

excess of said tax thereafter remaining may be used for purchasing oyster shells or other cultch or obtaining other seed oysters, to be transplanted upon such areas as may be hereafter set apart for that purpose.

An. Code, sec. 135A. 1917, ch. 12, sec. 135A.

160. The Conservation Commission of Maryland is hereby authorized to select and reserve for oyster cultivation as provided in this sub-title any portion or portions of the natural beds, bars and rocks within the scraping areas of this State, and to close the area so reserved for such times as the Commission may fix, to transplant seed oysters, shells, or other cultch thereon, and re-open the same for public use, subject to all the conditions and restrictions set forth in Section 158 of this sub-title, including the payment of the charge or tax to be fixed by the Commission as therein prescribed, and the Commission is empowered to pay the cost of transplanting seed oysters not to exceed ten cents per bushel, and shells not to exceed five cents per bushel, in the manner stated in Section 157 of this Article, provided that oysters planted upon such reserved scraping areas shall be caught only by scrapers of the County in which said reserved area is located, holding licenses for the current season, who shall take out a special license from the Commission or one of its inspectors or deputy commanders at a cost of one dollar each, after taking the oath prescribed in paragraph 6 of Section 158 of this Article.

An. Code, sec. 135B. 1917, ch. 12, sec. 135B. 1922, ch. 543.

161. The Conservation Commission of Maryland is authorized to select and reserve for a period not exceeding two years for oyster conservation and propagation any portion or portions of the depleted natural beds, bars and rocks of the Chesapeake Bay or its tributaries not to exceed in the aggregate one thousand acres, and to give notice thereof in the manner stated in Section 156, and to transplant thereon seed oysters, shells, or other cultch, or to propagate seed oysters, or for the purpose of protecting the catch of young growth of oysters, or for rehabilitating any depleted natural beds, bars or rocks in the Chesapeake Bay and tributaries; provided, however, that before any ground shall be set aside by the Conservation Commission of Maryland for experimental purposes under this sub-title, the said Commission shall select five oystermen of the immediate vicinity of the portion of the natural bars, beds, and rocks to determine whether the ground is depleted. Any person catching oysters upon such area without permission from the Commission shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to the penalties prescribed in Section 156.

An. Code, sec. 136. 1914, ch. 753.

162. The Commander of the State Fishery Force shall assign one or more boats of the force to guard areas reserved under the provisions of this sub-title, and to supervise the taking of oysters therefrom. The said boat or boats shall remain on guard throughout each oyster season in which the reservation of such areas continues; and when such areas are reopened for public use, it shall be the duty of the Deputy Commander