

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Maryland Wildlife Advisory Commission

**Will Meet at 10:30 AM
On Wed., August 19, 2026
Department of Natural Resources
Google Meet ([Click for meeting link](#))**

Meeting Agenda:

Approval for August 19, 2026, Meeting Agenda

Approval of June 17, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee Update (Associate Director Gwenda Brewer)

Natural Heritage Program Update (Associate Director Gwenda Brewer)

Recruitment, Retention, Reactivation (R3) Program Update (Associate Director Chris Markin)

Maryland Farm Bureau Update

Natural Resources Police Update (Lieutenant Brian Miller or Lieutenant Bill Davis)

Old Business:

- **Non-Lead Hunting Ammunition – (Group Discussion)**
- **Conservationist and Farmer of the Year Nominations**

New Business:

Public Comment:

Adjourn

NOTE: Free Parking will be available on the Navy Stadium Parking Lot, which is the third entrance on right off of Taylor Avenue.

**The Proposed Schedule for the 2026 Meetings
Of the Wildlife Advisory Commission is as follows:**

January 21st	Google Meet
February 18th	Google Meet
March 18th	In-Person Meeting at Tawes State Office Building
April 15th	Google Meet
May 20th	No Meeting
June 17th	Google Meet
July 15th	No Meeting
August 19th	Google Meet
September 15th?	Field Trip (Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge)
October 21st	Google Meet
November 18th	In-Person Meeting at Tawes State Office Building
December 16th	No Meeting

***PLEASE NOTE THAT MEETING DATES ARE HELD
ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH***

Note: Unless notified otherwise, all meetings will be held via Google Meet. When meeting in person, they will be held in the C-4 Conference Room of the Department of Natural Resources—Tawes State Office Building beginning at 10:30 a.m. Parking is available at the Navy Stadium Parking Lot.

NOTE: Free Parking will be available on the Navy Stadium Parking Lot, which is the third entrance on right off of Taylor Avenue.

THE MARYLAND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

AUGUST 19, 2026

Chair Wagner called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. The meeting was held in person and by teleconference. Chair Wagner requested a roll call of individuals participating by teleconference. Google Meet displayed callers anonymously; not every participant could be identified.

Approval of August 19, 2026, Meeting Agenda

- Chair Wagner reiterated that Commissioner Rasche, as a member of the Maryland Farm Bureau, will continue to provide Maryland Farm Bureau updates because Mr. Hough is unable to attend many meetings. Therefore, the Maryland Farm Bureau Update does not need to remain a separate agenda item.
- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the agenda for the August 19, 2026, Wildlife Advisory Commission meeting.
 2. Vice Chair Schroyer seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval of June 17, 2026, Meeting Minutes

- Commissioner Kullberg asked why the Reptile and Amphibian Regulatory Concepts item had been removed from the agenda.
 1. Director Stonesifer clarified that the Reptile and Amphibian Regulatory Concepts are undergoing internal review and will return to the agenda when they are ready for Commission input.
 2. The item was removed because there were no updates while staff continued the internal review process.
- Motion:
 1. Vice Chair Schroyer moved to approve the June 17, 2026, meeting minutes.
 2. Commissioner Parks seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee Status – Science Program Manager Gwenda Brewer

- Science Program Manager Gwenda “Gwen” Brewer noted that the Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee has been inactive for several years due to a lack of a clear role.
- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Parks moved to remove the Wildlife Diversity Advisory Committee Update from the annual WAC meeting agenda until the Committee reconvenes and has information to report to the Commission.
 2. Vice Chair Schroyer seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Natural Heritage Program Update – Science Program Manager Gwenda Brewer

- Science Program Manager Brewer presented an update on the Natural Heritage Program (NHP), focusing on rare species and plant communities. [ATTACHMENT A]
- The NHP has 21 permanent staff members, as well as seasonal and contractual employees.
- The NHP monitors, manages, and restores rare species and unique habitats.
- The NHP comprises four programs: Science, Habitat Conservation, Conservation Technology, and Outreach and Education.
- NHP funding sources include State Wildlife Grants funded through annual congressional appropriations; wildlife restoration funds supporting game and nongame birds and mammals, such as bats; and other federal grants, including Environmental Protection Agency funding administered through the Maryland Department of the Environment, National Park Service funding, and a White-

Nose Syndrome grant for bat conservation. Additional support comes from the Marilyn Mause Bequest Endowment, established by a former WHS employee for outreach and education; the Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Fund tax checkoff; and volunteer time and expertise. Approximately half of the tax checkoff proceeds support the Chesapeake Bay Trust, while the other half supports WHS and helps provide the nonfederal match required for certain federal funds. Volunteer contributions may also count toward federal matching requirements, depending on the project.

