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By: **Delegates Guns and Weir**

Introduced and read first time: March 5, 1999

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Wild Waterfowl - Issuance of Fishing and Hunting**  
3 **Licenses**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Secretary of Natural Resources to delegate the  
5 authority to issue certain fishing or hunting licenses; prohibiting the Secretary  
6 from designating the authority to issue certain fishing or hunting licenses to a  
7 clerk of a circuit court; repealing provisions allowing certain clerks to issue  
8 certain fishing or hunting licenses; repealing certain provisions requiring  
9 certain clerks to transmit to the Department of Natural Resources certain  
10 money collected from the issuance of certain fishing or hunting licenses;  
11 repealing certain provisions regarding the hunting of wild waterfowl;  
12 authorizing a person to hunt wild waterfowl under certain conditions and with  
13 certain weapons; restricting a person from shooting wild waterfowl under  
14 certain conditions; establishing the areas and the circumstances from where  
15 and under which a person may hunt wild waterfowl in waters on the natural  
16 bottom, in a boat that is drifting or being sculled, and from a boat that is  
17 anchored; prohibiting nonresidents from hunting wild waterfowl except under  
18 certain circumstances; authorizing certain riparian landowners to license their  
19 riparian shoreline to establish certain stationary blinds or blind sites to prevent  
20 other persons from hunting wild waterfowl; establishing the conditions under  
21 which a riparian landowner may erect a stationary blind or blind site; requiring  
22 certain riparian landowners to license their shorelines for certain purposes  
23 under certain circumstances; establishing certain licensing procedures;  
24 providing for the resolution of conflicts between certain applicants; establishing  
25 certain requirements for the placement and marking of certain offshore  
26 stationary blinds and offshore blind sites; requiring the Department to construct  
27 blinds in certain locations under certain circumstances; authorizing the  
28 Department to allow hunting of wild waterfowl from a boat that is drifting or  
29 anchored in certain waters; requiring the Department to encourage in a certain  
30 manner local and federal government to make opportunities to hunt waterfowl  
31 from blinds; providing that a licensee whose stationary blind, blind site, or stake  
32 is destroyed in a certain manner may not lose the location and may reestablish  
33 the stationary blind, blind site, or stake; prohibiting offshore stationary blinds  
34 or blind sites in certain locations; prohibiting a person from entering, using, or  
35 occupying certain stationary blinds, blind sites, or stakes except under certain

1 circumstances; requiring the Department to inspect certain blind sites to  
2 determine the validity of certain certification under certain circumstances;  
3 defining certain terms; and generally relating to the issuance of fishing and  
4 hunting licenses and wild waterfowl.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
6 Article - Natural Resources  
7 Section 1-104(h), 4-208, and 4-11A-19(a)  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article - Natural Resources  
12 Section 10-209, 10-301(c), (f)(1), and (g), 10-305, 10-308(d) and (e),  
13 10-308.1(d)(1), 10-309(d) and (f), and 10-502(c)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

16 BY repealing  
17 Article - Natural Resources  
18 Section 10-601, 10-603, 10-603.1, 10-604 through 10-611, 10-612.1, 10-612.2,  
19 10-613 through 10-615, and 10-621 through 10-625  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

22 BY adding to  
23 Article - Natural Resources  
24 Section 10-601, 10-602(c) through (h), 10-603 through 10-611, and 10-613  
25 through 10-615  
26 Annotated Code of Maryland  
27 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

28 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
29 Article - Natural Resources  
30 Section 10-612(c)  
31 Annotated Code of Maryland  
32 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

33 BY repealing  
34 Article - Natural Resources  
35 Section 10-612(a) and (b) and 10-616 through 10-620  
36 Annotated Code of Maryland  
37 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

1 BY adding to  
2 Article - Natural Resources  
3 Section 10-612(a) and (b)  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article - Natural Resources  
8 Section 10-612(c)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)  
11 (As enacted by Section 3 of this Act)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Natural Resources**

15 1-104.

16 (h) (1) The authority, powers, duties, and functions granted to the Secretary  
17 or the Department shall be exercised and performed by the Secretary or by any unit  
18 or official within the Department designated by the Secretary.

19 (2) (I) THE SECRETARY MAY DELEGATE TO A PERSON THE  
20 AUTHORITY TO ISSUE LICENSES PERTAINING TO FISHING OR HUNTING.

21 (II) THE SECRETARY MAY NOT DELEGATE THE AUTHORITY TO  
22 ISSUE A FISHING OR HUNTING LICENSE TO A CLERK OF A CIRCUIT COURT.

23 4-208.

24 [(a)] There is a State Fisheries Management and Protection Fund in the  
25 Department. Any money received from any fish and fisheries license, stamp, permit,  
26 or application fee as provided in this title, unless otherwise provided shall be credited  
27 to the Fund and used only for the scientific investigation, protection, propagation, and  
28 management of nontidal finfish.

29 [(b)] The clerks of the courts shall transmit to the Department on the first day  
30 of each month any money received by them for sport fishing licenses and stamps. The  
31 Department shall account for these funds to the Treasurer who then shall credit  
32 amounts received to the State Fisheries Management and Protection Fund. The  
33 Treasurer shall pay out funds on the warrant of the Comptroller upon requisition of  
34 the Department.]

1 4-11A-19.

