

STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Order No. EO 14-04

Spearfishing for Lionfish in the Upper Keys

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 Delegations of Authority Paragraph 17 and Paragraph 22, hereby allows registered participants in the Key Largo Lionfish Derby to harvest non-native lionfish (*Pterois volitans/miles*) using certain spearing devices from state waters of the Upper Keys, beginning at sunrise and continuing until 4:00 p.m. local time on February 13, 2014. This activity is authorized only as follows:

1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in 379.2425, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and 68B-20, Florida Administrative Code, registered participants in the Key Largo Lionfish Derby (Derby) scheduled to be held on February 13, 2014 may harvest lionfish from state waters of the Upper Keys (beginning at the county line between Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties and running south, including all of the keys down to and including Long Key) using a pole spear. An official lionfish derby flag shall be flown by all teams while collecting lionfish during the Derby. A copy of this executive order and all other necessary permits, including permits from the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) and John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park if spearfishing in those areas, must be carried by any tournament participant using spearing gears, or aboard any vessel from which tournament participants are using spearing gears, to harvest or attempt to harvest lionfish.
2. The harvest or attempted harvest of any species other than lionfish using spearfishing gear from state waters of the Upper Keys, as described in 379.2425, F.S., shall remain prohibited.
3. All other rules of the Commission relating to lionfish and spearing shall remain in effect.
4. This order shall take effect at sunrise on February 13, 2014 and shall expire at 4:00 p.m. on February 13, 2014.

Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

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

Given under my hand and seal of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on this 5 day of ~~January~~, 2014.

~~January~~
February

Attest:
Agency Clerk

Kristina Butler

Nick Wiley

Nick Wiley
Executive Director

