

LEGAL NOTICE No. 94

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE FISHERIES ACT, CHAP. 67:51

REGULATIONS

MADE BY THE MINISTER UNDER SECTION 4 OF THE FISHERIES ACT

THE FISHERIES [CONTROL OF DEMERSAL (BOTTOM)  
TRAWLING ACTIVITIES] REGULATIONS, 1991

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Fisheries [Control of Demersal (Bottom) Trawling Activities] Regulations, 1991. Citation

2. In these Regulations—

“artisanal trawler” means a fishing vessel used for trawling, and equipped with a manually operated rig handling system;

“cod end” means the rear or posterior end of a trawl net in which the majority of fish or shrimp caught is lodged during the fishing exercise;

“demersal (bottom) trawling” means the dragging or pulling of a trawl net on the bottom of the sea in order to catch a demersal or bottom living species;

“east coast”, “west coast”, “north coast” and “south coast” have the meanings assigned to them in the First Schedule such co-ordinates being located in the Second Column.

Interpretation

3. (1) Subject to this regulation, demersal (bottom) trawling for fish or shrimp is permitted in the territorial waters of the North Coast at a distance outside off two nautical miles from that coast defined in the Schedule.

Restrictions  
North Coast

(2) Where trawling of a kind referred to in subregulation (1) is carried out, the stretched mesh of the cod end of the trawl nets used, shall not be less than 7.5 cm. (3 ins.) in the case of fish and 3.5 cm. (1.5 ins.) in the case of shrimp.

(3) Where chafing gear is used, it shall be of netting material of stretched mesh size not smaller than that of the cod end of which it is being used and shall cover 25 per cent of the said cod end.

4. No trawling is permitted in the East coast, defined in the Schedule.

Restrictions  
East Coast

**Restrictions  
South Coast**

5. (1) Subject to this regulation demersal (bottom) trawling for fish or shrimp may be carried out off the South Coast, at a distance outside two nautical miles from that coast as defined in the Schedule.

(2) Where trawling of the kind referred to in subregulation (1) is carried out, the stretched mesh of the trawl nets shall not be less than 7.5 cm. (3 ins.) in the case of fish and 3.5 cm. (1.5 ins.) in the case of shrimp.

(3) Where chafing gear is used, it shall be of netting material of stretched mesh size not smaller than that of the cod end of which it is being used and shall cover 25 per cent of the said cod end.

**Restrictions  
Gulf of  
Paria**

6. (1) Subject to this regulation demersal (bottom) trawling for fish or shrimp may be carried out in the Gulf of Paria, as defined in the Schedule.

(2) No person operating an artisanal trawler shall do so between the one fathom isobath and the coast line of the Gulf of Paria.

(3) A person operating a non-artisanal trawler with an engine size of 180 horse power or less, shall not do so between the four fathom isobath and the coast line of the Gulf of Paria.

(4) A person operating a non-artisanal trawler with an engine size in excess of 180 horse power shall not do so between the eight fathom isobath and the East coast line of the Gulf of Paria.

(5) Where chafing gear is used, it shall be of netting material of stretched mesh of a size which is not smaller than that of the cod end of which it is being used and shall cover 25 per cent of the said cod end.

**Restrictions  
Tobago**

7. No person may carry out demersal (bottom) trawling between twelve nautical miles and the coast of Tobago as referred to in the Schedule except where such an area coincides with the North Coast of Trinidad.

**Research  
and training**

8. These Regulations do not apply to any person who holds a licence or other relevant permission from the Minister to undertake research and training within the areas covered by these Regulations.

**Transition  
provisions**

9. Where a person is engaged in demersal (bottom) trawling activities prior to the coming into force of these Regulations they shall in relation to such a person take effect one hundred and twenty days after publication.

**Duration**

10. These Regulations shall expire at the end of two years from the date of publication but may be extended by the Minister for further periods, of not more than two years.

SCHEDULE

PART A

I. NORTH COAST

The North Coast of Trinidad is the marine area bounded in the West by a line drawn by joining points whose respective co-ordinates are:

10° 44' 31" N	61° 47' 31" W
10° 45' 30" N	61° 47' 06" W
10° 47' 53" N	61° 46' 02" W
10° 53' 42" N	61° 43' 53" W

and in the East by the meridian of Point Galera whose approximate co-ordinates are 10° 49' 56" N and 60° 54' 41" W.

The Southern limit of the North Coast of Trinidad is the parallel of Corozal Point whose approximate co-ordinates are 10° 44' 31" N and 61° 36' 55" W.

II. EAST COAST

The East Coast of Trinidad is the marine area to the South of the parallel of Point Galera.

