

Calvert County Shore Erosion Control Policy

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Basic Requirements

- **Non-structural SEC shall be used whenever practicable and effective**
- **Structural SEC shall only be used where non-structural is not practicable or feasible**
- **Submit state and federal permits when applying for county permits for SEC**
- **County may consult with MD-DNR, MDE and the Critical Area Commission about the best SEC method to be used on a particular site**

Shore Erosion Control Adjacent to Calvert Cliffs (Bluffs)



**Preservation of and Development
Regulations Near Calvert Cliffs**



Values of Calvert Cliffs

- **Scenic Vistas**
- **Paleontology**
- **Endangered Species**
- **Natural Heritage**

Issues Affecting Calvert Cliffs

- **Loss of Calvert Cliffs from Shore Erosion Control**
 - **Values Lost**
 - Scenic Vistas
 - Natural Heritage
 - Paleontology
 - Endangered Species Habitat
- **Development Adjacent to Calvert Cliffs**
 - **Loss of Property**
 - **SWM and Increased Erosion**





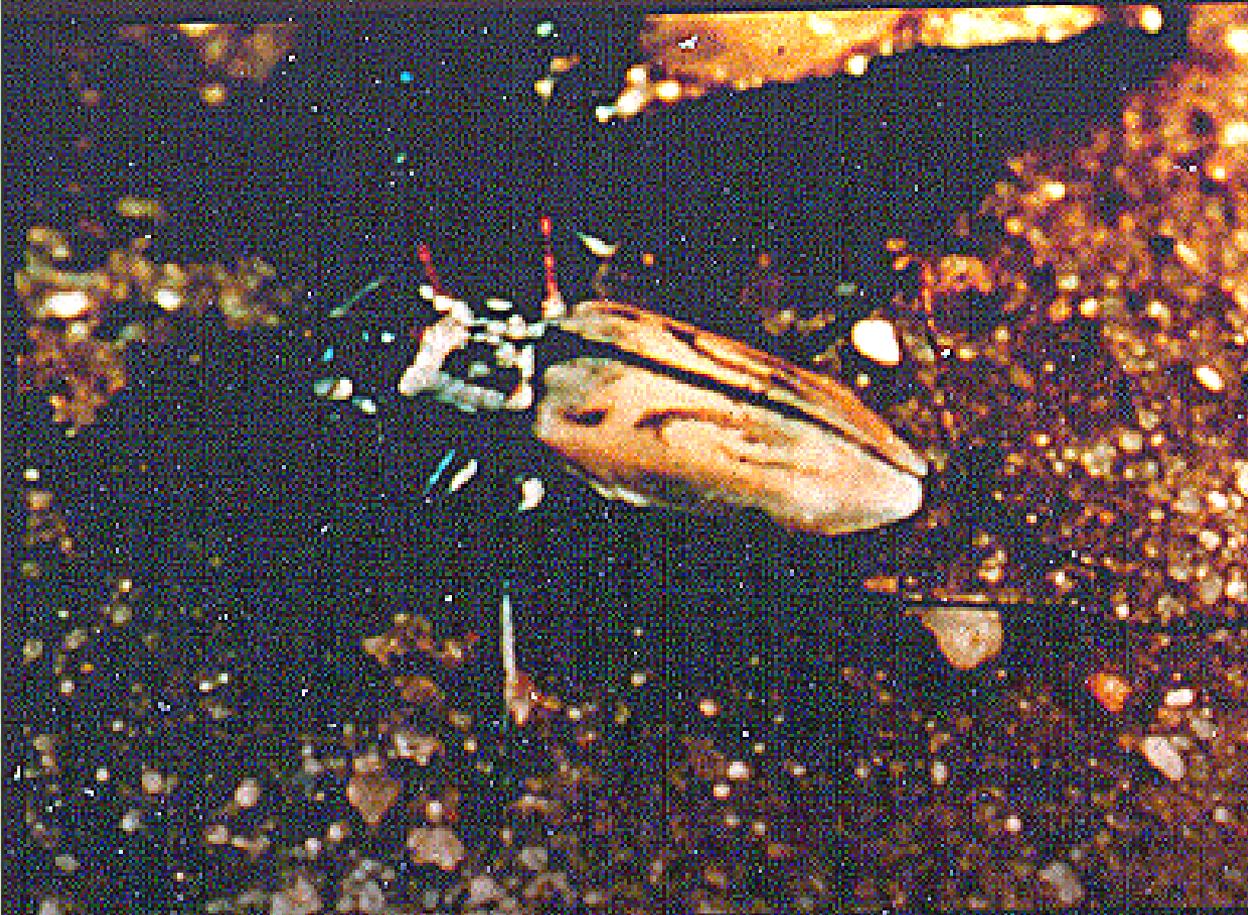


Maryland's Endangered Tiger Beetles



Puritan Tiger Beetle

Maryland's Endangered Tiger Beetles



Northeastern Beach Tiger Beetle

