

Florida Recreational Blue Crab Compliance Checklist (2026)

Printable quick-check reference • Always verify current FWC rules before each season.

Before deploying your traps, confirm the following:

- Minimum 5" size (point-to-point across spines).
- No egg-bearing (sponge) females harvested.
- Maximum of 5 traps per person (recreational).
- At least 3 escape rings (minimum 2 3/8" inside diameter).
- Each entry throat meets 2" x 6" rigid rule OR has compliant BRD installed (one per entry).
- Required biodegradable component installed.
- Trap marked with name, address, and recreational registration number.
- Buoy at least 6" in size with clearly visible 2" tall letter 'R'.