

BELIZE:**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT****No. 111 of 2012**

REGULATIONS made by the Minister responsible for Fisheries in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 14 of the Fisheries Act, Chapter 210 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000-2003, and all other powers thereunto him enabling.

(Gazetted 22nd December, 2012.)

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Citation.

FISHERIES (TURNEFFE ATOLL MARINE RESERVE) REGULATIONS, 2012.

2. In these Regulations -

Interpretation

"Advisory Committee" means the committee established under regulation 4;

"bag limit" means the quantum of fish allowed by the Fisheries Administrator to be caught by a person;

"catch and release" means the act of catching fish and then releasing them back immediately into the waters of Belize in the same state that the fish was landed;

"conservation zones" means the following zones -

- (a) Zone I: Maugre Caye Conservation Zone;
- (b) Zone IIA: Dog Flea Conservation Zone;
- (c) Zone IV: Blackbird Caye Conservation Zone;

- (d) Zone V: Long Bogue Conservation Zone; and
- (e) Zone VI: Caye Bokel Conservation Area;

"extractive fishing" means fishing other than sport fishing;

"general use zone" means the Zone VIII: General Use Zone;

"preservation zone" means the Zone VII: Preservation Zone;

"recreational fishing" means fishing for leisure and enjoyment as well as fishing with the intention to eat the fish caught, but shall not include any sale, exchange or bartering;

S.I. 105 of
2012.

"reserve" means the Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve declared by the Fisheries (Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve) Order, 2012;

"special zones" means the following zones -

- (a) Zone IIB: Cockroach - Grassy Caye Special Management Area;
- (b) Zone III: Vincent's Lagoon Special Management Area; and

"sport fishing" means fishing for the purpose of catch and release only.

Zones to be
clearly
demarcated.
S.I.105 of
2012

3. The zones specified in the Fisheries (Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve) Order, 2012 shall be clearly demarcated by buoys or some other form of demarcation as determined by the Fisheries Administrator.

**PART 2
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

4. The Fisheries Administrator shall establish an Advisory Committee for the purpose of advising on the efficient management of the reserve.

Establishment
of an
Advisory
Committee.

5. The Advisory Committee shall consist of representatives from the following organizations -

Composition
of the
Advisory
Committee.

- (a) the Fisheries Administrator or his designee;
- (b) the Chief Forest Officer or his designee;
- (c) the Chief Executive Officer of the Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute or his designee;
- (d) one representative of the Turneffe Atoll Sustainable Association;
- (e) one representative of the Turneffe Atoll Trust;
- (f) the Chairperson of the Association of Protected Areas Management Organizations or his designee;
- (g) the Executive Director of the Protected Areas Conservation Trust or his designee;
- (h) one representative of the Ministry responsible for Tourism;
- (i) one representative of the Ministry responsible for Natural Resources;
- (j) the Science Director of the Environmental Research Institute of the University of Belize or his designee;
- (k) one representative of an International Non-Government Organization;
- (l) the Chairman of the Belize Fishermen Federation or his designee;
- (m) the Chairman of the Belize Fishermen Cooperative Association or his designee;
- (n) one tourism representative with primary tourism business located at Turneffe;

- (o) one resident representing the private landowners of Turneffe; and
- (p) any other person appointed by the Fisheries Administrator.

PART 3 CONTROL OF THE ZONES

Prohibitions
within the
reserve.

6. (1) A person shall not –

- (a) use long lines, seine nets or gill nets in the reserve unless that person is authorized to do so for scientific research purpose by the Fisheries Administrator;
- (b) engage in commercial fishing, sport fishing or recreational fishing within the reserve without a valid licence issued in accordance with these Regulations;
- (c) cast or drag an anchor in any manner which may damage coral or any other sensitive habitat; or
- (d) engage in water-skiing or jet-skiing, except in areas that may be designated by the Fisheries Administrator.

(2) The Fisheries Administrator may authorize the use of beach traps or fish traps in the General Use Zone only.

(3) A person shall not engage in any activity which may cause negative environmental impact on species, habitats or ecosystems without written approval from the Fisheries Administrator.

Extractive fishing
prohibited in the
conservation
zones.

7. A person shall not engage in extractive fishing within the conservation zones.

Extractive
fishing for
conch
prohibited
in Zone IIB.

8. A person shall not engage in extractive fishing for conch in the Zone IIB: Cockroach – Grassy Caye Special Management Area.

9. (1) Only traditional users shall engage in extractive fishing in Zone III: Vincent's Lagoon Special Management Area.

Extractive
fishing in
Zone III.

(2) For the purpose of sub-regulation (1), the Fisheries Administrator shall determine who the traditional users are.

10. A person shall not engage in spear fishing within the conservation zones, the special zones or the preservation zone.

Spear
fishing
prohibited.