- The 2025-2035 State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) was recently approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The SWAP will guide efforts to conserve species of greatest conservation need and their habitats. Future initiatives include making the plan web-enabled and working with partners to define specific, measurable outcomes. The SWAP is the State's 10-year plan, not solely a DNR plan.
- Habitat restoration activities include surveys of bats, flowers/plants, specialized serpentine habitats, barking treefrogs, and common terns. Other projects include restoring rare plants such as Plukenet's flatsedge, improving habitat for the rusty patched bumble bee, and augmenting mussel populations in Western Maryland in partnership with the Maryland Biological Stream Survey.
 1. Staff have resumed the blackbanded sunfish project with the Maryland Biological Stream Survey and Fishing and Boating Services. The project involves raising fish for release to augment populations in areas where the species has been documented. Staff are also considering augmenting eastern hellbender populations as Western Maryland streams recover from acid mine drainage.
 2. Staff are working with partners in West Virginia to explore the potential reintroduction of juvenile eastern hellbenders into stream systems where populations have declined significantly.
 3. Bagging wavy-leaf basketgrass was another restoration activity, such as the work shown at Parker's Creek Wildlife Management Area in Southern Maryland. Staff used several methods to control invasive species that threaten natural communities. Although this work can be intensive, it was necessary as invasive plants continue to spread. Some restoration work involves prescribed fire, such as work done at Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area near Baltimore. Restoration may require removing woody vegetation, preparing sites for prescribed burns, or removing plants that shade out native species.
 4. Other habitat restoration projects involve nesting islands. The presentation highlighted efforts to address the loss of colonial waterbird nesting habitat at West Reedy Island and Reedy Island by raising an island's elevation.
 - a. The Common Tern Raft is a different kind of project that addresses habitat loss. It was developed because disappearing islands had left the birds with few places to nest. Before the raft was installed, the number of common terns nesting in the Coastal Bays had fallen to nearly zero. The 48-by-48-foot raft supported 376 nests this year and has solar-powered cameras that allow staff to monitor activity. Through a partnership with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, staff members monitor the nests. Common tern numbers have increased each year since the raft was installed, but the structure has reached capacity and is unlikely to accommodate many additional nests.
 - b. The raft is constructed in sections and removed each year; therefore, it is not a long-term solution.
 - c. Staff have been working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to restore islands that have disappeared, which would eliminate the need to transport and reinstall the raft each year. With the raft and the restoration of Reedy Island, nesting common terns have been able to find enough habitat in Maryland's Coastal Bays to return to levels not seen since the early 2000s. These results demonstrate both the importance and the scarcity of this habitat and reinforce the need to continue restoration efforts.
- Outreach and education initiatives include the "HabiChat" newsletter, Project WILD teacher training, the Envirothon competition for high school students, educational trunks on topics such as bears and bats, Es Mi Parque, and the Maryland Master Naturalist training program.
- Questions and Answers:

