

Relevant Information for Exporters

Size Limits for Exports

Common name	Scientific name	Carapace Width
Mangrove	<i>Scylla serrata</i>	12 cm
Orange mud crab	<i>Scylla olivacea</i>	12cm
Green mud crab	<i>Scylla paramamosain</i>	12cm
Purple mud crab	<i>Scylla tranquebarica</i>	12cm



**NATIONAL
FISHERIES
AUTHORITY**

MUD CRAB FISHERY

REGULATIONS

For more Information:

NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 2016, PORT MORESBY

NATIONAL CAPITAL DISTRICT

11TH FLOOR, KINA TOWER, DOWNTOWN

Telephone: 3090400



Mud Crab Fishery Regulations

Objectives:

- *To sustainably manage the mud crab fishery for the long term livelihood of the mud crab resource owners*
- *To maintain all species of mud crab populations at a biologically sustainable level*
- *To sustain the economic benefit of the fishery for the benefit of resource owners and industry*
- *To enable resource owners, industry, other relevant groups and research institutions are involved in the management of the mud crab fishery.*

MANAGEMENT MEASURES

1. **Licences** – Individuals and Companies wanting to be involved in Mud Crab Business will require a license. All licences are issued for one year and once a license has expired the licensee has to reapply for licence.

Types of Licence:

- a) **Buyers Licence** – Buying directly from fishermen.
- b) **Storage Facility Licence** – Fattening and Storage of mud crabs. ONLY issued if standards are conditions are met as per the Management Plan.
- c) **Export Facility licence** – Exporting Mud Crabs and will ONLY be issued to a company that holds a Storage or Fish facility licence.
- d) **Fish Factory licence**- Processing Crab.

2. Total Allowable Catches (TAC)

- a) NFA calculates the TAC for each province based on their respective stocks. Stock Assessments will be conducted to assess current status of stock
- b) TAC may be allocated to each Licensed Exporter and Buyer for the purpose of Exporting.
- c) When each Province reaches its allocated TAC, taking, buying and exporting of mud crabs for that province will cease.
- d) NFA will monitor TAC in real time using purchase data and through export statistics.

Licences are reserved for PNG Citizens ONLY

Approved Export facility licences must pay a Compliance bond fee

PROHIBITIONS

1. Fishing for Mud Crabs is restricted only to traditional resource owners employing allowable fishing methods
2. Buying of Mud Crabs for the purpose of exporting and the export of mud crabs is prohibited when a specific provincial TAC has been reached.
3. The taking, buying, exporting and trade of mud crabs less than 12cm carapace width for all species of mud crabs is prohibited.
4. Taking of mud crabs while their shell is soft (moult stage) is prohibited
5. Taking of berried female mud crabs is prohibited. Captured berried female mud crabs must be immediately returned to the body of water or the mud from which it was taken, with as little injury to the crab as possible