

Commission Meetings and Corresp.

Aug 1994

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TORREY C. BROWN, M.D.
SECRETARY

JOHN R. GRIFFIN
DEPUTY SECRETARY

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
TAWES STATE OFFICE BUILDING
ANNAPOLIS 21401

August 22, 1984

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Solomon Liss, Chairman, Critical Areas Commission

FROM: Torrey C. Brown, M.D. *TCB*

SUBJECT: Outlines of Relevant DNR Programs

For purposes of our interdepartmental briefing with you on August 22, 1984, please find attached for your reference a set of outlines on various ongoing DNR programs which are relevant to the work of the Critical Areas Commission.

The following outlines are attached:

1. Water Resources Administration
2. Tidewater Administration
3. Forest, Park and Wildlife Service
4. Maryland Environmental Forest
5. Capital Programs

TCB:JRG:csc

Attachments

WATER RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION

1 copy of draft out here
for wetlands permits
to Critical Areas Commission

- I. The Water Resources Administration administers the following regulatory programs which are relevant to activities of the Critical Areas Commission:
 - A. Wetlands license/permit program - regulation of dredging, filling, bulkheading, storm drain outlets, etc.
 1. Board of Public Works issues licenses for work in State wetlands (below mean high tide) in accordance with recommendations and environmental assessment by DNR.
 2. Department of Natural Resources issues permits and letters of approval for works in private wetlands (above mean high tide, subject to regular or periodic tidal action and supporting aquatic growth).
 3. Monitors overboard dredge disposal projects.
 4. Oversees assessment of environmental impacts of the Hart-Miller Islands Containment Facility.
 - B. Non-Fuel Surface Mining permit/licensing program - regulation of sand, gravel, clay, stone, etc. mining activities.
 1. Licenses to operators and permits for mining sites issued to protect public safety and environment.
 2. Administers a program to reclaim actively mined sites.
 3. Administers a program to reclaim abandoned sites.
 4. Many active and abandoned sites located adjacent to tidal waters particularly in the Patuxent Basin.
 - C. Oil Control Division - regulates transportation, storage, and handling of oil.
 1. Issues permits and licenses for oil operations, vehicle operators, and oil terminal facilities (including marine terminals).
 2. Maintains program (manpower, equipment, expertise) to respond to emergency oil spillage on open waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries as well as inland cleanup capability.
 - D. Erosion and Sediment Control
 1. Develop standards and specifications

2. Present training and responsible personnel certification
3. Develop program delegation criteria and program review
4. Technical assistance
5. Preparation of regulations
6. Inspection and enforcement of sediment control laws and regulations
7. Plan review, approval and inspection of State projects.

E. Stormwater Management

1. Standards for infiltration practices
2. County and municipal program review
3. Technical assistance
4. Grant-in-Aid program
5. Watershed investigations
6. State and Federal plan review and approval - inspection and enforcement
7. Agricultural drainage project review.

II. The Water Resources Administration has the following Bay Initiatives:

A. Stormwater Management (One position added by Bay Initiatives)

1. Allocation of grant funding (\$1.7 million) to local jurisdictions to assist in implementation of the stormwater management program required by State law.
2. Review and approval of local stormwater management ordinances and programs to assure compliance with the requirements of Natural Resources Article, Section 8-11A et seq. and regulations adopted pursuant to that subtitle.
3. Periodic review to assure proper allocation of funds granted and continued operation of effective stormwater management programs by the respective local jurisdictions.

B. Erosion and Sediment Control (24 new positions)

1. Responsibility for inspection and enforcement of all sediment control plans in the state transfers from counties to WRA effective April 1, 1985. There is a provision for delegation back to the counties.

