

tion 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. 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 156.¹

1931, ch. 297, sec. 161A.

161A. The Conservation Commission of Maryland is authorized to select and reserve one thousand acres of the natural oyster beds, bars or rocks in Honga River, lying northerly and above a line drawn from Wheatley Point on Wrotens Island to the northeasternmost point on Gunners Island, to be designated with suitable markers, as hereinafter provided, said area to be known as "State Experimental Oyster Farm."

It shall be the duty of the Conservation Commission to lay out and mark said farm by at least four suitable markers, buoys or monuments, to be numbered respectively, one to be placed on each corner of the area, and if additional ones are required, they should be placed at such points as may be deemed necessary; said area shall be subject to change at the discretion of the Commission, but shall not at any time exceed the aggregate of one thousand acres or be placed in any area other than the one mentioned above.

When and after said markers have been erected the Commission shall give notice thereof by advertisement for a period of four weeks in one of the newspapers of Dorchester County, advising and warning the public against the disturbance or removal of said buoys or the trespassing upon the waters of said farm for the purpose of taking or catching oysters or disturbing or interfering with the oysters, shells, cultch, or any equipment used by the Conservation Department for the purpose of experimental work.

1931, ch. 297, sec. 161B.

161B. For the purpose of operating the experimental farm, provided for in the above section, the Conservation Commission is authorized to transplant seed oysters, shells, or cultch; to propagate seed oysters; to protect the catch of young growth of oysters; to conduct any and all experiments in connection with the research work of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, and transplant and dispose of any catch of seed oysters or cultch, taken from said farm to other waters of the State to continue such experimental work.

¹ Sec. 2 of ch. 123 of acts of 1927 repealed all laws inconsistent therewith to extent of such inconsistency.