

THE MARYLAND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES – JUNE 18, 2014

Chairman Plummer called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Approval for the June 18, 2014 Meeting Agenda

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Wojton moved to accept the June 18, 2014 Meeting Agenda as presented.
 2. Commissioner Compton seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval for Minutes from April 16, 2014 Meeting

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Compton moved to approve the June 16th meeting minutes as presented.
 2. Commissioner Wojton seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Natural Heritage Program Update along with Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee – Presentation given by Jonathan McKnight, Associate Director.

- The Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee (WDAC) is a sub-committee of the Wildlife Advisory Commission. WDAC works closely with the Natural Heritage Program.
- WDAC met on June 10th and the WDAC reviewed the FY15 budget. Mr. McKnight mentioned that Chairman Tom Franklin that works for a wildlife non-profit in Virginia was unable to attend the June 18th WAC meeting.
- Mr. McKnight provided a Power Point Presentation on the Maryland Natural Heritage Program and the Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee. [ATTACHMENT A]
 1. Science Program contains the biologists and ecologists who inventory and monitor both rare species and unique habitats.
 2. Private Lands Conservation Program staff conduct outreach to the farming community to conserve lands through federal funds.
 3. Conservation Technology Program staff maintain the inventory of rare, threatened, and endangered species.
 4. Habitat Conservation Program contains staff on the regional level that work on different issues that may cause a conflict with development projects.
 5. Natural Heritage Program works in coordination with our State Wildlife Action Plan that includes important wildlife species and key habitats.
 6. A State Wildlife Action Plan Coordinator will be hired to coordinate Maryland's efforts in implementing the State Wildlife Action Plan. This long-term contractual position was placed on hold due to a new hiring freeze even though it was in the making for nine months.
 7. The Wildlife Diversity Conservation Plan focuses on key habitat for species with conservation needs.
 8. Mr. McKnight focused on species restoration and reintroduction.
 - a. Siren has not been seen in Maryland since 1904. Siren has only front legs. One was located in a pond in Prince George's County recently. Staff are placing live traps to see how much of a population is in Maryland.
 - b. Hellbender is currently located in the Western Counties of Maryland. Hellbender is one of the largest salamanders in the world. Unfortunately, the numbers are declining. Hellbender has front and back legs. Hellbender requires different habitat than the siren. However, hellbender was located in more areas than it is now. Hellbender needs large, rocky, and clean fast-flowing streams and rivers. The remaining hellbenders are very old. It is almost impossible to locate juvenile hellbenders in Maryland. Staff are dealing with

mostly adult species in the wild. Hellbender has a long life span. Hellbenders eat mostly crayfish. Crayfish have a very short life span and crayfish are eating the young hellbenders. Staff will distribute safe houses for the hellbenders to nest. The nests will have GPS on them so staff can collect the eggs and raise them in captivity. Fisheries Service along with Natural Heritage Program staff are working on this together. Other states are doing this already. The location for these will be in habitats that hellbenders are already in.

- c. American Eel is very important in the eco-system. Eels have declined dramatically. It has been proposed that they should be listed as a threatened species due to the decline in population. People still used eel for bait; however, the limits have been reduced on the commercial level. Eels are a host for a set of species, which have a dramatic effect on water quality. Staff are looking at the eels in the Patapsco River; Patapsco River has suffered a lot of damage over the years. Recently, Patapsco River has done some recovery but one of the things that have never recovered is the *Elliptio complanata*, which is one of the freshwater mussel species. The *Elliptio complanata* is a water filter species for freshwater in the Susquehanna River and other rivers in Maryland. It was hard to locate juvenile *Elliptio complanata*; staff found big large ones but no juveniles. Staff are discussing whether it is possible to raise young *elliptio camplanatas* to reintroduce some into previously established habitats and to jump start that population. Over the years, the dams have been removed on Patapsco River. This would allow access to eels to get through. The Bloede Dam will be removed this year or next year. In doing so, this would create new river habitat in a fairly degradable system of Patapsco River that will be opened to eels. This will help to build up the *Elliptio complanata* population. Staff will be learning how to raise these *Elliptio complanata* (mussels) in captivity.
 - d. Dwarf Wedge Mussel is federal endangered. Globally, Maryland is an important component of the entire global population of the Dwarf Wedge Mussel. States are experimenting in raising these in hatcheries. This is new ground for Maryland in reference to raising mussels in captivity.
 - e. Endangered Species in North America Chart – Mr. McKnight highlighted that the top five species are all aquatic species.
9. Question and Answer Section
- a. Chairman Plummer asked when the NHP decides that something is a rare species, are there legal ratification of the taking of something.
 - i. Rare does not have a legal status. The legal protection terms are threatened, endangered, or in some cases, in need of conservation. Rare does not have any legal protection. Rare is a term that staff use to identify species that are unusual and may at some point become threatened or endangered.
 - b. Commissioner Michael asked if there are any deterrents for people collecting endangered species.
 - i. In almost all cases it is illegal; specifically the bog turtle is protected on both levels, federal and state. With that in mind, there are criminal penalties for collecting endangered species.

Wildlife and Heritage Service FY14 and FY15 Budget Update Glenn Therres – Presentation given by Associate Director Glenn Therres.

- Associate Director Therres provided a Power Point on WHS Administration Program Update, which includes FY14 and FY 15 budget update. [ATTACHMENT B]

