

**FISHERIES (GLOVERS REEF MARINE RESERVE)**  
**REGULATIONS 1996**

**S.I. NO. 70 OF 1996**  
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**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT**

**No. 70 of 1996**

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***REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 13 of the Fisheries Act, Chapter 174 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 1980 - 1990, and all other powers thereunto him enabling.***

*(Gazetted 18th May, 1996.)*

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**PART I**  
**PRELIMINARY**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

**Short title.**

**FISHERIES (GLOVERS REEF MARINE RESERVE)  
REGULATIONS, 1996.**

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,

**Interpretation.**

“fish” includes all the varieties of marine or fresh water animals or plant life;

“Fisheries Administrator” means the Fisheries Administrator appointed under section 107 of the Belize Constitution for the purpose of the Fisheries Act and the regulations made thereunder;

**CAP. 174.**

“fishing” means fishing for, capturing, taking or killing fish, or attempting to do any of the above by any method;

No. 38/93.

“Reserve” means the Glovers Reef Marine Reserve declared under the Fisheries (Glovers Reef Marine Reserve) Order, 1993;

“Reserve Manager” means an officer appointed for the purpose of managing the Reserve;

“Schedule” means the Schedule to these Regulations.

## PART II

### ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONES AND RULES FOR ZONES

Establishment of zones.

3. (1) For the purposes of the regulation and control of the Reserve, there shall be established four zones within the Reserves as follows:

- (a) the General Use Zone;
- (b) the Conservation Zone;
- (c) the Wilderness Zone; and
- (d) the Seasonal Closure Zone.

(2) The description of the above Zones shall be as set out in the Schedule of the Fisheries (Glovers Reef Marine Reserve) Order, 1993.

No. 38/1993.

Rules for General Use Zone.

4. (1) The General Use Zone shall be restricted for fishing only by fishermen who currently use this zone and such fishermen shall apply for a licence to fish in accordance with these Regulations.

(2) No person shall be permitted to use fish traps, nets, or long lines in the Glovers Reef Marine Reserve.

**(3) No person shall, within the General Use Zone, cast or drag any anchor in any manner which may damage coral.**

**5. (1) There shall only be non-extractive recreational activities in the Conservation Zone subject to the following restrictions:-**

**Rules for  
Conservation  
Zone.**

**(a) only the residents of the Glovers Reef Cayes who have special licences to fish shall be allowed to fish solely for subsistence purposes, and such fishing shall be determined by the terms and conditions of each resident's licence;**

**(b) sport fishing in the Conservation Zone shall only be carried out under a licence issued in accordance with these Regulations and such fishing shall only be carried out on a catch-and-release basis; and**

**(c) spear fishing shall not be permitted.**

**(2) No person shall secure a boat to the seabed of the Conservation Zone except by means of a mooring that is officially designated for this purpose, (save in the case of an emergency where life and property are endangered), or with the prior written permission of the Reserve Manager.**

**(3) All divers in the Conservation Zone shall adhere to the following rules:-**

**(a) divers shall register with the Reserve Manager prior to entering the Conservation Zone;**

**(b) charter dives shall first obtain a licence in accordance with these Regulations before operating in the Conservation Zone and all dive boats shall fly the "divers down flag" when they have divers in the water;**

- (c) only certified scuba divers, or divers undergoing a training course conducted by a recognized instructor shall be allowed to use scuba equipment in the whole of the Reserve;
- (d) dive guides shall be required to explain the rules of the Reserve to all divers within the Reserve;
- (e) all boats which need to operate in this zone shall first obtain registration from the Fisheries Administrator in accordance with these Regulations.

(4) For the purpose of this Regulation, "divers down flag" means a flag with a white diagonal stripe upon a red background.

**Rules for  
Wilderness  
Zone.**

6. (1) Subject to subregulation (2) below, no fishing, sport fishing, diving or any other water activity shall be permitted within the Wilderness Zone.

(2) No motorized boats shall be permitted within the Wilderness Zone except in cases of emergency or where written permission has first been obtained from the Fisheries Administrator.

**Rules for  
Seasonal  
Closure Zone.**

7. (1) No person shall use the Seasonal Closure Zone without a relevant licence from the Fisheries Administrator.

(2) Any fisherman who is desirous of using the Seasonal Closure Zone shall apply for the relevant licence from the Fisheries Administrator to do so.

(3) The Seasonal Closure Zone shall be closed to fishing for the period of 1st December to the 1st March of the following year.

**PART III**  
**COMMERCIAL FISHING, RESEARCH, SPORT**  
**FISHING LICENCES AND REGISTRATION OF**  
**DIVE BOATS**

8. (1) Any person who is desirous of fishing within the Reserve shall apply to the Fisheries Administrator for a commercial fisherman's licence in the form prescribed as Form I of the Schedule.

