

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 Article – Natural Resources  
 Section 4–1037  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)  
 (As enacted by Chapter 260 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2007)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Natural Resources**

4–1037.

A person may not catch or attempt to catch soft-shell clams with a hydraulic clam dredge or any other gear except hand-held tools, such as shovels and hoes, in the following areas:

(1) ~~(i) [Within] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (ii) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, WITHIN~~ 150 feet of a natural oyster bar or area leased under [the provisions of Subtitle 11] **SUBTITLE 11A OF THIS TITLE** and marked as required by that subtitle; ~~OR~~

~~(ii) WITHIN 500 FEET IN CALVERT COUNTY;~~

(2) Within 1,000 feet of any occupied duck blind where decoys are set out during waterfowl hunting season;

(3) Except for the William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Bridge and its parallel span, the Governor Thomas Johnson Memorial Bridge, and the area of the Choptank River Bridge that is within Talbot County, within 50 feet of any bulkhead, structure, wharf, pier, or piling that is erected in, over, or under the waters of the State under a permit granted by the State or federal governments;

(4) Within 300 feet of any private bathing beach running not more than 300 feet along the shore which is marked as required by rule and regulation or within 1,000 feet of any public bathing beach from May 1 to September 30. However, the owner or lessee of a single property may not claim protection for more than one private bathing beach contiguous to this property;

(5) (i) Within 50 feet of the mean high watermark of any shoreline in [Calvert,] Queen Anne's, Talbot, or Somerset counties;

(ii) Within 300 feet in Dorchester County; or