

**.14 General Prohibitions.**

A. (text unchanged)

B. Commercial — General.

(1) — (4) (text unchanged)

(5) Mature female hard crabs shall be kept in separate bushels or barrels from male hard crabs or peeler crabs.

(6) Except as specified in [§F(2)(c)] §F(2) of this regulation, an individual licensed to catch crabs for commercial purposes may not catch or possess in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries more than:

(a) — (b) (text unchanged)

(7) — (11) (text unchanged)

C. — E. (text unchanged)

F. Limited Crab Harvester.

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) Latent Effort Limited Crab Harvester Status.

(a) An individual with a license that has been determined to be a latent effort license as described in §F(1) of this regulation [shall, through a process as determined by the Department, declare to:

(i) Have their LCC license placed in limited crab harvester — frozen status as described in §F(2)(b) of this regulation; or

(ii) Have their LCC license placed in limited crab harvester — male only status] *is required to have declared their LCC license as a limited crab harvester – male only* as described in [§F(2)(d)] §F(2)(b) of this regulation.

[(b) An individual with a limited crab harvester license — frozen status:

(i) May not commercially harvest crabs beginning on April 1, 2010;

(ii) Shall renew the license annually in accordance with the schedule designated for an LCC authorization in Natural Resources Article, §4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland, without a fee;

(iii) Need not file a harvest report while the license is on frozen status; and

(iv) May apply to the Department for a permanent or temporary transfer of the license through a family, beneficiary, or business transfer, as described in Natural Resources Article, §4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland.

(c) Upon a determination that the blue crab population meets or exceeds the abundance target for 3 consecutive years, the Department shall assess the number of limited crab harvester — frozen licenses that may be restored to full active status for commercial harvest.]

[(d)] (b) (text unchanged)

[(e) Licensees who do not declare their latent effort license status by March 15, 2010, through the Department process shall have their limited crab harvester license placed in limited crab harvester license — frozen status beginning April 1, 2010.]

[(f)] (c) (text unchanged)

[(g)] (d) Conditions for using an LCC [frozen or]male only authorization as one of the required authorizations to upgrade to an unlimited tidal fish authorization are described in COMAR 08.02.01.05I.

(e) *Notwithstanding Natural Resources Article, §4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland, any LCC which was previously frozen due to latent license status as described in §F(1) of this regulation will not be required to pay the authorization fee for the 2012 commercial crabbing season.*

G. Public Notice. The Department may open, close, or modify a season, or catch limits to manage the harvest [to remove not more than 46 percent of the crab population as estimated by the results of the winter dredge survey] *at safe management levels* by:

(1) — (2) (text unchanged)

**JOHN R GRIFFIN**  
Secretary of Natural Resources