

Baltimore County — Lynch Cove on Bear Creek

What is being considered?

The department received a request to extend the 6 knots all times zone from the existing 6 knots all times area at the Bear Creek Bridges up Bear Creek to include Lynch Cove. This would be a modification of an area currently part of the Upper Bear Creek management area.

What is the current regulation for the area?

The request is to change the speed limit for the area described in the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 08.18.19.04.

[COMAR 08.18.19](#) Patapsco River.

[Regulation .04](#) Patapsco River North Shore.

B. Bear Creek.

(1) Upper Bear Creek encompasses the area beginning at a point, at or near Lat. 39° 15.085'N., Long. 76° 29.320' W., then running 94° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 15.080'N., Long. 76° 29.222' W., then running 193° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 14.875'N., Long. 76° 29.283' W., and running to the head of the creek, including all tributaries. This area has a 6-knot speed limit Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays, all year.

(3) Bear Creek Bridges encompasses the area beginning at a point 50 yards downstream of the Peninsula Expressway Bridge, at or near Lat. 39° 14.795'N., Long. 76° 29.315' W., then running 294° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 14.890'N., Long. 76° 29.593' W., and downstream of a line beginning at a point, at or near Lat. 39° 15.085' N., Long. 76° 29.320' W., then running 94° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 15.080' N., Long. 76° 29.222' W., then running 195° (True) to a point, at or near Lat. 39° 14.907' N., Long. 76° 29.283' W. This area has a 6-knot speed limit all year.

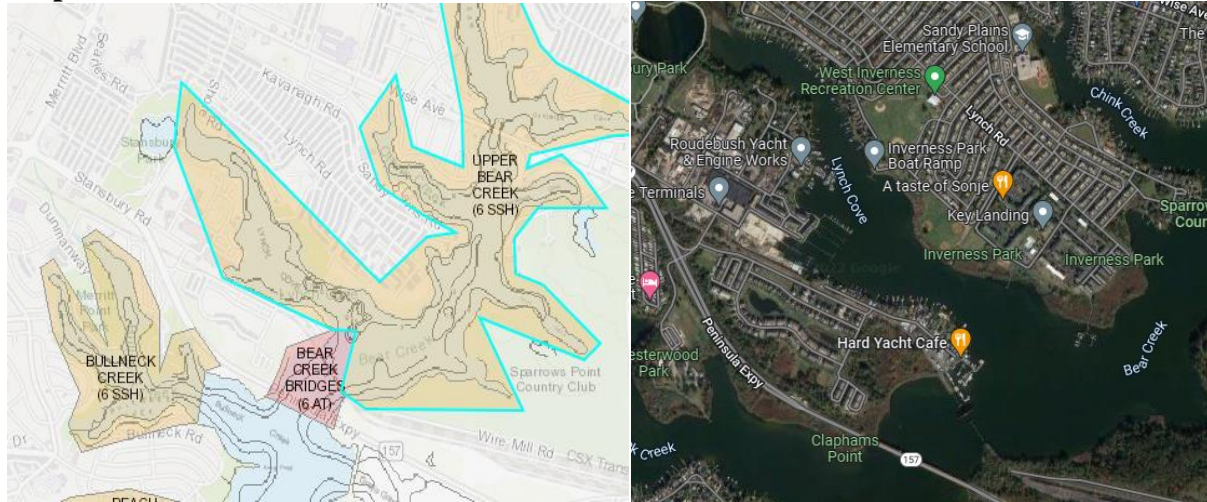
Why was this change requested?

The requestor stated: I am a resident of Sheltered Harbor and our pier and boats are receiving damage from boats who are coming in and out of the cove at high speeds on a daily basis. There is also a fuel pier that would benefit as many boats come down on plane too close to the dock.

Who will this affect?

- All waterway users (recreational and commercial), business owners in the area, and property owners in the area.
- This could directly affect the Anchor Bay fuel pier.

Maps of the Area



Has this change been discussed with advisory bodies?

The department and the Boat Act Advisory Committee (BAAC) are gathering information and will meet in September to fully discuss and [evaluate](#) the request. Please [join our mailing list](#) to be notified when this request will be evaluated by the BAAC.

What is the specific regulatory action?

Amend Regulation .03 under COMAR 08.18.14 Middle River.

When could this be effective?

This change could be effective in 2023, however, at this time, the department cannot determine if the change will be adopted nor the exact date that it could be effective. The department will follow our normal scoping and proposal procedure. The goal of scoping is to identify issues, potential impacts, and reasonable alternatives associated with the issues so that management actions can be developed.

After the public has had an opportunity to comment on possible management actions during the scoping process, the department considers these comments and develops an appropriate management strategy.

If the action is necessary and appropriate, the rules will be promulgated following the Administrative Procedures Act described in Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the State Government Article Annotated Code of Maryland.

- The General Assembly's Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review Committee reviews the regulatory proposal for fiscal and legal analysis.
- The proposal is printed by the Division of State Documents in the Maryland Register.
- A 30-day public comment period begins on the day of publication.
- After review of the comments, the department may adopt the changes.
- If the department adopts the changes, they become effective after a notice is published in the Maryland Register that announces approval and the effective date.

Notes Regarding This Summary

This summary is prepared in accordance with the requirements of State Government Article, §10-110, Annotated Code of Maryland. It is intended to help you understand the potential or revised rules. This summary is not intended to replace or supersede these rules, but to facilitate understanding and compliance with the rules. The department will clarify or update the text of the summary as the idea moves through the regulatory process.