

**Maryland General Assembly  
Department of Legislative Services**

**Proposed Regulation  
Department of Natural Resources  
(DLS Control No. 16-144)**

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**Overview and Legal and Fiscal Impact**

The regulation limits hunting in the Urbana Lake Fishery Management Public Fishing Area to archery hunting only.

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

**Regulation of COMAR Affected**

**Department of Natural Resources:**

Fisheries Service: General: COMAR 08.02.01.13

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**Legal Analysis**

**Background**

A fishery management public fishing area is an area that the Department of Natural Resources manages for the State's fishery resource and allows the public to fish. In addition to fishing, the department authorizes hunting in the following public fishing areas: (1) North Branch Potomac River (Laurel Run and Folly Run) in Garrett County; (2) North Branch Potomac River (McCoole) in Allegany County; and (3) Urbana Lake in Frederick County.

Urbana Lake is a 60 acre fishery management public fishing area that borders on a golf course, residential properties, and Interstate 270. Owners of adjacent property and the Natural Resources Police have expressed concern over the use of firearms near the boundary of this fishery management public fishing area.

**Summary of Regulation**

The regulation addresses the concerns of property owners and the Natural Resources Police by banning the use of firearms in the Urbana Lake Fishery Management Public Fishing Area and limiting hunting to archery hunting only.

## **Legal Issues**

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

## **Statutory Authority and Legislative Intent**

The department cites §§ 4-407 and 4-602 of the Natural Resources Article as statutory authority for the regulation. More specifically, § 4-407 authorizes the department to adopt regulations governing the proper use and administration of any State fish refuge. The remaining cited authority is not relevant to the regulation.

The relevant cited authority is correct and complete. The regulation complies 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 regulation has 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 regulation has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses in the State. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

## **Contact Information**

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