

**Maryland General Assembly
Department of Legislative Services**

**Proposed Regulations
Department of Natural Resources
(DLS Control No. 15-180)**

Overview and Legal and Fiscal Impact

The regulations update the terminology used to designate State park lands and the classification of State park lands in order to reflect current practice.

The regulations present no legal issues of concern.

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

Regulations of COMAR Affected

Department of Natural Resources:

Forest and Parks: Use of State Parks: COMAR 08.07.06.01 and .02

Legal Analysis

Background

According to the Department of Natural Resources, the purpose of the regulations is to list all current State park land units based on their specific management objectives in order to reflect current practices.

Summary of Regulations

The regulations repeal the following obsolete State park designations: (1) Multiple-Use State Parks; (2) General Recreation Areas; (3) Waterfront Parks; (4) Historic or Scenic Areas; (5) Roadside Picnic Areas; (6) Sensitive Management Areas; and (7) Marinas. The regulations also list all current units in the State park system under one of the following sub-designations: (1) State Parks; (2) Natural Resources Management Areas; (3) Natural Environment Areas; (4) State Battlefields; or (5) Rail Trails.

Legal Issue

The regulations present no legal issues of concern.

Statutory Authority and Legislative Intent

The department cites § 5-209 of the Natural Resources Article as statutory authority for the regulations. Specifically, § 5-209(a) authorizes the department to adopt regulations for the “maintenance of order, safety, sanitation, traffic control, or for the protection of trees and other property and the preservation of the natural beauty within the State parks and forests, State reserves, scenic preserves, parkways, historical monuments, recreational areas, and any other lands under its control.”

This authority is correct and complete. The regulations comply with the legislative intent of the law.

Fiscal Analysis

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

Agency Estimate of Projected Fiscal Impact

The department advises that the regulations have no impact on State or local governments. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

Impact on Budget

There is no impact on the State operating or capital budget.

Agency Estimate of Projected Small Business Impact

The department advises that the regulations have minimal or no economic impact on small businesses in the State. The Department of Legislative Service concurs.

Contact Information

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