2. Contractual study of the existing standards and specifications to identify improved methodologies and conditions for implementation of those practices.
 3. Revision of regulations to assure timely stabilization of all disturbed areas.
 4. Development of regulations which prescribe the standards that local jurisdictions must meet to receive delegation of enforcement responsibility.
 5. Review, evaluation, and determination on any requests for delegation of sediment control enforcement responsibility (by April 1, 1985).
 6. Periodic review of local programs where delegation has been granted to assure continued effective operating programs.
- C. Maintenance of desired freshwater inflow to Bay through control of consumptive loss and water conservation (4 new positions)
1. Techniques being employed (both supply and demand sides):
 - a. water conservation to reduce withdrawals year-round and during drought
 - b. new reservoir development and improved management of existing reservoirs.
 2. Implementation mechanisms:
 - a. regulations requiring compensation for or cessation of consumptive losses during low flows
 - b. modification of water appropriation permits
 - c. interstate coordination and agreements
 - d. statewide water conservation technical assistance program
 - e. engineering and modeling studies.

TIDEWATER ADMINISTRATION

The Tidewater Administration brings under one Administration the Coastal Resources Division, the Waterway Improvement Division, the Fisheries Division and all executive vessels. Tidewater Administration manages resource restoration and enhancement projects to restore the traditional species of Maryland's Bay to previous abundance levels. The FY '84 budget is \$11,174,514 and staff is 139.

THE MARYLAND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

I. Background Facts - Federal Program

- A. The Federal Coastal Zone Management Program (FCZMP) came into being through the passage of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.
- B. The purpose was to create a State/Federal partnership toward achieving wise use of the land and water resources of the coastal zone including consideration to ecological, cultural, historic and aesthetic values and to economic development needs.
- C. The FCZMP is directed out of the Department of Commerce.

II. The Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program

- A. The MCZMP was approved by the Department of Commerce in 1978.
- B. The Governor signed an Executive Order establishing the Program and through it recognized that all Departments conducting activities in the coastal area were part of the Program. The Order also designated the Department of Natural Resources as the one to house the coordinating unit for the Program. The Coastal Resources Division was recognized as that unit. Maryland's Program operates through networking.
 1. The Departments are: Agriculture, Economic and Community Development, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, State Planning, Natural Resources, and Transportation. Memoranda of Understanding exist between Natural Resources and these Departments regarding certain activities and procedures with respect to the State's coastal area.
- C. Under the MCZMP, 16 coastal counties and the City of Baltimore comprise the coastal area.
 1. The jurisdictions are: Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Calvert County, Caroline County, Cecil County, Charles County, Dorchester County, Harford County, Kent County, Prince George's County, Queen Anne's County, Somerset County, St. Mary's County, Talbot County, Wicomico County, Worcester County, and Baltimore City.
 2. Contracts between these jurisdictions and the MCZMP have provided money for these areas to address coastal issues, fund a coastal planner or do special studies to assess their coastal resources.
- D. Through networking the MCZMP has been able to satisfy the requirements under the FCMPA for an approved Program because:
 1. All the necessary laws are in place to effectively address the mandates of the federal program.
 2. The Federal mandate of designating and providing management plans for Geographic areas of Particular Concern were to be handled by Maryland's State Land Use Act of 1974.

WATERWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

I. Introduction

This is a special fund program. Revenues for this program are generated from the excise tax on registered boats and a percentage of the state gasoline tax revenues collected. The mission of the Waterway Improvement Program is to develop, finance, improve, and promote the recreation and commercial capabilities, conditions, and safety of Maryland's waterways for the benefit of the general boating public. The Waterway Improvement Program administers the provisions of the Maryland State Boat Act through the following four projects:

Hydrographic Operations
Dredging
Waterway Grants and Project Planning
Marine Services

II. Hydrographic Operations

Hydrographic Operations is responsible for hydrographic engineering services in establishing, maintaining, and charting regulatory buoys and aids to navigation, surveying and charting pound nets, oyster seed planting areas and private oyster leases, and breaking ice during the winter for shellfish operations.

III. Dredging and Waterway Grants and Project Planning

1. The Dredging Project is responsible for waterway projects involving the dredging and protection of channels and harbors that are not maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Activities include development of hydrographic and topographic surveys at proposed channel locations, and the design of all State funded dredging and breakwater projects.
2. Waterway Grants and Project Planning develops recreational access development to the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries with particular emphasis being on projects and activities directly related to the general boating public. In addition, the project is also responsible for clearing debris and obstructions from State waters. Specific duties include liaison with Federal, State agencies and county/municipal governments in promoting, designing, construction and financing of marine facilities and debris removal projects.

