HB 1639

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to saltwater products; amending s. 2 253.035, F.S.; requiring the Department of Environmental 3 4 Protection to place permanent anchorage buoys in Silver Glen Run and Silver Glen Springs; prohibiting described 5 anchorage in such areas upon placement of said buoys; б providing penalties for violation; amending s. 327.30, 7 F.S.; revising notification requirements for described 8 boating accidents; amending s. 327.43, F.S.; removing 9 requirement that the Fish and Wildlife Conservation 10 Commission place said buoys; deleting certain 11 prohibitions; deleting penalties for violation; amending 12 s. 370.021, F.S.; revising penalties for described 13 violations of saltwater products licensing requirements; 14 amending 370.15, F.S.; deleting license requirement for 15 live bait shrimping; amending s. 370.153, F.S.; deleting 16 provisions requiring certain equipment while live bait 17 shrimping; amending s. 370.1535, F.S.; correcting a cross 18 reference; amending s. 370.154, F.S.; correcting a cross 19 reference; reenacting ss. 370.0603(2)(d), 370.07(5)(c) and 20 (6)(b), 370.13(2)(a) and (b), 370.135(1), 370.142(2)(c), 21 and 372.5704(5), F.S., to incorporate amendments made by 22 the act in references thereto; providing an effective 23 date. 24 25 26 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 27

28 Section 1. Section 253.035, Florida Statutes, is amended 29 to read:

30 253.035 Coastal Anchorage areas.--

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HB 1639 2003 (1) On or after January 1, 1993, if an anchorage area at a 31 deepwater port has been formally designated by the United States 32 Coast Guard, it shall be unlawful for commercial vessels waiting 33 34 to enter the port to anchor outside the anchorage area. (2) The Department of Environmental Protection is hereby 35 directed to establish permanent anchorage buoys within Silver 36 Glen Run and Silver Glen Springs. If permanent anchorage buoys 37 are established, it shall be unlawful for any vessel to anchor 38 or otherwise attach, temporarily or permanently, to the bottom 39 within Silver Glen Run or Silver Glen Springs. The provisions of 40 41 this subsection shall not be construed to limit the existing authority of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement 42 43 Trust Fund to regulate anchoring or mooring under s. 253.03(7)(b). 44 (3) In addition to the provisions of s. 253.04, any 45 violation of this section shall constitute a violation of the 46 boating laws of this state, punishable as provided in s. 327.73. 47 Subsection (2) of section 327.30, Florida Section 2. 48 Statutes, is amended to read: 49 327.30 Collisions, accidents, and casualties.--50 In the case of collision, accident, or other casualty (2) 51 involving a vessel in or upon or entering into or exiting from 52 the water, including capsizing, collision with another vessel or 53 object, sinking, personal injury requiring medical treatment 54 beyond immediate first aid, death, disappearance of any person 55 from on board under circumstances which indicate the possibility 56 of death or injury, or damage to any vessel or other property in 57 an apparent aggregate amount of at least $$2,000 \ \500 , the 58 operator shall without delay, by the quickest means available 59 give notice of the accident to one of the following agencies: 60

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HB 1639 2003 the Division of Law Enforcement of the Fish and Wildlife 61 Conservation Commission; the sheriff of the county within which 62 the accident occurred; or the police chief of the municipality 63 within which the accident occurred, if applicable. 64 Section 3. Section 327.43, Florida Statutes, is amended to 65 read: 66 327.43 Silver Glen Run and Silver Glen Springs; navigation 67 channel; anchorage buoys; violations. --68 (1) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is 69 hereby directed to mark a navigation channel within Silver Glen 70 71 Run and Silver Glen Springs, located on the western shore of Lake George on the St. Johns River. 72 (2) The commission is further directed to establish 73 permanent anchorage buoys within Silver Glen Run and Silver Glen 74 Springs. 75 (3) Vessel anchorage or mooring shall only be allowed 76 utilizing permanently established anchorage buoys. No vessel 77 shall anchor or otherwise attach, temporarily or permanently, to 78 the bottom within Silver Glen Run or Silver Glen Springs. 79 (4) Any violation of this act shall constitute a violation 80 of the boating laws of this state and shall be punishable by 81 issuance of a uniform boating citation as provided in s. 327.74. 82 Any person who refuses to post a bond or accept and sign a 83 uniform boating citation, as provided in s. 327.73(3), commits a 84 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 85 775.082 or s. 775.083. 86 Section 4. Section 370.021, Florida Statutes, is amended 87 to read: 88 Administration; rules, publications, records; 370.021 89 penalties; injunctions.--90

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91 (1) PENALTIES.--Unless otherwise provided by law, any 92 person, firm, or corporation who is convicted for violating any 93 provision of this chapter, or any rule of the Fish and Wildlife 94 Conservation Commission relating to the conservation of marine 95 resources, shall be punished:

96 (a) Upon a first conviction, by imprisonment for a period
97 of not more than 60 days or by a fine of not less than \$100 nor
98 more than \$500, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

(b) On a second or subsequent conviction within 12 months, by imprisonment for not more than 6 months or by a fine of not less than \$250 nor more than \$1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Upon final disposition of any alleged offense for which a citation for any violation of this chapter or the rules of the commission has been issued, the court shall, within 10 days, certify the disposition to the commission.

(2) MAJOR VIOLATIONS.--In addition to the penalties provided in paragraphs (1)(a) and (b), the court shall assess additional penalties against any person, firm, or corporation convicted of major violations as follows:

(a) For a violation involving more than 100 illegal blue
crabs, crawfish, or stone crabs, an additional penalty of \$10
for each illegal blue crab, crawfish, stone crab, or part
thereof.

(b) For a violation involving the taking or harvesting of shrimp from a nursery or other prohibited area, or any two violations within a 12-month period involving shrimping gear, minimum size (count), or season, an additional penalty of \$10 for each pound of illegal shrimp or part thereof.

