

**Maryland General Assembly
Department of Legislative Services**

**Proposed Regulations
Department of Natural Resources**
(DLS Control No. 15-418)

Overview and Legal and Fiscal Impact

The regulations alter vessel speed limits and operating requirements, including coordinates and boundaries, in the South River.

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:

Boating – Speed Limits and Operation of Vessels: South River:
COMAR 08.18.25.02 and .05

Legal Analysis

Summary of Regulations

The regulations alter vessel speed limits and operating requirements, including coordinates and boundaries, in the South River.

Legal Issues

The regulations present no legal issues of concern.

Statutory Authority and Legislative Intent

The Department of Natural Resources cites §§ 8-703 and 8-704 of the Natural Resources Article as statutory authority for the regulations. These sections are in Title 8, Subtitle 7, which is the “State Boat Act.” The State Boat Act, in accordance with § 8-702, is intended to “foster the development, use, and enjoyment of all the waters of Maryland.” Section 8-703 requires the department to administer the provisions of the subtitle, which includes developing plans for the improvement and promotion of the waters of the State for recreational purposes, promoting the safety of life and property, and designating and marking channels. In addition, § 8-704 authorizes the department to adopt regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of the subtitle.

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 Services concurs.

Contact Information

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