**Commercial  
fishing  
licences.**

*Schedule.*

(2) The Fisheries Administrator may within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of an application under this regulation grant a commercial fisherman's licence in the form prescribed as Form II of the Schedule.

*Schedule.*

(3) Upon the expiry of a fishing licence granted under these Regulations, the licence holder may apply to the Fisheries Administrator for a renewal of the same in the form prescribed as Form I of the Schedule.

*Schedule.*

(4) A fee of (\$50.00) shall be payable upon the receipt of a fishing licence or for the renewal of same.

9. (1) Any person who is desirous of conducting research in any zone shall apply for a licence to do so to the Fisheries Administrator in the form prescribed as Form III of the Schedule.

**Research  
licences.**

*Schedule.*

(2) The Fisheries Administrator may within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of an application under this Regulation issue or grant a licence in writing to conduct research.

(3) The Fisheries Administrator shall set conditions for research licences issued under these Regulations.

(4) (a) A fee of BZ\$500.00 shall be payable upon the receipt of a research licence or for the renewal of same.

(b) The Fisheries Administrator may waive or vary at his discretion the fee payable for a research licence.

**Sport fishing licences.**

10. (1) Any person who is desirous of conducting sport fishing within the Reserve shall apply to the Fisheries Administrator or the Reserve Manager for a fishing licence in the form prescribed as Form IV of the Schedule.

**Schedule.**

(2) The Fisheries Administrator or the Reserve Manager, as the case may be, may grant a fishing licence in the form prescribed as Form V of the Schedule.

**Schedule.**

(3) A fee of Bz\$20.00 per month for Belizeans or Bz\$50.00 per month for non-Belizeans shall be payable upon receipt of a sport fishing licence.

(4) The licensee shall not kill any fish caught under a sport fishing licence.

**Registration of dive boats.**

11. (1) Any dive boat operator who is desirous of conducting sport fishing within the Reserve shall apply to the Fisheries Administrator for registration in the form prescribed as Form VI of the Schedule.

**Schedule.**

(2) A fee of Bz\$100.00 shall be payable upon registration of the boat.

(3) Boat registration under this section shall expire on the 31st December next, after the date of issue.

#### **PART IV**

#### **GENERAL**

**Licences not transferable.**

12. Licences issued under these Regulations shall not be transferable.

**Duration and renewal of licences.**

13. Licences issued under these Regulations, unless otherwise stated, shall be valid for a period of one year from



the date of issue and may be renewed for like period upon payment of the fees specified in these Regulations.

14. The Fisheries Administrator may cancel any licence granted under these Regulations if the licence holder breaches any condition of the licence or contravenes any provision of these Regulations or the Fisheries Regulations.

**Cancellation of licences.**

Sub. Leg. 1991 Edn., Vol. IV, CAP. 174. Pg. 9.

15. In issuing a licence under these Regulations, the Fisheries Administrator may attach conditions to such licences, as the case may be, having due regard to the nature of the licence and the need to protect the environment and natural resources.

**Conditions of licences.**

16. Any person involved in an accident which involves personal injury or damage to property or the environment within the Reserve shall report such accident to the person in charge of the Reserve or to any officer of the Reserve or the Fisheries Administrator as soon as possible or at least within twelve (12) hours of the occurrence of the accident.

**Duty to report accident or damage to property.**

17. The Government shall not be liable for any personal injury or damage to property occurring within the Reserve.

**Non-liability of Government.**

18. Notwithstanding the provisions of these Regulations, the Fisheries Regulations, 1977, shall apply within the Reserve.

Sub. Leg. Application of 1991 Edn. Fisheries Vol. IV. Regulations. CAP. 174. Pg. 7.

19. The Reserve Office shall be open daily to the public between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Opening days of Reserve.**

20. (1) For all water recreational activities, excluding sports and recreational fishing, fees shall be as follows:

**Admission fees.**

- (a) Tourist . . . . . \$5.00 per person per day;
- (b) Scuba/Snorkel . . . \$20.00 per person per week;

(2) No fees shall be payable by Belizeans and foreign children below twelve years of age.

**Prohibition of certain acts.**

**CAP. 174.**

21. Without prejudice to the activities prohibited by the Fisheries Act and the penalties prescribed therein, no person shall—

- (a) remove, damage or have in his possession any flora, fauna or part thereof except under a licence issued by the Fisheries Administrator;
- (b) deposit any material in or on the waters of the Reserve, except in the case where a licence to do so has been issued by the Fisheries Administrator;
- (c) deface or tamper with any sign, buoy or notice which is installed in the Reserve.

22. (1) The Fisheries Administrator may designate certain areas.

(2) No person shall within the Reserve engage in inwater activities outside of the designated areas.

