

Commercial Blue Crab Inspection

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Date: _____

Time: _____

Harvester: _____

SPL #: _____

Blue Crab endorsement #: _____

Vessel Reg. #: _____

Location: _____

Hard Blue Crab Trap Inspection

Violation	Compliant		
		1. Trap constructed of wire with a minimum mesh size 1 ½ inches	68B-45.004(1)(a)1
		2. Trap shall have throats /entrances on vertical surfaces only	68B-45.004(1)(a)1
		3. Trap shall have a maximum dimension of 24" x 24" x 24" or total volume of 8 cubic feet	68B-45.004(1)(a)1
		4. Trap shall have a degradable panel : Untreated jute Non-coated steel wire 24 gauge or thinner Untreated pine dowel <2" by 3/8" dia. Untreated pine slat(s) < 3/8" thick Galvanized staples 16 gauge or thinner Side wall opening 6"x 3"	68B-45.004(1)(a)1 / 68B-45.004(7)(a) thru (g)
		5. All traps shall have a buoy attached to each trap or each end of a weighted trotline	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		6. Buoy shall be constructed of styrofoam, cork, molded polyvinyl chloride, or molded polystyrene	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		7. Buoys shall be either spherical in shape with a diameter no smaller than 6 inches or some other shape so long as it is no shorter than 10 inches in the longest dimension and the width at some point exceeds 5 inches	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		8. Buoy shall be of such color, hue and brilliancy to be easily distinguished, seen, and located (i.e. CLEAN)	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		9. No more than 5 feet of any buoy line attached to a buoy used to mark a blue crab trap or attached to a trotline shall float on the surface of the water	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		10. Each trap used for harvesting blue crab for commercial purposes shall have the harvester's blue crab endorsement number (identification) permanently affixed to it	68B-45.004(1)(a)3
		11. Each buoy attached to such a trap shall have the number permanently affixed to it in legible figures (i.e. CLEAN) at least two (2) inches high	68B-45.004(1)(a)3
		12. Each trap shall have at least three unobstructed escape rings installed, each with a minimum inside diameter of 2 3/8 inches. One escape ring shall be located on a vertical outer surface in each crab retaining chamber.	68B-45.004(1)(a)5

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Violation	Compliant		
		13. Each throat (entrance) on trap used to harvest blue crabs shall be horizontally oriented (width of opening where throat meets vertical wall of trap and opening of throat at its farthest point from vertical wall, inside trap, is greater than height of such opening). No throat shall extend farther than 6 inches into inside of trap, measured from opening where throat meets vertical wall of trap to opening of throat at its farthest point from vertical wall, inside trap	68B-45.004(1)(a)6
		14. No person harvesting for commercial purposes shall possess any blue crabs measuring less than five inches measured from the tip of one lateral spine to the tip of the opposite lateral spine in quantities greater than 5% of the total number in each container in such person's possession	68B-45.003* * This minimum size limit does not apply to the harvest of peeler crabs
		15. Harvest or possession of eggbearing blue crabs is prohibited. Eggbearing blue crabs found in traps shall be immediately returned to the water free, alive and unharmed	68B-45.006(1)
		16. Stripping or otherwise molesting eggbearing blue crabs in order to remove the eggs is prohibited and harvest, possession, purchase, or sale of blue crab from which eggs, egg pouch, or bunion has been removed is prohibited	68B-45.006(1)
		17. Traps used to harvest blue crabs may be worked during daylight hours only. The pulling of traps from one hour after official sunset until one hour before official sunrise is prohibited.	68B-45.006(2)
		18. Hard Shell Blue Crab Endorsement (V-H) is required to harvest commercial quantities of hard shell blue crab using gears as authorized in subsection 68B-45.004(1), F.A.C	68B-45.007(4)
		19. Non-transferable blue crab effort management endorsement (V-N). The holder of a non-transferable blue crab effort management endorsement number shall be entitled to purchase up to 100 hard shell blue crab trap tags that will allow them to deploy a like number of hard shell blue crab traps in any state waters where blue crab traps are allowed	68B-45.007(6)(b)
		20. Each trap used for the directed harvest of blue crabs must have securely fastened thereto a current trap tag issued annually by the Commission	68B-45.007(7)(b)

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Soft Shell "Peeler" Blue Crab Trap Inspection

