

THE MARYLAND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES – MARCH 16, 2016

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

Housekeeping Announcements given by Director Paul Peditto

- Director Peditto announced newly appointed Allison Cordell as the DNR Legislative Director.
- Director Peditto also announced that Commissioner Fratz will not be attending the March 16th meeting. In addition, Commissioner Fratz indicated to Director Peditto that he has plans to step down from the Commission. A replacement will be required in the future.

Approval for the March 16, 2016 Meeting Agenda

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Gulbrandsen moved to approve the March 16th Wildlife Advisory Commission Meeting Agenda.
 2. Commissioner Michael seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval for Minutes from February 17, 2016 Meeting

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Weinberg moved to approve the February 17th meeting minutes as presented.
 2. Commissioner Schroyer seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

2016-2018 Hunting Regulation Proposals – Presentation given by Associate Director Peter Jayne

- The public comments were almost universally positive.
- Commissioner Michael and Commissioner Boyles Griffin expressed concerns about voting on all the proposals at once. Commissioner Michael and Commissioner Boyles Griffin agreed to identify the ones that they have concerns about as Associate Director Jayne presented the proposals. Chairman Compton accepted both Commissioner Michael and Commissioner Boyles Griffin's request.
- Associate Director Jayne outlined Regulation Proposals for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 Hunting Seasons in a Power Point Presentation. **[ATTACHMENT A]**
- Associate Director Jayne handed out a summary of the public comments for the Proposed Hunting and Trapping Regulation Changes for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. **[ATTACHMENT B]**
 1. Providing False Information Prohibited – Add language to the existing regulation (08.03.04.03) requiring the check-in of deer and turkey to clarify it is illegal to knowingly provide false information during the check-in process.
 - a. No comments from the Commission.
 2. Northern Bobwhite – Reduce the season length for bobwhites (quail) on lands owned or managed by DNR. The Season will end on December 15th.
 - a. Commissioner Boyles commented that since these proposals have been public knowledge, some people that are both animal protectionist and conservationist are in favor of this change but questioned why even have a season at all given the status of the quail population. DNR may want to go a step further and close the season.
 - b. Staff members do not think hunting pressure is the cause of the decline of the quail population. Staff members are concerned if we closed the season those landowners that put in all that time and money in managing quail would quit.
 3. Wild Turkey – Create a set distance (150 yards) that turkey hunters and turkeys must be from

an artificial feeding/bait source to remain legal when hunting during the fall turkey season only in Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties. Proposal will also remove reference to salt from the definition of baiting for this regulation. There are some concerns from some deer managers or landowners who raise cattle, that leaving mineral licks or salt licks out year-around it could be a lure for turkeys. Therefore, hunters would be at risk of getting a ticket. Biologists agree that salt is not an attractant to turkeys.

- a. Commissioner Michael indicated regulations that are “black and white” are easier to enforce and easier for the public to understand. Therefore, Commissioner Michael suggested that staff members consider going forward with this proposal.
 - b. Commissioner Boyles Griffin mentioned that maybe 150 yards is not enough distance. Associate Director Jayne responded that staff discussed different distances but since 150 yards is already codified and well-known for other purposes that it made sense to use that reference here.
 - c. Commissioner Weinberg made a follow-up comment related to Commissioner Michael’s suggestion about going to overall general prohibition...caution staff in the wording - the wording should be specific and clear.
4. Black Bear – Create a set distance (150 yards) that bear hunters and bears must be from an artificial feeding/bait source to remain legal when hunting in the bear hunting zone.
 - a. No comments from the Commission.
 5. Black Bear - Expand the bear hunting zone to include Washington and Frederick Counties.
 - a. Commissioner Boyles Griffin pointed out this is one of the proposals that she and her constituency are unable to support.
 6. Black Bear – Allow a subpermittee to hunt black bears regardless of whether the permittee is hunting.
 - a. Comments held for later.
 7. Deer – Modify the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) transport restrictions to allow whole carcasses from other state CWD-positive areas to be brought into the Maryland CWD Management Area (CWDMA) or to a CWD-approved processor or taxidermist.
 - a. Associate Director Jayne announced that Maryland received a few more CWD positive test results. Staff members are working with the hunters to gather the exact locations of the harvested deer. Deer Project Leader Brian Eyler pointed out that CWD is expanding – West Virginia found CWD in 2005 and Pennsylvania and Virginia also have CWD.
 - b. No comments from the Commission.
 8. Deer – Remove the prohibition on using electronic calls for deer.
 - a. Comments held for later.
 9. Deer – Remove the county restrictions for sika deer hunting.
 - a. No comments from the Commission
- Chairman Compton opened the floor for general discussion on the proposals. The Commission decided to vote on the following proposals separately:
 1. Black Bear-- Expand the bear hunting zone to include Washington and Frederick Counties;
 2. Black Bear----Allow a subpermittee to hunt black bears regardless of whether the permittee is hunting;
 3. Deer -- Remove the prohibition on using electronic calls for deer.
 - Motion
 1. Commissioner Michael moved to accept the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 hunting and trapping proposals except for: The Black Bear—Expand the bear hunting zone to include Washington and Frederick Counties; The Black Bear—Allow a subpermittee to hunt black bears regardless of whether the permittee is hunting; The Deer—Remove the prohibition on using electronic calls for deer.

2. Commissioner Schroyer seconded.
3. All in favor – Motion passed.
- Discussion on Black Bear – Expand the bear hunting zone to include Washington and Frederick Counties.
 1. Commissioner Boyles Griffin and her constituency were not in favor of the bear hunt in the beginning and certainly are not in favor of expanding the bear hunt to other counties. Commissioner Boyles Griffin pointed to the events in Montgomery County related to black bear activity. Commissioner Boyles Griffin indicated that there are individuals in other counties that want to see black bears.
 2. Chairman Compton allowed Game Mammal Project Section Leader Harry Spiker to respond.
 3. Game Mammal Project Section Leader Spiker pointed out that the black bear population is expanding. The four western counties are all occupied range for black bears; the definition of occupied means when sows are giving birth to cubs in those counties. In Montgomery County, staff members receive several sightings of black bears each year. There is no evidence that sows are giving birth to cubs in Montgomery County yet. The black bear population continues to grow in Allegany and Garrett Counties where there has been a black bear hunt for over 10 years. But as bear density increases the population expands at a quicker rate. Bear expansion seems to have a tipping point, when the density reaches that point, the bears move to other habitat. Maryland's habitat drives the black bear population. Hunting pressure does not displace sows from their home range. If pressured the sow would move to a different place within the sow's home range. At this time, the Department does not have a geographic containment goal for black bears. Staff measure black bear trend polls by using sightings, mortality, and scent station surveys.
- Motion
 1. Commissioner Michael moved to accept the proposal to expand the bear hunting zone to include Washington and Frederick Counties.
 2. Commissioner Weinberg seconded.
 3. Motion passed with 1-oppose and 5-support.
- Discussion on the Black Bear – Allow a subpermittee to hunt black bears regardless of whether the permittee is hunting.
 1. Commissioner Michael expressed that by allowing subpermittee to hunt without the permittee, the black bear hunt potential could be commercialized. There are people who would be willing to pay for the opportunity to participate in the black bear hunt.
 - a. The subpermittee's name is on the black bear permit and it is non-transferable so it would be tricky, but not illegal, to 'sell' the opportunity to be a sub-permittee.
 2. Commissioner Schroyer outlined the lottery in Maine where a hunter has to list his or her alternates on the application. In addition Commissioner Schroyer indicated that this proposal is a good proposal for the subpermittee when the permittee cannot participate in the bear hunt. If the black bear hunt becomes commercialized, staff should address it at the beginning of the process with the lottery application.
 3. Commissioner Michael suggested that since bear hunters are one of the most heavily surveyed of the hunters, we should adopt a survey to see if the black bear hunt is commercialized. If it is, staff needs to address the problem. Permittees are working hard to get their permits and permittees are working for their sport, so staff should monitor to see if the bear hunt is being commercialized and be responsive if there is a problem.
 4. Commissioner Weinberg asked out of the 500 permits, how many of the permits are being actively used?
 - a. The Department does not have hard numbers as to how many permittee holders are actually using their black bear permits. However, based on the responses that staff received from

the bear hunters, the number is high.

- b. One final point, it is illegal to guide on State lands. If there are hunters that are commercializing the black bear hunt, those hunters would have to be well connected in the Western Region because a lot of the lands that bear hunters hunt are public lands.
- Motion
 1. Commissioner Michael moved to accept the proposal to allow a subpermittee to hunt black bears regardless of whether the permittee is hunting provided that staff monitors the concern.
 2. Commissioner Weinberg seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.
 - Discussion on removing the prohibition on using electronic calls for deer.
 1. Commissioner Boyles Griffin outlined the feedback that she has been getting related to the principle about fair chase/fair game. Commissioner Boyles Griffin ended that this proposal is going down a slippery slope.
 2. Chairman Compton indicated ethics is a personal choice. Chairman Compton added that as technology progresses, it has the potential to taint the heritage of hunting and sometimes gives hunting a black eye. Chairman Compton also added how far do we slide down that slope before we get to the point that we cannot get back up.
 3. Commissioner Michael commented as an Advisory Commission, the members have to look at the impact of the environment.
 4. Director Peditto indicated that this is why the Commission is here to provide input to the Department. Director Peditto thanked the Commission for their well thought-out comments. Director Peditto expressed that the Department struggles with philosophical issues that do not have a likely ecological impact (such as scopes on muzzleloaders or electronic deer calls). It was also noted that these electronic calls are being sold in Maryland.
 5. Commissioner Gulbrandsen expressed that he appreciates the comments about the slippery slope and where we draw the line with technology. There are a lot of species a person can hunt with electronic calls and mechanical decoys. In addition, there are lots of examples of technology being incorporated into hunting, and it is probably because hunters tend to be gadget people. When the Commission decides to draw the line it should be on something that would result in unfair advantage and electronic calls do not appear to provide an unfair advantage. Commissioner Gulbrandsen would question why the Department would ban it if electronic calls do not provide unfair advantage regardless of the impact it may have on recruitment.
 6. Commissioner Gregor added that if the Department decides to make electronic calls legal, it does not mean a lot of hunters are going to go out and buy it. Commissioner Gregor indicated that she knows some hunters who will buy electronic calls and some who would never buy one.
 7. Discussion ensued among the Commission about drawing a line with technology and hunting heritage along with comments related to the government's role. Keep in mind, that there is no ecological rationale behind why it is illegal to use electronic calls for deer.
 - Motion
 1. Commissioner Michael moved for up and down vote to accept the proposal to allow electronic calls for deer hunting.
 2. Commissioner Gulbrandsen seconded.
 3. Chairman Compton called the question.
 4. The results were 3 in favor and 4 oppose.
 5. Motion failed and the Commission asked the Department to give strong consideration to withdrawing the regulation proposal for electronic deer calls.
 - Commissioner Michael mentioned his concept about encouraging the Department to have

uniformity related to hunting regulations especially Sunday hunting. Commissioner Michael summarized that he received the data related to Sunday hunting during the muzzleloader season. There was not a lot of participation from hunters during the Sunday hunting muzzleloader season. The data demonstrated lack of participation; therefore it is not necessary to have Sunday hunting during the muzzleloader season. Commissioner Michael expressed that he does not want to go through the backdoor to get uniformity with regards to hunting regulations and Sunday hunting.

