

**NORTHWEST LOUISIANA GAME AND FISH  
PRESERVE COMMISSION**

**Annual Financial Report**

**June 30, 2023**

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA GAME AND FISH PRESERVE COMMISSION  
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**T | C | B | T**  
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Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission (Commission) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements as listed in the table of contents, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. We do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on these financial statements.

Management has omitted Management's Discussion and Analysis and Budgetary Comparison Schedule that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board requires to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a required part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operation, economic, or historical context.

Supplementary Information

The accompanying Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The information is the representation of management. The information was subject to our compilation engagement, but we have not audited or reviewed the supplementary information and, accordingly, do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on such information.

*Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's*  
Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway, & Todtenbier, CPA's

November 7, 2023  
Natchitoches, LA 71457

## BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2023

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>
Assets:	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$183,241
Certificates of Deposit	<u>116,777</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$300,018</u>
Net Position:	
Unrestricted	<u>\$300,018</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's compilation report.



## FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Balance Sheet-Governmental Fund  
June 30, 2023

Assets:

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$183,241
Certificates of Deposit	<u>116,777</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$300,018</u>

Fund Balances:

Unassigned	<u>\$300,018</u>
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See accompanying notes and independent accountant's compilation report.

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund  
Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2023

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the  
Statement of Net Position are different because:

Total Fund Balance for Governmental Funds (Exhibit C)	<u>\$300,018</u>
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit A)	<u>\$300,018</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's compilation report.

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance-  
Governmental Fund  
Year Ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Total</u>
REVENUES:	
Sales & Services	\$ 1,200
Intergovernmental- State Funds	150,000
Interest Earnings	<u>852</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$152,052</u>
EXPENDITURES:	
Current- Conservation- Personnel Services & Related Benefits	\$ 5,800
Operating Services & Administrative	1,149
Maintenance & Repairs	<u>4,095</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 11,044</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	\$141,008
Fund Balance-Beginning of Year	<u>159,010</u>
Fund Balance-End of Year	<u>\$300,018</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's compilation report.

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures  
and Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund  
to the Statement of Activities  
for the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the  
Statement of Activities are different because:

Net Change in Fund Balance-Total Governmental Funds (Exhibit E)	<u>\$141,008</u>
Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit B)	<u>\$141,008</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's compilation report.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023

Introduction:

The Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve was established by the Louisiana Legislature in 1926. It initially was comprised of three artificially created lakes, i.e. Black Lake, Clear Lake and Saline Lake and the surrounding lands. It was developed for recreation and for the preservation of wildlife and fisheries. In 1946, the Louisiana Legislature created the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission and granted it authority to administer the Preserve and to adopt rules and regulations.

Section 5 of Act 1227 of the 2003 Regular Legislative Session specifically mentioned the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission and all the authority that they have. Essentially the Commission has authority to do all things necessary for the propagation and conservation of game and fish within the confines of the Preserve. This includes the ability to buy, lease or sell property. In connection with the legislative authority the Commission has purchased land and built or leased boat ramps which gives the general public access to the complex.

On a side note Act 105 of 1976 reestablished the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve but removed Saline Lake and made Saline Lake its own Preserve. Consequently since 1976 the Preserve, which is under the jurisdiction of Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve, includes Black, Clear and Prairie Lake complexes in Natchitoches and Red River Parish.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The accompanying basic financial statements of the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission have been prepared in conformity with governmental accounting principles generally accepted (GAAP) in the United States of America. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement 34, *Basic Financial Statements- and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments*, issued in June 1999; Statement 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Net Position* and Statement 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*. Such accounting and reporting policies also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:517 and to the guides set forth in the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*.

The significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the Natchitoches Soil and Water Conservation District are discussed below.

A. REPORTING ENTITY

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. Oversight responsibility is determined on the basis of appointment of governing body, ability to significantly influence operations, accountability for fiscal matters, and the nature and significance of an organization's relationship with the primary government. For financial reporting purposes, in conformance with

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023

GASB Statement No. 14, the Commission includes all funds that are within the oversight responsibility of the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission. Based on consideration of the foregoing criteria, the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission is deemed to be a separate reporting entity.

**B. BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission's basic financial statements consists of government- wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements, which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include the fund of the reporting entity, which is considered to be a governmental activity. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non- exchange revenues.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Commission's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients for goods or services offered by the programs, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The accounts of the Commission are organized and operated on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a separate set of self-balancing accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance- related legal and contractual provisions. These funds focus on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between a governmental fund's assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. In general, fund balance represents the accumulated expendable resources which may be used to finance future period programs or operations. The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the entity. The only and major fund of the Commission is classified as a governmental fund and is described below:

**General Fund**

The General Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 47:1906 is the primary operating fund of the Fund and is used to account for the operations of the Fund. The General Fund is available for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred in accordance with state and federal laws and according to the Fund's policy.