1. Commissioner Bowman asked whether the State Wildlife Action Plan would be posted on the DNR website.
 - a. Staff are working to post the SWAP online with supporting text and separate appendices and chapters so users can navigate directly to the information they need. The goal is to make the SWAP more accessible online, as several other states have done.
2. Commissioner Herrera thanked the NHP for its work and asked how many people, on average, contribute through the tax checkoff and how much funding it generates.
 - a. Contributions are fairly stable from year to year and total approximately \$600,000 annually. The NHP receives about half of that amount, or approximately \$300,000 per year.
 - b. Staff acknowledged the need to diversify funding because the NHP cannot rely solely on federal support. State Wildlife Grant funding depends on annual congressional appropriations and could change, although it represents a significant portion of the NHP budget. States are therefore discussing other effective funding strategies. The Chesapeake Bay Trust works to increase participation in the tax checkoff, but contributions have remained relatively stable. A new checkoff was added last year, but it did not reduce contributions to the Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Fund. Although funding remains consistent, it has not grown substantially.
3. Chair Wagner noted that he participated in several SWAP meetings. He described the planning process as thorough and asked how progress would be tracked and how the Commission could help maintain focus on implementation.
 - a. Staff emphasized that they do not want the plan to sit unused. The SWAP contains extensive information, with some objectives defined more specifically than others.
 - b. As a next step, staff will reconvene partners to identify specific actions, timelines, responsible parties, and expected outcomes.
 - c. Once specific, measurable outcomes are established, staff will be able to track progress and demonstrate what actions were taken and how they were implemented.
 - d. The Natural Heritage Program is included on the annual WAC meeting agenda, and staff will provide a SWAP update at that time.
 - e. Chair Wagner said he looked forward to next year's SWAP update and learning what had been accomplished.
 - f. Staff would like to maintain momentum on the SWAP and continue engaging partner organizations.
 - g. Dr. Brewer indicated that she would be happy to provide a SWAP update in six months if the Commission wished.
 - h. Chair Wagner said he did not want to create additional work for Dr. Brewer but believed it was important for the Commission to remain focused on advancing the SWAP.

Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation (R3) Program Update – Associate Director Chris Markin

- Associate Director Chris Markin presented an update on the Outreach and Community Engagement Program (OCEP). [ATTACHMENT B]
- R3 Initiative Updates: Associate Director Markin outlined the "Train the Trainer" pilot program, designed to prepare DNR staff to conduct shooting sports workshops. He also highlighted the success of the annual Becoming an Outdoors-Woman event, which engaged approximately 100 participants. He noted upcoming mentored hunts at Patuxent Research Refuge and Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. The R3 team invited DNR employees who do not typically participate in R3 or WHS activities to become more comfortable with firearms and shooting sports, assist as instructors, or gain enough knowledge to support R3 events. Training would include classroom and hunter safety instruction, range time, and firearms familiarization. The goal is to expand the number of staff members who understand R3 and can assist with events, thereby strengthening R3 efforts.
- R3 Symposium and Hunter Education: Associate Director Markin invited the Commission to the R3 Symposium scheduled for September 29 in Ocean City. He also reported that, year to date, 75 hunter education classes had been conducted and 995 students had been certified. The program has expanded

to include advanced workshops in trapper and bowhunter education, with plans to introduce courses on waterfowl, game birds, and white-tailed deer.

- Youth Licensing Integration: Vice Chair Schroyer identified an issue affecting youth in his area who must travel to the LaVale office to obtain free hunting licenses after completing a hunter education course.
 1. Director Stonesifer said she would discuss integrating the process into the new system to allow digital access.
 2. After the meeting, Director Stonesifer learned that youth can already obtain a gratis hunting license without visiting a Licensing and Registration Service Center. Staff are working to incorporate this function into MD Outdoors to make the process even easier. The Youth Gratis Hunting License Application was previously updated to explain that applicants may scan and email it to any Regional Service Center or to the Licensing and Registration Service Customer Service address at lrscustomerservice.dnr1@maryland.gov.
- Commissioner Bowman commended the new MD Outdoors mobile app, noting that it is much improved.
- Questions and Answers:
 1. Chair Wagner asked how many range days had been conducted in connection with the 75 classes and how many would be offered in the fall. He noted that, in the past, participants could complete the classroom portion but could not schedule the range day required to finish the hunter education course and qualify for a hunting license.
 - a. Staff did not have separate range-day data available but clarified that the 75 classes included both classroom instruction and the range-day component.
 2. Chair Wagner asked whether the 995 students had completed both the classroom and range-day components.
 - a. Staff confirmed that those individuals had received hunter education certification cards and were fully certified to hunt.
 - b. On average, there are five hunter education events, including classroom courses and advanced training, currently being offered each day throughout the State and will continue for the next few months.
 3. Chair Wagner asked whether participants could be required to obtain a DNRid when registering for a course or whether one is created automatically. He emphasized the importance of encouraging the 995 newly certified individuals to hunt and purchase licenses.
 - a. WHS plans to require a DNRid for class registration, possibly beginning next year, to improve tracking.
 - b. Staff are also exploring how to integrate replacement certification cards into MD Outdoors.
 - c. The goal is to use MD Outdoors as a one-stop resource for customers.