2 (a) Any person desiring to sell live bait in Montgomery, Frederick, or  
3 Washington County shall apply to [the clerk of the circuit court for the county] A  
4 PERSON DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT for a live bait dealer's license. The  
5 application shall be in the form the Department prescribes, and contain an affidavit  
6 signed by the applicant that he is a resident of the county. Upon payment by the  
7 applicant of an annual fee of \$10.50, the [clerk of the circuit court] DESIGNATED  
8 PERSON may issue a license supplied by the Department to the [clerk] DESIGNATED  
9 PERSON. As compensation for each bait dealer's license issued, the [clerk of the  
10 circuit court] DESIGNATED PERSON shall retain 50 cents. Any money collected for  
11 license fees during a month shall be forwarded to the Department on the first day of  
12 each succeeding month. The Department shall account for the money to the State  
13 Treasurer.

14 10-209.

15 [(a)] There is a State Wildlife Management and Protection Fund in the  
16 Department. Any money accruing to the Fund from any license, stamp, application, or  
17 permit fee provided in this title shall be credited, unless otherwise provided, to this  
18 Fund and used only for the scientific investigation, protection, propagation, and  
19 management of wildlife.

20 [(b)] The clerks of the courts shall transmit to the Department on the first day  
21 of each month all moneys received by the clerks for hunting licenses and stamps. The  
22 Department shall account for these funds to the Treasurer who then shall credit  
23 amounts received to the State Wildlife Management and Protection Fund. The  
24 Treasurer shall pay out funds on the warrant of the Comptroller upon requisition of  
25 the Department.]

26 10-301.

27 (c) A person may apply for a hunter's license [to the clerk of the circuit court  
28 for any county or] to any person designated by the Department. The application shall  
29 be on a form the Department prepares and supplies. The applicant shall fill out, sign,  
30 and submit the application to the [court clerk or] person designated to issue the  
31 hunter's license. A person may apply by mail.

32 (f) (1) There shall be the following types of hunting licenses in the State:

33 (i) A resident consolidated hunting license that enables the  
34 purchaser to hunt all legal game birds and mammals during any appropriate season  
35 in Maryland without the purchase of additional stamps, except that to hunt wild  
36 waterfowl the purchaser must also buy a Maryland migratory wild waterfowl stamp  
37 and a federal migratory bird hunting and conservation stamp.

38 (ii) A resident basic hunting license that enables the purchaser to  
39 hunt all legal game birds and mammals during any appropriate season without the  
40 purchase of additional stamps unless the purchaser is hunting deer or wild waterfowl.  
41 This license enables the purchaser to hunt deer only with the purchase of the

1 appropriate deer stamps and to hunt wild waterfowl only with the purchase of a  
2 Maryland migratory wild waterfowl stamp and a federal migratory bird hunting and  
3 conservation stamp.

4 (iii) A nonresident basic hunting license that enables the purchaser  
5 to hunt all legal game birds and mammals during any appropriate season without the  
6 purchase of additional stamps unless the purchaser is hunting wild waterfowl or deer  
7 during bow and arrow season or black powder season. This license enables the  
8 purchaser to hunt wild waterfowl only with the purchase of a Maryland migratory  
9 wild waterfowl stamp and a federal migratory bird hunting and conservation stamp.  
10 This license enables the purchaser to hunt deer during bow and arrow season and  
11 black powder season only with the purchase of the appropriate deer stamp.

12 (iv) A nonresident 3-day hunting license that enables the purchaser  
13 to hunt all legal game birds and mammals except deer and turkey for the 3  
14 consecutive legal hunting days in a single season that are specified on the license by  
15 the issuing [court clerk or] agent. The purchaser must also purchase a Maryland  
16 migratory wild waterfowl stamp and a federal migratory bird hunting and  
17 conservation stamp to hunt wild waterfowl with this license. Under no circumstance  
18 does this license authorize the purchaser to hunt deer and turkey.

19 (g) The [court clerk or] person designated to sell the hunting licenses and  
20 individual hunting stamps shall issue the hunting licenses and individual hunting  
21 stamps and collect the fee prescribed in subsection (f) of this section. A hunting license  
22 may not be issued to any person under the age of 16 years without the written consent  
23 of the person's parent or guardian. The Department shall furnish the hunting licenses  
24 and individual hunting stamps to the [court clerk or] designated person. The issuing  
25 [clerk or] person shall countersign the license, and retain the duplicate copy of the  
26 license. The duplicate copies and money collected every month shall be mailed to the  
27 Department on the first day of the succeeding month each year. The [court clerk or]  
28 designated person who sells and issues the hunting licenses and individual hunting  
29 stamps shall retain as compensation 50 cents for each senior consolidated annual  
30 license, senior consolidated lifetime license, resident and nonresident basic, or  
31 nonresident 3-day hunting license, and individual hunting stamp sold and issued and  
32 shall retain as compensation \$1 for each consolidated hunting license sold and issued,  
33 except a senior consolidated annual license and a senior consolidated lifetime license.  
34 10-305.

35 If any person loses the person's hunter's license, the person may make affidavit  
36 stating the date the license was issued, its number, description, and the name of the  
37 [court clerk or] designated person who issued the license. Upon receipt of this  
38 information the Department may issue a duplicate hunting license for a \$1 fee.

39 10-308.

40 (d) (1) A person may obtain the consolidated hunting license, the resident  
41 and nonresident basic license, and individual hunting stamp [from the clerk of the  
42 circuit court of any county or] from any person designated by the Department.

1           (2)     The issuing [clerk or] person designated shall retain the sum of 50  
2 cents as compensation for issuing each resident and nonresident basic hunting license  
3 and an individual hunting stamp and \$1 as compensation for issuing each  
4 consolidated hunting license. The balance of the fee is paid over and accounted for in  
5 the same manner as hunting licenses.

