



The Price of Paradise

*Funding Louisiana's Fish, Wildlife, and Habitat
for Our Next Generation*



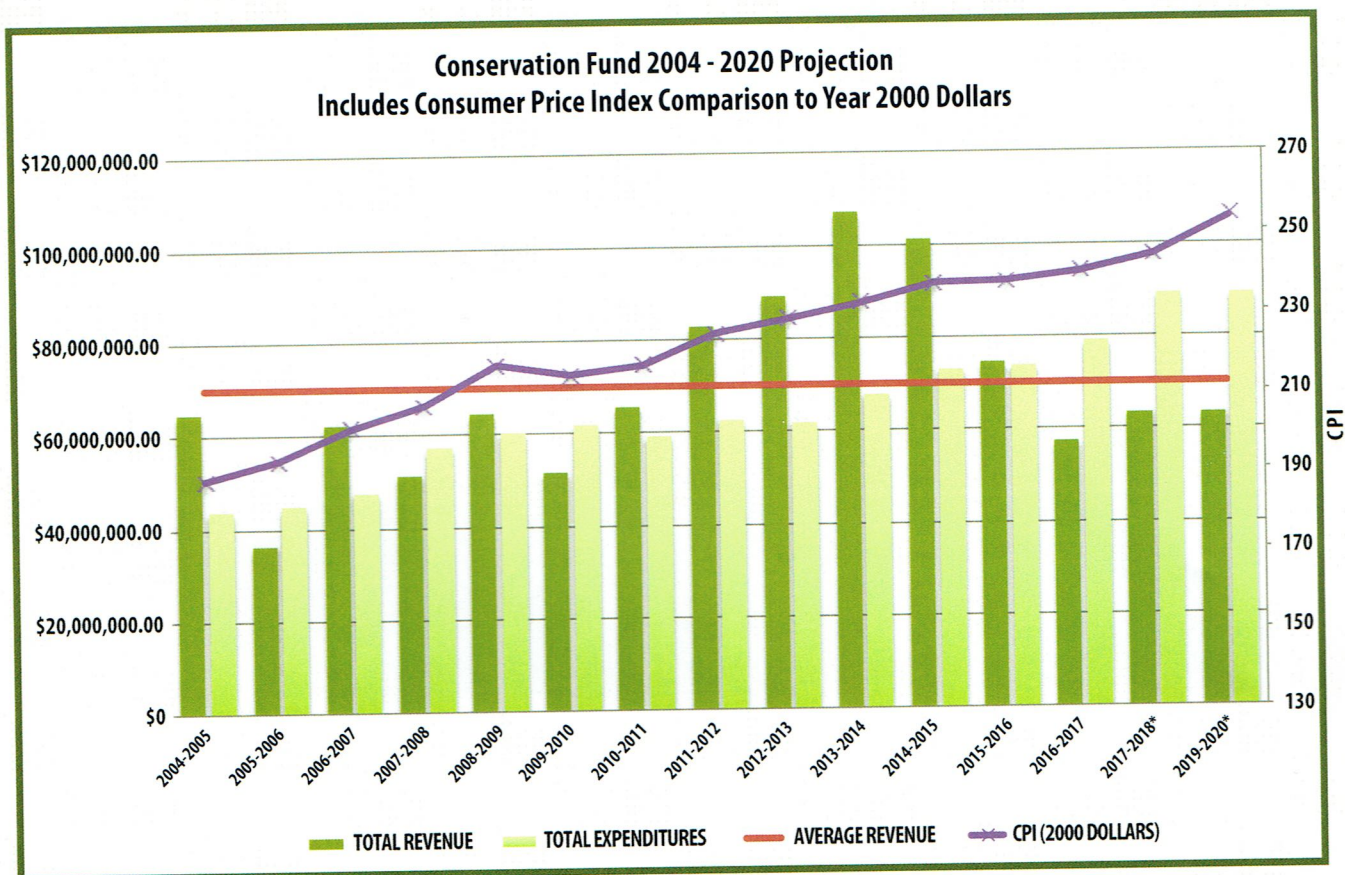
Louisiana's Sportsman's Paradise offers hunting and angling opportunities that make our state the envy of outdoor enthusiasts around the world. It's through your license fees, that these opportunities are available for future generations. LDWF has not increased its license fees since 2000, with the exception of a minimal saltwater license fee hike in 2015 to bolster recreational fishing data collection. Inflation and other expenses are straining our ability to maintain our Sportsman's Paradise.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is unique among state agencies in that it does not receive state funding. Self-generated funds, statutory dedicated funds, interagency transfers and federal funds maintain the department.