Finalize Selections of 2016-2017 Waterfowl Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits – Presentation given by Waterfowl Section Leader Josh Homyack.

- Staff received comments from the public about the waterfowl hunting seasons and bag limits via email, public meeting, and on-line. Most of the comments were positive. The seasons are similar to past seasons.
- Waterfowl Section Leader Josh Homyack provided a summary of the finalized selections of 2016-2017 waterfowl hunting seasons and bag limits in a power point presentation. [ATTACHMENT C]
- Early Waterfowl Seasons – No comments from the Commission.
- Regular Duck Hunting Season – No comments from the Commission
- Black Duck Season within Regular Duck Season – No comments from the Commission.
- Atlantic Population (AP) Canada Goose Hunting Season – No comments from the Commission.
- Atlantic Flyway Resident Population Canada Goose Hunting Season – No comments from the Commission.
- Atlantic Brant Hunting Season – No comments from the Commission.
- Light Goose Hunting Season – No comments from the Commission.
- Light Goose Conservation Order Season – No comments from the Commission.
- Special Sea Duck Hunting Season – No comments from the Commission.
- Waterfowl Section Leader Homyack reminded the Commission that he did not have slides for mourning dove, sora, rails, snipe, and woodcock. The seasons and bag limits for these species are in the hand out under Proposed Maryland Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Bag limits for the 2016 – 2017 Hunting Year. [ATTACHMENT D]
 1. There were little or no comments from the public on these species because there were little or no changes.
- Discussion ensued related to an increase in safety zone distance for waterfowl hunters. Safety zone distance is a legislative process and not a regulation process.
- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Gulbrandsen moved to accept the proposed 2016-2017 Maryland Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Bag Limits.
 2. Commissioner Michael seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Break

2016 Legislative Session Update - Presentation given by Associate Director Glenn Therres and Director Paul Peditto

- Associate Director Therres provided the Commission with a list of bills that the Wildlife and Heritage Service is following. [ATTACHMENT E] The summary is set-up with the bill number in the first column, second column is the general topic of the bill, third column is the delegate or senator or delegation that introduced the bill, and the fourth column is the status of the bill (as of the date that the summary was printed).

- As of March 12th, there are 24 House Bills and 12 Senate Bills that are wildlife-related or could impact operations of Wildlife Management Areas system. Many of these bills were summarized to the Commission at the February 16th WAC meeting.
- <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmlst.aspx?tab=home>, then click on By Broad Subject, where you can select Natural Resources (M1) or Hunting and Fishing (M2); this will provide the list of all bills under the Department's jurisdiction or hunting and fishing section.
- Discussion ensued about the various bills.

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

- A new academy class is scheduled for the end of March or April and will include several cadets. Captain Johnson mentioned that this is how he got hired and this is a great program.
- Commissioner Michael made a suggestion to NRP to get in front of deer related cases and get a spokesperson to educate a civilian to speak to court about the importance of sentencing.

Old Business

- Chairman Compton reminded the Commission that the Conservationist, Employee, and Farmer of Year Nominations are due on April 8th to Ms. Spencer.

New Business

- No new business.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 P.M.

The next meeting will be held at 9:30 A.M. on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 in the Tawes State Office Building, C-1 Conference Room; Annapolis, Maryland.

Attendance

Members:	L. Compton, T. Gregor, S. Boyles Griffin, E. Gulbrandsen, J. Michael, J. Schroyer, and R. Weinberg
Absent:	G. Fratz
Guest:	
Staff:	A. Cordell, B. Eyler, J. Homyack, P. Jayne, E. Johnson, P. Peditto, T. Spencer, H. Spiker, and G. Therres

ATTACHMENT A

Regulation Proposals: **2016-17 and 2017-18 Hunting Seasons**



Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Wildlife and Heritage Service

Summary



Lengthy Process:

1. Began in November with Game Program Meeting.
 - a. Resulted in Regulation Concepts.
2. Reviewed Concepts within WHS Leadership.
3. Presented Concepts to DNR Stakeholders.
4. Presented Concepts to Public Stakeholders/WAC.
 - a. Concepts firmed up to become Proposals.
5. Opened Internet Forum with ability to comment.
6. Held two Public Meetings.

REVIEWED INPUT AND MADE CHANGES AT EVERY STEP

Providing False Information



Proposal: Add language clearly prohibiting knowingly providing false information when checking in a deer or turkey.

- Added due to input from the Natural Resources Police.
- Simplify law enforcement related to a person knowingly providing false information during the check in process.

Little public comment

A photograph of a "MD Big Game Harvest Record" form. The form is white with black text and checkboxes. It contains the following information:

MD Big Game Harvest Record

THIS CARD MUST BE IN YOUR POSSESSION WHILE HUNTING

DNRid: 12345
Licensee: JOHN Q. HUNTER

Species WT Deer Sika Deer Turkey
 Managed Hunt Deer

Sex Male Female Button Buck

Weapon Firearm Archery Muzzleloader

Date 11/29/14 County Frederick

Confirmation # 987654321000

Report Harvests at
www.gamecheck.dnr.state.md.us
or 1.888.800.0121

Northern Bobwhite (Quail)

Proposal: Reduce the season length on lands owned or managed by DNR.

- Season would end on Dec 15 (Currently ends Jan 15).

**Little public
comment**



Wild Turkey – Baiting Distance



Proposal: Create a set distance (150 yards) that hunters and turkeys must be from an artificial feeding/bait source to remain legal when hunting.

- Intended for the fall turkey season in the fall season counties ONLY.
- Change is intended to resolve confusion over what constitutes hunting turkeys with the aid of bait.

Public comment was supportive.

Changed to remove word “salt” from baiting definition.



Black Bear – Baiting Distance

Proposal: Create a set distance (150 yards) that bear hunters and bears must be from an artificial feeding/bait source to remain legal when hunting in the bear hunting zone.

- Change is intended to resolve confusion over what constitutes hunting bears with the aid of bait.
- Will often allow bear hunting on those tracts of land where certain areas have been legally baited for deer hunting.
- Current prohibition on attracting bears (08.03.04.16) will remain in effect and prevent hunters from placing bait specifically for bears.

**Extensive comment
in Support.**



Black Bear

Proposal: Expand the bear hunting zone to include Washington and Frederick counties.

- Plan is to use current bear hunt process – permit lottery, allowing subpermittees, one bear per permit, same dates and other regulations would apply.

**Extensive comment
in Support.**

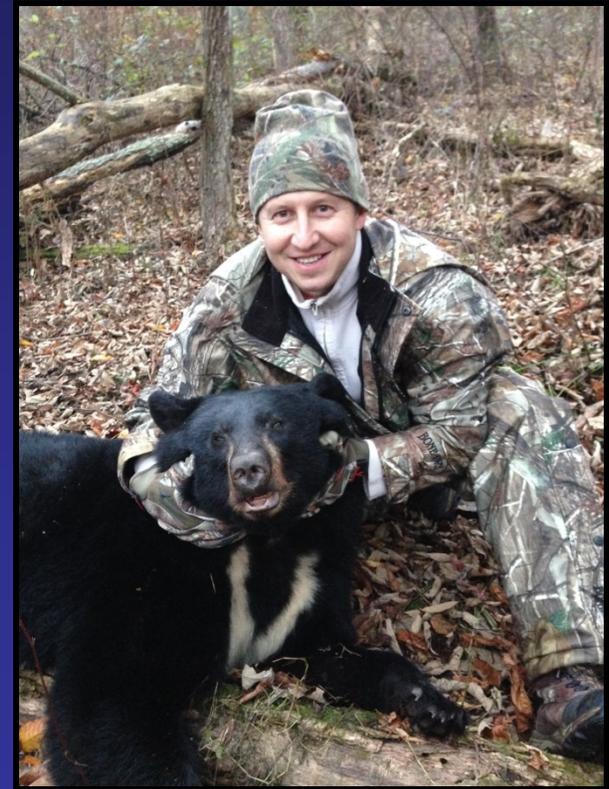


Black Bear

Proposal: Allow a subpermittee to hunt black bears regardless of whether the permittee is hunting.

- Will offer increased flexibility/opportunity for the hunting parties.
- Will help to maintain hunting pressure throughout the bear hunting season.
- The bag limit would remain the same – one bear per hunter; one bear per permitted hunting team.

**Public comment
was in Support.**



Proposal: Modify the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) transport restrictions to allow whole carcasses from other state CWD-positive areas to be brought into the Maryland CWD Management Area or to a CWD-approved processor or taxidermist.

- Currently allow ONLY “low risk” parts to be imported or exported (quarters, clean skull plates, etc.)
- Whole carcass transport appears to be a relatively low risk for CWD expansion.
- Restrictions are particularly burdensome to processors and taxidermists near state borders within CWD management areas.

**Little public
comment**

White-tailed and Sika Deer

Proposal: Remove the prohibition on using electronic calls for deer.

- Allowing electronic calls would provide another recreational alternative for deer hunters, aiding with recruitment and retention.
- Allowing electronic calls not likely to measurably increase the harvest of deer.
- Current deer population levels could sustain any small increase in harvest.

**Little public
comment**



Sika Deer

Proposal: Remove county restrictions for sika deer hunting.

- Allowing sika deer harvest in all counties would help prevent further expansion of the species to areas outside their current occupied range.

**Little public
comment**



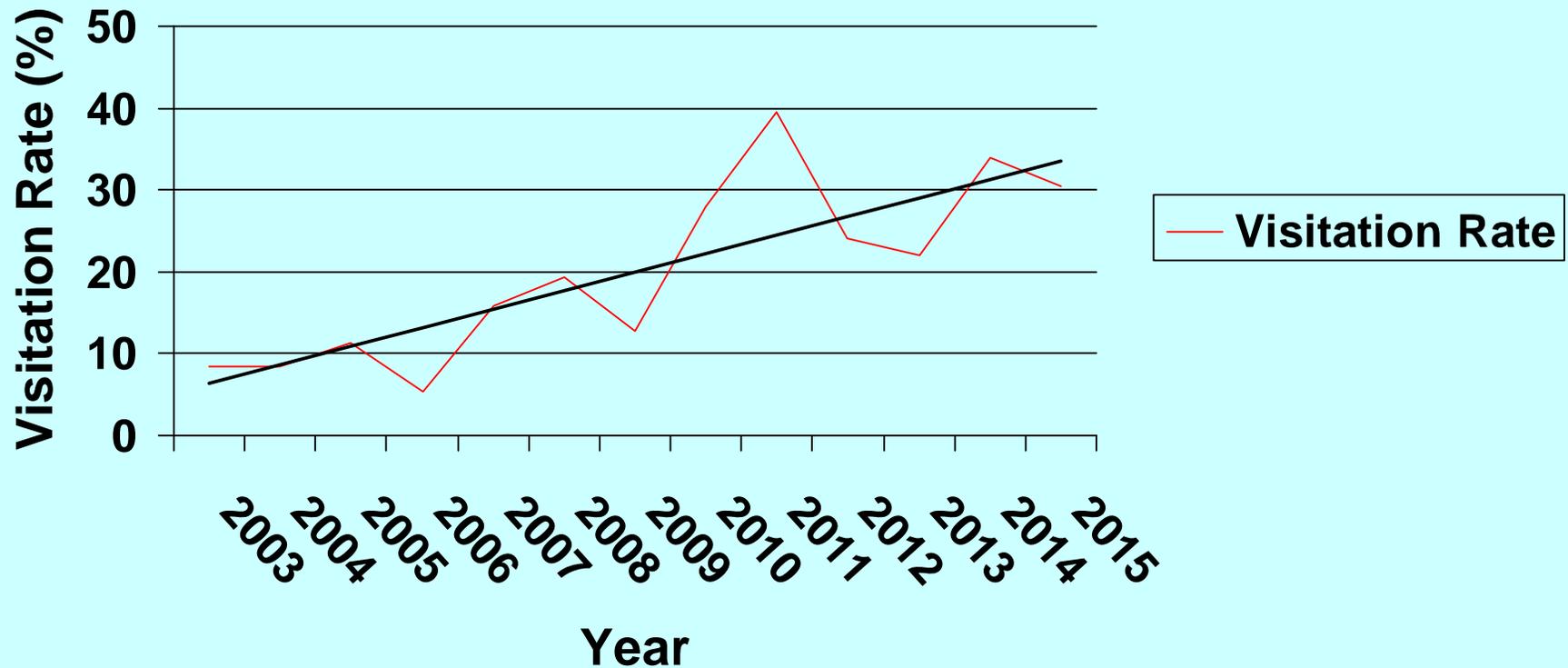
Regulation Proposals: **2016-17 and 2017-18 Hunting Seasons**



Maryland Department of Natural Resources

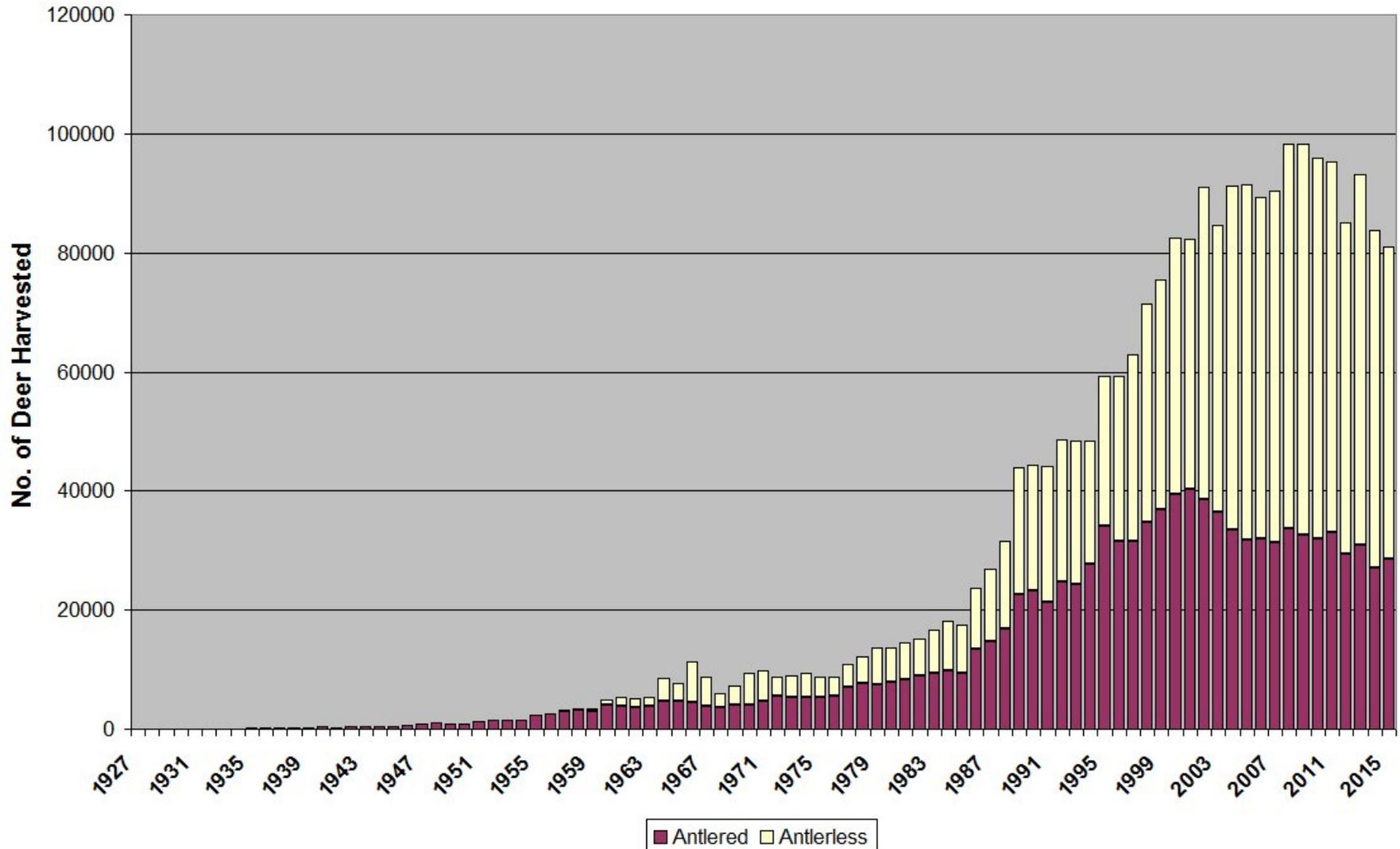
Wildlife and Heritage Service

Washington & Frederick County Scent Station Survey Results (2003 - 2015)



