TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, CHARTERERS, MASTER AND CREW, DEPUTY REGISTRARS AND
RESIDENT AGENTS

SUBJECT: FISHING LOG BOOK SYSTEM

Reference: Issued in accordance with Part II 3 (1)(f) and Part VII 19(1)(2) of the Belize High Seas
Fishing Act, 2003

PURPOSE:

As the need for the conservation and management of marine resources increase, especially in the
RFMOs, the need for more and better quality data on how these resources are being utilized and
manage also increases.

To meet these needs the Belize Administration through this Circular is now introducing a fishing logbook
system of reporting in addition to current reporting requirements.

The purpose of the Fishing Logbook System is to ensure that records of the fishing and non-fishing
activities of all Belize flagged vessels are kept on-board each vessel at all times and are submitted to the
Belize Administration upon request. In addition, some RFMOs such as the IOTC, Indian Ocean Tuna
Commission has now passed resolutions requiring the implementation of such a system by flag States.
Other RFMOs will eventually follow suite. Consequently, Belize is being proactive with its compliance
requirements and have decided to introduce the Logbook System.

APPLICABILITY

A Fishing Logbook will be allocated to all Belize registered fishing vessels operating on the high seas and
which targets tuna and tuna-like species. The allocation will commence at the time of issuance of/or
renewal of a high seas fishing license. Agents and representatives are to ensure that this book is sent to
the owners and operators for dispatch to the vessel. Data recording are to commence immediately
upon receipt of the logbook on-board the vessel. Data entered into the logbook must be concise and
accurate. Alterations or corrections must be initiated by the Master and all original entries which have
been cancelled or corrected must remain legible. Guidelines for the proper completion of the logbook
are contained within the logbook itself.
COST INVOLVED

The cost involved for each logbook is US$50.00. Any cost associated with the dispatch of these logbooks from our office will be borne by the vessel owners.

MAINTENANCE

Ship owners, operators, masters must ensure that this Fishing Vessel Circular is maintained on board their vessel and that the contents is properly disseminated to the crew as well as to all persons affected by or having an interest in the subject matter, in a language understood by all.

ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

Failure to comply with this Circular shall result in punitive actions taken in accordance with Part V Section 14 of the High Seas Fishing Act, 2003

IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS CIRCULAR

This Fishing Vessel Circular is to be implemented with immediate effect and shall remain in force until further notification by the Belize Administration.

Any queries related to this Circular should be directed to:

International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize
Fishing Vessels Manager
Tel: 501-223-5026/5031/5047
Email: immarbe@btl.net

Belize Fisheries Department
Fisheries Administrator
Tel: 501-223-2187
Email: fisheries_department@fisheries.gov.bz