The projects administer and distribute the Waterway Improvement Fund in any one of the following groups:

1. 100% funding by the Waterway Improvement Program is used when constructing marine facilities located on DNR-owned property or when providing boat channels dredging/breakwater for either a public boat launching facility or a large number of the general boating public and also approved debris/derelict removal projects.
2. Matching funds (50% State, 50% local governing body)
3. \$5,000 and \$25,000 grants.
4. Provide interest-free loans for the creation of tax districts to governing bodies for waterway improvement projects.

FISHERIES PROGRAM

The Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay has historically been the major producer of oysters and striped bass in the nation. Blue crabs and soft shell clams attain high national production rankings. Thirty-six thousand licensed fishermen and seafood dealers, five thousand processor employees, and an estimated 900,000 recreational fishermen contribute expenditures of hundreds of millions of dollars and an economic impact of several times direct expenditures.

Fisheries Division monitors species abundance, environmental conditions affecting fish populations, regulates harvesting activities, maintains oyster shell planting programs to replenish natural bars and enhance spat setting for transplanting, and conducts fisheries management research.

A. Recreational/Commercial Fisheries and Special Projects

1. Stream Classification - The development, in conjunction with Office of Environmental Programs, a classification code for Maryland's waters to guide land use decisions.
2. Youth Conservation Corps - Providing disadvantaged youth with summer employment on natural resource projects.
3. Fisheries Statistics and Modeling - Compilation and analyzation of commercial and sportsfishing catch records.
4. Habitat Investigations - conducts investigations into problems involving shellfish and finfish physiological conditions.

B. Shellfish Propagation

Plants dredged and fresh oyster shells on the State's natural oyster beds. Spreads seed oysters where natural spat sets have not occurred. Primarily a special fund project generated from 45¢/bushel severance tax. Declining harvests from 2.2 million bushels harvest to less than 1 million bushels in 1983-84 has necessitated the use of state general funds.

C. Finfish Hatcheries

Five hatcheries provide stocking fish for cold and warm water fishing projects. During Fiscal Year 1984, 192,001 catchable size (8-15 inch) trout weighing 89,164 pounds were released into 42 streams and 28 impoundments to provide public trout fishing. Largemouth bass were reared at Unicorn, striped bass and walleye at Lewistown and small and largemouth bass and walleye at Mt. Nebo. Striped bass and hybrids were stocked in 15 impoundments and three river systems. Also approximately 4.5 million striped bass were produced for the special Patuxent project and rockfish research.

D. Freshwater Fisheries

Responsible for management of inland fishery resources, i.e., in waters that are ponds, lakes, canals, and non-tidal streams. Cold water section works to provide the greatest amount of public trout fishing. Warm water section deals with large and smallmouth bass, walleye, striped bass, white perch, and forage fish.

E. Estuarine Fisheries

This project collects and analyzes basic data on the population status and dynamics of finfish in the Chesapeake Bay. The data from these surveys is used to decide courses of action regulating commercial and recreational fishery, in habitat protection and planning long range management.

F. Environmental Review and Habitat Protection

Comments on the effects of habitat modification to the aquatic environment, review permit applications and evaluate proposals and their potential effects on the living resources. Reviews approximately 95 cases a month.

MARYLAND FOREST, PARK AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Cooperative Forestry Program

The Cooperative Forestry Program is charged with the responsibility of providing forest management assistance to private landowners, municipalities and other governmental units in the management of their forests and individual trees. The goal of the program is to improve and maintain the environmental, economic, aesthetic, recreational and social contribution of trees, forests and related resources for the benefit of people. The program has four major elements, each of which are relevant to the activities of the Critical Areas Commission and the improvement of the quality of the Chesapeake Bay.

