such which take place as authorized by this permit.
3. Permittees and any participant shall not trespass or commit any other violations of law while conducting activities authorized by the permit.
4. No person shall be allowed to participate or be present during activities authorized by the permit if convicted of a class 3 or greater wildlife violation within the previous five years or if they have any other prohibition which would prevent the legal use of a firearm or participation in a hunting activity. Such participation will be considered a violation of the permit regulations.
5. Outlaw quadrupeds, nutria and beaver may be taken by any means of take authorized by R.S. 56.
6. The original permit or copy thereof issued by the department shall be with any permittee participating in activities under the authority of the permit.
7. Permittees shall notify the department's law enforcement 24-hour dispatch at (800) 442-2511 prior to engaging in activities authorized under the permit and identify each individual who will be participating in any way with activities authorized by the permit and permit number. Upon notification, the permittee shall be issued a confirmation number for the notification.
8. A report of activities which took place under this permit shall be required to be submitted to the department by June 30 of each year on official forms provided or as otherwise approved for this purpose by LDWF, and consist of:
 - a. name, permit number, and signature of permit holder;
 - b. number of outlaw quadrupeds (coyotes, armadillos, feral hogs), nutria and beavers killed under the permit during year.
9. Permittees hereby indemnify and hold harmless the State, department, and other applicable public agencies and employees and accept full responsibility and liability for any damages or injuries that occur during or as a result of activities related to the permit issued herein.

D. Penalties for Violation

1. If any person is found to be in violation of any provision of this Section, except for the reporting requirements as prescribed by Paragraph C.8 of this Section, or any other law during activities authorized by the permit issued pursuant to this Section, the permit shall immediately be voided and such permit shall not be reissued and shall remain void unless there is an acquittal for the offense committed.
2. Persons found in violation of rules and regulations contained herein or any other laws shall be subject to the same penalties as authorized by law as if no permit was issued, in addition, violation of these regulations will be a class 2 violation as defined in R.S. 56:32.
3. Persons failing to provide the annual report shall not be subject to the penalty and provisions herein. Any such person failing to comply with the annual report as prescribed by Paragraph C.8 of this Section shall not be reissued a permit until the reporting requirement under Paragraph C.8 of this Section is submitted to the department.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:112, 56:115, and 56:116.1.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 42:1692 (October 2016).

Bart R. Yakupzack, Chairman

RULE (Night take throughout March of CNCP Season)

Due to changes in the 2010-2011 Louisiana Hunting Regulations, the night time take of nutria will be allowed from one-half hour after official sunset on the last day of February to one-half hour after official sunset the last day of August of that same year with written permission from the landowner (***Please see official regulations for the Nighttime Take of Nuisance Animals & Outlaw Quadrupeds below**).

As a participant in the Coastwide Nutria Control Program the new regulations allow you to take nutria at night during the last month (March) of the trapping season. However, you are responsible for getting the proper documentation showing that you have permission from the landowner to do so at night. Written permission and the landowner's contact information must be in your possession, along with your trapping license, and CNCP card. Failure to have this documentation in your possession will put you in violation of the law. If you are found to be in violation of the law you will be suspended from the Coastwide Nutria Control Program indefinitely.

***Nighttime Take of Nuisance Animals & Outlaw Quadrupeds**

On private property, the landowner, or his lessee or agent with written permission and the landowner's contact information in his possession, may take outlaw quadrupeds (coyotes, armadillos, and feral hogs), nutria or beaver during the nighttime hours from one-half hour after official sunset on the last day of February to one-half hour after official sunset the last day of August of that same year. Such taking may be with or without the aid of artificial light, infrared or laser sighting devices, or night vision devices. Any person attempting to take outlaw quadrupeds under the provisions of the paragraph, within 24 hours prior to the attempted taking, shall notify the sheriff of the parish in which the property is located of his intention to attempt to take outlaw quadrupeds under the provisions of this paragraph.

Thanks for your cooperation,
Catherine Normand