

AN ACT concerning fish.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Fish and Aquatic Life Code is amended by changing Sections 15-5 and 15-15 and by adding Section 15-155 as follows:

(515 ILCS 5/15-5) (from Ch. 56, par. 15-5)

Sec. 15-5. Commercial fisherman; license requirement.

(a) A "commercial fisherman" is defined as any individual who uses any of the commercial fishing devices as defined by this Code for the taking of any aquatic life, except mussels, protected by the terms of this Code.

(b) All commercial fishermen shall have a commercial fishing license. In addition to a commercial fishing license, a commercial fisherman shall also obtain a sport fishing license. All individuals assisting a licensed commercial fisherman in taking aquatic life, except mussels, from any waters of the State must have a commercial fishing license unless these individuals are under the direct supervision of and aboard the same watercraft as the licensed commercial fisherman. An individual assisting a licensed commercial fisherman must first obtain a sport fishing license.

(c) A "Lake Michigan commercial fisherman" is defined as an

individual who resides in this State or an Illinois corporation who uses any of the commercial fishing devices as defined by this Code for the taking of aquatic life, except mussels, protected by the terms of this Code.

(d) For purposes of this Section, an act or omission that constitutes a violation committed by an officer, employee, or agent of a corporation shall be deemed the act or omission of the corporation.

(Source: P.A. 87-833.)

(515 ILCS 5/15-15) (from Ch. 56, par. 15-15)

Sec. 15-15. Commercial fishing devices. "Commercial fishing devices" for the purposes of this Code are defined as follows: buoyed gangings, set gangings, bank pole and line, throw line or trot line having more than 50 hooks, seine, pocket seine, otter trawl, dip net, throw net, gill net, trammel net, basket trap, hoop net, wing net, pound net, trap net, any watercraft used as a primary collection device, and any and all other devices considered as commercial devices by the Department when used in the taking of any aquatic life, except mussels, protected by the terms of this Code.

(Source: P.A. 87-833.)

(515 ILCS 5/15-155 new)

Sec. 15-155. Watercraft used as a primary collection device for commercial fishes. Any person licensed as a commercial

fisherman who wishes to use their watercraft as a primary collection device for commercial fishes must first obtain a commercial watercraft device tag. All watercraft used as a primary collection device must be legally licensed by the State and be in compliance with all Coast Guard boating regulations. This Section does not apply to any person taking Asian Carp by the aid of a boat for non-commercial purposes.