Development of Calvert Cliffs Policy

- **1988 Critical Area Program adopted and calls for creation of task force to address Cliff policy issues**
- **1992 Cliff Policy Task Force appointed**
- **1992 Symposium held on “Chesapeake Bay Cliff Processes and Policy”**
- **1993 Task Force recommendations submitted to County Commissioners**
- **1997 Cliff policy and regulations adopted**

Cliff Policy Task Force

- **Cliff Residents**
- **Realtor**
- **Marine Contractors**
- **Builder**
- **Engineer/Surveyor**
- **Paleontologist**
- **Marine Geophysicist**

Cliff Policy Task Force (continued)

- **Exofficio Members**
 - **MOP**
 - **ACE**
 - **Calvert SCD**
 - **DNR, Shore Erosion Control**
 - **DNR, Natural Heritage**
 - **Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission**
 - **JPPM**

Cliff Preservation Policy

- **Establish 3 Levels of Priority for Cliff Preservation (See Map)**
- **Establish Development Regulations**

Cliff Definition

- Greater than 10 ft in height
- Greater than a 50% slope

Category 1

Tiger beetle habitat

Rich paleontology

Scenic vistas,

Little to no development

Regulations

- **No shore erosion control**
- **300 ft. setback from cliff edge or ER50, whichever is greater**

