



WATCH OUT! INVASIVE SPECIES ARE ON THE LOOSE IN LOUISIANA!

Link to our exhibit: "Louisiana's Present: A heronry in South Louisiana"

INVASIVE SPECIES

Your Name: _____

Invasive species are plants and animals that come from other countries, spreading to their new habitat. They are the creatures that already live in the area, and potentially destroy ecosystems.

What is the species?

For instance, Water hyacinth, with its beautiful purple flower, seems to be a wonderful addition to our swamps. In reality, this South American plant is clogging waterways, and millions of dollars are being spent to try to control this exotic species.

What is its origin?

Other common invasive species in Louisiana are the Nutria, Grass Carp and Silver Carp, Alligatorweed, Hydrilla, Southern Water Lettuce, Purple Loosestrife, Chinese Tallow and Zebra Mussel.

Where did you see it?

When was that?

You can help in many ways: don't adopt, transplant or move exotic species! Never buy them from the store to use them as decorative plants or as pets. When you go fishing, clean your boat engine when going from one location to another.

Always report exotic species locations to your department of wildlife and fisheries!

Can you be on the look out for invasive species?

To help, you can create your own "Invasive Species Watch Data Chart". When you travel around Louisiana or if you go fishing, take good note of what's out there!

How does it cause problems?

Did you call Wildlife officials?





GAME

Look for some of the plants and animals that are growing and living in the wetlands. They were imported and are now threatening native species. Can you find them and draw them in the boxes?

Invasive species

