

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 453

BY SENATOR MORRISH

FISH/FISHING. Provides relative to oyster harvest in Calcasieu Lake. (8/1/18)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 56:435.1.1(C) and to enact R.S. 56:435.1.1(A)(3), relative to oyster harvest in Calcasieu Lake; to provide for gear authorized under certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:435.1.1(C) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 56:435.1.1(A)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§435.1.1. Oyster harvest in Calcasieu Lake

A. * * *

(3) Notwithstanding Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, a person holding a permit to harvest oysters in Calcasieu Lake prior to August 1, 2017, may harvest using a hand scraper or a single scraper with mechanical assist with a flat bar length of no more than thirty-six inches only in areas of Calcasieu Lake authorized by commission, based on biological data as of thirty days prior to the beginning of open season.

* * *

C. The commission shall fix the open season for oyster ~~tonging~~ **harvest** in

1 Calcasieu Lake, which shall begin on any date between October fifteenth and
2 November first and shall end on April thirtieth. However, in consultation with the
3 Calcasieu Oyster Task Force, the commission may open or close the season as
4 biological data indicate a need and may manage East Cove and West Cove
5 separately.

6 * * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

	DIGEST	
SB 453 Original	2018 Regular Session	Morrish

Present law requires the harvesting of oysters in Calcasieu Lake to be performed by only hand tongs.

Proposed law retains present law but authorizes a person holding a permit to harvest oysters in Calcasieu Lake prior to August 1, 2017, to harvest using a hand scraper or a single scraper with mechanical assist with a flat bar length of no more than 36 inches only in areas of Calcasieu Lake authorized by commission, based on biological data as of 30 days prior to the beginning of open season.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 56:435.1.1(C); adds R.S. 56:435.1.1(A)(3))