

All hydraulic or mechanical clam dredges and boats operating the provisions of this section shall have properly installed adequate mufflers on all motors and engines used in the operation of said boat or hydraulic or mechanical clam dredge. The Commission of Tidewater Fisheries may require such modifications to the hydraulic clam dredge and/or licensed dredge boats and rigs as may be demonstrated to be in the public interest through research in the Department of Research and Education and recommended for adoption to the latter agency. Any person violating any provision of this sub-section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) nor more than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00).

(h) *Minimum size of soft shell clams.*—It shall be unlawful for any person to have soft shell clams in his possession which contain more than five percent (5%) per bushel of such clams measuring less than two (2) inches measured along the longest dimension across the shell, except that in Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties said measurement shall be two and a quarter ($2\frac{1}{4}$) inches measured along the longest dimension across the shell.

(i) *Time for taking and landing.*—It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch, or attempt to take or catch, soft shell clams on Sunday, or between sunset and sunrise on any other day, or to land soft shell clams earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

(j) *Prohibited areas.*—It shall be unlawful to take or catch or attempt to take or catch soft shell clams with any hydraulic or mechanical dredge, or with any other type gear, as follows:

(1) Within 50 yards of any commercially productive oyster area as may now exist or as may from time to time be established by survey or re-survey of the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries and the Department of Research and Education.

(2) In the waters of, or adjacent to, Talbot County and Queen Anne's County it shall also be unlawful to take, catch, or attempt to take or catch, soft shell clams by hydraulic or mechanical dredge, or any other means:

(i) Within five hundred (500) yards of any occupied duck blind where decoys are set out, during the legal waterfowl hunting season;

(ii) Or within one thousand (1,000) feet of any public bathing beach during the months of May, June, July, August and September of any year;

(iii) Or within one hundred (100) yards of any private bathing beaches, during the months of June, July, or August and September; provided that the private bathing beaches shall be staked and marked by the owners thereof by a sign upon which there shall be lettered "Bathing Beach", of a readily discernible size, or as may be required by any rule or regulation of the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries; provided however, that the linear measurement along the shore line shall not exceed a distance of one hundred (100) yards for each land owner;

(iv) Or within fifty (50) feet of the mean low water mark of any shore line;