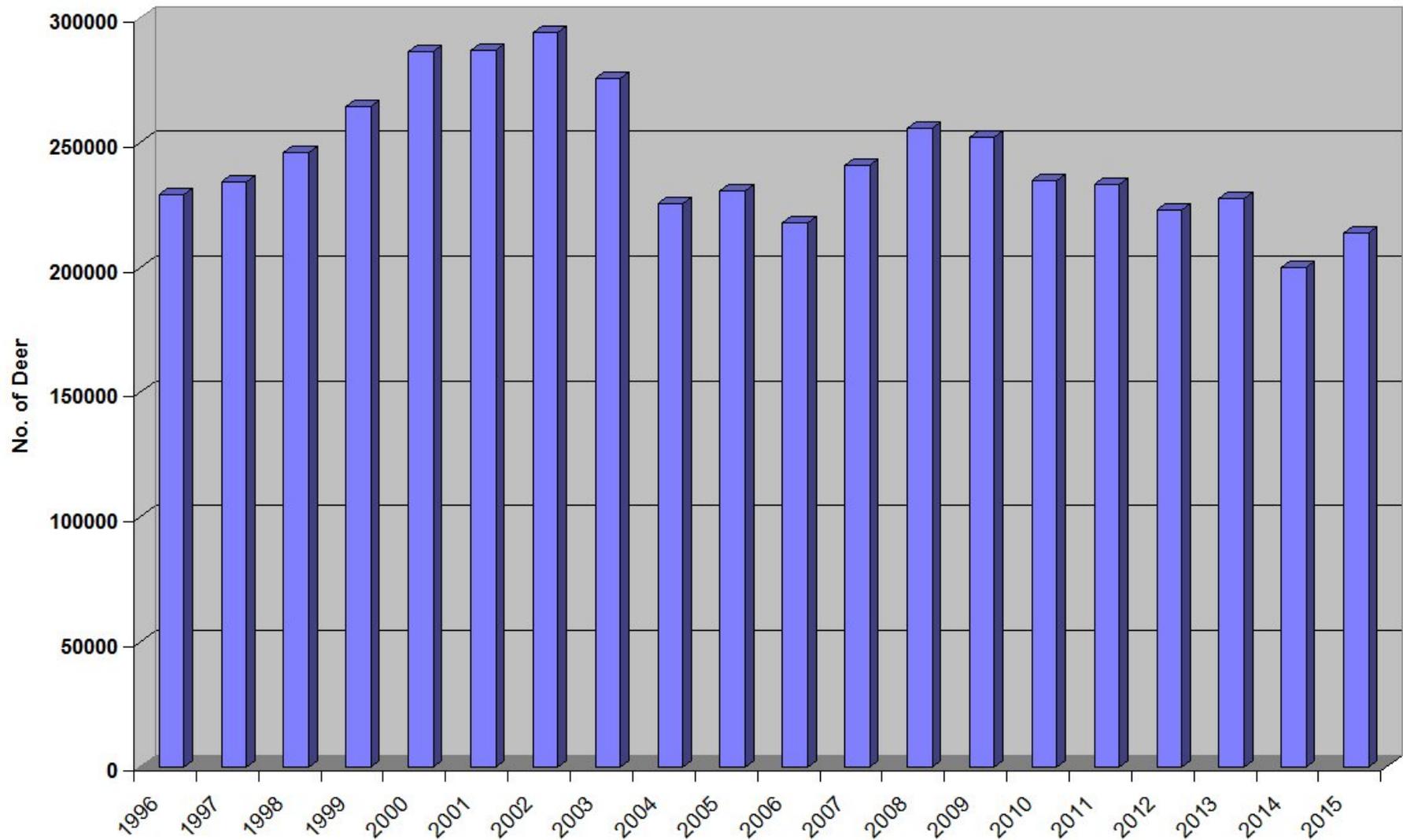
Deer

Maryland White-tailed Deer Harvest 1927 - 2015

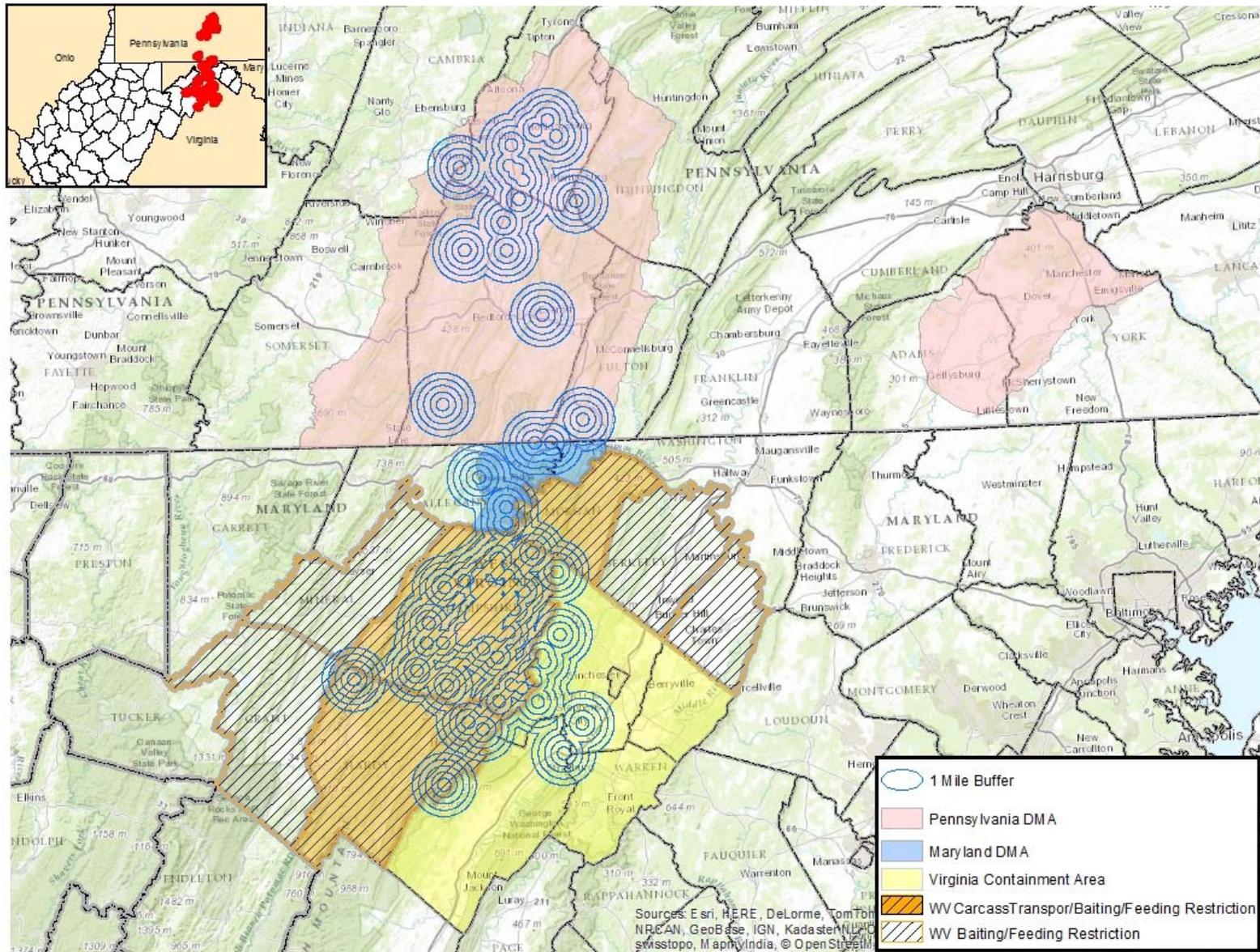


Deer

Statewide Estimated White-tailed Deer Population, 1996 - 2015



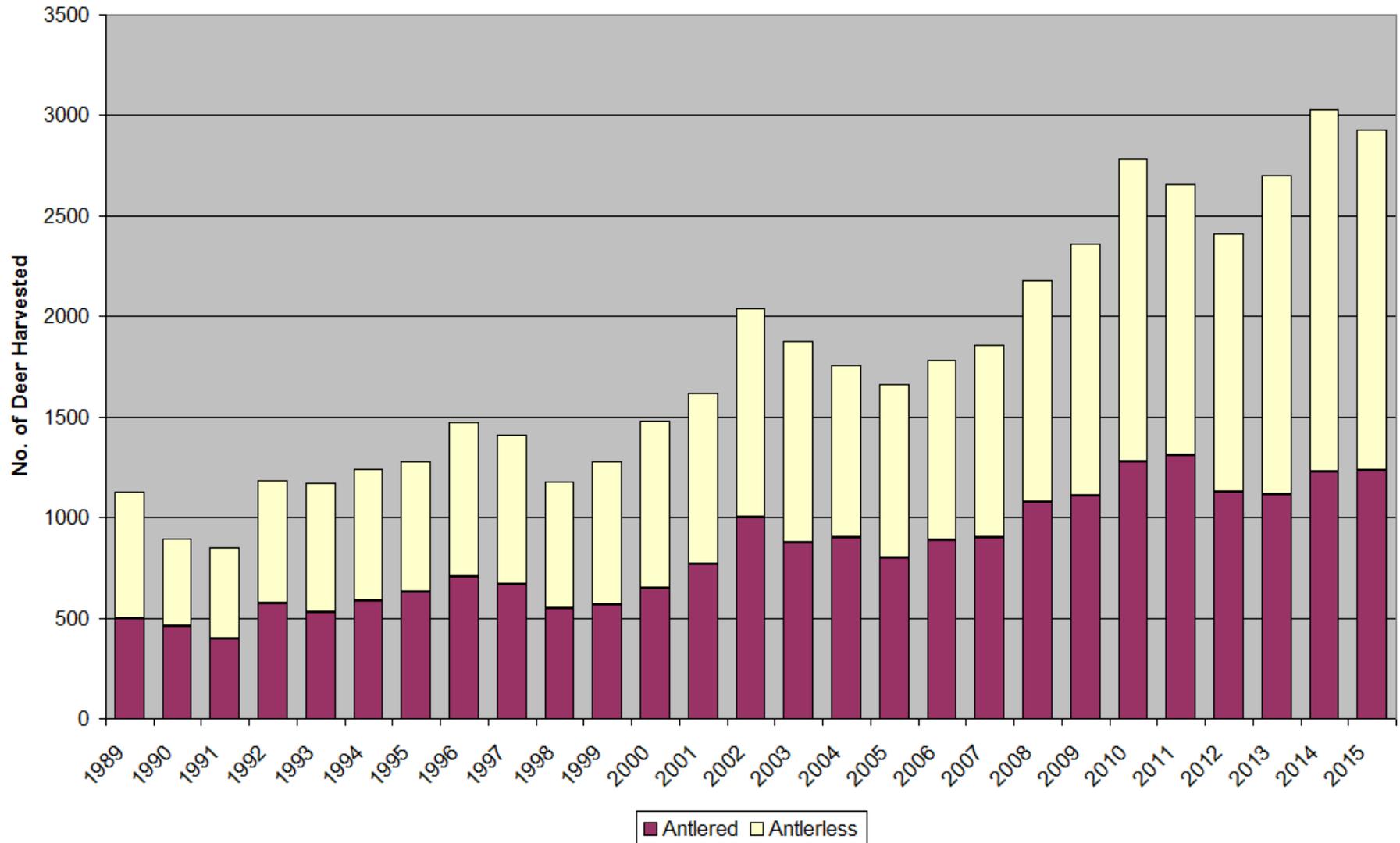
CWD Distribution



Map courtesy of West Virginia DNR

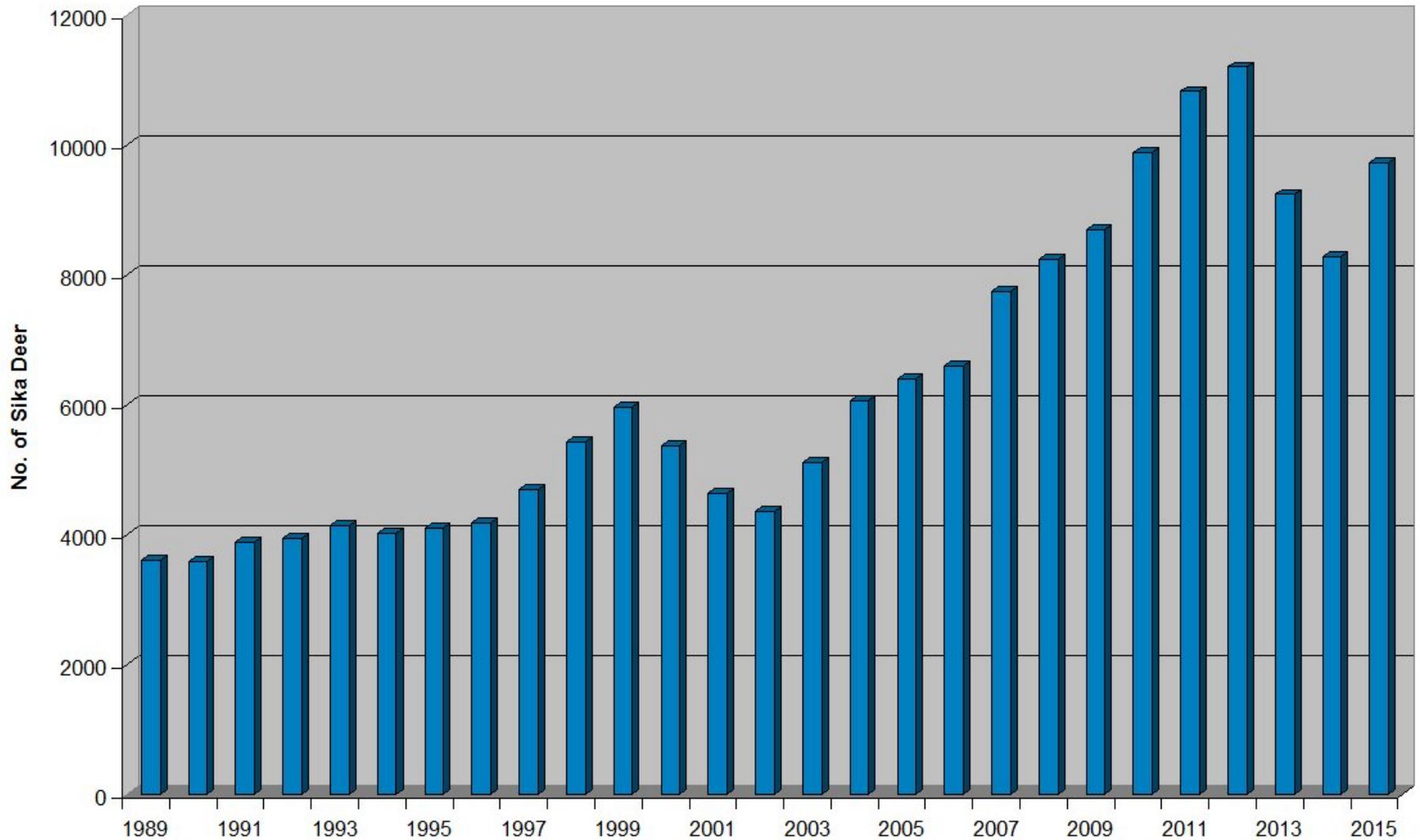
Sika Deer

Maryland Sika Deer Harvest, 1989 - 2015



Sika Deer

Maryland Sika Deer Population Trend, 1989 - 2015



Open Forum

New Concepts?

Questions?

Suggestions?



Squirrel and Rabbit

No concepts currently being considered.



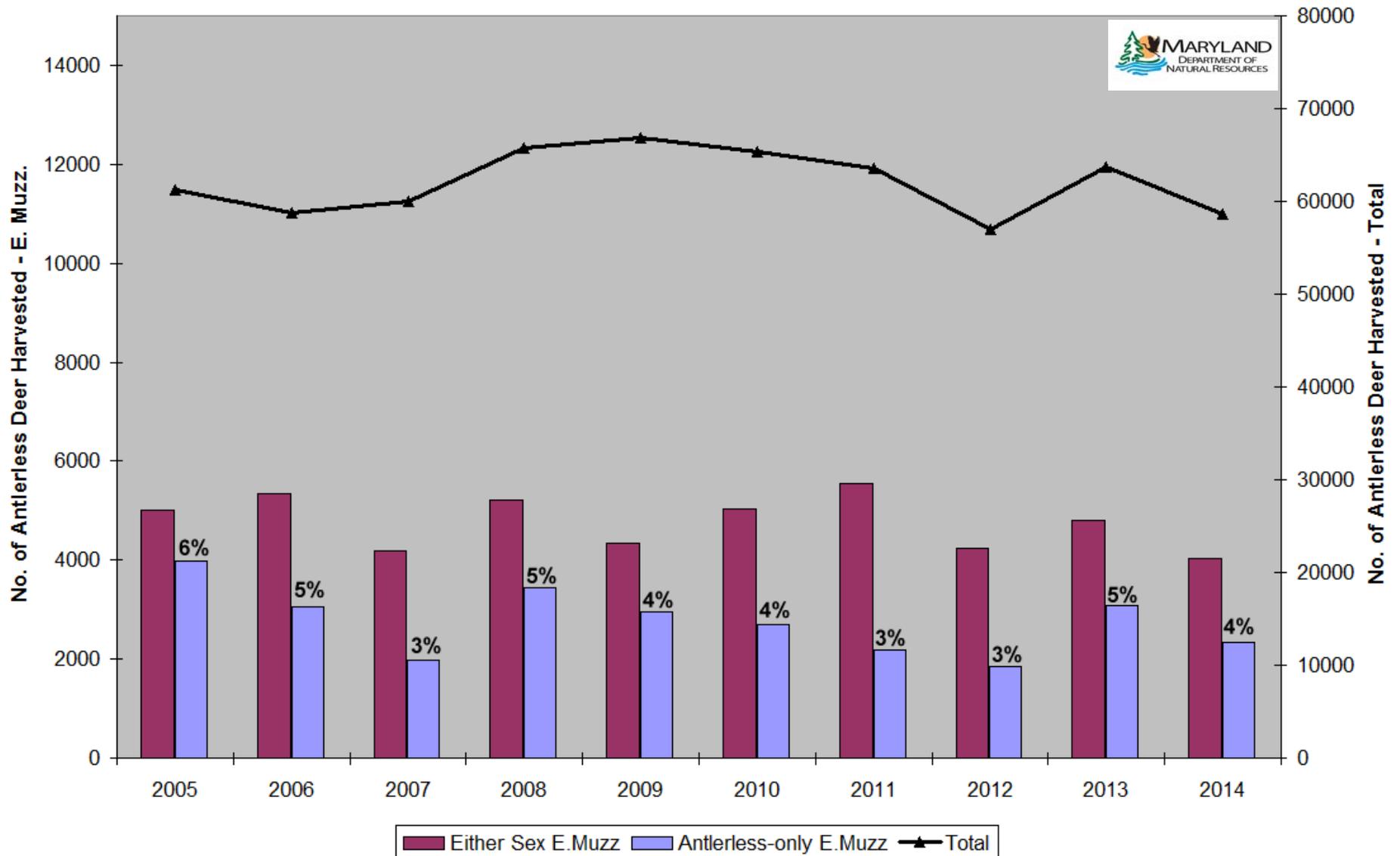
Fisher & Striped Skunk

Concept: Add fisher and striped skunk to those species that may be hunted with the use of an electronic call.

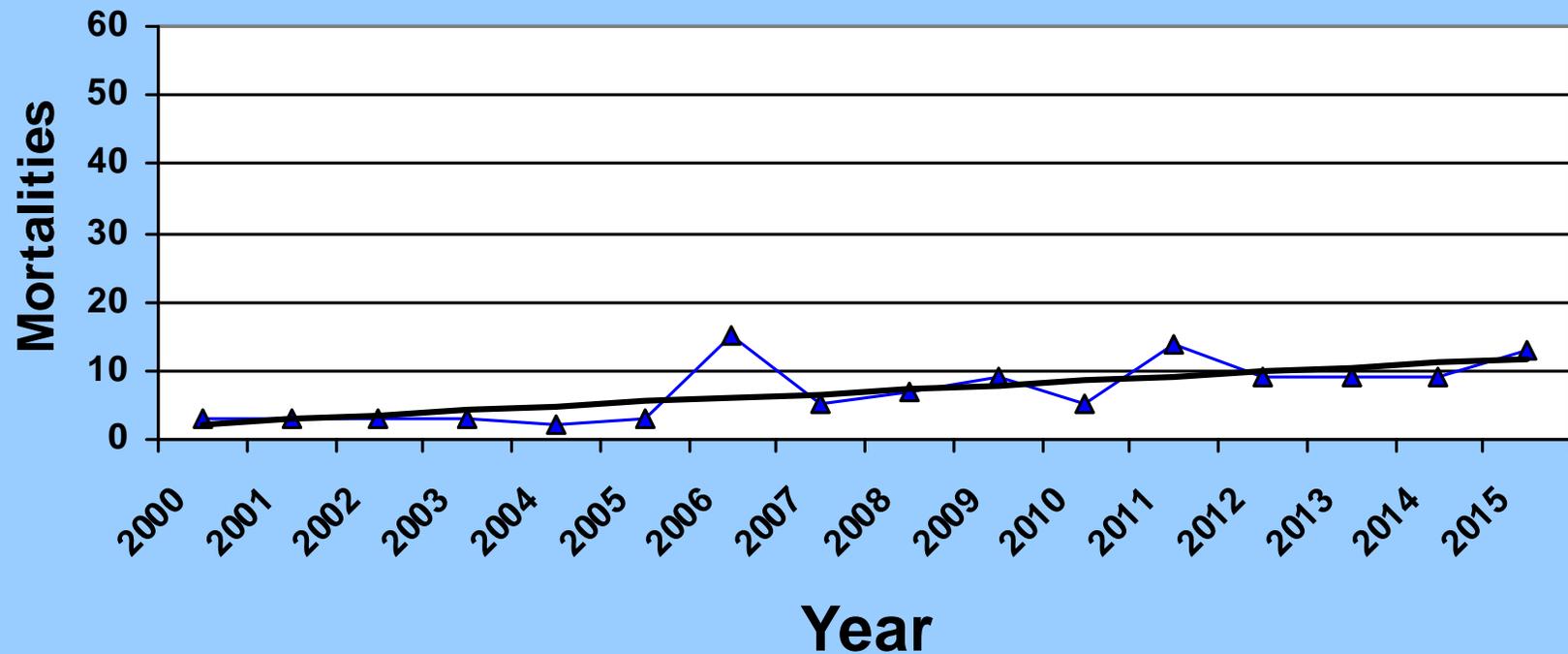
- This would be consistent with other furbearers that may be hunted with the use of an electronic call (foxes, coyote, raccoon, and opossum).



Early Muzzleloader Harvest Trend, 2005-2014



Frederick & Washington County Black Bear Mortalities (2000-2015)



Sika Deer

Concept: Open the sika deer hunting season statewide.

- Opening the sika season statewide would help prevent expansion of the species to areas outside their current occupied range.
- Department goal has always been to manage sika for a sustainable population in Dorchester County. Significant population also in Wicomico and Somerset counties now. Also in Caroline County and Delaware.
- Significant issues with sika deer and crop damage in their current range.
- Many hunters most likely not aware they currently are not allowed to be harvested outside of the lower shore counties.



Migratory Birds

Concept: None proposed.

- Doves, rails, snipe and woodcock.



Wild Turkeys/Upland Birds

Concept: No others proposed.

- Input, questions, suggestions???



White-tailed & Sika Deer

Proposal: Allow firearms (shotguns and rifles) to be used during the Region B October antlerless-only muzzleloader season for white-tailed and sika deer.

- Conflicts due to high deer numbers continue to be a problem in Maryland.
- Allowing firearms during the antlerless-only muzzleloader season will increase the relatively low harvest of deer during this season (3 – 5% of total antlerless harvest).
- This modification was identified in the 2014 Deer Population Management Report presented to the General Assembly.
- October firearm seasons have had mixed results in other states where they have been instituted.



Species Name Here



Concept: Short version of concept here

- add bullet points here
- add pictures as you desire



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Mark Belton, Secretary
Joanne Throwe, Deputy Secretary

**PROPOSED
HUNTING AND TRAPPING
REGULATION
CHANGES
FOR
2016-2017 AND 2017-2018**

The public comment period will end on March 15, 2016.

You may comment by mail, phone, fax or via the Internet at:

<http://dnr2.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/default.aspx>

**Wildlife and Heritage Service
Tawes State Office Building E-1
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-260-8540 phone
410-260-8596 fax**

Below are the regulation changes being proposed for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 hunting seasons. Unless affected by new legislation, all other regulations would remain unchanged and the associated season dates and bag limits would be similar to past years.

Providing False Information Prohibited

- 1. Add language to the existing regulation (08.03.04.03) requiring the check-in of deer and turkeys to clarify it is illegal to knowingly provide false information during the check-in process.**

Rationale/Goal: To clarify that it is illegal to knowingly provide false information when registering a deer or turkey harvest via the various check-in mechanisms provided by the Department.

Comments: Hunters may knowingly provide false information during the check-in process to cover an illegal act, or to allow for an illegal act in the future. This would include registering an antlered deer as an antlerless deer, non-bearded turkey as bearded or claiming to have killed a deer they did not kill.

Northern Bobwhite

- 1. Reduce the season length for bobwhites (quail) on lands owned or managed by DNR. The season will end on December 15.**

Rationale/Goal: Bobwhite populations on public lands are largely a result of intensive habitat management efforts. Reducing the season length will minimize the risk of overharvest where habitat improvements are being conducted and evaluated.

Comments: Bobwhite populations have declined by over 90% in Maryland and surrounding states. While hunting is not considered to be a causative factor, a conservative harvest strategy is prudent in areas of low density. Research suggests hunting mortality for bobwhites can be additive to natural mortality, particularly during the latter portions of the season. Furthermore, high harvest rates in local areas have been shown to inhibit population growth and potentially cause population declines. Private land managers typically manage harvest levels to minimize the risk of overharvest. However, hunting pressure is difficult to control on public lands, significantly increasing the risk of overharvest and limiting potential population increases due to habitat management efforts.

Wild Turkey

- 1. Create a set distance (150 yards) that turkey hunters and turkeys must be from an artificial feeding/bait source to remain legal when hunting during the fall turkey season only in Allegany, Garrett and Washington counties. Remove references to salt or minerals from the definition of baiting for this regulation.**

Rationale/Goal: This change is intended to resolve confusion over what constitutes hunting turkeys with the aid of bait. Additionally, by setting a definitive distance, it will allow turkey hunting on those tracts of land where some areas have been legally baited for deer hunting.

Comments: Confusion over what constitutes hunting turkeys with the aid of bait excludes turkey hunters from a significant amount of potential hunting ground due to the presence of bait placed for deer hunting. For example, large hunting leases (e.g. several hundred acres) may effectively be excluded from turkey hunting by the presence of even one baited site. This is a consistent concern expressed by turkey hunters wanting to hunt legally on tracts shared by other hunters, such as on hunting club property. The fall season is only open in the counties noted and the winter turkey season is not included in this change as it is timed to minimize baiting conflicts.

Black Bear

- 1. Create a set distance (150 yards) that bear hunters and bears must be from an artificial feeding/bait source to remain legal when hunting in the bear hunting zone.**

Rationale/Goal: This change is intended to resolve confusion over what constitutes hunting bears with the aid of bait. Additionally, by setting a definitive distance, it will allow bear hunting on those tracts of land where some areas have been legally baited for deer hunting.

Comments: Confusion over what constitutes hunting bears with the aid of bait excludes bear hunters from a significant amount of potential hunting ground due to the presence of bait placed for deer hunting. For example, large hunting leases (e.g. several hundred acres) may effectively be excluded from bear hunting by the presence of even one baited site. This is a consistent concern expressed by bear hunters wanting to hunt legally on tracts shared by other hunters, such as on hunting club property. The current prohibition on attracting bears (08.03.04.16) will remain in effect and prevent hunters from placing bait specifically for bears but remaining outside the set distance when hunting.

- 2. Expand the bear hunting zone to include Washington and Frederick counties.**

Rationale/Goal: The bear population east of Allegany County is growing and the number of bear related complaints are increasing. We have seen a notable increase in the number of bear complaints in the Central Region in recent years. Applying hunting pressure across all of the occupied bear range should help to slow the expansion of bears into the Central Region.

Comments: This is a popular request from farmers and landowners in these counties and the bear population can sustain a managed harvest in these counties. The bear population in Garrett and Allegany counties increased over the 12 years a bear hunting season has been open in those counties.

3. Allow a subpermittee to hunt black bears regardless of whether the permittee is hunting.

Rationale/Goal: The permittee may be limited on availability while their subpermittee(s) may be available to participate throughout more of the hunt. This would potentially maintain hunting pressure throughout the season and therefore increase harvest.

Comments: This is a popular request by bear hunters and is consistent with our bear harvest goals.

Deer

1. Modify the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) transport restrictions to allow whole carcasses from other state CWD-positive areas to be brought into the Maryland CWD Management Area (CWDMA) or to a CWD-approved processor or taxidermist.

Rationale/Goal: Restrictions associated with CWD management can deter hunters from hunting in a particular area. Lack of hunter effort results in increased deer numbers, which can promote the spread of the disease. Removing restrictions such as carcass transport can aid with regional deer control, hunter compliance and CWD management.

Comments: Carcass transport does not appear to be a significant cause of the spread of CWD. Allowing whole carcasses to be brought into our CWDMA or to approved CWD taxidermists and processors should not increase the rate of expansion of CWD in Maryland.

2. Remove the prohibition on using electronic calls for deer.

Rationale/Goal: This change would provide another recreational alternative for hunting deer, an addition which may aid with hunter retention and recruitment.

Comments: Electronic calls are expected to have a minimal impact on deer hunter success rates. Deer populations are healthy and can sustain any added harvest pressure due to the use of electronic calls.

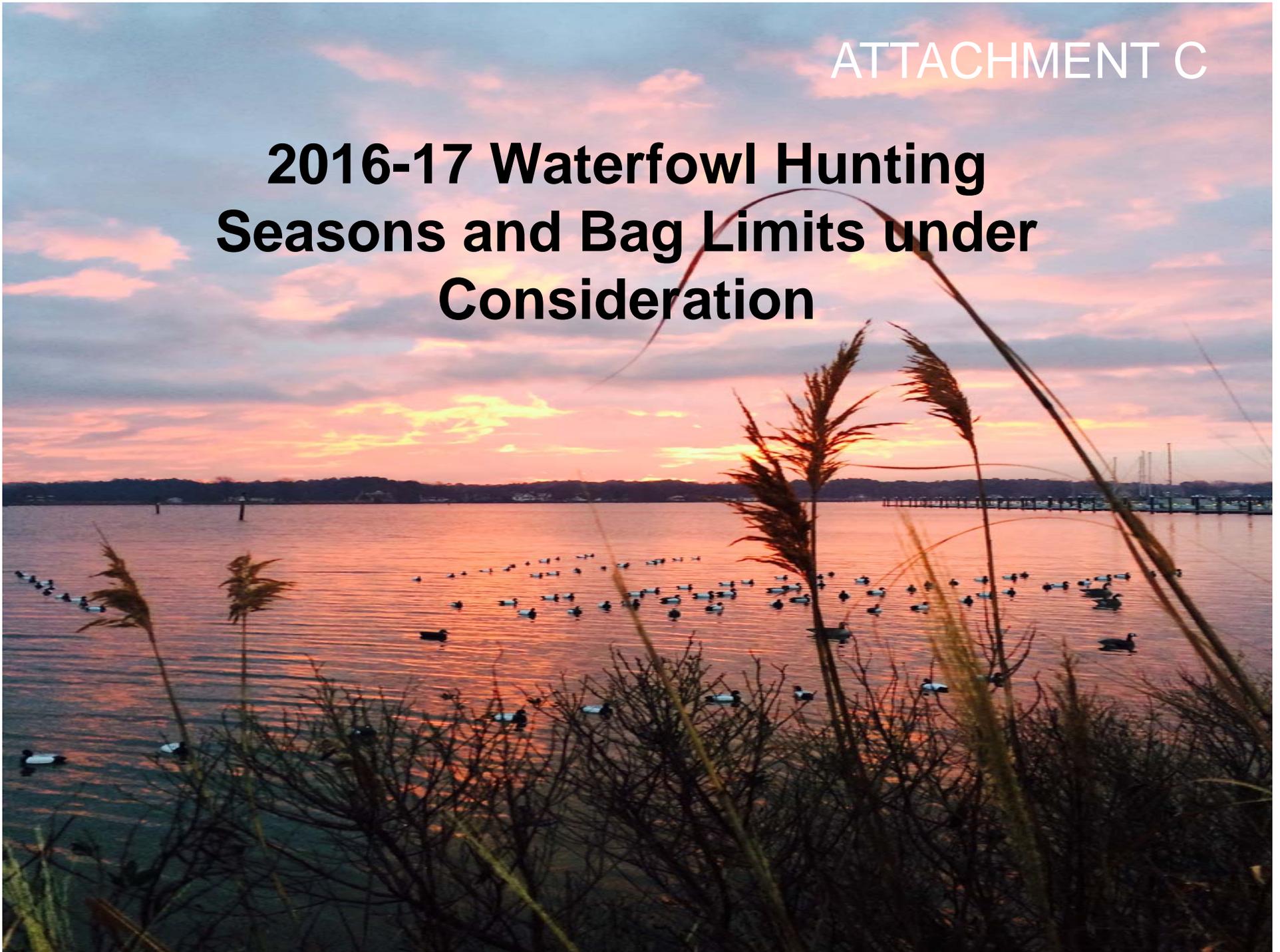
3. Remove the county restrictions for sika deer hunting.

Rationale/Goal: Opening all counties to legal sika deer harvest will help prevent further expansion of the population into areas outside of the current occupied range.

Comments: The long standing goal of the Department for sika deer is to maintain a sustainable population primarily in Dorchester County. The species has expanded into Caroline, Somerset, and Wicomico counties and is present in Worcester County from the Assateague Island introduction. Confirmed sightings/harvest of sika deer have occurred as far north as Kent County, Maryland. Sika deer have been shown to cause significant crop damage where they currently exist outside of southern Dorchester County.

ATTACHMENT C

2016-17 Waterfowl Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits under Consideration





Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

**Little
public
comment**

**Proposed Dates
Nov. 5 and Feb. 11**

**Daily Bag Limit
6 ducks (certain species
bag restrictions), 2 Canada
geese, 2 brant, 25 light
geese, and 15 coots.**

**Requirements: Youth
hunter must be 16 years of
age or younger and
accompanied by an
unarmed, adult at least 21
years old. Adult may
assist in calling, setting
decoys, retrieving downed
birds.**

Early Waterfowl Seasons

Special Teal Season

Federal framework: 16 days between Sept. 1-30
Proposed dates: Sept. 16 – Sept 30

**Little
public
comment**

Eastern Zone Resident Canada Goose

Federal Framework: 15 days between Sept. 1-15
Proposed dates: Sept. 1 – 15

Western Zone Resident Canada Goose

Federal Framework: 25 days between Sept. 1-25
Proposed Dates: Sept 1 - 24

“Regular” Duck Hunting Season

Federal Framework

60-day season between
Saturday nearest Sept. 24 and
the last Sunday in January with
a daily bag limit of 6 ducks
(species restrictions)

Proposed Season

Oct. 15 - Oct. 22

Nov. 12 - Nov. 25

Dec. 13 - Jan. 28

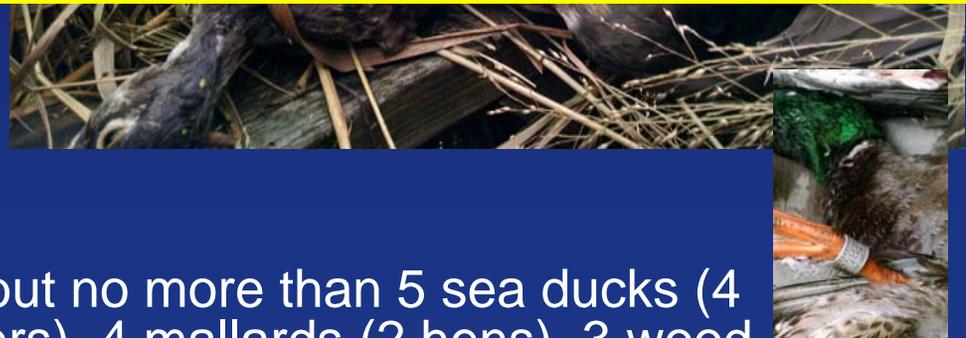
Daily Bag Limit

6 per day (including mergansers) but no more than 5 sea ducks (4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters, 4 eiders), 4 mallards (2 hens), 3 wood ducks, 2 pintails, 2 redheads, 2 scaup, 2 canvasback, 2 hooded mergansers, 1 black duck (during black duck season), 1 mottled duck, and 1 fulvous tree duck.



-Generally favorable comment

**-Some comments favor opening
season into mid-late February**



Black Duck Season within Regular Duck Season

Federal Framework
60-day season with a
1-bird daily bag limit.

Proposed Season
Nov. 12 - Nov. 25
Dec. 13 - Jan. 28

Daily Bag Limit 1

No open season in October provides protection to Maryland's breeding Black Duck population. Migrant stocks begin arriving in early November.

**Little public
comment**



AP Canada Goose Hunting Season

Federal Framework

A 50-day season between Nov. 15 and Feb. 5

Daily Bag Limit 2 per day

Proposed Season

Nov. 19 - Nov. 25

Dec. 16 - Feb. 4

Daily Bag Limit

2 per day



-Considerable support for running season as late as possible within framework

-Some comments favor opening season into mid-late February



Atlantic Flyway Resident Population Canada Goose Hunting Season

AFRP Zone

Federal Framework

80-day season between Nov. 15
and Mar. 10

Daily Bag Limit 5 per day

Proposed Season

Nov. 19 - Nov. 25

Dec. 13 - Mar. 8

Daily Bag Limit 5 per day

**Little public
comment**

Atlantic Brant Hunting Season



**Little public
comment**

Federal Framework

60-day season between the Saturday nearest Sept. 24 (Sept. 27) and Jan. 31, with a 2-bird daily bag limit.