Even so, since 2009, the state has taken more than \$65 million from statutory dedicated funds from LDWF to help cover the state deficits. That is funding the agency will never recoup.

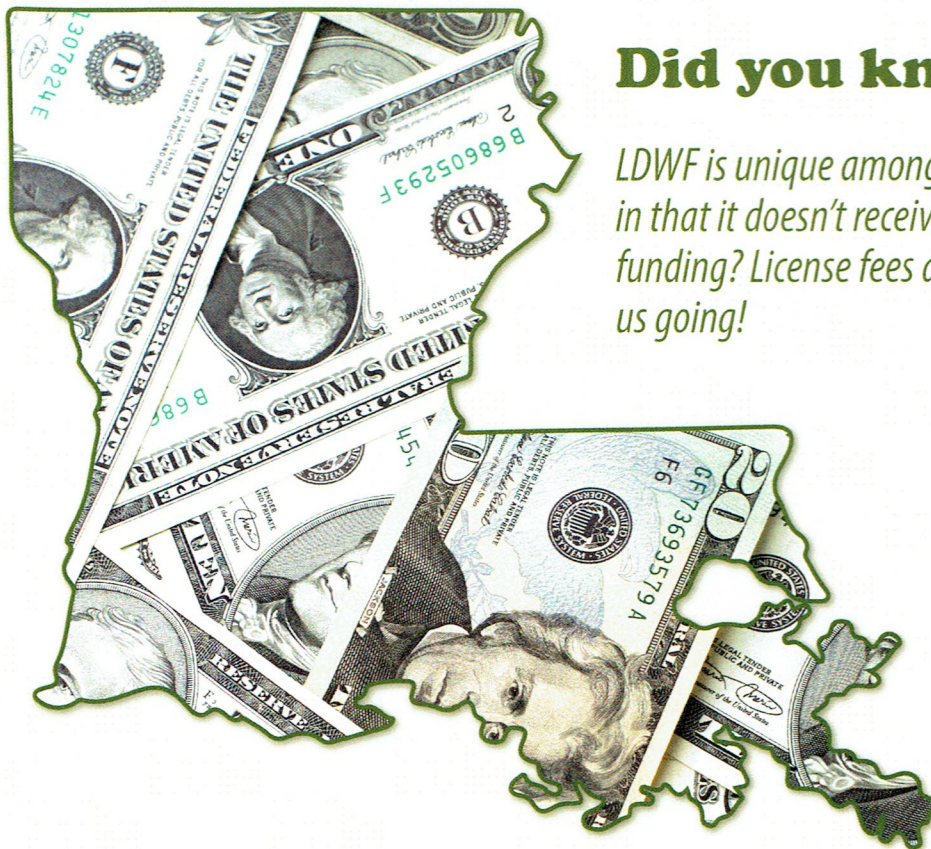
Inflation, the cost of collecting much-needed scientific data, and the huge cost of emergency response such as the recent flooding in Louisiana is taking a toll on the LDWF budget. LDWF is at a point where funding will not be adequate to sustain current operations in the near future. Mineral revenue is well below its historic average and license revenue has not kept up with inflation.



PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

LDWF is proposing a three-pronged approach to create a sustainable funding model and curtail expenses:

1. **Reduce expenses.** After a thorough analysis and audit of current expenditures, controls have been put in place to ensure that no dollars are being wasted.
2. **Adjust hunting and fishing license fees while streamlining the license structure.**
 - The new fee structure will bring costs in line with other Gulf Coast states and the costs of doing business today to maintain our current programs.
 - Will streamline the complicated license structure from 117 to 28 licenses.
 - The new price structure will allow LDWF to 'certify' more hunters and anglers for federal match. The primary source of revenue is not the dollars from the license fee itself, but from the federal dollars for which we are eligible.
3. **Generate revenue from non-consumptive citizens and through the recruitment of new hunters and anglers.** Developing voluntary funding streams from wildlife watchers, hikers, birders and other outdoor enthusiasts will prevent our hunters and anglers from bearing the full burden of our revenue raising efforts. Additionally, recruitment programs will focus on teaching and educating our youth and their families about hunting and fishing to ensure that we have a steady stream of future license buyers.



Did you know?

LDWF is unique among state agencies in that it doesn't receive any state funding? License fees are what keeps us going!

