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LDWF Wildlife Management Areas and Refuges Reopening Sept. 1, Habitat Damage Assessment Continues

Baton Rouge, La. - The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) will reopen 21 state wildlife management areas (WMAs) and refuges on Sept. 1. All had been closed in advance of Hurricane Isaac's landfall. Flood waters and access roads blocked by storm debris are still preventing site openings in some areas.

Sites opening Sept. 1 include: The Acadiana Conservation Corridor, Atchafalaya Delta, Attakapas, Biloxi, Grassy Lake, Hutchinson Creek, Lake Boeuf, Marsh Island, Pass a Loutre, Pointe au Chenes (except Point Farms area), Pomme de Terre, Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge (except East End boat launch construction area), Salvador-Timken, Sandy Hollow, Sherburne, Spring Bayou, State WMA, Tangipahoa, Thistlethwaite, Tunica Hills and White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area.

Sites that remain closed until further notice include the following WMAs and refuges: Elm Hall (Assumption Parish); Elmer's Island (Jefferson Parish); Joyce (Tangipahoa Parish); Lake Ramsey (St. Tammany Parish); Manchac (St. John the Baptist Parish); Maurepas Swamp (Ascension, Livingston, St. James and St. John the Baptist parishes); and Pearl River (St. Tammany Parish).

The Waddill Outdoor Education Center in Baton Rouge is closed due to storm impacts, but will reopen on Sept. 4.

Habitat and facility damage assessments are ongoing at sites impacted by storm winds and rain, and the public is advised to proceed with caution when accessing WMAs and refuges by boat or vehicle.

For a complete list of state WMAs and refuges, go to: http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/wma.

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is charged with managing and protecting Louisiana's abundant natural resources. For more information, visit us at www.wlf.louisiana.gov on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ldwffb or follow us on Twitter @LDWF.

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