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FIRST SCHEDULE

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FIFTH SCHEDULE

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SIXTH SCHEDULE

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SEVENTH SCHEDULE

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## CHAPTER 210

## FISHERIES REGULATIONS

(Section 13)

Ch. 174.

66 of 1967.

71 of 1978.

24 of 1980.

17 of 1982.

[1st October, 1977.]

83 of 1982.

44 of 1986.

168 of 1991.

55 of 1993.

143 of 1993.

68 of 1997.

13 of 1999.

66 of 2002.

56 of 2003.

90 of 2003.

103 of 2003.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Short title.

## FISHERIES REGULATIONS.

PART I  
PRELIMINARY

2. In these Regulations

Interpretation.

“bonefish” means the fish commonly known in this country as macabi, the scientific name of which is *Albula vulpes* Linne;

“cape length” means carapace measurement of crawfish determined by beginning at the most anterior edge of the groove between the horns directly above the eyes, then proceeding along the middorsalline to the rear edge of the carapace;

“closed season” means in relation to any kind or species of fish, a time or season during which the taking of that kind or species of fish is prohibited by

these Regulations;

“conch” means any mollusc of the species *Strombus gigas Linne*;

24 of 1980. “crawfish” means fish of the genus *Panulirus* which is commonly known as crayfish or spiny lobster, and includes the whole or part of the abdomen of crawfish when that abdomen or part of the abdomen is severed from the carapace;

“crustacea” includes marine and fresh water shrimp, crabs, and crawfish;

“lobster trap” means any device that is designed for use, or is capable of being used for or in connection with the taking of crawfish;

71 of 1978. “market clean conch” means conch that has been removed from the shell and from which operculum and gonads are completely removed and the mantle partially removed;

“mesh size” means the measurement from knot to knot across the diagonal of the tightly stretched wet mesh;

“scale fish” means all members of the class Pisces;

“seine” means a net of any description used for taking fish by drawing along the bottom of the sea or fresh water (whether drawn on the beach or otherwise);

“shellfish” means any mollusc, specifically including oysters, clams, mussels, scallops, and snails, including members of the genus *Strombus*;

44 of 1986. “Shrimp” means and includes fish of the genus *Penaeus* but does not include the fresh water shrimp of the genus *Macrobrachium*;

“to buy” means to come into possession or attempt to possess property in fish by means of an offer or exchange for money or other valuable consideration;

“to sell” includes an exchange or an offer or attempt to sell or exchange for money or for any other valuable consideration or an agreement to sell and any exposition of the goods in association with a mark indicating a price shall be deemed to be an offer to sell;

“to take” includes all operations preparatory, and subsequent to an attempt - whether successful or not - to capture, kill, pursue, or otherwise harm or reduce to possession any fisheries resource;

“turtle” means a marine or fresh water turtle as distinguished from a terrestrial species of tortoise. 55 of 1993.

2:01. A reference in these Regulations to any fish shall, where the context permits, include a reference to any part of such fish. 24 of 1980.

## PART II GENERAL

3. (1) No person shall take in the waters of Belize or buy, sell or have in his possession crawfish-
- Criteria for possession of crawfish  
68 of 1997.
- (a) if the cape length is less than three or the tail weight is less than four ounces; 168 of 1991.
- (b) between the 15th February and the 14th June, inclusive, in any year; 143 of 1993.
- (c) that is berried, has eggs or spawn;
- (d) that has had the berries, eggs or spawn removed;
- (e) that is moulting or has a soft shell;

- 90 of 2003. (f) fillet or diced lobster tail meat, except under a special permit issued by the Fisheries Administrator.
- 68 of 1997. (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subregulation (1) above -
- (a) crawfish with a cape length of less than 3 inches may be taken in the waters of Belize for aquaculture purposes under a special licence granted by the Minister;
- (b) crawfish that is berried, (has eggs), may be taken in the waters of Belize for aquaculture purposes under a special licence granted by the Minister.
- No removal of eggs from female lobster. 4. No person shall detach or otherwise remove from any female lobster any eggs or spawn or the setae or fibre to which any eggs or spawn are or have been attached.
- No taking of soft shelled crustacean. 5. No person shall take any soft shelled crustacean.
- Shrimp season and criteria for obtaining licence for trawling. 103 of 2003. 5:01 (1) Shrimp season will officially open on July 15<sup>th</sup> of any year inclusive, for a period not exceeding eight months in any one year, but which period may be less than eight months provided that one month's notice is given in advance. In the event that stocks are low or not mature, the Fisheries Administrator on consultation with the Fisheries Advisory Board and with scientific data shall close the shrimp season for a stipulated period of time as advertised in at least three (3) local newspapers.
- 103 of 2003. (2) The number of vessels trawling within the waters of Belize will be fixed on an annual basis by the Minister responsible for Fisheries on the recommendation of the Fisheries Administrator after consultation with the Fisheries Advisory Board, but it shall not exceed eight vessels in any one

season.

(3) Licence for trawling shall be given only to co-operative-owned shrimp vessels unless otherwise specified in writing by the Minister responsible for Fisheries or the Fisheries Administrator. 103 of 2003.

(4) Any foreign-owned shrimp trawling vessel operating within the territorial waters of Belize will be given a licence only if: 103 of 2003.

(a) it is opened as a joint venture with a local cooperative; and

(b) it has received the approval of the Minister responsible for Fisheries or the Fisheries Administrator.

(5) The following licence fees shall apply to shrimp trawling vessels operating in Belize unless waived and specified in writing by the Minister after consultation with the Fisheries administrator and the Fisheries Advisory board: 103 of 2003.

(a) \$500.00 per season for a locally owned shrimp trawling vessel shall be paid upon receipt of licence unless otherwise specified in writing by the Fisheries Administrator;

(b) \$2,000.00 per season for a foreign-owned shrimp trawling vessel shall be paid upon receipt of licence unless otherwise specified in writing by the Minister after consultation with the Fisheries Administrator.

(6) The captain or owners of each vessel shall furnish to the Fisheries Administrator written details of the catches, date and time occupied fishing, fishing gear, areas fished and any other information as may be requested from time to time by the Fisheries Administrator. 103 of 2003.

- Criteria for possession of conch.  
71 of 1978.
6. (1) No person shall take in the waters of Belize or buy, sell or have in his possession-
- (a) any conch between the 1st July and the 30th September, inclusive, in any year;
- (b) at any time, conch the overall shell length of which does not exceed seven inches or the weight of the market clean conch taken from which does not exceed three ounces.
- 90 of 2003.
- (2) No fisherman shall buy, sell or have in his possession in Belize, fillet or diced conch (*Strombus gigas*) meat other than market clean, except under a special permit issued by the Fisheries Administrator.
- Permit to use Scuba Equipment.
7. No person shall take fish in the waters of Belize using Scuba equipment except under special permit from the Fisheries Administrator.
- Fishing by means of beach seine, trap, weir or stop net.  
17 of 1982.
8. (1) In all areas outside the barrier reef and within a radius of two miles of the mouth of the Belize River, Haulover Creek and Sibun River, no person shall take fish by means of any beach seine, trap, weir or stop net.
- (2) No person shall with intent to take fish, use any trap or other device constructed of net or wire in any area within a distance of one hundred yards of the Barrier Reef.
- (3) No person shall, with intent to take fish, use any trap, wire or net, other than lobster traps, in the vicinity of Bottonwood Caye, Caye Glory, Maugre Caye or any area in which the trapping of fish is prohibited.
- No sale of bonefish.
9. No person shall buy or sell bonefish, after the 31st December 1977.

