



Commercial Lionfish Harvest Program

Requirements & Application



Background

Lionfish are a non-native, invasive species to Florida that have the potential to significantly alter the native marine habitats, impact recreational and commercial fishing and overall economy of Florida. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) encourages the removal of all sizes of lionfish from Florida's waters. While other technologies are being developed and tested, currently the most-effective method to remove lionfish is by divers using polespears and other lionfish-specific spearfishing equipment. Localized removal efforts, including lionfish tournaments, have been shown to be effective in reducing lionfish populations.

Program Overview

Goal: To increase the number of commercial lionfish harvesting trips and the number of lionfish removed from Florida waters. To maximize harvest pressure, the FWC has created several incentive programs to encourage recreational and commercial divers to harvest lionfish. While the commercial market for lionfish provides incentive for divers to harvest lionfish and sell their fish to licensed wholesale dealers, this program was established to provide an additional incentive and maximize commercial harvest effort. The commercial harvest program is only open to commercial harvesters that hold a valid and current FWC issued Saltwater Products License.

Program Rules

The program works in the following ways:

1. Participants **must** hold a valid and current FWC issued Saltwater Products License
 2. Participants must complete this application and become a registered vendor of the State of Florida
 3. FWC will open a purchase order with each qualified vendor
 4. Participants conduct commercial lionfish harvest trips.
 - a. There is no minimum or maximum number of pounds of lionfish sold.
 5. Participants submit Commercial Harvest Monthly Invoice Summary form and trip tickets to document lionfish sales
 6. Participants will be reimbursed at a rate of \$3 per pound.
 7. Qualifying lionfish harvest trips must be completed between the date of the approved Purchase Order and June 15, 2021.
 8. Reimbursements **cannot** be made for trip tickets dated before approval of a Purchase Order.
 9. Participants in the Commercial Lionfish Harvest Program are not eligible for the Recreational Lionfish Harvest Program.
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Application and Instructions



Payment Information

To be paid by the FWC, the individual or organization must be a registered vendor in the state of Florida purchasing system with a valid W-9 on file. If you have already done so, proceed to step #3, otherwise follow steps #1 and #2 below:

1. Register as a vendor with the state of Florida at https://www.dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/state_purchasing/myfloridamarketplace.
2. Complete a separate registration (from step #1) and upload an active W-9 at <https://flvendor.myfloridacfo.com/>. Note: It usually takes 3-5 days for system processing.
3. **Vendors must send the completed application (page 3) to Lionfish@MyFWC.com before completing any harvest trips or submitting any trip tickets.** Trip tickets dated before approval of purchase order will not be accepted.
4. A purchase order for \$2,499 will be issued and upon approval, you will receive an email notification with a purchase order number, then ***lionfish harvesting trips may begin!***
5. If available funds under a purchase order are exhausted, additional applications may be submitted for additional purchase orders.

Reporting Requirements

Within 30 days of the end of each month, please submit a **Commercial Harvest Monthly Invoice Summary Form**, along with all trip tickets dated during the calendar month to: Lionfish@MyFWC.com.

- MUST use FWC Invoice template and include:
 - Invoice number and date
 - Vendor name and address
 - FWC name and address (FWC Lionfish, 1875 Orange Ave East, Tallahassee, FL 32311)
 - Order number (included in notification email of the approved purchase order)
 - Invoices for reimbursement must be received **within 60 days of the end of the harvest month**. Invoices after the 60 days will not be accepted for reimbursement.
 - Invoices for trips completed in June must be received no later than June 15, 2021.
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Applicant Information

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Organization Name | |
| Organization Address | |
| Contact Name | |
| Phone Number | |
| Email Address | |
| Fisherman License Number | |

Organization is registered with https://www.dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/state_purchasing/myfloridamarketplace.

Valid W-9 is on file with <https://flvendor.myfloridacfo.com/>.

Terms & Conditions

FWC reserves the right to deny payment if the vendor fails to fulfill the requirements for harvest verification stated in the reporting requirements. FWC is not liable for any incidences that occur during the charter trips. The registered vendor has sole responsibility for the divers and associated entities. The program is intended for lionfish-specific charter trips and must not include the harvest of other species.

I acknowledge that I have read the requirements for this program and have reviewed the terms and conditions.

Under penalty of perjury, I swear or affirm by signing below that the information I provided on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, provides that whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his or her official duty shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

When this application is received by a state agency, the information contained therein becomes public record subject to inspection under the provisions of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Send completed application to Lionfish@MyFWC.com.
Please direct all questions regarding the program to Amy Brower
(Amy.Brower@MyFWC.com).

Directions: Fill out all required information in red

Invoice Number: Start at 01 for your first trip ticket and increase the number for subsequent trip tickets

Dates of Service: Cannot begin before the approval of your purchase order or go beyond the date you submit your trip ticket

***Incomplete or incorrect invoices will not be submitted for processing and will be returned to participant**

Commercial Harvest Monthly Invoice Summary (Complete one invoice summary per month)

INVOICE MONTH: **ENTER MONTH**

DATE: **MM/DD/YYYY**

VENDOR NAME: **NAME**
ADDRESS: **ADDRESS**
CITY, STATE, AND ZIP: **CITY, STATE, AND ZIP**
PHONE: **PHONE**
EMAIL: **EMAIL**
LICENSE NO: **LICENSE NO.**

BILL TO

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Lionfish Outreach and Control Program
1875 Orange Ave East
Tallahassee, FL 32301

DATES OF SERVICE

Purchase Order Number

Mm/dd/yyyy
To
mm/dd/yyyy

| QUANTITY | DESCRIPTION | TRIP TICKET # | UNIT PRICE | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Lbs. of lionfish sold | Reimbursement for commercial lionfish harvest trips. Date of Trip: Click to enter a date. | Trip Ticket # | \$3 Each | \$ (Total) |
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| | | | SUBTOTAL | \$(AMOUNT) |
| | | | TOTAL: | \$(Amount) |

Trip Ticket Submission:

Please embed **and separately attach to the submission email**: all trip tickets being used for reimbursement

