

follows:

Article - Natural Resources

4-1039.

(a) The Department may open or close any area in which the catching of soft-shell clams by hydraulic clam dredge is not prohibited under the provisions of this subtitle IF: (1) in its opinion other natural resources will not be significantly damaged; (2) the area to be opened is clearly defined and plainly marked; and (3) [at least one patrol vessel of the Department is stationed within the area at all times when dredging is permitted] THE AREA IS PATROLLED BY NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE VESSELS DURING DREDGING OPERATIONS.

(b) In any area where hydraulic clam dredging is prohibited under the provisions of this subtitle the Department may open [no more than one area at any time, and any opened area may not exceed 200 acres in size. However, in the waters of St. Mary's County the Department may open more than one area if the total acreage remaining open does not exceed 200 acres and the Department maintains continuous surveillance when dredging is permitted] SELECTED AREAS IF THE AREAS OPENED ARE PATROLLED BY NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE VESSELS DURING DREDGING OPERATIONS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1976.

Approved April 1, 1976.

CHAPTER 74

(House Bill 563)

AN ACT concerning

Oyster Buyers - Licenses

FOR the purpose of eliminating the requirement that the license tag issued for a boat, vessel, or vehicle of a licensed oyster buyer be made of metal.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources
Section 4-1016 (b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1975 Supplement)