Violation	Compliant		
		1. Peeler crab trap constructed of wire with a minimum mesh size of 1 inch	68B-45.004(2)(a)
		2. Peeler crab trap shall have throats / entrances located on vertical surface only	68B-45.004(2)(a)
		3. Peeler crab trap shall have a maximum dimension of 24" x 24" x 24" or a volume of 8 cubic feet	68B-45.004(2)(a)
		4. Peeler crab trap shall have a degradable panel : Untreated jute Non-coated steel wire 24 gauge or thinner Untreated pine dowel <2" by 3/8" dia. Untreated pine slat(s) < 3/8" thick Galvanized staples 16 gauge or thinner Side wall opening 6"x 3"	68B-45.004(2)(a) / 68B-45.004(7)(a) thru (g)
		5. Peeler crab traps shall have a buoy attached to each trap or each end of a weighted trotline	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		6. Buoy shall be constructed of styrofoam, cork, molded polyvinyl chloride, or molded polystyrene	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		7. Buoys shall be either spherical in shape with a diameter no smaller than 6 inches or some other shape so long as it is no shorter than 10 inches in the longest dimension and the width at some point exceeds 5 inches	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		8. Buoy shall be of such color, hue and brilliancy to be easily distinguished, seen, and located (i.e. CLEAN)	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		9. No more than 5 feet of any buoy line attached to a buoy used to mark a blue crab trap or attached to a trotline shall float on the surface of the water	68B-45.004(1)(a)2
		10. Each peeler crab trap used for harvesting peeler blue crabs for commercial purposes shall have the harvester's peeler blue crab endorsement number (identification) permanently affixed to it	68B-45.004(1)(a)3
		11. Each buoy attached to a peeler crab trap shall have the number permanently affixed to it in legible figures (i.e. CLEAN) at least two (2) inches high	68B-45.004(1)(a)3
		12. Each throat (entrance) on peeler crab trap used to harvest peeler blue crabs shall be horizontally oriented (width of opening where throat meets vertical wall of trap and opening of throat at its farthest point from vertical wall, inside trap, is greater than height of such opening). No throat shall extend farther than 6 inches into inside of trap, measured from opening where throat meets vertical wall of trap to opening of throat at its farthest point from vertical wall, inside trap	68B-45.004(1)(a)6
		13. All peeler crabs harvested must be kept in a container separate from other blue crabs	68B-45.004(2)(c)
		14. Each peeler crab trap used to harvest peeler crabs shall only be baited with live male blue crabs <i>-add part about 1 peeler bait</i>	68B-45.004(2)(d)
		15. Harvest or possession of eggbearing blue crabs is prohibited. Eggbearing blue crabs found in traps shall be immediately returned to the water free, alive and unharmed	68B-45.006(1)

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Soft Shell "Peeler" Blue Crab Trap Inspection

Violation	Compliant		
		16. Stripping or otherwise molesting eggbearing blue crabs in order to remove the eggs is prohibited and harvest, possession, purchase, or sale of blue crab from which eggs, egg pouch, or bunion has been removed is prohibited	68B-45.006(1)
		17. Traps used to harvest peeler crabs may be worked during daylight hours only. The pulling of traps from one hour after official sunset until one hour before official sunrise is prohibited	68B-45.006(2)
		18. Soft Shell Blue Crab Endorsement (V-S) is required to harvest peeler blue crabs in excess of the bycatch limit established in paragraph 68B-45.007(4)(e) using gears as authorized in subsection 68B-45.004(2) or to produce soft shell blue crabs with more than three (3) shedding tanks.	68B-45.007(5)
		19. Each trap used for the directed harvest of soft shell blue crabs must have securely fastened thereto a current trap tag issued annually by the Commission	68B-45.007(7)(b)

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Blue Crab Commercial Vessel Inspection