10. No person shall fish for in the waters of Belize or buy, sell or have in his possession any turtle of the species:
- Possession of turtle.  
66 of 2002.
- (a) *Eretmochelys imbricata* (Hawksbill Turtle);
  - (b) *Carretta carreta* (Loggerhead Turtle);
  - (c) *Chelonia mydas* (Green Turtle);
  - (d) *Dermochelys coriacea* (Leatherback Turtle);
  - (e) *Lepidochelys kempii* (Kemp Ridleys Turtle);
  - (f) *Lepidochelys olivacea* (Olive Ridleys Turtle).
11. No person shall take any turtle found on land; disturb, take, buy, sell or have in his possession any turtle or turtle eggs; or interfere with any turtle nest, except under written permission by the Fisheries Administrator.
- Permission by Fisheries Administrator to possess turtle or eggs.  
66 of 2002.
12. Any Shrimp Trawler operating in the waters of Belize must be outfitted with a pre-approved operational turtle Excluder Device (TED).
- Pre-approved Turtle Excluder Device.  
66 of 2002.
- 12:01 No person shall fish, sell, purchase or have in his possession any turtle of the following description:-
- No possession of green and loggerhead turtle.  
55 of 1993.
- (a) *Chelonia midas*, commonly known as green turtle, greater than 60 cm (24 in) curved carapace length;
  - (b) *Caretta caretta*, commonly known as loggerhead turtle, greater than 60 cm (24 in) curved carapace length;

Criteria for possession of <i>Dermatemys mawaii</i> turtles. 55 of 1993.	<p>12:02 No person shall, in relation to turtles of the species <i>Dermatemys mawaii</i>:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(a) have in his possession more than three such turtles at any one time;</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(b) transport on any vehicle more than five such turtles;</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(c) fish for such turtles during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> May to the 31<sup>st</sup> May inclusive in any year;</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(d) fish for females of such turtles greater than 43cm (17.2 in) and smaller than 38cm (15.2 in);</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(e) fish for such turtles in any of the areas specified in the Fifth Schedule attached to these Regulations;</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(f) sell or purchase such turtles.</p>
Fifth Schedule.	
Permit 55 of 1993.	<p>12:03 No person shall import, bring into Belize in transit or export any turtle without a valid permit issued by the Minister.</p>
No sale of turtle shell articles. 55 of 1993.	<p>12:04 No person shall buy, sell or have in his possession any articles made of turtle shell.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(2) Any person who on the date of entry into force of these Regulations has in his possession any articles made of turtle shell.</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">(a) may detain such articles for personal use;</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">(b) shall not sell such articles later than 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1993.</p>

13. Any person who requires any marine turtle except of the species *Eretmochelys imbricata*, for traditional or cultural use, must first apply to the Fisheries Administrator in writing, stating the amount and specific purpose for such use. Turtle for traditional or cultural use. 66 of 2002.
14. No person shall import, bring into Belize in-transit or export any turtle or turtle products. No import or export of turtle. 66 of 2002.
- (2) Any person who on the date of entry into force of these Regulations has in his possession any articles made of turtle shell may retain such articles only for personal use.
- 14:01 Any person who contravenes Regulations 10, 11, 13 and 14, commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars per turtle or part of a turtle or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both such fine and imprisonment. Contravention of Regulations 10, 11, 13 and 14. 66 of 2002.
- (2) Any person who contravenes Regulation 12, commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of two thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.
15. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this regulation, no person shall take any fish in the waters of Belize with a net constructed of a natural or artificial fibre the mesh size of which is less than three inches. Net constructed of natural or artificial fibre.
- (2) The prohibition in paragraph (1) of this regulation shall not apply to-
- (a) throw or cast nets;
- (b) the holder of a special licence for scientific investigation who may be permitted to use webbing of smaller mesh:

Provided that such device be of an approved pattern and that the written authority of the Fisheries Administrator is obtained and entered on the licence at the time of issue;

- (c) trawl or seine net the mesh size of which is not less than one and a half inches.

(3) The provisions of this regulation shall not apply to the meshes of a device constructed of materials other than synthetic or natural fibre webbing, where the design conforms to specifications laid down for that device, for the purpose of releasing the fish or for the escape of such fish.

Wanton waste of fish.

16. No person shall capture any fish of such a variety or in such quantities as would result in wanton waste and any fish captured as aforesaid shall be released immediately.

No beach seine, trap etc. to be used within inhabited locality in Belize.

17. No beach seine, trap, weir, or stop net shall be set, hauled or otherwise used for the purpose of taking fish at any place situated within a distance of half a mile from any city, township, village, settlement or other inhabited locality in Belize:

Use of anaesthetics.

18. No person shall use anaesthetics in the waters of Belize except under special permit from the Fisheries Administrator.

No sale of coral.

19. No person shall take, buy, or sell any coral.

Licence for sale of black cora.

20. (1) No person shall-

- (a) have in his possession, or buy, sell, export or attempt to export any raw or unprocessed black coral;

- (b) buy, sell, export black coral in any form, except

under a licence obtained therefor from the Fisheries Administrator under this regulation.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation “black coral” means any coral of the order Antipatharia.

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| <p>21. Any person engaged in the purchase of fish for export shall keep a record of purchases and of disposals of such fish in such manner as the Fisheries Administrator may recommend. Such records shall be made available at all reasonable times for inspection by the Fisheries Administrator or any person appointed under section 4 of the Act.</p>  | <p>Record of purchase of fish for export.</p>                |
| <p>22. Every exporter of fish shall before the clearance outwards of the ship or aircraft or surface vehicle whereby such fish is to be exported is granted, deliver to the Comptroller of Customs an entry in Form 1 set out in the First Schedule to these Regulations containing the several particulars indicated therein or required thereby, and shall at the same time produce the Bill of Lading relating to such fish and pay the duty prescribed by the Customs Regulations.</p> | <p>Exporter of fish to pay duty. Form 1. First Schedule.</p> |
| <p>23. No person shall export or attempt to export crawfish in excess of any quota granted to him by the Minister.</p>   | <p>Export of crawfish not to exceed quota.</p>               |
| <p>24. No person shall export or attempt to export conch in excess of any quota granted to him by the Minister.</p>  | <p>Export of conch not to exceed quota.</p>                  |
| <p>25. No person shall, except with the permission in writing of the Fisheries Administrator, export any fish of the catfish species known locally to be scavengers.</p>   | <p>Permission to export catfish.</p>                         |
| <p>26. No person shall close off a channel, passage, entrance, or small embayment of water with any fishing device in such manner as to restrict the free passage of boats or to wholly prevent the passage of fish.</p>   | <p>No restriction to passage of boats or fish.</p>           |

Offence to catch whale shark. 56 of 2003. 26:01 (1) No shark of the species *Rhincodon typus* commonly known as the Whale Shark, shall be caught or killed in the waters of Belize.

(2) Any person who contravenes Regulation 26:01 (1) commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Offence. 27. Any person who acts in contravention of any regulation in this Part of these Regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars and/or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months for each offence.

Presumption as to possession of fish. 27:01 (1) Where any fish to which these Regulations apply is found in the custody of any person or upon any premises in the occupation or control of any person, such person shall, unless he proves that the same was brought on the premises without his knowledge, be presumed to be in possession of the said fish.

(2) Where such premises are commercial premises in which fish cooked or uncooked, is sold by the owner, manager or occupier of one premises shall be presumed to be in possession of such fish.

(3) Where any fish to which these Regulations apply is found in any premises occupied by more than one person, such fish shall be deemed to be in the joint possession of all such persons and it shall be for the said person or persons to prove that the same was there without his or their knowledge.

### PART III LICENSING

Foreign fishing vessel licence. 13 of 1999. 28. (1) No foreign fishing vessel shall be used for fishing or for any other related activities while in the waters of Belize without a valid foreign fishing vessel licence issued in accordance with these Regulations.

(2) Subject to the provisions of these Regulations the Minister may, upon the recommendation of the Fisheries Administrator or any interested Government Department issue a foreign fishing vessel licence to a foreign fishing vessel authorising the use and operation of such vessel in any areas of the waters of Belize which may be specified in the licence.