CURRENT FEES AND STRUCTURE

Resident Basic Fishing	\$9.50	Res. Lifetime Combination 5-13	\$300.00	NR Student Basic Fishing	\$9.50
Resident Saltwater	\$13.00	Res Recreation Crawfish Traps	\$15.00	Hunt/Fish -- Multiple Amputee	\$0.00
Resident Basic Hunting	\$15.00	NR Big Game Season	\$150.00	Res. Lifetime Fishing 5-13	\$200.00
HIP Certification	\$0.00	Res. Disabled Basic Hunting	\$5.00	NR Hoop Nets	\$80.00
Resident Big Game	\$14.00	Res. Disabled Big Game	\$5.00	NR Student Basic Hunting	\$15.00
Resident LA Duck Stamp	\$5.50	Active Military Big Game	\$14.00	Lifetime Resident Crab Trap	\$100.00
Fishing Trip - 1 day	\$5.00	LA Disabled Saltwater	\$2.50	NR Student Duck	\$5.50
Res Senior Hunt/Fish	\$5.00	Res Recreational Wire Net	\$20.00	NR Student Saltwater Fishing	\$5.50
WMA Hunting Permit	\$15.00	Res Recreational Slat Traps	\$20.00	NR Student Big Game	\$14.00
NR Charter Passenger -- 3 day	\$5.00	Lifetime Resident Senior Hunt/Fish	\$50.00	Developmentally Disabled Hunt	\$0.00
Resident Muzzleloader	\$10.50	Res. Disabled Bow	\$5.00	Res. Lifetime Hunting 5-13	\$200.00
Fishing Trip (SW) - 1 day	\$15.00	Active Military LA Duck Stamp	\$5.50	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent Saltwater	\$5.50
Resident Bow Hunting	\$10.50	Resident Recreational Trawl -- to 25 ft.	\$80.00	NR Student Wild Turkey	\$5.50
NR Fishing Season	\$60.00	Res. Lifetime Hunting 14+	\$300.00	Resident Active Military Spouse/Dependent	\$5.00
NR Fishing -- 3 day	\$15.00	NR Bow Hunting	\$26.00	Alcohol/Substance Abuse Treatment Fishing	\$9.50
NR Saltwater Season	\$30.00	Active Military Bow	\$10.50	Alcohol/Substance Abuse Treatment Saltwater	\$5.50
Res Wild Turkey Stamp	\$5.50	NR Hunting Preserve	\$15.00	Non-Res. Lifetime Combination	\$3,000.00
NR Saltwater -- 3 day	\$45.00	Res. Lifetime Fishing 14+	\$300.00	NR Recreational Trawl-max. 25 ft.	\$320.00
NR Louisiana Duck Stamp	\$25.00	NR Wild Turkey Stamp	\$20.50	NR Student Bow	\$10.50
NR Migratory Bird	\$75.00	NR Muzzleloader	\$26.00	Lifetime Resident Trawl -- to 16 ft.	\$250.00
Resident Hook & Line	\$2.50	Active Military Muzzle Loader	\$10.50	Lifetime Resident Crawfish Traps	\$150.00
Res Rec Crab Trap	\$15.00	Res Recreational Pipes/Drums	\$10.00	NR Recreational Slat Traps	\$80.00
Active Military Fishing	\$9.50	Hunt/Fish -- Paraplegic	\$0.00	NR Recreational Pipes/Drums	\$40.00
