

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

CHAPTER 110

MARINE HARVESTING DEMONSTRATION LICENSE

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## DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

## Chapter 110 Marine Harvesting Demonstration License

## 110.01 Definitions

## 110.02 Marine Harvesting Demonstration

An individual holding a marine harvesting demonstration license may fish for marine organisms for the purpose of providing an educational demonstration of harvesting techniques or of the ecology of the Gulf of Maine as part of a commercial operation. The license application may be obtained by writing the Department of Marine Resources, attn: Licensing Division, 21 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0021 or by contacting the DMR Licensing Division at telephone: (207) 624-6550.

## 110.03 Limitations and Prohibitions

- A. All marine organisms collected must be immediately liberated alive into the area from which they were taken.
- B. Lobster
  - 1. Lobster taken by trap must be immediately liberated alive.
  - 2. When collecting organisms by hand while SCUBA diving, the holder of a marine harvesting demonstration license may not take or possess lobsters.
- C. When collecting marine organisms, other than lobster pursuant to Chapter 110.03(B), by hand while SCUBA diving, the holder of a marine harvesting demonstration license shall limit the number of individual specimens to not more than six (6) per species or not greater than six (6) clusters of colonial marine organisms.
- D. The holder of a marine harvesting demonstration license is subject to all applicable marine resources laws and regulations including but not limited to:
  - 1. Whale take reduction protocols pursuant to Chapter 25.20

## 110.04 Methods of Fishing

A person holding a marine harvesting demonstration license may fish with lobster traps, or may collect marine organisms other than lobsters by hand while SCUBA diving in accordance with this chapter.

Persons fishing with lobster traps must mark each surface buoy with the demonstration license number, which must be prefixed with the letters DL to indicate the type of license, i.e., a demonstration license.

## 110.05 Trap Tags for Demonstration Traps

No license holder may use a vessel to set, haul, retrieve or take lobsters from a trap unless that trap contains a trap tag allocated to that vessel in accordance with the license holder's vessel declaration. License holders must declare the vessel and lobster zone, at the time of license issuance or renewal, to which that license holder's trap tags will be allocated pursuant to the license. The owner of a declared vessel will be given priority in the issuance of trap tags. All individuals declaring the same marine demonstration vessel may set, haul, retrieve, or take lobsters from the traps allocated to that vessel. The individual to whom demonstration trap tags have been issued does not need to be present on board the vessel in order for other individuals declaring the same marine demonstration vessel to set, haul or retrieve, or take lobster from the traps allocated to that vessel.

The number of lobster trap tags allocated to a vessel declared for a demonstration license may not exceed 20, regardless of the number of marine harvesting demonstration license holders fishing from that vessel. No license holder shall be issued trap tags in an amount that causes a declared vessel to exceed the applicable vessel trap limit established pursuant to 12 M.R.S.A. §6421-(3-A)(F) consistent with the individual trap limit, boat trap limit and applicable vessel limitation law and regulation.

A lobster trap tag is valid starting June 1 of each year. Trap tags shall be valid until May 31 of the following year (12 months).

Tags shall be replaced each lobster fishing year, when supplied by the Commissioner.

#### 110.06 Vessel Identification

A vessel used for marine harvesting demonstration must be clearly identified. The symbol for a marine harvesting demonstration license is a fluorescent orange semi-circle, at least 12 inches in diameter, and must be displayed on both sides of the vessel, mounted in such a manner that it is clearly visible. The symbol described is available from the Department's Licensing Division for a nominal fee.

A vessel identified as a demonstration vessel may not be used for the commercial harvest of marine organisms pursuant to 12 M.R.S.A. §6810-A(3). A lobster and crab license pursuant to 12 M.R.S.A. §6431-A and §6421(3-A)(E) are commercial licenses.

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