6           (3)     The Department shall use \$1 from the sale of each consolidated  
7 hunting license and, except for the fee retained by the issuing [clerk] PERSON, all of  
8 the money derived from the sale of bow and arrow and black powder stamps as  
9 follows:

10                   (i)     Up to 40 percent to:

- 11                           1.     Provide bow hunter education;
- 12                           2.     Acquire, construct, and maintain public archery ranges; or
- 13                           3.     Perform any study necessary to evaluate any program or  
14 project related to bow or muzzle loader hunting; and

15                   (ii)    The remaining percentage to:

- 16                           1.     Establish an effective and efficient deer checking system  
17 during the muzzle loader and bow hunting deer season;
- 18                           2.     Acquire additional hunter access during the muzzle loader  
19 and bow hunting season by:
  - 20                           A.     The opening of additional State-owned lands to muzzle  
21 loader and bow hunting;
  - 22                           B.     The purchase of rights-of-way or access roads to reach  
23 areas not open to muzzle loader and bow hunting;
  - 24                           C.     The acquisition of additional lands for muzzle loader and  
25 bow hunting; and
  - 26                           D.     The administration of a permit system applicable to newly  
27 opened areas; and
- 28                           3.     Police hunting lands during the muzzle loader and bow  
29 hunting season and provide additional law enforcement personnel as necessary to  
30 accomplish additional hunter access under item 2 of this subparagraph.

31           (e)     The [court clerk or] designated person shall write or stamp the date of  
32 issuance on the face of every consolidated hunting license, resident and nonresident  
33 basic hunting license, and individual hunting stamp issued under this section. Each  
34 individual hunting stamp shall be affixed in the manner that the Department  
35 provides. The recipient shall sign the consolidated hunting license or resident or  
36 nonresident basic hunting license in ink.

1 10-308.1.

2 (d) (1) A person may obtain a Maryland migratory wild waterfowl stamp for  
3 a fee of \$6 [from the clerk of the circuit court of any county or] from any person  
4 designated by the Department. The issuing [clerk or] person designated shall retain  
5 the sum of 10 cents as compensation for issuing each stamp. The balance of the fee is  
6 paid over and accounted for to the State Treasurer. The Treasurer shall credit all such  
7 fees received to the State Wildlife Management and Protection Fund, in accordance  
8 with § 10-209 of this title.

9 10-309.

10 (d) (1) To apply for a license as a master hunting guide, an applicant shall:

11 (i) Submit an application [to the clerk of the circuit court or] to  
12 any person designated by the Department;

13 (ii) Furnish any information required by the Department on the  
14 application, including the oath provided in subsection (e) of this section; and

15 (iii) Pay to the [clerk of the circuit court or] person designated to  
16 issue the master hunting guide license a fee of \$100.

17 (2) As compensation for issuing the license, the [issuing clerk or  
18 designee] DESIGNATED PERSON shall retain 25 cents of each \$100 fee received under  
19 this section.

20 (3) On the first day of each month, the [clerk or designee] DESIGNATED  
21 PERSON shall send to the Department the remainder of the fees received for master  
22 hunting guide licenses.

23 (f) The [clerk of the circuit court or the] person designated by the  
24 Department shall issue a master hunting guide license to any applicant who meets  
25 the requirements of this section.

26 10-502.

27 (c) In addition to the license fee, the [court clerk or] designated person who  
28 sells and issues the license may collect a processing fee equal to 10% of the license fee,  
29 and the balance of the fee shall be paid and accounted for in the manner provided by  
30 § 10-209 of this title.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 10-601,  
32 10-603, 10-603.1, 10-604 through 10-611, 10-612.1, 10-612.2, 10-613 through  
33 10-615, and 10-621 through 10-625 of Article - Natural Resources of the Annotated  
34 Code of Maryland be repealed.

35 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland  
36 read as follows:

**Article - Natural Resources**

1

2 10-601.

3 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
4 INDICATED.

5 (B) "BOAT" INCLUDES ANY RAFT, CANOE, FLOATING BLIND, SKIFF, OR OTHER  
6 FLOATING DEVICE.

7 (C) "OFFSHORE" MEANS ANY PLACE ON WATERS OF THE STATE BELOW THE  
8 MEAN HIGH TIDE MARK ON TIDAL WATERS OR BELOW THE MEAN HIGH WATER MARK  
9 ON NONTIDAL WATERS.

10 (D) "OFFSHORE BLIND SITE" MEANS A SPECIFIC LOCATION IN THE WATER  
11 WHERE A PERSON MAY HUNT WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS TIED TO OR  
12 ANCHORED AT A STAKE WHICH HAS BEEN LICENSED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBTITLE.

13 (E) "OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLIND" MEANS AN OFFSHORE STRUCTURE  
14 BUILT ON PILINGS OR STAKES THAT HAS BEEN LICENSED PURSUANT TO THIS  
15 SUBTITLE AND USED FOR HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL.

16 10-602.

17 (C) (1) A PERSON MAY NOT SHOOT A WILD WATERFOWL RESTING ON LAND  
18 OR WATER.

19 (2) A PERSON WHO WOUNDS AND CRIPPLES A WILD WATERFOWL MAY  
20 SHOOT THE WATERFOWL.

21 (D) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT WILD WATERFOWL FROM A POSITION LOCATED  
22 MORE THAN 10 FEET IN THE AIR.

23 (E) (1) THE ONLY FIREARM THAT A PERSON MAY USE TO HUNT WILD  
24 WATERFOWL IS A SHOTGUN FIRED FROM THE SHOULDER.

25 (2) A SHOTGUN USED TO HUNT WILD WATERFOWL MAY NOT BE LARGER  
26 THAN A 10 GAUGE OR LOADED WITH SHOT NOT APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES  
27 FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE.

