## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

## Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2025-2026 Seasons and Regulations on Bogue Chitto and Flatwoods Savanna Wildlife Management Areas

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries acquired the tract referred to as Flatwoods Savanna Wildlife Management Area (WMA) March 10, 2025 and the tract referred to as Bogue Chitto WMA July 1, 2025. The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission adopted a resolution officially making the tracts each a WMA on July 8, 2025. The two primary objectives for Flatwoods Savanna and Bogue Chitto WMA are to provide the necessary habitats to deliver conservation priorities in the state, and to provide lands for public recreation.

As with all department managed properties, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission prioritize maximizing recreational opportunities for the sportsmen and women of the state.

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:962.G which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to employ emergency procedures to promulgate rules and regulations relative to hunting seasons and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto, R.S. 56:6(25)(a), 56:115 and 56:116 which provide that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons and establish associated rules and regulations for hunting resident game animals, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rule amending the WMA Rules and Regulations for the 2025-2026 season:

- A. Bogue Chitto WMA:
  - 1. Deer: same as outside, Archery only, either-sex.
- 2. Small Game and Waterfowl: same as outside. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting February 1-28.
  - 3. Raccoon (nighttime): February 1-28.
- 4. Vessels: Internal combustion engines prohibited. Trolling motors allowed.
  - B. Flatwoods Savanna WMA:
    - 1. Deer: same as outside, Archery only, either-sex.
- 2. Small Game and Waterfowl: same as outside. Beagles allowed for rabbits and dogs allowed for squirrel hunting first Saturday of January to the last day of February.

This Declaration of Emergency shall become effective September 4, 2025, and remain in effect for the duration of the 2025-2026 Resident Game Hunting Season.

Kevin Sagrera Chairman

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