

7999--A

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

June 14, 2013

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Introduced by M. of A. THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to regulations on surf clams/ocean quahogs; and to amend chapter 158 of the laws of 2011 amending the environmental conservation law relating to the harvesting of surf clams and ocean quahogs, in relation to making certain provisions permanent

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1     Section 1. Subdivision 15 of section 13-0309 of the environmental  
2 conservation law, as amended by chapter 158 of the laws of 2011, is  
3 amended to read as follows:  
4     15. Cooperative harvesting. Notwithstanding any other provision of  
5 this chapter or rule or regulation, persons holding harvesting permits  
6 in New York's Atlantic Ocean surf clam/ocean quahog fishery are hereby  
7 authorized to cooperatively harvest any portion of the person's individ-  
8 ual fishing quota (IFQ) by use of any vessel that is eligible to harvest  
9 shellfish in the fishery, subject to the following:  
10     a. Such cooperative harvesting shall comply with daily catch limits  
11 established for the fishery by the department which shall be counted  
12 against both the IFQ holder vessel's and the harvesting vessel's daily  
13 catch limits[.] ;  
14     b. The harvesting vessel used to catch such IFQ or portion thereof  
15 shall be identified to the department in both the IFQ holder's and the  
16 harvesting vessel's report to the department[.] ;  
17     c. In cooperative harvesting there shall be no requirement that the  
18 captain of the IFQ holder's vessel be on board the harvesting vessel  
19 during harvesting[.] ;

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 d. In cooperative harvesting the IFQ holder will provide the captain  
2 of the harvesting vessel with such cage tags as are necessary to account  
3 for the harvest attributable to such IFQ holder[.] ;

4 e. Nothing herein described shall alter the daily, weekly or annual  
5 catch limits obtainable by any IFQ holder within the fishery[.];

6 F. THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE A RULE OR REGULATION REQUIRING THOSE  
7 ENGAGING IN COOPERATIVE HARVESTING TO FILE A FORM NOTIFYING THE DEPART-  
8 MENT PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT, PROVIDED HOWEVER, NOTHING IN THIS SECTION  
9 SHALL AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT TO DISAPPROVE ANY SUBMISSION THAT  
10 COMPLIES WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION; AND

11 G. THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE A RULE OR REGULATION LIMITING COOPER-  
12 ATIVE HARVESTING TO NO MORE THAN FOUR PERMITS PER VESSEL.

13 S 2. Subdivision 16 of section 13-0309 of the environmental conserva-  
14 tion law is amended by adding a new paragraph c to read as follows:

15 C. THE CONSOLIDATION OF IFQS IS PROHIBITED FOR ANY VESSEL WHICH WAS  
16 NOT CONSOLIDATED AS OF DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN.

17 S 3. Section 2 of chapter 158 of the laws of 2011 amending the envi-  
18 ronmental conservation law relating to the harvesting of surf clams and  
19 ocean quahogs, is amended to read as follows:

20 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately [and shall expire and be  
21 deemed repealed December 31, 2013].

22 S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.