Violation	Compliant		
		1. No person shall harvest blue crabs for commercial purposes unless such person possesses a valid saltwater products license (SPL)	379.366(2)(a) / 68B-45.004(9)(a)
		2. SPL on board for immediate inspection	370.366(2)(a)
		3. No person shall harvest blue crabs for commercial purposes with any trap unless such person possesses both a blue crab endorsement (V#) and a restricted species endorsement.	370.366(2)(c) / 68B-45.004(9)(a)
		4. SPL issued to a valid commercial vessel registration number shall be issued a decal to be displayed beside vessel registration decal	370.366(2)(d)
		5. Any SPL decal for previous year shall be removed from vessel operating on the waters of the state	370.366(2)(d)
		6. Any vessel from which commercial quantities of saltwater products are harvested must have a commercial vessel registration	370.366(2)(i) / 328.48(2)
		7. Buoy color / license number shall be permanently / conspicuously displayed on vessel used for setting traps / buoys, readily identifiable from air – buoy design shall be displayed / permanently affixed to uppermost structural portion of vessel, displayed horizontally with painted design up. If vessel is open design (such as skiff boat), one seat shall be painted buoy assigned color with permit numbers, unobstructed no smaller than 10 inches in height, painted thereon in contrasting color. Display shall exhibit harvester's buoy design, unobstructed, on circle 20 inches in diameter, outlined in contrasting color, with permit numbers permanently affixed beneath circle in numerals no smaller than 10 inches in height.	68B-45.004(1)(a)3a
		8. Buoy color / license number shall be permanently / conspicuously displayed on vessel used for setting traps / buoys, readily identifiable from water - buoy design shall be displayed / permanently affixed vertically to the starboard / port sides of vessel near amidship. Display shall exhibit harvester's buoy design, unobstructed, on a circle 8 inches in diameter, outlined in a contrasting color, together with permit numbers permanently affixed beneath circle in numerals no smaller than 4 inches in height.	68B-45.004(1)(a)3b
		9. Vessel shall have false bottoms / bulkheads fore / aft to prevent cargo from coming in contact with any bilge water, or other contaminants	68E-27.022(1)
		10. Vessel used for the harvesting / transporting of seafood shall have facilities for protecting catch from the sun and weather	68E-27.022(1)
		11. Vessel used for the harvesting / transporting of seafood shall have facilities for protecting catch from bilge and other contamination	68E-27.022(1)

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Blue Crap Commercial Vessel Inspection

Violation	Compliant		
		12. Vessel shall have blue crab / bait holds, pen boards and shelf boards smooth and constructed to facilitate proper cleaning	68E-27.022(2)
		13. Blue Crabs shall be stored to prevent crushing of the cargo	68E-27.022(3)
		14. Blue crabs being transported shall be washed to remove excess blood, slime and viscera prior to stowing	68E-27.022(4)
		15. Decks, holds, pen boards and shelf boards shall be thoroughly cleaned as soon as the blue crabs have been discharged, and shall be disinfected when necessary	68E-27.022(6)
		16. Unregistered /unnumbered vessel	328.46(1)
		17. Certificate of registration shall be available for inspection on the vessel for which issued whenever such vessel is in operation	328.48(4)
		18. Registration number shall be placed on each side of the forward half of the vessel in such position as to provide clear legibility for identification	328.48(4)
		19. Registration number not proper: size, shape, color, missing number / letter	328.48(4)
		20. Registration number improperly spaced characters	328.54(1)
		21. Vessel shall be currently registered	328.72(13)
		22. Failure to display/improper display of registration decal	328.48(5)
		23. Failure to remove expired decal	328.48(5)
		24. Failure to display Hull Identification Number	328.07(1)* 328.07(2)** <small>*vessel constructed after 10/31/72 ** vessel constructed prior 11/01/72</small>
		25. Insufficient number of PFD's	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.25-5
		26. PFD's not properly stowed	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.25-9
		27. PFD(s) not properly marked with USCG type / number	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.25-7
		28. PFD(s) not in serviceable condition	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.25-11
		29. PFD(s) not proper size for intended wearer	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.25-5
		30. Proper light not on PFD(s) (Offshore requirement only)	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.25-13
		31. Inadequate reflective material on PFD(s) (minimum 31 sq. in. front and back)	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.25-15

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Violation	Compliant		
		32. Fire extinguisher insufficient number	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.30-20
		33. Fire extinguisher not serviceable	327.50(1)(a) / 46CFR25.30-20
		34. Sound producing device not present	327.50(1)(a) / 33USC2033
		35. Sound producing device not operational	327.50(1)(a) / 33USC2033
		36. Visual Distress Signals (VDS) insufficient number (offshore requirement only)	327.50(1)(a) / 33CFR175.110
		37. No launcher for signal requiring a launcher (offshore requirement only)	327.50(1)(a) / 33CFR175.113
		38. Improperly stowed (offshore requirement only)	327.50(1)(a) / 33CFR175.120
		39. Expired / not in serviceable condition (offshore requirement only)	327.50(1)(a) / 33CFR175.125
		40. Not legibly marked with USCG approval number and expiration date (offshore requirement only)	327.50(1)(a) / 33CFR175.128
		41. Navigation lights not present or not operational	327.50(2)
		42. Navigation lights present / operational but not used	327.33(3) / 33USC 2001 Et. Seq.