Break from 10:30am to 10:45 am

New Hunting Regulations – Presentation given by Associate Director Pete Jayne

- Mr. Jayne handed out the 2014 General Assembly Legislation changes that required changes in regulations. [ATTACHMENT C]
- Mr. Jayne summarized the changes to the Commission.
 1. SB231 and HB262 Bow Hunting – Possession of Handguns for Protection...Proposed Regulation changes are under 08.03.04.05 Devices for Hunting Deer and Black Bear. The proposed changes are italicized in [ATTACHMENT C].
 2. SB472 and HB406 Allegany County, Garrett County, and Washington County – Sunday Hunting for all game species except for migratory game birds on private and designated public lands...The proposed changes are highlighted on pages 2 and 3 of [ATTACHMENT C]. Changes in yellow are related to deer and changes in green are related to wild turkey.
 3. SB 473 and HB 432 Frederick County – Deer Hunting – Sundays on private and designated public lands...The proposed changes are highlighted on pages 2 and 3 of [ATTACHMENT C].
 - a. Section (e) staff added back in the provision for junior hunters to hunt on Sundays in Allegany, Garrett, Washington, and Frederick Counties for deer hunting on private and designated public lands.
 - b. Section (f) staff added back in the four counties for deer hunting on private and designated public lands for Sundays.
 - c. The bow season Sundays remained the same. The late muzzleloader season two Sundays were added in the four counties. The firearms season one Sunday was added in Region A and two Sundays were added in Region B due to the January dates for the firearms season that applies to Region B only.
 - d. Section G. listed the designated wildlife management areas, which are all located in Region A for Sunday hunting.
 - e. Basically, staff wrote regulations due to the outcome of these bills.
 - f. The green highlighted (e) part is related to hunting wild turkeys in Allegany and Garrett Counties were stricken in the bill and move it to regulations. Therefore, on page 2 in italicized under (i), which is highlighted in green, staff added in *any game mammal or any game bird, except deer and migratory game birds or wetlands game birds*, in those three counties (*Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties*) on private or a designated Wildlife Management Area during any Sundays during the entire open season. Staff took wild turkey out as a separate species and included wild turkeys as a game bird in that definition.
 4. SB966 Charles County and St. Mary's County – Deer Hunting – Requires the DNR to establish a program in Charles County and St. Mary's County to train rifle shooters to hunt deer for the purpose of controlling the deer population in those counties; requires the Department to give applicants who hold a Deer Management Permit (DMP) priority in acceptance to the program; authorizes the Department to terminate the program under specified circumstances; requires the Department to provide a report to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2016 and remains in effective for 3 years. Director Peditto explained the new law. [ATTACHMENT D]
 - a. Staff are required by law to implement this.
 - b. This law has a sunset provision, which is 3 years.
 - c. In §10-415 under (d) Deer Management Permit – Hunting out of season—in subsection (2)(ii) “Hunt deer on State agricultural crop land located in Charles County and St. Mary's County to the same extent as the person is authorized under the Deer Management Permit to hunt on private land in Charles County and St. Mary's County.”
 - i. The part about “State agricultural crop land” is written as if a DMP holder could hunt

on State agricultural crop public land as if DMP holder is hunting on his or her property in Charles and St. Mary's counties, which is 365 days a year including every Sunday. This means that DMP holder may use a shotgun during the bow hunting season on public lands in Charles and St. Mary's counties.

- ii. The DMP holder must have a DMP from either Charles or St. Mary's counties to use the DMP on State agricultural crop lands in Charles or St. Mary's counties.
 - iii. Keep in mind DMP is not hunting.
 - iv. Staff are working on the regulation for this law.
 - d. Another issue is in §10-415 the language "notwithstanding any other provision of law".
 - i. Staff's interpretation of "any other provision of law" is Natural Resources law.
- Question and Answer Section:
 1. Captain Johnson asked about whether the firearm has to be in plain view.
 - a. It is not written in the law. This is outside the scope of this regulation.

DNR opposed this law because it has always been suggested to use pepper spray while hunting in territory where there are bears.
 2. Commissioner Gregor asked if this change applied to private and public lands.
 - a. Yes, this law applied to both private and public lands.
 3. Commissioner Michael asked have the proposed regulations have been published in the Maryland Register.
 - a. The proposed regulations have not been published in the Maryland Register. The proposed regulations will go as emergency regulations first then permanent proposals in January so due to the short period of time that WHS has from the General Assembly process and signing of the bill into law.
 4. Commissioner Michael asked if there was a cap of (e) related to the junior hunting dates.
 - a. No, there is no cap on the number of days for junior hunters.
 5. Commissioner Michael asked why WHS has decided to follow the Carroll County model.
 - a. The patch work by county by county is confusing, so the more consistent we can be the better for enforcement, hunter and non-hunter understanding of the rules.
 6. Commissioner Michael commented that WHS had a well-respected and thought out regulatory process in the stakeholders' process. Commissioner Michael understood that some things are mandated. Commissioner Michael expressed that the additional Sunday hunting dates were not mandated and no comments were received about the expansion, and it should have been. Commissioner Michael suggested that the Commission review the muzzleloader days, which demonstrated marginal production. Commissioner Michael also suggested the data should be shared and made available to the Commission and the public. Commissioner Michael agreed that the seasons should be as uniform as possible and the base for the legislation is to kill more deer. This legislation is an inconvenience to other user groups. Commissioner Michael added that the additional muzzleloader season dates do not allow much production. This is an unnecessary rush for staff without going through the well thought out process.
 - a. Yes, the muzzleloader season harvest was low; however, routinely staff noticed it takes about two to three years for hunters to catch on to the additional hunting dates that are available. Staff members expect that harvest will go up. Staff members have learned to not base their decision on one year's worth of data.
 - b. There is a public input process during the General Assembly. Therefore, constituents had opportunity to comment on the legislation.
 7. Commissioner Michael mentioned a statement from the February 19, 2014 meeting minutes that WHS staff went to the Frederick County Sportsmen's Council meeting and Frederick County Sportsmen's Council members were opposed to Sunday hunting.
 - a. WHS staff members were not in attendance to the Frederick County Sportsmen's Council

