

THE MARYLAND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MINUTES – JUNE 19, 2013

Chairman Jeffrey Plummer called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Approval for the June 19, 2013 Meeting Agenda**

- The June 19, 2013 Wildlife Advisory Commission Meeting Agenda was presented to the Commission.
- Motion:
  1. Commissioner Gregor motioned to accept the June 19, 2013 Meeting Agenda as presented.
  2. Commissioner Boyles Griffin seconded.
  3. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Approval for Minutes from April 17, 2013 Meeting**

- The April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were distributed to the Commission prior to the meeting.
- Associate Director Jonathan McKnight presented the correction from Matt Tefteau, Maryland Farm Bureau – changed the Total Maximum Daily Load from 2015 to 2025.
- Motion:
  1. Chairman Plummer asked for any further changes.
  2. Hearing no other changes, the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved.

**Natural Heritage Program (NHP) and Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee Update –**  
Presentation given by Jonathan McKnight, Associate Director.

- Associate Director McKnight highlighted items from four programs in the NHP: Science Program, Private Lands Conservation Program, Conservation Technology Program, and Habitat Conservation Program. [ATTACHMENT A]
  1. The Commission heard from Dr. Gwen Brewer, manager of the Science Program several months ago on changes to the Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species List.
  2. Last year, Associate Director McKnight spoke about the State Wildlife Action Plan. Staff are moving toward the next iteration of the State Wildlife Management Plan. The State Wildlife Action Plan is what drives the State Wildlife Grants efforts. The DNR receives around \$600,000 from State Wildlife Grants.
  3. The State Wildlife Action Plan criteria and terms are being revised regionally to ensure that all the states are using the same measure of units.
  4. Plants are not included in the State Wildlife Grants and therefore are not in the State Wildlife Action Plan.
  5. There are a total of 502 species that are listed as Greatest Conservation Need (GCN), these are associated with 35 key wildlife habitats.
- The Private Lands Conservation Program is the smallest program in the NHP with two staff members who are primarily responsible for Farm Bill Programs to assist private landowners with wildlife habitat.
  1. The main responsibility for the two staff members is working with private landowners to incentivize landowners to do things to protect wildlife, create/restore wildlife habitat and promote incentives to clean up the Chesapeake Bay.
  2. The Landowner Incentive Program is geared towards landowners of all sorts; it is a federal program, which has been unfunded for several years NHP has been spending the last of those federal program dollars.
  3. The Farm Bill Expenditures for 2010 related to the 76.09 percent is all nutrition programs. This is essentially food stamps, school lunches, and other food supplement programs.
  4. The Conservation Program of the Farm Bill is around 4.65 percent, which is amount that the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is working with nationally. There are

around 70,000 acres that are enrolled in Maryland's CREP. Stream buffers for the protection of conservation along with the protection of the Chesapeake Bay and wildlife habitat.

5. There are many conservation practices; it is difficult often to figure how a piece of land was enrolled.
- Conservation Technology Program has been working on getting the new Maryland Natural Areas guide loaded on the DNR website.
  1. Staff members are working on Phase II of the Maryland Natural Areas that involve inventory.
  2. Biodiversity Conservation Network (BIONET) is all the Maryland Natural Areas in different tiers. There are five tiers in the BIONET Program. Each site is going to have individual synopsis of inventory, which will be public knowledge.
  3. There are 720 sites in Tier 1 and Tier 2 categories. Tier 1 is global rare and Tier 2 is one down from that.
  4. Tier 1 and Tier 2 will be put in the County Natural Areas Atlas with the inventory list.
- Habitat Conservation Program –
  1. Maryland cave dweller bats are going down in population. The regulations that Dr. Brewer presented to the Commission several months ago mentioned the status of our cave dweller bats – these bats once were secure and now these bats have to be listed as either endangered or threatened. White-nosed Syndrome is the caused of the decline in cave dweller bats population.
  2. The Black Skimmer and the Royal Tern are conservation targets in Maryland. These bird species are listed as endangered in Maryland.
  3. Staff members are working on the Five Year Survey on Colonial birds. Staff are busy counting the birds on the water. Staff members count these birds every year but the Five Year Survey is the big population data collection effort for these species.
- Questions and Answers Section
  1. Chairman Plummer asked if the sites are visited prior to enrolling into CREP.
    - a. Sites are visited prior to enrolling in CREP by wildlife managers and private consultants. The Federal U.S. Department of Agricultural (USDA) visits every site that is enrolled in CREP; USDA is a key player in this process.
    - b. Commissioner Gregor mentioned that she has property in Western Maryland that is enrolled in CREP and the property is visited by officials from USDA.
  2. Commissioner Boyles Griffin asked if a landowner for example allows beavers to exist on his or her land for the dam system could something like that be enrolled in CREP.
    - a. Not under CREP because CREP applies to specific practices on farmland.
  3. Commissioner Bonomo asked about the timeline for the completion of the County Natural Areas guide.
    - a. Staff members have one year to complete the County Natural Areas guide. Staff members have prioritized the areas.
    - b. There are eight team members that are working on the County Natural Areas effort.
  4. Commissioner Wojton asked about exotic species that impact the black skimmer and royal tern.
    - a. The red fox is a native species that has a negative impact on black skimmer and royal tern. At Assateague Island, there is a high population of red foxes. Assateague Island has great habitat for these birds. These birds have moved to Skimmers Island to breed and raise their young.
  5. Commissioner Bonomo mentioned that Maryland has been asked to update the State Wildlife Plan with climate change and its impact. Commissioner Bonomo wanted to know the Department's direction related to including climate change in the State Wildlife Plan.
    - a. The State Wildlife Plan is a little different because it focuses on species and the key

habitats; however, climate change will be incorporated. Staff will be looking at threats and the best management practices on sensitive habitats.

6. Commissioner Bonomo asked if there are some prioritizations that would be included in the Plan this time.
  - a. The Wildlife and Heritage Service did not prioritize habitats. To some degree, it is done by the status of the species, and staff members do prioritize species based upon the data sets that were developed nationally and globally.

**Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee Update** - Presentation given by Jonathan McKnight, Associate Director.

- State Wildlife Plan budget deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee is charged with reviewing the State Wildlife Plan and the five new proposals.

**Deer Project Team Presentation** – Presentation given by Peter Jayne, Associate Director and Brian Eyler, Deer Project Leader.

- These are topics that were covered in the Hunting Changes from 2013 Session Bills.
  1. HB 543 Carroll County – Deer Hunting – Sundays – allows the Department to set the dates for Sunday hunting in the regulatory scheme with the existing sideboards that it is private land only and deer hunting only – and must occur between October and January. This is the preferred bill for managing Sunday hunting as it provides a mechanism to create consistency and better understanding of the rules among the public stakeholder and law enforcement.
  2. HB 365 Harford County – Safety Zone
  3. SB 281 Gun Bill – School Safety Zone Provision
  4. Quality Deer Management
- Associate Director Jayne provided a summary in a Power Point Presentation. [ATTACHMENT B]
- Staff highlighted that the main focus is to meet the deer management goal for Maryland and each county. The deer management goal comes first.
- Questions and Answers Section:
  1. Commissioner Bonomo asked if the Carroll County proposal is for private lands then why is Sunday hunting confusing for the non-hunting community and how much of the non-hunting public are actually using private property for recreational purposes on Sundays.
    - a. It's hard to say because it's private land. Staff selected the dates based on the most popular dates with deer hunters and the least popular with the non-hunting community.
  2. Chairman Plummer asked how many archery Sunday hunting dates are there.
    - a. There are five archery Sunday hunting dates. Keep in mind, that an archery hunter could hunt deer with a bow during the muzzleloader season with a muzzleloader stamp and during the firearms season.
  3. Commissioner Boyles Griffin asked why is it that the yearlings are being taken at 75 percent in Garrett County but in other parts of the State it is much lower. Commissioner Boyles Griffin added could it be that there is not a lot of adult deer in Garrett County.
    - a. It may be cultural reasons. Also, there are a lot of public hunting lands in the Western Region, where people tend to be not as selective.
  4. Chairman Plummer asked if there is any data that tells staff how much of Garrett County, Washington County, and Allegany County is transient hunters vs. local hunters compared that scenario with Eastern Shore transit hunters vs. local hunters.
    - a. The trend is very similar in regards to transient hunters vs. local hunters in both regions.

