

**Summary of the Fur Advisory Council Meeting  
October 10, 2011  
New Iberia, Louisiana**

**Council Present**

Archie Domangue  
Curtis Cruse  
Frank Ellender  
Sam Smith  
Charles Pettefer, Jr.  
James Gallaspy  
John Linzay  
Judge Edwards

**Council Absent**

Allan Ensminger

**LDWF Presence**

Tanya Sturman  
Edmond Mouton  
Tyson Kraus  
Bob Love  
Buddy Baker

**Others**

Tony Howard  
Ronald Guy  
Johnny Price

Archie motioned to approve the minutes from the July meeting. Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Snare Issue- Update**

Jimmy Anthony instructed the Wildlife Division to come up with some language for regulations. This will go in front of the Commission in February. The only regulation now is that any steel trap cannot have teeth. The proposed regulations would require a break away devise and a relaxing lock. Edmond read a list of parishes where the regulations would be enforced. He read the specifics of the regulations as drafted by the Wildlife Department.

Jimmy Gallepsy said that we can't regulate one snare without regulating them all. Edmond suggested that the Council draft a letter and make comments. Bob Love said that four bears have been caught in the past couple of years and it is noticeable in the media. Jimmy Anthony believes that this is a matter that should come before the Commission. The Commission needs to hear from this Council. The objective is to get the bear down-listed. There is concern that bears being caught in traps now will make it more difficult to down-list the bear.

John Linzay said that a snare set properly is a very effective tool, and some of these regulations will make it difficult to catch large boars. Curtis said that he thinks they should form a subcommittee and put these objections down on paper.

Sam asked how many bears had been killed by other means. Bob said to make a records request.

The objectives could be addressed through education in teaching where and how to set traps to target boar rather than bear. Tony Howard commented that there is no standard in testing for snares. Enforcement will have to be educated. Jimmy said that education is the compromise. Sam asked the Trappers and Alligator Hunters Association to draft some comments. The Council should do the same. Frank said that we should get Allan to get this to the Landowners Association.

Buddy Baker suggested that the Council prepare a brochure that would educate trappers in how to snare hogs. Curtis suggested that they require a permit to snare hogs, because right now landowners snare hogs on their property without understanding trapping techniques.

Curtis motioned to form a three member panel. Jimmy seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jimmy, John and Allan will serve on the committee.

### **China Fur Show**

Sam Smith said that the Chinese buyers came over this past fur season and met with fur dealers. There is also buyer from Ukraine trying to buy 15,000 mink. Pretty much all of the fur in Louisiana has been sold. The Chinese buyers like to see Louisiana representatives at the show. Sam suggested that he and Tanya attend the fur show. Jimmy said that this show pays off and it is working. He said that Michael has been bringing buyers in and he expects things to improve over the next several years. Buddy asked if Louisiana is riding the coat-tails of the world wide fur market, or is Louisiana benefiting from the marketing and fur shows. Jimmy said that Louisiana is benefiting from the fur show, because Louisiana furs are the last to sell and having Chinese dealers come into the state directly is making the market work. Edmond said that about 10% of fur dealers are selling outside Louisiana at auction. The Chinese paid \$2.50 to \$3.00 upfront for nutria last year. Danny had some brought in at that price.

Curtis motioned to send two people to the Chinese Fur Show. Archie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Cameron Fur Festival**

Sam said that the Fur Festival has requested coats for the queens again this year. Sam asked if we still had fur coats here that could be used for a fashion show. Edmond said that they were still here.

Jimmy motioned to spend up to \$3,000 on two jackets. Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Other Business**

Edmond said that the money in the Education and Marketing Fund should be used for educational outreach. He suggested that the Council fund up to \$5,000 in trapping supplies to be used at workshops. The number of youth trapping licenses has double in the past few years.

Jimmy motioned to purchase up to \$5,000 in trapping supplies. Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jimmy motioned to adjourn. Frank seconded. Motion carried unanimously.