- meeting.
- b. Director Peditto attended the Frederick County Delegation meeting and the Frederick County Delegation supported additional Sunday hunting dates for deer. .
 - c. Chairman Plummer summarized Commissioner Michael comments that basically Commissioner Michael would like to see all these regulatory changes go through the stakeholders' process along with public input process.
 - d. Commissioner Michael expressed that he respects the WHS process and these changes outlined did not go through that process for the selection of the days. Commissioner Michael indicated that he understood that the Maryland Register will qualify for the public comment period but people respect the WHS process and this is outside that process. The WHS process is very important to other stakeholders and by rushing through this process may cause an issue when WHS does want to go through the WHS process for such topics.
8. Chairman Plummer asked to explain what is the process for determining what goes through stakeholders' process and what does not go through the stakeholders' process.
- a. These bills went through legislation process and it is not the same as WHS concepts process. WHS concepts are something that staff decided to do as good government. The legislature decided that these bills should be law; therefore, these laws should be implemented in regulations without delay. If the legislature wanted the Department to delay the decision they would have put the issue to study instead of a proposed law change.
 - b. Chairman Plummer noted that it seems if it is a local bill; it would not go through the WHS stakeholders' process.
 - c. Commissioner Gulbrandsen pointed out that the bi-annual process of setting those dates and bag limits include Sunday hunting in counties that already allowed it. Also, having gone through the legislative process to add those counties to the list of Sunday hunting counties that it would be just a matter of plugging those counties into already agreed for other counties. With that in mind, the process did not need to be more intense nor did it need to be because that decision was already with those counties.
 - d. Discussion ensued in another process to allow counties to comment on county related regulatory decision besides the Maryland Register process.
9. Commissioner Michael asked if there was any Sunday included in the bear season.
- a. No, there is no Sunday date during the bear hunting season. The current bear season runs from a Monday through a Thursday, which is new for the 2014-2015 hunting season. There was one Saturday included under the old model, which was last year.
10. Commissioner Gulbrandsen asked does the amount of deer taken on public lands in Charles and St. Mary's counties count towards the DMP.
- a. Yes, it would count towards the DMP.
11. Commissioner Compton asked if the Commission received any response from the Governor's Office related to the letter about SB966.
- a. The Commission letter was very much in the dialogue about SB966 with the Administration. The Administration was pleased that the Commission was not in support of the SB 966 and equally pleased to learn that the Commission respects the current process for managing wildlife in the State. At the same time, even the agricultural community wanted to revisit SB 966.
 - b. The Administration decision came down to the simple fact that this was a local bill for two counties with one sponsor.
 - c. Commissioner Compton emphasized that it would have been nice to receive a response at least thanking the Commission members for their participation in this process instead of being ignored. Commissioner Compton acknowledged Director Peditto's verbal response on behalf of the Governor; however; it still would have been nice to have received a written

communication.

- d. Director Peditto mentioned that this was the first time for WHS to be involved with a veto request of a bill and again, the Administration took notice due to the input of the Wildlife Advisory Commission.

Employee of the Year Presented at the Wildlife and Heritage Service Annual Meeting

- The presentation of the Employee of the Year is normally done at the WHS Annual Meeting. However, in the past several years due to budget reasons, WHS did not have annual meetings so the Employee of the Year Presentation's were presented at the Wildlife Advisory Commission Meeting.
- The WHS annual meeting attendance was around 89 staff. Bill Harvey and Hutch Walbridge were presented with the 2013 Employee of the Year. The nominator was Chairman Jeff Plummer.
- Bill Harvey and Hutch Walbridge were acknowledged for their hard work to restore Deal Island Impoundment habitat for wildlife species.

Farmer and Conservationist of the Year

- Ms. Spencer received one nominee for the Conservationist of the Year.
- The Commission needs to vote on the Farmer of the Year by July 23rd. The Commission received the nomination letters at the June 18th meeting.
- Chairman Plummer expressed that this is one of his favorite tasks to do on the Commission. Chairman Plummer added a lot people in WHS do not get recognized for what they do. Chairman Plummer mentioned that a lot of these farmers gave a lot back to the conservation of wildlife species.
- Commission needs to read the submissions for the farmers then rank them, with five being the highest with one being the lowest and get the ranking sheet to Ms. Spencer before the next meeting. The Farmer of the Year is recognized at the Maryland Farm Bureau Annual Convention in December.

Maryland Farm Bureau Update – No report.

Natural Resources Police (NRP) Update – Presentation given by Captain Ed Johnson.

- Captain Johnson informed the Commission that during the Spring Wild Turkey Season: 2 citations were issued along with 11 citations for hunting over bait. There were no hunting accidents during the Spring Wild Turkey Season.
- Commissioner Compton requested that Captain Johnson provide the list of citations and violations, which will include non-natural resources related issues by NRP. Commissioner Compton reiterated that NRP should remain focused on enforcing natural resources laws and regulations and not traffic related violations.
- Commissioner Michael pointed out that in Washington County, suspension of hunting license has always been something that Washington County has done. Commissioner Michael offered his assistance to help get the message out to the State Attorneys Coordinator and reach out from the bottom to the judges. Commissioner Michael requested a letter from the Superintendent and Commissioner Michael would be happy in transmitting it.

Old Business

- Director Peditto outlined the new grant for Hunter Recruitment and Retention, which Patricia Handy is managing. Patricia Handy has been successful in six out of ten years in obtaining funding from the National Shooting Sports Foundation. This year, Foundation awarded a \$25,000 grant to Wildlife and Heritage Service, which would allow staff to go to the next level with the

hunter safety graduates. It is an advanced program and training to help hunter safety graduates to mount, sight-in, and accurately shoot guns, etc. The grant money will provide tools necessary for participating in this advanced program and training.

New Business

- Dr. Joseph Lamp, former Commission member and ‘record holder’ as the longest serving Commission member for the Wildlife Advisory Commission. Dr. Joseph Lamp recently has been appointed as the chairman for Maryland Votes for Animals, which is a political action committee. There were 72 bills that were animal and hunting related. Once, the Maryland Votes for Animals found out about SB966, the Maryland Votes for Animals did what it could to stop it, including notifying the highest powers of Maryland Government.
- Dr. Joseph Lamp also thanked the Commission for its support on attempts to provide non-lethal alternatives to solve issues related, primary to deer, to come up with answers where hunting is often times a controversial issue. There are many situations in urban environments where the hunting issue comes up. There have been some great strides in Maryland over last year or two on contraception and sterilizations.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

The next meeting will be held at 9:30 A.M. on Wednesday, July 30, 2014 in the Tawes State Office Building, C-1 Conference Room; Annapolis, Maryland.