**Break – (Ten Minutes)**

**Maryland Farm Bureau Update – no report**

**Natural Resources Police (NRP) Update – no report**

**The Conservationist, Employee, and Farmer of the Year**

- Chairman Plummer informed the Commission of the winners.
- The winners of each category will not be included in the meeting minutes.

**Public Comment**

- The Commission received a letter from a constituent regarding their concern about the quail population in Maryland. [ATTACHMENT C]
  1. The constituent requested the closure of the quail-hunting season for the Commission's consideration.
  2. The draft response for the Commission's approval explains that the quail decline is not due to hunting. Biologists believe that habitat-loss, changes in farming practices, and increase in predator numbers are likely the blame for the quail decline. Those states that have closed the quail hunting season have not seen quail populations recover.
  3. Chairman Plummer reiterated if the habitat is present then the species will thrive. Chairman Plummer made suggestions to Associate Director Karina Stonesifer about making some of the Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) crown jewels for the State of Maryland. This would allow wildlife species to be driven to these areas, which should be one of the Department's top priorities. Chairman Plummer indicated that he knows that money is the issue.
  4. Commissioner Bonomo suggested changing language to reflect that quail is not just a game bird and that it is a bird of interest to conservationists and non-hunters.
  5. Commissioner Bonomo requested a change to paragraph two where it appears that hunting is equivocally not the blame; on the other hand, the letter explained that it may be habitat loss, changes in farming practices, and predation.
  6. Chairman Plummer explained that other states that have closed quail hunting season and have seen no results from the closures. The other thing, the Commission should consider the fact that farming practices have changed, such as chemical usage. Chairman Plummer added that in fact, some studies have demonstrated that some chemical use acted as a form of birth control for upland game birds
  7. Chairman Plummer reminded the Commission that the constituent's letter is geared to the hunting portion; in fact, the constituent is a hunter. The verbiage was outlined in that way because the Commission is responding to a hunter. There are educational programs such as CREP and other programs that could inform people on wildlife habitat, which are probably a more proper forum for that type of discussion.
  8. Commissioner Boyles Griffin suggested strengthening the sentence about what the contributing factors are and why.
  9. Associate Director Jayne agreed to make changes to the Commission's response to include the suggested recommendations and resubmit the letter to the Commission for approval.

**Brief Discussion on the Commission Member's Expectation for the WAC - Commission Discussion**

- Commissioner Bonomo explained that she has been on the Commission for awhile and the Commission operates from a calendar of activities and topics. The Commission is very scripted;

Commissioner Bonomo would like to mix it up so that the topics covered are of interest to her and educational. Listed below are Commissioner Bonomo's recommendations:

1. It would be good to meet with the new Secretary, Joe Gill.
  2. Have meetings at different location in Maryland and include a tour of WMAs.
  3. Select a day in the field to educate the Commission.
  4. It is not always clear that topics that are being presented to the Commission warrants feedback and advice – looking for opportunity to be influential or proactive. Hopefully, so that the Commission could be more effective in the next legislative session.
- Chairman Plummer agreed with most of Commissioner Bonomo's recommendations for change. Chairman Plummer pointed out that many of the presentations are for informational purposes but the topics, such as, Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Bag limits – the members of the Commission have an opportunity to comment and vote on it.
    1. Chairman Plummer expressed that 95 percent of the time the Commission's input is greatly appreciated and followed.
    2. Chairman Plummer is asked by many from the hunting community on topics that are cover at these meetings. Chairman Plummer is able to disseminate true and accurate information.
  - Commissioner Gulbrandsen agreed with Commissioner Bonomo and Chairman Plummer; notwithstanding, the schedule related to the biannual hunting season and bag limits regulations and the annual migratory game bird season.
    1. Commissioner Gulbrandsen added there is less public participation than he expected.
    2. Commissioner Gulbrandsen expected to see more groups involved with the Commission..
    3. Chairman Plummer responded that maybe lack of participation is from not sending out invitation to the stakeholders about the Commission meeting dates along with the agendas.
    4. Commissioner Gulbrandsen indicated that the diverse user groups' opinions should be included in the Commission's dialogue on topics/issues.
  - Commissioner Fratz agreed with some of the suggestions.
    1. Commissioner Fratz mentioned it would be good to visit different WMAs.
    2. Commissioner Fratz indicated that Garrett County and Allegany County are different region from each other from his standpoint.
    3. Commissioner Fratz suggested a good time for the Commission to visit Garrett County is during the den sites period so the Commission can participate.
    4. Commissioner Boyles Griffin added that the spring would be a good time also to see the agricultural damage that deer cause in the Western Region.
  - Commissioner Boyles Griffin recommended that a press release be done when the Commission visits the different locations to allow the public and media to attend. This would allow the public and media to interact with the Commission.
  - Commissioner Boyles Griffin is concern about the expense that it would cost for staff members to travel to these locations and the cost to underwrite per diem for Commissioners.
    1. Chairman Plummer responded that is for Director Peditto to work out and not the Commission.
    2. Chairman Plummer explained that the Commission's job is to figure out the best way to utilize the resources to the Department and it is up to the Department to figure out how to make it work.
    3. Commissioner Boyles Griffin concluded that in the press release it should highlight the Commission's reason for travel to different locations for these meetings.
  - Commissioner Wojton mentioned that she has not been on the Commission very long.
    1. Commissioner Wojton indicated that she has learned several things and enjoyed the presentations; especially to be able to understand the link between conservation and hunting along with the impacts, which has been very helpful information.

2. Commissioner Wojton expressed that she is looking forward to completing a whole cycle with the Commission and how to better enhance that process.
3. Commissioner Wojton suggested that the Commission should consider visiting Poplar Island and Hart-Miller Island because these are awesome sites for conservation and habitat restoration.
- Commissioner Gregor expressed that before she came on this Commission, she did not know much about it. After discussing with several people, many of people did not know that the Commission existed. Commissioner Gregor indicated that she has learned a number of things.
- Chairman Plummer expressed even though the license fee bill failed the Commission did a fine job with outreach about the bill.
- Commissioner Gulbrandsen recommended when the Commission goes to these different locations, it would be a good idea to have staff that manage the properties present and maybe provide a presentation to the Commission. In doing so, the meeting minutes would be brief to just reference the presentation.
- Chairman Plummer suggested that these meeting minutes and presentations are not reaching the public and there are forums that members of the Commission are part of – the Commission could put a direct link to the WAC webpage on these forums.

#### **New Business**

- The Commission received a request from the media to have their personal email addresses included on the DNR website similar to the Tidal Fish Advisory Commission. The Commission has a customer service email address where emails are received through the DNR server to Ms. Spencer and then to the Commission.
  1. Chairman Plummer recalled a discussion that the Commission had some time ago about members of the Commission personal contact information. The Commission agreed to not release their personal contact information to the public.
  2. Commissioner Boyles Griffin suggested that DNR set up individual email addresses for the Commission members to check individually; for example, [wacboylesgriffin@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:wacboylesgriffin@dnr.state.md.us), [wacfratz@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:wacfratz@dnr.state.md.us), etc.
  3. Commissioner Boyles Griffin also suggested that the Commission may want to consider adding members' photo and bio. Commissioner Gulbrandsen agreed with Commissioner Boyles Griffin suggestions because it would allow the public to see the diversity that exists on the Commission.
  4. Commissioner Bonomo added that she could probably use the organization that she represents as an email address. Commissioner Bonomo agreed with Commissioner Boyles Griffin recommendation for WAC members' to have individual email addresses.
  5. Discussion ensued within the members of the Commission.
  6. Associate Director McKnight agreed to check with DNR IT Unit to see if it is possible to create individual WAC members' email addresses where the members of the Commission could have the ability to check their emails from the public. Also, Associate Director McKnight will also check to see if IT could develop a forwarding service to the Commission members' private email accounts and the members of the Commission's email addresses would be hidden.
  7. Commissioner Gulbrandsen mentioned that his personal email address is available on many websites so that people can contact him.
  8. Chairman Plummer decided to defer this discussion until the next meeting when Commissioner Compton and Commissioner Rodney are available to comment on this recommendation to add the Commission members' personal email addresses, etc. on the DNR website.
  9. Commissioner Wojton pointed out that the Commission would need proper guidelines outlined

if the Commission decides to move this forward.

10. Chairman Plummer noted that there is a fine line between your personal viewpoints, which everyone is allowed to have, but please do not allow your personal viewpoint to degrade the decision of the Commission.
11. Chairman Plummer concluded by saying that Associate Director McKnight will update Director Peditto on the items that we discussed.