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HB 1639 2003 For a violation involving the taking or harvesting of 121 (C) oysters from nonapproved areas or the taking or possession of 122 unculled oysters, an additional penalty of \$10 for each bushel 123 124 of illegal oysters. For a violation involving the taking or harvesting of (d) 125 clams from nonapproved areas, an additional penalty of \$100 for 126 each 500 count bag of illegal clams. 127 For a violation involving the taking, harvesting, or 128 (e) possession of any of the following species, which are 129 endangered, threatened, or of special concern: 130 Shortnose sturgeon (Acipenser brevirostrum); 131 1. 2. Atlantic sturgeon (Acipenser oxyrhynchus); 132 3. Common snook (Centropomus undecimalis); 133 134 4. Atlantic loggerhead turtle (Caretta caretta caretta); Atlantic green turtle (Chelonia mydas mydas); 135 5. б. Leatherback turtle (Dermochelys coriacea); 136 137 7. Atlantic hawksbill turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata imbracata); 138 Atlantic ridley turtle (Lepidochelys kempi); or 8. 139 West Indian manatee (Trichechus manatus latirostris), 9. 140 141 an additional penalty of \$100 for each unit of marine life or 142 part thereof. 143 For a second or subsequent conviction within 24 months (f) 144 for any violation of the same law or rule involving the taking 145 or harvesting of more than 100 pounds of any finfish, an 146 additional penalty of \$5 for each pound of illegal finfish. 147 For any violation involving the taking, harvesting, or 148 (q) 149 possession of more than 1,000 pounds of any illegal finfish, an

HB 1639 150 additional penalty equivalent to the wholesale value of the 151 illegal finfish. 2003

(h) Permits issued to any person, firm, or corporation by
the commission to take or harvest saltwater products, or any
license issued pursuant to s. 370.06 or s. 370.07 may be
suspended or revoked by the commission, pursuant to the
provisions and procedures of s. 120.60, for any major violation
prescribed in this subsection:

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1. Upon a first conviction, for up to 30 calendar days.

159 2. Upon a second conviction which occurs within 12 months160 after a prior violation, for up to 90 calendar days.

3. Upon a third conviction which occurs within 24 monthsafter a prior conviction, for up to 180 calendar days.

4. Upon a fourth conviction which occurs within 36 months
after a prior conviction, for a period of 6 months to 3 years.

Upon the arrest and conviction for a major violation (i) 165 involving stone crabs, the licenseholder must show just cause 166 why his or her license should not be suspended or revoked. For 167 the purposes of this paragraph, a "major violation" means a 168 major violation as prescribed for illegal stone crabs; any 169 single violation involving possession of more than 25 stone 170 crabs during the closed season or possession of 25 or more 171 whole-bodied or egg-bearing stone crabs; any violation for trap 172 molestation, trap robbing, or pulling traps at night; or any 173 combination of violations in any 3-consecutive-year period 174 wherein more than 75 illegal stone crabs in the aggregate are 175 involved. 176

(j) Upon the arrest and conviction for a major violation
involving crawfish, the licenseholder must show just cause why
his or her license should not be suspended or revoked. For the

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HB 1639 2003 purposes of this paragraph, a "major violation" means a major 180 violation as prescribed for illegal crawfish; any single 181 violation involving possession of more than 25 crawfish during 182 the closed season or possession of more than 25 wrung crawfish 183 tails or more than 25 egg-bearing or stripped crawfish; any 184 violation for trap molestation, trap robbing, or pulling traps 185 at night; or any combination of violations in any 3-consecutive-186 year period wherein more than 75 illegal crawfish in the 187 aggregate are involved. 188

Upon the arrest and conviction for a major violation 189 (k) 190 involving blue crabs, the licenseholder shall show just cause why his or her saltwater products license should not be 191 192 suspended or revoked. This paragraph shall not apply to an individual fishing with no more than five traps. For the 193 purposes of this paragraph, a "major violation" means a major 194 violation as prescribed for illegal blue crabs, any single 195 violation wherein 50 or more illegal blue crabs are involved; 196 any violation for trap molestation, trap robbing, or pulling 197 traps at night; or any combination of violations in any 3-198 consecutive-year period wherein more than 100 illegal blue crabs 199 in the aggregate are involved. 200

(1) Upon the conviction for a major violation involving 201 finfish, the licenseholder must show just cause why his or her 202 saltwater products license should not be suspended or revoked. 203 For the purposes of this paragraph, a major violation is 204 prescribed for the taking and harvesting of illegal finfish, any 205 single violation involving the possession of more than 100 206 pounds of illegal finfish, or any combination of violations in 207 208 any 3-consecutive-year period wherein more than 200 pounds of illegal finfish in the aggregate are involved. 209

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For a violation involving the taking or harvesting of 210 (m) any marine life species, as those species are defined by rule of 211 the commission, the harvest of which is prohibited, or the 212 taking or harvesting of such a species out of season, or with an 213 illegal gear or chemical, or any violation involving the 214 possession of 25 or more individual specimens of marine life 215 species, or any combination of violations in any 3-year period 216 involving more than 70 such specimens in the aggregate, the 217 suspension or revocation of the licenseholder's marine life 218 endorsement as provided in paragraph (h). 219

Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 948.01, no court may 221 suspend, defer, or withhold adjudication of guilt or imposition 222 of sentence for any major violation prescribed in this 223 subsection. The proceeds from the penalties assessed pursuant to 224 this subsection shall be deposited into the Marine Resources 225 Conservation Trust Fund to be used for marine fisheries research 226 or into the commission's Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund as 227 provided in s. 372.107, as applicable. 228

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(3) PENALTIES FOR USE OF ILLEGAL NETS.--

It is a major violation pursuant to this section, (a) 230 punishable as provided in paragraph (b) for any person, firm, or 231 corporation to be simultaneously in possession of any species of 232 mullet in excess of the recreational daily bag limit and any 233 gill or other entangling net as defined in s. 16(c), Art. X of 234 the State Constitution. Simultaneous possession under this 235 provision shall include possession of mullet and gill or other 236 entangling nets on separate vessels or vehicles where such 237 vessels or vehicles are operated in coordination with one 238 another including vessels towed behind a main vessel. This 239

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HB 1639 240 subsection does not prohibit a resident of this state from 241 transporting on land, from Alabama to this state, a commercial 242 quantity of mullet together with a gill net if:

1. The person possesses a valid commercial fishing license that is issued by the State of Alabama and that allows the person to use a gill net to legally harvest mullet in commercial quantities from Alabama waters.

