STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Order No. EO 20-14

Temporary Modifications to Closed Season Stone Crab and Spiny Lobster Trap Retrieval Program Operations

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution, and acting through its Executive Director under Paragraph 22 of the Delegations of Authority, hereby modifies requirements for the operation of the Commission's contracted closed season stone crab and spiny lobster trap retrieval program due to exigent circumstances. Such actions are only authorized as follows:

1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in subsections 68B-55.003(1) and 68B-55.003(2), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), from June 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, Commission contractors operating under contracts FWC 18/19-86 or FWC 18/19-103 may retrieve spiny lobster and stone crab traps within or without Florida Waters without a Commission observer onboard, provided that the contractor documents the following information for each trap retrieval trip conducted and reports such information to the Commission for each day that trap retrieval is conducted:
    a. The total number of traps removed each trip;
    b. The general location where such traps were located;
    c. Copies of receipts documenting that traps were properly disposed of, including the total weight of traps and trap debris disposed;
    d. Photographs showing traps removed on each trip; and,
    e. For each trip, a video clip showing the vessel's documentation number or registration numbers, the traps removed, and a clear image of a timekeeping device depicting the date and time the video was taken.

2. All other rules or orders of the Commission relating to trap retrieval and trap debris removal shall remain in effect.

Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution
Law Implemented: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION STATE OF FLORIDA

Given under my hand and seal of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on this 27th day of May, 2020.

Eric Sutton
Executive Director

Attest
Agency Clerk

/s/ Quilla Miralia
Approved as to form and legal sufficiency