(3) The Minister shall exercise the powers conferred upon him under subregulation (2) above if he is satisfied that:-

- (a) the issue of such licence is consistent with the applicable fisheries management plan, and that the amount of fish authorised to be taken by such foreign fishing vessel in the fisheries management plan will not be exceeded by or through the issue of such licence;
- (b) the issue of such licence shall not cause unreasonable harm to the local fishing industry, consideration being taken in this respect to whether the licence is issued for operations in the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone of Belize, the internal waters of Belize or any inland waters of Belize;
- (c) the issue of such licence shall be beneficial to the Belizean economy and shall be in the public interest;
- (d) the applicant for such licence has provided sufficient financial and other guarantees for the fulfillment of all his obligations under the Act and Regulations made thereunder;
- (e) there is in force between the Government of the Flag State of the foreign fishing vessel, or any other

organisation or association to which the Flag State has delegated power and authority over the registration of ships and fishing vessels, or any association of which the applicant is a member, and the Government of Belize, a valid fisheries agreement entered into by both parties, or to which both parties subscribe and are members.

(4) An application for a foreign fishing vessel licence and the licence itself shall be in such form as the Minister may from time to time set out by Order published in the *Gazette* pursuant to section 13 of the Act.

(5) Unless a fee is specifically set out in the licence or an applicable fisheries agreement referred to in subregulation (3)(e) above, the fees payable in respect of a foreign fishing vessel licence shall, depending on the length of the foreign fishing vessel concerned, be of an amount set out in Table A of Sixth Schedule hereto.

Table A.  
Sixth Schedule.

General conditions  
applicable to  
foreign fishing  
vessels.

29. (1) Unless expressly provided in a foreign fishing vessel licence, the conditions specified in subregulation (2) below shall be and are hereby declared to be implied conditions applicable to every foreign fishing vessel licensed under these Regulations.

(2) The conditions referred to in subregulation (1) above are: -

- (a) that no fishing related activities shall be undertaken in the waters of Belize except in accordance with the terms and conditions of the licence;
- (b) that any change at any time before or after the issue of a foreign fishing vessel licence in the particulars and information set out in the application form for the licence shall be notified by the holder or applicant thereof in writing to the

Fisheries Administrator as soon as may be, but in any case not later than seven calendar days after the occurrence thereof;

- (c) that the master of each foreign fishing vessel, and each crew member thereof, shall while in the waters of Belize pursuant to the licence, comply at all times, to the lawful directions given to them or each of them by the Fisheries Administrator or any fisheries officer or other officer of the Government duly authorised in writing by the Minister in that behalf, and in particular, they or each of them shall upon the request of any of the aforesaid officers: -
- (i) stop the vessel; or
  - (ii) permit such officer to board the vessel and carry out any inspection thereof, and fully cooperate with and assist such officer during the inspection; or
  - (iii) permit and allow such officer to have access to all documents and information relating to the licensing, registration and other particulars of the vessel and its operations;
  - (iv) bring the vessel into port, or order it to another point at sea;
- (d) that the master and crew members of the foreign fishing vessel shall, while in the waters of Belize, comply fully with all the environmental and other laws of Belize, and take reasonable measures and

precautions to avoid causing any damage to or endangering the marine environment, barrier reef or the viability of the local fishing industry.

(3) Every foreign fishing vessel with an overall length of forty (40) feet or more licensed pursuant to these Regulations shall, in addition to observing the conditions set out in subregulation (2) above, also comply with and observe the conditions specified in subregulation (4) below.

(4) The conditions referred to in subregulation (3) above are: -

(a) that the vessel, while in the waters of Belize:-

(i) fly the flag of its Flag State;

(ii) clearly display its name in English in large letters painted on its bows and stern; and

(iii) clearly display the identification markings in accordance with the specifications set out in Seventh Schedule hereto;

Seventh Schedule.

(b) that the master of the foreign fishing vessel shall cause a logbook to be maintained on a daily basis in such form as may be set out by the Fisheries Administrator, and record in such logbook all the fishing operations undertaken by the vessel while in the waters of Belize;

(c) that the master of the foreign fishing vessel shall submit the logbook referred to in paragraph (b) above to the Fisheries Administrator in its original and unaltered form:-

- (i) not later than thirty calendar days after the completion of the voyage to which the logbook relates, but in any case before the vessel departs the waters of Belize; or
  - (ii) at any other time at the oral or written request of the Fisheries Administrator or a fisheries officer;
- (d) that the master of the foreign fishing vessel shall cause reports to be made to the Fisheries Administrator, on such forms as may be specified by the Fisheries Administrator, concerning or relating to the international radio call sign or the number assigned to the vessel under any national or regional register, the position of the vessel at the time of reporting, the total fish catch on board the vessel, segregated by species at the time of reporting, the areas fished while in the waters of Belize, and such other information relating to the operations of the foreign fishing vessel while in the waters of Belize as the Fisheries Administrator may from time to time require, and such information (or any applicable portion thereof), shall be provided to the Fisheries Administrator by the master of the vessel as aforesaid:-
- (i) immediately upon entry into the waters of Belize; or
  - (ii) every thirty (30) calendar days thereafter, or after such shorter or longer intervals as the Fisheries Administrator may specify in writing; or

- (iii) immediately prior to departure from the waters of Belize; or
  - (iv) at such other times as the Fisheries Administrator may specify in writing;
- (e) that the master or operator of the foreign fishing vessel or his authorised local representative shall notify the Fisheries Administrator of the estimated time of entry of the vessel into any port in Belize at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to such entry;
- (f) that the master of the foreign fishing vessel shall, while in the waters of Belize, allow any person designated in writing by the Fisheries Administrator to board and remain on board the vessel as an observer and shall: -
  - (i) allow the observer full access to all equipment, including navigation and communication equipment, records, documents and any fish on board the vessel;
  - (ii) allow the observer to make such tests, observations and records, and to take or remove such samples as he may reasonably require in connection with the vessel's operations while within the waters of Belize;
  - (iii) provide, without any charge whatsoever to the observer or to the Government of Belize, food and accommodation at least

equal to that provided to officers on board the vessel;

(iv) proceed directly to port, if or when requested to do so by the Fisheries Administrator or the observer, for the purpose of allowing the observer or the fisheries officer designated in that behalf by the Fisheries Administrator to board or disembark from such vessel, or to carry out an inspection for the purposes of monitoring compliance by such vessel with the provisions of the Act or any Regulations made thereunder, or with any fisheries agreement applicable to such vessel entered into pursuant to these Regulations.

(g) that all catch landed by the vessel shall be processed in Belize; and

(h) that any supplies and services which may be necessary for the operation of the vessel shall be procured in Belize, except if unavailable locally.

(5) Every foreign fishing vessel with an overall length of less than forty (40) feet licensed pursuant to these Regulations shall, in addition to observing the conditions set out in subregulation (3) above, also comply with and observe the conditions specified in subregulations (6) below.

(6) The conditions referred to in subregulation (5) above are: -

(a) that the foreign fishing vessel shall at all times while in the waters of Belize display identification markings in accordance with the specifications set out in

Seventh Schedule.

Seventh Schedule hereto;

- (b) that the master of the vessel shall provide such information to the Fisheries Administrator on fishery operations carried out within the waters of Belize, in such form and at such times as the Fisheries Administrator may from time to time require in writing.

Records to be in English.

30. All record, logbooks, notices, documents or other information required to be maintained, kept or made under these Regulations shall be so maintained, kept or made in the English language, and only such copies as are maintained, kept or made in the English language shall be deemed to be authentic texts for the purposes of these Regulations.

Local representatives.

31. No licence shall be issued under the Regulations to a foreign fishing vessel unless the master, owner, charterer or operator thereof has appointed in Belize a local representative who shall, and is hereby authorised to act on behalf of such master, owner, charterer or operator as aforesaid, and to accept on his behalf all legal responsibility for any legal or other action which may be taken by or against the vessel and its operations while in the waters of Belize.

Fisheries agreements. 66 of 2002.

32. (1) The Government of Belize, pursuant to Regulation 28 (3) (e) above, may enter into fisheries agreements with other States, or intergovernmental organisations, or associations representing foreign fishing vessel operators, and such agreements may, *inter alia*, provide for the allocation of foreign fishing vessel licences to fishing vessels of such States, organisations or associations, as the case may be.