28 (F) (1) SUBJECT TO FEDERAL RULE OR REGULATION, THE PROHIBITION OF  
29 THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO AN AUTOMATIC LOADING OR  
30 HAND-OPERATED REPEATING SHOTGUN WITH A MAGAZINE THAT IS CUT OFF OR  
31 THAT IS PLUGGED WITH A ONE-PIECE FILLER INCAPABLE OF REMOVAL THROUGH  
32 THE LOADING END THAT REDUCES THE CAPACITY OF THE GUN TO HOLD NO MORE  
33 THAN THREE SHELLS AT ANY ONE TIME IN THE MAGAZINE AND CHAMBER  
34 COMBINED.



1 (2) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT A WILD WATERFOWL WITH AN  
2 AUTOMATIC LOADING OR HAND-OPERATED REPEATING SHOTGUN CAPABLE OF  
3 HOLDING MORE THAN THREE SHELLS.

4 (3) A PERSON MAY NOT POSSESS A RIFLE OR PISTOL WHILE HUNTING  
5 WILD WATERFOWL.

6 (G) (1) A PERSON MAY HUNT WILD WATERFOWL WITH ANY BOW AND  
7 ARROW.

8 (2) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT WILD WATERFOWL WITH A CROSSBOW.

9 (H) (1) A PERSON MAY HUNT WILD WATERFOWL WITH THE AID OF A DOG OR  
10 WITH AN ARTIFICIAL DECOY.

11 (2) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT WILD WATERFOWL USING A LIVE DECOY.

12 10-603.

13 (A) EXCEPT WHILE LAWFULLY HUNTING UNDER THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
14 THIS SUBTITLE, A PERSON IN A BOAT MAY NOT PURPOSELY OR UNNECESSARILY  
15 DISTURB WILD WATERFOWL.

16 (B) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT WILD WATERFOWL WHILE USING A FLOATING  
17 DEVICE TOWED BY A POWER BOAT OR A SAILBOAT.

18 (C) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT, SINKBOX, OR  
19 DEVICE THAT ALLOWS THE HUNTER TO BE COMPLETELY CONCEALED BENEATH THE  
20 WATER.

21 (D) (1) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS  
22 PROPELLED BY A MOTOR OR UNDER SAIL.

23 (2) A PERSON MAY SHOOT AND IMMEDIATELY RETRIEVE LAWFULLY  
24 WOUNDED OR KILLED WILD WATERFOWL WHILE IN A BOAT IF ALL FORWARD  
25 PROGRESS OF THE BOAT HAS CEASED AND THE MOTOR HAS BEEN SHUT OFF.

26 (3) CRIPPLED BIRDS MAY BE SHOT FROM A BOAT UNDER POWER IN THE  
27 AREA OPEN FOR THE SPECIAL SEA DUCK SEASON.

28 10-604.

29 (A) A PERSON MAY HUNT WILD WATERFOWL WHILE STANDING IN WATER ON  
30 THE NATURAL BOTTOM ONLY IN THE WATERS OF THE SUSQUEHANNA FLATS, THE  
31 NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER, AND IN OTHER WATERS OF THE STATE  
32 IN AREAS AND ON DAYS THE DEPARTMENT PRESCRIBES BY REGULATION.

33 (B) A PERSON MAY HUNT WILD WATERFOWL WHILE STANDING IN WATER ON  
34 THE NATURAL BOTTOM AT A LICENSED OFFSHORE BLIND SITE.

1 (C) A PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL WHILE STANDING IN WATER ON  
2 THE NATURAL BOTTOM SHALL REMAIN AT LEAST 250 YARDS FROM ALL OFFSHORE  
3 STATIONARY BLINDS OR BLIND SITES OR ANOTHER PERSON HUNTING WILD  
4 WATERFOWL OFFSHORE.

5 (D) A PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL WHILE STANDING IN WATER ON  
6 THE NATURAL BOTTOM SHALL BE AT LEAST 800 YARDS FROM SHORE INCLUDING  
7 SHORE EMERGING AT MEAN LOW WATER EXCEPT IN NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE  
8 POTOMAC RIVER OR WHILE HUNTING AT A LICENSED BLIND SITE.

9 (E) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT WILD WATERFOWL WHILE STANDING IN STATE  
10 WATERS ON THE NATURAL BOTTOM WHEN THE NATURAL BOTTOM IS PRIVATELY  
11 OWNED, UNLESS THE HUNTER HAS THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LANDOWNER.

12 (F) ON THE NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER, A NONRESIDENT  
13 MAY NOT HUNT WILD WATERFOWL WHILE STANDING IN WATER ON THE NATURAL  
14 BOTTOM UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY A MARYLAND RESIDENT.

15 10-605.

16 (A) A PERSON MAY HUNT WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS DRIFTING  
17 OR BEING SCULLED, ONLY IN:

18 (1) THE NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER, CONOCOHEAGUE  
19 CREEK, AND THE MONOCACY RIVER;

20 (2) THE SUSQUEHANNA FLATS, ELK RIVER, AND THAT PORTION OF THE  
21 SASSAFRAS RIVER IN CECIL COUNTY LOCATED WEST OF 75 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 45  
22 SECONDS;

23 (3) CHINCOTEAGUE BAY, SINEPUXENT BAY, ISLE OF WIGHT,  
24 ASSAWOMAN BAY, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE TRIBUTARIES IN WORCESTER COUNTY;  
25 OR

26 (4) ZONES PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION.

27 (B) WHILE HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS DRIFTING OR  
28 BEING SCULLED, A PERSON SHALL REMAIN AT LEAST 250 YARDS FROM ALL  
29 OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS OR BLIND SITES OR ANOTHER PERSON HUNTING  
30 WILD WATERFOWL OFFSHORE.

