



CHARLIE CRIST  
Governor

SECRETARY MICHAEL W. SOLE  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

DAVID HALSTEAD  
State Coordinating Officer

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 28, 2010

### CONTACT:

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### ATTACHMENT:

Executive Order 10-115 (Amending 10-115, Authorizing Free Saltwater Fishing Days)

## **Governor Crist Announces Free Saltwater Fishing Weekends**

*~ Memorial Day weekend and opening weekend for red snapper will be free  
for Floridians and visitors to the Sunshine State ~*

PENSACOLA – Governor Charlie Crist today announced two free fishing weekends to help draw visitors to the beautiful beaches of the Sunshine State. Both residents and nonresidents in Florida can fish for saltwater species around the state without a license during the upcoming Memorial Day weekend, May 29 to May 31, and the weekend of June 5 and 6, which is the first weekend after the popular red snapper season opens in the Gulf on June 1, 2010. All other fishing rules apply.

“Florida is the fishing capital of the world,” said Governor Crist, “Our beaches are clear, the fish are biting, and we invite our friends to enjoy some Florida hospitality.”

Chairman Rodney Barreto of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) applauded the Governor’s decision.

“Governor Crist’s actions to offer free fishing this weekend will do wonders for our business communities that have been suffering cancellations since the oil spill started,” Barreto said. “We are not experiencing any oil impacts, and the fact remains that Florida is open for business.”

The FWC will continue to monitor all of the potential impacts of the oil spill on Florida’s fish and wildlife and continue to be involved with many aspects of the oil spill response, Barreto added. In addition, the FWC has consulted with key representatives from several fishing organizations in Florida who are very concerned about inaccurate public perceptions regarding the condition of Florida’s fisheries and the state’s marine environment. There has been strong agreement from these stakeholders that the

fishing business in Florida is “as usual” and that fishing remains a safe and viable recreational and commercial activity.

Go to [www.MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://www.MyFWC.com/Fishing) to learn about fishing regulations in Florida.

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# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 10-115

(Amending Executive Order 10-99, as Amended by Executive Orders 10-100 and 10-106; authorizing the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to designate Free Saltwater Fishing Days)

**WHEREAS**, on April 30, 2010, I issued Executive Order 10-99 declaring a state of emergency due to the threat that oil leaking from the Deepwater Horizon drilling platform and well poses a threat to the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, I found that this event threatens the State of Florida with a major disaster and proclaimed a state of emergency exists for the counties of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay and Gulf; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Orders 10-100 and 10-106, I amended Executive Order 10-99 to include additional counties in the state of emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has advised of misinformation and unfounded concerns that Florida's saltwater fish populations and habitat may have been harmed by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; and

**WHEREAS**, such unverified concerns have the potential to inflict serious, economic harm on Florida's tourism and recreational fishing industries; and

**WHEREAS**, as Governor, I am responsible to meet the dangers presented to this state and its people by this emergency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHARLIE CRIST**, as Governor of Florida, in obedience to my solemn constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, and by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 1 (a) of the Florida Constitution and by the State

Emergency Management Act (Chapter 252, Florida Statutes), and all other applicable laws, I do hereby promulgate the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. Executive Order 10-99, as amended by Executive Orders 10-100 and 10-106, is amended to provide that, having found the special duties and responsibilities resting upon some state, county, regional and local governmental agencies in responding to the emergency may require them to deviate from the statutes, rules, ordinances and orders they administer, I delegate to such agencies the authority to waive or deviate from such statutes, rules, ordinances or orders to the extent that such actions are needed to cope with this emergency. Any waiver of statutes, rules, ordinances or order shall be by emergency rule or order in accordance with sections 120.54(4) and 252.46, Florida Statutes, and shall expire thirty (30) days from the date of the expiration of Executive Order 10-99, unless extended (in increments of no more than thirty days) by the agency.

Section 2. Pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Executive Order 10-99, as amended by Executive Orders 10-100 and 10-106, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission ("Commission") is authorized to designate Free Saltwater Fishing Days for the taking of saltwater fish for noncommercial purposes in order to encourage residents and visitors to enjoy the bountiful and healthy fishing opportunities available in Florida, "The Fishing Capital of the World." The Commission is authorized to declare Free Saltwater Fishing Days for May 29, 30 and 31, 2010 (Memorial Day weekend), and for the weekend of June 5, and 6, 2010, during which any person may take saltwater fish for noncommercial purposes without obtaining or possessing a license or permit or paying a license or permit fee as prescribed in Chapter 379.354(15), Florida Statutes.

Section 3. Except as amended herein, Executive Order 10-99, as amended by Executive Order 10-100 and Executive Order 10-106, is ratified and reaffirmed.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010.



*Charlie Crist*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:  
*Janet K. Roberts*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED  
2010 MAY 27 PM 7:00  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA