

Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)
Division of Aquatic Resources
State of Hawaii

Commercial Kala Fishing Permit
Specific Terms and Conditions

“Permittee” refers to any person issued a commercial kala fishing permit. The commercial kala fishing permit allows the permittee, when participating in a commercial kala fishing trip, to take and/or possess more than the daily bag limit of four kala per person per day. I understand that:

1. The validity of my commercial kala fishing permit is contingent upon the validity of my commercial marine license. If, for any reason, my commercial marine license is suspended or revoked or if my commercial marine license is expired, my commercial kala fishing permit will no longer be valid and I will be subject to the statewide bag limit of four kala per person per day.
2. In addition to the terms and conditions of the commercial kala fishing permit, I must also comply with all the terms and conditions of my [commercial marine license](#).
3. The fee for the issuance or renewal of my commercial kala fishing permit is \$100.00, in addition to the fee for my commercial marine license and the fee any other license or permit required by law, and my commercial kala fishing permit will not be issued or renewed until the fee payment is received.
4. My commercial kala fishing permit will be valid from the date of issuance and will expire on the same day as my commercial marine license. It is my responsibility to ensure that I renew both my commercial marine license and my commercial kala fishing permit.
5. My commercial kala fishing permit only applies when I am participating in a commercial kala fishing trip as defined in section 13-95-1, HAR (see below).
6. The annual catch limit (ACL) for the commercial kala fishery is 15,000 pounds and commercial kala catch will begin to be tallied on August 1 of each year. When the ACL is reached the commercial kala fishing season will be closed and commercial harvest or sale of kala will be prohibited.
7. If the ACL is reached, the department will notify commercial kala fishing permittees and registered commercial kala dealers that the commercial kala fishing season is closed. Notice will be made in writing by mail or email to the address on file with the department no less than three days prior to the closure of the season.
8. The department may establish additional restrictions on the commercial take or possession of kala pursuant to adaptive management authority under section 187A-5(b), HRS.

Definitions

For purposes of these Specific Terms and Conditions for commercial kala fishing permits and pursuant to section 13-95-1, HAR:

“Annual catch limit” or “ACL” is the maximum commercial harvest in a given fishing year established for any marine fishery subject to closure. The catch is measured in whole wet weight through cumulative reported landings by commercial marine licensees and cumulative reported purchases by commercial marine dealers.

“Commercial marine licensee” means a person who has been issued a commercial marine license pursuant to section 13-74-20, HAR, and section 189-2, HRS.

(3/13/2024)

“Commercial purpose” means the taking of marine life for profit or gain or as a means of livelihood where the marine life is taken in or outside of the State, or where the marine life is sold, offered for sale, landed, or transported for sale anywhere in the State.

“Commercial kala fishing trip” means a fishing trip where any kala are taken for a commercial purpose, as evidenced by the possession of more than four kala per person. For a trip to be considered a commercial kala fishing trip, each participant must have both a valid commercial marine license and a valid commercial kala fishing permit. For vessel-based fishing trips, each person on board the vessel is deemed a participant.

“Kala” means any fish known as *Naso unicornis*, *Naso brevirostris*, *Naso annulatus*, or any recognized synonym. Kala are also known as bluespine unicornfish, short-nosed unicornfish, spotted unicornfish, or whitemargin unicornfish.

“Sell” means to solicit and receive an order for; to have, or keep, or offer, or expose for sale; to deliver for value or in any other way than purely gratuitously; to peddle; to keep with intent to sell; and to traffic in.

“Take” means to fish for, catch, capture, confine, or harvest, or to attempt to fish for, catch, capture, confine, or harvest, aquatic life. The use of any gear, equipment, tool, or any means to fish for, catch, capture, confine, or harvest, or to attempt to fish for, catch, capture, confine, or harvest, aquatic life by any person who is in the water, or in a vessel on the water, or on or about the shore where aquatic life can be fished for, caught, captured, confined, or harvested, shall be construed as taking.