

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 156

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE FISHERIES ACT, CHAP. 67:51

NOTIFICATION

MADE BY THE MINISTER UNDER REGULATION 8(C) OF THE FISHERIES
(CONSERVATION OF MARINE TURTLES) REGULATIONS, 1994

NOTIFICATION OF TYPE AND SPECIFICATION OF
TURTLE EXCLUDER DEVICES (TEDs)

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred on the Minister under Regulation 8(c) of the Fisheries (Conservation of Marine Turtles) Regulations, 1994, Legal Notice No. 65 of 1994, the Minister hereby gives notice of the revocation of Legal Notice No. 247 of 2004 and of the adoption of new types and specifications of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) as follows:

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| Type of TED | 1. A single-grid hard Turtle Excluder Device (TED) shall be placed in each net used during commercial shrimp trawling. |
| Size of grid | 2. The grid of the TED shall have an outside horizontal and vertical measurement of at least 81 cm (32 ins.) at the mid point of the deflector grid. |
| Construction materials | 3. The following materials may be used to construct a (TED):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) solid steel rod that measures a minimum outside diameter of 0.64 cm ($\frac{1}{4}$ in.);(b) fiberglass or aluminium rod which measures a minimum outside diameter of 1.27 cm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in.); or(c) steel or aluminium tubing with a minimum outside diameter of 1.27 cm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in.) and minimum wall thickness of 0.32 cm ($\frac{1}{8}$ in.). |
| Angle of deflector bars | 4. The angle of the deflector bars shall be between 30° and 55° from fore to aft at any point through the interior of the trawl. |
| Space between bar | 5. The space between each deflector bar and between the deflector bars and the frame of the grid shall not exceed 10.2 cm (4 ins.). |

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| Directions of bars | <p>6. The deflector bars shall—</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(a) run from the top to the bottom of; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(b) be permanently attached to,</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">the frame of the TED grid.</p> |
| Size of the escape opening | <p>7. (1) The escape opening may be either a 181 cm (71 ins.) escape opening or a double cover escape opening.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(2) The escape opening shall be made by removing a rectangular section of webbing from the trawl and the overall size of the cut—</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">(a) where it is a 181 cm (71 ins.) escape opening—</p> <p style="margin-left: 120px;">(i) measure at least 66 cm (26 ins.) along the two forward cuts of the escape opening, from the points of the cut immediately forward of the TED frame, 181 cm (71 ins.) along the leading edge of the opening; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 120px;">(ii) measure 361 cm (142 ins.) along the circumference when stretched horizontally; or</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">(b) where it is a double cover escape opening, measure at least 51 cm (20 ins.) along the two forward cuts of the escape opening, from the points of the cut immediately forward of the TED frame, 142 cm (56 ins.) along the leading edge of the escape opening.</p> |
| Position of the escape opening | <p>8. (1) The escape opening shall be—</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(a) immediately forward of the frame and centered at either the top or bottom of the net when the net is in a deployed position;</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(b) at the top of the net when the slope of the deflector bars, from forward to aft, is upward; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(c) at the bottom of the net when the slope of the deflector bars, from forward to aft, is downward.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(2) Subject to clauses 11 and 12, the passage from the mouth of the trawl through the escape opening must be completely clear of any obstruction or modification.</p> |

Attachment of grid 9. The grid of the TED shall be securely sewn into the mesh of the TED and around the entire circumference of the frame of the grid.

Floatation device 10. (1) A floatation device shall be attached to all single-grid TEDs.

(2) The following floatation devices may be used:

(a) two expanded polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or expanded ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) floats that are 17.2 cm (6.75 ins.) in diameter by 2.2 cm (8.75 ins.) in length;

(b) one aluminium (AL) or hard plastic (HP) float 25 cm (9.8 ins) in diameter; or

(c) a manufacturer stamped certified floatation at least 9.1 kg. (20 lbs.).

(3) The floatation device shall be attached to either the outside or inside of the TED and where it is attached inside the TED, it shall be behind the grid of the TED.

Accelerator funnels and webbing flaps 11. (1) Notwithstanding clause 8(2), accelerator funnels may be installed in a trawl, and webbing flaps may be used to cover an escape opening, where—

(a) the accelerator funnel—

(i) is constructed of net webbing material with a maximum stretched mesh size of 4 cm (1⁵/₈ ins.);

(ii) is inserted into the net immediately forward of the grid of the TED;

(iii) has a tapered end that does not extend past the leading edge of the grid;

(iv) has an inside horizontal opening of at least 181 cm (71 ins.), when stretched; and

(v) is attached, at its trailing edge, to the TED on the opposite side of the escape opening so that no more than one-third of the circumference is attached; and

(b) the webbing flap—

- (i) is not closed or restricted by any device;
- (ii) is constructed of webbing with a maximum stretched mesh size of 4 cm (1⁵/₈ ins.);
- (iii) lies on the outside of the TED;
- (iv) is attached along the entire leading edge of the escape opening;
- (v) does not extend beyond the vertical cuts of the escape opening by more than 13 cm (5 ins.) on either side; and
- (vi) is sewn along the same row of meshes on either side of the vertical cuts.

(2) Where a 181 cm (71 ins.) escape opening is used, the webbing flap shall—

- (a) be constructed of a 338 cm by 132 cm (133 ins. by 52 ins.) piece of webbing;
- (b) be attached to the leading edge of the opening by the side of the webbing that is 338 cm (133 ins.) in length;
- (c) not extend more than 61 cm (24 ins.) beyond the posterior edge of the grid; and
- (d) not be attached to the sides beyond the row of meshes that lie 15 cm (6 ins.) beyond the posterior edge of the grid.

(3) Where a double cover escape opening is used—

- (a) the webbing flap shall—
 - (i) comprise of two equal size rectangular panels of webbing, each of which shall be at least 147 cm (58 ins.) wide; and
 - (ii) only be sewn together along the leading edge of the cut so that each panel does not overlap the other by more than 38 cm (15 ins.); and
- (b) the trailing edge of each panel shall not extend beyond the posterior edge of the grid by more than 61 cm (24 ins.).

Chaffing
webbing

12. Notwithstanding clause 8(2), chaffing webbing may be used with a 181 cm (71 ins.) escape opening where it—

- (a) is constructed of nylon twine that is at least 2.46 mm in diameter;
- (b) is attached to the TED along its leading edge; and
- (c) does not extend beyond the trailing edge or sides of the webbing flap.

Dated this 22nd day of June, 2007.

J. NARINE
*Minister of Agriculture, Land
and Marine Resources*