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023

C. MEASUREMENT FOCUS/ BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Measurement focus is a term used to describe “which” transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to “when” revenues, expenditures, expenses, transfers of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements.

Measurement Focus

On the government-wide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, governmental activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery) and financial position. All assets and liabilities (whether current or non-current) associated with its activities are reported. Government-wide fund equity is classified as net position.

In the fund financial statements, the “current financial resources” measurement focus is used. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on its balance sheet. Their statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance reports sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of available spendable financial resources during a given period. This approach is then reconciled, through adjustment, to a government-wide view of the operations.

Basis of Accounting

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, the governmental activities are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Revenues are classified by source and expenditures are classified by function and character. Expenditures (including capital outlays) generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.



Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023

D. ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND EQUITY

Cash and Investments

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and interest-bearing demand deposits. The cash includes amounts in time deposits and investments with original maturities of 90 days or less as cash equivalents. Under state law (LSA R.S. 33:2955), the Commission may deposit funds with a fiscal agent organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States. In addition, local governments may invest in certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana laws and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana.

Payables consist of necessary and ordinary expenses of the Fund.

Capital Assets

Capital Assets, which includes equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements. All capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, ranging from three to ten years depending upon the expected durability of the particular asset. Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an expense in the statement of net position.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend the asset life are not capitalized.

Capital assets and depreciation expenses are reported in the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities. In the fund financial statements, fixed assets are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures upon acquisition.

Equity Classifications

*Net Position*

The Commission classifies net position in the government-wide financial statements, as follows:

- *Net investment in capital assets*- Consists of net capital assets reduced by outstanding balances of any related debt obligations and deferred inflows of resources attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets and increased by balances of deferred outflows of resources related to those assets.

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023

- *Restricted net position*-net position is considered restricted if their use is constrained to a particular purpose. Restrictions are imposed by external organizations such as federal or state laws or buyers of the Commission's bonds. Restricted net position is reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to the restricted assets.
- *Unrestricted net position*-consists of all other net position that does not meet the definition of the above two components and is available for general use by the Commission.

The Commission's policy is to consider restricted net position to have been depleted before unrestricted net position is applied.

#### *Fund Balances*

In accordance with GASB 54, the Commission classifies fund balances in governmental funds as follows:

- *Nonspendable*-Amounts that are not in spendable form (such as prepaid expenses) because they are legally and contractually required to be maintained intact.
- *Restricted*-Amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors or higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation.
- *Committed*-Amounts constrained by the Commission itself. To be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board takes the action to remove or change the constraint.
- *Assigned*-Amounts the Commission intends to use for a specific purpose. Intent can be expressed by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority.
- *Unassigned*-All amounts not included in other spendable.

The Commission would typically use Restricted fund balances first, followed by Committed resources, and then Assigned resources, as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend Unassigned resources first to defer the use of these other classified funds.

The General Fund, the Commission's only governmental fund, has an unassigned fund balance of \$300,018.

#### E. ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2023

2. CASH

At June 30, 2023, the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission has cash (book balances) totaling \$300,018.

Interest bearing demand deposits	\$ 33,241
Demand deposits	150,000
Time deposits	<u>116,777</u>
Total	<u>\$300,018</u>

The cash of the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission is subject to the following risks:

*Custodial Credit Risk*

Custodial risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the government will not be able to recover its deposits. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal or exceed the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent.

At June 30, 2022, the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission has \$340,225 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits are secured from risk by federal deposit insurance.

3. COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS

The board members were reimbursed for travel for the year ended June 30, 2023 as follows:

Steven D. Crews	\$5,800
Winfred Lonadier, Chair	0
Gary Bedgood	0
Shane Hubbard	0
Larry Cooper	0
Jackie Tingle	0
Corey Cason	0
Durwood Wilson (resigned 6/06/23)	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>\$5,800</u>

4. LITIGATION

Management has advised that there is no litigation pending against the Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission at June 30, 2023.

5. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through November 7, 2023, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued and has concluded that there are no significant events requiring recognition or disclosure through that date.

OTHER REQUIRED  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Northwest Louisiana Game and Fish Preserve Commission  
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to  
Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

Agency Head Name: Steve Crews, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$0
Benefits-Other	0

See independent accountant's review report.