



State of New Jersey

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Adopted Amendments to N.J.A.C. 7:25-14.4 Commercial Licenses for Crab Pots/Trot Lines and Crab dredges

Reduction in Available Commercial Licenses

1. No new licenses will be issued until the number of available licenses falls below allotments listed below:
 - a. Crab Pot/Trot Line License allotment has decreased from 312 licenses down to 180 licenses;
 - b. Delaware Bay Crab Dredge License allotment has decreased from 93 licenses down to 50 licenses;
 - c. Atlantic Coast Crab Dredge License allotment has decreased from 250 licenses down to 100 licenses;
2. The number of available licenses will naturally reduce over time through attrition, i.e., non-renewal or non-compliance;
3. All existing license holders may continue to renew their licenses; and
4. License lotteries are suspended until new allotments are reached;
 - a. Existing license lottery rankings will remain, and new applicants will be added to the end of the list in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7-25:14.4(a)10.

New Limited Opportunities for License Transfers to Non-Immediate Family Members

1. Crab Pot/Trot Line and Delaware Bay Crab Dredge License holders who wish to be considered to transfer to a non-immediate family member must submit a completed transfer application between **January 1 and February 28** of the year in which they wish to transfer;
 - a. Any incomplete or late submissions will not be considered;
 - b. Applicants who have not renewed their license for the year they wish to transfer will not be considered;
2. The Marine Fisheries Administration will institute a License Transfer Lottery, and will process applications each year as follows:
 - a. 20 Active Crab Pot/Trot Line License transfers;
 - i. To qualify as an active commercial crab harvester, 200 bushels of hard crabs or 2,000 peelers must have been harvested in the previous year;
 - b. Five Inactive Crab Pot License transfers;
 - c. Five Delaware Bay Crab Dredge License transfers;
3. License Transfer Lottery winners will be selected at random and will be notified by mail about the opportunity to transfer a license;
 - a. Selected licensees will have 30 days from the postmark date of the notice to respond to the Marine Fisheries Administration;
 - b. Unsuccessful licensees will have other opportunities to transfer in subsequent years;
4. Atlantic Coast Crab Dredge Licenses may not be transferred to non-immediate family members, since the transferability rules have not changed for the Atlantic Coast crab dredge fishery; and
5. All crab licenses may be transferred at any time to immediate family members upon application to the Marine Fisheries Administration.