

Final Action on Regulations

Symbol Key

- Roman type indicates text already existing at the time of the proposed action.
- *Italic type* indicates new text added at the time of proposed action.
- Single underline, italic indicates new text added at the time of final action.
- Single underline, roman indicates existing text added at the time of final action.
- ~~[[Double brackets]]~~ indicate text deleted at the time of final action.

Title 08 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Subtitle 02 FISHERIES SERVICE

08.02.03 Blue Crabs

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §§4-215 and 4-803, Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Final Action

[23-285-F]

On March 4, 2024, the Secretary of Natural Resources adopted amendments to Regulations .01, .10, and .12—.14 under **COMAR 08.02.03 Blue Crabs**. This action, which was proposed for adoption in 51:1 Md. R. 17—20 (January 12, 2024), has been adopted as proposed.

Effective Date: April 1, 2024.

JOSH KURTZ
Secretary of Natural Resources

Subtitle 02 FISHERIES SERVICE

08.02.03 Blue Crabs

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §§4-215 and 4-803, Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Final Action

[23-271-F]

On March 12, 2024, the Secretary of Natural Resources adopted amendments to Regulation .07 under **COMAR 08.02.03 Blue Crabs**. This action, which was proposed for adoption in 51:1 Md. R. 20—27 (January 12, 2024), has been adopted with the nonsubstantive changes shown below.

Effective Date: April 1, 2024.

Attorney General's Certification

In accordance with State Government Article, §10-113, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Attorney General certifies that the following changes do not differ substantively from the proposed text. The nature of the changes and the basis for this conclusion are as follows:

As originally proposed, Regulation .07 inadvertently labeled Janes Island Light Fl. 4§ as existing at 38° 57.803' N, 75° 55.109'. This is the wrong coordinate. The change corrects the coordinate to 37°57.803' N, 75° 55.109' W. Additionally, stylistic changes have been made to ensure uniformity. Lastly, this action moves the crab pot line at Rock Hall Harbor to the historical line. The original proposal had moved that line slightly, but based on public comment the Department is reinstating the line as historically interpreted. This change is less restrictive for crab potters and was reasonably foreseeable at the time of publication.

.07 Crab Pots.

A.—E. (proposed text unchanged)

F. *Upper Chesapeake Bay — North of the William Preston Lane Jr. Memorial Bridge (Chesapeake Bay Bridge).*

(1) (proposed text unchanged)

(2) *Eastern Shore.*

(a)—(f) (proposed text unchanged)

(g) *Rock Hall Harbor/Swan Creek/Tavern Creek. All the waters upstream of a line beginning at a point at or near Swan Point defined by Lat. 39° 8.778' N, Long. 76° 16.523' ~~[[WW]]~~ W then running approximately ~~[[141°]]~~ 140° True to a point ~~[[inside the eastern side of Huntingfield Creek defined by Lat. 39° 7.089' N, Long. 76° 14.777' W]]~~ at a known sunken island defined by Lat. 39° 7.240' N, Long. 76° 14.870' W then running approximately 170° True to a point at or near the northern tip of Huntingfield Point defined by Lat. 39° 7.118' N, Long. 76° 14.842' W.*

(h) (proposed text unchanged)

G.—I. (proposed text unchanged)

J. *Crab pots may not be set in waters that are less than 4 feet deep at mean low tide except as provided below:*

(1) *In Pocomoke Sound, all the waters shoreward of the Maryland-Virginia state line, starting with the junction with a line running from Bullbegger Point westward to the northeasternmost point of land on Fair Island defined by Lat. 37° 57.837' N, Long. 75° 38.914' W, then following the State line in a westerly direction to State line marker "A" defined by Lat. 37° 54.732' N, Long. 75° 48.065' W, thence northwesterly to Ware Point defined by Lat. 37° 56.348' N, Long. 75° 49.264' W.*

(2) *In Tangier Sound, all the waters shoreward of a line drawn from the southern tip of Deal Island at Lower Thorofare defined by Lat. 38° 7.619' N, Long. 75° 56.993' W then running approximately 223° to Lower Thorofare entrance Red Nun "2" defined by Lat. 38° 7.363' N, Long. 75° 57.315' W then running approximately 338° to a point offshore of Twiggs Point defined by Lat. 38° 8.099' N, Long. 75° 57.677' W then running approximately 356° to a point at Haines Point Light Fl. 4 § defined by Lat. 38° 10.324' N, Long. 75° 57.871' W then running approximately 105° true to the northernmost tip of Deal Island defined by Lat. 38° 10.119' N, Long. 75° 56.874' W.*

(3) *In Tangier Sound, all the waters shoreward of a line drawn from Flatcap Point defined by Lat. 38° 1.981' N, Long. 75° 52.290' W then running approximately 208° true to Janes Island Light Fl. 4 § defined by Lat. ~~[[38°]]~~ 37° 57.803' N, 75° 55.109' W then running approximately 56° true to James Island Point defined by Lat. 37° 58.474' N, Long. 75° 53.875' W.*

(4) *All the waters of Tangier Sound, Pungers Cove and Sound Gut west of a line drawn from Muscle Hole Point defined by Lat. 38° 7.617' N, Long. 76° 0.817' W then running approximately 354° true to Sound Point defined by Lat. 38° 4.724' N, Long. 76° 0.403' W on South Marsh Island.*

K. (proposed text unchanged)

JOSH KURTZ
Secretary of Natural Resources