

---

\*This Notice has since been revoked and reenacted by SI. 29 of 1993.

**Fisheries Regulations**

*(31st March 1987)*

**PART 1 - PRELIMINARY**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Fisheries Regulations. Citation.

2. In these Regulations— Interpretation.

- Cap. 113. “licensing law” means the Licences Act or any other law for the time being regulating the grant of licences required under this Act;
- “outer island” means an outer island as set out in Schedule 1 to the Constitution;
- “shell” means a marine mollusc, its hard outer covering or any part of a marine mollusc or its covering;
- “spear gun” means any device or instrument designed to propel any missile under water for the purpose of catching, injuring or killing any aquatic organism;
- “unworked” in relation to a shell or turtle shell means one that has not been transformed into a decorative or utilitarian object by an industrial or craft process, and includes a shell or turtle shell that has only been cleaned, polished and varnished;

#### PART II - FISHING VESSEL

- Exemption. **3.** A local fishing vessel not exceeding seven metres in overall length of any size but not mechanically propelled, is exempted from the requirement of a licence under section 9 of the Act.
- Licence application and fees. **4.** An application for a licence in respect of a fishing vessel under section 7 or section 9 of the Act shall be made in accordance with the licensing law and the regulations made thereunder.
- Fishing Agreement. **5.** The following clause shall form part of every fishing agreement under section 6 of the Act except where the agreement expressly provides otherwise-

#### STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

Every vessel licensed pursuant to this Agreement shall comply with the following requirements:

- (a) No fishing shall be conducted in the zones specified in the First Schedule;
- (b) All catches taken from the Seychelles waters shall be

landed or transhipped in Port Victoria except as otherwise authorised by SFA;

- (c) All supplies and services required for the operation of the vessel shall be procured in Seychelles except if such supplies or services are not available locally;
- (d) The exact position of the vessel shall, whenever the vessel is in the Seychelles waters, be reported twice weekly to SFA directly by radio or telex.

6. A licence required for the purposes of section 7 of this Act shall be subject to the following conditions—

Conditions of a  
foreign fishing  
vessel licence.

- (a) the vessel shall only be used for such fishing and related activities, during such period, and in such places as are specified in the licence;
- (b) all provisions of this Act shall be complied with;
- (c) the licensee shall appoint an agent approved by SFA who shall be authorized to accept legal and financial responsibility and service of any notice summons or other document, on behalf of the licensee in relation to activities of the vessel;
- (d) the vessel shall maintain a logbook in which are recorded the nature, time and position of all fishing operations in the Seychelles waters, and the quantity of catch by species, including fish caught but not landed or retained on board;
- (e) reports of the information required to be recorded under paragraph (d) shall be transmitted by the master of the vessel to SFA—
  - (i) on request of SFA during the term of the licence; and
  - (ii) not later than 30 days after the expiry of the licence;
- (f) the master of the vessel shall cause its position to be

- reported by radio or other means of communication approved by SFA—
- (i) upon entering or leaving Seychelles waters;
  - (ii) every three days while in Seychelles waters;
  - (iii) at all other times when requested by SFA to do so;
- (g) the master of the vessel shall, whenever requested by SFA or any other authorized officer, permit boarding and inspection of the vessel, produce for examination licences, logbooks and other documents required to be maintained, and all nets and other fishing gear and fish, and bring the vessel into port;
- (h) the vessel shall at all times while in Seychelles waters—
- (i) fly the flag of its flag state, and
  - (ii) display so as to be clearly visible both from the sea and from the air, on both sides of the funnel or the superstructure, the licence number in white markings of at least 90 centimetres in height in the case of a vessel whose overall length exceeds 18 metres, or 45 centimetres in height in any other case, on a black background;
- (i) the master of the vessel shall permit observers designated by SFA to go and remain on board the vessel for any or all of the period of validity of the licence and shall —
- (i) provide the observers with suitable food and accommodation of their duties; and
  - (ii) arrange for the observers to send and receive messages by way of the communications facilities on board the vessel;
- (j) any records, reports or notifications required to be maintained or made under this regulation shall be maintained or made in Creole, English or French language

7. A licence required for the purposes of section 9 of the Act shall be subject to the following conditions—

Conditions of a local fishing vessel licence.

