

Patapsco River – South Shore

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources proposes to amend/add Regulations .02 under COMAR 08.18.19.03. The purpose of this action is to ensure safe boating on Maryland's waterways.

Title 08

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Subtitle 19 Boating – Speed Limits and Operation of Vessels

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

Chapter 03 Patapsco River South Shore.

A. The Patapsco River south shore areas, with their corresponding speed limits, are set forth in §§B—F of this regulation.

B. Bodkin Creek.

(1) Wharf Creek and Locust Cove encompass the area beginning at a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.362'N., Long. 76° 26.678' W., then running 311° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.445'N., Long. 76° 26.800' W., and running to the head of the creeks. This area has a 6-knot speed limit Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays, all year.

(2) Main Creek:

(a) The downstream zone encompasses the area west of a line beginning at Orchard Point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.440'N., Long. 76° 26.800' W., then running 37° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.593'N., Long. 76° 26.655' W., then running 332° (True) to a Spit Point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.657'N., Long. 76° 26.698' W., and running upstream to a line beginning at a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.749'N., Long. 76° 27.244' W., then running 117° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.658'N., Long. 76° 27.019' W. The speed limits shall be:

(i) 6-knots at all times during, the boating season; and

(ii) 6-knots, Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays during the nonboating season.

(b) The upstream zone encompasses the area west of a line beginning at a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.749'N., Long. 76° 27.244' W., then running 117° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.658'N., Long. 76° 27.019' W. This area has a 6-knot speed limit Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays, all year.

(3) Back Creek encompasses the area beginning at Back Creek Point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.983'N., Long. 76° 26.827' W., then running 196° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.888'N., Long. 76° 26.862' W., and running to the head of the creek. This area has a 6-knot speed limit Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays, all year.

(4) Bodkin Creek entrance channel encompasses the area beginning at a point at or near Lat. 39° 7.972'N., Long. 76° 26.333' W., then running 333° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 7.987'N., Long. 76° 26.343' W., then running 60° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 0.045'N., Long. 76° 26.212' W., then running 69° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 8.072'N., Long. 76° 26.123' W., then running 17° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 8.088'N., Long. 76° 26.117' W., then running 45° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 8.158'N., Long. 76° 26.027' W., then running 142° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 8.145'N., Long. 76° 26.013' W., then running 226° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 8.080'N., Long. 76° 26.098' W., then running 198° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 8.060'N., Long. 76° 26.107' W., then running 248° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 8.030'N., Long. 76° 26.203' W., then running 240° (True) to the point of beginning. This channel has a 6-knot speed limit during the boating season only.

C. Rock Creek.

(1) Outer Rock Creek encompasses all of the waters of Rock Creek beginning at a point on the shore at the south side of the entrance, at or near Lat. 39° 9.302'N., Long. 76° 29.975' W., then running 347° True to a point on the north shore of the entrance of Rock Creek at or near Lat. 39° 9.547'N., Long. 76° 30.048' W., then running upstream to a line beginning at a point on the shore at the N. entrance of Wall Cove, at or near Lat. 39° 09.257'N., Long. 76° 30.050' W., then running 224° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.098'N., Long. 76° 30.246' W., then running 279° (True) to Water Oak Point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.132'N., Long. 76° 30.533' W., then running 329° True to a point on the shore at the N. side of Rock Creek, at or near Lat. 39° 09.240'N., Long. 76° 30.618' W. This area has a 6-knot speed limit Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays during the boating season.

(2) Inner Rock Creek encompasses all of the waters of Rock Creek upstream of a line beginning at Water Oak Point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.132'N., Long. 76° 30.533' W., then running 329° (True) to a point, at or near the shore at the N. side of Rock Creek, at or near Lat. 39° 9.240'N., Long. 76° 30.618' W. This area has a 6-knot speed limit at all times during the boating season.

(3) Wall Cove and Tar Cove encompasses the area upstream of a line beginning at a point on the shore at the N. entrance of Wall Cove, at or near Lat. 39° 9.257'N., Long. 76° 30.050' W., then running 224° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.098'N., Long. 76° 30.246' W., then running 279° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.132'N., Long. 76° 30.533' W. This area has a 6-knot speed limit at all times during the boating season.

D. Stoney Creek.

(1) The bridge area encompasses the Route 173 bridge from 50 yards northeast of the bridge to a distance 150 yards southwest of the bridge which encompasses the area upstream of a line beginning at a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.853'N., Long. 76° 31.560' W., then running 127° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.765'N., Long. 76° 31.410' W., and downstream of a line beginning at point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.785'N., Long. 76°

31.650' W., then running 127° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.668'N., Long. 76° 31.453' W. This area has a 6-knot speed limit all year.

(2) The Upper Stoney Creek encompasses the area upstream of a line beginning 150 yards southwest of the Route 173 bridge, at or near Lat. 39° 9.785'N., Long. 76° 31.650' W., then running 127° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.668'N., Long. 76° 31.453' W. All water from this line to the head of the creek, including Nabbs Creek, has a 6-knot speed limit Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays, all year.

E. Prohibited Area — Venice Beach. The Venice Beach designated beach area encompasses those waters of the Patapsco River extending 300 feet offshore from a line beginning at the foot of Hill Top Road, at or near Lat. 39° 9.312'N., Long. 76° 28.290' W., then running 47° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.345'N., Long. 76° 28.243' W., then running 134° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 9.330'N., Long. 76° 28.223' W., then running 219° (True) to a point on the shore, at or near Lat. 39° 9.292'N., Long. 76° 28.263' W.

F. Cox Creek encompasses the area beginning at the mouth of the Creek on the east shore, at or near Lat. 39° 10.538'N., Long. 76° 31.388' W., then running 270° (True) to a point on the west shore, at or near Lat. 39° 10.538'N., Long. 76° 31.405' W., and running to the head of the Creek. This area has a:

(1) 35-knot speed limit, sunrise to sunset all year; and

(2) 25-knot speed limit, sunset to sunrise all year.

The proposed regulation appeared in the Maryland Register on December 27, 2013, comments concerning this regulation were accepted through January 27, 2014. The regulation was adopted on February 11, 2014 and became effective on Monday March 3, 2014

Comments may be sent to Donna Morrow, Acting Director, Clean Waterways, Facilities and Regulations Division, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Boating Services, 580 Taylor Avenue, E-4, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call 410-260-8773, or fax to 410-260-8453, or e-mail to dmorrow@dnr.state.md.us.