



NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

Office of the Managing Director

Telephone: (675) 309 0444
Facsimile: (675) 3202061
Email: nfa@fisheries.gov.pg
Website: www.fisheries.gov.pg

Level 11, Kina Bank Haus
Douglas Street
PO Box 2016
Port Moresby, N.C.D
Papua New Guinea

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: 03rd May 2024

EXTENSION OF THE 2023-2024 MUD CRAB FISHING SEASON

The National Fisheries Authority (NFA) Circular Board Resolution Decision No. 55 of 2024, has approved the extension of the 2023-2024 mud crab fishing season for three (3) months from **01st May to 31st July, 2024**. The NFA Board, has also approved for the extension of licenses for the existing licensed buyers and exporters to continue to trade in this extended period.

The reasons for the extension are premised on:

1. The TAC for each province is set at 50% of the standing stock biomass of that province. The current catch is at half of the overall TAC, except for Gulf Province which has used 100% of its TAC;
2. Stocks are not experiencing overfishing and overfishing is not occurring;
3. Noting the sporadic patterns of spawning behavior for mud crabs in PNG;
4. Recognizing the utilization of the resource to its full potential to provide continued social and economic benefits to coastal communities; and
5. Ensuring the business investment and commitment to end markets is fully utilized.

The **only** registered licensed companies allowed to continue with the Buying, Selling, Storing and Exporting of Mud Crabs are listed below.

NO.	COMPANY	PROVINCE
1	United Seafoods Limited	NCD/Central
2	ANM Marine NCD	NCD/Central
3	Sakura Marine	NCD/Central
4	Coco Enterprise Limited	NCD/Central
5	Maru Shipping Co. LTD	NCD/Central
6	Flyig Taihang Mountain Trading Limited	NCD/Central
7	A.L Gaidi Marine Resource NCD	NCD/Central
8	Golden Bowl Limited	NCD/Central
9	Kroton Laitopo Equities	NCD/Central
10	Qoito Pacific Limited	NCD/Central
11	Sugujiji Marine Products Limited	NCD/Central
12	Solwara Seafood Limited	NCD/Central
13	Sangak Enterprise Limited	NCD/Central

14	A.L Gaidi Marine Resource Gulf	Gulf
15	ANM Marine Limited Gulf	Gulf
16	Sakura Marine Products Limited	Gulf
17	Karasiva Marine Resource	New Ireland
18	Island Marine Products Limited	New Ireland
19	A.L Gaidi Marine Resource NIP	New Ireland
20	ANM Marine Limited NIP	New Ireland
21	Aquila Enterprise Limited	Western
22	Mjay Kaine Limited	Western
23	Bay Seafoods Limited	Milne Bay
24	ANM Marine Limited Milne Bay	Milne Bay
25	Marigold Limited	West New Britain

In this extended period, **Gulf Province fishing grounds are Prohibited from harvesting and trade of Mud Crabs within the provincial jurisdiction for commercial or export purposes, as it has already reached its Total Allowable Catch (TAC) allocated for the 2023-2024 open season.**

However, Gulf Province-based companies may be allowed to purchase mud crabs from other provinces, facilitated by the NFA and the Provincial Fisheries Office, for the purposes of storage and export only, by utilizing their facilities in the Gulf Province and Port Moresby and consistent with the provisions of the Mud Crab Management Plan, in particular, Schedule 2 (Inter-provincial Transfer Form).

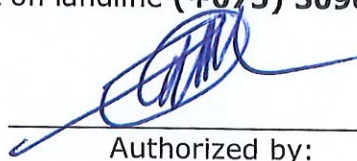
The Mud Crab Management Plan-2022 [G619], encourages the Buying, Selling, Storing and Exporting of Mud Crabs from respective maritime provinces which have yet to reach their TAC allocation during this extended fishing period.

All the licensed companies are advised to submit all daily purchase record data to the National Fisheries Authority during this extended period, including the companies based in the Central Province and NCD for their purchases made in other maritime provinces.

Please note that as per the *Fisheries Management Act 1998* and the *Fisheries Regulation 2000*, penalties apply to companies and individuals who breach the conditions of this extended fishing period.

This notice does **NOT** affect the harvesting, selling, and buying of mud crabs for local or domestic consumption or to local markets, restaurants, and hotels.

For further information, please contact **Mr. Thomas Usu, Executive Manager, Fisheries Management Unit** or **Mr. Jerome Tioti, Executive Manager, Licensing & Data Management Unit** on landline **(+675) 3090 444**.



Authorized by:

Mr. Gisa Komangin
Acting Managing Director