LA Native 5-day Hunt	\$15.00	Active Military Wild Turkey Stamp	\$5.50	NR Recreational Cans/Buckets	\$40.00
Res LA Sportsman's Paradise	\$100.00	LA Native NR 5-day Bow	\$10.50	NR Student Muzzleloader	\$10.50
NR Hunting Season	\$150.00	Resident Hunter Ed Deferral	\$10.00	Lifetime Resident Hoop Net	\$200.00
Hunt/Fish -- Disabled Veteran	\$0.00	Fishing -- Single Amputee	\$0.00	NR Outdoor Press Hunt 3-day	\$0.00
Wild LA Stamp - 1 day	\$2.00	LA Native NR Wild Turkey - 5 day	\$5.50	NR Recreational Crawfish Traps	\$60.00
Resident Recreational Trawl	\$25.00	Hunt/Fish -- Legally Blind	\$0.00	NR Recreational Oyster Tong	\$20.00
Res Charter Passenger -- 3 day	\$5.00	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent Fishing	\$9.50	NR Recreational Wire Net	\$80.00
NR Charter Skiff - 3 day	\$30.00	Res. Active Military Hunt/Fish	\$5.00	Lifetime Resident Slat Trap	\$200.00
NR Hunting Trip -- 5-day	\$100.00	LA Native NR 5-day Muzzle Loader	\$10.50	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent Hunting	\$15.00
Active Military Saltwater	\$5.50	Fishing -- Art. Limbs/Braces/Other	\$0.00	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent Big Game	\$14.00
Res. Lifetime Adult Upgrade	\$20.00	NR Hunter Ed Deferral	\$10.00	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent Bow	\$10.50
Canada Goose Permit	\$5.00	Resident Disabled Fishing and Saltwater	\$0.00	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent Muzzleloader	\$10.50
LA Native 5-day Big Game	\$14.00	NR Deferral Hunting Trip 5-day	\$100.00	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent Duck	\$5.50
Res. Lifetime Combination 14+	\$500.00	Res Recreational Cans/Buckets	\$10.00	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent Wild Turkey	\$5.50
Wild LA Stamp	\$5.50	NR Recreational Trawl	\$100.00	NR Active Military Spouse/Dependent WMA Permit	\$15.00
LA Native NR LA Duck Stamp - 5 day	\$5.50	Res Recreational Oyster Tong	\$5.00	Lifetime Resident Trawl -- to 25 ft.	\$800.00
Active Military Hunting	\$15.00	Developmentally Disabled Fish	\$0.00	Lifetime Resident Oyster Tong	\$50.00
Res. Lifetime Combination 0-4	\$200.00	Fishing -- Disabled Veteran	\$0.00	Lifetime Resident Wire Net	\$200.00
LA Disabled Fishing	\$2.50	Resident N/A La Natl Guard Hunt/Fish	\$50.00		
NR Big Game Trip -- 5-day	\$75.00	NR Rec Crab Traps -- 10	\$60.00		