247 2. The person possesses a trip ticket issued in Alabama 248 and filled out to match the quantity of mullet being 249 transported, and the person is able to present such trip ticket 250 immediately upon entering this state.

3. The mullet are to be sold to a wholesale saltwater products dealer located in Escambia County or Santa Rosa County, which dealer also possesses a valid seafood dealer's license issued by the State of Alabama. The dealer's name must be clearly indicated on the trip ticket.

4. The mullet being transported are totally removed fromany net also being transported.

In addition to being subject to the other penalties 258 (b) provided in this chapter, any violation of s. 16(b), Art. X of 259 the State Constitution, or any rules of the commission which 260 implement the gear prohibitions and restrictions specified 261 therein shall be considered a major violation; and any person, 262 firm, or corporation receiving any judicial disposition other 263 than acquittal or dismissal of such violation shall be subject 264 to the following additional penalties: 265

For a first major violation within a 7-year period, a
 civil penalty of \$2,500 and suspension of all saltwater products
 license privileges for 90 calendar days following final
 disposition shall be imposed.

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270 2. For a second major violation under this paragraph 271 charged within 7 years of a previous judicial disposition, which 272 results in a second judicial disposition other than acquittal or 273 dismissal, a civil penalty of \$5,000 and suspension of all 274 saltwater products license privileges for 12 months shall be 275 imposed.

3. For a third or subsequent major violation under this paragraph, charged within a 7-year period, resulting in a third or subsequent judicial disposition other than acquittal or dismissal, a civil penalty of \$5,000, lifetime revocation of the saltwater products license, and forfeiture of all gear and equipment used in the violation shall be imposed.

A court may suspend, defer, or withhold adjudication of guilt or 283 imposition of sentence only for any first violation of s. 16, 284 Art. X of the State Constitution, or any rule or statute 285 implementing its restrictions, determined by a court only after 286 consideration of competent evidence of mitigating circumstances 287 to be a nonflagrant or minor violation of those restrictions 288 upon the use of nets. Any violation of s. 16, Art. X of the 289 State Constitution, or any rule or statute implementing its 290 restrictions, occurring within a 7-year period commencing upon 291 the conclusion of any judicial proceeding resulting in any 292 outcome other than acquittal shall be punished as a second, 293 third, or subsequent violation accordingly. 294

(c) During the period of suspension or revocation of saltwater license privileges under this subsection, the licensee shall not participate in the taking or harvesting, or attempt the taking or harvesting, of saltwater products from any vessel within the waters of the state; be aboard any vessel on which a

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300 commercial quantity of saltwater products is possessed through 301 an activity requiring a license pursuant to this section; or 302 engage in any other activity requiring a license, permit, or 303 certificate issued pursuant to this chapter. Any person who is 304 convicted of violating this paragraph:

305 1. Upon a first or second conviction, is guilty of a
306 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
307 775.082 or s. 775.083.

2. Upon a third or subsequent conviction, is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(d) Upon reinstatement of saltwater license privileges 311 suspended pursuant to a violation of this subsection, a licensee 312 owning or operating a vessel containing or otherwise 313 transporting in or on Florida waters any gill net or other 314 entangling net, or containing or otherwise transporting in 315 nearshore and inshore Florida waters any net containing more 316 than 500 square feet of mesh area shall remain restricted for a 317 period of 12 months following reinstatement, to operating under 318 the following conditions: 319

1. Vessels subject to this reinstatement period shall be restricted to the corridors established by commission rule.

22. A violation of the reinstatement period provisions 323 shall be punishable pursuant to paragraphs (1)(a) and (b).

(4) ADDITIONAL PENALTIES FOR MAJOR VIOLATIONS INVOLVING
 CERTAIN FINFISH.--It is a major violation pursuant to this
 section, punishable as provided in paragraph (3)(b), for any
 person to be in possession of any species of trout, snook, or
 redfish which is three fish in excess of the recreational or
 commercial daily bag limit.

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SALTWATER PRODUCTS; UNLICENSED SELLERS; ILLEGALLY 330 (5) HARVESTED PRODUCTS .-- In addition to other penalties authorized 331 in this chapter, any violation of s. 370.06 or s. 370.07, or 332 rules of the commission implementing s. 370.06 or s. 370.07, 333 involving the purchase of saltwater products by a commercial 334 wholesale dealer, retail dealer, or restaurant facility for 335 public consumption from an unlicensed person, firm, or 336 corporation, or the sale of saltwater products by an unlicensed 337 person, firm, or corporation or the purchase or sale of any 338 saltwater product known to be taken in violation of s. 16, Art. 339 X of the State Constitution, or rule or statute implementing the 340 provisions thereof, by a commercial wholesale dealer, retail 341 dealer, or restaurant facility, for public consumption, is a 342 major violation, and the commission may assess the following 343 penalties: 344

(a) For a first violation, the commission may assess a
civil penalty of up to \$2,500 and may suspend the wholesale or
retail dealer's license privileges for up to 90 calendar days.

(b) For a second violation occurring within 12 months of a
prior violation, the commission may assess a civil penalty of up
to \$5,000 and may suspend the wholesale or retail dealer's
license privileges for up to 180 calendar days.

(c) For a third or subsequent violation occurring within a 24-month period, the commission shall assess a civil penalty of \$5,000 and shall suspend the wholesale or retail dealer's license privileges for up to 24 months.

