

agent, that he will not remove oysters caught upon such reserved areas until the Deputy Commander's certificates in the form above provided, has been issued to him, that he will faithfully comply with all provisions of law regulating the catching of oysters upon reserved areas, and that he will pay, or cause to be paid, the special charge or tax upon all such oysters so caught by him.

Catching oysters upon such reserved areas shall continue subject to the foregoing conditions and restrictions during the remainder of the oyster season current at the time the Commission reopens same, as above provided unless the Commission shall have named a prior closing date, in which event the area shall remain closed until it is opened to the public in the same manner as hereinbefore provided. If, after the close of the then current oyster season, the Commission does not again set aside the said area for replenishing, it shall at the beginning of the following season be thrown open to public use in the same manner as other natural beds and bars are now used. Any person who shall catch oysters upon such reserved areas contrary to the provisions, conditions and restrictions of this Section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to the penalties provided for in Section 159 of this Article.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 159. 1912, sec. 135. 1914, ch. 753. 1917, ch. 12, sec. 135.

**162.** The Comptroller of the State Treasury shall pass the amount of the special charge or tax, provided for by this sub-title, to the credit of the "Conservation Fund." This fund shall be drawn upon for the reimbursing to persons holding the deputy commander's certificates, the expense of catching, removing and transplanting seed oysters, to be determined by the Commission but not to exceed ten cents per bushel; and any 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, 1924, sec. 160. 1912, sec. 135A. 1917, ch. 12, sec. 135A.

**163.** 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 161 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 160 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 161 of this Article.