Maryland Farm Bureau Update (MFB) – Commissioner Bill Rasche

- Commissioner Rasche informed the Commission that Tyler Hough was transitioning to a new position within the MFB.
- Mr. Hough has been collaborating with Deer Project Leader Kevin Lamp on a Deer Cooperator Program webinar.
- The MFB has begun developing resolutions for its upcoming convention.

Natural Resources Police Update (NRP) – No Update

- Director Stonesifer informed the Commission that NRP representatives were unable to attend the meeting and that Lieutenant Davis would provide a thorough update at the next meeting.

Old Business

- Non-Lead Ammunition Discussion – There was nothing new to report.
- Chair Wagner asked whether the MFB could provide Farmer of the Year nominations to Ms. Spencer.
 1. Commissioner Rasche reported that he had spoken with the MFB Wildlife Committee about

Farmer of the Year nominations and learned that the award criteria extend beyond standard agricultural work. He indicated that the MFB might not have any nominees for 2025.

2. Ms. Spencer clarified that Conservationist of the Year and Farmer of the Year are separate awards. The Commission is seeking Farmer of the Year nominations from the MFB. Staff members or commissioners may nominate an individual or group for Conservationist of the Year.
3. Chair Wagner emphasized the importance of collaborating with the Farm Bureau to recognize innovative members of the agricultural community.

New Business

- Turkey Study Presentation: Vice Chair Schroyer asked whether the turkey study was complete.
 1. Director Stonesifer confirmed that it was.
 2. Vice Chair Schroyer requested that Wild Turkey Biologist Bob Long present the results at a future meeting.
 3. Director Stonesifer stated that staff would plan a turkey study presentation for the October or November meeting.

Public Comment

- August 14, 2026, Constituent Letter [ATTACHMENT C] Discussion
 1. Chair Wagner introduced a formal public comment letter received on August 14 and stated that the Commission should respond. He noted that the constituent raised some valid points, but the letter's accusatory tone could hinder a productive discussion.
 2. Commissioner Bowman said he understood why some people might feel that way. He recalled that, during his work at Green Ridge State Forest, student spotlight surveys conducted before and after the harvest produced population trends similar to those reflected in reported harvest data. He questioned whether returning to check stations would improve accuracy, particularly when personnel are not trained biologists, and noted that nearly every state has moved away from check stations.
 3. Chair Wagner agreed that Maryland did not need to return to check stations. He observed that people intent on violating the law would do so regardless of the reporting method. Based on his experience, personnel at some check stations did not inspect harvested deer, and some hunters reported deer without bringing them to the station.
 4. Vice Chair Schroyer agreed that individuals intent on violating the law would do so regardless of the reporting method. He suggested that, if a compliance issue were identified, hunters might be required to complete their harvest records at the place of kill. An incomplete record discovered during an NRP inspection could then indicate noncompliance. He emphasized that this was only a possible approach and reiterated that he did not believe cheating was more prevalent now than in the past.
 5. Director Stonesifer noted that WHS receives similar letters periodically, particularly before or during deer hunting season. When Maryland transitioned to telecheck, there was no indication that compliance had become a problem. Creating a solution for an unsubstantiated issue would place an unnecessary burden on the many hunters who comply with the law. She said staff could prepare a response for the Commission's review and approval and suggested that Associate Director Brian Eyler draft it.
 6. Chair Wagner stated that, because the letter was addressed specifically to the WAC, the Commission should provide a professional, fact-based response addressing the concerns raised. He agreed that Associate Director Eyler should draft the response on the Commission's behalf and circulate it for review and approval.
 7. Commissioner Herrera noted that, although the meeting is open to the public, the website does not clearly explain how to obtain the meeting link or invitation, which may contribute to public frustration.
 8. Director Stonesifer acknowledged the concern and agreed that staff would improve transparency and make meeting access information easier to find.