PROPOSED FEES AND RESTRUCTURE

Fishing

	Resident Active Military Student	Resident Senior 65+	Non Resident Fee	5-Day Non Resident
Hook and Line	\$5.00			
Basic Fishing (includes freshwater gear)	\$13.50	\$6.75	\$54.00	\$18.00
Saltwater Fishing (includes shrimp trawl and oyster tong)	\$13.00	\$6.50	\$52.00	\$17.00
Crab Fishing (stand alone, any crab gear)	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$20.00	\$7.00
Charter 3-day (Resident and Non-Resident)	\$22.50			

Hunting

Basic Hunting (required for all hunters)	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$200.00	\$67.00
Deer Hunting (includes archery and primitive)	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$100.00	\$33.00
Waterfowl	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$100.00	\$33.00
Turkey	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$100.00	\$33.00
Youth Hunting License	\$5.00			

Recreation

WMA Permit (Resident and Non-Resident)	\$15.00	\$7.50		
--	---------	--------	--	--

Combination Licenses (all privileges above)

Sportsman's Paradise	\$90.00			
Resident / Native Born / Retired Military / Resident Seniors	\$45.00			
Disabled, Special Needs	\$5.00			

Lifetime Licenses

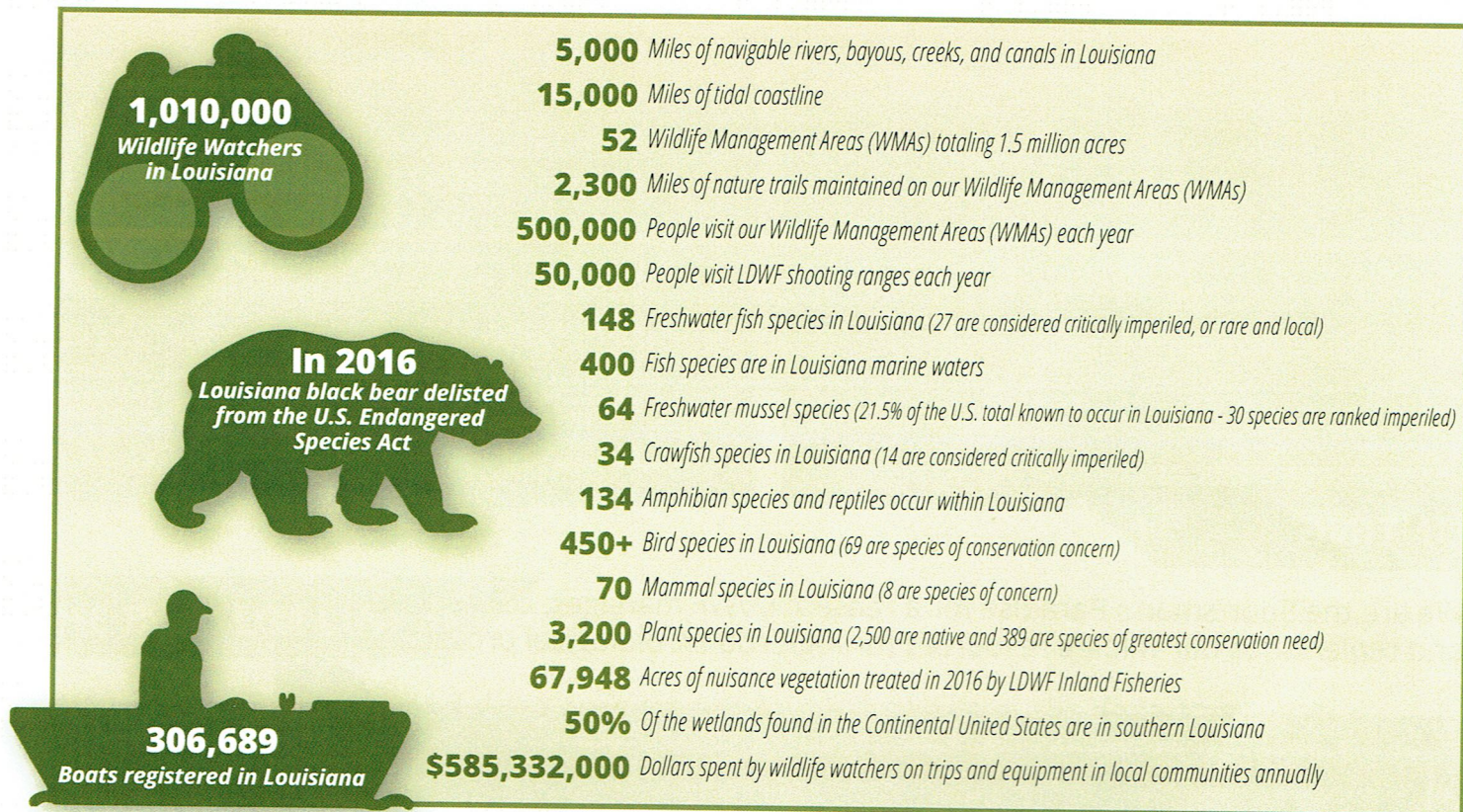
Lifetime Resident	\$1,000.00			
-------------------	------------	--	--	--

WHAT DOES YOUR FUNDING SUPPORT?

Your dollars not only support quality fishing and hunting in Louisiana, but also recreational access, enhancement and maintenance of natural habitats across the state, preservation of valuable non-consumptive species in our state and the enforcement of regulations to these resources.

