



COMMERCIAL FISHING PERMIT RULES

- Permittees must follow the restrictions established by Volusia County and the PSS and can fish after the volunteer turtle patrol has cleared the area or from 8 AM until 7PM or sundown (whichever is earlier) during turtle season, May 1-Oct. 31.
- From Nov. 1 (or after the last nest has hatched) through Apr. 30 (or whenever the first nest is hatched) access is from 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. Commercial fishermen will contact Sheriff dispatch, (386) 248-1777, press "3" for access on or off the beach after hours. *Once gates are closed, no vehicle may enter the beach without an officer escort. Officers will attempt to respond promptly.*
- Driving in Natural Beach areas are prohibited at all times of the year.
- All vehicular access provisions established by the HCP for the general public applies to commercial fishermen during the turtle-nesting season.
- Commercial fisherman must use red or amber light shields on all lights or lanterns when fishing from the beach during the sea turtle nesting season.
- During day-time hours Commercial fishermen may pull over to water's edge and park – but they must traverse the beach in the traffic lanes at all times. This does not have to be enforced when beach is closed to general public (after hours).
- Permittees must show that they have received educational instruction and that they agree that any infractions of regulations pertaining to protected species and habitat will result in the immediate revocation of their commercial fishing permit.
- The Volusia County permit of any fisherman who drives in the vehicle protected beach zones will be revoked permanently.
- Sec. 20-116. Fishing., Unified Beach Code
It shall be unlawful for any person:
 - (1) To fish in the ocean after having been warned by a member of the Beach Patrol or any law enforcement officer that the health and safety of swimmers is being endangered; or
 - (2) While on the beach or within 600 feet from shore to intentionally fish for sharks or to fish by those methods commonly known as "chumming" or "bloodbaiting."Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a duty of any sort on the part of any county or municipal employee to prevent fishing or to warn of the presence of sharks in the ocean.
- Contact Beach Safety at 386-239-6414 or email at beachsafety@volusia.org if additional information is needed.