

CHAPTER 278

(Senate Bill 417)

AN ACT concerning

~~Somerset County~~— Power Dredging - Oysters

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to grant permits to persons before allowing them to catch oysters with a power dredge in ~~Somerset County~~ certain counties; authorizing the Department to issue a power dredge permit to holders of an oyster harvester license; prohibiting persons permitted to catch oysters with a power dredge from harvesting oysters by any other method on certain days; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to harvesting oysters with a power dredge.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources

Section 4-1014, ~~4-1014.1, 4-1014.2, and 4-1014.3~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

4-1014.

(a) This section applies only to the waters of the State that lie contiguous to Somerset County in the Chesapeake Bay.

(b) A person shall be [licensed] PERMITTED by the Department before the person may catch oysters with a power dredge in the waters of the State that lie contiguous to Somerset County, as described in subsection (a) of this section.

(c) (1) A person may [not] hold an oyster harvester license and a power dredge [license] PERMIT simultaneously.

(2) The Department[:

(i) May] MAY issue a power dredge [license] PERMIT only to the holder of an oyster harvester license[; and

(ii) Shall suspend a person's oyster harvester license on issuance of a power dredge license until the time that the holder surrenders the power dredge license to the Department].

(3) [(i) If a person wants to reobtain the person's previously valid oyster harvester license, the person shall return the person's currently valid power dredging license to the Department.