

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

Order No. EO 14-11

**Management of Two Apalachicola Bay Harvesting
Areas for Commercial Oyster Harvest**

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 implements oyster conservation management measures by closing two harvesting areas, Area 1601 and Area 1611, to the harvest of wild oysters in Apalachicola Bay, Franklin County, Florida for the duration of any closure of Area 1642 by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services because of water quality concerns. In order to ensure increased harvest effort in these three areas associated the closure of Area 1642 does not lead to unsustainable harvest rates, these two areas will remain closed for the duration of the time that Area 1642 is closed. Area 1601 and Area 1611 will reopen for harvest of wild oysters when the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services reopens Area 1642 provided Areas 1601 and 1611 meet the water quality criteria of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. This oyster conservation management measure is effective beginning upon execution, and shall remain in effect through May 31, 2014.

1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in 68B-27, Florida Administrative Code, harvest for wild oysters in harvesting areas 1601 and 1611 in Apalachicola Bay shall be closed upon closure by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services of Area 1642 and shall remain closed until Area 1642 is reopened to harvest by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to 5L-1.003, Florida Administrative Code provided Areas 1601 and 1611 meet the water quality criteria of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

2. All other provisions governing harvest of oysters in Apalachicola Bay shall remain in effect.

Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

Law Implemented: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

Effective Date: Effective upon execution.



Given under my hand and seal of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on this 12 day of May 2014.

Nick Wiley
Executive Director

Attest
Agency Clerk