

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

No. 55 of 1993

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries 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 - 1990, and all other powers thereunto him enabling.

(Gazetted 10th April, 1993.)

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1993

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

2. Regulation 2 of the principal Regulations is amended by repealing the definition of "turtle" and replacing it with the following:--

"turtle" means a marine or freshwater turtle as distinguished from a terrestrial species of tortoise."

3. Regulation 10 of the principal Regulations is hereby repealed and replaced by the following:--

"10(1). No person shall fish, sell, purchase or have in his possession any turtle, other than turtles of the species *Dermatemys mawii*, (commonly known as hickatee), during the period from the 1st April to the 31st October inclusive, in any year."

(2) No person shall take any turtle found on land.

(3) No person shall interfere with any turtle nest."

4. Regulation 11 of the principal Regulations is hereby repealed and replaced by the following:--

Short Title.

Sub. Leg (1991
edn.) Vol IV
Ch. 174, p. 7
SI 139/90, 168 &
169/91 & 154/92.

Amendment of
Regulation 2.

Repeal and Re-
placement of
Regulation 10.

Repeal and Re-
placement of
Regulation 11.

“11. No person shall disturb, damage, take, sell, purchase or have in his possession any turtle eggs.”

Addition of Regulations 12A, 12B, 12C and 12D.

5. The principal Regulations are hereby amended by the addition of the following new regulations immediately after Regulation 12:--

“12A. No person shall fish, sell, purchase or have in his possession any turtle of the following description:--

- (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.”

“12B. No person shall, in relation to turtles of the species *Dermatemys mawii*:

- (a) have in his possession more than three such turtles at any one time;
- (b) transport on any vehicle more than five such turtles;
- (c) fish for such turtles during the period from 1st May to the 31st May inclusive in any year;
- (d) fish for females of such turtles greater than 43 cm (17.2 in) and smaller than 38 cm (15.2 in);
- (e) fish for such turtles in any of the areas specified in the Schedule attached to these Regulations;
- (f) sell or purchase such turtles.”

“12C. No person shall import, bring into Belize in transit or export any turtle without a valid permit issued by the Minister.”

“12D. (1) No person shall buy, sell or have in his possession any articles made of turtle shell.

(2) Any person who on the date of entry into force of these Regulations has in his possession any articles made of turtle shell,

(a) may detain such articles for personal use;

(b) shall not sell such articles later than 31st July, 1993.”

6. Regulation 13 of the principal Regulations is hereby repealed and replaced by the following:--

Repeal and Replacement of Regulation 13.

“13. No person shall at any time fish, sell, purchase or have in his possession any turtle of the species *Eretmochelys imbricata* (commonly known as hawksbill turtle).”

MADE by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries this 31st day of March, 1993.

(MICHAEL ESPAT)
Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries

SCHEDULE

(REGULATION 12 B (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)