I. Forest Resource Management

- A. The first step in landowner assistance is the preparation of a forest resource management plan. The plan addresses all forest values, i.e., timber, wildlife, sediment control, aesthetics and recreation. It provides guidance to the landowner as to the forestry practices which can be applied to enhance and improve the values of the forest.
- B. Upon completion of the plan assistance continues in the form of selecting trees to be removed for improvement of growth and quality.
- C. To reduce erosion and sedimentation, both landowners and loggers can obtain technical assistance in the planning and location of logging roads and trails.
- D. Assistance is also provided for reforestation of open areas and forest land from which timber is harvested. This assistance is in planning and in locating contractors to carry out the reforestation.
- E. To assure that there are seedlings available for reforestation, the program operates a forest tree seedling nursery. The nursery produces up to six (6) million seedlings annually, which are sold to the landowners at the cost of production.
- F. In conjunction with the nursery operation, a genetic tree improvement program is being developed. The purpose of the program is to produce superior seedlings of the most economically valuable timber species. This will provide greater economic returns to the landowner and the state.

II. Forest Resource Utilization

The utilization element of the program emphasizes the increased utilization of wood fiber. This is accomplished in two ways:

1. Working directly with the forest industry to improve efficiency in the manufacture of products and the reduction of waste at the mill site.
2. Locating additional markets and encouraging new industries to locate in the state.

III. Forest Resource Protection

This element is directed primarily to the reduction of loss from forest fires. This reduction is gained by:

1. An on-going fire prevention effort directed to the major causes of fire, i.e., arson, children and railroads.
2. Assisting local governments in maintaining their fire suppression capabilities in providing training, equipment and forest fire suppression tools.
3. Providing fire suppression equipment and maintaining a ready force of personnel for fire suppression.

Another function of Forest Protection involves the cooperation with the Maryland Department of Agriculture in insect and disease detection and control.

IV. Urban and Community Forestry

Urban and Community Forestry assistance is directed to the management of forests and trees located in the urban and suburban areas of the state. Major efforts are directed to:

1. The protection of trees growing within the public rights-of-ways of state, county and municipal roads.
2. Assisting regional and county planning agencies in the development of land use plans and regulations for the protection of the many forest resource values.
3. Assisting developers in order to reduce the loss of forest land and to provide technical expertise to assure that the remaining trees, forests and related resources are protected during and after development.
4. Encouraging municipalities to develop tree management programs. This is accomplished by conducting street tree inventories and the development of management plans.

V. Information and Education

In conjunction with all elements in the Cooperative Forestry Program, a continuous effort is made to educate landowners and the other publics in the value of the forest resource. This is done through use of the mass media, publication of informational pamphlets and by presentations to civic, educational and landowner organizations.

- ### VI. Incentives to landowners to encourage the management and the retention of forest land. There are two major types of incentives available to landowners through tax savings and cost sharing.

A. Tax Savings:

Forest Conservation Management Program - This is a state supported program under which a landowner can have the assessed value of the forested acreage frozen if he/she agrees to manage the property in accordance with a plan approved by the Forest, Park and Wildlife Service.

- B. Reforestation Tax Credit - A federal tax savings where a landowner can receive a 10 percent income tax credit for reforestation.
- C. State Income Tax Deduction - Under the state program, the landowner can deduct up to 50 percent of the costs of reforestation and timber stand improvement from the state income tax.
- D. Cost Sharing - Two federally supported programs are available to increase timber production and for conservation practices.

1. Forest Incentives Program (F.I.P.)

Under this program, a landowner can recover 65 percent of the costs of reforestation or timber stand improvement. The limiting factor is that cost sharing is available only to areas of high timber production potential and for acreage of 10 acres or larger.

2. Agricultural Conservation Program (A.C.P.)

This program also provides for 65 percent cost sharing but does not have the limitations of site potential nor acreage. It is directed primarily to reforesting areas with high erosion potential and to general conservation improvements.

VII. Chesapeake Bay Initiatives

The Bay initiative involvement is directed toward the protection and management of the forested buffers in the critical area zone and in the Bay watersheds.

In the 1985 budget, four (4) positions have been added to the program to enhance the Bay initiative. Two positions will be filled in October 1984, with the remaining two to be filled in April 1985. The delay is due to the 50 percent turnover allowance in the monies budgeted.

