The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution, hereby implements special measures to provide regulatory relief to commercial fishers statewide who were affected by Hurricane Irma in September 2017. State of Florida Executive Order Number 17-235, issued by Governor Rick Scott on September 4, 2017, in anticipation of Hurricane Irma provides authority in Section 4 for state, regional, and local agencies and other governmental bodies to deviate from statutes, rules, and ordinances they administer to the extent necessary to cope with the emergency. Commercial fishers have suffered significant losses statewide as the direct result of Hurricane Irma.

In order to assist commercial fishers return to business as soon as possible, effective immediately, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission implements the following regulatory relief for commercial fishers in Florida.

1. The requirement that Marine Life Tiered Endorsements be renewed by September 30 of each year to avoid forfeiture of the endorsement, pursuant to 68B-42.0065(10), is hereby modified for the 2017/2018 license year to extend the endorsement renewal deadline from September 30, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

2. The requirement that Lampara Net Endorsements be renewed by September 30 of each year to avoid forfeiture of the endorsement, pursuant to 68B-56.002(3)(a), is hereby modified for the 2017/2018 license year to extend the endorsement renewal deadline from September 30, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

3. The requirement that Blue Crab Endorsements be renewed by September 30 of each year to avoid forfeiture of the endorsement, pursuant to 68B-45.007(9), is hereby modified for the 2017/2018 license year to extend the endorsement renewal deadline from September 30, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

4. The requirement that Spiny Lobster Commercial Dive Permits be renewed by September 30 of each year to avoid forfeiture of the permit, pursuant to 68B-24.0055(2)(d), is hereby modified for the 2017/2018 license year to extend the endorsement renewal deadline from September 30, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

5. This order shall take effect immediately upon signature.

Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution
Law Implemented: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution and Executive Order of the Governor Number 17-235, dated September 4, 2017 and 120.81(5), Florida Statutes

Nick Wiley
Executive Director

Attest:

Agency Clerk