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 in accordance with Commission direction provided to the Executive Director at the Commission’s February 2018 and May 2019 meetings, hereby modifies the harvest of bay scallops as follows:

1. The provisions of this Executive Order apply in and on Florida Waters east of a line extending due north and due south from the westernmost point of St. Vincent Island in Franklin County (85°13.43’ West Longitude) and west of a line running through Rock Island near the mouth of the Fenholloway River in Taylor County (83°49.760’ West Longitude).

2. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Chapter 68B-18, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the open season for the recreational harvest and possession of bay scallops in or on the described region during calendar year 2019 shall begin at 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 2019, and shall close at 11:59 p.m. on September 24, 2019. A person may not harvest or land a bay scallop from Florida Waters of the described region prior to July 1, 2019, or after 12:00 a.m. on September 25, 2019. Except for direct and continuous transit as provided in paragraph 3, a person may not possess a bay scallop in or on waters of the described region prior to July 1, 2019, or after 12:00 a.m. on September 25, 2019.

3. Bay scallops lawfully harvested from Florida Waters that are open to the harvest of bay scallops may be possessed aboard a vessel and transported directly through Florida Waters of the described region when such waters are closed to the harvest of bay scallops and landed, provided that the vessel is in continuous and direct transit from Florida Waters that are open to harvest to the place where the vessel is regularly docked, moored, or otherwise stored.

4. All other rules of the Commission relating to bay scallops shall remain in effect.

5. This order shall expire at 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 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 21st day of May, 2019.

[Signature]
Eric Sutton
Executive Director