11. (1) A person shall not engage in extractive fishing, sport fishing, snorkeling, diving or any other water activity in the preservation zone.

Prohibitions
in the
preservation
zone.

(2) A person shall not use a motorized boat within the preservation zone except in cases of emergency or with the prior written permission from the Fisheries Administrator.

12. (1) A Dive Boat Operator shall fly the "divers down flag" when they have divers in the water.

Rules for
users.

(2) Only a certified scuba diver or a diver undergoing a training course conducted by a certified instructor shall use scuba equipment in the reserve.

(3) A Dive guide or tour guide is required to explain the rules of the reserve to every diver, snorkeler or other visitor.

(4) A operator of a motor boat shall observe the low wake boat way when approaching a snorkeler or diver.

(5) For the purpose of sub-regulation (1), "divers down flag" means a flag with a white diagonal stripe upon a red background.

13. (1) A person involved in any accident involving personal injury or damage to property within the reserve shall report to the Reserve Manager or his designee, as soon as possible, that accident.

Report of
accidents.

(2) The Fisheries Administrator or the Government of Belize shall not be liable for such injury or damage.

PART IV LICENCES

**Visitors and
boat
operators'
obligations.**

14. (1) A visitor to the reserve shall, before operating in the reserve, obtain a ticket or the required licence on payment of the appropriate fee specified in regulation 24(1), either from the reserve headquarters or in a designated location determined by the Fisheries Administrator.

(2) A boat operator shall, before operating in the reserve, obtain the required licence or permit for all activities that require such licence or permit in accordance with these regulations.

**Commercial
fishing
licence.
Schedule**

15. (1) Any person who is desirous of engaging in commercial fishing shall apply for a commercial fishing licence in the form set out as Form 1 of the Schedule to the Fisheries Administrator.

(2) The Fisheries Administrator may, within fourteen days of the receipt of an application, grant a commercial fishing licence in the form set out as Form 2 of the Schedule.

(3) Upon the expiry of a fishing licence granted under these Regulations, the holder of that fishing licence may apply to the Fisheries Administrator for a renewal pursuant to this regulation.

(4) A fee of \$25.00 shall be payable upon the grant of a commercial fishing licence or for the renewal of the same.

**Application
for scientific
research
licence.
Schedule**

16. (1) A person who desires to conduct scientific research within the reserve shall apply to the Fisheries Administrator in the form set out as Form 3 of the Schedule.

(2) A fee of \$500.00 shall be payable upon the grant of a scientific research licence or for the renewal of the same.

17. (1) Subject to regulation 16, the Fisheries Administrator may, within fourteen days of the date of application, grant or refuse to grant a scientific research licence to an applicant.

Grant etc. of
scientific
research
licence.

(2) A licence granted under sub-regulation (1) shall be subject to such terms and conditions specified by the Fisheries Administrator.

(3) The Fisheries Administrator may in his discretion, waive or vary the fee payable for a research licence.

18. Any person who is desirous of conducting sport fishing within the reserve shall acquire a sport fishing licence in the prescribed form set out as Form 4 of the Schedule upon payment of the prescribed fee stipulated in regulation 24 (1).

Sport fishing
licence.
Schedule

19. Any person who is desirous of engaging in recreational fishing within the reserve shall acquire a recreational fishing licence in the form set out as Form 5 of the Schedule upon payment of the prescribed fee stipulated in regulation 24 (1).

Recreational
fishing
licence.
Schedule.

20. (1) A boat operator who is desirous of engaging in boat operation services shall apply to the Fisheries Administrator for a Turneffe Atoll boat operation licence in the form set out as Form 6 of the Schedule.

Turneffe
Atoll boat
operation
licence.
Schedule.

(2) The Fisheries Administrator may, within fourteen days of the receipt of an application, grant a Turneffe Atoll Boat Operation Licence in the form set out as Form 7 of the Schedule.

(3) A fee of \$100.00 shall be payable upon the grant of a Boat Operation Licence under sub-regulation (2).

(4) A person operating a boat for recreational fishing or commercial fishing is exempt from the requirement of this provision.

**PART V
GENERAL**

Non-transferability, validity, etc. of licences.

21. (1) A licence issued under these regulations-

- (a) shall not be transferable; and
- (b) is valid for a period not exceeding one year but shall expire on the 31st December in each year and shall be subject to renewal.

(2) The Fisheries Administrator may specify special conditions in relation to any licence granted under these Regulations having due regard to the nature of the licence and the need to protect the environment and natural resources.

Cancellation of licences
CAP 210.

22. The Fisheries Administrator may cancel any licence granted under these Regulations if the license holder breaches any conditions of the licence or contravenes any provision of these Regulations or any other Regulations made under the Fisheries Act.

Duty to report accidents.