The following activities will be carried out to protect the buffer zones:

- A. Conduct multi-county program to define and map forested buffers as part of the Chesapeake Bay Initiatives including:
 - coordination with other units in Natural Resources to develop and carry out mapping of stream and Bay forest buffers,
 - preparation of detailed forest buffer maps utilizing digitized computer mapping and conventional 7-1/2' quad sheet products,
 - specialized inventories and surveys to determine exterior boundaries of buffers, plant cover types and forest hydrologic condition,
 - economic analysis to quantify values of forest land as buffers.
- B. Provides consultation, liaison and assistance to local and regional governments regarding:
 - technical assistance and evaluations to county and regional planning agencies to assure that forested buffer zones are preserved,

- criteria for inclusion into county ordinances for the protection and management of buffer zones and assistance for implementation,
 - efforts of planning organizations to provide a standard for ordinances for the protection and management of buffer zones.
- C. Provides technical assistance to forest landowners by the preparation of forest management plans for the protection and management of forest buffer zones and the compliance with county ordinances.
- D. Develops and conducts a comprehensive information and education program directed at the public, government officials and landowners to include:
- the promotion of the preservation, protection and management of forest buffer zones,
 - the identification of target audiences for program implementation in Bay counties,
 - criteria for publishing pamphlets and bulletins,
 - preparation and distribution of appropriate newspaper articles,
 - development of and presentations to public and government organizations,
 - establishment of photographic libraries for use in programs,
 - information for exhibits and displays and arrangements for their use.
- E. Advises county governments of methods for the preservation and protection of forest lands through contacts with key county government officials.
- F. Provides assistance to local land development interests by the following methods:
- serve on county technical evaluation committee to provide standards and guidance for forest land preservation in development planning,
 - develop, publish and distribute standards and criteria for forest buffer preservation and management,
 - assist developers in meeting standards for forest preservation and management.
- G. Cooperates with Soil Conservation Districts and appropriate state agencies to assure that management practices on non-forested lands are coordinated for the protection of the forest buffers.
- H. Provides necessary information and technical assistance to the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas Commisison and its staff for the conduct of the buffer management program.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

The Wildlife Management Program administers the following regulatory programs which are relevant to the activities of the Critical Areas Commission.

I. Forest Wildlife Program

This program is responsible for the management of the wild turkey, white-tailed deer, sika deer, ruffed grouse, grey squirrel, Eastern Fox squirrel and red squirrel. Investigations are conducted to determine mortality rates and population trends.

II Furbearer Program

This program is responsible for the management of 18 species of furbearers in Maryland. Investigations include statewide inventories designed to determine status of these animals and to annually monitor statewide populations.

III Waterfowl Program

The waterfowl program is concerned with 8 species of dabbling ducks, 11 species of diving ducks, 5 species of seaducks, 3 species of geese, 2 species of swans and the American coot. Also included are 6 species of rails and the jacksnipe. Investigations include banding of geese and ducks to determine migration patterns and survival. Other surveys are aimed at determining the changes and conditions of waterfowl habitat indicated by the decrease in bay grasses.

IV Non-game and Endangered Species Program

This program includes species of wildlife not legally classified as game birds or mammals and those species classified as threatened or endangered. These include 37 species of amphibians, 46 species of reptiles, 280 species of birds, and 51 species of mammals.

The coordination of research responsibilities includes planning and project execution for non-game and endangered species. Additional responsibility includes the issuance of endangered species and scientific collecting permits.

V Upland Wildlife Program

The upland wildlife program is responsible for the management of rabbits, quail, pheasant, doves, woodcock and crows. Research studies are conducted to determine such things as nesting success, mortality and population trends. A hunter use survey is also performed within this program to determine the number of hunters and the harvest of all game animals.

VI Wildlife Field Services

This program performs "on the ground" wildlife management practices on public lands and certain private lands. The Acres for Wildlife Program is operated with this program and provides for protection and improvement of upland wildlife habitats on private lands.

VII The Wildlife Management Program has the following Bay Initiatives responsibilities:

Development and operation of the Waterfowl Research & Development Center which will provide ducks for release in habitats throughout the State and provide research on waterfowl habitat and provide for waterfowl educational center.

