

Erect suitable
fish ways.

over the several canal dams on the Potomac river during the year next ensuing the passage of this act, suitable fish ways or ladders, whereby the fish may be able to ascend over the said dams, and the sum of twenty-four hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for that purpose.

Keep in re-
pair.

SECTION 15 D. The owner or owners of all dams (except the canal dams) now erected or hereafter to be erected in or across the Potomac river or streams running into said river, up which fish are accustomed to run and spawn, shall make and keep in repair properly constructed fish ladders or fish ways to be placed on said dams so as to afford to the fish in the said river or streams, free course up and down said river or streams, said ladders or fish ways to be approved by the fish commissioner; and if any owner or owners of such dams shall fail to comply with this provision within six months after notice has been served, as hereinafter provided, he or they shall be guilty of misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof in the court of the county where such owner resides, shall be fined not less than three hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, and such dam shall be deemed a nuisance and liable to be abated as other nuisances under the laws of the State.

Failure to
comply.

Give notice
to owner.

SECTION 15 E. The county commissioners of the county along which a dam or dams erected now or hereafter to be erected in or across the Potomac river or streams running into the said river, when satisfied that said dam or dams are so constructed as to cut off the fish from free course up and down said river or stream, shall give notice to the owner or owners to construct and keep in repair proper fish ways or ladders as hereinbefore provided.

How con-
strued.

SECTION 15 F. Nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent the catching of minnows or small fish for angling or scientific purposes; nor to prevent the commissioners of fisheries of this State, or any person in their employ, from catching fish with nets or otherwise, at any time, for the purpose of propagation or stocking other waters; nor to prevent any person from taking fish in any way, at any time, from his private dam or pond which he may have stocked with fish.