



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

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August 9, 2007
FB07-030

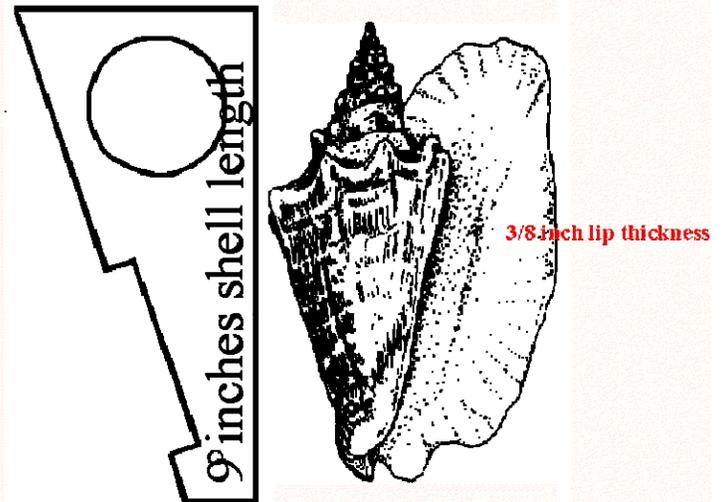
REMINDER TO FISHERMEN OF THE QUEEN CONCH REGULATIONS FOR FEDERAL WATERS IN THE U.S. CARIBBEAN

NOAA Fisheries Service would like to remind fishermen of the current regulations for queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the U.S. Caribbean. Queen conch may not be possessed in any part of the EEZ except during October 1 through June 30 in the area east of 64°34' W. longitude that includes Lang Bank east of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

For queen conch to be possessed in the EEZ east of St. Croix, they must be nine inches in length, that is, from the tip of the spire to the distal end of the shell, or 3/8 inch in lip width at its widest point. Additionally, no person may harvest queen conch by diving while using a device that provides a continuous air supply from the surface.

For those fishermen with a commercial fishing permit issued by Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands, no more than 150 queen conch may be possessed in or from the Caribbean EEZ east of St. Croix. Those persons without a commercial fishing permit may not possess more than 3 queen conch per person or, if more than 4 persons are aboard, 12 per boat in or from the Caribbean EEZ, east of St. Croix. All conch possessed in the EEZ must be in the shell.

QUEEN CONCH HARVEST SIZE LIMIT



FIRST CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PERMIT NO. G-19

National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office, F/SER25
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FB07-030