ER50

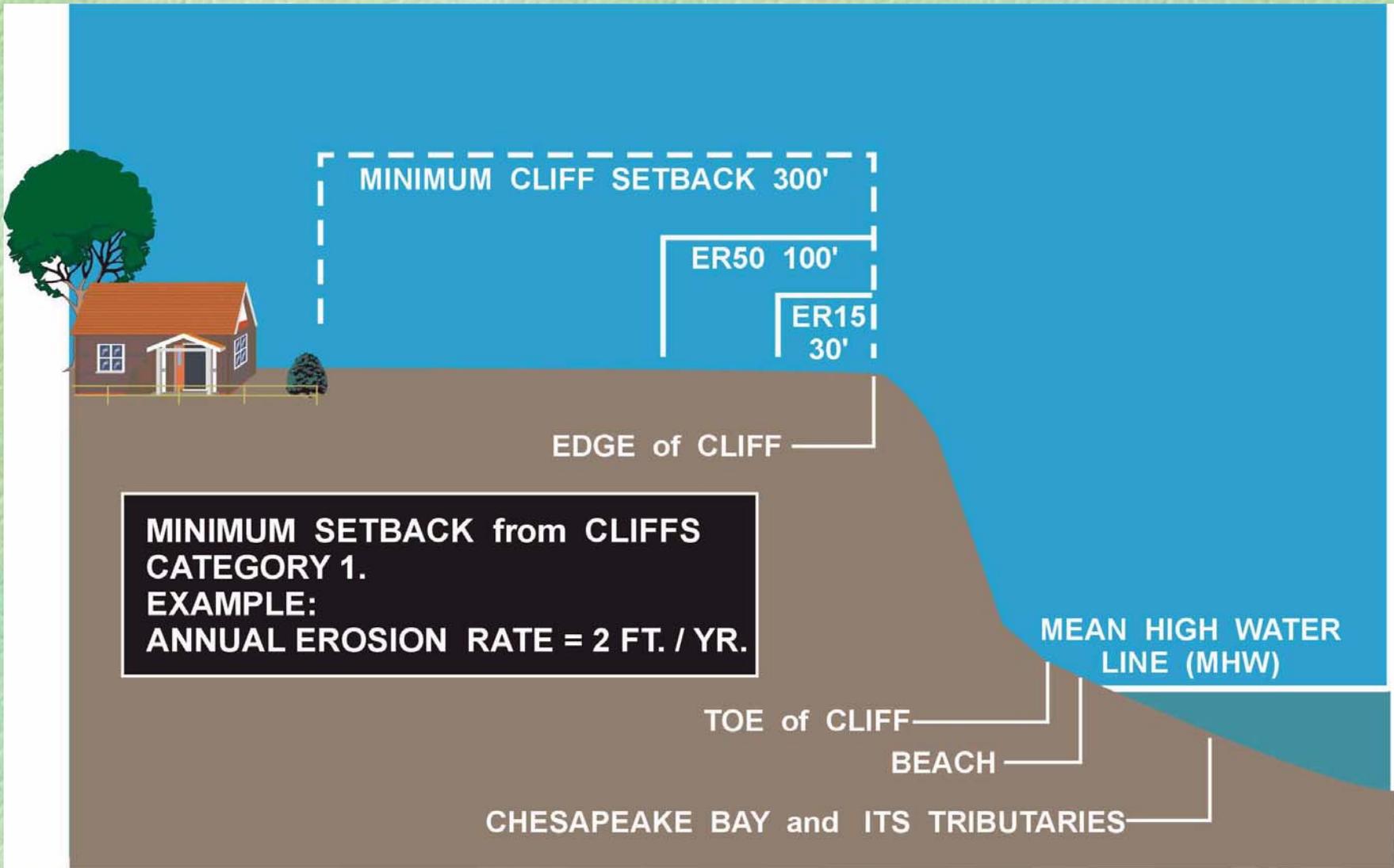
- **ER50 = Erosion Rate * 50 years**
- **If Erosion Rate = 2 ft/year, then ER50 = 100 ft from Cliff Edge**
- **Development in ER50 Requires Construction of a Moveable House and SWM Must Be Addressed**
- **No walls below grade**

Readily Movable Structures

- **On masonry or wood piers or crawlspaces, no walls below grade**
- **Steel beam base or modular construction**
- **Stud wall (not masonry) construction**

Special Construction Techniques

- Gutters and roof runoff is piped away from cliff edge
- Septic systems landward as far as possible
- Excavation is minimized by flush cutting trees
- Runoff is directed away from the cliff areas or into stormwater management facilities



