

PUBLIC NOTICE

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES/
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Subject: Public Notice of Proposed Change to the Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program

Add'l Info: Update of Coastal Policies

The State of Maryland is a participant in the national coastal zone management program established pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). The Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP), composed of a network of agencies and authorities that manage land and water uses in the coastal zone, received federal approval in 1978. The CZMA authorizes states with approved CZMPs to review federal actions within or outside the coastal zone that affect uses and resources in the coastal zone, including activities undertaken by federal agencies, federal licenses and permits, and federal financial assistance to state and local government entities for consistency with the policies of their federally approved coastal zone management programs.

As the underlying state statutes and regulations for coastal zone management programs change, states may submit those changes to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for concurrence that the state program and policies meet federal approval standards.

In 2011, the state developed and NOAA approved a list of the policies used in the CZMA federal consistency review process. The policies are based on specified statutory and regulatory authorities. Since 2011, amendments have been made to some of those statutes and regulations. In instances where the amendments affect language relevant to a policy or a legal reference, the state has revised the policy or its reference to reflect the amendment. All of these changes fall within existing state authority and do not substantially change permissible uses in the coastal zone. No new policies have been added to the Maryland CZMP.

A copy of this program change and this public notice are available on the NOAA Coastal Zone Management Act Program Change website under File Number MD-2020-1 at <https://coast.noaa.gov/czmprogramchange/#/public/home>.

A copy of this public notice is also available at the Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program federal consistency/coastal policies website at <http://dnr.maryland.gov/ccs/Pages/coastalpolicies.aspx>.

Any comments on whether or not the action constitutes a program change to the State's approved Coastal Zone Management Programs should be submitted directly to NOAA's Office of Coastal Management via the NOAA Coastal Zone Management Act Program Change website under File Number MD-2020-1 at <https://coast.noaa.gov/czmprogramchange/#/public/home>.

Comments will be accepted by OCM for three weeks (21 days) following the publication of this notice on **July 6, 2020**. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Joe Abe, Coastal Policy Coordinator, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, at (410) 260-8740.

Contact: Joe Abe (410) 260-8740