(2) The amount of fishing authorised under any fisheries agreement made pursuant to these Regulations shall not exceed the amount of fishing allowed to be undertaken by foreign fishing vessels under the applicable fisheries management plan.

(3) A fisheries agreement made by virtue of these Regulations shall include a provision, or if it does not do so, shall be read and construed as including a provision, imposing an obligation on the foreign State, intergovernmental organization or association representing foreign fishing vessel operators to take all the necessary measures to ensure that foreign fishing vessels licenced pursuant to these Regulations fully comply with the terms and conditions of the Agreement, their licence and all applicable laws relating to their operations while in the waters of Belize.

(4) The validity and duration of a foreign fishing vessel licence shall not extend beyond the validity and duration of the fisheries agreement applicable to the vessel in respect of which it is issued.

33. (1) Any foreign fishing vessel which is not licensed pursuant to these Regulations shall, while in the waters of Belize, keep its fishing gear securely stowed so as not to be readily available for use.

Stowage of  
fishing gear.

(2) Any foreign fishing vessel which is licensed under these Regulations to undertake fishing operations in any areas specified in the licence shall, while not in those specified areas, at all times keep its fishing gear securely stowed so as not to be readily available for use.

(3) Where a foreign fishing vessel licence specifically authorises a foreign fishing vessel to fish using only a particular set or type of fishing gear, such vessel shall, while in the waters of Belize, at all times keep any other fishing gear on board the vessel securely stowed so as not to be readily available for use.

34. (1) No local fishing vessel shall be used for fishing or for any other related activities while in the waters of Belize without a valid local fishing vessel licence issued in accordance with these Regulations.

Local fishing  
vessel licence.

(2) An application for a local fishing vessel licence, and the licence itself, shall be in such form as the Minister may from time to time set out by

Order published in the *Gazette* pursuant to section 13 of the Act.

(3) Where a local fishing vessel licensed under these Regulations ceases to be a local fishing vessel, the licence of such vessel shall automatically terminate upon such cessation.

(4) The fees payable in respect of a local fishing vessel licence shall, depending on the length of the local fishing vessel concerned, be of an amount set out in Table B of Sixth Schedule hereto.

Table B.  
Sixth Schedule.

General  
conditions  
applicable to local  
fishing vessels.

35. (1) Unless expressly provided in a local fishing vessel licence, the conditions specified in subregulation (2) below shall be and are hereby declared to be implied conditions applicable to every local fishing vessel licensed under these Regulations.

(2) The conditions referred to in subregulations (1) above are: -

(a) that no fishing shall be undertaken in the waters of Belize except in accordance with the terms and conditions of the licence and in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Regulations made thereunder;

(b) that any change at any time before or after the issue of the local fishing vessel licence in the particulars and information set out in the application form for the licence shall be notified by the holder or applicant thereof in writing to the Fisheries Administrator as soon as may be, but in any case not later than seven calendar days after the occurrence thereof;

(c) that the vessel shall comply with:-

- (i) the laws of Belize relating to safety of navigation; and
- (ii) such safety standards as the fisheries Administrator may require from time to time;
- (d) that the vessel shall display the identification markings assigned to it by the Fisheries Administrator in accordance with the specifications set out in Seventh Schedule hereto;
- (e) that the master of the vessel shall, if so required by the Fisheries Administrator, cause a logbook to be maintained on a daily basis in such form as the Fisheries Administrator may from time to time require for the purpose of recording the fishing operations of the vessel;
- (f) that any logbook maintained under paragraph (e) shall be transmitted in its original and unaltered in its original and unaltered form to the Fisheries Administrator at such time or times as he may in writing require;
- (g) that the master and each member of the crew of the vessel shall comply with the directions given to them or each of them orally or in writing by the Fisheries Administrator or a fisheries officer at such time as the aforesaid officers or any of them may require;
- (h) that the master of the vessel shall allow any person designated in writing by the Fisheries Administrator

Seventh  
Schedule.

to board and remain on board the vessel as an observer.

Marking and identification of fishing vessels.

36. All fishing vessels (both local and foreign) licensed to undertake fishing operations within the waters of Belize pursuant to these Regulations shall be marked in accordance with Regulation 41 below.

Fisherman's licence.

37. (1) An application for a fisherman's licence and the licence itself, shall be in such form as the Minister may from time to time set out by Order published in the *Gazette* pursuant to section 13 of the Act.

Table C.  
Sixth Schedule.

(2) The fees payable for the issue of a fisherman's licence shall be of an amount set out in Table C of Sixth Schedule hereto.

66 of 2002.

(3) Any person applying for a Fisherman's Licence must be a Belizean and must present any of the following documents at the time of application:

(a) a valid Belizean Passport;

(b) a valid Voters I.D.; or

(c) a Belizean I.D. (with photograph) along with a birth certificate

66 of 2002.

(4) The Fisheries Administrator may waive the requirements of sub-regulation (3) with regards to Regulations 28 to 33.

Research permits.

38. (1) The owner, master, charterer or operator of a vessel may apply for a research permit to enable him to undertake research in the waters of Belize.

(2) A research permit issued pursuant to these Regulations may be subject to such terms and conditions as may be prescribed or as may be

stated in the permit, and shall also be subject to the following terms and conditions:-

- (a) such scientific observers or other personnel as the Fisheries Administrator may designate shall be allowed on board the licensed vessel and shall be allowed to participate fully in the research project both on board the vessel and on shore;
- (b) copies of any raw data generated by the research operations shall be submitted to the Fisheries Administrator at the end of the operations or at any other time as the Fisheries Administrator may require;
- (c) the results and conclusions of the research operations shall be submitted to the Fisheries Administrator as soon as practicable following the completion of the operations and in any case not later than the time specified in the research permit for this purpose;
- (d) no result of the research operation shall be published or otherwise made available outside Belize without the prior agreement in writing of the Fisheries Administrator;

(3) An application for a research licence, and the licence itself, shall be in such form as the Minister may from time to time set out by Order published in the *Gazette* pursuant to section 13 of the Act.

(4) A research permit may be issued to a particular person or vessel to carry out the research activities referred to in the permit, and the fee payable in respect of that permit shall be of an amount set out in Table D of the Sixth

Table D.  
Sixth Schedule.

Schedule of hereto.

(5) The Minister may, if he considers it to be in the public interest of Belize, vary or waive the amount of fees payable in respect of a research permit issued under these Regulations.

Marine  
bio-research  
licence.

39. (1) No person shall engage in marine bio-diversity research for the use of bio-technology in Belize without a valid marine bio-research licence issued under these Regulations.

(2) A marine bio-research licence issued pursuant to these Regulations may be subject to such terms and conditions as may be prescribed or as may be stated in the licence, and shall also be subject to the following terms and conditions:-

- (a) any use of genetic materials shall be of public interest and natural patrimony and the Fisheries Department shall be the direct custodian for all marine-related prospecting. A transfer agreement will need to be signed between the Fisheries Department and interested parties;
- (b) an entity engaged in bio-prospecting shall train Belizean citizens and permanent residents in related fields;
- (c) an organisation deriving revenue from the use of bio-diversity in Belize shall enter into a written agreement with the Government of Belize, acting through the Fisheries Department, crediting at least ten percent of such revenue to the Consolidated Revenue Fund;

- (d) no bio-prospecting with a negative environmental impact shall be allowed;
- (e) all bio-research conducted in the waters of Belize shall require a transfer agreement.

(3) An application for a marine bio-research licence, and the licence itself, shall be in such form as the Minister may from time to time set out by Order published in the *Gazette* pursuant to section 13 of the Act.

(4) The fees payable for the issue of a marine bio-research licence shall be of an amount set out in Table E of the Sixth Schedule.

Table E.  
Sixth Schedule.

40. (1) All licences and permits issued under these Regulations:-

Terms and  
conditions of  
licences and  
permits.