23. Any person involved in an accident relating to personal injury, damage to property or damage to the environment shall report such accident to the Fisheries Administrator, the Reserve Manager or his designee as soon as possible or not later than twelve hours after the occurrence of the accident.

Admission fees.

24.-(1) The following fees shall apply for admission to the reserve -

Activity	Per person/period	Rate
Snorkelling	Non-Belizean Tourist	
	Per day	\$20.00
	Per week	\$50.00
	Per year	\$100.00
Diving:	Non-Belizean Tourist	
	Per day	\$20.00
	Per week	\$50.00
	Per year	\$100.00
Snorkelling	Belizean Tourist	
	Per day	\$10.00
	Per week	\$20.00
	Per year	\$50.00
Diving:	Belizean Tourist	
	Per day	\$10.00
	Per week	\$20.00
	Per year	\$50.00
Recreational fishing	Non-Belizean Tourist	
	Per day	\$30.00
	Per week	\$70.00
	Per year	\$150.00
Recreational fishing	Belizean Tourist	
	Per day	\$5.00
	Per week	\$10.00
	Per year	\$25.00
Sport fishing	Per day	\$20.00
	Per week	\$50.00
	Per year	\$100.00

(2) For the purpose of sub-regulation (1) -

- (a) a Belizean tourist shall include a CARICOM national and national under Central American integration;
- (b) No fee shall be charged for a child under the age of twelve;
- (c) No fee shall be charged to a Belizean tourist who enters the reserve on a Sunday or on a public or bank holiday.

Flora and
fauna.

25. A person shall not-

- (a) remove from its place or disturb any species of flora or fauna, including rocks, dead corals, shells or sand unless authorized to do so in accordance with these Regulations;
- (b) have in his possession any flora or fauna, unless authorized to do so in accordance with these Regulations;
- (c) discharge or deposit any toxic material, garbage or litter in the reserve;
- (d) mark or tamper with any sign, buoy or notice which is installed within the reserve.

Duty to
report the
fish caught.

26. A person who engaged in extractive fishing, sport fishing or other recreational fishing activity shall render the catch data or any other information of fish caught within the reserve to an officer of the reserve upon request.

General
penalty
CAP 210.

27. A person who contravenes these Regulations commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalty specified in section 15 of the Fisheries Act.

**SCHEDULE
FORM 1**

(Regulation 15 (1))

**APPLICATION FOR A COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN'S
LICENCE
OR RENEWAL THEREOF**

Part A to be completed in full and accompanied with the relevant documentation as required under Statutory Instrument No. 1 of 2010.

To: The Fisheries Administrator

Date of application

(dd/mm/yy)

PART A

I hereby apply for a first issue/renewal of a Commercial Fisherman's Licence.

Name..... Age..... years

Fishing Experience..... years (Full time..... years; Part time..... years.)

Home Address:

.....
.....
.....

I am a boat owner (yes/no)

Boat operator (yes/no)

I am a member of a Fishermen's Co-operative Society..... (yes/no)

Name of Co-operative if a member

Membership No. Previous Fisherman's licence No.

Date Issued.....

(dd/mm/yy)

PART B

To be completed in full for the first issue and on renewal only if change in the details given in the first issue application have taken place.

Please specify type of fishing in which engaged and methods and number of units used:

Species harvested:

Fishing gears used:

Number of fishing gears used:

Other methods (specify)

Approximate value of gear

Place of normal landing of catch

Signature of applicant

THIS PART FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**List of documents received:**

Passport No.

Birth Certificate No.

Residence Card No.

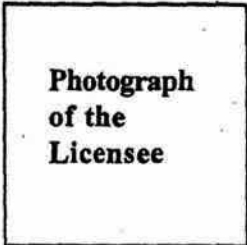
Utility Bill type and No.

FORM 2

(Regulation 15(2))

FORM OF COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN'S LICENCE

Licence No

Date issued
(dd/mm/yy)This licence is issued to
(full name)of under the provisions of the
(address)Fisheries Act and Regulations made thereunder. This
licence is not transferable and takes effect from the
date of issue and remains in force (unless cancelled)
until
Photograph
of the
Licensee

Fees Paid

Receipt No.

(Licensing Officer's signature and Office Stamp)

This licence must be produced on demand to any Police officer, Customs officer or Fisheries officer and should be carried at all times.

FORM 3

(Regulation 16(1))

**APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO CONDUCT RESEARCH
OR SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION WITHIN THE TURNEFFE
ATOLL MARINE RESERVE**

TO: Fisheries Administrator

Date of application.....
(dd/mm/yy)

Name of Applicant including title or designation.....

Address:

Home Country.....

Whilst in Belize.....

Telephone.....

Name of person who is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions
attached to the licence:.....
.....Institution with whom connection or on whose behalf the work is to be carried
out:

.....

