

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Based on the Article 48 paragraph 3 bullets 1, 2 and 3 of the Marine Fisheries Act (Official Gazette No. 46/97 – purified text) the Minister hereby brings the

Ordinance on protection of fish and other marine organisms

I.

By this Ordinance it is determined:

- what is to be considered as undersized fish and other marine organisms,
- what is the minimal landing size of commercially important fish and other marine organisms species under which it is strictly prohibited to catch them, collect them or put them in circulation,
- what are the closed seasons for particular species of marine organisms, or the time when they are not allowed to be caught, collected nor put in circulation as fresh.

II.

Fish and other marine organisms are to be considered undersized in all their development stages before their first sexual maturity.

III.

The minimal landing sizes of commercially important species of fish and other marine organisms under which they are not allowed to be caught, collected nor put in circulation are:

1. For fish (PISCES)

Diplodus vulgaris	15 cm
Tetrapturus belone	120 cm
Xiphias gladius	120 cm
Anguilla anguilla	30 cm
Sciaena umbra	30 cm
Epinephelus marginatus	60 cm
Sparus aurata	20 cm
Diecentrarchus labrax	25 cm
Lithognathus mormyrus	20 cm
Squalus acanthias	65 cm
Diplodus puntazzo	22 cm
Diplodus sargus	21 cm

Scorpaena scrofa	25 cm
Thunnus thynnus	70 cm
Conger conger	70 cm
Dentex dentex	30 cm

2. For crustaceans (CRUSTACEA)

Hommarus gammarus	28 cm
Palinurus elaphas	28 cm
Maja squinado	10 cm

3. For shellfish (BIVALVIA)

Mytilus galloprovincialis	5 cm
Pecten jacobaeus	9 cm
Ostrea edulis	6 cm
Venus gallina	2,5 cm
Ruditapes decussates	2,5 cm
Arca noae	5 cm
Venus verrucosa	3 cm

4. For sponges (SPONGIA)

Spongia officinalis	10 cm
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IV.

For the purposes of this Ordinance size is defined as:

1. for fish: the length of the body from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail fin,
2. for crustaceans: the length of the body measured from the tip of the rostrum to the end of the telson,
3. for shellfish and sponges: the length of the longest axis across the shell or the widest diameter.

V.

Closed season or the time in the year when it's not allowed to catch or put in circulation as fresh the species of crustaceans is:

Hommarus gammarus - from 1 September to 30 April,

Palinurus elaphas - from 1 September to 30. April,

Maja squinado - from 1 June to 30 November.

VI.

The provisions of this Ordinance on minimal landing sizes and closed season do not apply to fish and other marine organisms reared in captivity.

VII.

From the date of entry into force of this Ordinance the Ordinance on protection of fish and other marine organisms (Official Gazette, No. 46/96 and 90/96) is repealed.

VIII.

This Ordinance shall enter into force on the eight day following its publication in the Official Gazette of Republic of Croatia.

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Zagreb, 30. October 1998.