**MARYLAND
ENVIRONMENTAL
TRUST**

Environment the Trust... Man the Trustee



MEMORANDUM

TO: John Griffin
FROM: Bob Beckett **BOB**
DATE: August 16, 1984
SUBJECT: MET Easement Program

John, the following information briefly describes the MET easement program with an emphasis on the Chesapeake Bay region and Critical Areas.

1. Program Purpose: Protect and preserve essentially undeveloped areas of the State that are of recognized public conservation value. Illustrative properties considered are: farmland, woodland, waterfront, marshes, streams and ponds, scenic views, wildlife and plant habitat, historic properties, archeological sites, and properties of research, educational and recreational value.
2. Method of Preservation: Voluntary donation of perpetual conservation easements to the Trust. Easement restricted properties remain privately owned and cannot be developed. Property owner is able to realize substantial federal income and estate tax reductions by donation of easement to the Trust.
3. Approved Staff and Budget:
 - 1 Executive Director
 - 4 Easement Planners
 - 2 Secretaries

FY 85 DNR Budget Appropriation - \$153,176
4. Easement Properties:
 - 10 yr. Total - 17,700 acres (87 easements)
 - Farmland (61%)
 - Woodland (33%)
 - Wetlands (06%)

John C. Murphy
Chairman

Brice M. Clagett
Vice Chairman

Herbert D. Morrison
Secretary

Ajax Eastman
Treasurer

Robert Beckett
Executive Director

- Approx. 60% of easement acreage is below fall line
- 40 miles of Bay and tributary shoreline are easement protected
- Easement cost to State -- \$45/acre

5. Focus on Bay and Critical Areas:

- Approval of Bay easement initiative is expected to increase average annual easement donations in Bay area (below fall line) from 1,000 to 2,000 acres per year. Bay initiative staff will work exclusively on Bay related easements
- Critical Areas given priority with respect to easement solicitation and processing. MET, in cooperation with CBF, is contemplating special outreach/marketing effort aimed initially at waterfront properties (20 acres and above) in Anne Arundel, Kent, Queen Anne and Talbot Counties.
- Easement program can work in conjunction with other public and private programs to protect sensitive areas from damaging effects of high density land use and inadequate on-site conservation practices.

6. Potential Incentives To Increase Easement Donation:

- Incentive Grants - small grants to selected easement donors with cash flow difficulty (e.g. taxes, surveys, appraisals).
- Tax Relief - 5 yr. property tax abatement on easement properties located in a Critical Area and accepted by the Trust. Lost property taxes to be rebated to the County by the Trust.
- Land Splits With Ag. Foundation - Division of single ownership land parcels which are not wholly suitable for ag easement purchase. Appropriate land segments are split between MALPF purchase program and MET donation program. A waterfront parcel of this variety is under review in Kent County.
- Planning and Zoning - Reference to conservation easement donation within appropriate sections of local land management documents may assist

markedly to improve the "certainty of deductibility" with respect to conservation gifts and the IRS.

A second potential easement donation incentive in a willing county, might be the inclusion of density bonus provisions within the local zoning ordinance. For example, easement donations on environmentally sensitive land in area A of the Critical Area might result in higher permissible use densities in Area B, a development section, of the Critical Area.

- Land Purchase - The purchase of selected open space properties at below market value bargain sale prices is a conservation method employed by a number of land Trust organizations throughout the County. All or most of the acquired property may be restricted to conservation compatible uses (e.g. agriculture, forestry) and the property then sold into the private sector again. The original seller is able to realize a gift tax deduction (the difference between market value and the bargain sale price) while the buyer assures substantial conservation of the property and recovers purchase expenses through the resale of the tract. With care, it is possible to support such a land purchase program on a revolving fund basis.

Development restricted conservation parcels tend to have a positive external effect on neighboring properties. Easement education and solicitation efforts may in this way be enhanced.



