

Attention Commercial Fishermen!

Fisheries Hurricane Irma Disaster Assistance

The FWC has received notification from NOAA Fisheries that the Hurricane Irma Fisheries Disaster grant has been approved beginning July 1, 2019. While there are several projects in this grant, payment to fishermen and wholesale dealers impacted by Hurricane Irma is a priority.

Several projects in the Hurricane Irma Fisheries Disaster Relief Program were established to provide funding to commercial fishermen and wholesale dealers who were negatively affected by Hurricane Irma in September 2017. This Disaster Relief Program will include separate components to specifically compensate lobster trap certificate holders, SPL holders, wholesale dealers who were in coastal counties from Dixie to Monroe on the Gulf Coast and from Monroe to Nassau counties on the Atlantic coast.

The Following is the **first step** for disaster relief.

To be eligible to receive a payment under this program, you must be a registered vendor in the State of Florida purchasing system and you must have an active W-9 on file.

You need to register by July 10, 2019.

Step 1. Complete a registration and upload an active W-9 at: <https://flvendor.myfloridacfo.com/>.
Note: It usually takes 3-5 days for system processing.

Step 2. Login to CLS online to verify and update your address, phone number and email. We need the most up to date contact information to process payments.

Starting the beginning of July, you will start receiving additional letters and emails to explain each program area and how payments will be calculated. To ensure that assistance will be provided, and a payment can be made, make sure to COMPLETE the steps above.

Available government funds are limited. The Fisheries Disaster Relief Program may not be able to cover fishermen fully for their losses.

If you have further questions regarding your reimbursement, you may contact Dan Ellinor at Daniel.Ellinor@MyFWC.com or Alan Peirce at Alan.Peirce@MyFWC.com, or the Division of Marine Fisheries Management at 850-487-0554.

Locally, Hurricane Irma recovery related questions can be directed to Wetherington-helene@monroecounty-fl.gov.