



BELIZE FISHERIES DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, FORESTRY, THE
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

PRINCESS MARGARET DRIVE * P.O. BOX 148 * BELIZE CITY, BELIZEC.A.

PHONE: (501) 224-4552/223-2623

Email: fisheries_department@fisheries.gov.bz

Website: www.fisheries.gov.bz



Public Notice

May 5, 2020

Fisheries Department Office Operations and Services during COVID-19 **State of Emergency – Notice to the Public**

In conformity with the national declaration of COVID-19 Country-wide State of Emergency, the Fisheries Department, guided by the Statutory Instrument No. 65 of 2020 (Belize Constitution (Emergency Powers) Regulation) and guidelines for 'SAFE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE DURING COVID-19' (Circular Memorandum No. 13 of 2020) will be implementing the following measures effective Wednesday May 6, 2020:

1. No walk-ins will be allowed, unless by advanced appointment or where these services may be considered critical.
2. Applications for RENEWALS of fisher folk and vessel licenses will be processed as follows:
 - a. A maximum of 20 persons will be processed between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
 - b. Applicants must call the Fisheries Department at 224-4552 to make an appointment
 - c. Renewal applicants must submit the following documents:
 - i. Filled application form for renewal (forms are available for download on our Facebook page and webpage (fisheries.gov.bz)),
 - ii. Copy of recent utility bill,
 - iii. Copy of a valid photo ID (social security or passport or voter's ID)
 - iv. Expired 2019 License
 - v. Valid Port Authority Certificate (only for vessel license renewals)
 - d. NO permits for minors will be issued
3. Application for New Fisherfolk License (new entrants):
 - a. Submit the following documents:
 - i. Filled application form for new entrants (available for download on our Facebook page and webpage (fisheries.gov.bz)),
 - ii. Copy of recent utility bill
 - iii. Copy of a valid photo ID (social security or passport or voter's ID)
 - iv. Recent 2x2 Photo

- b. Full application must be submitted via e-mail or dropped off at the security booth of the Fisheries Department. The Department will inform you of the status of the application thereafter.
4. Applications for seafood permits are suspended until further notice.
5. Research permit applications will ONLY be received online.
6. Public visitations will only be allowed by appointment.
7. All drop-off of packages to be done at the security booth.
8. Office Working Hours will be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday

The public is encouraged to submit their applications/queries online via our email addresses below for the following services:

Contact Information (E-mail)	Description of Queries
➤ Fisheries Department fisheries_department@fisheries.gov.bz	All matters
➤ Senior Fisheries Officer (Mr. Rigoberto Quintana): seniorfisheriesofficer@fisheries.gov.bz	All matters, including queries about Enforcement
➤ Mr. Hampton Gamboa hampton.gamboa@fisheries.gov.bz ➤ Mr. Lyndon Rodney lyndon.rodney@fisheries.gov.bz	Enforcement
➤ Mr. Adriel Castañeda adriel.castaneda@fisheries.gov.bz ➤ Mrs. Alicia Eck-Nuñez alicia.nunez@fisheries.gov.bz	Marine Reserves
➤ Ms. Virginia Isabel Martinez isabel.martinez@fisheries.gov.bz ➤ Mr. Gilbert Young gilberto.young@fisheries.gov.bz	Managed Access & Licensing
➤ Ms. Felicia Cruz felicia.cruz@fisheries.gov.bz	Research Permits

The Fisheries Department thanks the public for its understanding and cooperation at this time and continues to encourage everyone to put precautionary measures in place to protect the health and safety of all. The public can follow our Facebook Page and Website for additional updates.

For further information, please contact:

Belize Fisheries Department
Ministry of Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment & Sustainable Development
Princess Margaret Drive, Belize City
Belize City Main Office: Tel: 224-4552; 223-2187; 203-2623
Punta Gorda Office: Tel: 722-2662
Crime Stoppers Hotline - 922
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Website: www.fisheries.gov.bz

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