CHAPTER 2020-52

Senate Bill No. 384

An act relating to the Harris Chain of Lakes; repealing s. 373.467, F.S., relating to the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council; amending s. 373.468, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 373.467, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 2. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 373.468, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

373.468 The Harris Chain of Lakes restoration program.—

(1) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the St. Johns River Water Management District, in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection and, pertinent local governments, and the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council, shall review existing restoration proposals to determine which ones are the most environmentally sound and economically feasible methods of improving the fish and wildlife habitat and natural systems of the Harris Chain of Lakes.

(2) To initiate the Harris Chain of Lakes restoration program recommended by the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, with assistance from the St. Johns River Water Management District and in consultation and by agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection and pertinent local governments, shall develop tasks to be undertaken by those entities for the enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat. These agencies shall:

(a) evaluate different methodologies for removing the extensive tussocks and buildup of organic matter along the shoreline and of the aquatic vegetation in the lake.

(b) Conduct any additional studies as recommended by the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

Approved by the Governor June 20, 2020.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 20, 2020.

1 CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.