- (a) the conditions stated in regulation 6 other than paragraphs (c), (d), (e), (f), (h) and (i);
- (b) the vessel shall display so as to be clearly visible both from the sea and from the air, on both sides of the funnel or the superstructure, the licence number in white markings of at least 90 centimetres in height in the case of a vessel whose overall length exceeds 18 metres, or 45 centimetres in height in any other case, on a black background;
- (c) all fish caught shall be landed or transhipped in Port Victoria unless otherwise provided by the licence or specifically approved by SFA.

8. An authorization under section 17 of the Act shall be subject to the following conditions—

Authorization to conduct scientific research.

- (a) no operations may take place until a research plan has been approved by the Minister or other person named by him;
- (b) copies of all data derived from the research and any analysis, report or other result of the research shall be communicated in full to SFA as soon as they are produced, whether or not they are available to any other person.

9. Any foreign fishing vessel that is not licensed in accordance with section 7 or is not authorized under section 17 of the Act shall keep its fishing gear stowed in the following manner:

Stowage.

- (a) in the case of purse seiners:
  - (i) the boom shall be lowered;
    - all nets and ropes shall be carried wholly inboard and lashed to the deck or superstructure;
    - all boats belonging to the purse seiner shall be carried wholly inboard;
    - the helicopter shall be lashed down;

(b) in the case of long-liners:

all lines shall be stowed below deck;

(c) in the case of trawlers:

all nets, trawlboards and weights shall be disconnected from their towing or hauling wires, ropes or rigid frames and carried wholly in-board either below deck or secured to the deck or superstructure;

all gear shall be stowed below deck.

#### PART III - LARGE NETS

Large nets.

10.(1) No person shall fish in the territorial waters with the use of a net or combination of nets exceeding 50 metres in length except pursuant to a valid licence granted under the licensing law or in accordance with section 7 or section 9 of the Act.

(2) A net licensed in accordance with this regulation shall be marked by an authorized officer with a lead seal or other mark bearing the licence number of the net.

(3) Any person who—

(a) removes or alters a mark made under sub-regulation (2); or

(b) marks an unlicensed net in such a way as to make it appear to have been marked under sub-regulation (2).

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of R.5,000.

Marine shells.

11.(1) Subject to sub-regulation (2), no person shall, in any place specified in the Second Schedule.—

(a) collect any shell from; or

(b) disturb any shell or its natural environment on, a reef, a rock or the bed of a lagoon.

(2) Sub-regulation (1) shall not apply to any shell specified in the Third Schedule.

(3) No person shall in any part of Seychelles collect any triton conch shell (*charonia tritonis*) known locally as lancive or distrub such a shell or its natural environment.

(4) No person shall purchase, sell, offer or expose for sale or export or attempt to export any triton conch shell (*charonia tritonis*), locally known as lancive.

(5) No person shall purchase, sell or offer or expose for sale an unworked shell, except a shell specified in the Third Schedule.

(6) No person shall export more than two kilogrammes of shells except pursuant to a permit granted by the SFA.

(7) No person shall possess more than 20 kilogrammes of shells except pursuant to a permit granted by the SFA.

(8) No person shall use any explosive for the purpose of blasting any coral or reef except pursuant to a permit granted by the SFA with the approval of the Commissioner of Police.

(9) The SFA may grant a permit authorizing the holder to export such quantity and description of shells as are stated in the permit.

(10) The SFA may in a permit granted under sub-regulation (7) authorize the holder to possess such quantity and description of shells as are stated in the permit.

(11) The SFA may, if it finds that such action is consistent with the preservation of the marine environment, grant a permit to blast any area of reef or coral that is not within an area designated under section 4 of the National Parks and Nature Conservancy Act.

Cap. 141

**12.(1)** No person shall fish for, catch, kill, disturb or possess a female green turtle.

Protection of  
green turtle.

(2) No person shall fish for, catch, kill, sell or expose for sale

any male green turtle except pursuant to a valid permit granted by SFA.

(3) Every permit granted under sub-regulation (2) shall, in addition to any other conditions which SFA may deem fit to impose, specify the number of green turtles for which it is valid, and the manner of sale or other disposition of the meat.

(4) The number of green turtles for which a permit may be granted in any year shall not exceed an aggregate number which shall be determined by the Minister at the beginning of each year.