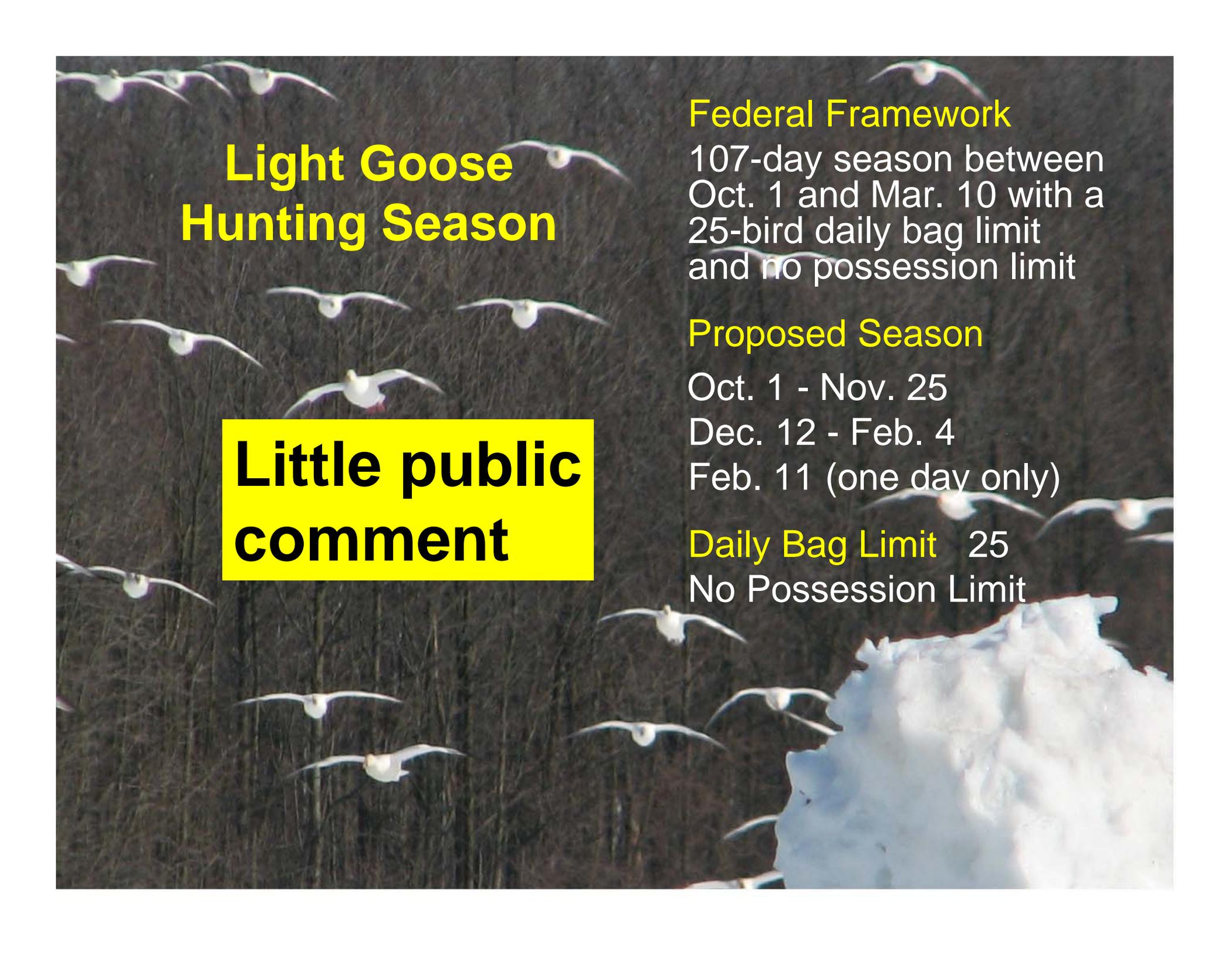
Proposed Season

Nov. 8 – Nov. 25

Dec 12 - Jan. 31

Daily Bag Limit 2

Note: AF Mid-winter count 157k birds bumped brant up to a more liberal season/bag limit package.



Light Goose Hunting Season

**Little public
comment**

Federal Framework

107-day season between
Oct. 1 and Mar. 10 with a
25-bird daily bag limit
and no possession limit

Proposed Season

Oct. 1 - Nov. 25

Dec. 12 - Feb. 4

Feb. 11 (one day only)

Daily Bag Limit 25

No Possession Limit

Light Goose Conservation Order Season

Proposed CO Season

Nov. 28 - Dec. 10

Feb. 6 – Feb. 10

Feb. 13 - Apr. 15

**Little public
comment**

Daily Bag Limit No Limit

Hunters may use unplugged
shotguns and e-calls

Shooting hours extended to 1/2 hour after sunset

Participants must possess a Snow Goose Conservation Order Hunting Season Permit. Permits available from DNR sport license agents, online, or by phone for a \$5 fee.



Special Sea Duck Hunting Season

(Sea Duck Zone only)

Federal Framework

A 60 consecutive day season
between Sept. 15 and Jan. 31.

Daily Bag Limit: 5 but no more than
4 scoters, 4 long-tailed ducks, 4
eiders

Proposed Season

Nov. 5 - Jan. 13

Daily Bag Limit: 5 but no more than
4 scoters, 4 long-tailed ducks, 4
eiders



-Comments generally favorable for timing of proposed season dates

-Some would like to see a split season

-Few comments lean toward earlier start or later end date



Questions?





Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Mark Belton, Secretary
Joanne Throwe, Deputy Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are pleased to offer a variety of opportunities for hunters to continue the great tradition of migratory game bird hunting in Maryland. Our proposed seasons and bag limits are designed to maximize recreation while maintaining sustainable migratory game bird populations. As always, we are looking forward to an active public participation process as we move forward toward finalizing these proposals.

Each year, the population status of migratory game birds is reviewed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Canadian Wildlife Service, and the Atlantic Flyway Council (AFC), a group of 23 states and provinces that act in an advisory capacity to the USFWS. Atlantic Flyway Council recommendations, along with written comments by individual hunters, are considered by the USFWS before federal migratory game bird hunting season frameworks are announced in early December for the following year.

Federal frameworks include the earliest and latest calendar dates from which states can select their seasons. Federal frameworks also include the legal shooting hours, maximum season length and maximum bag and possession limits that may be selected. States may be more restrictive than the federal frameworks, but not more liberal. Priorities considered by the Wildlife and Heritage Service (WHS) in formulating hunting season proposals include (1) the biological needs of the migratory game bird resource, (2) regulation simplicity, and (3) maximizing opportunity for all hunters, especially junior hunters.

After the WHS has considered all of the comments received during the public comment period, we will formulate the final season dates and bag limits and present these to the Migratory Game Bird Advisory Committee and Wildlife Advisory Commission for discussion and approval.

Please take the opportunity to let us know what you think. Comment on the 2016-2017 migratory game bird seasons and bag limits can be made in six ways: (1) Send U.S Mail letters to: Migratory Game Bird Regulations, Wildlife and Heritage Service, Department of Natural Resources, Tawes State Office Building (E-1), Annapolis, MD 21401, (2) Participate in the public meeting being held at Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, on March 8, 2016, (3) Send E-mail to customerservice@dnr.state.md.us, (4) via the Internet by contacting the WHS home page at <http://dnr2.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/default.aspx>, (5) by calling 410-260-8540, and (6) by faxing your comments to 410-260-8596. The deadline for comments is 12 noon on March 14, 2016.

Thank you for your interest and comments regarding the conservation and management of Maryland's migratory game bird resources.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Peditto
 Director

**PROPOSED
MARYLAND MIGRATORY GAME BIRD SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS
FOR THE 2016-17 HUNTING YEAR**

SPECIAL EARLY RESIDENT POPULATION CANADA GEESE

Federal framework: A 15-day special season may be held between September 1 – 15 in the Eastern zone and a 25-day season between September 1 - 25 in the Western zone.

Proposed Season Dates

Eastern Zone Sep. 1 - Sept 15

Western Zone Sep. 1 - Sept 24

Daily Bag Limit: 8 in both zones. Possession limit is 3 times the daily limit.

Eastern Hunt Zone: Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties; and that part of Anne Arundel County east of Interstate 895, Interstate 97, and Route 3; that part of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County east of 301 to the Virginia line.

Western Hunt Zone: Allegany, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery, and Washington Counties; and that part of Anne Arundel County west of Interstate 895, Interstate 97, and Route 3; that part of Prince George's County west of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County west of 301 to the Virginia line.

Shotguns capable of holding more than 3 shells may be used. Shooting hours in both zones are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

SEPTEMBER TEAL SEASON

Federal framework: States may select a 16 day season to be held between September 1 and 30. Teal season may not run concurrently with other seasons (resident Canada goose) that allow special considerations such as modified shooting hours or unplugged guns.

Proposed Season Dates Sep. 16 – Sep. 30

Daily Bag Limit: 6 blue-winged or green-winged teal, singly or in aggregate. The possession limit is 3 times the daily bag limit.

September Teal Hunt Zone: Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties; that part of Anne Arundel County east of Interstate 895, Interstate 97, Route 3; that part of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County east of 301 to the Virginia line. Shooting hours for teal during this season are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

DUCKS, COOTS, and MERGANSERS

Federal Framework: A 60-day season may be held between the Saturday nearest September 24 and the last Sunday in January (January 29).

Proposed Season Dates Oct. 15 - Oct. 22
 Nov. 12 - Nov. 25
 Dec. 13 - Jan. 28

Black Duck Nov. 12 - Nov. 25
 Dec. 13 - Jan. 28

Duck Daily Bag and Possession Limits: The daily bag limit of ducks (including mergansers) is 6. The 6-duck limit shall consist of no more than 5 sea ducks (no more than 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters, or 4 eiders), 4 mallards (max. 2 hen mallards), 3 wood ducks, 2 scaup, 2 pintails, 2 redheads, 2 hooded mergansers, 2 canvasbacks, 1 black duck (during black duck open season), 1 fulvous tree duck, and 1 mottled duck. All other species of ducks (except harlequin duck) may be taken up to the 6-duck limit. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit. In addition to the duck bag limit hunters may take 15 coots per day. No open season for harlequin ducks and swans.

Note: In the designated sea duck zone, sea ducks may only be taken during the special sea duck season dates (Nov. 5 - Jan. 13).

SEA DUCKS (Scoters, Long-tailed Duck, and Eiders)

Federal Frameworks: A special 60-day season may be selected between September 15 and January 31 with a 5-bird daily bag limit (no more than 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters, or 4 eiders) within established sea duck hunting areas. This bag limit is in addition to the limits applying to other ducks during the regular duck season. In all other areas, sea ducks may be taken only during the regular open season for ducks and are part of the regular duck season daily bag (not to exceed 5 sea ducks (4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters, or 4 eiders) and possession limits.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 5 - Jan. 13

Daily Bag Limit: 5 (no more than 4 scoters, 4 long-tailed ducks, or 4 eiders) per day

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

Federal Framework: States may select two days per duck-hunting zone, designated as "Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days," in addition to their regular duck seasons. The days must be held outside any regular duck season on a weekend, holiday, or other non-school day when youth hunters would have the maximum opportunity to participate. The days

may be held up to 14 days before or after any regular duck season framework, within any split of a regular duck season, or within any other open season on migratory birds.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 5 and Feb. 4

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: The daily bag limit of ducks (including mergansers) is 6. The 6-duck limit shall consist of no more than 5 sea ducks (no more than 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters, or 4 eiders), 4 mallards (max. 2 hen mallards), 3 wood ducks, 2 scaup, 2 pintails, 2 redheads, 2 hooded mergansers, 2 canvasbacks, 1 black duck, 1 fulvous tree duck, and 1 mottled duck. All other species of ducks (except harlequin duck) may be taken up to the 6-duck limit. In addition, youth hunters may take 2 Canada geese, 2 brant, 25 light geese, and 15 coots. No open season for harlequin ducks and swans.