**Offences & Penalties.**

23. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

**MADE** by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries this 3rd day of May, 1996.

**(RUSSEL GARCIA)**  
*Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries*  
*Ministry responsible for Fisheries*

**SCHEDULE**

**FORM I**

**(Reg. 8)**

**APPLICATION FOR A COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN'S LICENCE OR RENEWAL THEREOF**

Part A to be completed in full and accompanied by two full face photographs of the applicant not exceeding one and one half inches by one inch in size. For first issue money should not be sent with the form. For first issue, proof of citizenship or valid work permit must be furnished with the application or at the time of actual issue of the licence.

To: The Fisheries Administrator.

**PART A**

I hereby apply for a first issue/renewal of a fisherman's licence.

Name ..... Age ..... years  
*(block capitals)*

Fishing Experience ..... years (Full time ... yrs; Part time ... yrs)

Home Address ..... I am a boat owner ..... (yes/no)

..... Boat operator ..... (yes/no)

..... Crewman ..... (yes/no)

I am/am not a member of a Fishermens' Co-operative Society

Name of Co-operative if a member .....

Membership No. .... Previous Fisherman's licence No. ....

Date Issued .....

**PART B**

To be completed in full for the first issue and on renewal only if change in the details given in the first issue application have taken place.

Type of fishing in which engaged and methods used. Please enter a tick against the appropriate method and enter the number of units applicable in the spaces provided.

<i>Lobster</i>	<i>Scale Fish</i>	<i>Conch</i>	<i>Other</i>
Traps ( ) No. ( )	Seine nets ( ) No. ( )	Diving ( )	Product
Drums ( ) No. ( )	Cast nets ( ) No. ( )		_____
Beach			
Traps ( ) No. ( )	Set nets ( ) No. ( )		Method
Diving ( ) No. ( )	Tangle Nets ( ) No. ( )		_____
Other ( ) No. ( )	Gill Nets ( ) No. ( )		No. of
	Trammel net ( ) No. ( )	-1 or 2 wall	Units
	Beach traps ( ) No. ( )	-shore or open sea	_____
		based	
	Fish pots ( ) No. ( )	-any type	
	Drop lines ( )		
	Long lines ( ) No. ( )	-indicate hooks/100 yards.	

Other methods (specify) .....

Approximate value of gear .....

Place of normal landing of catch .....

Date of application ..... Signature of Applicant .....

**THIS PART FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:** Passport No.....( )

Received in Office ..... Work Permit.....( )

Fee received ..... ( ) Birth Cert.....( )

**SCHEDULE**

**FORM II**

(Reg. 8)

**FISHERMAN'S LICENCE**

Licence No. ....

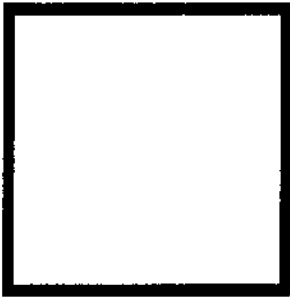
This licence is issued to .....  
*(full name)*

of ..... under the  
*(address)*

provisions of the Fisheries Act and Regulations made thereunder. This licence is not transferable and takes effect from the date of issue and remains in force unless canceled.

Until .....

Fee Paid ..... Receipt No. ....



**PHOTOGRAPH**

*(Licensing Officer and Office Stamp)  
This licence must be produced on demand to any police officer, Customs officer or authorized fisheries officer and should be carried at all times.*

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*Note on Form II of Licence:* It is intended that when circumstances permit that such licences be laminated or otherwise waterproof, but until such times the licences issued will be in printed or cyclostyled form similar to the above and will contain the above information in all cases. The licences to be made up in triplicate: original to licensee, duplicate to the records and the triplicate for reconciliation of accounts.

**SCHEDULE**

**FORM III**

**(Reg. 9)**

**APPLICATION FOR LICENCE TO CONDUCT RESEARCH OR  
SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION WITHIN THE GLOVERS REEF  
MARINE RESERVE**

Date of Application .....

Name of Applicant including title or designation .....

Address: Home Country .....

Whilst in Belize .....

Telephone .....

Name of person who is responsible for ensuring compliance with the  
conditions attached to the licence .....

Institution with whom connection or on whose behalf the work is to be  
carried out .....

Period during which work is to be carried out .....

The following documents are to be attached to this application:-

1. A list of the names and titles of persons who will be accompanying the licensee during the course of the work for whom the licensee shall be responsible.
2. A list of equipment, in triplicate, which the licensee wishes to bring into the country for the scientific purposes and for which a temporary import permit is requested.
3. A detailed programme, in duplicate, of the purpose of the work or expedition including area of work.