Attendance

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

ATTACHMENT A

DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service

*Maryland Natural
Heritage Program*

And the

*Wildlife Diversity
Advisory Committee*

Four Programs:

Science Program

Private Lands Conservation Program

Conservation Technology Program

Habitat Conservation Program

State Wildlife Action Plan:

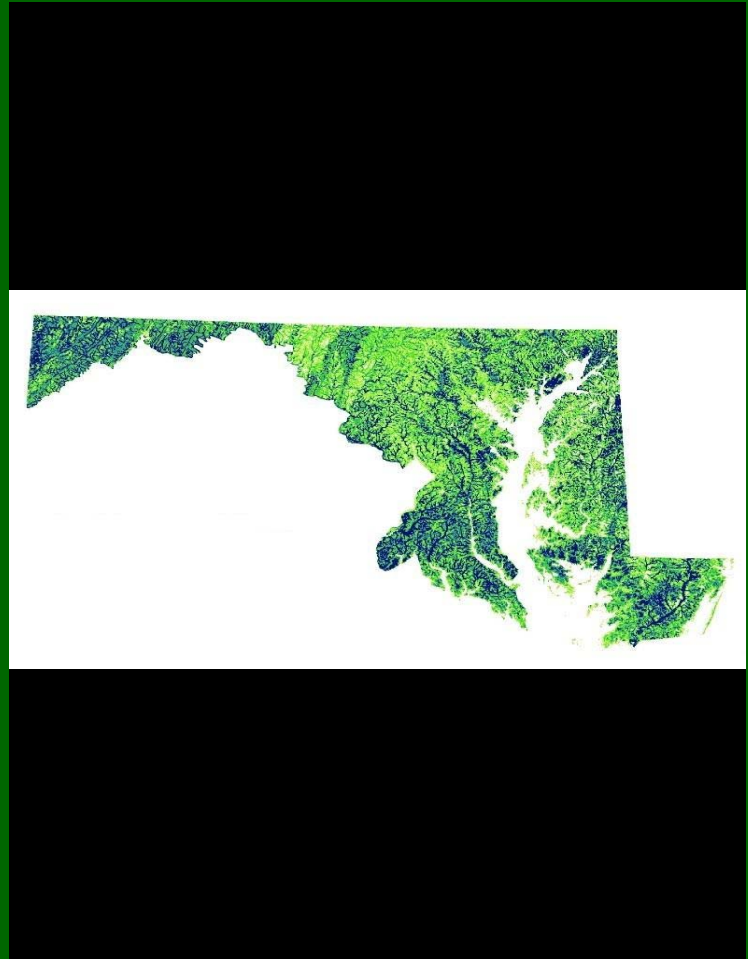
Drives State Wildlife Grant Efforts

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)

GCN Species:

34 Mammals

141 birds

42 Reptiles and Amphibians

40 Fishes

245 Invertebrates

Key Wildlife Habitats

County
Natural Areas
Atlas

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DRAFTING NA SUMMARIES											
2	COUNTY	Tier 1 & 2 To Be Done	Drafted as of 6/16/14	% Drafted as of 6/16/14	Drafted as of 5/19/14	% Drafted as of 5/19/14	Drafted as of 4/18/14	% Drafted as of 4/18/14	Drafted as of 3/24/14	% Drafted as of 3/24/14	Drafted as of 2/24/14	% Drafted as of 2/24/14
3	Allegany	71	71	100	71	100	60	87	60	85	60	85
4	Anne Arundel	24	20	83	20	83	20	83	20	83	20	83
5	Baltimore	31	21	68	21	68	21	68	7	23	6	19
6	Calvert	19	15	79	15	79	15	79	15	79	15	79
7	Caroline	19	19	100	19	100	19	100	19	100	19	100
8	Carroll	16	3	19	3	19	2	13	0	0	0	0
9	Cecil	59	48	81	48	81	48	81	48	81	31	53
10	Charles	19	17	89	17	89	17	89	17	89	17	89
11	Dorchester	29	25	86	25	86	25	86	25	86	25	86
12	Frederick	28	19	68	16	57	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Garrett	91	88	97	87	96	87	96	87	96	87	96
14	Harford	40	37	93	37	93	37	93	37	93	37	93
15	Howard	14	13	93	13	93	13	93	0	0	0	0
16	Kent	22	19	86	19	86	19	86	19	86	19	86
17	Montgomery	17	13	76	13	76	13	76	5	29	5	29
18	Prince Georges	25	20	80	20	80	20	80	20	80	20	80
19	Queen Annes	19	16	84	16	84	16	84	12	63	12	63
20	Saint Marys	11	9	82	9	82	9	82	9	82	9	82
21	Somerset	25	17	68	17	68	17	68	17	68	17	68
22	Talbot	12	11	92	11	92	11	92	11	92	11	92
23	Washington	41	2	5	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
24	Wicomico	42	42	100	42	100	42	100	42	100	42	100
25	Worcester	82	71	87	71	87	71	87	71	87	71	87
26												
27	Yr 1 Subtotal	424	387	91	386	91	375	89	371	88	354	83
28	Yr 2 Subtotal	291	229	79	225	77	208	71	171	59	170	58
29												
30	TOTAL	715	616	86	611	85	583	82	542	76	524	73

Special Feature:



Long,
Slimy

Animals!

(Species restoration/reintroduction)



Siren!



Hellbender!









02/23/2012 11:40



EEL!



