TURTLE CATCHER/DEALER
Resident – Non-Resident

Alabama Game, Fish and Wildlife Regulation 220-2-.142

Privilege: *Authorizes CATCHER to take, collect, possess, or harvest any legal turtle species from public or private water for commercial purposes*
Authorizes DEALER to sell, purchase, trade, import or export live turtles

Restrictions: *Regulation 220-2-92 protects certain species, imposes size restrictions on common snapper & soft shell turtles and daily harvest limit from public waters.*
Regulation 220-2-.142 requires monthly report, record keeping, and specific requirements to import/export turtles & designates legal equipment to be utilized to harvest turtles from public water

Cost: *No Charge*

Valid: *September 1 thru August 31*

Applicant can make application by contacting District Office or Montgomery Office for:
Copy of Law
Application

Applicant must submit:
Completed application
Alabama Driver's License

License by mail – Application is required for mail-in requests:
Dept. of Conservation
Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Div.
Attn: Enforcement Section
PO Box 301459
Montgomery, AL 36130-1459

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION

TURTLE FARMERS OR DEALER PERMIT

Application

I am applying for: Turtle Farmer Permit ☐ Turtle Dealer/Catcher Permit ☐

SECTION A PRINT OR TYPE ONLY - INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED **Valid: Sept 1 – Aug 31**

Name: _____

(1)Social Security #: _____ - ____ - _____ Driver's License # _____

Date of Birth: _____ email: _____

Sex: ____ Height: _____ Weight: _____ Eyes: _____ Hair: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Hm (___) _____-_____ Wk (___) _____-_____ Cl (___) _____-_____

Partner Name: _____ (list additional partners on back in same format)

(1)Social Security #: _____ - ____ - _____ Driver's License # _____

Phone: Hm (___) _____-_____ Wk (___) _____-_____ Cl (___) _____-_____

By signing, I certify that I have read and agree to the statement below:

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

To be excluded from any list of names sold by ADCNR, please check this box [ ]

For Business purposes, completing this entire section is required.

Business Name _____

Fed ID #: _____ - _____ Business Start Date: _____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

APPLICANT MUST COMPLETE SECTION B ON BACK OF APPLICATION

Submit: (1) **completed application**, and (2) **driver's license copy** to: Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Div., Attn: Enforcement, PO Box 301459, Montgomery, AL 36130-1459. Questions: (334) 242-3467 or dcnr.enforce@dcnr.alabama.gov.

I agree to fully comply with Alabama laws and regulations concerning turtles and turtle permit requirements. I understand my facilities and all required records are subject to inspection by Division personnel. Failure to comply with all laws and regulations will result in cancellation of this permit and possible prosecution.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

To be excluded from any list of names sold by ADCNR, please check this box [ ]

Reviewed by: _____ ☐ ☐ Date: _____

Approved Denied

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Permit Number: _____ Date Issued: _____ Issued By: _____

(1) DCNR IS NOW REQUIRED BY SECTION 30-3-194(A) CODE OF ALABAMA 1975 TO COLLECT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ON ALL RECREATIONAL LICENSES BEING ISSUED/RENEWED.

Section B

Exact location of each pond or facility utilized for raising or holding turtles:				
County	Address	GPS Coord. (if available)	Scientific Name	Common Name

(Attach additional sheets if necessary using above format)

Code of Alabama
Turtle Catcher or Dealer

www.legislature.state.al.us

Revised: 10/07

Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
Regulation 220-2-.92

Nongame Species Regulation

(1) It shall be unlawful to take, capture, kill, or attempt to take, capture or kill; possess, sell, trade for anything of monetary value, or offer to sell or trade for anything of monetary value, the following nongame wildlife species (or any parts or reproductive products of such species) without a scientific collection permit or written permit from the Commissioner, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, which shall specifically state what the permittee may do with regard to said species:

(c) **Reptiles**

Common Name	***Scientific Name***
• Snake, Black Pine	*Pituophis melanoleucus lodingi*
• Snake, Eastern Indigo	*Drymarchon corais couperi*
• Snake, Eastern Coachwhip	*Masticophis flagellum flagellum*
• Snake, Florida Pine	*Pituophis melanoleucus mugitus*
• Snake, Gulf Salt Marsh	*Nerodia fasciata clarkii*
• Snake, Southern Hognose	*Heterodon simus*
• Terrapin, Mississippi Diamondback	*Malaclemys terrapin pileata*
• Tortoise, Gopher	*Gopherus polyphemus*
• Turtle, Alabama Map	*Graptemys pulchra*
• Turtle, Alabama Red-bellied	*Pseudemys alabamensis*
• Turtle, Alligator Snapping	*Macroclemys temminckii*
• Turtle, Barbour's Map	*Graptemys barbouri*
• Turtle, Black-knobbed Sawback	*Graptemys nigrinoda*
• Turtle, Escambia Bay Map	*Graptemys ernsti*

In addition any required federal permits for federally protected species must be obtained.

(2) It shall be unlawful to possess more than one box turtle or to offer for sale, sell, or trade for anything of value any box turtle (*Terrapene spp.*), box turtle part or reproductive product except by permit as outlined in paragraph (1).

