

## YRARF 2021 WEATHER CONTINGENCY PLAN



**Yellow Rails and Rice Festival** rice harvesting/rail viewing activities are highly dependent on good weather and rice dry enough to harvest. If conditions do not allow a farmer to harvest fields, then we can't look for rails during harvest activities. Please read this Contingency Plan carefully so you are aware of possible alternate scheduling in the event of inclement weather or unsuitable field conditions. As soon as can be determined a schedule change will be announced by email, posted at the Festival Updates page at the website, and posted at the Hampton Inn & Suites.

The 2021 schedule is additionally impacted by Covid19 and we will not follow the same scheduling as previous festivals. We apologize and hope future festivals will return with a full agenda! For the YRARF 2021, we have greatly simplified schedule and structured events in consideration of Covid19, which also simplifies our Weather Contingency Plan! *If there is a weather delay or cancellation, then participants are on their own to bird locally.*

Note that in addition to a field day cancellation, weather/field conditions *may delay harvest activities* thus making it necessary to be on 'stand-by,' waiting for conditions to improve. Please monitor weather forecasts to anticipate possible schedule changes. YRARF 2021 will make every attempt to keep you up to date on any changes.

### **RAIL VIEWING AT THE HARVEST SITE (two days)**

**THURSDAY:** If conditions *prevent* rice harvesting/rail viewing (it is raining or rain is imminent, it is foggy, or fields remain too wet to harvest from a previous rain), then after the Welcome Orientation at the Jefferson Davis Parish Tourism grounds – *everyone is on their own for the rest of the day.* Note – if conditions are such that we may be able to harvest latter in the day then we will choose a time and place to rendezvous for potential update or opportunity to go to the harvest site.

**FRIDAY:** If conditions *prevent* rice harvesting/rail viewing on Friday AM then participants are again on their own. Note – if conditions are such that we may be able to harvest latter in the day then we will choose a time and place to rendezvous for potential update or opportunity to go to the harvest site.

**SATURDAY:** If rice-harvesting/rail viewing were *canceled both Thursday and Friday* then Saturday is the Emergency back-up day.

### **CAMERON COAST Black Rail Surveys – add on trips**



*There is one back-up rain date for each of these trips plus a possible second option depending on the weather and the status of the Thursday evening trip.*

#### **THURSDAY evening trip.**

Based on the weather, if Thursday is not suitable and Friday is, then the trip will shift to **Friday** night. If Friday night is not an option, and it looks like the Saturday trip *will not shifted to Sunday*, then Sunday is the second possible make-up day is Sunday.

#### **SATURDAY evening trip.**

As determined during the day on *Friday*, if weather looks dicey for the Saturday trip, then the Saturday trip will shift to **Friday evening** - unless Friday is the weather make-up day for the Thursday trip. In this event, the Saturday trip will shift to Sunday.