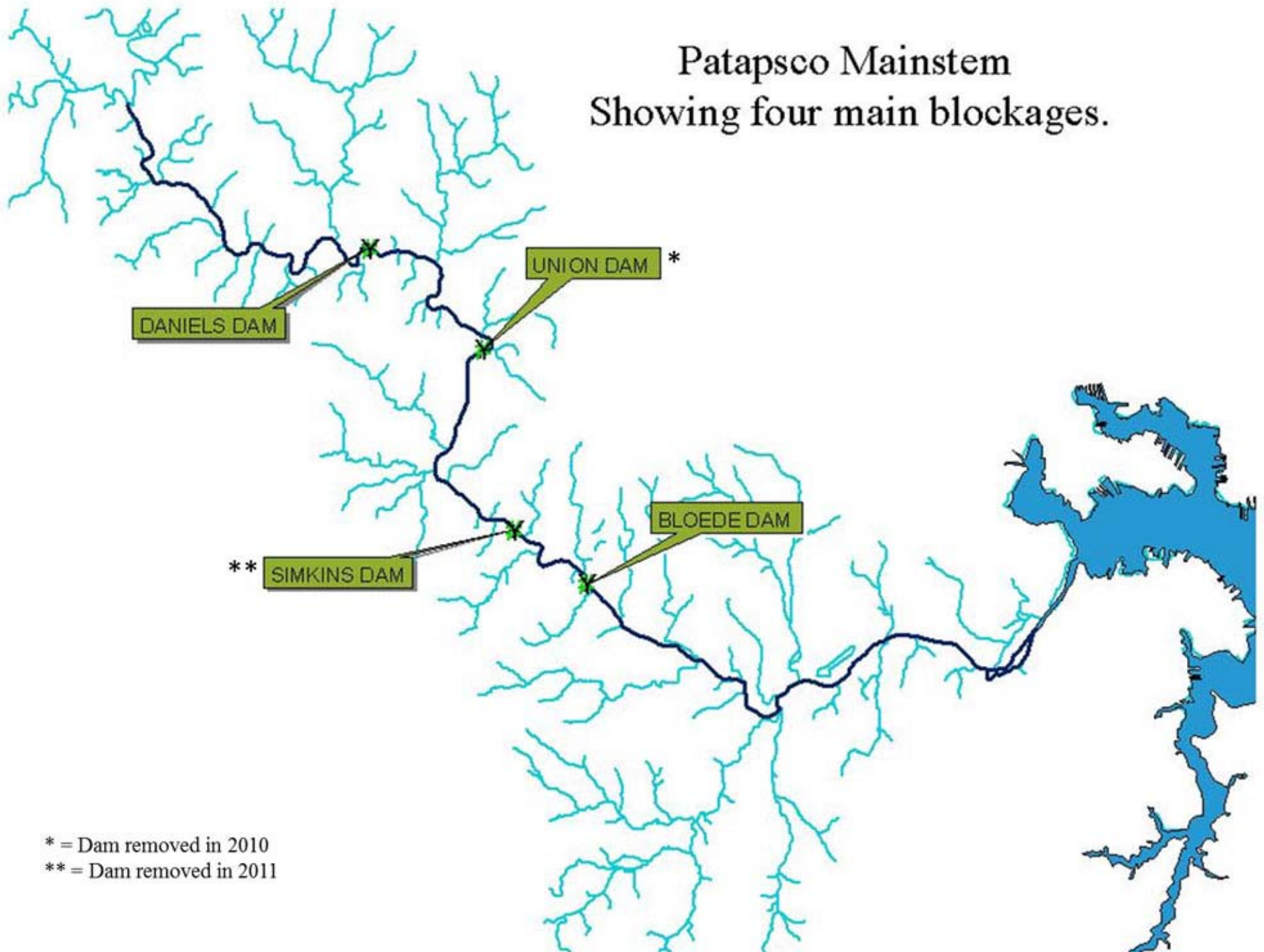


Elliptio complanata

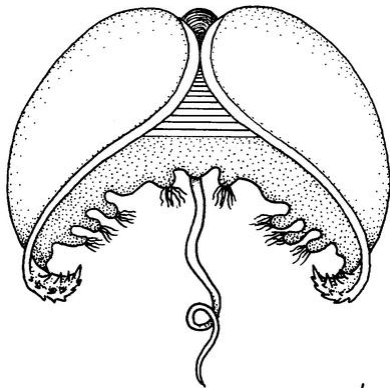
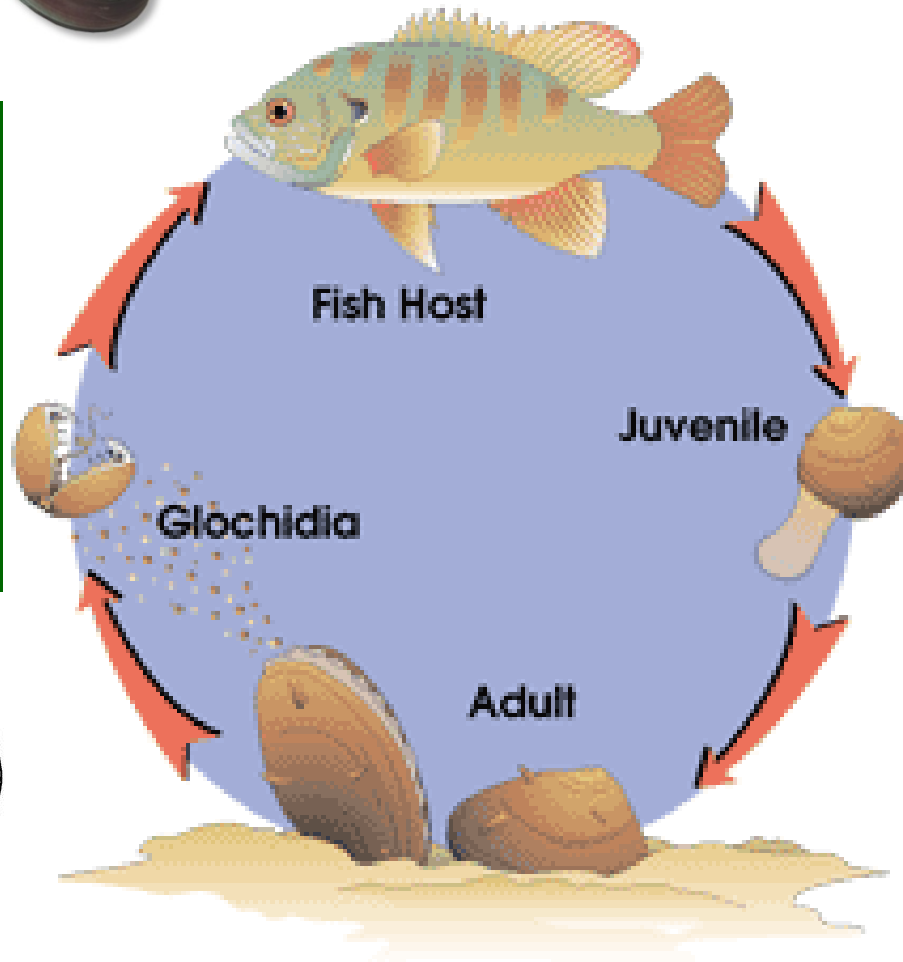




Patapsco Mainstem Showing four main blockages.