9. Chair Wagner emphasized the importance of equal access to public meetings and requested improvements to simplify the process for joining them.
 10. Commissioner Kullberg suggested inviting the letter's author to a future meeting in the hope that an in-person discussion would be more constructive.
 11. Chair Wagner agreed and noted that the author, a former DNR employee who retired more than 25 years ago, might not be familiar with recent improvements.
 12. The Commission agreed to invite the author to the October 21, 2026, meeting, which will be held via Google Meet.
- Motion
 1. Commissioner Bowman moved to have Associate Director Brian Eyler draft a response on behalf of the Commission that would include an invitation to attend a meeting.
 2. Commissioner Rasche seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.
 - Members of the public may contact the Commission at wac.dnr@maryland.gov.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.
- The Wildlife Advisory Commission field trip is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, 2145 Key Wallace Drive, Cambridge, Maryland 21613-9536. A meet-and-greet will be held from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Attendance

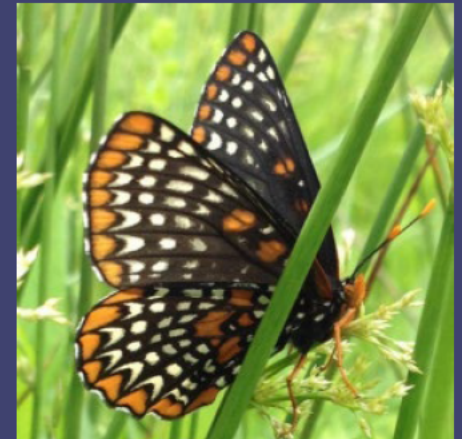
Members:	J. Bowman, D. Herrera, K. Kullberg, J. Parks, W. Rasche, K. Rossignuolo, J. Schroyer, M. Smith, and C. Wagner
Absent:	E. Cohen
Guest:	W. Fleming, K. Leager, and K. Thompson
Staff:	G. Brewer, J. Homyack, K. Fleming, B. Long, C. Markin, J. Moulis, P. Peditto, T. Spencer, K. Stonesifer, and J. Trudeau



DNR WILDLIFE AND HERITAGE SERVICE

Maryland Natural Heritage Program

WAC 2026 Briefing



WHAT IS A NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM?

- Focus on rare species and rare plant communities
- Members of a network of 60 programs located in the United States and Canada that contribute to a common database



WHAT WE DO:

Conserve and protect Maryland's other 21,000 plant and animal species, including 1,350 Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Monitor, manage, and restore rare species and unique habitats

Implement and enforce Maryland's endangered species and habitat protection laws

- we review over 2000 projects each year for potential impacts

Teach all generations of Marylanders about our magnificent wildlife

HOW WE DIVIDE UP THE WORK:

Science Program (7 permanent staff)

Habitat Conservation Program (6)

Conservation Technology Program (4)

Outreach and Education Program (4)

4 seasonal and 3 long-term contractual staff

PERSONNEL UPDATE:

Natural Community Ecologist/ Central
Region Biologist- Mark Hall

Southern Region Biologist- Jo Swift

Turtle Conservation Specialist- Brian
Durkin

Reclassifications requested

HOW OUR WORK IS FUNDED:

State Wildlife Grants

Wildlife Restoration and
Protection Funds

Other Federal Funds (Grants)

Marilyn Mause Bequest Endowment

Chesapeake Bay and Endangered
Species Tax Checkoff

Additional Match: volunteer time

WHAT GUIDES OUR WORK?

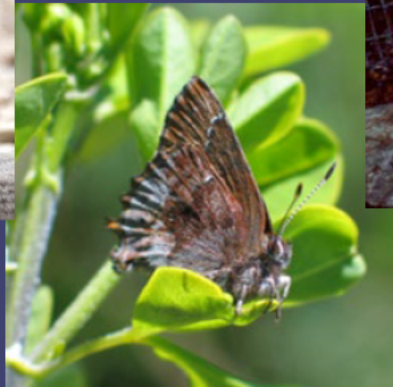
MARYLAND STATE WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN: APPROVED!