Category 2

Tiger beetle habitat

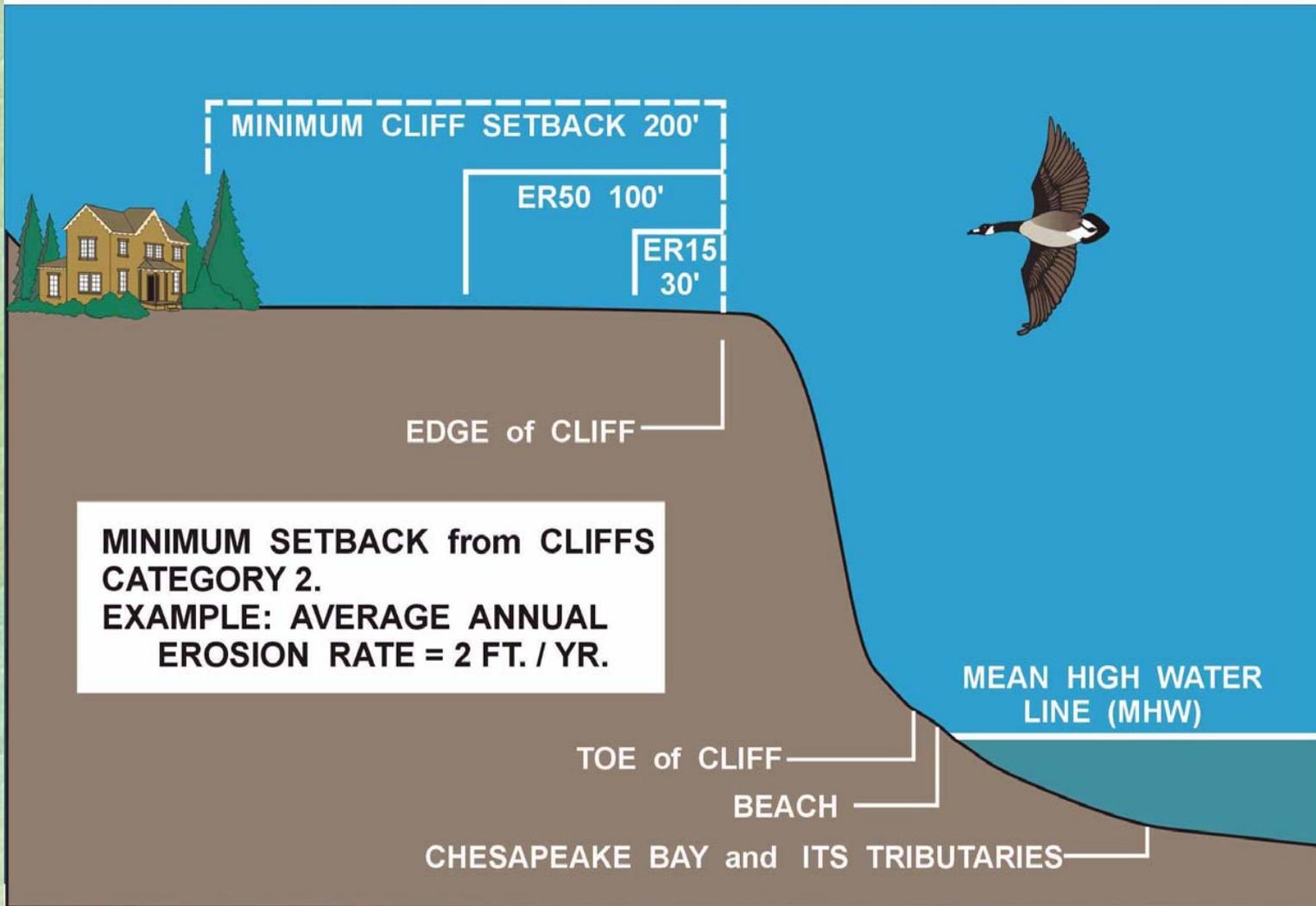
Rich paleontology

Scenic vistas,

Moderate development

Regulations

- **Shore erosion control only for existing structures**
- **200 ft. setback from cliff edge or ER50, whichever is greater**



