

Minutes
BISTINEAU TASK FORCE
September 17, 2015

At 10:00, the 5th BTF meeting of 2015 was called to order on the 2nd floor of the Webster Parish Courthouse.

The opening Prayer was provided by Glenn Benton and Pete Camp led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present : Steve Ramsey & Steve Lemmons, Webster Parish; David Lowe & Rick Yager, Webster Parish; Billy Montgomery, Bob Brotherton, & Glenn Benton, Bossier Parish; Pete Camp- At large; **Absent :** Billy Montgomery, Bossier Parish; Elmore Morris, Bossier Parish; Tony Lawson, Bienville Parish; Greg Wilson, Bienville Parish; Bill Conly, Bienville Parish and Jim Bonsall, Webster Parish.

Special Assistance was provided by Ellzey Simmons, CEO-Trailblazer Resource Conservation & Development

The agenda was reviewed and no changes were offered. The minutes from July 23rd were posted on the web site. No changes were offered. Upon motion by Bob Brotherton and second by Steve Lemmons, the minutes were approved.

Mr. Ramsey recognized Jeff Sibley, LDWF Biologist. There is not a good estimate of the amount of GS in the lake at this time. A Flyover and estimate will be made in October. A public meeting will probably be planned in the month of October. The gates will be closed on January 15th.

Next, Pete Camp presented a report on the recent weevil release that was conducted on Lake Bistineau and also on nearby private land. Private funds and volunteer labor was used in these efforts to establish weevil colonies that will survive in our area. The borrow pit area is turning out to be the best area in lieu of the drawdown. Mr. Camp showed photos from that release site demonstrating small spots of open water in what had been a dense mat of GS.

Lessons learned include "hauling weevils during hot weather results in a high % of dead weevils". Female weevils tend to die first.

Steve Micinski from the LSU AgCenter /Red River Research Station reported on their work with the weevil this summer. He discussed "cold tolerant" weevils, pine straw and other mulches. He reported evidence that weevils do in fact fly (when they want to).

Weldon Thomas announced the upcoming fundraiser on September 26th at Elm Grove.

Next, a time for Questions from the audience and BTF members was included.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at about 11:15.

Respectfully Submitted

PE Simmons, Trailblazer RC&D

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