- (a) shall be valid for such period as may be specified in the licence or permit;
- (b) shall not be transferable or assignable;
- (c) shall at all material times be carried by the owner, master, charterer, operator or researcher of the vessel in respect of which it is issued and produced on demand when requested by the Fisheries Administrator or a fisheries officer.

(2) Where a vessel licenced under these Regulations is transferred to another owner such owner shall, within seven calendar days of becoming owner, apply to the Minister on the prescribed application form for the re-licensing of the vessel.

(3) Where a vessel licensed under these Regulations ceases to undertake and perform the fishing or research operations for which it was initially licensed, the master, owner, operator, or charterer of such vessel shall within

seven days of such cessation, inform the Fisheries Administrator of that fact and return the licence for cancellation.

Distinguishing marks.

41. (1) Before the issuing of a licence to fish on respect of any vessel, the Fisheries Administrator shall allot a distinguishing mark to that vessel and shall advise the owner of the vessel of the mark so allotted.

(2) All marks allotted to vessels during the currency of a licence shall be maintained in a clean and un-obscured condition by the owner of the vessel. A tender or dinghy or other small boat customarily used in conjunction with a vessel to which a mark is allotted shall carry the same mark as the parent vessel.

Offence and penalty for contravening Regulation 41.

42. Any person who removes, defaces or otherwise alters any distinguishing mark on any vessel without the express instructions in writing of the Fisheries Administrator, or any person who applies a mark to a vessel to which such mark has not been allocated or who applies a mark with a view to mislead or confuse, the form or nature of which may be confused with an official allotted mark, shall be guilty of an offence against these Regulations and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment, and in addition the vessel for which the conviction was obtained may be forfeited to the state, or if not forfeited, may not be licensed for a period of twelve months following such conviction.

Returns.

Form EI.  
Second  
Schedule.

43. (1) Every person or exporter engaged in any of the operations to which reference is made in this Regulations shall upon request furnish to the Fisheries Administrator a return in writing on Form EI set out in the Second Schedule to these Regulations, giving details as to the catch, sales output, produce in respect of fish purchases, fishing gear and name and type of vessel used, time occupied in fishing, areas fished and species taken or such other information as may be required for statistical purposes. The operations in respect of which a return may be required to be furnished are:-

- (a) the taking of fish for sale;
- (b) the sale of fish at any market or at any establishment at which fish is sold which has not passed through any market;
- (c) the preserving, curing, smoking, drying or salting of fish for sale or export;
- (d) the processing, filleting packaging or handling of fish or fish products;
- (e) the purchasing, receiving and export of fish or fish products.

(2) Any person or exporter required to furnish a return under this Regulation shall within fifteen calendar days after the expiration of each month furnish that return to the Fisheries Department setting out the prescribed particulars.

(3) Any person who neglects or fails to furnish a return required to be furnished in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation or who furnishes false information in any such return shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

44. (1) A Summary jurisdiction court may order any fish or other perishable articles seized by the Fisheries Department pursuant to the Act and Regulations made thereunder to be forfeited.

Custody and disposal of seized articles.

(2) A summary jurisdiction court may order the release of any vessel or any other article seized by the Fisheries Department pursuant to the Act and Regulations made thereunder to be released on receipt of a bond or other

security for its value.

(3) Where proceedings are instituted in any court in respect of a seized article, the court dealing with the matter may retain the seized article as an exhibit pending the final determination of the proceedings before it, but if separate proceedings are instituted in another court, the first mentioned court, may cause the article to be delivered to that other court, there to be dealt with as an exhibit or as that other court sees fit.

Forfeiture.

45. (1) On convicting any person of an offence against these Regulations, the court:-

(a) may order any fishing vessel used in the commission of the offence and any article in respect of which the offence has been committed, to be forfeited;

(b) shall order all fish taken in the commission of the offence to be forfeited;

(2) Where an article in the custody of the court is not forfeited pursuant to subregulation (1) above, it shall be held by the court until the convicted person has paid all fines relating to or associated with the use of such article, and if the convicted person fails to pay the fines within such time as may be specified by the court, such article may be sold on the order of the court after the application of the prosecution, and the money realised from the sale may be applied towards payment of the outstanding fines.

Cancellation of licences and permits.

46. (1) Where any person has been convicted of an offence against these Regulations, the court may, in addition to any other penalty it may impose, cancel any licence or permit issued under these Regulations to the convicted person, and may further order that such person shall be prohibited from applying for any licence or permit under the Act or these Regulations for such time as the court may specify in the order.

(2) A person aggrieved by the court's order prohibiting the issue of a permit or licence to him for a specified time may appeal against that order to the Supreme Court.

47. If any person contravenes the provisions of these Regulations or a fisheries agreement made pursuant to these Regulations, or who contravenes the terms and conditions of a licence or permit issued hereunder, and no specific penalty is provided for such contravention, such person commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

General offence  
and penalty.

48. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*

49. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*

50. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*

51. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*

52. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*

53. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*

54. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*

55. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*

**PART IV  
PROCESSING**

*Section 1 - Definitions*

56. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*
57. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*
58. *[Repealed by S. I. 13 of 1999].*
- Containers to export fish. 59. Fish or fish products shall be packed and exported in new, clean and sound containers.
- Samples of fish for analysis. 60. A fishery officer may take samples of fish or fish products sufficient for purposes of analysis free of charge.
- Inspection by fishery officer. 61. The owner of fish or fish products or a person acting on his behalf shall make readily accessible to a fishery officer any fish or fish containers for which inspection or reinspection is required under these Regulations.
- Preserving the identity of fish. 62. For the purpose of preserving the identity of any fish, a fishery officer may detain such fish and the container thereof and place upon the container a numbered tag in such form as the Fisheries Administrator may determine.
- Removal of tag placed on container by a fishery officer. 63. No unauthorised person shall remove or alter or cause to be removed or altered any tag placed on a container by a fishery officer or remove or cause or allow to be removed fish or fish product containers that are detained by him.
- Certificate of inspection. 64. A certificate of inspection in Form I set out in the Third Schedule to these Regulations may on request, be issued by a fishery officer where he is satisfied that the fish or fish product complies with the requirements of these Regulations. Fish or fish products failing to comply with the requirements shall

be condemned by the fishery officer.

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| <p>65. Any fish or fish product that, is decomposed or unwholesome shall be disposed of by the owner thereof under the direction of a fishery officer in such a way as to prevent the possibility of the fish or the fish product being marketed or used for human consumption.</p>  | <p>Disposal of decomposed fish.</p>          |
| <p>66. Where fish or fish products condemned for disposal pursuant to regulation 65, it shall be disposed of within five days after the day of inspection unless an extension of time for disposal is granted by the Minister.</p>   | <p>Time for disposal of fish.</p>            |
| <p>67. Where an owner of fish or fish product or fish containers of any person acting on his behalf is not satisfied with the decision of a fishery officer regarding the acceptability under these Regulations of the fish or fish products or such containers, he may appeal against the decision to the Minister who may order a reinspection.</p>  | <p>Re-inspection of fish.</p>                |
| <p>68. Where a reinspection is held pursuant to regulation 67 and a decision is made by the Minister, that decision shall be final.</p>  | <p>Decision of Minister to be final.</p>     |
| <p>69. Where a fishery officer has reasonable grounds to believe that fish has deteriorated after the date on which it was inspected or that it otherwise fails to meet the requirements of these Regulations, any inspection marks and designations on the containers shall be removed or obliterated and any inspection certificate that may have been issued for the fish shall be null and void and shall be surrendered to the fishery officer.</p> | <p>Removal of inspection marks.</p>          |
| <p>70. It shall be an offence to use an inspection certificate when that certificate is null and void.</p>   | <p>Inspection Certificate null and void.</p> |
| <p>71. Establishments in which fish is dressed, packed, graded or held in refrigerated storage shall be registered. Application for registration shall be made to the Minister.</p>  | <p>Registration of establishments.</p>       |

- Issue of Certificate of Registration. Third Schedule. 72. A certificate of registration in Form 2 set out in the Third Schedule to these Regulations shall be issued by the Minister in respect of an establishment in which fresh or frozen fish is dressed, packed or graded only when the establishment meets the requirements of these Regulations. Such certificate shall be conspicuously displayed on the premises in respect of which it has been issued.
- Certificate of Registration not transferable. 73. Certificates of Registration are not transferable and shall expire on the 31 st December in the year in which such certificates are granted.
- Cancellation of Certificate of Registration. 74. The Minister may cancel a Certificate of Registration where-
- (a) an establishment to which a certificate of registration was granted and the land and installations forming part of that establishment are not maintained in accordance with the requirements of these Regulations; or
  - (b) any serious contamination is found in that establishment.
- Transportation of fish. 75. The owner or operator of a boat or any other carrier shall use the boat or other carrier for the transportation of fish only if the requirements of these Regulations are fulfilled.
- Containers for fish to be clean. 76. All conveyances including vehicles, boxes, tubes or any containers used to transport fish to or from any fish dressing establishment shall be clean, and when necessary, disinfected.