Maryland State Wildlife Action Plan 2025-2035



SURVEYS, MONITORING, RESEARCH



SPECIES RESTORATION



Plukenet's Flatsedge:
Rediscovered in 2019 after an
absence of 80 years



Rusty Patch Bumble
Bee: native plants for
nectar resources

SPECIES RESTORATION: AQUATIC



Mussel augmentation
with Maryland
Biological Stream
Survey



Black-banded Sunfish



Eastern Hellbender

HABITAT RESTORATION

Kill and Burn



HABITAT RESTORATION: NESTING ISLANDS

West Reedy Island

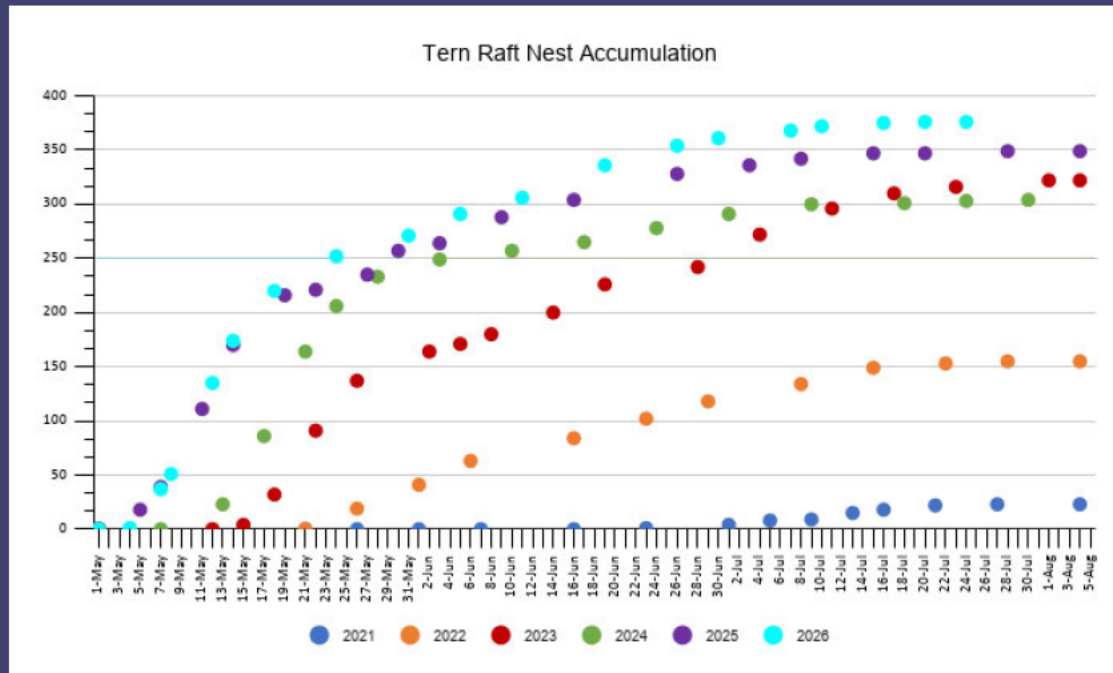


Reedy Island



84 nests
monitored
in 2026

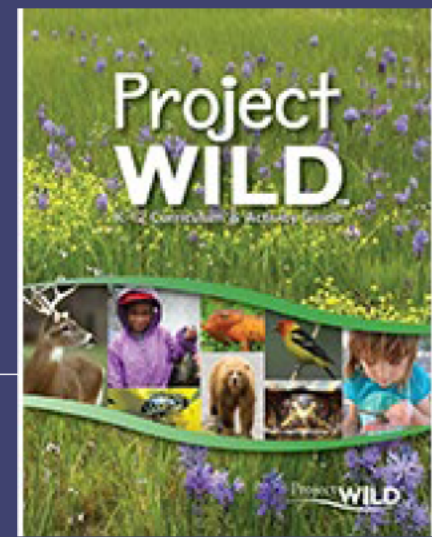
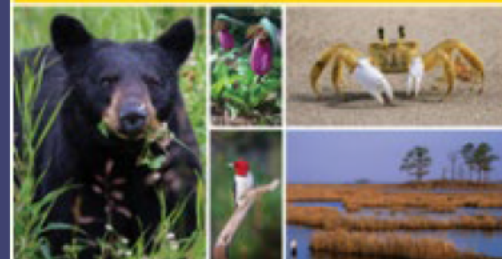
HABITAT RESTORATION: TERN RAFT



376 nests
monitored in
2026!