31 (C) A PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS DRIFTING  
32 OR BEING SCULLED SHALL BE AT LEAST 800 YARDS FROM SHORE INCLUDING SHORE  
33 EMERGING AT MEAN LOW WATER EXCEPT IN THE NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE  
34 POTOMAC RIVER, IN CONOCOHEAGUE CREEK, AND IN THE MONOCACY RIVER.

35 (D) ON THE NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER, CONOCOHEAGUE  
36 CREEK, AND THE MONOCACY RIVER, A NONRESIDENT MAY NOT HUNT WILD  
37 WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS DRIFTING OR BEING SCULLED UNLESS  
38 ACCOMPANIED BY A MARYLAND RESIDENT.

1 10-606.

2 (A) A PERSON MAY HUNT WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS  
3 ANCHORED ONLY IN:

4 (1) THE NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER;

5 (2) THE WATERS OF THE SUSQUEHANNA FLATS, ELK RIVER, AND THAT  
6 PORTION OF THE SASSAFRAS RIVER IN CECIL COUNTY LOCATED WEST OF 75  
7 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 45 SECONDS;

8 (3) THE WATERS OF CHINCOTEAGUE BAY, SINEPUXENT BAY, ISLE OF  
9 WIGHT, ASSAWOMAN BAY, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE TRIBUTARIES IN WORCESTER  
10 COUNTY; OR

11 (4) ZONES PRESCRIBED BY THE DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION.

12 (B) A PERSON MAY HUNT WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS  
13 ANCHORED AT A LICENSED OFFSHORE BLIND SITE.

14 (C) A PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS ANCHORED  
15 SHALL REMAIN 250 YARDS FROM ALL OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS OR BLIND  
16 SITES OR ANOTHER PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL OFFSHORE.

17 (D) A PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL FROM A BOAT THAT IS ANCHORED  
18 SHALL BE AT LEAST 800 YARDS FROM SHORE INCLUDING SHORE EMERGING AT  
19 MEAN LOW WATER EXCEPT IN NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER OR  
20 UNLESS ANCHORED AT A LICENSED OFFSHORE BLIND SITE.

21 10-607.

22 (A) (1) THIS SECTION SHALL APPLY ONLY TO OWNERS OF RIPARIAN  
23 PROPERTY IN MARYLAND REGARDLESS OF THE RESIDENCY OF THE OWNER.

24 (2) PERSONS OWNING RIPARIAN PROPERTY IN VIRGINIA OR WEST  
25 VIRGINIA THAT IS ADJACENT TO THE POTOMAC RIVER MAY NOT LICENSE THEIR  
26 SHORELINE IN THIS STATE.

27 (B) RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS MAY LICENSE THEIR RIPARIAN SHORELINE:

28 (1) TO ESTABLISH OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS OR BLIND SITES FOR  
29 HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL; AND

30 (2) TO PREVENT OTHER PERSONS FROM LICENSING THE RIPARIAN  
31 SHORELINE FOR THE PURPOSE OF HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL OFFSHORE.

32 (C) (1) ON THE NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER,  
33 CONOCOHEAGUE CREEK, AND THE MONOCACY RIVER, RIPARIAN SHORELINE  
34 OWNED BY STATE OR FEDERAL UNITS OR THEIR ASSIGNEES MAY NOT BE LICENSED  
35 FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXCLUDING OTHERS FROM HUNTING OFFSHORE FOR WILD  
36 WATERFOWL.

1 (2) (I) STATE OR FEDERAL UNITS MAY APPLY IN WRITING TO THE  
2 DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH SAFETY ZONES IN SPECIFIC AREAS.

3 (II) THE SECRETARY SHALL REVIEW EACH REQUEST AND  
4 DETERMINE WHETHER SUFFICIENT NEED FOR A SAFETY ZONE EXISTS.

5 (D) ONLY PERSONS OWNING AT LEAST 250 YARDS OF CONTIGUOUS  
6 SHORELINE MAY ERECT AN OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLIND OR BLIND SITE EXCEPT  
7 THAT RIPARIAN OWNERS WHO OWN LESS THAN 250 YARDS OF CONTIGUOUS  
8 SHORELINE MAY ERECT AN OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLIND OR BLIND SITE FOR A  
9 DISTANCE OF AT LEAST 250 YARDS IF THE PERSON HAS THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF  
10 THE ADJACENT RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS.

11 (E) RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS MAY LEASE OR ASSIGN THEIR RIGHTS TO AN  
12 OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLIND OR BLIND SITE.

13 (F) WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE ADJACENT LANDOWNER,  
14 RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS MAY NOT LOCATE AN OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLIND OR  
15 BLIND SITE WITHIN 125 YARDS OF THE PROPERTY LINE OR WHERE THE LINE WOULD  
16 BE IF IT WERE EXTENDED OUT OVER THE WATER PERPENDICULAR TO THE SHORE AT  
17 THE POINT WHERE THE PROPERTY LINE REACHES THE WATER'S EDGE.

18 (G) NOTWITHSTANDING THE OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, WHERE  
19 CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE, SUCH AS IN COVES AND WHEN TWO PROPERTIES  
20 EXTEND ONTO A POINT OF LAND, THE SECRETARY MAY DETERMINE WHERE AN  
21 OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLIND OR BLIND SITE LICENSE SHALL BE LOCATED. THE  
22 SECRETARY SHALL TRY TO LOCATE THE SITES SO THAT EACH RIPARIAN  
23 LANDOWNER GETS A SITE AND MAY LOCATE THE BLINDS CLOSER THAN 250 YARDS  
24 APART WITH THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE TWO RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS.

