

BELIZE:

FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) REGULATIONS, 2021

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

1. Citation.
2. Amendment of regulation 3.
3. Amendment of regulation 8.
4. Amendment of regulation 8:01.
5. Amendment of regulation 8:03.
6. Amendment of regulation 26:02.
7. Amendment of regulation 26:05.
8. Insertion of regulation 27:02.
9. Amendment of Third Schedule.
10. Insertion of Eight Schedule.
11. Commencement.

BELIZE:

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

No. 128 of 2021

REGULATIONS made by the Minister responsible for fisheries in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 87 of the Fisheries Resources Act, Act No. 7 of 2020, and all other powers thereunto him enabling.

(Gazetted 23rd October, 2021).

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Citation.

FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2021,

and shall be read and construed as one with the Fisheries Regulations, which, as amended, are hereinafter referred to as the principal Regulations.

- Sub. Leg. 1991
- Edn. Vol. IV
- CAP. 174 p.7
- S.I. 68/1990
- 139/1990
- 168/1991
- 169/1991
- 154/1992
- 55/1993
- 143/1993
- 34/1996
- 155/1996
- 27/1997
- 68/1997
- 76/1997
- 123/1997
- 13/1999
- 66/2002
- 56/2003
- 90/2003
- 103/2003
- 23/2005
- 135/2005
- 1/2010
- 10/2011
- 78/2011
- 52/2012
- 54/2012
- 88/2012
- 81/2019
- 57/2021

Amendment of
regulation 3.

2. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 3–

(a) in sub-regulation (1)–

(i) by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting the following–

“(a) if the carapace length, measured from the most anterior edge of the groove between the horns, directly above the eyes, along the mid-dorsal line to the rear edge of the carapace, is less than 3.25 inches or the tail weight is less than 4.5 ounces;” and

(ii) in paragraph (b), by deleting the words “15th February and the 14th June” and substituting the words “1st March and the 30th of June”;

(b) by inserting after the following new sub-regulations immediately after sub-regulation (1)–

“(1A) No person shall set any lobster trap in the fisheries waters of Belize during the period 1st March to 30th June.

(1B) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (1A), a person licensed to fish for crawfish may set a lobster trap in the fisheries waters of Belize from the 21st of June if the lobster trap is closed and unable to catch crawfish.”; and

(c) in sub-regulation (2)(a), by deleting the words “less than 3 inches” and substituting the words “less than 3.25 inches”.

Amendment of
regulation 8.

3. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 8(2) by deleting the words “one hundred yards of the Barrier

Reef” and substituting the words “three hundred yards of the Barrier Reef or any patch reef”.

4. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 8:01–

Amendment
of regulation
8:01.

- (a) by inserting the following new sub-regulation immediately after sub-regulation (1)

“(1A) No person authorized to take fish from fisheries waters using a trap shall take crawfish using a lobster trap unless the lobster trap–

- (a) has an escape gap or apertures of not less than 2 1/8 inches along one side of the trap, other than the mouth, and which is located on the lower end of the trap; and

- (b) has a biodegradable panel.”; and

- (b) in sub-regulation (3) by deleting the words “lobster trap or”.

5. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 8:03 by inserting the following new sub-regulation immediately after sub-regulation (1)–

Amendment
of regulation
8:03.

“(1A) An authorization issued under sub-regulation (1) shall specify the number of traps allowed–

- (a) per fisher;

- (b) per fishing vessel; and

- (c) to be deployed in a particular fishing area.”.

6. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 26:02(1) by deleting the words “1st August to 31st October” and substituting the words 1st May to 31st October”.

Amendment
of regulation
26:02.

Amendment
of regulation
26:05

7. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 26:05(1)(a) by deleting the word “August” and substituting the word “May”.

Insertion of
regulation
26:06A.

8. The principal Regulations are amended by inserting the following new regulation immediately after regulation 26:07–

Restriction
on fishing
within two
miles radius of
atolls.

