



Date 01-April-2014

Notice # N002

Series: 2014

Category GEN

## **NOTICE OF BELIZE'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE WCPFC AREA**

<b>This Notice is about</b>	<b>Belize's decision to withdraw its presence from the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission area.</b>
<b>This Notice replaces</b>	n/a
<b>It is intended for</b>	All Ship Owners, Operators, Charterers, Master and Crew, Deputy Registrars and Resident Agents
<b>For more information</b>	Direct any inquiries about this circular to the Director of the High Seas Fisheries of the Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit, Ministry of Finance

### **BACKGROUND:**

In an effort to align the size of our fleet which operates on the high consistent with our capacity to monitor and control these vessels, Belize has taken a policy decision not to renew its cooperating non-member status in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) area for 2015.

Resultantly, with immediate effect we will no longer be authorizing vessels to operate within the WCPFC area. All vessels that currently hold a license to operate in this area will be allowed to continue operate up to the expiration of their license but not beyond December 2014.

### **APPLICABILITY**

All vessels currently operating in the WCPFC area and which is contained on the WCPFC list of authorized vessels.

### **MAINTENANCE**

Ship owners, operators and masters must ensure that this Fishing Vessel Circular is maintained on board their vessel and that the content is properly disseminated to all crew

member including persons affected by or having an interest in the subject matter, in a language understood by all.

### **COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT**

Failure to comply with any Circular shall result in disciplinary actions taken in accordance with Belize's Sanction Regulations S.I.32 of 2014.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

This Circular shall be implemented forthwith and shall remain in effect until further notification from this Administration.

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### **Issued by**

**Valarie Lanza,  
Director of High Seas Fisheries**