25 (H) (1) RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES,  
26 SHALL LICENSE THEIR SHORELINE ANNUALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

27 (2) AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE SHALL:

28 (I) SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT:

29 1. AN APPLICATION BY MAIL PRIOR TO JUNE 1 OF EACH  
30 YEAR ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

31 2. A MAP SHOWING THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE  
32 SHORELINE TO BE LICENSED AND THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED  
33 OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS OR BLIND SITES, IF ANY;

34 3. THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF ADJACENT LANDOWNERS  
35 IF NECESSARY; AND

36 4. THE WRITTEN LEASE OR ASSIGNMENT OF THE RIPARIAN  
37 LANDOWNER IF NECESSARY; AND

1 (II) PAY TO THE DEPARTMENT A FEE OF \$20.

2 (3) A UNIT OF GOVERNMENT IS EXEMPT FROM THE APPLICATION FEE  
3 REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

4 (I) (1) AT LEAST 1 MONTH BEFORE A LICENSE EXPIRES ON JUNE 30 OF  
5 EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAIL A RENEWAL NOTICE AND A RENEWAL  
6 APPLICATION TO ALL RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS WHO RECEIVED A LICENSE THE  
7 PREVIOUS YEAR.

8 (2) THE RENEWAL NOTICE SHALL STATE:

9 (I) THE DATE ON WHICH THE CURRENT LICENSE EXPIRES;

10 (II) THE DATE BY WHICH THE DEPARTMENT MUST RECEIVE THE  
11 RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL TO BE ISSUED AND MAILED BEFORE THE  
12 LICENSE EXPIRES; AND

13 (III) THE AMOUNT OF THE RENEWAL FEE.

14 (J) BEFORE THE LICENSE EXPIRES, THE LICENSEE MAY RENEW THE LICENSE  
15 FOR AN ADDITIONAL 1-YEAR TERM, IF THE LICENSEE:

16 (1) IS OTHERWISE ENTITLED TO BE LICENSED;

17 (2) PAYS TO THE DEPARTMENT A RENEWAL FEE OF \$20; AND

18 (3) SUBMITS TO THE DEPARTMENT A RENEWAL APPLICATION ON THE  
19 FORM THAT THE DEPARTMENT REQUIRES.

20 (K) WHENEVER CONFLICTS OCCUR BETWEEN APPLICANTS AND THOSE  
21 CONFLICTS CANNOT BE RESOLVED BY APPLICATION OF SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS  
22 SECTION, THE APPLICANT APPLYING FIRST SHALL PREVAIL. IF BOTH APPLICATIONS  
23 ARRIVE IN THE MAIL ON THE SAME DAY A COIN TOSS SHALL DETERMINE WHICH  
24 APPLICANT SHALL PREVAIL. THE APPLICANTS MAY BE PRESENT FOR THE COIN TOSS.  
25 10-608.

26 (A) MARYLAND RESIDENTS AND OWNERS OF RIPARIAN PROPERTY IN  
27 MARYLAND, REGARDLESS OF STATE RESIDENCY, MAY APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT  
28 TO LICENSE RIPARIAN SHORELINE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING AN  
29 OFFSHORE BLIND SITE.

30 (B) AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE SHALL:

31 (1) SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT:

32 (I) AN APPLICATION ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT;  
33 AND

34 (II) A SIGNED STATEMENT THAT:

1                                   1.       THE LOCATION OF THE BLIND SITE IS AT LEAST 125 YARDS  
2 FROM ALL OTHER PREVIOUSLY LICENSED RIPARIAN SHORELINE; AND

3                                   2.       THE OFFSHORE BLIND SITE COMPLIES WITH ALL OTHER  
4 PERTINENT LAWS AND REGULATIONS; AND

5                   (2)       PAYS TO THE DEPARTMENT AN APPLICATION FEE OF \$20 FOR EACH  
6 LICENSE REQUESTED.

7       (C)       (1)       THE COMPLETED APPLICATION SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO  
8 DEPARTMENT REGIONAL SERVICE CENTERS OR OTHER DESIGNATED LOCAL SITES  
9 ON DAYS DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

10                   (2)       THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AND ADEQUATELY STAFF A  
11 SITE IN EACH COUNTY WHERE LICENSING OCCURS.

12                   (3)       THE DEPARTMENT SHALL POST NOTICES OF DATES AND LOCATIONS  
13 FOR LICENSING OF BLIND SITES IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE COURT IN  
14 EACH COUNTY.

15                   (4)       LICENSING SHALL BEGIN ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST TUESDAY IN  
16 AUGUST OF EACH YEAR ON DATES SET BY THE DEPARTMENT.

17       (D)       EACH DESIGNATED SITE OR REGIONAL SERVICE CENTER SHALL HAVE  
18 MAPS AVAILABLE BY JULY 15 OF EACH YEAR THAT SHOW THE LOCATION OF ALL  
19 SHORELINE LICENSED BY RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS.

20       (E)       EXCEPT FOR RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS LICENSING THEIR OWN PROPERTY,  
21 A PERSON MAY NOT OBTAIN MORE THAN TWO LICENSES PER DAY.

22       (F)       EACH LICENSE SHALL APPLY TO 250 YARDS OF SHORELINE. BLIND SITES  
23 SHALL BE LOCATED EQUIDISTANT FROM THE BOUNDARIES DESCRIBED BY THE  
24 LICENSE.

25       (G)       ONLY RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS MAY LICENSE RIPARIAN SHORELINE IN  
26 KENT AND QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTIES AND ON THE NONTIDAL WATERS OF THE  
27 POTOMAC RIVER AND ITS NONTIDAL TRIBUTARIES.

