

## Recreational & Commercial Harvest of Blue Crab REGULATIONS for 2019 Season



### Proposed Changes:

Harvest of Female Blue Crabs to Close  
September 9 – October 13

The **recreational and commercial** take (or possession) of female blue crabs from state waters is prohibited during this

time. This regulation **replaces** all previous closures and restrictions on the harvest of female blue crabs, including the 2019 spring closure set for March through April.

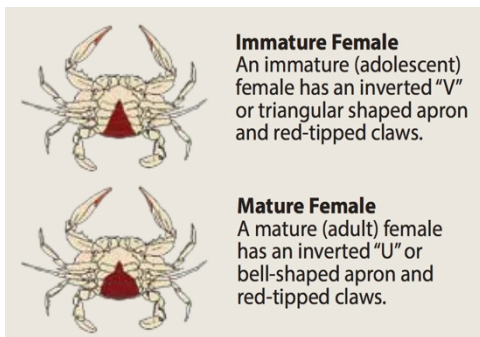
*A commercial fisherman may keep an incidental take of female crabs in an amount not to exceed 2% of the total number of crabs possessed.*

*There is still time to make  
your VOICE HEARD!*

The deadline to submit comments  
to LDWF is December 4, 2018;  
email [pcagle@wlf.la.gov](mailto:pcagle@wlf.la.gov).

### Current Commercial Regulations in Effect

#### Ban on Harvest of Immature Female Blue Crabs



- No commercial harvest of immature females, regardless of size
- 2% allowance in crates; work or cull box exempt
- Exemption for softshell crab; must be in peeler/buster box

**Set to expire January 1, 2020, proposed regulations would make this ban permanent.**

#### Crab Trap Escape Rings Requirement

- Each crab trap must have at least 3 escape rings, 2 3/8<sup>th</sup> inches in inside diameter
- At least 2 must be in the upper chamber
- They must be placed on vertical outside walls; rings in upper chamber must be flush (or even with) the baffle & rings in lower chamber must be flush with the trap floor