* = Dam removed in 2010
** = Dam removed in 2011



9y/99

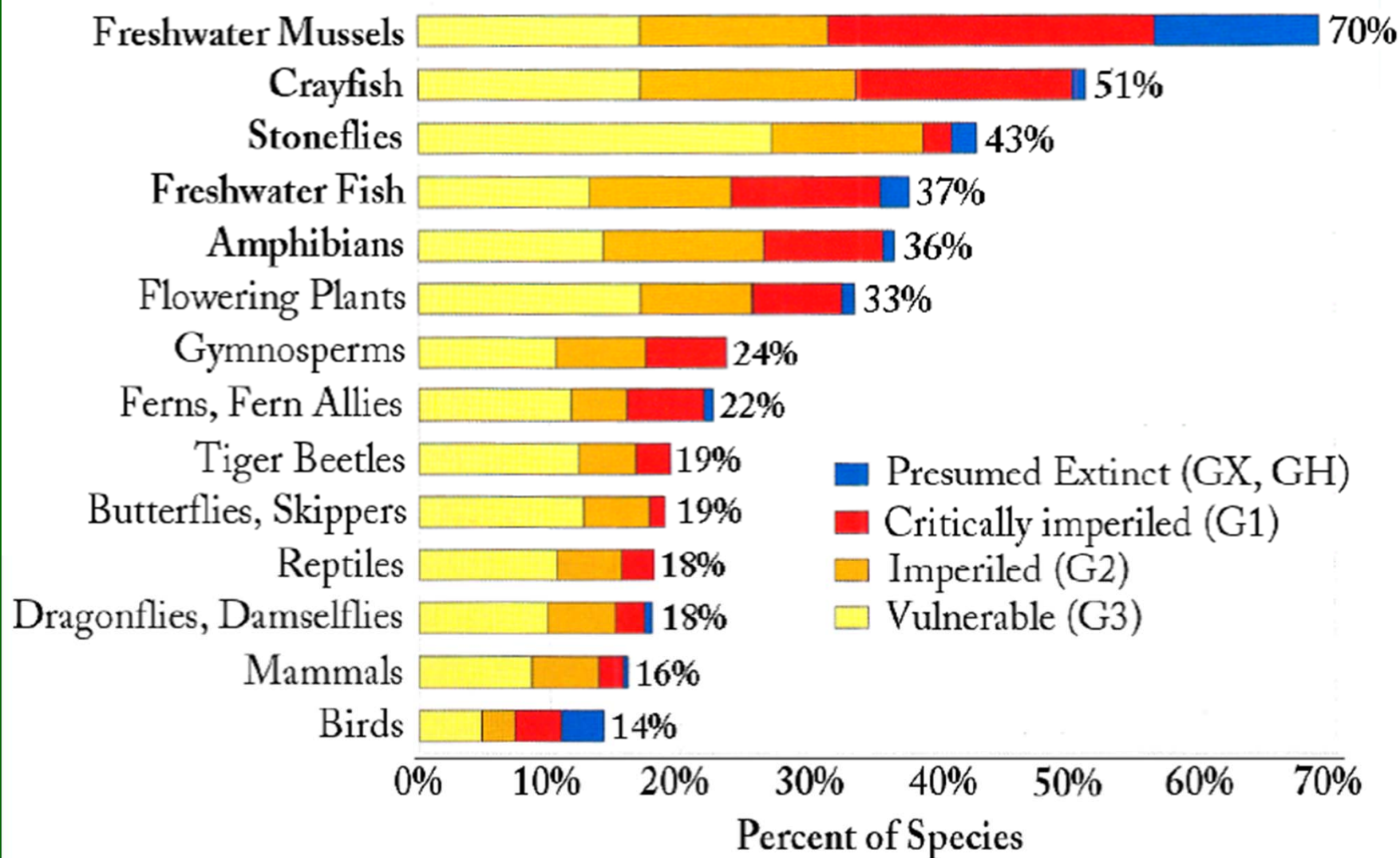
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Dwarf Wedge Mussel

Endangered Species in North America



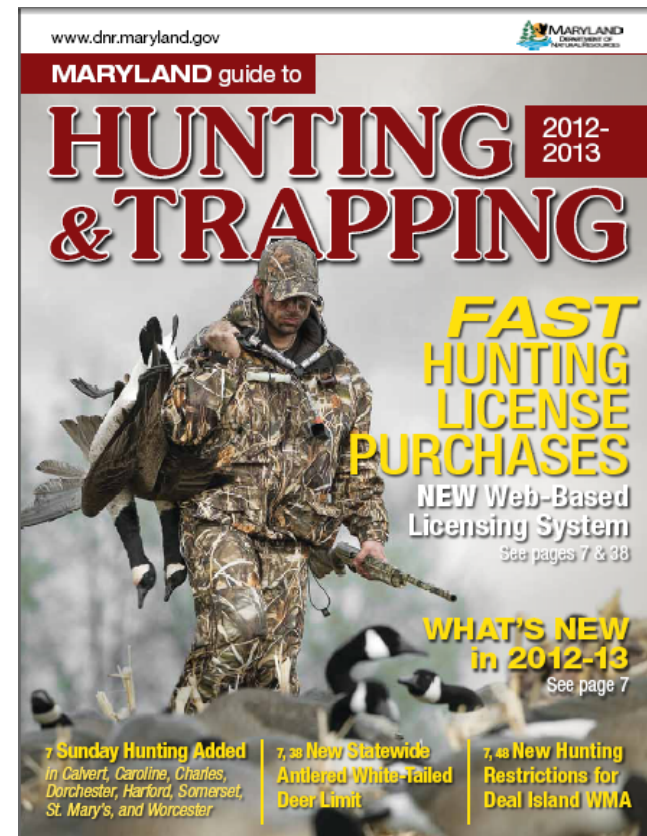
Stein et al. 2000





Update to Wildlife Advisory Commission June 18, 2014

- Budget, Procurement, Inventory
- Federal Aid Coordination
- Personnel
- Wildlife Permits
- Regulations
- Legislation
- Hunting Guide





MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WHS Administration Program

Program Staff

- Glenn Therres, Associate Director
- Iris Puffenberger, Procurement & Inventory
- Ryan Haley, Wildlife Permits
- Connie Roberts, Wildlife Permits
- Wade Henry, Graphic Arts & Hunting Guide
- vacant position, Admin Specialist