*Section III - Labelling*

- Labelling of fish. 77. (1) Every container of fish and every wrapper and label thereon shall be correctly and legibly marked in English in addition to any other language to indicate-

- (a) the local name of the fish or fish product;
- (b) the net weight of the fish or fish product;
- (c) the grade, size and count of the fish or fish product;
- (d) the name and address of the distributor and/or exporter;
- (e) the ingredients in each container, where there is more than one ingredient therein, and where food additive or preservative chemicals are present, either-
  - (i) by listing them in descending order or their proportion in the container; or
  - (ii) by stating the proportion of each ingredient in the container.

(2) The labelling or marking referred to in (a) to (d) of paragraph (1) of this regulation shall be shown on the main panel of every package containing one pound or more of fish and shall be not less than one quarter of an inch in height.

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| 78. Containers or wrappers in which fresh frozen or dressed fish is packed shall be clean and of good presentation.  | Wrappers for fish.                            |
| 79. No person shall mark, label or package any fresh, frozen or dressed fish or fish product in a manner that is false, misleading or deceptive.   | Label not to be deceptive.                    |
| 80. Containers or wrappers in which fresh, frozen or dressed fish or fish product is packed shall not be marked with the designation "Processed under Government Supervision" or "Government Inspected" or words to that effect without the authority of the Minister. | No Designation without authority of Minister. |

Quality designations to be approved.	81. Quality designations shall not be marked on any container, wrapper or label for fish or fish products unless such standards or provisions have been approved by the Minister.
Marking of containers.	82. All master containers for packaged fish shall be legibly marked in such a manner that the name of the processing plant and the day, month and year of packaging can be determined by an inspector.
Requirements for export.	83. Notwithstanding anything in these Regulations, no person shall export or attempt to export-
Fourth Schedule.	<p>(a) crawfish unless such crawfish complies with the requirements of Table A of the Fourth Schedule to these Regulations;</p> <p>(b) dressed fish unless such fish complies with the requirements of Table B of the Fourth Schedule to these Regulations;</p> <p>(c) fillet unless such fillet complies with the requirements of Table C of the Fourth Schedule to these Regulations;</p> <p>(d) “market clean” conch unless such “market clean” conch complies with the requirements of Table D of the Fourth Schedule to these Regulations;</p> <p>(e) whole or headless frozen shrimp unless such whole or headless frozen shrimp complies with the requirements of Table E of the Fourth Schedule to these Regulations.</p>

*Section IV - Construction of and Equipment for Fish  
Processing Establishments*

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| 84. The surface of floors in wet working areas where fish is received, held, dressed or packaged shall be constructed of concrete, or asphalt or other sealing material approved by the Fisheries Administrator and shall be sloped for drainage purposes. | Surface of floor.             |
| 85. Drains shall be of an adequate size and of sufficient capacity to carry all liquid and solid wastes.   | Drains.                       |
| 86. Inside surfaces of walls in wet working areas where fish is received, held, dressed or packaged shall be constructed of smooth, water washable, light coloured material, that can be thoroughly washed up to a minimum height of four feet.            | Surfaces of walls.            |
| 87. Adequate ventilation shall be provided in working areas.   | Ventilation.                  |
| 88. Rooms where fish is dressed or packaged shall have walls and ceilings that are free from cracks, crevices and open joints other than doors, windows and drains and constructed of smooth washable light coloured material.                             | Rooms to be free from cracks. |
| 89. Windows on rooms where fish is dressed, packed or graded shall be screened.  | Screened windows.             |
| 90. Doors leading to rooms where fish is dressed, packed or graded shall be self-closing.  | Self-closing doors.           |
| 91. An adequate number of sanitary washbasins with a satisfactory supply of running water, liquid or solid detergent shall be provided in the working areas.   | Sanitary washbasins.          |
| 92. An adequate supply of safe, sanitary water having a most probable number of coliform bacteria of two or less per hundred millilitres shall be  | Sanitary water.               |

- provided.
- Disinfection of protective gears. 93. Facilities shall be available, at a convenient location, where protective hand coverings, caps and overalls used in dressing areas are disinfected.
- Skinning boards. 94. Cutting, filleting and skinning boards shall be made of a single piece of planed lumber, other than plywood, or other approved material and construction, and shall be kept at all times in a clean condition satisfactory to a fishery officer.
- Non-corrodible material. 95. Surfaces, other than cutting, filleting and skinning boards, on which fish is dressed shall be made of non-corrodible material other than wood and all joints on such surfaces shall be smooth and water tight.
- Metal frames. 96. The frames and legs of all equipment on which fish is dressed or packed shall be constructed of metal which shall be well maintained.
- Construction of tables. 97. All tables shall be so constructed that they and the areas beneath can be easily cleaned.
- Containers for holding fish before dressing. 98. Boxes, carts, bins and other containers used in fresh or frozen fish establishments for holding fish before it is dressed shall provide drainage and, if made of wood shall be constructed of planed lumber or water proof plywood, manufactured to a standard approved by the Fisheries Administrator.
- Containers for dressing fish. 99. Containers, trays, tanks, vats or other utensils used for dressing fresh and frozen fish shall be of non-corrodible material, other than wood and shall have smooth surfaces free from cracks or crevices.
- Storage of offal. 100. Containers in which offal is stored shall be watertight, have well fitted covers, and be constructed of metal, plastic or other synthetic material approved by the Fisheries Administrator.

101. (1) Flumes for conveying fish shall be constructed of noncorrodible materials, other than wood, and shall be constructed in such a manner that they can be properly cleaned. Flumes for conveying fish.

(2) Conveyors (if provided) shall be made of non-corrodible material other than wood and shall be kept clean at all times.

102. Adequate toilet facilities of a sanitary type approved by the Fisheries Administrator shall be provided, and maintained in a satisfactory condition; and a supply of toilet tissue shall be available in each toilet room at all times. Toilet facilities.

*Section V - Operating Requirements*

103. Fish intended for processing shall on receipt at the plant be immediately washed with cold water and if not immediately processed shall be iced, or placed in a cooling room having a temperature not higher than 34°F. (1°C). Processing of fish.

104. Only ice made of clean water from a source approved by the Fisheries Administrator shall be used in a fish processing establishment. Ice.

105. All persons employed in a fish processing plant must possess a valid food handlers' certificate. Food handler's Certificate.

106. Every person engaged in handling, processing or packing fish shall wash his hands thoroughly with running water and liquid or solid detergent after each absence from the working area. Washing of hands.

107. Employees who handle processed fish with their bare hands shall not wear fingernail polish. No nail polish.

108. Protective hand coverings worn by employees in the filleting and packaging areas shall be disinfected at each break during the work shift. Disinfection of hand coverings.

