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RFRI.NET RFRI@CHARTER.NET 504-415-7186

Would You Like To Support Us?

Managing the future of fishing in Louisiana is a monumental task and in order for the RFRI to tackle fisheries, habitat, and coastal restoration projects, funding is required. Your contributions will greatly protect, enhance and maintain the Gulf Coast Marine Fishery through science, education and public involvement. All donations are tax deductible.



After nearly 20 years, the grassroot efforts of the RFRI continue to produce thriving projects and partnerships ensuring a future for fisheries resources of Louisiana.

The Recreational Fisheries Research Institute (RFRI) was founded in 1998 by Randy Pausina, Marine Fisheries Biologist and former Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Randy is credited with initiating many novel and highly successful programs, such as: La Creel, Tag Louisiana, Louisiana Saltwater Series, Louisiana Wild Seafood Certification Program, LDWF Recreational Fishing Outreach and Aquatic Education Section, LA Fisheries Forward... and many more!









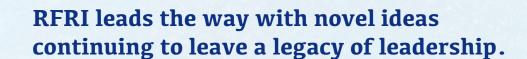












The Recreational Fisheries Research Institute (RFRI) is excited to share many of the successful and innovative projects that have been improving Louisiana's fisheries science while merging it with the depth of the recreational fishing public, who in turn benefit from their participation in the management process. The RFRI has developed ideas, processes, and software for a variety of related projects and we invite you to learn more about their successful implementation of them.

We welcome partners to join RFRI in this new approach to conservation combined with the full outdoor experience of great times on the water with family and friends.



Marine fisheries restoration through education and public involvement





Tag Louisiana



With roots based in an innovative tagging program by the CCA of Louisiana in the mid-80s, the TAG Louisiana program has evolved to new heights by recruiting anglers to "Fish with a Purpose". Using a completely redesigned website and data management system, the RFRI educates anglers on how to understand fish patterns and help improve fishing in their own home waters. TAG Louisiana is a proven tag and recapture program that has seen over 320,000 tagged fish by more than 5,000 volunteer anglers. This provides incredible data for use in fishery management decisions by increasing the understanding of marine fish movements. Anyone can become a "citizen scientist" while enjoying productive days on the water.

VISIT WWW.TAGLOUISIANA.NET TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN JOIN THE FUN.

Easy to read data reports & heat maps will not only provide every available environmental condition but will point anglers to areas of high sport fish concentrations or bait fish schools that attract sport fish.

Anglers Almanac

BECOME A BETTER FISHERMAN

Check out the new Anglers Almanac App that will turn your phone into one of your favorite fishing tools while also turning your catch into citizen scientist data that can be utilized to modernize fish management. The App is simple and offers a variety of benefits. It comes naturally for anglers to take a quick photo of their catch. But now through the app, your fish can be measured, identified, and cataloged with the current atmospheric conditions creating a log to be used by you and scientists to improve future fishing. You can also share information with your fishing buddies via the app, making bragging even easier! Those participating in TAG Louisiana will find it even easier to enter their data for each tagged fish giving enhanced information on conditions during the catch to fish managers. You can benefit from what they learn using the "Fishing Professor", a section focused on improving your angling by increasing your knowledge of fish biology and behaviors. Anglers can also access fishing "Hot Zones" created from landing data being collected in real-time, which could make the day when deciding where to go fishing. There are many ways the Anglers Almanac can improve your fishing game and it's as easy as snapping a picture of your latest catch of the day.



Outreach/Education GHOF Partnership

RFRI was founded upon the principals of education and public involvement. We are excited to introduce a partnership with the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation. Their education initiative in Florida has led the way to bringing marine science and conservation to students. Together we are collaborating to bring these programs to Louisiana's K-12 students.

Our mission is to create citizen scientists who will restore and promote our marine environment and animals.

Red Drum Stock Enhancement



This program will be beneficial to the environment and natural resources of Louisiana as the program is focused on enhancing Louisiana's Red Drum populations. Elsewhere, supplemental, hatchery based stocking, in combination with standard management practices, has resulted in a successful and sustaining program of Red Drum enhancement.



PACITIA COM

TAGIT

For all anglers and communities who enjoy the benefits of longer red snapper seasons, the RFRI and the CCA Louisiana have a tournament for you. The Timau's TAG IT Louisiana Red Snapper Tournament will parallel the Louisiana recreational red snapper season. Participants will compete for points and once registered, participation couldn't be simpler. First, bow up on hard fighting red snapper; second snap a photo using the tournament's Angler Almanac app to enter your fish. A tagged and released fish will get bonus points towards the win while helping gather real-time data which is crucial for continued local fishery management of red snapper.

CHECK OUT WWW.TAGITLA.COM TO LEARN MORE

RFRI Leaderboard Software

Fishing tournaments continue to grow in popularity and diversity of formats, but putting them on has never been easier with the development of the RFRI Leaderboard software. Offering anglers real-time leaderboard changes, text alerts, online viewing, and automatic updates. There is no easier way to advance your fishing rodeo or tournament to the next level than by using the best leaderboard system ever designed.





FISHIAL.AL

Recreational saltwater anglers will be interested in joining RFRI and The Wye Foundation in creating a highly-accurate fish identification database called "Fishial Recognition". This open-source image database will help fishery scientists explore issues in a variety of gamefish species in coastal and offshore environments.