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Any proceeds from the civil penalties assessed pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the Marine Resources

359 Conservation Trust Fund and shall be used as follows: 40 percent

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HB 1639 2003 for administration and processing purposes and 60 percent for 360 law enforcement purposes. 361 (6) SALTWATER PRODUCTS LICENSE; LICENSE VIOLATIONS.--It is 362 a major violation pursuant to this section for any person 363 required to be licensed under this chapter to sell or purchase 364 any saltwater product or harvest or attempt to harvest any 365 saltwater product with intent to sell without the required 366 licenses, punishable as follows: 367 (a) In addition to being subject to other penalties 368 provided in this chapter, upon a second or subsequent violation, 369 any person who sells or purchases any saltwater product without 370 having purchased the licenses and permits required by this 371 chapter for such sale shall be subject to the following 372 additional penalties: 373 374 1. A second violation is a first degree misdemeanor, punishable as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, and such 375 person may also be assessed a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 and 376 a suspension of all license privileges under this chapter and 377 chapter 372 for a period not exceeding 90 days. 378 2. A third violation is a first degree misdemeanor, 379 punishable as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, with a 380 mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 6 months, and such 381 person may also be assessed a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 and 382 a suspension of all license privileges under this chapter and 383 chapter 372 for a period not exceeding 6 months. 384 3. A third violation within 1 year of a second violation 385 is a third degree felony, punishable as provided in ss. 775.082 386 and 775.083, with a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 1 387 388 year, and such person shall be assessed a civil penalty of

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389	HB 1639 2003 \$5,000 and a permanent revocation of all license privileges
390	under this chapter and chapter 372.
391	4. A fourth violation is a third degree felony, punishable
392	as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, with a mandatory minimum
393	term of imprisonment of 1 year, and such person shall be
394	assessed a civil penalty of \$5,000 and a permanent revocation of
395	all license privileges under this chapter and chapter 372.
396	(b) In addition to being subject to other penalties
397	provided in this chapter, any person whose license privileges
398	under this chapter have been permanently revoked and who
399	thereafter sells or purchases or attempts to sell or purchase
400	any saltwater product is guilty of a third degree felony,
401	punishable as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, with a
402	mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 1 year, and such
403	person shall also be assessed a civil penalty of \$5,000. All
404	property involved in such offense shall be forfeited pursuant to
405	<u>s. 370.061.</u>
406	(c) In addition to being subject to other penalties
407	provided in this chapter, any person whose license privileges
408	under this chapter are under suspension and who during such
409	period of suspension sells or purchases or attempts to sell or
410	purchase any saltwater product shall be assessed the following
411	additional penalties:
412	1. A first violation is a first degree misdemeanor,
413	punishable as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, and such
414	person may be assessed a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 and a
415	suspension of all license privileges under this chapter and
416	chapter 372 for a period not exceeding 90 days.
417	2. A second violation occurring within 12 months of a
418	first violation is a third degree felony, punishable as provided
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419	in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, with a mandatory minimum term of
420	imprisonment of 1 year, and such person may be assessed a civil
421	penalty of up to \$5,000 and an additional suspension of all
422	license privileges under this chapter and chapter 372 for a
423	period not exceeding 6 months. All property involved in such
424	offense shall be forfeited pursuant to s. 370.061.
425	3. A third or subsequent violation occurring within 2
426	years of a second violation is a third degree felony, punishable
427	as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, with a mandatory minimum
428	term of imprisonment of 1 year, and such person shall be
429	assessed a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 and an additional
430	suspension of all license privileges under this chapter and
431	chapter 372 for a period not exceeding 24 months. All property
432	involved in such offense shall be forfeited pursuant to s.
433	370.061.
434	(d) In addition to being subject to other penalties
435	provided in this chapter, upon a second or subsequent violation,
436	any person who harvests or attempts to harvest any saltwater
437	product with intent to sell, without a saltwater products
438	license and the requisite endorsements, shall be subject to the
439	following additional penalties:
440	1. A second violation is a first degree misdemeanor,
441	punishable as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, and such
442	person may also be assessed a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 and
443	a suspension of all license privileges under this chapter and
444	chapter 372 for a period not exceeding 90 days.
445	2. A third violation is a first degree misdemeanor,
446	punishable as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, with a
447	mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 6 months, and such
448	person may also be assessed a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 and
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449	a suspension of all license privileges under this chapter and
450	chapter 372 for a period not exceeding 6 months.
451	3. A third violation within 1 year of a second violation
452	is a third degree felony, punishable as provided in ss. 775.082
453	and 775.083, with a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 1
454	year, and such person shall also be assessed a civil penalty of
455	\$5,000 and a permanent revocation of all license privileges
456	under this chapter and chapter 372.
457	4. A fourth violation is a third degree felony, punishable
458	as provided in ss. 775.082 and 775.083, with a mandatory minimum
459	term of imprisonment of 1 year, and such person shall also be
460	assessed a civil penalty of \$5,000 and a permanent revocation of
461	all license privileges under this chapter and chapter 372.
462	
463	For purposes of this subsection, violation means any judicial
464	disposition other than acquittal or dismissal.
465	(7)(6) PUBLICATIONS BY COMMISSIONThe commission is
466	given authority, from time to time in its discretion, to cause
467	the statutory laws under its jurisdiction, together with any
468	rules promulgated by it, to be published in pamphlet form for
469	free distribution in this state. The commission is authorized to
470	make charges for technical and educational publications and
471	mimeographed material of use for educational or reference
472	purposes. Such charges shall be made at the discretion of the
473	commission. Such charges may be sufficient to cover cost of
474	preparation, printing, publishing, and distribution. All moneys
475	received for publications shall be deposited into the fund from
476	which the cost of the publication was paid. The commission is
477	further authorized to enter into agreements with persons, firms,
478	corporations, governmental agencies, and other institutions

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HB 1639 2003 479 whereby publications may be exchanged reciprocally in lieu of 480 payments for said publications.