Any licensed hunter 15 years old or younger may participate during these one-day hunts. Youth of this age who are exempt from the Maryland hunting license requirements may also participate. Youth waterfowl hunters must possess a receipt showing they purchased a \$9 Maryland Migratory Game Bird Hunting Stamp. Youth hunters must be accompanied by an adult at least 21 years old that holds a valid Maryland hunting license or is exempt from the hunting license requirements. The accompanying adult may call waterfowl, assist with decoys, and retrieve downed birds but may not possess a hunting weapon.

ATLANTIC POPULATION CANADA GEESE

Federal Framework: AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between November 15 and February 5, with a 2-bird daily bag limit. These seasons also include white-fronted geese. Unless specified otherwise, seasons may be split into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 19 - Nov. 25
Dec. 13 - Feb. 1

Bag Limit: 2 per day*

AP Zone: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties; and that portion of Carroll County east of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and east of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; and that portion of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County east of Route 301 to the Virginia line.

AF RESIDENT POPULATION CANADA GEESE

Federal Framework: An 80-day season may be held between November 15 and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 19 - Nov. 25
Dec. 13 - Mar. 8

Daily Bag Limit: 5 per day*

RP Zone: Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Montgomery, and Washington Counties; and that portion of Carroll County west of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and west of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; and that portion of Prince George's County west of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County west of Route 301 to the Virginia line.

*Includes Canada geese, cackling geese, and white-fronted geese singly or in aggregate.

ATLANTIC BRANT

Federal Framework: States may select a 60-day season between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and January 31, with a 2-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 8 - Nov. 25
Dec. 12 - Jan. 31

Daily Bag Limit: 2 per day

LIGHT GEESE

Federal Framework: States may select a 107-day season between October 1 and March 10, with a 25-bird daily bag limit and no possession limit. States may split their seasons into three segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Oct. 1 - Nov. 25
Dec. 12 – Feb. 4

Daily Bag Limit: 25 per day** No possession limit.

**Includes greater and lesser snow geese and Ross's geese singly or in aggregate.

LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER

Federal Framework: The conservation order allows new methods of taking light geese, allows shooting hours for light geese to end one-half hour after sunset, and imposes no daily bag limits for light geese. Control activities may be conducted only when all waterfowl (including light goose) and crane hunting seasons, excluding falconry, are closed.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 28 - Dec. 10
Feb. 6 - Apr. 15

Daily Bag Limit: No Limit, no possession limit

Hunt Area: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties; and that portion of Carroll County east of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and east of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; that portion of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County east of Route 301 to the Virginia line. The Special Sea Duck Zone is excluded from this hunt area.

Special Regulations during Light Goose Conservation Order Season:

(1) Participating hunters must possess a \$5 Snow Goose Conservation Order Hunting Season Permit while hunting light geese during this season; (2) Hunters may use shotguns capable of holding more than three shotshells; (3) Hunters may use electronic calls with recordings of light geese; and (4) Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Note: Shooting hours for regular waterfowl seasons are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset except for (1) Resident Canada geese during September seasons when shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset, and (2) for light geese during the Light Goose Conservation Order Season when shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset. All season dates are inclusive. There is no possession limit for light geese; for all other waterfowl, the possession limit is three times the daily bag limit. In the Atlantic Flyway States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania, where Sunday hunting is prohibited statewide by State law, all Sundays are closed to all take of migratory waterfowl (including mergansers and coots).

MOURNING DOVE

Federal Framework: States may select a 90-day season between September 1 and January 15 with a 15-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into three segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Sep. 1 - Oct. 8
 Oct. 22 - Nov. 19
 Dec. 17 - Jan. 7

Daily Bag Limit: 15 per day

KING AND CLAPPER RAIL

Federal Framework: States may select a 70-day season between September 1 and the last Sunday in January with a 10-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Sep. 1 - Nov. 9

Daily Bag Limit: 10 per day (No more than 1 King Rail)

SORA AND VIRGINIA RAIL

Federal Framework: States may select a 70-day season between September 1 and the last Sunday in January with a 25-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Sep. 1 - Nov. 9

Daily Bag Limit: 25 per day

COMMON SNIPE

Federal Framework: States may select a 107-day season between September 1 and January 31 with an 8-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Sep. 27 - Nov. 25
Dec. 13 - Jan. 28

Daily Bag Limit: 8 per day

WOODCOCK

Federal Framework: States may select a 45-day season between October 1 and January 31 with a 3-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Oct. 28 - Nov. 25
Jan. 13 - Jan. 28

Daily Bag Limit: 3 per day

For additional information on population status, regulations, where to hunt, and more go DNR Waterfowl Page at [http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Hunt Trap/waterfowl/index.asp](http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Hunt_Traps/waterfowl/index.asp).

**Summary of 2016 Proposed Legislation
Wildlife and Heritage Service
(as of March 15, 2016)**

<u>Number / Chapter</u> <u>(Cross File / Chapter)</u> ▲	Title	<u>Primary Sponsor</u>	Status	Original House and Hearing Dates	Opposite House and Hearing Dates
HB0020	Calvert County and St. Mary's County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Delegate O'Donnell	In the Senate - Hearing 3/22 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 2/17/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/22/2016 - 1:00 p.m.
HB0062	Natural Resources - Fishing and Hunting Licenses	Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 3/22 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 1/27/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/22/2016 - 1:00 p.m.
HB0132	State Government - Pollinator Habitat Plans	Delegate Lafferty	In the House - Favorable Report by Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation 2/10/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/14/2016 - 1:00 p.m.
HB0169 (SB0219)	Carroll County - Turkey Hunting on Private Property - Sundays	Carroll County Delegation	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 2/24/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0203	Caroline County - Sunday Hunting	Caroline County Delegation	In the House - Hearing 3/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/4/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB0321 (SB0046)	Anne Arundel County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Delegate Howard, S.	In the House - Hearing 3/02 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/2/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB0410 (SB0266)	Natural Resources - Poaching Restitution Act of 2016	Delegate O'Donnell	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 2/17/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0513	Harford County - Sunday Hunting - Deer Bow Hunting Season	Delegate Glass	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation	

<u>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</u> ▲	Title	<u>Primary Sponsor</u>	Status	Original House and Hearing Dates	Opposite House and Hearing Dates
HB0514	Sunday Hunting - Deer Bow Hunting Season	Delegate Glass	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation	
HB0515	Deer Bow Hunting Season - Private Property - Additional Sunday in January	Delegate Glass	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation	
HB0516	Harford County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Delegate Glass	In the House - Second Reading Passed with Amendments	Environment and Transportation 2/24/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB0517	Natural Resources - Deer Bow Hunting Season - End Date	Delegate Glass	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation 2/17/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB0542 (SB0991)	Natural Resources - Wildlife Trafficking Prevention	Delegate Luedtke	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation 2/17/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB0755 (SB0524)	Allegany County and Garrett County - Black Bears - Baiting	Allegany County Delegation	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation	
HB0870 (SB0876)	Natural Resources - Black Fly Management and Control - Washington County	Delegate Parrott	In the House - Hearing 3/02 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/2/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB1223	Natural Resources - Apprentice Hunting License - Establishment	Delegate O'Donnell	In the House - Hearing 3/09 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/9/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB1249	Hunting and Fishing - Complimentary Licenses - Wounded Military and Veterans	Delegate Carey	In the House - Hearing 3/09 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/9/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB1256	Natural Resources - Cecil County - Elk	Delegate Hornberger	In the House - Hearing 3/09 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/9/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	

<u>Number / Chapter</u> <u>(Cross File / Chapter)</u> ▲	Title	<u>Primary Sponsor</u>	Status	Original House and Hearing Dates	Opposite House and Hearing Dates
HB1374	Hunting and Fishing - Complimentary Licenses - Military and Veterans	Delegate Rose	In the House - Hearing 3/09 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/9/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB1417 (SB0401)	Charles County and St. Mary's County - Deer Management Permit - Firearms	Delegate Morgan	In the House - Hearing 3/11 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/11/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB1506	Natural Resources - Wildlife and Hunting	Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations	Rules and Executive Nominations	
HB1511	Caroline County - Deer Management Permit - Firearms	Delegate Ghrist	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations	Rules and Executive Nominations	
HB1531 (SB0225)	Complimentary Hunting and Fishing Licenses - Former Prisoners of War, Recipients of the Purple Heart Award, and Disabled Veterans	Delegate Simonaire	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations	Rules and Executive Nominations	
HB1596 (SB1113)	Talbot County - Deer Management Permit - Firearms	Delegate Mautz	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations	Rules and Executive Nominations	
SB0046 (HB0321)	Anne Arundel County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Senator Reilly	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/2/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation
SB0219 (HB0169)	Carroll County - Turkey Hunting on Private Property - Sundays	Senator Ready	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/9/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation
SB0225 (HB1531)	Hunting and Fishing Licenses - Disabled Active Military, Former Prisoners of War, Recipients of the Purple Heart Award, and Disabled Veterans	Senator Simonaire	In the House - Hearing 3/23 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/9/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/23/2016 - 1:00 p.m.

<u>Number / Chapter</u> <u>(Cross File / Chapter)</u> ▲	Title	<u>Primary Sponsor</u>	Status	Original House and Hearing Dates	Opposite House and Hearing Dates
SB0266 (HB0410)	Hunting - Deer - Penalties	Senator Salling	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/9/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation
SB0284	Natural Resources - Complimentary Hunting and Fishing Licenses	Senator Simonaire	In the House - Hearing 3/23 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/9/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/23/2016 - 1:00 p.m.
SB0401 (HB1417)	Charles County and St. Mary's County - Deer Management Permit - Firearms	Senator Waugh	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation
SB0524 (HB0755)	Allegany County and Garrett County - Black Bears - Baiting	Senator Edwards	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; Withdrawn	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/23/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
SB0775	Natural Resources - Recreational License Donation Program - Establishment	Senator Simonaire	In the Senate - Second Reading Passed with Amendments	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/8/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
SB0876 (HB0870)	Natural Resources - Black Fly Management and Control - Washington County	Senator Serafini	In the Senate - Second Reading Passed	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/8/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	
SB0991 (HB0542)	Natural Resources - Wildlife Trafficking Prevention	Senator Young	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; Withdrawn	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	
SB1061	Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting - Statewide Authorization	Senator Conway	In the Senate - First Reading Senate Rules	Rules	
SB1113 (HB1596)	Talbot County - Deer Management Permit - Firearms	Senator Eckardt	In the Senate - Hearing 3/15 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/15/2016 - 1:00 p.m.	