### **Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

The next meeting will be held at 9:30 A.M. on Wednesday, July 24, 2013 in the Tawes State Office Building, C-1 Conference Room; Annapolis, Maryland.

### **Attendance**

Members:	J. Bonomo, S. Boyles Griffin, T. Gregor, E. Gulbrandsen, G. Fratz, J. Plummer, and B. Wojton
Absent:	L. Compton and C. Rodney
Staff:	B. Eyler, P. Jayne, J. McKnight, and T. Spencer

# DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service

## *Maryland Natural Heritage Program*



# Four Programs:

Science Program

Private Lands Conservation Program

Conservation Technology Program

Habitat Conservation Program

# Science Program



State Wildlife Action Plan:

Drives State Wildlife Grant Efforts

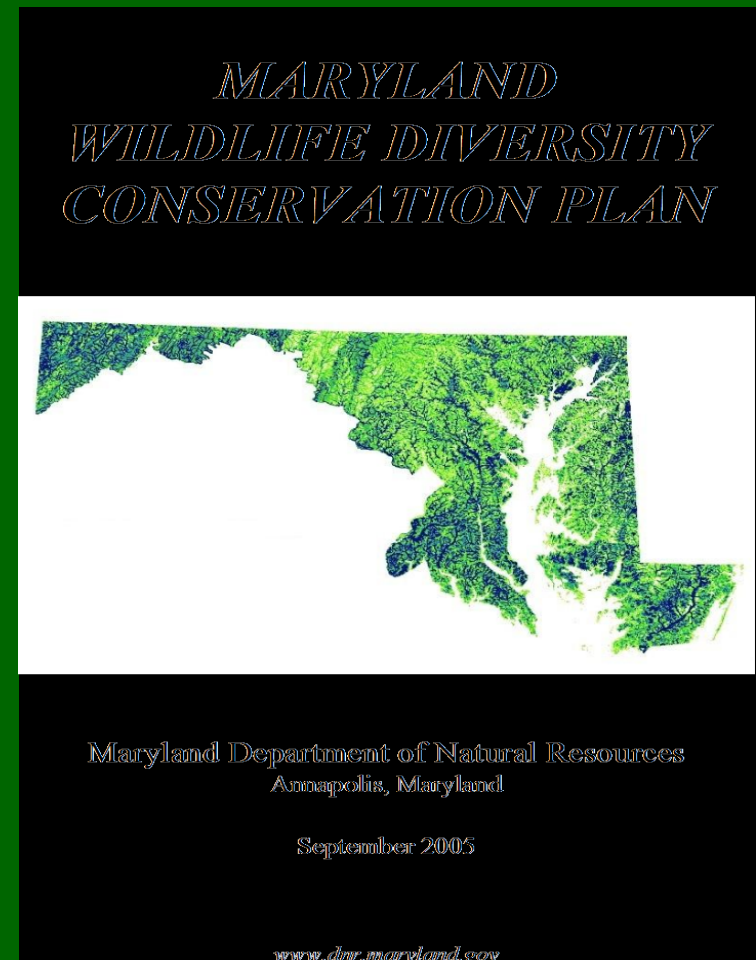
Next Iteration due September 2015

Criteria and Terms Being Revised  
Regionally



# Wildlife Diversity Conservation Plan

- Comprehensive
- Statewide
- Multiple partners
- GCN species
- Key wildlife habitats
- Conservation actions
- 10 year Plan



([http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/divplan\\_wdcp.asp](http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/divplan_wdcp.asp))

