

BELIZE:

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

No. 101 of 1999

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Cooperatives in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 13 of the Fisheries Act, Chapter 174 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 1980-90, and all other powers thereunto him enabling.

(Gazetted 18th September, 1999.)

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Short title.

**FISHERIES (HOL CHAN MARINE RESERVE)
(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1999,**

and shall be read and construed as one with the Fisheries (Hol Chan Marine Reserve) Regulations which, as amended, are hereinafter referred to as the principal Regulations.

Sub. Leg.
1991 Edn.
Vol. IV.
CAP. 174
S.I. 170/1994
S.I. 35/1996.

2. Regulation 2 of the principal Regulations is hereby amended by deleting the definition of "Zone A", "Zone B" and "Zone C" and replacing it by the following:-

Amendment
of Regulation
2.

"Zone A"; "Zone B", "Zone C" and "Zone D" shall have the descriptions respectively assigned to them in the Schedule to the Fisheries (Hol Chan Area Marine Reserve) Order;'

Sub. Leg.
1991 Edn.
Vol. IV
CAP. 174
P. 5.

3. Regulation 3 of the principal Regulations is hereby amended by repealing subregulation (1) and replacing it with the following:-

Amendment
of Regulation
3.

“(1) For the purpose of proper control and regulation of the Reserve there are hereby created four zones within the Reserve to be called:-

- (a) Zone A;
- (b) Zone B;
- (c) Zone C; and
- (d) Zone D.”

**Addition of
new
Regulation
8A.**

4. The principal Regulations are hereby amended by the addition of a new Regulation 8A immediately after Regulation 8 as follows:-

**“Additional Rules
for Zone D.**

8A. This area shall be protected as a multi-purpose use zone and the following additional rules shall apply to Zone D:-

- (a) there shall be within this zone a “General Use Area” which shall be protected as follows:-
 - (i) commercial fishing shall be allowed in all of Zone D except in the exclusive recreational areas of “Shark Ray Alley” and “Amigos Del Mar Dive Wreck”;
 - (ii) fishermen who use Zone D shall submit catch data upon request by the staff of the Reserve;
 - (iii) fishermen who use Zone D shall obtain the Hol Chan Marine Reserve stamp on their fishing licences;
 - (iv) no gloves shall be allowed in Zone D; and
 - (v) the down-under diver's flag shall be displayed at all times by tour guiding vessels;

- (b) there shall be within this zone "Exclusive Recreation Areas" which shall be protected as follows:-
- (i) special marker buoys shall demarcate the boundaries of the exclusive recreation areas, and these areas shall be comprised of the area at "Shark Ray Alley" and the other area outside the reef at the "Amigos Del Mar Dive Wreck";
 - (ii) no fishing shall be allowed in the exclusive recreation areas;
 - (iii) no feeding of fish by tourists shall be allowed in the exclusive recreation areas;
 - (iv) no touching of flora or fauna shall be allowed in the exclusive recreation areas;
 - (v) no scuba diving shall be allowed in Shark Ray Alley except for research purposes under a special licence issued by the Fisheries Administrator in that behalf;
 - (vi) commercial, recreational vessels shall be allowed to stay in the exclusive recreation areas for periods of not more than one hour at any one time, and only if there are in that area mooring buoys available;
 - (vii) commercial recreational vessels within the exclusive recreation areas shall first report to the Ranger on duty before engaging in any water-related activities;
 - (viii) down-under divers flags shall be displayed at all times; and

(ix) no fishing gear shall be allowed on board any commercial recreational vessel except fins and masks.”

Amendment of Regulation 11.

5. Regulation 11 of the principal Regulations is hereby amended by repealing subregulation (2) and replacing it with the following:-

“(2) Admission to the Reserve shall be on payment of the following fees for tourists, Belizeans and commercial recreational vessels:

- (a) **Zones A,B,C** **Fee**
 - 1. Tourist \$5.00 per person per day
 - 2. Belizeans \$2.00 per person per day
 - 3. Commercial Recreational Vessels \$10.00 per vessel per annum
- (b) **Zone D** **Fee**
 - 1. Tourists \$7.00 per person per day
 - 2. Belizeans \$1.00 per person per day
 - 3. Commercial Recreational Vessels \$10.00 per vessel per annum
- (c) **Zones B & C** **Fees**
(for sport fishing)
 - 1. Tourists \$5.00 per day per person
 - 2. Belizeans \$2.50 per day per person
 - 3. Commercial Recreational Vessels \$10.00 per vessel per annum.

Provided that no fees shall be charged:-

- (a) to any child below the age of twelve years;
- (b) to Belizeans who enter the Reserve on Sundays, unless that day falls on a Public or Bank holiday, in which case the normal fees shall be charged.”

6. The Fisheries (Hol Chan Marine Reserve) (Amendment) Regulations, 1999, are hereby repealed.

Repeals S.I.
No. 35/1996.

7. These Regulations shall come into force on the 31st day of August, 1999.

Commencement.

(DANIEL SILVA)
*Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Cooperatives*