28       (H)       LICENSES ARE VALID UNTIL JUNE 30 OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR AND  
29 SHALL BE ISSUED IN THE ORDER THE APPLICATIONS ARE RECEIVED IN PERSON.

30 10-609.

31       (A)       OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS AND OFFSHORE BLIND SITES SHALL BE  
32 AT LEAST 250 YARDS APART FROM EACH OTHER.

33       (B)       OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS AND OFFSHORE BLIND SITES SHALL BE  
34 LOCATED WITHIN 300 YARDS OF THE SHORELINE OR ONE-THIRD THE DISTANCE TO  
35 THE OPPOSITE SHORE, WHICHEVER IS LESS, EXCEPT THAT IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY  
36 IN ANNE ARUNDEL AND CALVERT COUNTIES, AND IN PROSPECT BAY IN QUEEN

1 ANNE'S COUNTY, ALL OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS AND BLIND SITES MAY BE NO  
2 MORE THAN 800 YARDS FROM THE SHORELINE.

3 (C) OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS AND BLIND SITES MAY NOT BE LESS  
4 THAN 150 YARDS FROM ANY DWELLING HOUSE WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION  
5 OF THE OWNER OF THE HOUSE.

6 (D) OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS SHALL BE MARKED WITH THE  
7 LICENSEE'S NAME AND LICENSE NUMBER AND MARKED ON EACH SIDE WITH AT  
8 LEAST 100 SQUARE INCHES OF CLEARLY VISIBLE REFLECTIVE MATERIAL ATTACHED  
9 TO THE STATIONARY BLIND AT LEAST 3 FEET ABOVE THE HIGH WATER MARK.

10 (E) OFFSHORE BLIND SITES SHALL BE MARKED BY A STAKE SHOWING THE  
11 LICENSEE'S NAME AND LICENSE NUMBER. EACH STAKE SHALL BE MARKED ON ALL  
12 SIDES WITH REFLECTIVE MATERIAL AT LEAST 4 INCHES WIDE AND LOCATED AT  
13 LEAST 3 FEET ABOVE THE HIGH WATER MARK. ALL STAKES SHALL BE REMOVED  
14 WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE LAST WILD WATERFOWL SEASON CLOSES.

15 10-610.

16 (A) (1) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE GREATER PUBLIC ACCESS AND USE OF WILD  
17 WATERFOWL BLINDS, IN EACH COUNTY OF THE STATE WHERE WILD WATERFOWL  
18 ARE ADEQUATE AND HUNTING IS ALLOWED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, THE  
19 DEPARTMENT SHALL LOCATE AND CONSTRUCT BLINDS ON PUBLIC LANDS UNDER  
20 THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTROL AND MAKE THE BLINDS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE.

21 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW THE HUNTING OF WILD WATERFOWL  
22 FROM A BOAT THAT IS DRIFTING OR ANCHORED OR WHILE STANDING IN THE WATER  
23 ON THE NATURAL BOTTOM IN WATERS ADJACENT TO LANDS OWNED OR MANAGED  
24 BY THE DEPARTMENT.

25 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENCOURAGE LOCAL AND FEDERAL  
26 GOVERNMENT TO MAKE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC TO HUNT  
27 WATERFOWL FROM BLINDS LOCATED ON PUBLIC LANDS UNDER THE JURISDICTION  
28 OF THE LOCAL OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BY:

29 (1) ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LOCAL OR FEDERAL  
30 GOVERNMENT TO CONSTRUCT THE BLINDS AND MANAGE THEIR USE; OR

31 (2) ADVISING THE LOCAL OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON THE PROPER  
32 CONSTRUCTION, LOCATION, AND MANAGEMENT OF BLINDS TO BE USED BY THE  
33 PUBLIC FOR HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL.

34 10-611.

35 ANY PERSON HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL FROM A STATIONARY BLIND OR  
36 BLIND SITE SHALL POSSESS A HUNTER'S LICENSE.

1 10-612.

2 (c) (1) [In Kent and Queen Anne's Counties only a riparian owner owning  
3 the required amount of shoreline, or the owner's lessee, licensee, or assignee, may  
4 erect and maintain a stationary blind or blind site.

5 (2)] A resident who applies for a license for a stationary blind or blind site  
6 in the water adjacent to Bloodsworth Island in Dorchester County is not required to  
7 obtain permission from the riparian owner notwithstanding any other provision of  
8 this section.

9 [(3)] (2) In Anne Arundel County, the County is exempt from any  
10 registration requirement of this subtitle, including the payment of fees, for any  
11 off-shore stationary blind that the County has registered in previous years or will  
12 register in the future for any waterfront public property owned by the County and  
13 located in the County. To comply with the provisions of this subtitle, the Anne Arundel  
14 County Department of Recreation and Parks need only notify the clerk of the court in  
15 Anne Arundel County and the Department that the waterfront public property is  
16 unavailable for public registration.

17 [(4)] (3) In Prince George's County, the Maryland-National Capital  
18 Park and Planning Commission is exempt from any registration requirement of this  
19 subtitle, including the payment of fees, for any offshore stationary blind that the  
20 Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission has registered in  
21 previous years or will register in the future for any waterfront public property owned  
22 by the County and located in the County. To comply with the provisions of this  
23 subtitle, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission need only  
24 notify the clerk of the court in Prince George's County and the Department that the  
25 waterfront public property is unavailable for public registration.

26 10-613.

27 IF A LICENSEE ERECTS A STATIONARY BLIND OR BLIND SITE OR SETS A STAKE  
28 AND THE STATIONARY BLIND, BLIND SITE, OR STAKE IS LOST OR DESTROYED IN A  
29 MANNER BEYOND THE LICENSEE'S CONTROL, THE LICENSEE MAY NOT LOSE THE  
30 LICENSEE'S LOCATION AND MAY REESTABLISH THE STATIONARY BLIND, BLIND SITE,  
31 OR STAKE AT ANY TIME DURING THE CURRENT HUNTING SEASON.