III. GULF OF PARIA

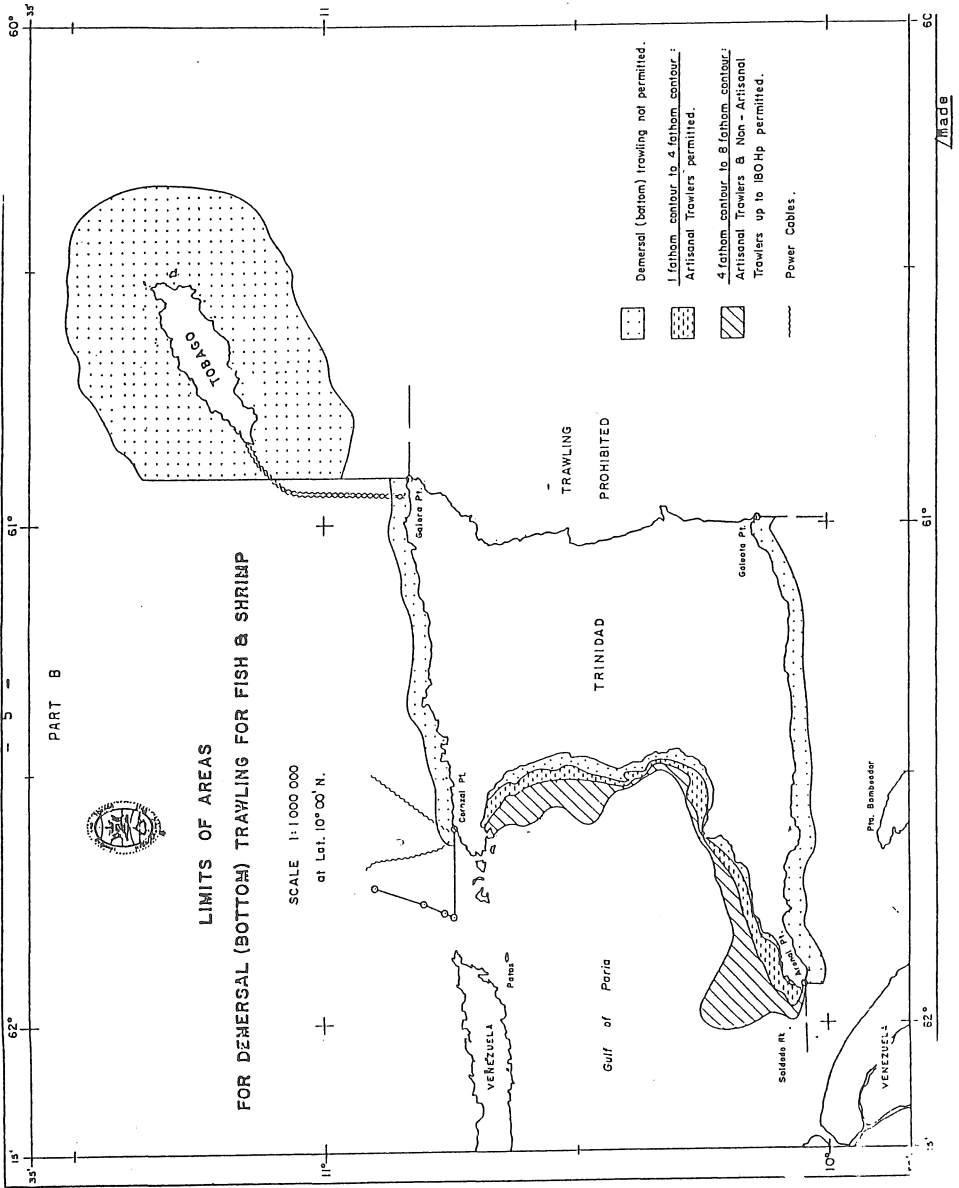
The Gulf of Paria is the marine area bounded in the North by the parallel of Corozal Point whose approximate co-ordinates are 10° 44' 31" N and 61° 36' 55" W and in the South by the parallel through Arenal Point whose approximate co-ordinates are Lat. 10° 02' 47" N and Long. 61° 55' 47" W.

IV. SOUTH COAST

The South Coast of Trinidad is the marine area bounded in the North by the parallel through Arenal Point and in the East by the meridian through Point Galeota whose approximate co-ordinates are Lat. 10° 09' 07" N and Long. 60° 59' 27" W.

V. TOBAGO

The quoted co-ordinates refer to the Clarke 1858 Spheroid.



Made by the Minister this 21st day of June, 1991.

**DR. BRINSLEY SAMAROO**  
*Minister of Food Production and Marine Exploitation*

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