# GCN Species:

34 Mammals

141 birds

42 Reptiles and Amphibians

40 Fishes

245 Invertebrates

# 35 Key Wildlife Habitats



# Private Lands Conservation Program

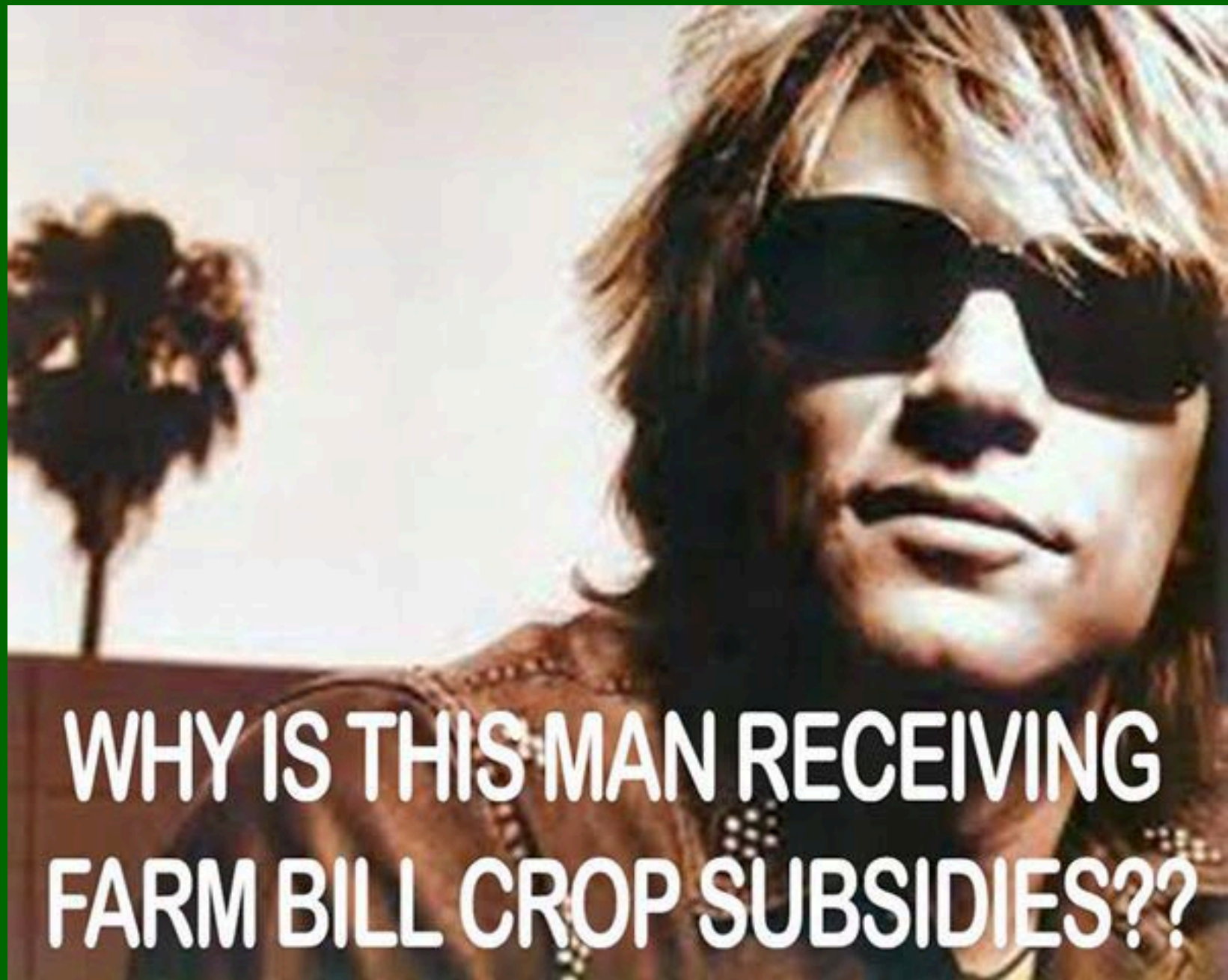


# Farm Bill Coordination



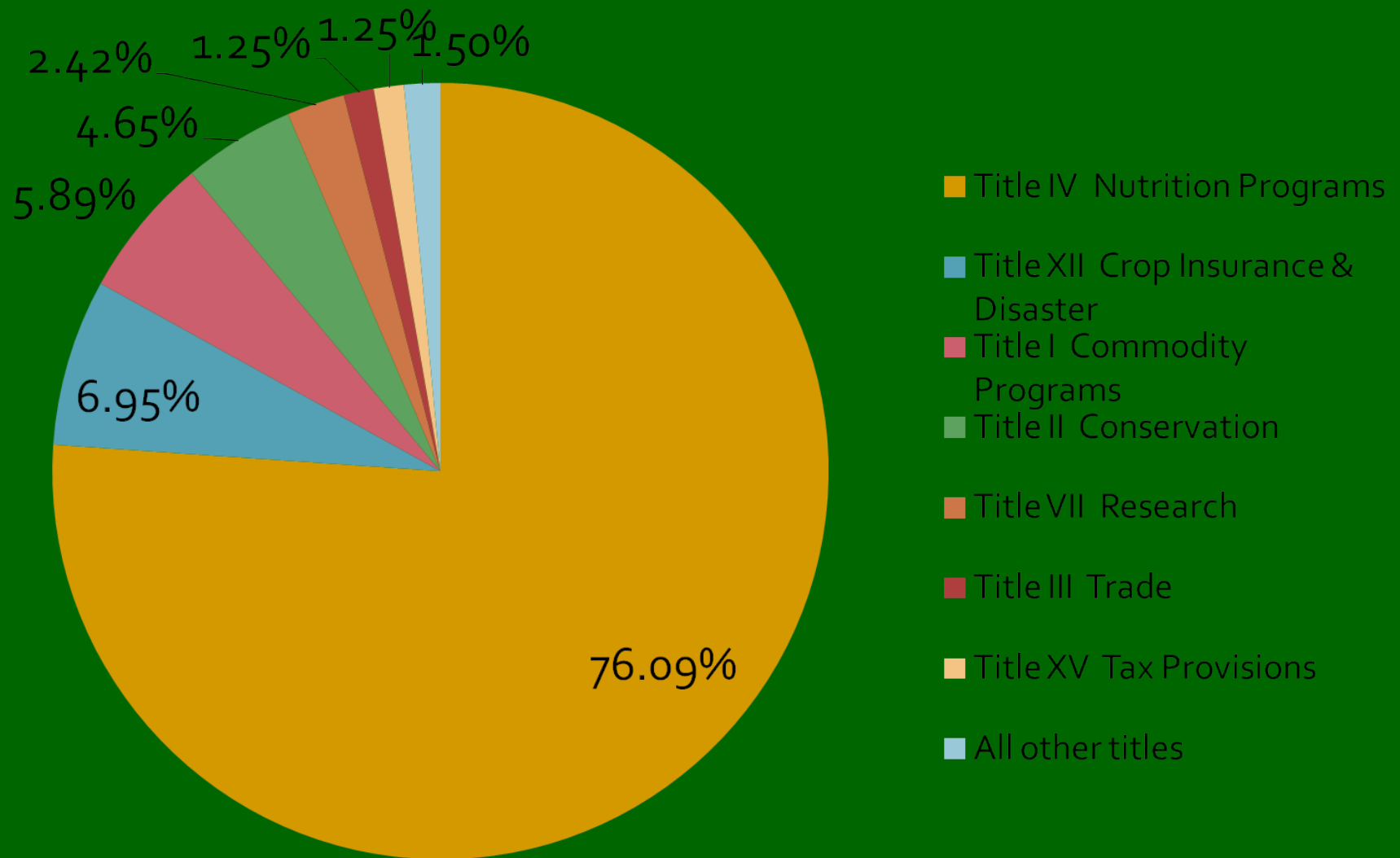






**WHY IS THIS MAN RECEIVING  
FARM BILL CROP SUBSIDIES??**

# Farm Bill Expenditures 2010 (Actual)











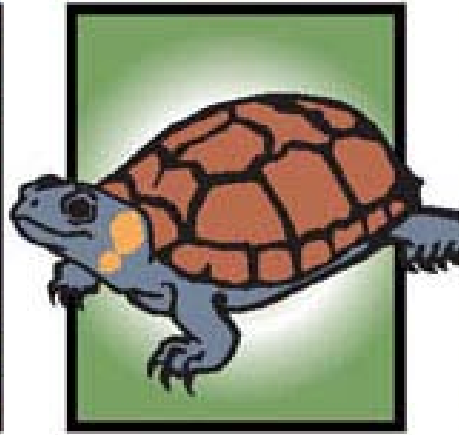
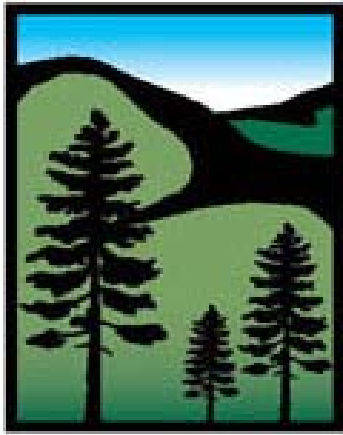


# Conservation Technology Program

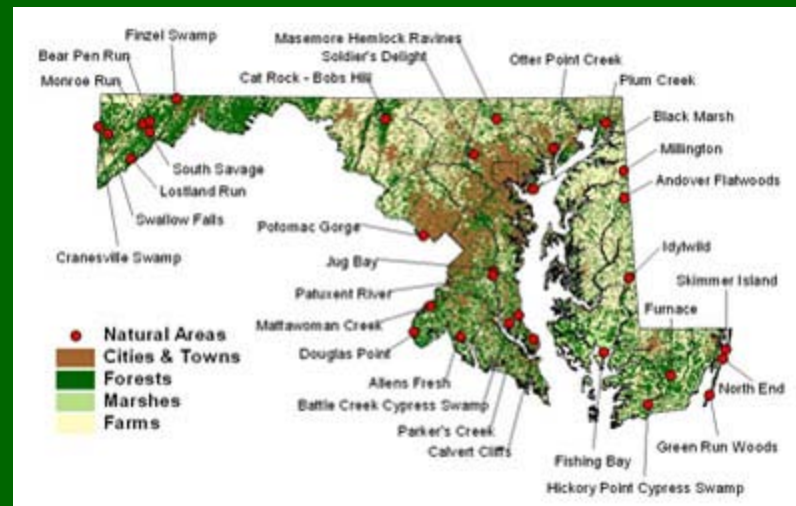
# Outreach Strategy:

1. Develop a list of Natural Areas appropriate for visitation.
2. Develop a concept User's Guide to Maryland Natural Areas
3. Present concept to DNR and Partners
4. Present the product to the world





