**HISTORY OF STATE LEGISLATION AND PARISH ORDINANCES**

In 1966, state legislation (Act 379, LA R.S. 56:802) established the Lake Field Preserve (LFP) and the Lake Field Game and Fish Management Commission (LFGFMC)  with authority and control over the Preserve. LA R.S. 56:802 further provided for commission membership, qualifications, and domicile, and other matters. Act 379 also included LA R.S. 56:721-728, which provided for the authorization, rules and regulations, membership, and general duties and responsibilities of parish commissions. Additionally, it granted the parish governing authority to establish, maintain, and operate game and fish preserves and to appoint a commission comprised of parish citizens and taxpayers, whose term would be concurrent with that of the governing authority, who would serve without compensation, and who would be known as a fish and game commission.

In 1977, Act 222 of the Louisiana Legislature enacted LA R.S. 56:801 and LA R.S. 36:610. LA R.S. 56:801 transferred the LFP to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) but stipulated that it would continue in full force and effect. LA R.S. 36:610 abolished the LFGFMC and its powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities were transferred to the LDWF Secretary. However, LA R.S. 36:610 also provided the option that the governing authority of a parish could appoint a game and fish commission who could exercise those powers, duties, and functions provided in LA R.S. 56:721-728 in relation to any game and fish preserve for which a commission was abolished.

In 1981, Act 858 of the Louisiana Legislature enacted LA R.S. 56:722.1 and LA R.S. 56:802. LA R.S. 56:722.1 reaffirmed the authority of the Lafourche Parish government to appoint one or more game and fish commissions. LA R.S. 56:802 clarified the responsibilities and duties of the DWF and parish commissions. The LDWF was assigned the duty and responsibility for resource management, including water level control, aquatic weed control, and maintenance and repair of dams, control structures, and spillways within the territorial jurisdiction of each commission. The individual preserve commission, or local governing authority, was given the duty and responsibility for maintaining all support services within their territorial jurisdiction, including parks, picnic areas, and concessions.

After authority was granted to Lafourche Parish by LA R.S.56:721-728, the Jury or Council passed several parish ordinances which apply.

Parish Ordinance Numbers 1382 in 1981 and 1386 in 1982 established and provided for the composition, appointment, powers, and duties of the Lafourche Parish Game and Fish Commission (LPGFC), and defined the LFP. The ordinance further stated that: a) the LPGFC would manage and govern the LFP; b) the LPGFC would include seven citizens and taxpayers of Lafourche Parish, who would serve without compensation or reimbursement of expenses.

In 2002, Parish Ordinance Number 3141 was adopted which amended Ordinance Number 1386 and made the following changes:

* added Lake Long and land below the high water mark as defined by the 1857 historic meander line under the management and jurisdiction of the LPGFC.
* changed the name of the LFP to the Lake Fields / Lake Long Preserve.

In 2010, Act 384 of the Louisiana Legislature was passed and LA56:722.1(B) enacted which granted the Commission the authority to manage Lake Long.