F.I.S.H., Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage

PRESENTS THE

45th ANNUAL

CORTEZ COMMERCIAL FISHING FESTIVAL

"Cortez Fishes For You – Since the 1800's"

February 12 - 14, 2027

Dear Food Vendors,

My name is Carol Kio-Green, and I'm the contact person for Food Vendors wishing to participate in the Cortez Commercial Fishing Festival. It's that time again to submit an application for the festival. *Please read all the information below and carefully follow the directions.*

WHAT: The 45nd ANNUAL CORTEZ COMMERCIAL FISHING FESTIVAL

WHEN:	Friday - February 12, 2027	Set-Up Day, By Appointment
	Saturday - February 13, 2027	10am - 6pm
	Sunday - February 14, 2027	10am - 6pm

WHERE: In CORTEZ, along the historic waterfront on 46th Avenue, between 123rd ST West and 124th ST West. For your GPS use 4600 123rd Street West, Cortez FL.

If you would like to be a Food Vendor at our Festival, please complete the application and **EMAIL it to: cekg55@gmail.com by November 30th, 2026.** Do not send applications in the mail. They will NOT be accepted! Please be sure to complete all sections of the form, incomplete applications are not processed. The Festival Committee makes all decisions on which vendors will participate, but incomplete applications don't make it that far. After the committee meets, I will notify you of your status.

F.I.S.H. exists to support the commercial fishing industry in Cortez and throughout Florida. During the early years of the festival the majority of the seafood we served was from the Cortez Commercial fishing industry and we desire to return to our roots. We are asking all vendors who serve seafood, to serve domestically sourced seafood, and make an effort to serve commercially caught seafood from Florida. On the application you will see a column to indicate two things. The location the seafood is harvested from, such as Florida Gulf of Mexico, Texas Gulf, Florida Atlantic … Please, don't just say the Gulf. If it's from another state put that name here. Second

specify the commercial fishing business or commercial supply business where you intend to purchase your seafood. For example; A.P. Bell, Cortez Bait & Seafood… or the name of the restaurant supplier you buy from. You still must indicate the location it is harvested from.
If you need clarification or have questions on things not covered here, email me and include the words Food Vendor Question, in the subject line. I get lots of email and unless I know it's important I may not open it right away.

Check-in and set-up will take place Friday February 12, 2027, from 7:00 am until 3:00 pm. Details of booth location and your set-up time will be given a day or two in advance. If you need any special accommodations please let me know so I can attempt to make the necessary arrangements. On Saturday and Sunday mornings you will be able to bring a vehicle into the festival area to drop off supplies, but you must exit the grounds before 8:30 am, NO EXCEPTIONS. After closing at 6:00 pm, you may carefully bring your vehicles into the food vendor area to load up. There is security on the festival grounds through Sunday evening.

This year's theme is "Cortez Fishes For You – Since the 1800's"
Thank you for your submission. We look forward to another successful event.

Carol Kio-Green

F.I.S.H. (Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage)

Mission Statement: Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage is dedicated to the promotion, education and preservation of Cortez and Florida's commercial fishing and other traditional maritime cultures including the environment upon which these communities depend.

45th Annual Cortez Commercial Fishing Festival
February 12th – 14th, 2027

FOOD VENDOR APPLICATIONS MUST BE EMAILED TO:

cekg55@gmail.com

A: **VENDOR INFORMATION:**

Company Name: _____

Authorized Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____Email: _____

B: **SPECFIC REQUIREMENTS for your SET-UP**:

ELECTRICAL:

110volt # of Outlets _____ Amps _____

220volt # of Outlets _____Amps_____

GENERATOR: # of _____

Can You Operate Off the Grid? CHECK HERE**:**_____

Do You Need **ICE**: _____ and/or **WATER**: _____

TENTS/**SPACES** (Each space has a 10 foot frontage.) How many are you requesting? ____

If you are using tents for your concession I need to know if you use Generators, Propane, Fryers, and Grills, plus how many of each. I will also need a sketch of your set up with the locations of each of these items mapped on the floor plan. Please indicate which type of fire extinguishers you have, and the location as well. This information is required by the Fire Marshall.

IF YOU HAVE A **TRAILER**, OR **FOOD TRUCK**, what size is it? _____

(Send me a photo showing the location of the food service window.)

C: **FESTIVAL GUIDELINES**:

1. **INSURANCE:** Each vendor must have current and sufficient Insurance Coverage (if you are new, ask me for the required minimum limits). The insurance certificate should be sent within one week of submitting your application. Your Insurance Agent must EMAIL me directly. Have them fill it out exactly as shown below.

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS /LOCATIONS/ VEHICLES (Attach ACCORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, If more space is required)
2027 Cortez Commercial Fishing Festival *February 12-14, 2027*

CERTIFICATE HOLDER	**CANCELLATION**
F.I.S.H Florida Institute For Saltwater Heritage *P.O. Box 606* *Cortez, FL 34215*	SHOULD ANY OF THE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

2. **USE OF TICKETS:** All Food items must be purchased with Festival Tickets. NO EXCEPTIONS. $1.00 Tickets will be used. Anyone violating this guideline will be excluded from the remainder of the festival. Make sure you inform all of your employees of this rule. You are responsible.

3. **FEES**: The Vendor Fee is 20% of the sales. This is deducted from the sales total at end of the evening on Sunday. We will attempt to accommodate cash needs, if known in advance. Please take note, under no circumstances will more than $2,500 or 20% cash, whichever is greater, be provided to any vendor.

4. **DEPOSIT ON SPACE**: Each space will require a deposit of $250.00 dollars. If you don't show up, we keep the deposit. Otherwise the deposit will be returned to you at check out on Sunday evening.

5. **Domestic Seafood Only**: All food vendors serving seafood agree to serve only domestic seafood.

6. **FOOD SERVICE CERTIFICATION**: If you have a yearly certificate from either the Division of Hotels and Restaurants or Department of Agriculture EMAIL a copy with your application and include the number here:

D: **AGREEMENT: Read and initial numbers 1 and 2, and then initial only one of the blank spaces on # 3.**

1.) _____ I have read the festival guidelines above, and agree to abide by them.

2.) _____ I have requested that my insurance company email proof of coverage.

3.) _____ I have included my license number from the Division of Hotels and Restaurants, or Department of Agriculture. **OR**, I will purchase an event certificate _____. I will also expect an inspection from the local agent (if required).

Authorized Signature: _____ Date:_____

This application is not complete without a signature from the legally responsible party.

Please fill out your proposed Festival Menu and submit these pages with your application.
All menu items must be listed, including drinks**.** You will be notified if your menu is approved**.**

		Source of Seafood	
MENU ITEM	**Price**	**Harvest Location**	**Commercial Business**

Source of Seafood

MENU ITEM	Price	Location	Commercial Business