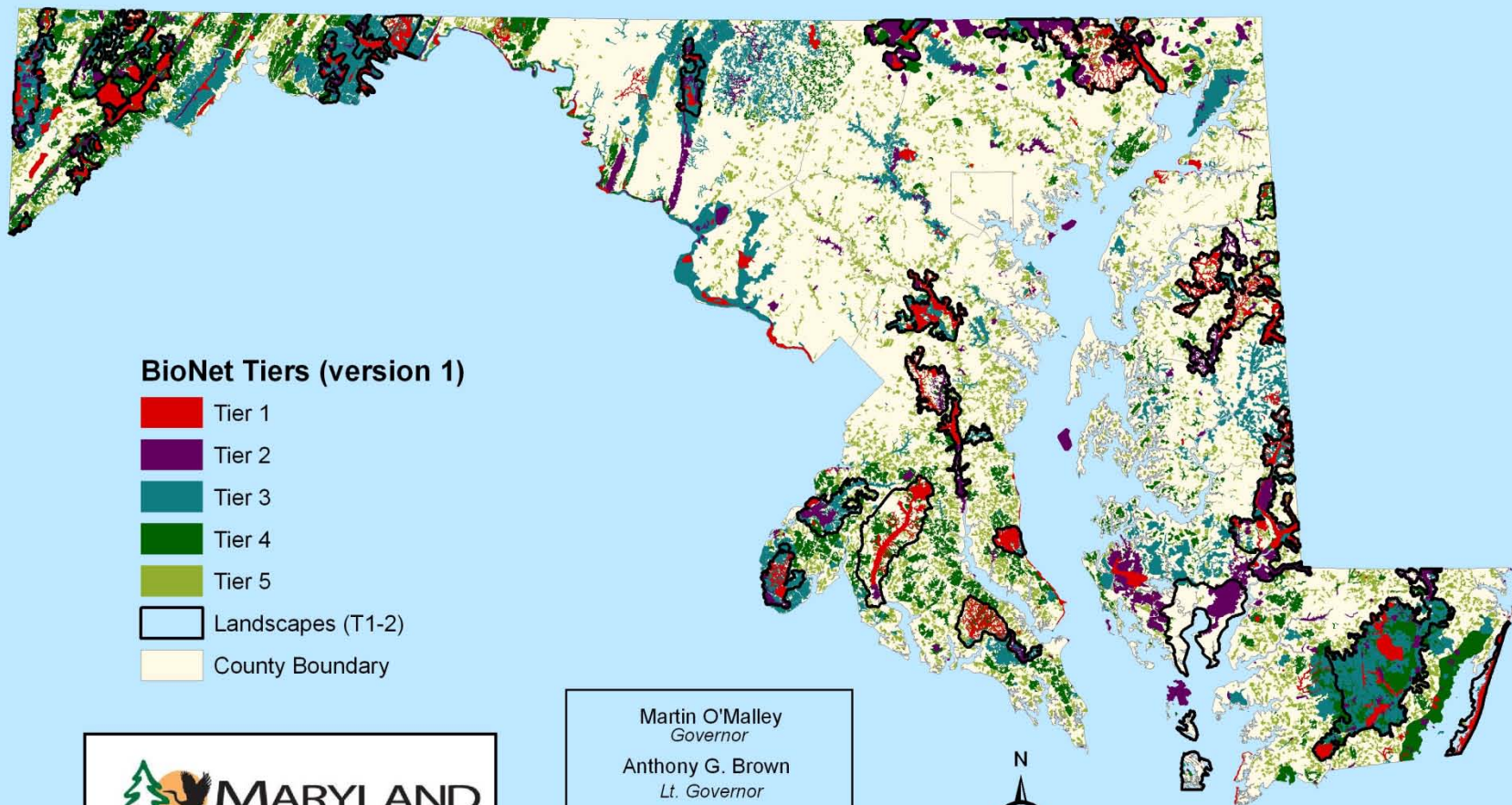
# MARYLAND Natural Areas



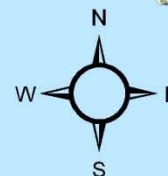
Phase II:

# Maryland Natural Areas Inventory

# Biodiversity Conservation Network -- BIONET



Martin O'Malley  
*Governor*  
Anthony G. Brown  
*Lt. Governor*  
John R. Griffin  
*Secretary*  
Created 8/25/2011  
MDDNR, WHS-NHP