Back to the
number of
Common Terns
nesting in the
Coastal Bays in
the early 2000's

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION



Outreach and Community Engagement Program

ATTACHMENT B



- **Train the Trainer – Shooting Sports**
 - 3 Sessions – 5 DNR Staff
- **Becoming an Outdoors-Woman**
 - Weekend Workshop – approximately 100 participants and 50 staff/volunteers
- **Mentored Hunt Events**
 - 2 upcoming deer hunts – PRR and BWNR
- **Outdoor Recreation Summit – R3 Meeting**
 - September 29, 2026 – Ocean City
- **Hunter Education (01-01-26 - 08/17/26) :**
 - Classes: 75
 - Certified students: 995

Formal public comment-August 19 meeting- Western MD deer herd concerns

1 message

Sat, Jul 25, 2026 at 9:45 AM

To: wac.dnr@maryland.gov
Cc: customerservice@dnrmaryland.gpv

- ## FORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMISSION
- To: The Maryland Wildlife Advisory Commission & Wildlife and Heritage Service Leadership
- Regarding: Failure of Regional Data Modeling and the Severe Decline of the Western Maryland Deer Herd
- Submitted By: A Retired MD DNR Field Technician & Western Maryland Landowner
- To the Commissioners and Director:
- I am submitting this formal statement as a retired Maryland DNR Field Technician who spent my career working directly on the ground to manage and protect our state's natural resources. I live, hunt, and manage private land in Western Maryland. I am writing to you because the current administrative approach to managing the deer herd in Region A (Garrett and Allegany counties) is fundamentally broken, disconnected from reality, and actively destroying the mountain resource.
- As a former insider, I know exactly how the current system operates, and I am calling on the Commission to address three severe failures in current management:
- 1. The Total Failure of "Tele-Checking" and Digital Models
- Abandoning physical check stations under past administrations was a catastrophic mistake that traded hard, verifiable biological science for a lazy, easily manipulated digital honor system. Your current computer models completely miss the "invisible mortality gap." Because you no longer conduct mass, boots-on-the-ground surveys (such as physical spotlight counts or winter mortality field walks), you are completely blind to the true toll that Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and heavy localized die-offs are taking on private property. The herd is heavily depressed, yet your desk-biologists continue to look at statewide numbers to falsely claim the population is stable.
- 2. A Complete Disregard for Total Predator Pressure
- Your Game Mammal section leader, Brian Eyler, continues to release reports that blame mountain population drops entirely on weather and acorn crops. This is a severe administrative delusion. You have expert field biologists sitting right in your own ranks—like Harry Spiker—who know exactly what a booming black bear and coyote population does to spring fawn recruitment. Your own Archery Hunter Survey logs prove that Region A faces the highest predator-to-deer ratio in the entire state. A mountain deer cannot survive CWD prions in the soil, intense hunting pressure, and four apex predators (black bears, coyotes, bobcats, and foxes) hammering fawns all spring. It is mathematically impossible, and your refusal to listen to your own field experts is completely irresponsible.
- 3. The Deliberate Silencing of Western Maryland Voices
- Structuring your 2026 public meetings entirely via online Google Meet sessions or holding physical meetings all the way down in Annapolis is a cowardly bureaucratic shield. You are intentionally creating a travel and digital barrier because you do not want to look a frustrated Western Maryland hunter or local field technician in the eye. You are deliberately filtering out "bad news" to maintain an administrative echo chamber. By failing to host formal, face-to-face public meetings inside our western

counties, you have structurally canceled out the very citizens who live on the ground and care for this resource. Furthermore, your refusal to implement a strict "one-buck-and-done" rule for Region A—despite a massive grassroots push from local sportsmen—proves you care more about protecting license tag revenue than protecting a decimated mountain herd.

- Conclusion & Demands:

- Central Maryland hunters have stopped traveling west because your policies have allowed the mountain herd to collapse. Stop managing our mountain resources through a computer screen. I demand that this Commission require the Wildlife Division to:

* Mandate regular, face-to-face town halls and formal public meetings within Western Maryland so leadership is forced to hear directly from mountain landowners and hunters.

- and hunters.
- Implement a pilot **One-Buck Limit** for Region A to immediately halt the targeting of yearling bucks.
- Bring back **Mandatory Physical Check Kiosks** or freezer drops in CWD zones to capture true biological data.
- Stop drowning out Western Maryland complaints by averaging our data with suburban overpopulation zones.

The wildlife belongs to the citizens of Maryland, not the bureaucrats in Annapolis. It is time to stop guessing, stop playing popularity contests, and put field experience back at the center of your science.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]
[Redacted Name]