26:08–(1) No person shall, within a radius of 2 miles of Turneffe Atoll, Glover’s Reef Atoll or Lighthouse Reef Atoll–

(a) fish using hooks greater than 12/0;

(b) fish using any unanchored or drifting longline; or

(c) fish for sharks (all species in the Superorder Selachimorpha).

(2) A person who lands a shark while fishing for any other fish allowed to be landed within a radius of 2 miles of Turneffe Atoll, Glover’s Reef Atoll or Lighthouse Reef Atoll, shall immediately release the shark in the same state it was landed.

(3) For the purposes of this regulation–

S.I. 137 of
2001.

“Glover’s Reef Atoll” means the area specified in the Schedule of the Fisheries (Glovers Reef Marine Reserve) Order, 2001;

Eight
Schedule.

“Lighthouse Reef Atoll” means the area specified in the Eight Schedule; and

“Turneffe Atoll” means the area specified in Schedule 1 of the Fisheries (Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve) Order, 2021;

S.I. 105 of 2012.

9. The principal Regulations are amended in the Third Schedule by repealing Form 3 and replacing it with the following—

Amendment of Third Schedule.

“THIRD SCHEDULE
[regulation 8:03]

FORM 3

FORM OF AUTHORISATION – TRAPS

ISSUED BY THE BELIZE FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

Date of Authorisation: _____

Name or Trap Owner: _____

Fisherman Licence Number: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Fishing Area: _____

Number of Traps per Fishing Area: _____

Number of Traps per Fisher: _____

Number of Traps per vessel: _____

Type and Make of Traps: _____

Signature of Officer

Official Stamp”.

Insertion of
Eight Schedule.

10. The principal Regulations are amended by inserting the following new Schedule immediately after the Seventh Schedule—

“EIGHT SCHEDULE

[regulation 26:08(3)]

LIGHTHOUSE REEF ATOLL

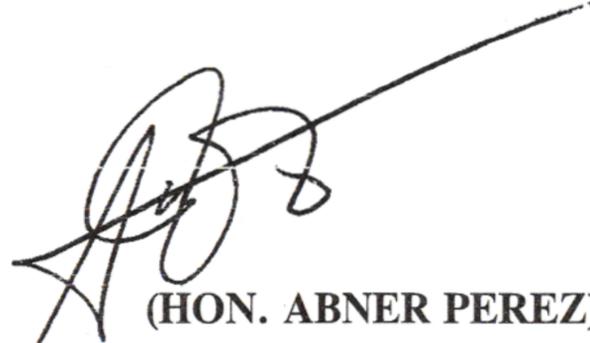
All that portion of the Caribbean Sea, consisting of 123, 409 hectares and being described as follows—

Commencing at a Point 1, and having scaled UTM coordinates 460 231 East 1 928 231 North; thence proceeding 26.9 km in a southerly direction to a Point 2, and having scaled UTM coordinates 451 097 East 1 902 899 North; thence proceeding 6.8 km to a Point 3, and having scaled UTM coordinates 451 081 East 1 896 089 North; thence proceeding 22.6 km to a Point 4, and having scaled UTM coordinates 431 658 East 1 884 578 North; thence proceeding 15.6 km in a northerly direction to a Point 5, and having scaled UTM coordinates 424 166 East 1 898 228 North; thence proceeding 39.7 km to a Point 6, and having scaled UTM coordinates 439 033 East 1 934 973 North; thence proceeding 14.3 km to a Point 7, and having scaled UTM coordinates 452 441 East 1 939 972 North; thence proceeding 14.1 km in a southerly direction to the Point of origin, and encompassing 1,234.09 square kilometers.”.

Commencement.

11. Notwithstanding the entry into force of these Regulations, regulations 2, 3 and 4 shall come into force on the 1st day of March 2022.

MADE by the Minister responsible for fisheries this 12th day of October, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Abner Perez', written over a diagonal line that extends from the bottom left towards the top right.

(HON. ABNER PEREZ)
Minister of the Blue Economy & Civil Aviation
(Minister responsible for fisheries)

