

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

Order No. EO 22-28

**Hurricane Ian: Waiver of Commercial Stone
Crab Trap Tag Requirements In Affected
Counties for the 2022-2023 License Year**

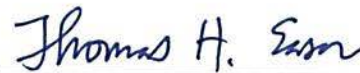
The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution, and acting through its Executive Director under Paragraph 22 of the Delegations of Authority, hereby implements special measures to provide regulatory relief to commercial stone crab trap fishers who were affected by Hurricane Ian in September 2022.

In order to assist these trap fishers return to business as soon as possible, effective immediately, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation implements the following regulatory relief for commercial stone crab fishers. Such actions are only authorized as follows:

1. The provisions of this order only apply within or without Florida Waters off St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler, Volusia, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, and Collier counties.
2. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in chapter 68B-13, F.A.C., or in section 379.365, F.S., the requirement that all commercial stone crab traps used within or without Florida Waters bear a current-year trap tag issued by the Commission is hereby waived for the remainder of the 2022-2023 stone crab season for commercial stone harvesters who hold a valid stone crab endorsement and own stone crab trap certificates.
 - a. All other stone crab buoy and trap marking requirements apply. Each trap and buoy used to harvest stone crab shall have the commercial harvester's current stone crab endorsement number permanently affixed in legible figures.
 - b. A commercial harvester may not use more stone crab traps within or without Florida Waters than the total number of stone crab trap certificates owned by such harvester.
3. All other rules or orders of the Commission relating to stone crab shall remain in effect.
4. This order shall expire at 12:00 a.m. on May 16, 2023.

Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution
Law Implemented: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

Given under my hand and seal of the Florida
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
on this 6th day of October, 2022.



Eric Sutton
Executive Director

Attest
Agency Clerk



/s/ Quilla Miralia
Approved as to form and legal sufficiency