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(8)(7) POWERS OF OFFICERS.--

Law enforcement officers of the commission are 482 (a) constituted law enforcement officers of this state with full 483 power to investigate and arrest for any violation of the laws of 484 this state and the rules of the commission under their 485 jurisdiction. The general laws applicable to arrests by peace 486 officers of this state shall also be applicable to law 487 enforcement officers of the commission. Such law enforcement 488 489 officers may enter upon any land or waters of the state for performance of their lawful duties and may take with them any 490 491 necessary equipment, and such entry will not constitute a trespass. It is lawful for any boat, motor vehicle, or aircraft 492 owned or chartered by the commission or its agents or employees 493 to land on and depart from any of the beaches or waters of the 494 state. Such law enforcement officers have the authority, without 495 warrant, to board, inspect, and search any boat, fishing 496 appliance, storage or processing plant, fishhouse, spongehouse, 497 oysterhouse, or other warehouse, building, or vehicle engaged in 498 transporting or storing any fish or fishery products. Such 499 authority to search and inspect without a search warrant is 500 limited to those cases in which such law enforcement officers 501 have reason to believe that fish or any saltwater products are 502 taken or kept for sale, barter, transportation, or other 503 purposes in violation of laws or rules promulgated under this 504 law. Any such law enforcement officer may at any time seize or 505 take possession of any saltwater products or contraband which 506 have been unlawfully caught, taken, or processed or which are 507 unlawfully possessed or transported in violation of any of the 508

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laws of this state or any rule of the commission. Such law 509 enforcement officers may arrest any person in the act of 510 violating any of the provisions of this law, the rules of the 511 512 commission, or any of the laws of this state. It is hereby declared unlawful for any person to resist such arrest or in any 513 manner interfere, either by abetting or assisting such 514 resistance or otherwise interfering, with any such law 515 enforcement officer while engaged in the performance of the 516 duties imposed upon him or her by law or rule of the commission. 517

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The Legislature finds that the checking and inspection (b) 518 519 of saltwater products aboard vessels is critical to good fishery management and conservation and that, because almost all 520 saltwater products are either iced or cooled in closed areas or 521 containers, the enforcement of seasons, size limits, and bag 522 limits can only be effective when inspection of saltwater 523 products so stored is immediate and routine. Therefore, in 524 addition to the authority granted in paragraph (a), a law 525 enforcement officer of the commission who has probable cause to 526 believe that the vessel has been used for fishing prior to the 527 inspection shall have full authority to open and inspect all 528 containers or areas where saltwater products are normally kept 529 aboard vessels while such vessels are on the water, such as 530 refrigerated or iced locations, coolers, fish boxes, and bait 531 wells, but specifically excluding such containers that are 532 located in sleeping or living areas of the vessel. 533

534 <u>(9)(8)</u> RETENTION, DESTRUCTION, AND REPRODUCTION OF 535 RECORDS.--Records and documents of the commission created in 536 compliance with and in the implementation of this chapter or 537 former chapter 371 shall be retained by the commission as 538 specified in record retention schedules established under the

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539 general provisions of chapters 119 and 257. Such records 540 retained by the Department of Environmental Protection on July 541 1, 1999, shall be transferred to the commission. Further, the 542 commission is authorized to:

(a) Destroy, or otherwise dispose of, those records and
 documents in conformity with the approved retention schedules.

Photograph, microphotograph, or reproduce such records 545 (b) and documents on film, as authorized and directed by the 546 approved retention schedules, whereby each page will be exposed 547 in exact conformity with the original records and documents 548 549 retained in compliance with the provisions of this section. Photographs or microphotographs in the form of film or print of 550 any records, made in compliance with the provisions of this 551 section, shall have the same force and effect as the originals 552 thereof would have and shall be treated as originals for the 553 purpose of their admissibility in evidence. Duly certified or 554 authenticated reproductions of such photographs or 555 microphotographs shall be admitted in evidence equally with the 556 original photographs or microphotographs. The impression of the 557 seal of the commission on a certificate made pursuant to the 558 provisions hereof and signed by the executive director of the 559 commission shall entitle the same to be received in evidence in 560 all courts and in all proceedings in this state and shall be 561 prima facie evidence of all factual matters set forth in the 562 certificate. A certificate may relate to one or more records, as 563 set forth in the certificate, or in a schedule continued on an 564 attachment to the certificate. 565

(c) Furnish certified copies of such records for a fee of
\$1 which shall be deposited in the Marine Resources Conservation
Trust Fund.

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569 <u>(10)(9)</u> COURTS OF EQUITY MAY ENJOIN.--Courts of equity in 570 this state have jurisdiction to enforce the conservation laws of 571 this state by injunction.

572 (11) (10) BOND OF EMPLOYEES. -- The commission may require, as it determines, that bond be given by any employee of the 573 commission or divisions thereof, payable to the Governor of the 574 state and the Governor's successor in office, for the use and 575 benefit of those whom it may concern, in such penal sums with 576 good and sufficient surety or sureties approved by the 577 commission conditioned for the faithful performance of the 578 579 duties of such employee.

580 (12)(11) REVOCATION OF LICENSES.--Any person licensed 581 under this chapter who has been convicted of taking aquaculture 582 species raised at a certified facility shall have his or her 583 license revoked for 5 years by the commission pursuant to the 584 provisions and procedures of s. 120.60.

(13) (12) LICENSES AND ENTITIES SUBJECT TO PENALTIES. -- For 585 purposes of imposing license or permit suspensions or 586 revocations authorized by this chapter, the license or permit 587 under which the violation was committed is subject to suspension 588 or revocation by the commission. For purposes of assessing 589 monetary civil or administrative penalties authorized by this 590 chapter, the person, firm, or corporation cited and subsequently 591 receiving a judicial disposition of other than dismissal or 592 acquittal in a court of law is subject to the monetary penalty 593 assessment by the commission. However, if the license or 594 permitholder of record is not the person, firm, or corporation 595 receiving the citation and judicial disposition, the license or 596 permit may be suspended or revoked only after the license or 597 permitholder has been notified by the commission that the 598

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HB 1639 599 license or permit has been cited in a major violation and is now 600 subject to suspension or revocation should the license or permit 601 be cited for subsequent major violations.

