

Louisiana Streamlining Commission

Suggested Recommendations to Advisory Committee Chairmen

Preamble:

The following comments on this cover sheet have been prepared at the Mercatus Center by Hon. Maurice McTigue. The purpose of the analysis was to identify issues that the committee might pursue and finally develop into recommendations to the full commission.

- The suggested recommendations are based on very limited information and the committee's local knowledge may determine that the suggestions are not viable. In that case the Committee should discard the suggested recommendation.
- If the Committee thinks the suggestion has merit then they should refer it to officials for their analysis.
- Some of our suggestions may be recommending a practice that is already in place, in which case the recommendation may be put aside or may be worded to endorse that practice or to extend it further than is the current practice.

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

If other recommendations before the Commission are accepted then this organization as a stand alone organization would disappear. Wildlife would become part of the Department of Conservation and Fisheries would become part of an expanded Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

- The Administrative Program outcome addressed should be to enable the protection, preservation and enjoyment of the wildlife and fisheries of Louisiana.
- The Fisheries Program outcome is well stated, however the measures to determine success are not clear. For instance in it should be clear whether the fish stock is improving remaining static or declining.
- The Marketing Program should be terminated. The industry should take responsibility for the marketing of the landed product as a cost of doing business. If the program is to continue it should be run as a user-pays program.

Savings: Total Budget \$149.47 million

- The transfer of these two activities to different departments would bring some savings in overheads and efficiency of operation.
- Licensing and related activities should be on a full cost recovery basis.
- All activities related to commercial fishing activity should be on a full cost recovery basis.

STREAMLINING GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

PROGRAM WORKSHEETS

September 8, 2009

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Core Business:

Control and supervision over all wildlife of the state, including fish and all other aquatic life; responsibility for conservation and management of all renewable natural resources.

Program Name: Management and Finance

Outcome addressed by this program: Effective and efficient provision of support services to the department's programs; increased public visibility and knowledge about the department and the state's renewable resources; timely and accessible licenses and boat registration

Number of citizens affected by this program: Approximately 1.5 million

FY 2008-2009 Expenditures: \$9.9 million (includes statewide common costs such as utilities, telephones)

Measure to determine success: Audit results; user satisfaction

Level of Success:

Repeat audit findings	
FY 2008-09	1
FY 2007-08	0
FY 2006-07	1

The user satisfaction survey is a new measure to be conducted in FY 2009-2010.

Societal issue: Ensuring sustainable and abundant natural resources for the purposes of conservation and enjoyment of the public.

Status of societal issue: Remaining static

Program Name: Administrative (Secretary, Legal, Internal Audit)

Outcome addressed by this program: To provide executive leadership and legal support so that all programs will be operated efficiently and effectively through sound planning and decision-making processes in achievement of the department's mission.

Number of citizens affected by this program:

FY 2008-2009 Expenditures: \$906,805

Measure to determine success: Success of all programs in the department

Level of Success: All programs in the department meet their goals and objectives.

Societal issue: Ensuring sustainable and abundant natural resources for the purposes of conservation and enjoyment of the public.

Status of societal issue: Remaining static

Program name: Enforcement

Outcome(s) addressed by this program:

1. Compliance with regulations and laws protecting, managing and conserving the state's natural resources and supporting ecosystem.
2. Compliance with regulations and laws governing the boating public on the state's waterways.
3. Safe and successful search and rescue missions.

Numbers of citizens affected by this program:

2,200,000 citizens and visitors participate in boating on Louisiana's waters annually.
888,000 citizens and visitors hunt and fish in Louisiana annually.
385,000 citizens and visitors participate in wildlife-watching activities annually.
18,000 commercial/alligator/fur/seafood dealers.
3,491,000 citizens and visitors directly; Entire population and visitors indirectly.

FY 2008-09 Expenditures: \$26,666,447

Measure used to determine success: Observed compliance rates are measured as a percent of officer intercepts and contacts of individuals engaged in regulated activities.

Level of success during each of the last three years:

Observed compliance rates:	FY 2008-09	FY 2007-08	FY 2006-07
Recreational fishing	96%	97%	not available
Commercial fishing	98%	98%	not available
Oyster fishing	95%	96%	not available
Hunting/wildlife	95%	96%	not available

Societal issue: Ensuring sustainable and abundant natural resources for the purposes of conservation and enjoyment of the public and ensuring public safety on the state's waterways.

Status of societal issue: Remaining static

Program name: Office of Wildlife

Outcome addressed by this program:

To ensure that Louisiana maintains a diverse and sustainable wildlife resource through habitat management and the regulation of recreational and commercial consumption.

How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:

According to the 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife Associated Recreation published by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, there are an estimated 947,000 Louisiana residents that enjoy wildlife-associated outdoor recreation.

There is also a commercial market that is supported by wildlife-associated recreational activities. Sporting good stores that sell hunting equipment and supplies, retail facilities which sell hunting licenses, the fur and Alligator industries, and private landowners who lease property to hunters are all examples of this commercial influence though we have no numbers to document the extent.

How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year (2008-09):

\$30,766,413

Measure used to determine success: Ensuring that wildlife species of major importance are within their carrying capacity (maximum population that can be sustained by the available resources in the population's environment).

Level of success during each of the last three years: The above performance measure is new and will begin to be measured in the current fiscal year. No data is readily available for previous years.

Societal issue: Ensuring sustainable and abundant natural resources for the purposes of conservation and enjoyment of the public.

Status of societal issue: Remaining static

Program Name: Fisheries

Outcome addressed by this program: To ensure that living aquatic resources are sustainable for present and future generations of LA citizens by providing access and scientific management, and provide quality disaster recovery assistance.

Number of citizens affected by this program: This program directly affects an estimated 702,000 recreational anglers and 68,000 commercial fishermen, dealers, processors, industry associations, restaurants, and grocers. The number of persons indirectly affected is unknown.

FY 2008-2009 expenditures: \$63,256,814 (includes \$37 million hurricane disaster funding)

Measures to determine success:

- Sustainable major commercial and recreational fisheries
- Access, education, orientation and problem solving performed for the citizens of the state as well as other affected parties.
- Efficient, accountable and timely distribution of federal fisheries recovery assistance funds.

Level of Success:

	2008	2007	2006
National ranking in commercial marine shellfish landings	1	1	1
National ranking in commercial marine finfish landings	2	2	2
Recreational Fishing License Holders	635,739	674,695	591,767
% of Available Federal Disaster Funds Expended on Recovery Projects	58%	19%	n/a

Societal issue: Ensuring sustainable and abundant natural resources for the purposes of conservation and enjoyment of the public.

Status of societal issue: Remaining static

Program Name: Marketing

Outcome addressed by this program: Enhance the economic well-being of the industry and the state.

Number of citizens affected by this program: This program directly impacts 67,769 commercial fishermen, dealers, processors, industry associations, restaurants, and grocers. This does not include all the Louisiana citizens that are indirectly affected by this \$2.4 billion industry and the 224 million people that are reached by our media efforts.

FY 2008-2009 Expenditures: \$881,000

Measure to determine success: Total economic impact from commercial fishing

Level of Success:

Economic impact from commercial fishing

FY 2008-09	\$2.4 billion
FY 2007-08	\$2.2 billion
FY 2006-07	\$2.2 billion

We would like to see more growth; however, this is greatly influenced by many factors and variables including weather patterns, global markets, etc.

Societal issue: Ensuring sustainable and abundant natural resources for the purposes of conservation and enjoyment of the public.

Status of societal issue: Remaining static