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NEWS RELEASE

Office of State Parks

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CALCASIEU RIVER "NO WAKE" ZONE ESTABLISHED BY OFFICE OF STATE PARKS

LAKE CHARLES – The Louisiana Office of State Parks will establish a "no wake" zone along the area of the Calcasieu River within Sam Houston Jones State Park, effective August 18, 2002. This zone consists of the 3,200-foot section of the river's west fork adjacent to the park.

The establishment of the "no wake" zone is part of the Louisiana Office of State Parks' commitment to providing its visitors a safe environment for recreational opportunities. The "no wake" zone will also help reduce the rate of erosion along this area of the Calcasieu River and provide a safe habitat for area wildlife. Wake zones are not uncommon at State Parks facilities and are in effect at Bayou Segnette, Chicot, Lake Bistineau, Lake Bruin, Lake Claiborne and Lake Fausse Pointe State Parks.

Benefits are already evident from the existing "no wake" zone at Sam Houston Jones State Park, such as improved riverbank and boat fishing conditions and safer passage in areas of increased boat traffic. Speed reductions in the zone will also decrease the amount of noise from passing boats.

Fines for violation of the "no-wake" zone will range from \$15 - \$250, and may also be accompanied by eviction from the park and other penalties.

Louisiana

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