602Section 5.Subsections (6) and (7) of section 370.15,603Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

604

370.15 Shrimp; regulation.--

(6) LIVE BAIT SHRIMPING; LICENSES. -- Live bait shrimp may 605 be caught at any time but only under license issued by the 606 commission. Licensees must fish with gear and under those 607 conditions specified by the commission. Application for such 608 609 licenses shall be on forms supplied by the commission. A live bait shrimping license shall be revocable when the holder does 610 not comply with the laws and regulations applicable to saltwater 611 conservation. All vessels fishing for live bait shrimp must be 612 equipped with live bait shrimp tanks, and no more than 5 pounds 613 of dead shrimp will be allowed on board such vessel per day. 614 (6)(7) CLOSED AREA FOR SHRIMPING.--615

No shrimping except for live bait shrimp shall be 616 (a) permitted in all waters within the following described area: 617 Begin at a point of latitude 24°41'54" North and longitude 618 81°40'30" West near Snipe Point in Monroe County; thence go 619 North 35°53'16" West approximately 9 nautical miles to a point 620 of approximate latitude 24°41'55" North and longitude 81°46'15" 621 West, 3 marine leagues seaward of Snipe Point; thence easterly 622 and northerly following a line which is 3 marine leagues seaward 623 of the mean low-water line of the seawardmost points in Florida 624 Bay and the Gulf of Mexico to a point at latitude 26°00'00" 625 North and approximate longitude 81°56'30" West; thence east to a 626 point on the mean high-water line at latitude 26°00'00" North 627 and approximate longitude 81°44'06" West; thence southerly and 628 Page 21 of 33

HB 1639 2003 easterly along the mean high-water line of the Florida mainland 629 to its intersection with the westerly right-of-way of the U.S. 630 Highway 1 bridge in Long Sound; thence follow the westerly and 631 northern right-of-way of U.S. Highway 1 to a point on 632 Saddlebunch Key latitude 24°37'06" North and approximate 633 longitude 81°36'42" West; thence on a straight line to the point 634 of beginning. 635

(b) A second or any subsequent violation by any person of
this subsection is a felony of the third degree, punishable as
provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 370.153, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

370.153 Regulation of shrimp fishing; Clay, Duval, Nassau,
Putnam, Flagler, and St. Johns Counties.--

643

(3) LIVE BAIT SHRIMP PRODUCTION. --

A live bait shrimp production license shall be issued (a) 644 by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission upon the 645 receipt of an application by a person intending to use a boat, 646 not to exceed 35 feet in length in Duval, St. Johns, Putnam, 647 Flagler, and Clay Counties and not to exceed 45 feet in length 648 in Nassau County, for live shrimp production within the inland 649 waters of Nassau, Duval, St. Johns, Putnam, Flagler, or Clay 650 Counties and the payment of a fee of \$250. The annual fee of 651 \$250 shall be collected by the commission for the issuance of 652 the license during a 60-day period beginning June 1 of each 653 year. The design of the application and permit shall be 654 determined by the commission. The proceeds of the fee imposed by 655 this paragraph shall be used by the Fish and Wildlife 656 Conservation Commission for the purposes of enforcement of 657 marine resource laws. 658

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(b) The Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission, or his or her designated
representative, may by order close certain areas to live bait
shrimp production when sampling procedures justify the closing
based upon sound conservation practices. The revocation of any
order to close has the effect of opening the area.

(c) Every live bait shrimp producer shall produce evidence satisfactory to the commission that he or she has the necessary equipment to maintain the shrimp alive while aboard the shrimp fishing vessel. All vessels fishing for live bait shrimp must be equipped with live bait shrimp tanks of a type and capacity satisfactory to the commission, and no more than 5 pounds of dead shrimp will be allowed on board such vessel per day.

672 (c)(d)1. Each licensed live bait shrimp producer who
673 stores his or her catch for sale or sells his or her catch shall
674 either:

a. Maintain onshore facilities which have been annually checked and approved by the local commission office to assure the facilities' ability to maintain the catch alive when the live bait shrimp producer produces for his or her own facility; or

b. Sell his or her catch only to persons who have onshore 680 facilities that have been annually checked and approved by the 681 local commission office to assure the facilities' ability to 682 maintain the catch alive, when the producer sells his or her 683 catch to an onshore facility. The producer shall provide the 684 commission with the wholesale number of the facility to which 685 the shrimp have been sold and shall submit this number on a form 686 687 designed and approved by the commission.

Page 23 of 33 CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions. 2003

HB 1639 2003 All persons who maintain onshore facilities as 688 2. described in this paragraph, whether the facilities are 689 maintained by the licensed live bait shrimp producer or by 690 another party who purchases shrimp from live bait shrimp 691 producers, shall keep records of their transactions in 692 conformance with the provisions of s. 370.07(6). 693 (d) (d) (e) All commercial trawling in Clay, Duval, and St. 694 Johns Counties shall be restricted to the inland waters of the 695 St. Johns River proper in the area north of the Acosta Bridge in 696 Jacksonville and at least 100 yards from the nearest shoreline. 697 698 (e) (f) A live shrimp producer must also be a licensed wholesale dealer. Such person shall not sell live bait shrimp 699 700 unless he or she produces a live bait shrimp production license at the time of sale. 701 (f) (f) (g) The commission shall rename the Live Bait Shrimp 702 Production License as the Commercial Live Shrimp Production 703 License. 704 Section 7. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 705 370.1535, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 706 370.1535 Regulation of shrimp fishing in Tampa Bay; 707 licensing requirements. --708 The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is (2) 709 authorized to issue a dead shrimp production permit to persons 710 qualified pursuant to the following criteria: 711 No person shall be issued a permit or be allowed to (d) 712 renew a permit if such person is registered for noncommercial 713 trawling pursuant to s. 370.15(4) or if such person holds a live 714 bait shrimping license issued pursuant to s. 370.15(6). 715

716 Section 8. Section 370.154, Florida Statutes, is amended 717 to read:

HB 1639 370.154 Shrimp regulations; closed areas; suspension of 718 license, etc.--Any person convicted of taking shrimp in a closed 719 area who is punishable under s. 370.15(5) or (6) shall, in 720 addition to the penalties set forth therein, have his or her 721 permit and the permit of the boat involved in the violation, 722 issued pursuant to s. 370.15(4), revoked, if the person holds 723 such a permit, and he or she shall be ineligible to make 724 application for such a permit for a period of 2 years from the 725 date of such conviction. If a person not having a permit is 726 convicted hereunder, that person and the boat involved in the 727 728 violation shall not be eligible for such a permit for 5 years. Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment 729 730 made by this act to section 370.021, Florida Statutes, in references therein, the following subdivisions of the Florida 731 Statutes are reenacted to read: 732 370.0603 Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund; 733 purposes. --734 The Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund shall (2) 735 receive the proceeds from: 736 All fines and penalties pursuant to s. 370.021. (d) 737 370.07 Wholesale and retail saltwater products dealers; 738 regulation .--739