(5) A permit under sub-regulation (2) shall, unless sooner suspended or revoked, be valid for such period not exceeding one year as may be specified in the permit.

Protection of  
hawksbill turtle.

13.(1) No person shall fish for, catch, kill or disturb a female hawksbill turtle.

(2) No person shall fish for, catch, kill or disturb a male hawksbill turtle except pursuant to a permit granted by SFA.

(3) If a hawksbill turtle is unintentionally wounded or caught it shall be returned to the sea except that, if it is dead or so severely injured as to render its recovery unlikely, it shall be delivered forthwith to the Minister or a person authorized by the Minister.

(4) The holder of a permit under sub-regulation (2) may dispose of hawksbill turtles only in the form of shell sold to artisans in the business of working such shell.

(5) Every delivery of hawksbill turtle shell to an artisan shall be accompanied by a certificate of the permit holder stating the quantity of shell delivered.

(6) A permit holder under sub-regulation (2) shall maintain records of all capture and acquisition of hawksbill turtles and of all dispositions of shell.

(7) No person shall possess unworked hawksbill turtle shell except pursuant to a permit granted under sub-regulation (2), provided that an artisan in the business of working such shell may

possess unworked shells for the purpose of such business if accompanied by a certificate issued under sub-regulation (5).

#### PART IV - FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

14. No person shall use any demersal trawl net for fishing in Seychelles waters. Demersal trawling.

15.(1) The following shall be protected areas: Protected Area.

(a) in the waters around Mahe—

the whole of the reef situated on the east coast of Mahe from North East Point and where such reefs extend less than one thousand meters from the high water mark such portion of the sea as is within one thousand meters of the high water mark;

(b) in the waters around Praslin—

the whole of the reefs situated on the south east coast of Praslin from an imaginary line drawn from “Roche Corbijeaux” to the northernmost of North Cousin Island to Anse Marie Louise inclusive, and, where such reefs extend less than one thousand meters from the high water mark, such portion of the sea as is within one thousand metres from the high water mark;

(c) in the waters around La Digue—

the whole of the reef situated on the west coast of La Digue from the northern point of that island to its southernmost point and, where such reefs extend less than one thousand metres from the high water mark such portion of the sea as is within one thousand metres of the high water mark.

(2) No person shall fish in a protected area with any net which is operated by being dragged across the sea bed.

16. No person shall place any net in any reef pass or channel in such a way as to obstruct the passage of fish. Obstruction of passes.



- (ii) a person who has purchased the homard from the Seychelles Marketing Board; or
- (iii) a person—
  - A. who has been authorised in writing by the Seychelles Marketing Board to purchase homard from a person licensed to fish for, catch, kill or sell homard, and
  - B. who has purchased the homard from a person so licensed.

(4) Notwithstanding any other written law, a person who has a homard in his custody or control shall be presumed, until he proves the contrary, that he has obtained, or is in possession of, the homard contrary to this regulation.

(5) A licence to fish for homard shall, in addition to any other condition which may be imposed under or in accordance with the licensing law, be subject to the following conditions—

- (a) the holder of the licence shall not fish for, catch or kill homard in the Seychelles waters during the closed season;
- (b) the holder of the licence shall not at any time fish for, catch or kill homard in a protected area;
- (c) the holder of the licence shall not fish for, catch or kill a homard which is less than 7.5 cm in length, measured from the eye socket along a line parallel to the centre line of the body shell (carapace) to the rear end of the body shell (carapace) of the homard; and
- (d) the holder of the licence shall not sell homard caught by him in the Seychelles water to a person other than the Seychelles Marketing Board or a person who has been authorised by the Seychelles Marketing Board to purchase homard from the holder of a licence to fish for calib fish or sell homard.

(6) Subject to this Act, the Seychelles Marketing Board may

issue a written authorisation to a person for the purpose of subregulation (3)(b)(iii).

(7) For the purposes of this regulation—

“closed season” means the period starting on the 1st May and ending on the 30th September of any year;

“homard” means any crustacean of the family Palinuridae which is known locally as homard;

“homard in the berried state” means a homard with eggs adherent;

“protected area” means any place which is designated as a shell reserve in the Second Schedule;

“Seychelles Marketing Board” means the Seychelles Marketing Board established by the Seychelles Marketing Board Act.

