

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources proposes to amend/add Regulation .01 - .03 under COMAR 08.18.31 The purpose of this action is to update and clarify existing boating laws and coordinates of certain boundaries. This will ensure safe boating on Maryland's waterways.

Items in [parenthesis] are being deleted; items in *italics* are being added.

Title 08

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Subtitle 18 BOATING — SPEED LIMITS AND OPERATION OF VESSELS

Chapter 31 Elk River

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §§8-703 and 8-704, Annotated Code of Maryland

.01 Elk River.

The Elk River encompasses all the waters of the Elk River and its tributaries, except the Bohemia River, northeasterly of a line [from Lat. 39°26'57.86"N., Long. 76°00'35.32"W. (Turkey Point), running 137° True to the opposite shore, Lat. 39°25'59.70"N., Long. 75°59'26.05"W. (Wroth Point).] *beginning at Turkey Point, at or near Lat. 39° 26.97' N., Long. 76° 0.60' W., then running 137° (True) to Wroth Point, at or near Lat. 39° 26.00' N., Long. 75° 59.43' W.*

.02 Upper Cabin John Creek.

Upper Cabin John Creek encompasses the area beginning at a point [Lat. 39°27'32.3"N., Long. 75°56'55.73"W., a line running 126° True to Lat. 39°27'24.07"N., Long. 75°56'41.12"W., then 180° True to Lat. 39°27'12.07"N., Long. 75°56'41.12"W.], *at or near Lat. 39° 27.528' N., Long. 75° 56.975' W., then running 123° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 27.407' N., Long. 75° 56.732' W., then running 192° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 27.258' N., Long. 75° 56.773' W.,* and running to the head of the creek. This area has a minimum wake zone all year. [A person may not operate a vessel in excess of the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage under prevailing wind and sea conditions.]

.03 Elk River (Elkmore).

[All of the waters of the]Elk River (Elkmore) *encompasses the area* enclosed by a line beginning at a point on shore, at or near Lat. 39°33.297'N., Long. 75°52.22'W., then running 107° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39°33.266'N., Long. 75°52.087'W., then running 196° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39°33.068'N., Long. 75°52.158'W., then running 290° (True) to a point on shore, at or near Lat. 39°33.102'N., Long. 75°52.278'W. This area has a 6-knot [(6.9 MPH)] speed limit Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays during the boating season.

The proposed regulation will appear in the Maryland Register on Thursday July 3, 2014, comments concerning this regulation will be accepted through Monday September 8, 2014. The regulation will be adopted on Tuesday September 23, 2014 and become effective on Monday October 13, 2014.

Comments may be sent to Michael Grant, Regulations Coordinator, Boating Services, Clean Waterways, Facilities and Regulations Division, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, 580 Taylor Avenue, E-4, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call 410-260-8013, or fax to 410-260-8453, or e-mail to Michael.Grant@maryland.gov

JOSEPH P. GILL

Secretary, Department of Natural Resources