

**RÉSUMÉ DIGEST****ACT 133 (HB 290)****2016 Regular Session****Gisclair**

Prior law in several places referred to oyster "dredges". New law changes the term to oyster "scrapers".

Prior law authorized the use of dredges and scrapers no longer than six feet in width measured along the tooth bar. Further provided that the teeth shall be no longer than five inches. Limited the number of dredges that could be in use at any one time to seven.

New law limits scrapers used to harvest oysters from the public seed grounds or the natural reefs to 54 inches measured along the tooth bar with no one scraper weighing more than 175 pounds. Prohibits the attachment of diving boards, hydrofoils, or any other apparatus intended to create downward pressure on scrapers.

New law retains the five-inch length limit from prior law and requires a minimum of two and one-quarter inch spacing measured from the center of the tooth to the center of the adjacent tooth with each tooth no thicker than 11/16ths of an inch. Changes the number of scrapers that may be in use at any one time from seven to two. Provides that oyster scraper bags can only be single mesh with a minimum mesh size of three inches stretched.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 56:56(A)(5) and (7), 305(B)(3), 435(A) and (B), 435.1(A), 435.1.1(A)(2), and 436(A))