

HOUSE BILL 500

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HB 40/19 – ENT

2lr1909

By: **Delegate Grammer**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Dredging on Man-O-War Shoals – Prohibition

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from dredging buried oyster shells on Man-O-War Shoals as part of carrying out certain duties; and generally relating to the management of the State's oyster culture by the Department of Natural Resources.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Natural Resources
Section 4–1103(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

4–1103.

(a) **(1)** [The] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE** Department shall take measures which in its judgment seem best calculated to increase the productivity or utility of oyster resources in the State, including:

[(1)] **(I)** Identifying and using effective methods of cleaning diseased oyster bars;

[(2)] **(II)** Providing clean shell for the bars;

[(3)] **(III)** Using hatchery produced oysters to replant sites; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



[(4)] (IV) Applying for a permit to dredge buried oyster shells.

(2) IN CARRYING OUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT DREDGE BURIED OYSTER SHELLS ON MAN-O-WAR SHOALS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2022.