

## Anne Arundel County – Upper South River after Riva bridge



### What is the current regulation for the area?

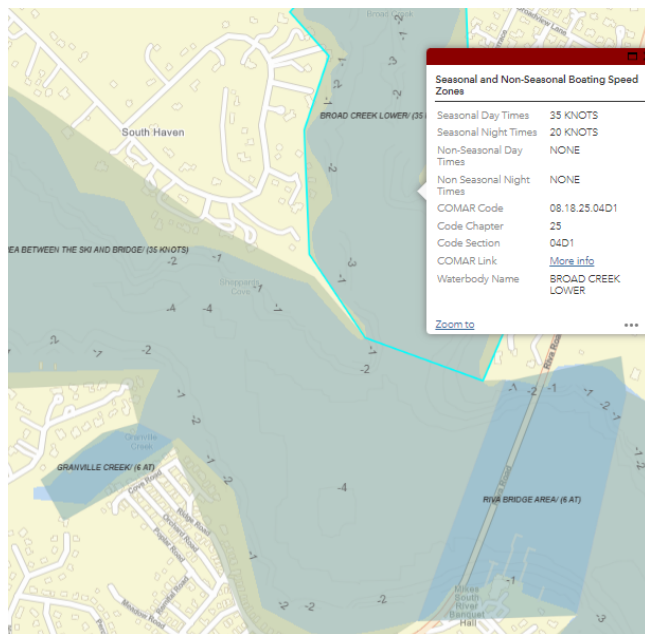
There is a current 35-knot speed limit effective from sunrise to sunset all year and 20-knot speed limit effective from sunset to sunrise all times during the boating season. The current regulation is as follows:

#### [08.18.25.02E](#)

.02 South River Proper.

E. Area Between Riva Bridge and Upper South River Controlled Ski Area. This encompasses the area upstream of a line beginning at a point at or near Lat.  $38^{\circ} 57.211'$  N., Long.  $76^{\circ} 34.545'$  W., then running  $20^{\circ}$  (True) to a point, at or near Lat.  $38^{\circ} 57.495'$  N., Long.  $76^{\circ} 34.412'$  W., and downstream of a line beginning at a point, at or near Lat.  $38^{\circ} 58.637'$  N., Long.  $76^{\circ} 36.365'$  W., then running  $72^{\circ}$  (True) to a point, at or near Lat.  $38^{\circ} 58.685'$  N., Long.  $76^{\circ} 36.177'$  W. Except as otherwise restricted, the speed limits for this area are:

- (1) 35 knots from sunrise to sunset during the boating season; and
- (2) 20 knots from sunset to sunrise during the boating season.



## What was requested?

The Department received a request to modify the current speed zone to a 6-knot at all times speed zone. This request would also extend the Riva Bridge area regulation of 6-knots at all times.

## Why was this change requested?

The requestor noted: “Since late fall of 2017, when my wife and I purchased the property at [REDACTED], we lost between 8 to 12 feet of shoreline including 6 fully grown trees with more of them to follow in the foreseeable future. Furthermore, significant damage has occurred to our tram and dock access path at significant repair costs. The main reason for the extraordinary property loss as well as infrastructure damage is a sandbank reaching 150 feet into the South River, which in turn increases the size of power boat wakes by a multitude. Here is to note that normal wave action created by wind has very little impact due to the protective nature of the cove. However, wakes created by large vessels, wake boarders, water skiers and boat tubing, circling in front of the property slam directly into the shoreline creating this devastating damage. My wife and I would welcome your visit to view the situation first hand and not just from the pictures we provided.

Reducing the existing speed limit of 35-knots to 6-knots would reduce if not alleviate future damage as described above, increase the pleasure of paddle boarders, swimmers, and other normal recreational activities. With all the above in mind, it makes an extension of the existing 6-knot speed limit on the upper South River, from the Riva Bridge to coordinates -76.588 x 38.963 (Cedar Drive Point) a natural and economical

conclusion. Since wake impact is not time specific the 6-knot speed limit must be implemented 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

Extending the existing speed limit 6-knots on the upper South River, from the Riva Bridge to coordinates -76.588 x 38.963 (Cedar Drive Point).”

### Who will this affect?

- All boaters.

### Maps of the Area