- Overalls. 109. All employees engaged in grading, packing and cleaning of fish shall wear overalls, or other protective clothing.
- Water proof garments. 110. In a fish processing plant, filleters, skimmers, scalers and handlers of dressed fish shall wear clean water proof garments.
- Overcoats to be clean. 111. Overcoats or other outer garments used by workers in frozen storage rooms shall be kept clean at all times.
- Cleaning of water proof garments. 112. Water proof garments shall be properly cleaned after each work shift.
- Provision of protective clothing. 113. Protective clothing as described in regulations 109, 110, 111 and 112 must be provided by the owner or owners of the fish processing establishment.
- No smoking. 114. No person shall smoke or spit in the processing plant.
- Cleaning of floors. 115. Floors in wet working areas shall be kept clean and be thoroughly washed and disinfected at least once daily.
- Cleaning of utensils. 116. Utensils coming in contact with processed fish shall be cleaned and disinfected at least once per working day or part thereof.
- Storage of utensils. 117. At the end of each working day or part thereof the utensils referred to in regulation 116 above shall be thoroughly cleaned and stored in a sanitary manner.
- Sewage. 118. Sewage, including liquid waste from fish processing operations shall be disposed of in such a manner that it is inaccessible to flies and in such a manner that the water supply of the fish processing establishment will not become contaminated.
- Removal of offal. 119. Offal or other refuse shall be removed from the fish processing areas at least once daily and disposed of in a manner satisfactory to a fishery officer.

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| 120. Offal containers shall be used only for offal, and distinctly marked.  | Marking of offal containers.    |
| 121. Dogs, cats and other animals shall not be allowed in a fish processing establishment.  | No animals.                     |
| 122. A rodent and insect control programme satisfactory to the Fisheries Administrator shall be maintained in a fish processing establishment and where pesticides and rodenticides are used, the application thereof shall be made under the supervision of a fishery officer using proper equipment and in such a manner as to prevent contamination of fish. | Insect control.                 |
| 123. No unnecessary material or equipment shall be stored in a working area.  | Unnecessary material.           |
| 124. The area including the beach, if any, surrounding and under the control of fish processing establishment, shall be kept clean.   | Beach area.                     |
| 125. Brushes, brooms, hoses and other equipment and material necessary for proper cleaning shall be available at all times in a fish processing establishment.  | Cleaning materials.             |
| 126. Fish processing establishments and all equipment and utensils used in the operation of such establishments shall be kept in good repair and in a clean and sanitary condition.   | Equipment to be in good repair. |
| 127. Paints containing toxic chemicals such as lead, copper or mercury salts, shall not be used in fish processing establishments.  | No toxic chemicals.             |
-

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

**Form 1**

PORT OF

ENTRY FOR EXPORT DUTY

60  
CAP. 2101

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name of Exporter</i>	<i>Name of Ship</i>	<i>Destination</i>	<i>Weight of fish</i>	<i>Type of fish</i>	<i>Rate of Duty</i>	<i>Amount of Duty</i>

*Fisheries*

I declare the above particulars to be just and true in all respects.

Declared before me,  
*Comptroller.*

*Exporter.*

THE SUBSIDIARY LAWS OF BELIZE

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No. 1 Power Lane,  
Belmopan, by the authority of  
the Government of Belize.

REVISED EDITION 2003

**SECOND SCHEDULE**

**Form E1**

To: FISHERIES ADMINISTRATOR

FROM:

NAME OF VESSEL:

DATE:

SMACK, DRY BOAT, SKIFF, DOREY, (MARK WHICH)

SIZE OF BOAT:

BASED AT:

<i>Catch (Species)</i>	<i>Weight (lbs.)</i>	<i>Type of Gear Used</i>	<i>Area Fished</i>	<i>Time Spent Fishing</i>	<i>No .of Fishermen</i>

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REVISED EDITION 2003

Fisheries

ICAP 210

61

SECOND SCHEDULE (Cont)

Form F1

66 of 2002.

APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO COLLECT  
AQUARIUM FISH IN BELIZE

To: Fisheries Administrator

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (company),

I, \_\_\_\_\_

(person applying)

am applying for a licence (or renewal) to collect aquarium fish in the waters of  
Belize from the \_\_\_\_\_ area.

Fish will be housed and packaged at \_\_\_\_\_

(address)

All applicants must still comply with all relevant Regulations, and must follow  
the approved conditions of the proposal. Failure to comply with the above  
may result in cancellation of the licence and a fine.

Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_

For Official Use Only
Date Approved _____
Approved by _____
RCR # _____
Comments:

SECOND SCHEDULE (Cont)

Form G1

APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO CONDUCT  
AQUACULTURE OPERATIONS IN BELIZE

66 of 2002.

To: Fisheries Administrator  
Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Farm \_\_\_\_\_  
Location of the Farm \_\_\_\_\_  
On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (farm), I, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (person applying)  
am applying for a licence (or renewal) to conduct aquaculture operations  
with \_\_\_\_\_ at stocking densities of \_\_\_\_\_  
(species)

(PLs or fingerlings/acre) in total of \_\_\_\_\_ acres of production  
ponds.  
Seedstock will be obtained from \_\_\_\_\_

Processing will be done by \_\_\_\_\_

Production cycles per year \_\_\_\_\_

All applicants for an Operations Licence must have signed an Environmental  
Compliance Plan with the Department of the Environment.

Signature of Applicant  
\_\_\_\_\_

For Official Use Only  
Date Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved by \_\_\_\_\_  
RCR # \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments:

**THIRD SCHEDULE**

**FORM 1**

(Reg. 64)

**CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION**

Fisheries Laboratory,  
Ministry of Trade and Industry,  
Belize City.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that I have this day examined and found fit for human consumption: (here describe the article examined and state any identifying mark given to container in which the article examined is contained)\*

.....  
The above was found in the possession of .....  
and consigned to .....

Fishery Officer.

\*Delete when not applicable.

**FORM 2**

**CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION**

**Cooperative Society**

has been registered as an establishment in which fresh or frozen fish is processed packed or graded.

This Certificate is issued by virtue of powers vested in me by regulation 72 of the Fisheries Regulations, made under section 9 of the Fisheries Act.

.....  
*Ministry of Trade and Industry*

Date: ....., 20 .....

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the Government of Belize. ]

**FOURTH SCHEDULE****Table A.****PRODUCTION OF FROZEN CRAWFISH OR CRAWFISH TAILS**

Any person who produces frozen crawfish or crawfish tails, shall for that purpose:

- (a) use crawfish free of “black spots”, broken shells, missing swimmerettes or telsons;
- (b) wash the tails after they have been severed from the body in clean running water and have the intestines completely removed;
- (c) keep every crawfish or crawfish tail at a temperature not exceeding 40°F during processing (4.4°C);
- (d) wrap in cellophane or other suitable material and place every crawfish or crawfish tail in the freezing apparatus within one hour after such tail has been processed;
- (e) freeze every crawfish tail at a temperature not higher than - 20 ° F (-28.9°C);
- (f) store and maintain before shipment every frozen crawfish tail at a temperature not higher than - 10 ° F ( - 23.3 ° C).

**FOURTH SCHEDULE (cont.)****Table B.****PRODUCTION OF DRESSED FISH**

Any person who produces dressed fish shall for that purpose:

- (a) use fish having no detectable spoilage, the flesh of which shall be firm and resilient and free of puncture marks;
- (b) use fish which is free of any abnormal condition, is not diseased and is free of parasitized tissue;
- (c) slit the abdomen, and gut and wash every dressed fish in clean running water;
- (d) keep every dressed fish at a temperature not exceeding 40 ° F (4.4 ° C) during processing;
- (e) wrap in cellophane or other suitable material and place every dressed fish in the freezing apparatus within one hour after such fish has been processed;
- (f) freeze every dressed fish at a temperature not higher than - 20 ° F (28.9 ° C);
- (g) store and maintain before shipment every frozen dressed fish at a temperature not higher than - 10 ° F (23.3 ° C).