Wildlife Permits

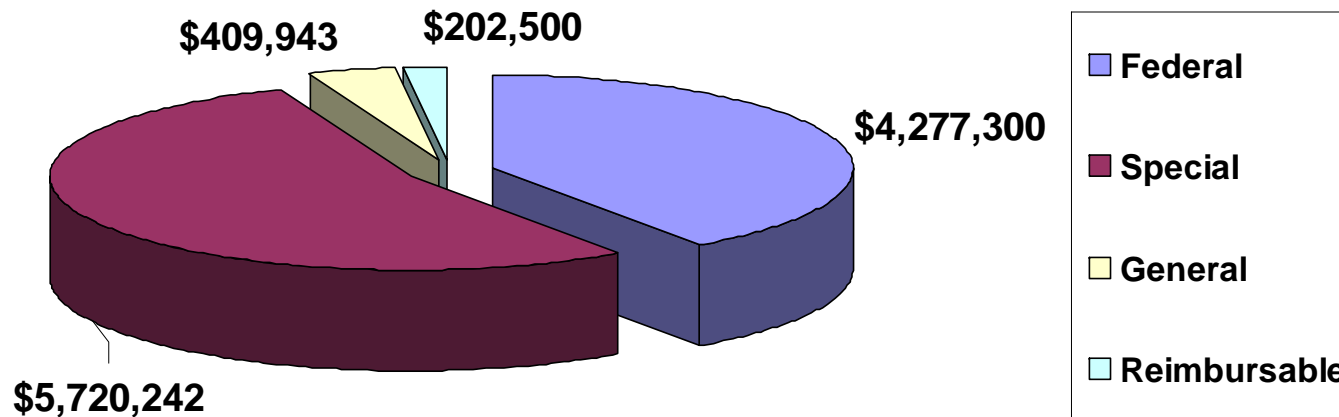
Ryan Haley

- Shoreline Blind Sites
- Endangered Species
- Scientific Collecting
- Regulated Shooting Areas
- USFWS special permits

Connie Roberts

- Falconry
- Game Husbandry
- Captive Reptile and Amphibian
- Wildlife Rehabilitation
- Taxidermy
- Wildlife Damage Control Cooperator
- Waterfowl Guide and Outfitter

FY14 Budget = \$10,609,985





MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WHS Administration Program

State Special Funds = FY14

Wildlife Management & Protection = \$4,773,000

Chesapeake Bay & Endangered Species = \$480,000

Migratory Game Bird Fund = \$370,000

Upland Wildlife Habitat Fund = \$9,000

Deer Stamp Account = \$88,000



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WHS Administration Program

Federal Aid – FY14

Pittman-Robertson = \$3,368,000

State Wildlife Grants = \$619,000

Section 6 Endangered Species = \$44,000

Landowner Incentive Program = \$196,000

N. American Wetland Cons. Fund = \$50,000



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WHS Administration Program

FY15 Budget Request = \$10,599,000

General = \$375,000

Special = \$5,855,500

Federal = \$4,168,500

Reimbursable = \$200,000

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WHS Administration Program



Funding

Staff
Support



Serve
the
Public

SB231 and HB262: Bow Hunting – Possession of Handguns for Protection**Proposed Regulation:****08.03.04.05 Devices for Hunting Deer and Black Bear**

A. Bow.

(1) — (2) (text unchanged)

(3) An individual may not:

(a) Possess firearms while hunting with a bow during the deer bow hunting season[;], *except in Deer Management Region A, a person 21 years old or older may carry a handgun for personal protection while hunting deer in the bow season if that handgun:*

(i) Has a barrel length of less than six inches;

(ii) Does not have a telescopic sight or electronic aiming device attached; and

(iii) Is not used to kill wildlife wounded by a vertical bow or crossbow.

(b) — (d) (text unchanged)

(4) — (6) (text unchanged)

B. — F. (text unchanged)

SB472 and HB406: Allegany County, Garrett County, and Washington County - Sunday Hunting

SB473 and HB432: Frederick County – Deer Hunting - Sundays

Proposed Regulation:

08.03.03.01 Bag Limits and Possession Limits

A. — C. (text unchanged)

D. Hunting on Sunday.

(1) Except as provided in §D(2) of this regulation, an individual may not hunt any game bird or game mammal on Sunday.

(2) An individual may hunt on Sunday, if the individual is:

(a) — (c) (text unchanged)

(d) Hunting white-tailed or sika deer on private property as described in Regulations .07 and .08 of this chapter:

(i) (text unchanged)

(ii) On the last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in November during the deer bow season and the first Sunday of the deer firearms season in [Allegany,] Dorchester, [Frederick, Garrett,] Talbot, [Washington,] and Wicomico counties;

(iii) — (iv) (text unchanged)

(v) 16 years of age or younger when participating in the Junior Deer Hunt on private lands only in Anne Arundel, [Allegany,] Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, [Frederick, Garrett,] Harford, Kent, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot, [Washington,] Wicomico, and Worcester counties;

[**e**] Hunting wild turkeys as described in Regulation .03 of this chapter on the last Sunday in April and the first Sunday in May, except Easter Sunday, of the spring season in Allegany and Garrett counties;]

*(e) 16 years of age or younger when participating in the Junior Deer Hunt on private property or a **designated** Wildlife Management Area listed in §G of this regulation in Allegany, Frederick, Garrett and Washington counties;*

(f) Hunting deer on private property or a designated Wildlife Management Area listed in §G of this regulation on the last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in November during the deer bow season, all Sundays in December and January during the deer muzzleloader season, and all Sundays in the deer firearms season in Allegany, Frederick, Garrett and Washington counties;

[(f)] (g) Hunting wild turkeys as described in Regulation .03 of this chapter on private property on any Sunday during the Junior Hunt and spring season in Calvert, Caroline, Charles, and St. Mary's counties; [and]

[(g)] (h) Hunting wild turkeys as described in Regulation .03 of this chapter on public or private land on any Sunday during the Junior Hunt and spring season in Dorchester County[.]; and

(i) Hunting any game mammal or any game bird, except deer, migratory game birds or wetland game birds, in Allegany, Garrett and Washington counties on private property or a designated Wildlife Management Area listed in §G of this regulation during the open seasons for those game animals.

E. — F. (text unchanged)

G. The Wildlife Management Areas designated for Sunday hunting in accordance with §D(2)(e) and (h) of this Regulation are as follows:

(1) Billmeyer-Belle Grove WMA;

(2) Cunningham Swamp WMA;

(3) Dan's Mountain WMA;

(4) Indian Springs WMA;

(5) Mount Nebo WMA;

(6) Prather's Neck WMA;

(7) Sideling Hill WMA; and

(8) Warrior Mountain WMA.