Cap. 218.

Protection of female crustacean.

20.(1) No person shall fish, for, catch, kill, purchase, sell or possess any female crustacean in the berried state, that is to say with eggs adherent and which belongs to the family scyllaridae, the genus macrobrachium or the genus scylla, known locally as crevice camaron and crab manglier respectively.

(2) No person shall remove the eggs from any berried female crustacean.

Protection of certain crustacean.

21.(1) No person shall fish for, catch, kill, purchase, sell or possess any crustacean which is of less than the minimum dimension prescribed in sub-regulation (2) for that kind of crustacean.

(2) The following dimensions are established for crustaceans—

- (a) from the tip of the nostrum to the end of the tail—
- |                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| (i) family scyllaridae (crevice)   | 20 cm; |
| (ii) genus macrobrachium (camaron) | 9 cm;  |
- (b) the width of the carapace—
- |                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| (i) genus scylla (crabe manglier) | 11 cm |
|-----------------------------------|-------|

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <p><b>22.</b> Except as otherwise provided by the Act or these Regulations, any protected aquatic organism that is caught unintentionally shall be returned to the sea forthwith and with the least possible injury.</p>   | <p>Unintentional catches.</p>   |
| <p><b>23.</b> No person shall remove, damage, disturb or remove any fish or other aquatic organism from, any net, trap, line, fish aggregating device or other fishing gear found in Seychelles waters, except for the purpose of restoring lost gear to its rightful owner.</p> | <p>Interference with gear.</p>  |
| <p><b>*24.(1)</b> The limits of every aquaculture concession shall be marked with buoys so as to be readily discernable from both the shore and sea.</p>   | <p>Aquaculture concession.</p>  |
| <p>(2) No person shall fish in an aquaculture concession marked as required by sub-regulation (1) except pursuant to the authorisation of the grantee of the concession.</p>   |                                 |
| <p><b>25.(1)</b> An application for a permit under these Regulations shall be made to the SFA in writing.</p>  | <p>Application for permits.</p> |
| <p>(2) On making an application under sub-regulation (1), the applicant shall furnish to the SFA such particulars and information as the SFA may require.</p>  |                                 |
| <p>(3) Any permit issued under these Regulations may be subject to such conditions, limitations and restrictions as may be specified in the permit.</p>  |                                 |
| <p><b>26.</b> A person who contravenes any of these Regulations is guilty of an offence and is liable, where no penalties is provided for the offence, to a fine of R. 10,000.</p>   | <p>Offences.</p>                |

---

\*Regulation 24 has since been amended by SI. 54 of 1993

## Reg.5(a)

## FIRST SCHEDULE

**Zones where Fishing by Foreign Vessels is prohibited**

Zone 1: Comprising an area around Mahe Island and Seychelles Bank with the boundary running as follows:—

From Point 1 (Latitude 5° 22.0'S and Longitude 57° 23.0'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 3° 40.0'S and Longitude 56° 06.9'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 3° 30.0'S and Longitude 55° 11.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 3° 55.0'S and Longitude 54° 23.0'E) to Point 5 (Latitude 4° 44.0'S and Longitude 56° 08.0'E) to point 6 (Latitude 5° 38.0'S and Longitude 56° 08.0'E) to point 7 (Latitude 6° 34.04'S and Longitude 56° 02.0'E) to Point 8 (Latitude 6° 34.0'S and Longitude 56° 23.0'E) and back to Point 1, the Point of commencement.

Zone 2: Comprising an area around Platte Island with the boundary running as follows—

From Point 1 (Latitude 6° 06.3'S and Longitude 55° 35.6'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 5° 39.0'S and Longitude 55° 35.6'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 5° 39.0'S and Longitude 55° 10.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 6° 06.3'S and Longitude 55° 10.0'E) and back to Point 1, the point of commencement.

Zone 3: Comprising an area around Coetivy Island with the boundary running as follows:—

From Point 1 (Latitude 7° 23.0'S and Longitude 56° 25.0'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 6° 53.0'S and Longitude 56° 35.0'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 6° 53.0'S and Longitude 56° 06.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 7° 23.0'S and Longitude 55° 56.0'E) and back to Point 1, the point of commencement.

