

August 18, 2010

Lake Chicot Drawn Down for Bridge Repairs

VILLE PLATTE, LA - Visitors to Chicot State Park are advised that lake levels will be drawn down, beginning in early September, in order for the Dept. of Transportation & Development (DOTD) to perform routine bridge inspection and repairs during the first two weeks of October.

Initial inspections of the bridge that crosses the Walker Branch cove, on North Landing Road in Chicot State Park, has shown that a number of pilings on the bridge are due for repair. Following the Labor Day weekend, DOTD will open the control structure on the lake and allow the water level to recede 3 to 4 inches per day. Starting Sept. 20, the lake will be closed to fishing during the drawdown in accordance with Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries largemouth bass length limits.

Repair time on the bridge pilings is anticipated to take 2 weeks, once the lake is drawn down to a suitable working depth and the mud line is dry enough to work on. After all repairs are completed and when water levels begin to rise and boaters have safe access to the lake, fishing in Lake Chicot will be re-opened.

Overnight guests with reservations at Chicot State Park during this period can contact Customer Service at 1-877-226-7652 for more information. Visit www.lastateparks.com for more information about Louisiana State Parks.