

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 65

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 (CONSERVATION OF MARINE TURTLES)
REGULATIONS, 1994

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Fisheries (Conservation of Marine Turtles) Regulations, 1994. Citation

2. In these Regulations—

Interpretation

“commercial shrimp trawlers” means all trawl vessels equipped with a mechanically operated net retrieval system or hydraulic winch;

“Ministry” means the Ministry with responsibility for marine resources;

“Republic” means the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago;

“turtle excluder device” means a grid device with webbing extension that is inserted between the trawl body and the cod end of the trawl net and allows the escape of turtles through an open panel.

3. These Regulations apply to all commercial shrimp trawlers that are registered in the Republic or that are permitted to fish in the territorial waters of the Republic, by the Minister or the Harbour Master. Application of regulations

4. In furtherance of regulation 3, every commercial shrimp trawler shall be fitted with a turtle excluder device by April 30, 1994 and such device shall be of the type and specifications authorised by the Minister. Deadline for installation and description of devices

5. (1) Where a person using a commercial shrimp trawler accidentally captures live marine turtles during fishing operations, the person shall immediately return such turtles to the sea. Capture of turtles

(2) Where such a person accidentally captures live marine turtles that appear to be in a comatose state, the person shall resuscitate the turtles or cause them to be resuscitated in accordance with procedures authorised by the Minister.

- Compulsory participation in certain programmes** 6. Owners of commercial shrimp trawlers shall participate in all national and international marine turtle conservation practices, specified by the Minister.
- Observers** 7. The owner or operator of any commercial shrimp trawler shall permit the Fisheries Officer, or the person authorised by him to inspect any commercial shrimp trawler, with a view to collecting and submitting data on the fisheries activities involving marine turtles.
- Functions of the Minister** 8. The Minister may from time to time publish by Notification in the *Gazette*—
- (a) the procedures for the resuscitation of turtles; and
 - (b) any national and international marine turtle conservation practices that have been agreed to by the Republic.
- Offences** 9. Where a person contravenes any of these Regulations, the owner of the commercial shrimp trawler, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of two thousand dollars and to imprisonment for six months.

Made by the Minister this 28th day of April , 1994.

K. ROWLEY
*Minister of Agriculture, Land
and Marine Resources*