Period during which work is to be carried out

The following documents are to be attached to this application:

1. A list of the names and titles of persons who will be accompanying the licensee during the course of the work for whom the licensee shall be responsible.

2. A list of equipment, in triplicate, which the licensee wishes to bring into the country for scientific purposes and for which a temporary import permit is requested.
3. A detailed programme, in duplicate, of the purpose of the work or expedition including area of work.

I wish to conduct research/an investigation in Belize on my own behalf / as leader of a group of () students / on the behalf of the institution named above for the following purposes:

.....
.....
.....
.....

details of which are contained in the attached pages. I will wish to collect specimens for study in Belize and will/will not wish to export these specimens for further study at the end of my stay. I will want to collect specimen of () species for study and export.

Date: Signature of applicant:
(dd/mm/yy)

FORM 4

(Regulation 18)

FORM OF SPORT FISHING LICENCE
Belizean and Non-Belizean Tourist

Licence No:

Date issued:
(dd/mm/yy)This licence is issued to
(full name)
of
(address)

This licence is not transferable and is valid for a period of:

One Day ☐
One Week ☐
One Year ☐Fees paid: [\$20.00]
[\$50.00]
[\$100.00]

From until

Place issued

Signature of issuing Officer

This licence is subject to the following conditions:-

1. The holder of this licence shall comply with the Fisheries Act and all Regulations made thereunder.
2. The licensee shall not maim or kill any fish caught under this licence and all sport fishing activity shall only be carried out on a catch and release basis.
3. This licence may at any time be cancelled if the licensee is in breach of any of the conditions stipulated above.

N.B. This is an official document of the Government of Belize and must be produced on demand to any Police officer, Customs officer, or Fisheries officer. It should be carried at all times by the licensee during sport fishing activities.

FORM 5

(Regulation 19)

FORM OF RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENCE

Licence No:

Date issued:
(dd/mm/yy)This licence is issued to
(full name)
of
(address)

This licence is not transferable. The following fees apply:

Belizeans:

One Day ☐	Fees paid:	[\$5.00]
One Week ☐		[\$10.00]
One Year ☐		[\$25.00]

Non-Belizeans:

One Day ☐	Fees paid:	[\$30.00]
One Week ☐		[\$70.00]
One Year ☐		[\$150.00]

From until

Place issued

N.B. The holder of this licence
is entitled to a daily bag limit
determined by the Fisheries
Administrator.

Signature of issuing Officer

N.B. This is an official document of the Government of Belize and must be produced on demand to any Police officer, Customs officer, or Fisheries officer. It should be carried at all times by the licensee during recreational fishing activity.

FORM 6

(Regulation 20(1))

APPLICATION FOR TURNEFFE ATOLL BOAT
OPERATION LICENCE

- (1) Name of boat owner
- (2) Name of boat
- (3) Belize Port Authority Number
- (4) Length of boat
- (5) Width of boat
- (6) Engine type and H.P.
- (7) Passenger capacity
- (8) Type of activity (Tick for activity included)
- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| (a) Snorkelling | () |
| (b) SCUBA Diving | () |
| (c) Glass-bottom viewing | () |
| (d) Sport fishing | () |
| (e) Other activity | () Specify..... |

Date:
(dd/mm/yy)

Signature of applicant:

FORM 7.

(Regulation 20(2))

FORM OF TURNEFFE ATOLL BOAT OPERATION LICENCE

Name of boat owner

Name of captain

Name of boat

This boat is registered to carry up to passengers and to conduct the following activities in the Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve:

Type of activity (Tick for activity included)

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Snorkelling | () |
| (b) SCUBA Diving | () |
| (c) Glass-bottom viewing | () |
| (d) Sport fishing | () |
| (e) Other activity | () Specify |

Conditions of Licence:

If carrying passengers to dive in Reserve, the captain/guide is responsible for the following:

- (a) To acquaint passengers with the rules of the Reserve.
- (b) To moor at the buoys provided when in the Conservation and General Use Zones.
- (c) To fly the "divers down" flag during all dives.
- (d) Only certified SCUBA divers or those undergoing an approved training course will be allowed to use scuba tanks.

If carrying passengers to carry out sport fishing, the captain/guide is responsible for the following:

- (a) To submit details to the Reserve Manager when requested, of catch and the area where fishing took place.
- (b) To release fish on a catch and release basis.

To apply the mark/sticker provided in a prominent position on the registered boat.

This licence is not transferable and takes effect from the date of issue and remains in force (unless cancelled) until

Fees Paid

Receipt No.

(Licensing Officer's signature and Office Stamp)

This licence must be produced on demand to any Police officer, Customs officer or Fisheries officer and should be carried at all times.

Date issued
(dd/mm/yy)

MADE by the Minister responsible for the Fisheries this 22 day of November, 2012.


LISEL ALAMILLO
Minister responsible for the Fisheries