Md. NATURAL RESOURCES Code Ann. § 10-408.2

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*** Statutes current through emergency legislation effective May 15, 2014, and legislation effective June 1, 2014 ***

*** 2014 General Assembly Regular Session ***

NATURAL RESOURCES
TITLE 10. WILDLIFE
SUBTITLE 4. HUNTING RESTRICTIONS -- IN GENERAL

Md. NATURAL RESOURCES Code Ann. § 10-408.2 (2014)

THIS SECTION HAS MORE THAN ONE DOCUMENT WITH VARYING EFFECTIVE DATES.

§ 10-408.2. Training rifle shooters for hunting to control deer population [Section subject to abrogation]

(a) Programs established. -- The Department shall establish a program in Charles County and St. Mary's County to train rifle shooters to hunt deer for the purpose of controlling the deer population in Charles County and St. Mary's County.

(b) Selection of participants. -- When selecting applicants for participation in the program under subsection (a) of this section, the Department shall give priority to an applicant who holds a Deer Management Permit issued by the Department.

(c) Termination of program. -- The Department may terminate the program to protect public safety and welfare.

(d) Reports. -- On or before December 1, 2016, the Department shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the implementation of the program.

(e) Regulations. -- The Department shall adopt regulations to implement this section, including a system for staggering participation in the program.

HISTORY: 2014, ch. 574.

Md. NATURAL RESOURCES Code Ann. § 10-415

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*** 2014 General Assembly Regular Session ***

NATURAL RESOURCES
TITLE 10. WILDLIFE
SUBTITLE 4. HUNTING RESTRICTIONS -- IN GENERAL

Md. NATURAL RESOURCES Code Ann. § 10-415 (2014)

THIS SECTION HAS MORE THAN ONE DOCUMENT WITH VARYING EFFECTIVE DATES.

§ 10-415. Deer hunting -- In general [Amendment subject to abrogation]

(a) Deer seasons; additional hunting. --

(1) There are the following 3 seasons to hunt deer:

(i) Deer bow hunting season;

(ii) Deer firearms season; and

(iii) Deer muzzle loader season.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person may hunt deer with a shotgun approved by the Department from January through March in Charles County and St. Mary's County.

(b) Duty to report deer kill to checking station. --

(1) Every person killing a deer shall report with the deer to a designated checking station within 24 hours after killing the deer.

(2) Notwithstanding any requirement of law, if the designated checking stations are closed in the county where a person kills a deer, a Natural Resources police officer shall authorize the person to report with the deer to a designated checking station in another county.

(c) Bonus deer stamp. --

(1) A person with a hunting license also may purchase bonus deer stamps from the Department.

(2) A bonus deer stamp allows a person with the hunting license to hunt 1 deer for each stamp purchased in any of the following hunting seasons for deer in the State:

(i) Deer bow hunting season;

(ii) Deer muzzle loader season; and

(iii) Deer firearms season.

(3) An individual who purchases a bonus antlered deer stamp but does not use it during a particular season may use that stamp during any subsequent season in that hunting license year.

(4) The fee for each bonus antlered deer stamp issued in accordance with this subsection shall be \$ 10.00 for residents and \$ 25.00 for nonresidents.

(5) The Department may establish by regulation the type and number of deer stamps issued under this subsection if necessary to control the deer harvest in various areas of the State.

(d) Deer Management Permit -- Hunting out of season. --

(1) In this subsection, "Deer Management Permit" means a permit issued by the Department authorizing the holder to hunt deer outside of deer hunting season for the purpose of preventing damage to crops.

(2) In Charles County and St. Mary's County, an individual who holds a Deer Management Permit may:

(i) Use a shotgun approved by the Department to hunt deer throughout deer season in the locations and under the conditions set forth in the permit; and

(ii) Hunt deer on State agricultural crop land located in Charles County and St. Mary's County to the same extent as the person is authorized under the Deer Management Permit to hunt on private land in Charles County and St. Mary's County.

(3) The Department may not require an individual who holds a Deer Management Permit in Charles County or St. Mary's County to apply for renewal more than once every 3 years.

(4) The Department may not authorize an individual in Charles County or St. Mary's County to hunt deer on Sundays under a Deer Management Permit.

(5) To protect public safety and welfare, the Department may:

(i) Terminate the deer hunting season established under subsection (a)(2) of this section; and

(ii) Restrict the lands on which an individual may hunt deer.

(e) Checking and weighing deer at station before removing head or hide; prima facie evidence of violation. -- A person may not remove the head or hide or any part from any deer, except internal organs, or cut the meat into parts until the deer has been checked by the Department or 1 of the Department's agents at a designated checking station. Removal of the head or the hide of any deer not checked at a designated checking station shall be prima facie evidence that the deer was hunted illegally. Each separate deer or part of any deer taken illegally or found in possession shall be considered a separate offense.

(f) Accidental killing by motor vehicle. -- Any person who, while operating a motor vehicle on any highway in the State, accidentally strikes and kills a deer on the highway may have the deer if the person produces visible evidence of collision with the deer to any Natural Resources police officer, State law enforcement officer, or other designated representative of the Secretary. The provisions of this subsection shall be applicable to deer killed by collision with a motor vehicle at any time whether during the open season for killing deer or during the legally closed season.

(g) Hunting deer in waters of the State prohibited. -- A person may not hunt a deer while the

deer is taking refuge in or swimming through the waters of the State.

(h) Antlered and antlerless requirements. -- Abrogated.

(i) Variance from established season. -- Upon written request from a federal facility for a variance from the established deer hunting season, the Department shall review the request and may:

- (1) Approve the request;
- (2) Deny the request; or
- (3) Approve the request with conditions.

HISTORY: An. Code 1957, art. 66C, §§ 132A, 196, 197; 1973, 1st Sp. Sess., ch. 4, § 1; 1974, chs. 82, 139; 1976, ch. 301, § 3; 1978, ch. 97; 1981, ch. 403; 1985, ch. 589; 1988, ch. 724, § 1; 1989, chs. 512, 663, 686; 1990, ch. 6, § 2; ch. 547; 1991, ch. 128; 1998, ch. 763; 1999, ch. 641; 2000, ch. 122; 2001, ch. 516, § 2; 2002, ch. 177, § 2; 2003, chs. 20, 170; 2014, ch. 574.