0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles

# County Natural Areas Atlas





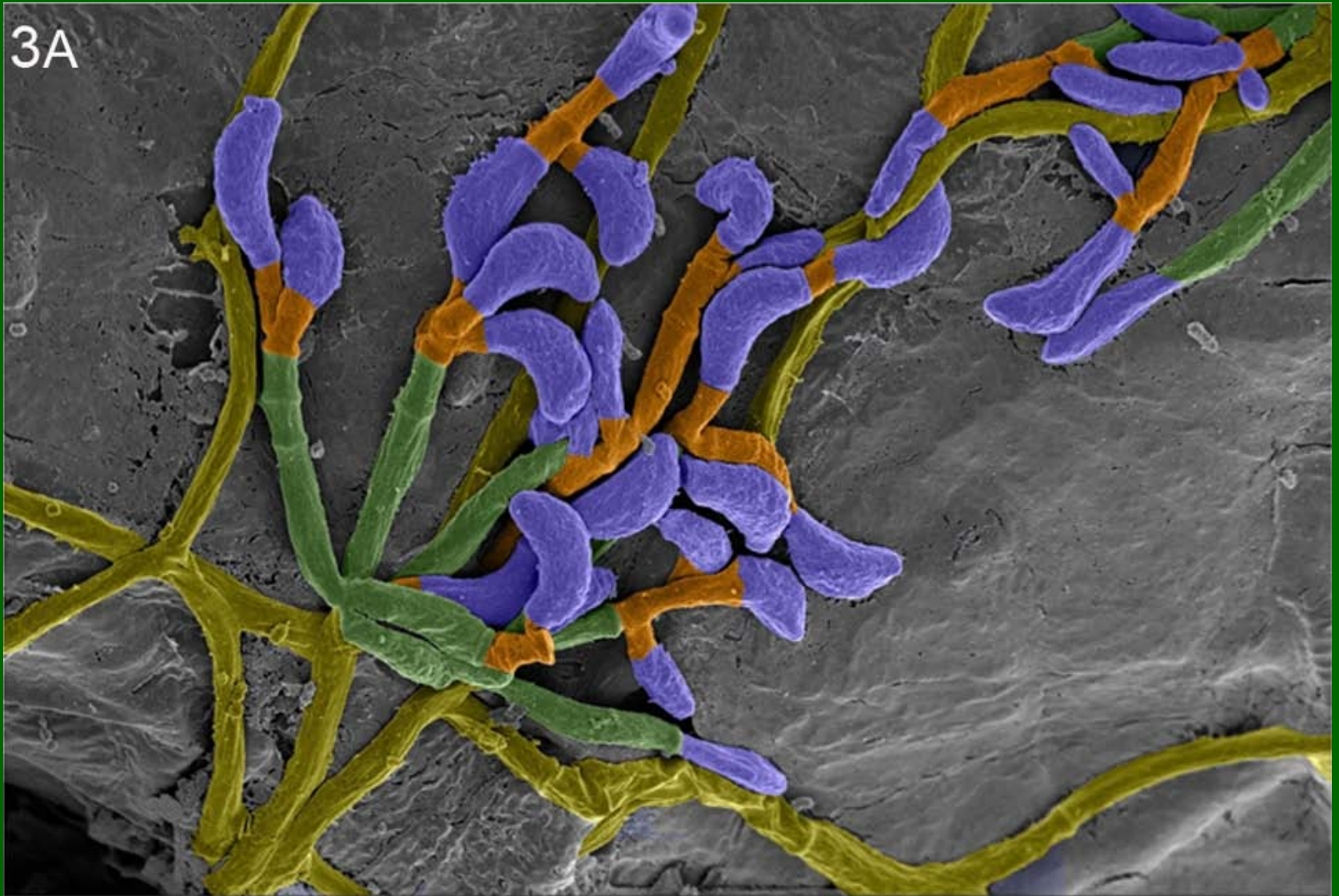
# Habitat Conservation Program











*Geomyces destructans*





# Black Skimmer

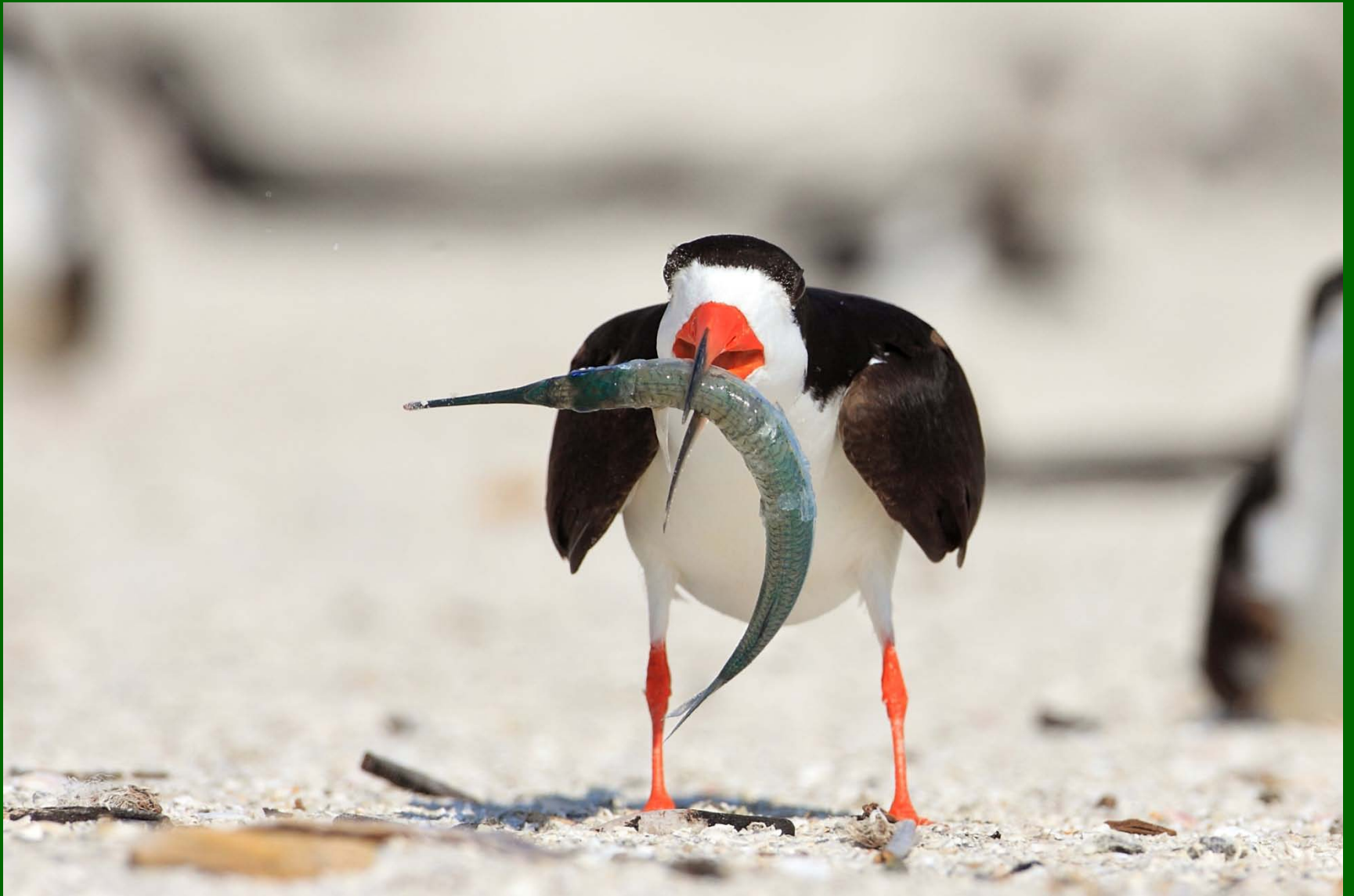


# Royal Tern







































# SKIMMERS ISLAND





















# Hunting Changes from 2013 Session Bills



**Maryland Department of Natural Resources**

Wildlife and Heritage Service

Pete Jayne

Associate Director for Game Management

# HB 543 Carroll County - Deer Hunting - Sundays

"...the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on a Sunday on private property from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January..."

Carroll County Sunday hunting consisted of:

- five Sundays in archery season.
- one Sunday in firearm season.
- the Sunday of the Junior Deer Hunt.

This legislation would allow up to 15 Sundays total in 2013-14.





# HB 543 Carroll County - Deer Hunting - Sundays

"...the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on a Sunday on private property from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January..."

Department is proposing to add:

- two Sundays in the 'late' muzzleloader season.
- two (ALL) Sundays in the firearm season.
  - second Sunday in the regular firearm season.
- • add the Sunday of the January firearm season.
- Would go from six Sundays to ten Sundays.

# January

*Sun**Mon**Tue**Wed**Thu**Fri**Sat***1****2****3****4****5****6****7****8****9****10****11****12****13****14****15****16****17****18****19****20****21****22****23****24****25****26****27****28****29****30****31****2014**

# Eight counties allow Sunday hunting on:

## **“Each Sunday in the firearm season”**

By adding the Sunday of the January firearm season, we will also open that date to hunting in:

Calvert, Caroline, Charles, Harford, [Queen Anne's](#), St. Mary's, Somerset and Worcester counties.



# HB 365 Harford County - Archery Hunting – Safety Zone

Changes the distance a person may hunt from an occupied dwelling\* from 150 yards to 100 yards for archery hunters.

Now have three different safety zone distances for archery hunters:

- 100 yards in Harford County,
- 50 yards in Frederick and Carroll, and
- 150 yards in all others.

Does not require any regulation changes.



# SB 281 - Firearm Safety Act of 2013

Bill is 62 pages long – just plan to cover one provision:

A PERSON, WHILE HUNTING FOR ANY WILD BIRD OR MAMMAL, MAY NOT SHOOT OR DISCHARGE ANY FIREARM WITHIN 300 YARDS OF A PUBLIC OR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL DURING SCHOOL HOURS OR AT A TIME WHEN A SCHOOL-APPROVED ACTIVITY IS TAKING PLACE.

Several interpretations are important to cover:

- the 300 yards is measured from the school building(s),
- does not include universities, colleges or home schools, and
- school-approved activity means when the building is occupied.

Does not require any regulation changes.



# HB 990 Garrett County - Deer Hunting – Three Point Rule

Prohibited shooting of any buck unless it had at least 3 points on one antler (not including the brow tine).

- Some uncertainty whether the sponsor intended to limit bucks to a total of 3 or 4 points per side.

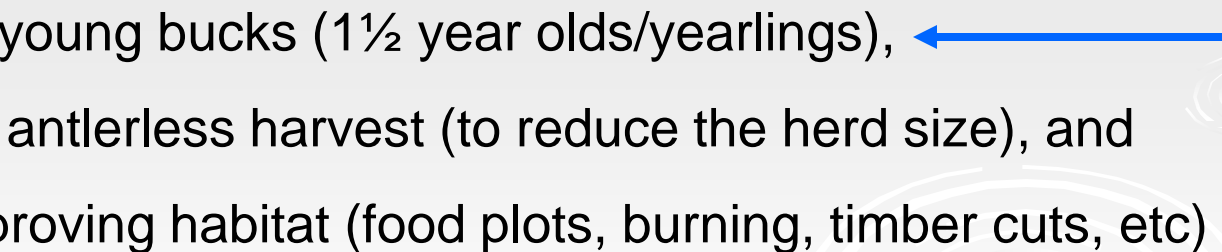
In any case, Bill was withdrawn upon agreement DNR would explore the concept of [antler restrictions](#) in Deer Management Region A.

# Quality Deer Management (short course)

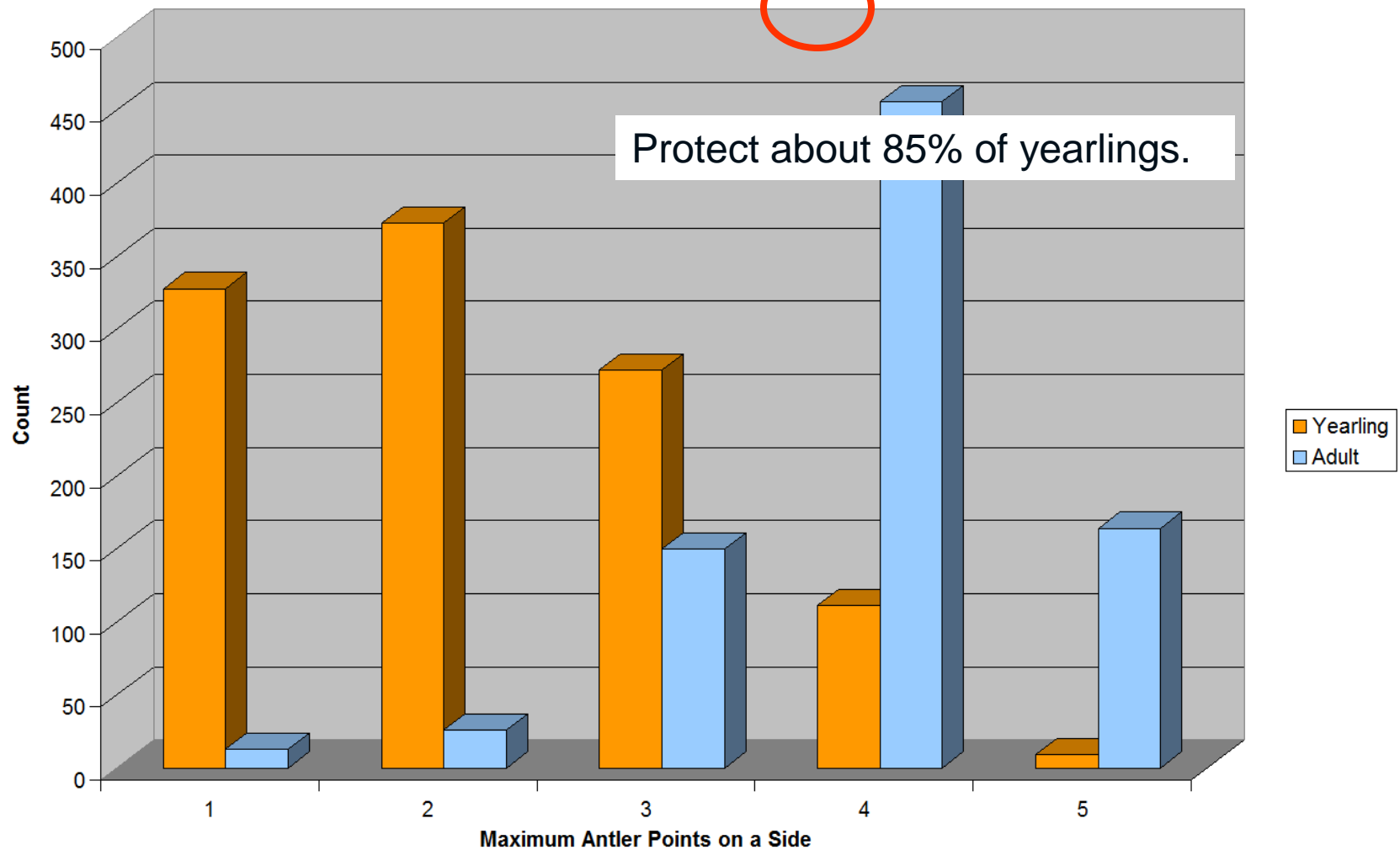
Goal: to manage the white-tailed deer herd to:

- be in **balance** with available habitat,
- have a **balanced** sex ratio, and
- have a **balanced** age structure.

