

RESTRICTIONS.

(A) PROHIBITED METHODS GENERALLY; PENALTY. - A PERSON MAY NOT CATCH FINFISH FOR ANY PURPOSE IN THE TIDAL WATERS OF THE STATE BY USE OF ANY GIG, GIG IRON, PURSE NET, BUCK NET, BEAM TRAWL, OTTER TRAWL, TRAMMEL NET, TROLL NET, OR DRAG NET. ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION BY CATCHING FISH WITH ANY OF THE EQUIPMENT OR DEVICES REFERRED TO IN THIS SUBSECTION, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A GIG OR GIG IRON, IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND UPCN CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF AT LEAST \$100 AND NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR, OR BOTH, WITH COSTS IMPOSED IN THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT. ANY PERSON WHO ILLEGALLY CATCHES FISH WITH A GIG OR GIG IRON IS SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES PROVIDED BY THIS TITLE.

(B) USE OF OTTER OR BEAM TRAWL PERMITTED IN ATLANTIC OCEAN; REGULATIONS.— AN APPROPRIATELY LICENSED RESIDENT OF THE STATE MAY FISH IN THE WATERS OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN WITH AN OTTER TRAWL OR BEAM TRAWL, SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS, IF HE IS AT LEAST ONE AND ONE-HALF MILES FROM THE SHORE LINE. THE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO ESTABLISHING A LICENSE FEE NOT EXCEEDING \$50 ANNUALLY FOR VESSELS EMPLOYED IN THE FISHERY; SETTING SEASONS WHEN OTTER TRAWL OR BEAM TRAWL FISHING IS PERMITTED; ENUMERATING THE SPECIES OF FISH WHICH MAY BE TAKEN; AND SETTING PENALTIES, INCLUDING SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE, FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S RULES AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(C) SIZES OF MESH. - A PERSON MAY NOT FISH WITH ANY NET WHOSE SIZE OF STRETCHED MESH, ALLOWING A REASONABLE TOLERANCE FOR SHRINKAGE, IS LESS THAN THE FOLLOWING: POUND NET, 2 1/4 INCHES; HAUL SEINE, 2 1/2 INCHES; GILL NET, 2 1/2 INCHES; FYKE OR HOOP NET, 2 1/4 INCHES. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO CATCHING EELS WITH A NET.

(D) USE OF MONOFILAMENT GILL NET WEBBING PROHIBITED. - A PERSON MAY NOT INSTALL, SET, OPERATE, OR MAINTAIN IN ANY TIDAL WATER OF THE STATE ANY MONOFILAMENT GILL NET WEBBING OF ANY DESCRIPTION TO CATCH FISH.

(E) USE OF ANCHORED GILL NETS AND FYKE OR HOOP NETS. -