LICENSE DENIAL, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION .--(5) 740

In addition to, or in lieu of, the penalty imposed (C) 741 pursuant to this subsection, the commission may impose penalties 742 pursuant to s. 370.021. 743

(6) RECORDS TO BE KEPT ON SALTWATER PRODUCTS .--744 The commission may revoke, suspend, or deny the 745 (b) 746 renewal of the license of any dealer for failure to make and keep required records, for failure to make required reports, for 747 Page 25 of 33

HB 1639 2003 failure or refusal to permit the examination of required 748 records, or for falsifying any such record. In addition to, or 749 in lieu of, the penalties imposed pursuant to this paragraph and 750 s. 370.021, the commission may impose against any person, firm, 751 or corporation who is determined to have violated any provision 752 of this paragraph or any provisions of any commission rules 753 adopted pursuant to s. 370.0607, the following additional 754 penalties: 755 For the first violation, a civil penalty of up to 1. 756 \$1,000; 757 For a second violation committed within 24 months of 758 2. any previous violation, a civil penalty of up to \$2,500; and 759 760 3. For a third or subsequent violation committed within 36 months of any previous two violations, a civil penalty of up to 761 \$5,000. 762 763 The proceeds of all civil penalties collected pursuant to this 764 subsection shall be deposited into the Marine Resources 765 Conservation Trust Fund and shall be used for administration, 766 auditing, and law enforcement purposes. 767 370.13 Stone crab; regulation.--768 (2) PENALTIES. -- For purposes of this subsection, 769 conviction is any disposition other than acquittal or dismissal, 770 regardless of whether the violation was adjudicated under any 771 state or federal law. 772 In addition to any other penalties provided in s. 773 (a) 370.021, for any person, firm, or corporation who violates rule 774 68B-13.010(2), Florida Administrative Code, or rule 68B-775 776 13.011(5), (6), (7), (8), or (11), Florida Administrative Code, the following administrative penalties apply. 777

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For a first violation, the commission shall assess an
 administrative penalty of up to \$1,000 and the stone crab
 endorsement under which the violation was committed may be
 suspended for the remainder of the current license year.

2. For a second violation that occurs within 24 months of any previous such violation, the commission shall assess an administrative penalty of up to \$2,000 and the stone crab endorsement under which the violation was committed may be suspended for 12 calendar months.

3. For a third violation that occurs within 36 months of any previous two such violations, the commission shall assess an administrative penalty of up to \$5,000 and the stone crab endorsement under which the violation was committed may be suspended for 24 calendar months.

4. A fourth violation that occurs within 48 months of any three previous such violations, shall result in permanent revocation of all of the violator's saltwater fishing privileges, including having the commission proceed against the endorsement holder's saltwater products license in accordance with s. 370.021.

798

Any person assessed an administrative penalty under this paragraph shall, within 30 calendar days after notification, pay the administrative penalty to the commission, or request an administrative hearing under ss. 120.569 and 120.57. The proceeds of all administrative penalties collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund.

(b) It is unlawful for any person to remove the contents of another harvester's trap without the express written consent Page 27 of 33

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of the trap owner available for immediate inspection. Such 808 unauthorized removal constitutes theft. Any person convicted of 809 theft from a trap shall, in addition to the penalties specified 810 811 in s. 370.021 and the provisions of this section, permanently lose all his or her saltwater fishing privileges, including 812 saltwater products licenses, stone crab or incidental take 813 endorsements, and all trap certificates allotted to him or her 814 by the commission. In such cases, trap certificates and 815 endorsements are nontransferable. In addition, any person, firm, 816 or corporation convicted of violating the prohibitions 817 818 referenced in this paragraph shall also be assessed an administrative penalty of up to \$5,000. Immediately upon 819 receiving a citation for a violation involving theft from a trap 820 and until adjudicated for such a violation, or if convicted of 821 such a violation, the violator is prohibited from transferring 822 any stone crab or lobster certificates. 823

824

370.135 Blue crab; regulation.--

No person, firm, or corporation shall transport on the 825 (1)water, fish with or cause to be fished with, set, or place any 826 trap designed for taking blue crabs unless such person, firm, or 827 corporation is the holder of a valid saltwater products license 828 issued pursuant to s. 370.06 and the trap has a current state 829 number permanently attached to the buoy. The trap number shall 830 be affixed in legible figures at least 1 inch high on each buoy 831 used. The saltwater products license must be on board the boat, 832 and both the license and the crabs shall be subject to 833 inspection at all times. Only one trap number may be issued for 834 each boat by the commission upon receipt of an application on 835 forms prescribed by it. This subsection shall not apply to an 836 individual fishing with no more than five traps. It is a felony 837

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HB 1639 2003 of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 838 775.083, or s. 775.084, for any person willfully to molest any 839 traps, lines, or buoys, as defined herein, belonging to another 840 without permission of the licenseholder. It is unlawful for any 841 person to remove the contents of another harvester's trap 842 without the express written consent of the trap owner available 843 for immediate inspection. Such unauthorized removal constitutes 844 theft. Any person convicted of theft from a trap shall, in 845 addition to the penalties specified in s. 370.021 and the 846 provisions of this section, permanently lose all his or her 847 848 saltwater fishing privileges including his or her saltwater products license and blue crab endorsement. In such cases 849 850 endorsements are nontransferable. In addition, any person, firm, or corporation convicted of violating this subsection shall also 851 be assessed an administrative penalty of up to \$5,000. 852 Immediately upon receiving a citation for a violation involving 853 theft from a trap and until adjudicated for such a violation, or 854 if convicted of such a violation, the person, firm, or 855 corporation committing the violation is prohibited from 856 transferring any blue crab endorsements. 857

858

370.142 Spiny lobster trap certificate program.--

859 (2) TRANSFERABLE TRAP CERTIFICATES; TRAP TAGS; FEES;
860 PENALTIES.--The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall
861 establish a trap certificate program for the spiny lobster
862 fishery of this state and shall be responsible for its
863 administration and enforcement as follows:

864

(c) Prohibitions; penalties.--

1. It is unlawful for a person to possess or use a spiny lobster trap in or on state waters or adjacent federal waters without having affixed thereto the trap tag required by this

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HB 1639 868 section. It is unlawful for a person to possess or use any other 869 gear or device designed to attract and enclose or otherwise aid 870 in the taking of spiny lobster by trapping that is not a trap as 871 defined in rule 68B-24.006(2), Florida Administrative Code.

