Order No. EO 12-17

Temporary possession of Trophy Catch Hall of Fame candidate largemouth bass

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), acting under the authority of Art. IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution, through its Executive Director under Delegations of Authority Paragraph 17 and Paragraph 22 hereby allows for the temporary possession of TrophyCatch Hall of Fame candidate largemouth bass notwithstanding the bag limit and size limit established in FWC regulations, as follows:

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 68A-23.005(6)(a), 68A-23.005(5), 68A-23.005(9)(e), 68A-23.004, and 68A-20.005, F.A.C., anglers that have contacted the TrophyCatch coordinator will be allowed to temporarily possess in live condition one Hall of Fame candidate largemouth bass (estimated to be 13 pounds or greater) over the legal length limit and bag limit until the fish is certified by FWC staff or authorized representative. Anglers must either have previously enrolled in the TrophyCatch program, or have enrolled while contacting the TrophyCatch coordinator.

2. Largemouth bass must be taken with pole and line or rod and reel: Rule 68A-23.002.

3. This Order shall take effect October 1, 2012, and shall expire May 1, 2013 unless sooner repealed by subsequent order.

4. All Hall of Fame candidate largemouth bass must be released unharmed after certification unless determined by FWC staff to be needed for research.

Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

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

Given under my hand and seal of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on this 14th day of September, 2012.

Nick Wiley
Executive Director