

SUBCHAPTER D.
Crabs and Lobsters.

Section 15313.0. Commercial Harvest of Crabs.

Section 15313.1. Taking of Crabs for Personal Use.

Section 15313.0. Commercial Harvest of Crabs and/or Spiny Lobster Other Than Coconut Crab (*Birgus latro*). (a) **Size Limit and Individuals with Eggs.** No spiny lobster shall be taken with a carapace (body shell, does not include tail or antennae) length

less than four (4) inches, measured from the dorsal posterior end of the carapace to the point between the two horns over the eyes, see illustration. No spiny lobster carrying eggs shall be taken.

(See Exhibit 9)

No crabs or slipper lobster (*Scyllarides* spp.) with a carapace (shell) width less than (3) inches or carrying eggs shall be taken (see illustration).

(See Exhibit 10)

The land crab, *Cardisoma carnifex*, may be collected at any size, but still may not be collected when carrying eggs. Evidence of removal of eggs (orange to brown colored mass attached under tail) shall be considered prima facie evidence of violation of this Section of the Regulation. Crabs and spiny lobster must be preserved whole until cooked or frozen.

(b) There shall be no commercial export of crabs or spiny lobsters.

(c) **Gear.** It shall be illegal to puncture, impale or spear crabs and/or spiny lobster intended for sale; only devices which do not impose any physical harm to the crabs and/or spiny lobster may be utilized for harvest. Any crabs or spiny lobster in confinement shall be considered taken and subject to harvest regulations. Upon harvest, crabs and lobster are not to be impaled for confinement (stringers are prohibited). Any sub-legal crab or spiny lobster injured due to attempted harvest will be viewed as take.

Section 15313.1. Taking of Crabs and/or Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus* sp.) Other Than Coconut Crab (*Birgus latro*) for Personal Use. (a) **Size Limit and Individuals with Eggs.** No lobster with a carapace length less than three and one-half (3 1/2) inches, measured from the dorsal posterior end of the carapace to the point between the two (2) horns over the eyes or carrying eggs shall be taken (see illustration). No crabs of the genus *Etisus* (Red Reef Crab), *Carpilius* (seven-eleven crab), *Scylla* (Mangrove crab) or slipper lobster (*Scyllarides* spp) with a carapace width less than two (2) inches or carrying eggs shall be taken, except for the land crab, *Cardisoma carnifex*, which can be collected at any size, except when it is carrying eggs. Evidence of removal of eggs (orange to brown colored mass attached under tail) shall

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be considered prima facie evidence of violation of this Section of the Regulation. Crabs and lobster must be preserved whole until cooked or frozen.

(b) Shells of crabs and lobsters taken for personal use shall not be sold, traded or bartered.

(c) **Gear.** It shall be illegal to puncture, impale or spear crabs and/or spiny lobster; only devices which do not impose any physical harm to the crabs and/or spiny lobster may be utilized for harvest. Any crabs and/or spiny lobster not complying with the minimum harvest size requirements must be released immediately. Any crabs or spiny lobster in confinement shall be considered taken and subject to harvest regulations. Upon harvest, crabs and lobster are not to be impaled for confinement (stringers are prohibited). Any sub-legal crab or lobster injured due to attempted harvest will be viewed as take.