32 10-614.

33 OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLINDS OR BLIND SITES MAY NOT BE ERECTED,  
34 MAINTAINED, OR LICENSED IN THE FOLLOWING WATERS:

35 (1) OFFSHORE FROM LANDS OWNED OR MANAGED BY THE  
36 DEPARTMENT EXCEPT THE DEPARTMENT MAY LOCATE AND CONSTRUCT OFFSHORE  
37 STATIONARY BLINDS OR BLIND SITES AND MAKE THE BLINDS OR BLIND SITES  
38 AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC;



1 (2) WHERE THE USE OF THE BLINDS MAY PRESENT A RISK TO NATIONAL  
2 SECURITY OR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE HUNTERS AS DETERMINED BY THE  
3 DEPARTMENT;

4 (3) WHERE THE LOCATION OF THE BLINDS INTERFERES WITH THE SAFE  
5 OPERATION OF AN AIRPORT; OR

6 (4) IN BALTIMORE COUNTY ON:

7 (I) THE MIDDLE RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES, WESTERLY OR  
8 TOWARDS SHORE FROM A STRAIGHT LINE DRAWN FROM THE TIP OF WILSON POINT  
9 IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF CAPE MAY  
10 BEACH;

11 (II) FROG MORTAR CREEK FROM A STRAIGHT LINE DRAWN FROM  
12 THE TIP OF WHAT IS KNOWN AS STRAWBERRY POINT IN A SOUTHEASTERLY  
13 DIRECTION ACROSS THE CREEK TO THE TIP OF WHAT IS KNOWN AS GALLOWAY  
14 POINT AND EXTENDING 1,500 YARDS NORTHEAST UP THE CREEK TO THE POINT  
15 WHERE GLENWOOD ROAD APPROACHES THE CREEK SHORELINE;

16 (III) BACK RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES WEST OF THE EASTERN  
17 AVENUE BRIDGE; OR

18 (IV) BIRD RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES EXTENDING FROM THE  
19 HEAD OF TIDE AT WHITEMARSH RUN AND WINDLASS RUN AND GOING GENERALLY  
20 EASTERLY OR TOWARDS A LINE THAT RUNS IN A NORTHERLY DIRECTION FROM THE  
21 NORTHERNMOST TIP OF A PENINSULA CALLED STUMPFS MARSH TO THE OPPOSITE  
22 SHORELINE, BUT EXCLUDING AN AREA THAT LIES BETWEEN STUMPFS MARSH AND A  
23 LINE 150 YARDS FROM THE SHORELINE OF STUMPFS MARSH.

24 10-615.

25 (A) A PERSON MAY NOT ENTER, USE, OR OCCUPY ANOTHER PERSON'S  
26 LICENSED STATIONARY BLIND OR BLIND SITE OR ANCHOR OR TIE TO ANOTHER  
27 PERSON'S LICENSED STAKE FOR THE PURPOSE OF HUNTING WILD WATERFOWL OR  
28 FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE WRITTEN PERMISSION  
29 OF THE LICENSEE, WHICH THE PERSON SHALL POSSESS AT THE TIME ENTRY OR USE  
30 IS MADE.

31 (B) A LICENSEE MAY INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST OR THE  
32 DEPARTMENT MAY PROSECUTE ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF  
33 THIS SECTION.

34 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 10-612(a) and  
35 (b) and 10-616 through 10-620 of Article - Natural Resources of the Annotated Code  
36 of Maryland be repealed.

37 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland  
38 read as follows:

**Article - Natural Resources**

1

2 10-612.

3 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INSPECT A LICENSED BLIND SITE TO  
4 DETERMINE THE VALIDITY OF THE CERTIFICATIONS IN AN APPLICATION UPON  
5 REQUEST OF THE OWNER OF THE SHORE FRONT PROPERTY.

6 (B) IF THE DEPARTMENT FINDS THAT THE CERTIFICATIONS OF THE  
7 APPLICATION ARE ERRONEOUS, THE DEPARTMENT MAY REVOKE THE LICENSE BY  
8 GIVING WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE APPLICANT.

9 (c) (1) [A resident who applies for a license for a stationary blind or blind  
10 site in the water adjacent to Bloodsworth Island in Dorchester County is not required  
11 to obtain permission from the riparian owner notwithstanding any other provision of  
12 this section.

13 (2) In Anne Arundel County, the County is exempt from any registration  
14 requirement of this subtitle, including the payment of fees, for any off-shore  
15 stationary blind that the County has registered in previous years or will register in  
16 the future for any waterfront public property owned by the County and located in the  
17 County. To comply with the provisions of this subtitle, the Anne Arundel County  
18 Department of Recreation and Parks need only notify the clerk of the court in Anne  
19 Arundel County and the Department that the waterfront public property is  
20 unavailable for public registration.

21 [(3)] (2) In Prince George's County, the Maryland-National Capital  
22 Park and Planning Commission is exempt from any registration requirement of this  
23 subtitle, including the payment of fees, for any offshore stationary blind that the  
24 Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission has registered in  
25 previous years or will register in the future for any waterfront public property owned  
26 by the County and located in the County. To comply with the provisions of this  
27 subtitle, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission need only  
28 notify the clerk of the court in Prince George's County and the Department that the  
29 waterfront public property is unavailable for public registration.

30 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 1, 2, and 3 of  
31 this Act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

32 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 4 and 5 of this  
33 Act shall take effect May 1, 2000.