I wish to conduct research/an investigation in Belize on my own behalf/as leader of a group of ( ) students/on the behalf of the institution named above for the following purposes: .....

.....  
.....  
.....

..... details of which are contained in the attached pages. I will wish to collect specimens for study in Belize and will/will not wish to export these specimens for further study at the end of my stay. I will want to collect ( ) specimen of species for study/and export.

Date: ..... Signed: .....

**SCHEDULE**

**FORM IV**

(Reg. 10)

**APPLICATION FOR SPORT FISHING LICENCE  
TO FISH IN THE GLOVERS REEF MARINE RESERVE**

For Official Use Only  
Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(dd/mm/yy)  
Marital Status: S/ M/ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

**WORK STATUS**

Full Time ; Owner of Boat   
Part Time ; Crew Member   
Other: \_\_\_\_\_; Captain

**BOAT STATUS**

Name of Boat: \_\_\_\_\_  
Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Width: \_\_\_\_\_  
Engine Type: \_\_\_\_\_ HP: \_\_\_\_\_

**LICENCE TYPE**

Recreational   
Sports   
Others: \_\_\_\_\_  
Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION**

National ID  Passport   
Drivers licence  Co-operative ID   
Valid Fisherman's Licence   
Other  \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_

Cut along line

**RESIDENT FISHERMAN LICENCE**

Licence No.: \_\_\_\_\_

This licence is issued to .....

*(Full name)*

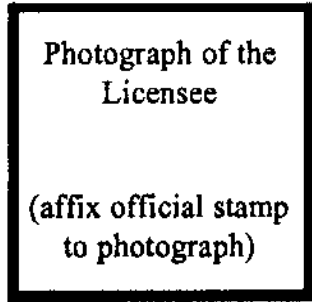


of .....  
(address)

under provision of the Fisheries Act, and the Fisheries (Glovers Reef Marine Reserve) Order, 1993.

This licence is not transferable and takes effect from the date of issue and remains in force unless canceled.

Until .....  
(Date)



Fee paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Licensee*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Licensing Officer*

This is an official document of the Government of Belize and must be produced on demand to any police officer, customs officer, or fisheries officer. It should be carried at all times by the licensee during fishing activity.

**SCHEDULE**

**FORM V**

**(Reg. 10)**

**SPORT FISHING LICENCE**

Licence No.: \_\_\_\_\_

This licence is issued to .....  
*(Full name)*

of .....  
*(address)*

This licence is valid for a period of one month. From ..... until .....

Photograph of the  
Licensee  
  
(affix official stamp  
to photograph)

Fees paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt No. \_\_\_\_\_

This licence is subject to the following conditions:-

1. The holder of this licence shall comply with the Fisheries Act and all Regulations made thereunder.
2. The licensee shall not maim or kill any fish caught under this licence and all sport fishing activity shall only be carried out on a catch and release basis.
3. This licence may at any time be canceled if the licensee is in breach of any of the conditions stipulated above.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Fisheries Administrator*

**NB This is an official document of the Government of Belize and must be produced on demand to any police officer, customs officer, or fisheries officer. It should be carried at all times by the licensee during sport fishing activities.**

**SCHEDULE**

**FORM VI**

**(Reg. 11)**

**APPLICATION FOR BOAT REGISTRATION FOR OPERATION  
IN THE GLOVERS REEF MARINE RESERVE**

**(in duplicate)**

- (1) Name of boat owner: .....
- (2) Name of captain: .....
- (3) Name of boat, if any: .....
- (4) Length of boat: .....
- (5) Width of boat: .....
- (6) Engine type and H.P.: .....
- (7) Passenger capacity: .....
- (8) Type of activity: (Tick for activity included)
  - (a) Snorkeling
  - (b) Scuba Diving
  - (c) Glass-bottom viewing
  - (d) Sport fishing

Date: ..... Signature .....

**Registration Form**

Name of boat owner .....

Name of captain .....

Name of boat .....

This boat is registered to carry up to \_\_\_\_\_ passengers and to conduct the following activities in the Glovers Reef Marine Reserve. i.e. ....

.....

**Conditions of registration**

If carrying passengers to dive in Reserve, the captain/guide is responsible for the following:

- (i) To acquaint passengers with the rules of the Reserve.

- (ii) To moor at the buoys provided when in the Conservation and General Use Zones.
- (iii) To fly the "divers down" flag during all dives.
- (iv) Only certified scuba divers or those undergoing an approved training course will be allowed to use scuba tanks.

If carrying passengers to carry out sport fishing, the captain/guide is responsible for the following:

- (i) To submit details to the Reserve Manager when requested, of catch and the area where fishing took place.
- (ii) To release fish wherever possible.

To apply the mark/sticker provided in a prominent position on the registered boat.

Date .....

.....  
*Fisheries Administrator*