872 2. It is unlawful for a person to possess or use spiny
873 lobster trap tags without having the necessary number of
874 certificates on record as required by this section.

It is unlawful for any person to remove the contents of 875 3. another harvester's trap without the express written consent of 876 the trap owner available for immediate inspection. Such 877 878 unauthorized removal constitutes theft. Any person convicted of theft from a trap shall, in addition to the penalties specified 879 880 in ss. 370.021 and 370.14 and the provisions of this section, permanently lose all his or her saltwater fishing privileges, 881 including his or her saltwater products license, crawfish 882 endorsement, and all trap certificates allotted to him or her 883 through this program. In such cases, trap certificates and 884 endorsements are nontransferable. In addition, any person, firm, 885 or corporation convicted of violating this paragraph shall also 886 be assessed an administrative penalty of up to \$5,000. 887 Immediately upon receiving a citation for a violation involving 888 theft from a trap and until adjudicated for such a violation or, 889 if convicted of such a violation, the person, firm, or 890 corporation committing the violation is prohibited from 891 transferring any crawfish trap certificates and endorsements. 892

4. In addition to any other penalties provided in s.
370.021, a commercial harvester, as defined by rule 68B24.002(1), Florida Administrative Code, who violates the
provisions of this section, or the provisions relating to traps

HB 1639 897 of chapter 68B-24, Florida Administrative Code, shall be 898 punished as follows:

a. If the first violation is for violation of subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., the commission shall assess an additional civil penalty of up to \$1,000 and the crawfish trap number issued pursuant to s. 370.14(2) or (6) may be suspended for the remainder of the current license year. For all other first violations, the commission shall assess an additional civil penalty of up to \$500.

b. For a second violation of subparagraph 1. or
subparagraph 2. which occurs within 24 months of any previous
such violation, the commission shall assess an additional civil
penalty of up to \$2,000 and the crawfish trap number issued
pursuant to s. 370.14(2) or (6) may be suspended for the
remainder of the current license year.

For a third or subsequent violation of subparagraph 1., 912 с. subparagraph 2., or subparagraph 3. which occurs within 36 913 months of any previous two such violations, the commission shall 914 assess an additional civil penalty of up to \$5,000 and may 915 suspend the crawfish trap number issued pursuant to s. 370.14(2) 916 or (6) for a period of up to 24 months or may revoke the 917 crawfish trap number and, if revoking the crawfish trap number, 918 may also proceed against the licenseholder's saltwater products 919 license in accordance with the provisions of s. 370.021(2)(h). 920

921 d. Any person assessed an additional civil penalty
922 pursuant to this section shall within 30 calendar days after
923 notification:

924 (I) Pay the civil penalty to the commission; or
925 (II) Request an administrative hearing pursuant to the
926 provisions of s. 120.60.

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e. The commission shall suspend the crawfish trap number
issued pursuant to s. 370.14(2) or (6) for any person failing to
comply with the provisions of sub-subparagraph d.

5.a. It is unlawful for any person to make, alter, forge,
counterfeit, or reproduce a spiny lobster trap tag or
certificate.

b. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly have in his
or her possession a forged, counterfeit, or imitation spiny
lobster trap tag or certificate.

c. It is unlawful for any person to barter, trade, sell,
supply, agree to supply, aid in supplying, or give away a spiny
lobster trap tag or certificate or to conspire to barter, trade,
sell, supply, aid in supplying, or give away a spiny lobster
trap tag or certificate unless such action is duly authorized by
the commission as provided in this chapter or in the rules of
the commission.

6.a. Any person who violates the provisions of
subparagraph 5., or any person who engages in the commercial
harvest, trapping, or possession of spiny lobster without a
crawfish trap number as required by s. 370.14(2) or (6) or
during any period while such crawfish trap number is under
suspension or revocation, commits a felony of the third degree,
punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

b. In addition to any penalty imposed pursuant to subsubparagraph a., the commission shall levy a fine of up to twice
the amount of the appropriate surcharge to be paid on the fair
market value of the transferred certificates, as provided in
subparagraph (a)1., on any person who violates the provisions of
sub-subparagraph 5.c.

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Any certificates for which the annual certificate fee 956 7. is not paid for a period of 3 years shall be considered 957 abandoned and shall revert to the commission. During any period 958 of trap reduction, any certificates reverting to the commission 959 shall become permanently unavailable and be considered in that 960 amount to be reduced during the next license-year period. 961 Otherwise, any certificates that revert to the commission are to 962 be reallotted in such manner as provided by the commission. 963

8. The proceeds of all civil penalties collected pursuant
to subparagraph 4. and all fines collected pursuant to subsubparagraph 6.b. shall be deposited into the Marine Resources
Conservation Trust Fund.

9689. All traps shall be removed from the water during any969 period of suspension or revocation.

372.5704 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission license
 program for tarpon; fees; penalties.--

972 (5) Any individual including a taxidermist who possesses a 973 tarpon which does not have a tag securely attached as required 974 by this section shall be subject to penalties as prescribed in 975 s. 370.021. Provided, however, a taxidermist may remove the tag 976 during the process of mounting a tarpon. The removed tag shall 977 remain with the fish during any subsequent storage or shipment.

978 Section 10. This act shall take effect upon becoming a 979 law.