Category 3

Paleontology - perhaps

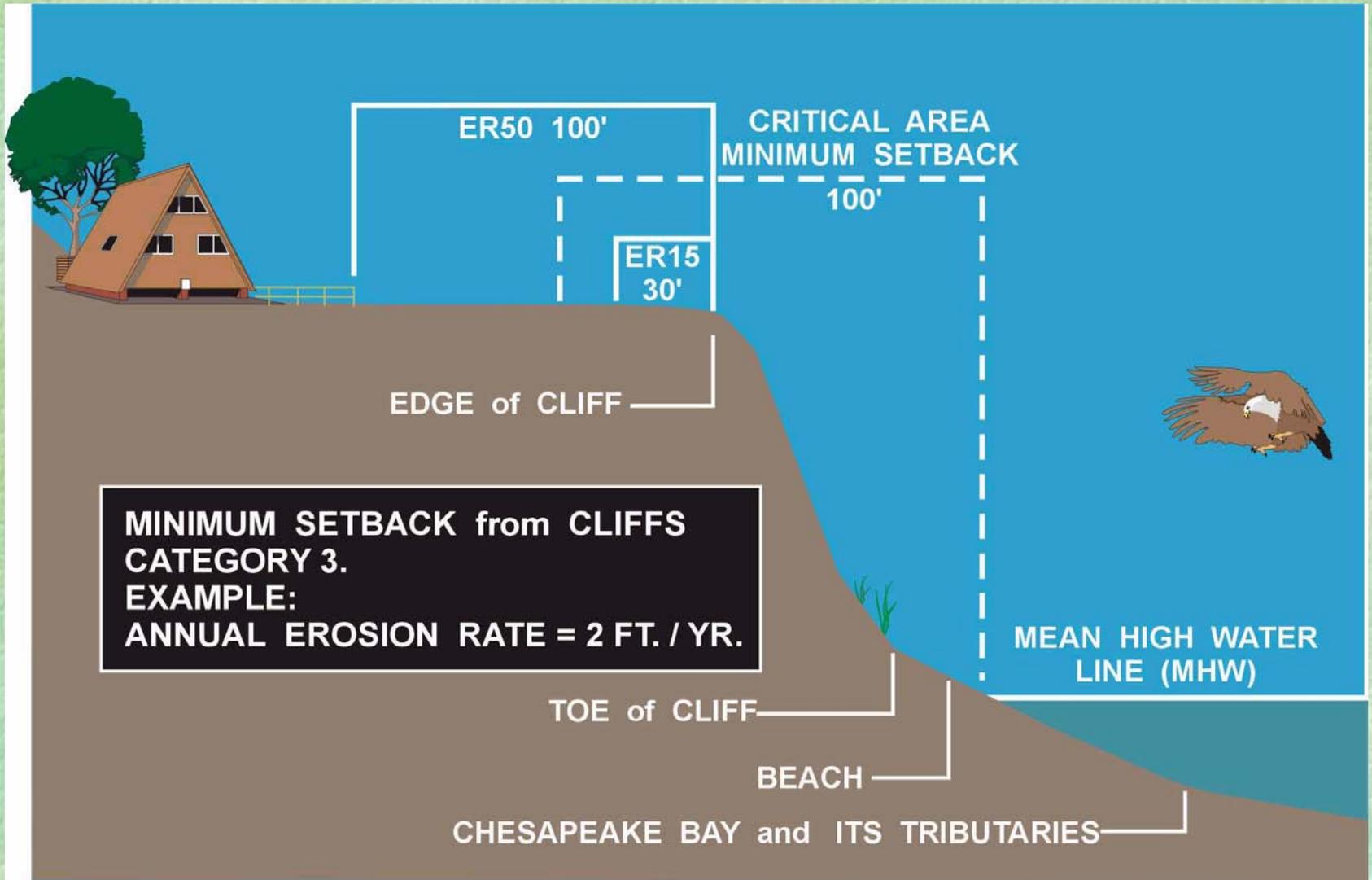
Scenic vistas - perhaps

Moderate development

All areas not designated Category 1 or 2

Regulations

- **Shore erosion control is allowed**
- **100 ft setback from cliff edge or ER50, whichever is greater**
- **For accessory structures less than 150 sq. ft, 60 ft. setback from cliff edge or ER15, whichever is greater**



**MINIMUM SETBACK from CLIFFS
CATEGORY 1-3.**

EXAMPLE:

**IF TOE of the CLIFF IS GREATER THAN 100'
from the (MHW), then the MINIMUM SETBACK
is 60' from the EDGE of the CLIFF**

**MINIMUM CLIFF
SETBACK
60'**



EDGE of CLIFF

110'

**MEAN HIGH WATER
LINE (MHW)**

TOE of CLIFF
CHESAPEAKE BAY and ITS TRIBUTARIES



CATEGORY 2: ANNUAL EROSION RATE = 2 FT. / YR.

MEAN HIGH WATER LINE (MHW)

20

60

100

EDGE of CLIFF

100' BUFFER

B.R.L.