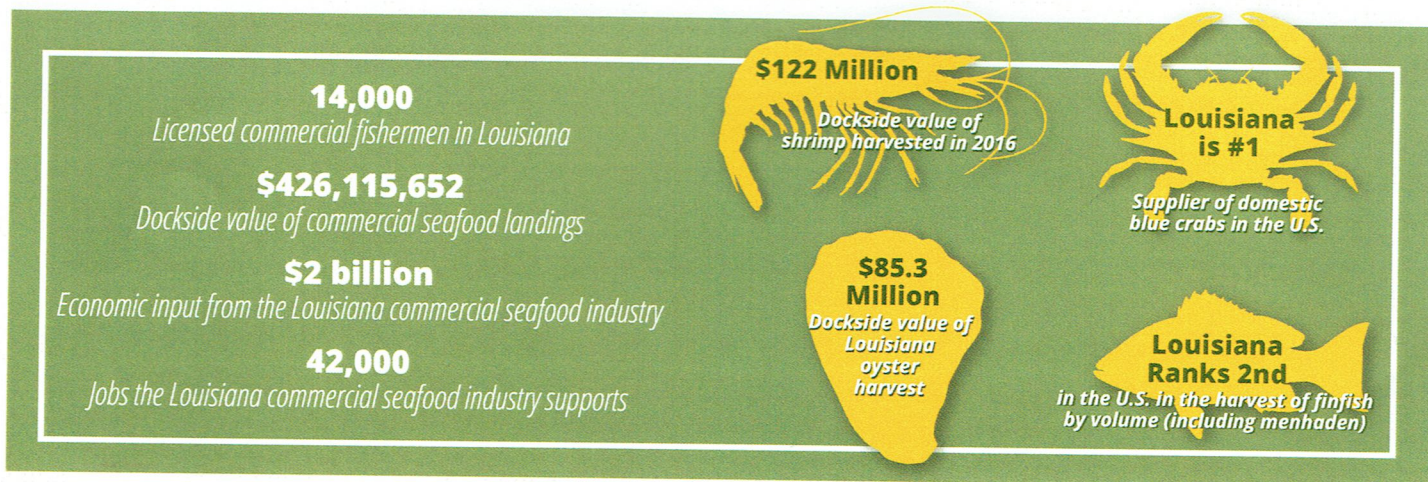
HABITAT AND RECREATION

LDWF is responsible for the conservation of wildlife AND their habitats. This includes game and non-game species along with threatened and endangered species.



SEAFOOD

Our world-renown commercial seafood industry is the result of strict management, biological monitoring and precise data collection.



FISHING

The combination of Louisiana's nutrient-rich estuaries that are the breeding ground for everything from bass to tuna and LDWF's management and monitoring programs have created a world renowned destination fishery.

19.2%
Eligible Louisiana residents
have a fishing license

709,170	Licensed anglers
17,075,000	Annual fishing trips in Louisiana
22	Average number of days spent fishing by Louisiana license holders each year
\$870,348,000	Amount anglers spend each year on trips and equipment in Louisiana communities
7,244,019	Freshwater fish stocked in Louisiana in 2016
11,798	LA Creel dockside interviews
41,520	Private effort phone and email surveys
40,000	Youth and adults introduced to fishing and fisheries education annually
10,000+	Biological fish samples taken each year by staff

HUNTING

We are the Sportsman's Paradise for a reason! LDWF manages, conserves, and replenishes our wildlife resources through robust biological programs.

326,361	Licensed hunters in Louisiana
8.9%	Percent of eligible Louisiana residents have a hunting license
\$608,663,000	Amount hunters spend each year on trips and equipment in Louisiana communities
65,000	Youth/adults education & outreach programs introduced to hunting/shooting sports last year
5,769,000	Hunting trips taken in Louisiana in 2016
19	Average number of days spent hunting each year
500,000	White-tailed deer in Louisiana
60,000	Turkeys in Louisiana
2.75 million	Ducks in Louisiana (5-year average)
846,000	Ducks harvested during the 2015-2016 season
156,100	Deer harvested during the 2015-2016 season
9,228	Licensed wild turkey hunters in Louisiana

47,000

Waterfowl
hunters in
Louisiana

92,200

Deer hunters in
Louisiana

ENFORCEMENT

DURING FY 2016-2017

316,093 *Patrol hours - (239,948 on land)
(76,145 on water)*

792,125 *Contacts with the public*

10,624 *Criminal citations*

5,760 *Warnings issued*

8,270 *Citizens certified in boating safety
(104,311 since inception in 2003)*

1,341 *Public complaints received in 2016*



The LDWF Law Enforcement Division is the lead agency during natural disaster search and rescue operations.

RESCUE EFFORTS

3,152 people & 612 pets

*Rescued from August 13-17, 2016 flood
after the Baton Rouge metro area
received over 20 inches of rain*

805 people & 148 pets

*Rescued during a statewide flooding event
from March 8-16, 2016*

1,541 people & 195 pets

*Rescued in Texas and Louisiana from
flood waters following Hurricane Harvey
from August 26-September 2, 2017*

THE BOTTOM LINE

With declining revenue and rising expense reform on the horizon, the department has implemented cost-saving strategies. The expected savings, however, will not stave off the dire financial projections. The increase LDWF seeks in license fees will put us on a strong financial footing and would keep us in-line with the license fees charged by neighboring states.

Even with our cost-saving measures, the denial of the license fee increases could cause:

- A reduction in law enforcement agents who keep our waterways and wildlife areas safe, perform water rescues on the rivers, lakes and during floods.
- The loss of biologists and other scientists whose work to maintain the health of our wildlife and aquatic resources of the state.
- The loss of management capabilities for our hunters, anglers and commercial fishermen. Injury to these sectors would result in the loss of thousands of jobs at restaurants, convenience and sporting goods stores, gas stations, marinas, etc.
- A loss of reliance on self-generated funds, forcing LDWF to become part of the state's budgetary responsibilities.

LDWF has been a good steward of the funding we have received and need your support to maintain Louisiana's much envied Sportsman's Paradise.