(3) It shall be unlawful to collect, harvest, possess, offer for sale, sell, or trade for anything of value any common snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*) or soft shell turtles (*Apalone ferox, Apalone muticus muticus, Apalone muticus calvatus, Apalone spiniferus spiniferus, Apalone spiniferus asper*) with a carapace length between four (4) inches and twelve (12) inches. (Except any species protected under this paragraph taken in a private pond by a pond owner or his agent while controlling nuisance animals is exempt but may not be sold or offered for sale or traded for anything of value.)

(4) It shall be unlawful for any person to take or possess more than ten (10) legally taken turtles per day on the public waters or banks of the public waters of this state.

(5) Informational Note: See Section 9-11-269, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to protection of the flattened musk turtle (*Sternotherus minor depressus*).

Code of Alabama
Turtle Catcher or Dealer

www.legislature.state.al.us
Revised: 10/07

Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
Regulation 220-2-.142

Commercial Turtle Catcher/Dealer/Farmer Regulation

(1)Definitions:

"Division" - Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

"Director" - The Director of the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

"Turtle Farmer" - Any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of propagating captive turtles or incubating and hatching turtle eggs for restocking, sale, or other commercial purposes.

"Turtle Catcher" - Any person, firm, or corporation, except a landowner or his agent as excepted in paragraph 2 (a), that takes, collects, possesses, harvests or attempts to take, collect, possess or harvest any turtle species from the public or private waters of this state for commercial purposes. For the purpose of this regulation, possession of more than three of any turtle species shall be deemed prima facie evidence of commercial activity.

"Turtle Dealer" - Any person, firm, or corporation that purchases, imports or exports turtles for resale or stocking purposes or who sells, offers for sale, or trades for anything of value live turtles.

(2)

(a) Any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of propagating captive turtles or incubating and hatching turtle eggs for restocking, sale, or other commercial purposes must first obtain a turtle farmer's permit from the Director. Each permittee will file a monthly report on forms provided by the Division. This report will provide the information required by subsection (e) of this regulation.

(b) Any person, firm or corporation that takes, collects, possesses, harvests or attempts to take, collect, possess or harvest any turtle species from the public or private waters of this state for commercial purposes or that purchases, imports or exports turtles for resale or stocking purposes, or who sells, offers for sale, or trades for anything of value any live turtles, must first obtain a "turtle dealer's/catcher's permit". Each permittee will file a monthly report on forms provided by the Division. This report will provide the information required by subsection (e) of this regulation.

(c) The following is hereby designated as legal equipment and methods for taking freshwater turtles by permitted turtle catchers from the public freshwaters of this State. Any other methods or equipment used in the taking of freshwater turtles for commercial purposes is in violation of this regulation.

1. Hoop or fyke nets, only at such times, places, and in such manners, as permitted by law

or regulation for the taking of commercial or nongame fish .

2. Hand or dip nets.
3. All nets must be checked and the catch removed at least once during each 24-hour period.
4. All nets must have a metal or plastic tag permanently affixed thereto stating the name, address and permit number of the person using each net.
5. All fish taken in turtle catching equipment must be returned to the water with the least possible harm. It is unlawful for a turtle dealer/catcher to possess any fish while engaged in taking, collecting, or harvesting turtles.

(d)All turtles imported into or exported out of the state of Alabama for commercial purposes shall be accompanied by a bill of lading which provides the following information: (1) name of person importing/exporting the turtles; (2) permit number of person importing/exporting the turtles; (3) date of shipment; (4) quantity and species of turtles; (5) origin (state and body of water) of shipment; (6) destination of shipment; (7) total value of shipment; and (8) signature of owner/transporter. A copy of the bill of lading shall remain with the shipment and a copy sent to the Division.

(e)Each report required in this regulation must be filed with the Division by the 10th of the following month and must include the following and any other information specified by the Director: (1) permit holder's name and permit number; (2) buyer/seller's name and address; (3) date of transaction; (4) origin (state and body of water) of turtles purchased/sold; (5) quantity and species of turtles purchased/sold; (6) amount received/paid for turtles and; (7) signature of permit holder. The Director or other persons as designated for such purposes shall have the power and authority to inspect and examine the books, records, turtles or facilities of each permit holder.

WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION
LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION
64 NORTH UNION STREET, SUITE 559
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-1456
(334) 242-3467
FAX (334) 353-1603
E-mail dcnr.enforce@dcnr.alabama.gov

Type of Report: ☐**Turtle Dealer/Catcher** ☐**Turtle Farmer** ☐**Bill of lading** **Date of Report/Shipment:**_____
Complete a separate report for each buyer, seller or shipment. **(circle one)**

PERMIT HOLDER'S NAME:_____ **PERMIT NUMBER:Turtle Farm:**_____ **Turtle Dealer:** _____

BUYER/SELLER'S NAME :_____ **PERMIT/LICENSE NUMBER (if applicable):**_____

ADDRESS:_____
STREET STATE ZIP

Circle One	Date	Origin: State, County, body of water Public/private waters	Qty	Species(Common and Scientific Name)	Value
PURCHASED SOLD CAUGHT					
PURCHASED SOLD CAUGHT					
PURCHASED SOLD CAUGHT					
PURCHASED SOLD CAUGHT					
PURCHASED SOLD CAUGHT					
PURCHASED SOLD CAUGHT					
PURCHASED SOLD CAUGHT					

(ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY) **White copy: Montgomery Yellow Copy: Buyer/Bill of lading Pink Copy: Farmer/Dealer/Catcher**

SIGNATURE_____

SAMPLE