



I am over the age of 18. If not, my participation in this event is authorized in writing by my legal guardian. I hereby acknowledge that if weather conditions turn to small craft advisories or small craft warnings, it is my responsibility to monitor weather radio and seek safe harbor if conditions warrant. I understand that Reef Monitoring, Inc., Florida Skin Divers Association, and Gulf Coast Lionfish Coalition may use photographs of myself or my fish and I agree to allow said use without compensation. I will read the rules of the tournament and I agree to abide by these rules. I hereby acknowledge that I am aware of the dangers involved in boating, SCUBA and free diving, and all other activities in, on, or under the water. I am aware that these activities require physical exertion and stress. I am aware that the boat captain is responsible for the safe operation of the boat and the safety of the passengers therein. I am aware of the dangers of handling lionfish and the risk of sting from their venomous spines. I will remain in visual contact with my dive buddy at all times and if I am SCUBA diving, I will return to the surface with at least 500psi in my tank. I am participating in these activities with the full knowledge of and the acceptance of all the risks these activities entail and the dangers involved. I am voluntarily participating in this event. I willingly agree to accept the risk of injury, disability, physical and/or emotional suffering, property damage or death to others or myself. I agree that I, my survivors, beneficiaries, heirs or personal representatives, will not and may not seek any compensation, damages, legal costs or expenses, including attorney fees, from Reef Monitoring, Inc., Florida Skin Divers Association, and Gulf Coast Lionfish Coalition, their trustees, officers, employees, agents and any and all sponsors and advertisers of this event for any injury, property damage, or death, suffered by myself or others as a result of my participation in this lionfish event.

*** PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY ***

Participant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Boat Name: _____

T-Shirt Size: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Check #: _____ or to pay by CC, please visit <http://www.reefmonitoring.org/lionfish-safari>

or contact info@reefmonitoring.org to pay by phone.

Submit to: Reef Monitoring Inc, PO Box 548 Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Or e-mail to: lionfishsafari@reefmonitoring.org





Reef Monitoring invites **ALL DIVERS & ANGLERS** to join in the removal and research of Lionfish (*Pterois volitans*) on the surrounding waters of Florida. This three-day event will be held at N. Straub Park, St. Petersburg FL. Recognition of the most lionfish collected as well as both the largest lionfish and smallest lionfish collected will be in the form of cash prizes. Additional recognition may be added at Reef Monitoring's discretion.

RULES:

***** SAFETY FIRST:** We are doing this for fun and for research and education to raise awareness of lionfish as a food source. Do not dive beyond your training or violate safe practice. Reef Monitoring recommends that no competitor exceed the recreational diving limit of 130 feet ***

1. This will be a THREE-DAY event. Diving days will be Friday September 8th and Saturday September 9th 2017. There will be weigh-in of fish on both Saturday September 9th and Sunday September 10th. Final prizes and the raffle will occur on Sunday September 10th. There will be no rain date for this event and absolutely no refunds. In the event of small craft advisories, Reef Monitoring recommends no divers go offshore. In that case, we will still raffle all prizes at the Family Fun Day on Sunday.
2. Registration fee will be \$40 per participant and the registration deadline will be September 7th 2017. All forms, waivers and monies must be received by Reef Monitoring by that date.
3. There is no registration fee for all active/retired military or active law enforcement and first responders.
4. There are no boundaries just that the fish are harvested in waters surrounding the state of Florida. Please explore and cover as much of the surrounding state/federal waters as possible! There are no depth limits. **Please do not dive beyond your training.**
5. Participants are NOT required to possess a Florida fishing license to harvest lionfish. All state and federal fishing regulations apply.
6. There will be one or more wholesale fish buyers on-site to purchase fish from participants that hold a valid Saltwater Products License. If you have a valid SPL and would like to sell your fish, you may do so. Transactions are strictly between the wholesaler and participant. Reef Monitoring is not purchasing any fish. Fish that are sold are not eligible for raffle tickets.
7. All un-sold fish submitted become the property of Reef Monitoring, Inc. Fish will NOT be returned to the participants. Fish will be prepared and served for the purposes of a lionfish tasting. 1 raffle ticket will be given for each lionfish submitted to Reef Monitoring.
8. **Fish must be in whole, fresh iced condition when presented. Any fish poorly handled or iced will be disqualified.**
9. Fish must NOT be gutted. Fish must be weighed in whole for data purposes.



10. Participant bags (with t-shirt, etc...) will be available at the captain's meeting September 7th 2017. At least one competitor from the boat must attend the captain's meeting. **Depending on East Coast participation, a captain's meeting will be organized for those divers.**
11. Last minute registrations will be accepted at the captain's meeting but may not include a t-shirt.
12. There will be no morning check-in. Participants are free to proceed to their dive sites as early as they like on diving days.
13. The weigh-in line opens Saturday and Sunday mornings at 8:00AM EST. All fish must be submitted no later than Sunday and in line no later than 11:00am EST.
14. Fish can also be submitted in the evenings. For example, fish harvested on Friday can be submitted on Friday evening so you don't have to worry about them on Saturday. Contact Reef Monitoring (lionfishsafari@reefmonitoring.org) and we will arrange to meet you at the park and process your fish. This also applies to Saturday as well. Fish harvested on Saturday may be submitted on Saturday evening. Divers are encouraged to submit their fish as soon as possible.
15. There will be multiple weigh-in lines for your convenience and to ensure all fish are measured as quickly as possible.
16. Boats are the sole responsibility of each competitor. Reef Monitoring is not organizing any spots for divers on boats.
17. **Awards:** this event will present cash prizes to the winners of the following three categories:
 - a. **Most Lionfish:** Cash prizes for most lionfish - 1st, 2nd and 3rd place
 - b. **Largest Lionfish:** Cash prize for largest lionfish (by length) – 1st, 2nd and 3rd place
 - c. **Smallest Lionfish:** Cash prize for smallest lionfish (by length) – 1st, 2nd and 3rd place
 - d. **LAST PLACE:** Have a bad day? Boat break down? Couldn't find lionfish? You are eligible for a prize!
18. Fish will be measured by Reef Monitoring personnel. In case of a tie, the prize will go to the participant that turned their fish in earlier.
19. No single competitor may win more than one category. For example, if you collected the most lionfish, you may not also win the largest lionfish prize as well.
20. All prize categories and amounts are subject to change at any time by Reef Monitoring. Other awards and prizes may be offered by Reef Monitoring at their discretion.
21. Each registered diver will be provided with 5 raffle tickets for the legendary Reef Monitoring prize table graciously filled by local business (dive shops, restaurants, etc...) Additional raffle tickets are available for purchase at the weigh-in and Family Fun day.
22. Protest: Any participant may file a protest with Reef Monitoring. A 5 board member panel will be formed to make a decision. That decision is final.

