

08.02.06.02 (June 18, 2009)

.02 Terrapin.

[A. Size. A person may not catch or possess a diamondback terrapin, whether it was caught within the State or within any other state, territory, or country, that is less than 4 inches or greater than 7 inches in length measured across the greatest length of the free edges of the plastron parallel to the midline from the front of the diamondback terrapin to the back.]

[B.] A. Eggs. A person may not possess, destroy, or disturb in any manner diamondback terrapin eggs.

[C. Season. A person may not take or possess diamondback terrapin during the period from November 1 through July 31.

D. Pets. The provisions of this regulation relating to size and season do not apply to a person who owns not more than three diamondback terrapins kept as pets.

E. Permits

(1) A person catching diamondback terrapins for commercial purposes shall:

(a) Hold a valid diamondback terrapin permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources; and

(b) Be licensed to fish for commercial purposes in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §§4-701 and 4-902, Annotated Code of Maryland.

(2) Permits issued by the Department shall be valid beginning on August 1 and expiring on October 31 each year.

(3) Applications for permits must be received between June 1 and July 31 of each calendar year.

- (4) Permits issued by the Department are not transferable.
- (5) A person permitted by the Department to harvest diamondback terrapin shall:
- (a) Record the harvest of diamondback terrapin on the permit and on the Daily Commercial Fisheries Catch Log; and
 - (b) Submit the information to the Department by December 1 following the permitted season.]

B. Pets. A person may possess not more than three diamondback terrapin kept as pets.

[F.] C. All crab pots set for recreational purposes shall be equipped with a turtle reduction device as required by COMAR 08.02.03.07B.

D. Incidental Catch. The incidental catch of diamondback terrapin is not prohibited, provided that the diamondback terrapin are returned immediately to the water.

John R. Griffin

SECRETARY OF NATURAL RESOURCES