Typically involves:

- protecting young bucks (1½ year olds/yearlings), ←
  - increasing antlerless harvest (to reduce the herd size), and
  - adding/improving habitat (food plots, burning, timber cuts, etc)
- 

Frequency Distribution of Yearling and Adult Antler Points



<b>Percent Yearling Bucks in the Maryland Harvest, 2012-13</b>	
County	% Yearling Buck
<b>Garrett</b>	<b>76</b>
Allegany	73
Washington	73
Caroline	62
Montgomery	58
Harford	56
Carroll	55
Queen Anne's	55
Baltimore	54
Frederick	54
Calvert	52
Talbot	52
Somerset	51
St. Mary's	49
Cecil	48
Howard	48
Prince George's	47
Anne Arundel	45
Dorchester	45
Kent	41
Worcester	41
Charles	35
Wicomico	35
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>55</b>



# How would Antler Restrictions change harvest in Garrett County?

- reduce buck harvest in year one by up to 60%\*.
- buck harvest would return to near the previous level in 2 to 3 years – but more will be 2½ years old or older.
- antlerless harvest will go up, perhaps by 50%, including button bucks\* (6 months).
  - this will significantly reduce the population.

## Results of Antler Restrictions in Garrett County longer term:

- improve the buck to doe ratio.
- greatly reduce harvest of yearling bucks.
- buck harvest will trend to more 2½ year olds.
- ‘more’ older, ‘trophy class’ bucks will be present\*.
- reduce the deer population.

Is this what hunters want in Garrett County?



# What do Garrett County deer hunters want?

## Maryland Deer Hunter Satisfaction Rating by County, 2012-13

County	Satisfaction Rating
Baltimore	3.7
Montgomery	3.6
Carroll	3.5
Prince George's	3.5
Somerset	3.5
Calvert	3.4
Howard	3.4
Kent	3.4
Queen Anne's	3.4
Harford	3.3
Anne Arundel	3.2
Charles	3.2
Dorchester	3.2
Frederick	3.2
Caroline	3.1
Cecil	3.1
St. Mary's	3.0
Talbot	3.0
Washington	2.9
Wicomico	2.9
Worcester	2.9
<b>Garrett</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Allegany	2.4
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>3.2</b>

1 = Very Poor  
 2 = Poor  
 3 = OK  
 4 = Good  
 5 = Very Good

# What do Garrett County deer hunters want?

Random survey allows hunters to rate deer hunting satisfaction on scale of 1 - 5.

- Written comments are optional.

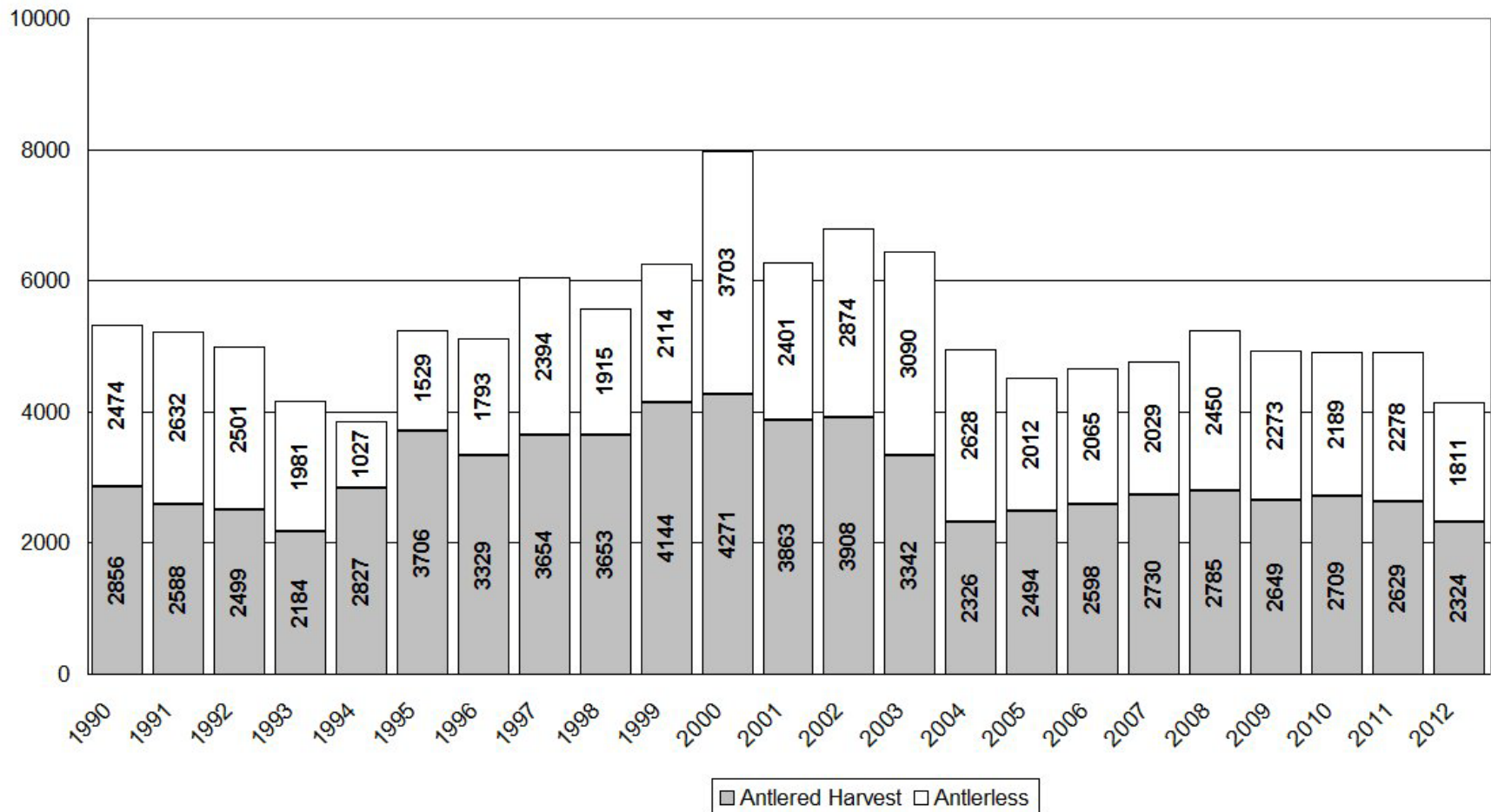
Of 106 written comments for Garrett County:

- 41 were dissatisfied because there were too few deer.
- 7 were dissatisfied because of too few older bucks or wanted antler restrictions.

