Fishing Regulations

The Barataria Preserve is a wetland area with several locations for fishing. Fishing is permitted bank-side, by canoe or pirogue and by motorized boat. Nine miles of waterways, closed to motorized boats, are great places to fish bankside or from canoe or pirogue. These waterways include Bayou des Familles, Bayou Coquille, Kenta Canal, and Twin Canals. All marsh areas are also closed to motorized boats. Twenty miles of waterways are open to motorized boats.

A valid Louisiana state fishing license is required.
Barataria Preserve is a freshwater habitat, be sure you have the correct license.

Know the state size and creel limits.
Due to the increasing number of species with size and creel limits, anglers are required to release many of the fish they catch. If handled properly, these fish have a very good chance to live, grow and provided further opportunities for Louisiana anglers.

Do not fish from boardwalks, trails, or bridges. Twin Canals is the only place in the park where you can fish from a trail.

Leave the plants and animals as you find them.
Harassing, collecting, feeding, or releasing any animal (including insects) can cause direct harm or stress for the animal and reduce it's chance for survival. Releasing non-native species (bait) into the habitat can harm the habitat for the fish, other animals and plants living in the Preserve**.** Picking plants could remove seeds necessary for the plants to reproduce next year, food sources for wildlife, and flowers for other visitors to enjoy!

Leave throw-away food and drink containers at your car.
Litter in the Preserve decreases the enjoyment for other visitors, pollutes our waters, and causes harm to wildlife. Carry a water bottle or canteen while out fishing. If you must bring food and drink containers with you, **pack out all of *your* trash**. Trashcans are located at all the trailheads, canoe launches, and at the visitor center.

Crawfishing

The season for harvesting crawfish at the Barataria Preserve for recreational and subsistence purposes is open from **March 1 to June 30.**

Crawfishing is limited to roadsides.

Crawfish may be harvested from the Barataria Preserve during this time provided that all nets and traps are constantly tended and are **harvested by the following means: use of baited lift type mesh nets, or use of baited wire traps not to exceed ten (10) per person**. The Superintendent reserves the authority to close any or all areas of the Barataria Preserve to crawfishing if it is determined that said activity is incompatible with other approved uses, or, when the resource or habitat would be adversely affected by continued harvesting.

Questions or Problems?
Notify a park ranger or the Visitor Center. The Visitor Center is open 9:00am to 5:00pm daily and the phone number is **(504) 589-2330**. After hours, call 911 in an emergency. The nearest hospital is West Jefferson Medical Center near the intersection of Barataria Blvd. and the Westbank Expressway.