**FOURTH SCHEDULE (cont.)****Table C.****PRODUCTION OF FILLET OR FISH STEAKS**

Any person who produces fillet or fish steaks shall for that purpose-

- (a) use fish which satisfies the requirements of Table B of the Fourth Schedule of these Regulations;
- (b) ensure that fillet or fish steaks shall not contain blemishes such as visible blood clots, or pieces of skin (except for skin-on fillet and fish steak);
- (c) wash every fillet of fish steak in clean running water;
- (d) ensure that fillet or fish steaks shall be free of napes or belly flaps and properly scaled;
- (e) keep every fillet or fish steak at a temperature not exceeding 40 ° F (4.4 ° C) during processing;
- (f) wrap in cellophane or other suitable material and place every fillet or fish steak in the freezing apparatus within one hour after such fillet or fish steak has been processed;
- (g) freeze every fillet or fish steak at a temperature not higher than - 20 ° F (28.9 ° C);
- (h) store and maintain before shipment every frozen fillet or fish steak at a temperature not higher than - 10 ° F (23.3 ° C).

**FOURTH SCHEDULE (cont.)****Table D.****PRODUCTION OF “MARKET CLEAN” CONCH**

Any person who produces “market clean” conch shall for that purpose-

- (a) use conch meat having no detectable spoilage, the flesh of which shall be free of diseased or parasitized tissue;
- (b) wash every “market clean” conch in clean running water;
- (c) keep every “market clean” conch at a temperature not exceeding 40 ° F (4.4 ° C) during processing;
- (d) wrap in cellophane or other suitable material and place every “market clean” conch in the freezing apparatus within one hour after such “market clean” conch has been processed;
- (e) freeze every “market clean” conch at a temperature not higher than -20°F (28.9°C);
- (f) store and maintain before shipment every frozen “market clean” conch at a temperature not higher than - 10 ° F (23.3 0 C).

**FOURTH SCHEDULE (cont.)****Table E.****PRODUCTION OF WHOLE OR HEADLESS FROZEN SHRIMP**

Any person who produces whole or headless frozen shrimp shall for that purpose-

- (a) use healthy shrimps showing no detectable spoilage;
- (b) use shrimp free of "black spot" on the shell or meat, free of missing legs or flippers, loose shell or otherwise damaged;
- (c) wash every whole or headless shrimp in clean running water;
- (d) keep every whole or headless shrimp at a temperature not exceeding 40 ° F (4.4 ° C) during processing;
- (e) wrap in cellophane or other suitable material and place every whole or headless shrimp in the freezing apparatus within one hour after such whole or headless shrimp has been processed;
- (f) freeze every whole or headless shrimp at a temperature not higher than - 20 ° F (28.9 ° C);
- (g) store and maintain before shipment every whole or headless shrimp at a temperature not higher than - 10 ° F (23.3 ° C).

**FIFTH SCHEDULE**

55 of 1993.

**[REGULATION 12:02(e)]**

1. Belize River: Beaver Dam Creek to Labouring Creek.
  2. New River: Irish Creek to Water Bank
  3. Rio Bravo: Upstream from Dos Bocas Dam, also Booth's River
  4. Cox and Mucklehany Lagoons, headwaters of Mussel Creek
  5. Northern and Southern Lagoons and tributaries (Manatee lagoons and Manatee River)
  6. Sibun River (between Ferguson Bank and Sibun Bar)
-

**SIXTH SCHEDULE****[REGULATION 28(4)]**

55 of 1993.

TABLE A	-	Fees for foreign fishing vessel licences less than 45ft overall length - \$1,000.00 per annum	
TABLE B	-	Fees for local fishing vessel licences 20ft to 30 feet overall Length - \$25.00 per annum.	
TABLE C	-	Fees for fisherman's licence - \$25.00 per annum.	
TABLE D	-	Fees for Research Permit - \$200.00 per annum.	
TABLE E	-	Fees for marine bio-prospecting licence - \$1,000.00 per annum.	
TABLE F	-	Fees for Fish Exporters Licence - \$50.00 per annum.	66 of 2002.
TABLE G	-	Fees for Fish Processing Plant Licence - \$1,000.00 per annum.	66 of 2002.
TABLE H	-	Fees for Black Coral Licence-\$50.00 per annum.	66 of 2002.
TABLE I	-	Fees for Fish Exporters Permit - \$5.00 each.	66 of 2002.
TABLE J	-	Fees for Aquaculture Operations - \$1,000.00 per annum.	66 of 2002.
TABLE K	-	Fees for Aquarium Fish Collectors Licence-\$200.00 per annum.	66 of 2002.

## SEVENTH SCHEDULE

## [Regulation 29(4) (a) (iii)]

55 of 1993.

## SPECIFICATIONS FOR MARKING OF FISHING VESSELS

## 1. Content of Identification Marks.

- (a) Any vessel that has been assigned an International Telecommunication Union radio call sign as its identification mark.
- (b) Any vessel that has not been assigned an International Telecommunication Union to the flag state of the vessel followed by a hyphen and the licence or registration number assigned to that vessel by its flag state.
- (c) Any vessel that has not been assigned an International Telecommunication Union radio call sign but is normally carried on board another vessel for use in fishing operations shall display the identification mark assigned to that other vessel.

## Location of Marking

- (a) Identification marks shall be prominently displayed:
  - (i) on the vessel's port or starboard side or superstructure high above the waterline but not in the flare of the bow or on the stern in such a way as to be clearly visible both from the sea and the air; and

- 
- (ii) for vessels other than local fishing vessels or indecked vessels on a horizontal surface of the vessel athwart ships with the top of the letters and numbers towards the bow of the vessel; where an awning or other temporary cover is placed so as to obscure the marking, the awning or other cover shall bear the same identification mark.
- (b) Identification marks shall be so placed that they:
- (i) are not obscured at any time by fishing gear whether stowed or in use;
- (ii) for vessels other than local fishing vessels or undecked vessels on a horizontal surface of the vessel athwart ships with the top of the letters and numbers towards the bow of the vessel; where an awning or other temporary cover is placed so as to obscure the marking, the awning or other cover shall bear the same identification mark.
- (c) Identification marks shall be so placed that they:
- (i) are not obscured at any time by fishing gear whether stowed or in use;
- (ii) are clear of flows from scuppers or overboard discharges and of areas that might be prone to damage or discoloration occurring during or as a result of fishing operations; and

(iii) do not extend below the waterline.

3. Technical Specifications.

- (a) Block lettering and numbering shall be used throughout.
- (b) The width of the letters and numbers shall be in proportion to the height as set out below.
- (c) The height of the letters and numbers shall be in proportion to the size of the vessel in accordance with the following criteria:
- (i) for identification marks on the side or superstructure of the vessel

<b>Length overall of vessel</b>	<b>Minimum height of letters in meters (m)</b>
25 m and over	1.0m
At least 20 m but less than 25 m	0.8m
At least 15 m but less than 20 m	0.6m
At least 12 m but less than 15 m	0.4m
At least 5 m but less than 12 m	0.3m
Under 5 m	0.1m

- (ii) For identification marks to be displayed on horizontal surfaces on vessels of 5 meters length overall and over, the height of the letters and numbers shall be not less than 0.3 meters.
- (d) The length of the hyphen shall be half of the height of the letters and numbers.

- 
- (e) The width of the stroke for all letters, numbers and the hyphen shall be one sixth of the height of the letters and numbers.
- (f) The space between letters and/or numbers, except in the case referred to in paragraph (g), shall not exceed one quarter of the height of the letters and numbers and shall not be less than one sixth of that height.
- (g) The space between adjacent letters having sloping sides shall not exceed one eighth of the height of the letters, nor be less than one tenth of that height.
- (h) Identification marks shall be white on a black background or black on a white background; the background shall extend to provide a border around the letters and numbers of not less than one sixth of the height of the letters and numbers.
- (i) Good quality marine paint shall be used in the marking of vessels in accordance with the foregoing specifications; retro-reflective or heat-generating substances may also be used.
- (j) The identification marks and the background shall be maintained in a good condition at all times.
-