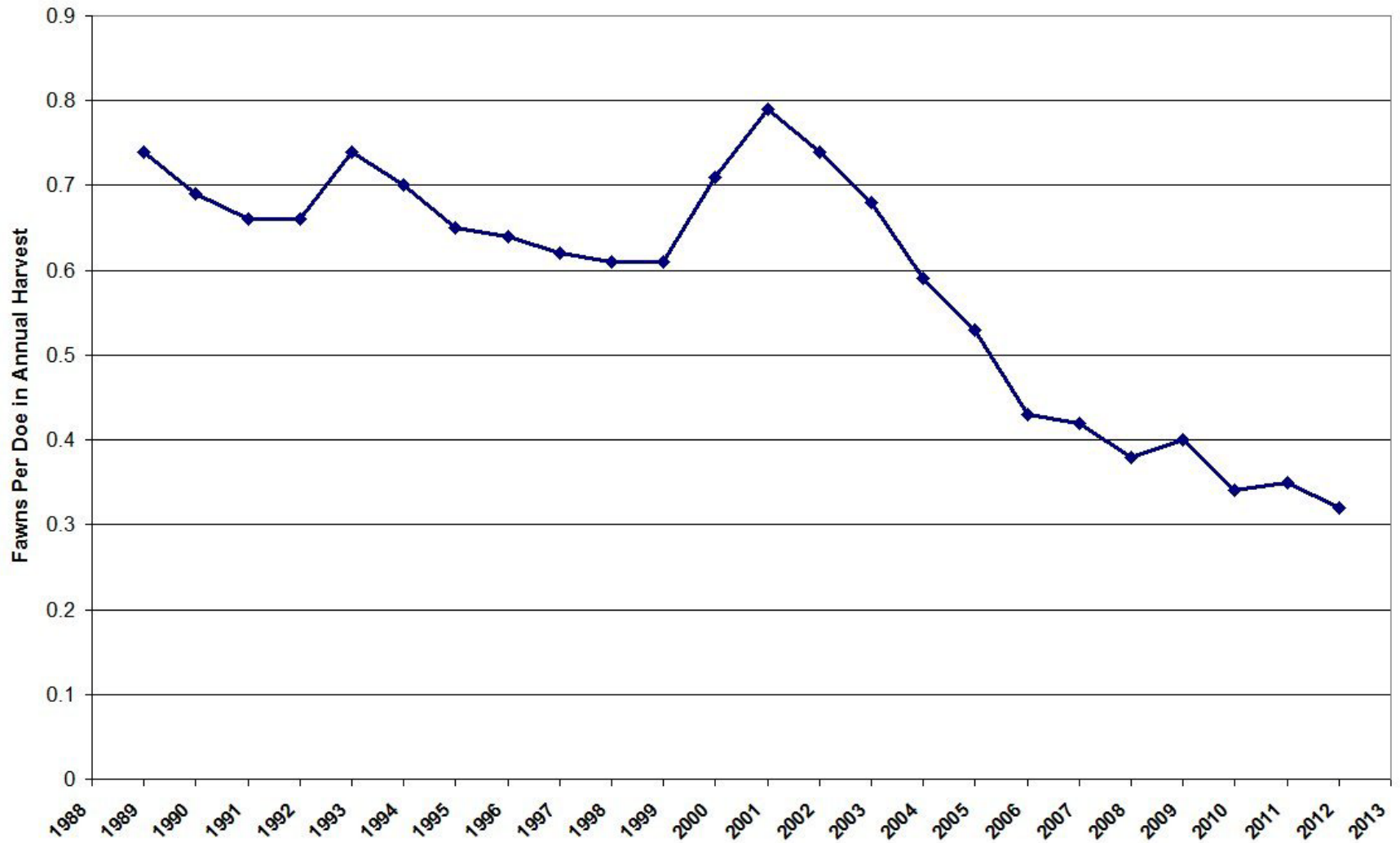


# Garrett County

Total Deer Harvest - Antlered & Antlerless



### Fawn Recruitment - Garrett County, Maryland



## WHS plans to explore Antler Restrictions:

- for entire Deer Management Region A.
- *intended* to conduct survey – funding issues.
- now may need to use public meetings and media.
- engage public during regulation cycle (January 2014).

# Hunting Changes from 2013 Session Bills



**Maryland Department of Natural Resources**

Wildlife and Heritage Service

Pete Jayne

Associate Director for Game Management



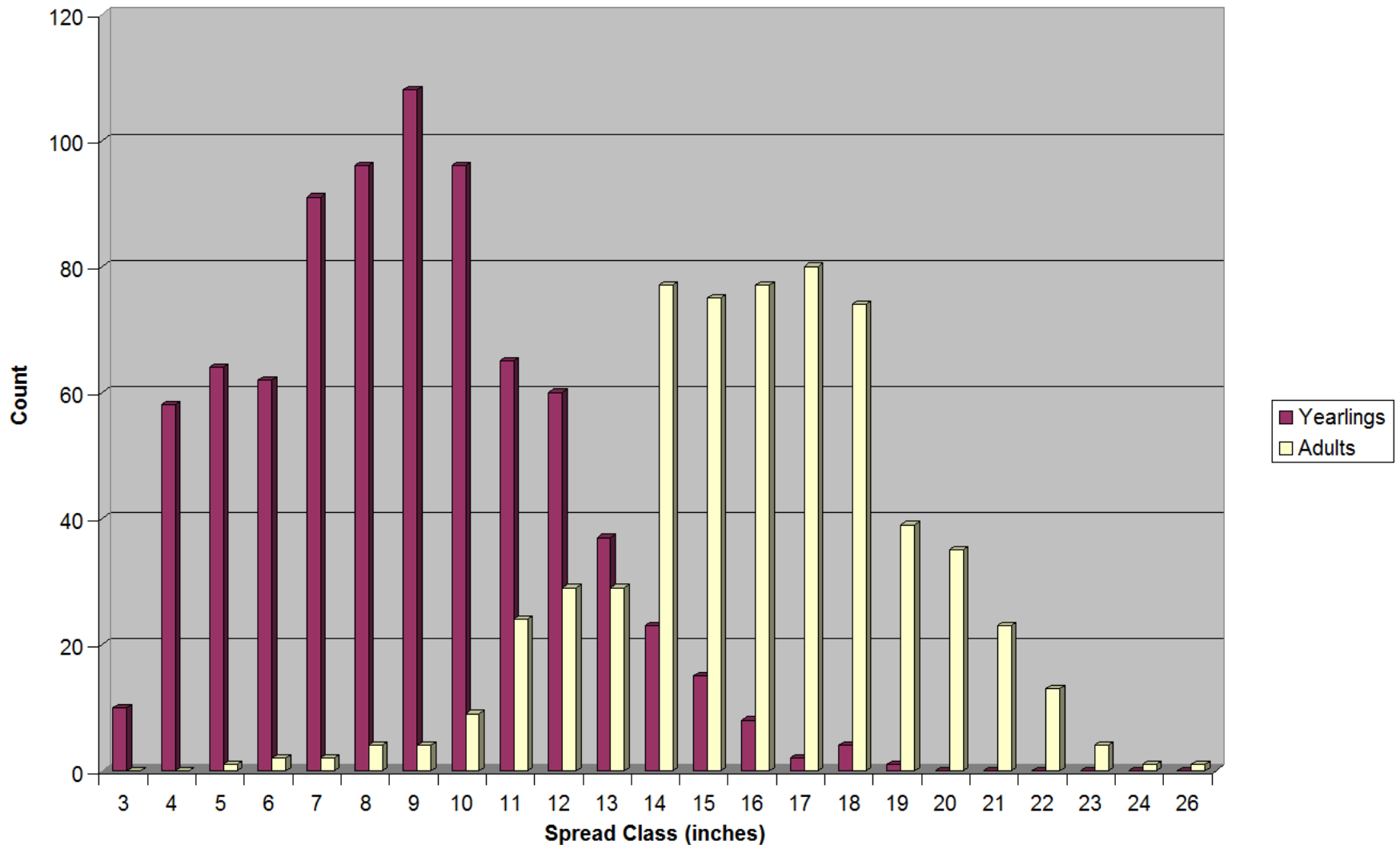
# HB 214 - Queen Anne's County - Deer Hunting on Private Property - Sundays

Queen Anne's County **went from:**

- **one** Sunday in archery season to **five** Sundays, and
- **one** Sunday in firearm season to **ALL** Sundays.
- the Sunday of the Junior Deer Hunt remains unchanged.



### Frequency Distribution of Yearling and Adult Antler Spreads



April 2013

**Maryland Wildlife Advisory Commission  
DNR Wildlife & Heritage Service  
Tawes State Office Building E-1  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-2352**

**Dear Commissioners,**

**I am writing to request closure of quail hunting in Maryland until this game bird can recover from its present dire situation throughout the state.**

**Thirty-five ( 35 ) years ago when I started quail hunting on the Eastern Shore I recorded three separate hunts when 14 large coveys of quail were flushed in a single day. The last covey I saw was in March 2009 at the Vaughn area and there were only three birds.**

**I've been informed that there are some quail left in this area. They should be given complete protection. There is no reason to allow any few remaining birds to be killed off.**

**Last year we visited Martha's Vineyard and learned the tragic story of the extinction of the last heath hens by 1933, despite private and state efforts to save the birds, which once inhabited the East Coast from Maine into Maryland.**

**I urge that my request be given serious consideration,**

**Sincerely,**