By JERRY ESTILLE
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CORKTOWN, La. (AP) - Trav- lle Broussard, a grizzled and bespectacled trapper in the marshes of Louisiana, thinks he's a little more endangered than the alligators.

He was poking his flat-bottom boat leisurely homeward on a narrow canal recently when a 12-foot alligator reared from the water and tried to bite at his aluminum bow.

"His mouth slipped off and he fell back in the water," said Broussard. "Then he put in front of my boat and started raising his open mouth out of the water and bashing. Man, was he mad."

"I tried to get him by pushing at him with my pole in three pieces. I don't know how he did it, but he broke my pole wide open there.

"I waited a little while, but he wasn't moving. I finally backed out and let him have it. I took the long way home."

Broussard, a trapper for 10 of his 87 years, was among the 64 hunters who legally killed the first alligators in Louisiana in more than 10 years this fall.

"I only complain that the state's Fisheries Commission is making it too hard for us," he said with a shrug.

"There's more gators around here than we think," said Broussard as he relaxed with fellow trapper Jimmy Labrot after killing four gators in less than an hour.

Veteran hunter Dudley Swyre anticipated difficulty in reaching his quota of 80 gators, because of the regulations.

"All I would have needed was about three or four nights if they would let us hunt at night," he said in a heavy Cajun accent as he skinned a small alligator in a front yard and watched a daughter playing nearby.

"We won't be able to kill the gator we supposed to and they might think gator out there. We got the four already but the gator there. I was here and raised in the yard. If they had opened season at night it would be better. If I could kill at night I could have killed 10 gators last night.

"Alligators normally feed at night. Consequently, it would be easier for hunters to boat down the bayous and canals in the dark,どうして the glowing red eyes of the gators as they floated in the water.

"Reason for Rules"

However, at night it would be hard for gator toers to track the legal hunters from the shore. This was the basic reason for restricting the hunt to daylight hours.

"Some of the rules may be making it a little tough on the hunters, but we are doing everything we can think of to control the gator," said Dr. William Palumbo, a research biologist with the state wildlife agency.

"We're convinced we have plenty of alligators, but we see the season at this time and prepared to protect the breeding females who are on their nests this time of year," he said.

"We tried to set the trap at 45 feet away and that's about as close as you can get in a flat-bottom boat."

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**TRAPPER UNLOADS PRIZE DURING LEGAL HUNT**

Dudley Swyre (right), gives a brave to a 12-foot alligator which he killed in the state's first legal alligator hunt in over 10 years. Helping is biologist Dr. William Palumbo (center). Palumbo is still lawsuits over the legal hunt.

**ACTQUICKLY**

But the gator doesn't die ean, it is just shot and the head breaks open. The idea is to chop it so the head breaks open in the surface, before the gator gets out of the water and bashing. Man, was he mad.

"I respect my age and I can't run it like I used to," he said.

"It's hard the way we have to do it now. But I believe we can make money at it.

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