

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Order No. EO 18-66**

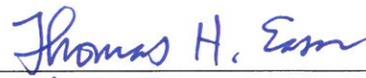
**Waiver of the January 2019 Panhandle Blue  
Crab Trap Closure**

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, and due to reports of a lack of derelict traps in the Panhandle region as well as impacts to the region from Hurricane Michael, hereby waives the upcoming blue crab trap closure for all waters of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, and Franklin counties that was scheduled to occur from January 5, 2019 through January 14, 2019. This action is taken based on a determination that a blue crab trap closure is not necessary in this region in 2019, and to avoid potential economic impacts on fishing communities associated with such a closure. Such actions are only authorized as follows:

1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in 68B-45.0045, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the blue crab trap closure established in subparagraph 68B-45.0045(1)(a)6., F.A.C., for all waters of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, and Franklin counties shall be waived for the 2019 calendar year.
2. All other rules or orders of the Commission relating to blue crab shall remain in effect.
3. This order shall expire at 12:00 a.m. on January 15, 2019.

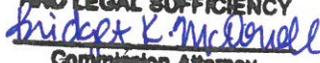
Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution  
Law Implemented: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution and subsection 120.81(5),  
Florida Statutes

Given under my hand and seal of the Florida  
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
for Eric Sutton  
Executive Director

Attest  
Agency Clerk



**APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**  
  
Commission Attorney