Zone 4: Comprising an area around the Fortune Bank with the boundary running as follows:—

From Point 1 (Latitude 7° 35.0'S and Longitude 57°

13.0'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 7° 01.0'S and Longitude 56° 56.0'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 7° 01.0'S and Longitude 56° 45.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 7° 16.0'S and Longitude 56° 40.0'E) to Point 5 (Latitude 7° 35.0'S and Longitude 56° 49.0'E) and back to Point 1, the point commencement.

**Zone 5:** *Comprising an area around the Amirantes Islands, with the boundary running as follows:—*

*From Point 1 (Latitude 5° 45.0'S and Longitude 53° 55.0'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 4° 41.0'S and Longitude 53° 35.6'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 4° 41.0'S and Longitude 53° 13.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 6° 09.0'S and Longitude 52° 36.0'E) to Point 5 (Latitude 6° 33.0'S and Longitude 53° 06.0'E) and back to Point 1, the point of commencement.*

**Zone 6:** *Comprising an area around Alphonse Island with the boundary running as follows:—*

*From Point 1 (Latitude 7° 21.5'S and Longitude 52° 56.5'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 6° 48.0'S and Longitude 52° 56.5'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 6° 48.0'S and Longitude 52° 32.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 7° 21.5'S and Longitude 52° 32.0'E) and back to Point 1, the point of commencement.*

**Zone 7:** *Comprising an area around the islands of Providence, Farquhar and St. Pierre and Wizard Reef with boundary as follows:—*

*From Point 1 (Latitude 10° 20.0'S and Longitude 51° 29.0'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 8° 39.0'S and Longitude 51° 12.0'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 9° 04.0'S and Longitude 50° 28.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 10° 30.0'S and Longitude 50° 46.0'E) and back to Point 1, the point of commencement.*

**Zone 8:** *Comprising an area around Cosmoledo and Astove Islands with the boundary running as follows:—*

*From Point 1 (Latitude 10° 18.0'S and Longitude 48°*

02.0'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 9° 34.0'S and Longitude 47° 49.0'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 9° 23.0'S and Longitude 47° 34.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 9° 39.0'S and Longitude 47° 14.0'E) to Point 5 (Latitude 10° 18.0'S and Longitude 47° 36.0'E) and back to Point 1, the point of commencement.

**Zone 9:** Comprising an area around Aldabra and Assomption Islands, with the boundary running as follows:—

From Point 1 (Latitude 9° 54.0'S and Longitude 46° 44.0'E) to Point 2 (Latitude 9° 10.0'S and Longitude 46° 44.0'E) to Point 3 (Latitude 9° 10.0'S and Longitude 46° 01.0'E) to Point 4 (Latitude 9° 59.0'S and Longitude 46° 01.0'E) and back to Point 1, the point of commencement.

The area of the zones described in this Schedule are shown in red lines on charts ML/ADN/73B deposited in the office of the Director of Surveys.

Reg. 11(1) SECOND SCHEDULE

#### SHELL RESERVES

A. On the East Coast of Mahe—

1. North East Point and Anse Nord d'Est:

The area lying within 400 metres seaward from the low-water mark between North East Point and the Western end of Carana Beach.

2. South East Island to Pointe au Sel:

The areas lying within 400 metres seaward from the low-water mark between the northeast corner of South East Island and Anse Faure and the area lying between the low-water mark and the edge of the reef between Anse Faure and Pointe au Sel.

B. On the North Coast of La Digue—

La Passe by Pointe Cap Barbi to Cap Bayard River:

The area lying within 400 metres from the low-water mark

between the jetty at La Passe and the mouth of Cap Bayard River.

C. On the North Coast of Praslin.

Pointe Zanguilles to Anse Boudin:

The area lying within 400 metres seaward from the low-water mark between the lighthouse at Pointe Zanguilles and a point 270 metres beyond the mouth of Mon Desir River.

Reg.11(2)            **THIRD SCHEDULE**

**SHHELLS**

Bernique  
Bigorneau  
Burgot  
Chicoret  
Hache d'Ames  
Huitre (edible)  
Huitre (mother of pearl)  
Mouque  
Octopus  
Palourde  
Squid  
Tec Tec

---