85'

PROPOSED HOUSE

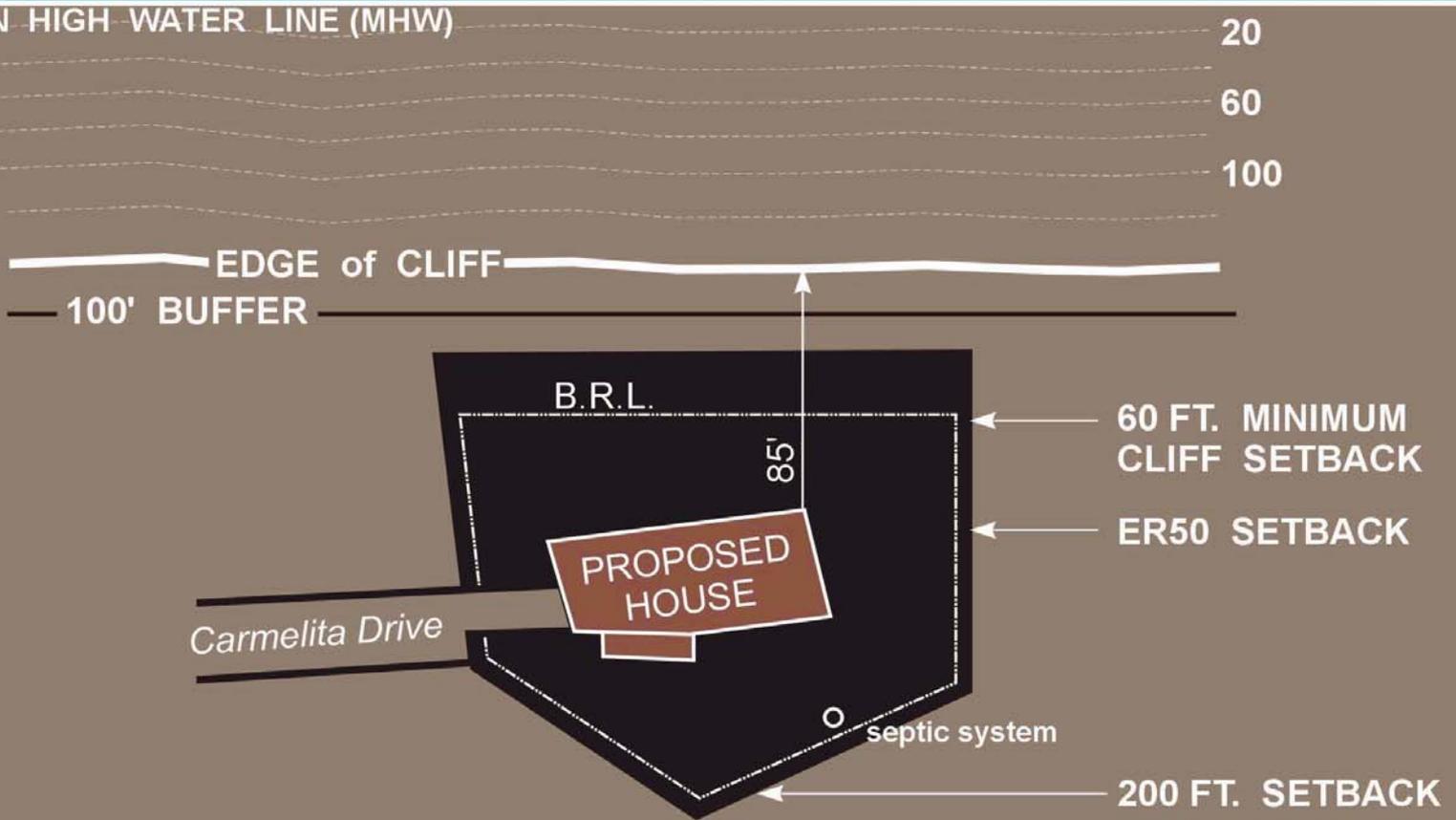
Carmelita Drive

septic system

60 FT. MINIMUM CLIFF SETBACK

ER50 SETBACK

200 FT. SETBACK



Exception

- **Shore erosion control structure exists**
 - **ER50 = 0**
 - **Cliff Setback = 1.5 * Cliff Height + 20 ft**

CATEGORY 3: ANNUAL EROSION RATE & ER50 = 0

CHESAPEAKE BAY