TORREY C. BROWN, M.D.
SECRETARY

JOHN R. GRIFFIN
DEPUTY SECRETARY

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CAPITAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION
TAWES STATE OFFICE BUILDING
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

FRED L. ESKEW
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR CAPITAL PROGRAMS

August 21, 1984

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Griffin
FROM: Fred L. Eskew *F.L.E.*
SUBJ: Chesapeake Bay Initiatives --
Capital Programs Administration Involvement

As per your request, Capital Programs Administration involvement with the Chesapeake Bay Initiatives programs are hereby submitted. The major initiatives with which CPA integrates are:

Initiative B - Non-point Source Pollution Control Programs

B-6 Shoreline Erosion

Initiative D - Protection of Land Resources

D-1 Critical Areas Commission

D-2 Non-tidal Wetlands

D-4 Retention of Existing Forestland

LAND PLANNING SERVICES

NATURAL HERITAGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

A. Program Description

The goal of the Maryland Natural Heritage and Environmental Review Program is to preserve the State's natural diversity by identifying outstanding natural habitats and setting priorities for their protection. The Heritage inventory continuously gathers and refines information on the location and status of vulnerable plant and wildlife species and natural communities. By drawing on this data, planners, developers, local, state, and federal officials can judge project impacts before decisions are made and funds allocated. Additionally, once a project's impacts are

evaluated, the Heritage Program works cooperatively with federal, state and local jurisdictions to protect or restore those natural habitats that may be affected. Heritage data is also useful in evaluating the relative health of natural communities, since many species of animals and plants are sensitive to environmental degradation, and the decline or disappearance of such species is a valuable indicator of declining environmental quality.

B. Chesapeake Bay Initiatives

1. Although the Heritage Program does not deal with the Bay itself, in an effort to avoid duplicating effort expended by Tidewater Administration's Coastal Resources Division, it has developed an extensive data base concerning its shoreline and adjacent lands and those valuable fringing wetlands along the Bay's tributaries.
2. Heritage Program biologists will continue to expand this data base, in the future increasing the information available to planners and developers in an effort to minimize environmental degradation and conserve fish, wildlife, and plant habitats.
3. The Heritage Program will identify specific outstanding natural habitats for acquisition within the Bay drainage area.
4. The Heritage Program also maintains the data base developed by the Uplands Natural Areas study and will continue to make this information available to members of the public, local, state, and federal agencies who are involved in making land use decisions.

RESOURCE PLANNING

A. Program Description

Resource Planning is a planning service organization, responsible for planning the acquisition, development, and management of all Department of Natural Resources lands. As such, it works closely with Program Open Space and Maryland Forest, Park and Wildlife Service to secure and develop State lands located in areas providing public access to the Chesapeake Bay and to preserve and enhance natural habitat adjacent to the Bay and its major tributaries for anadromous fishes, waterfowl, wildlife, and other species important to the ecology of Chesapeake Bay.

B. Chesapeake Bay Initiatives

1. Recommend acquisition of park, forest, agriculture, wildlife, and natural habitats land along the Chesapeake Bay and its major tributaries.

2. Develop master plans that list choices of activities and uses for parkland, natural environment areas, natural heritage areas, and forest and wildlife areas describe interpretive and educational programs and indicate the location of natural areas, activity areas, trails, roads, buildings, sensitive management areas, and other facilities for the public to enjoy.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

A. Program Description

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Program is actively working to protect the quality and scenic beauty of several of the state's major tributary rivers. Since these rivers pour vast quantities of fresh water into the Bay, they are directly responsible for maintaining a salinity gradient that is vital to the productivity and overall ecology of the entire bay system. They also play a major role in maintaining water quality as well as nutrient levels, and providing spawning and nursery areas for striped bass, shad and herring, white perch and other species that contribute greatly to the commercial and sportfishing potential of this vast estuary.

Many of Maryland's rivers possess outstanding scenic, fish and wildlife resources. Uncontrolled riverside development often jeopardizes the continued existence of these resources and the environmental and recreational values they provide. The State of Maryland has recognized nine rivers within its scenic and wild river system that possess unique natural and scenic qualities and is studying twenty-five more for possible inclusion into the system.

B. Chesapeake Bay Initiatives

1. The Department of Natural Resources and local citizen advisory boards develop resource management plans which are designed to protect the water quality, promote wise use of the lands along the river, and develop conservation measures for all State scenic and wild rivers.
2. The Department of Natural Resources is in the process of studying twenty-five rivers to determine their eligibility for inclusion as a State scenic or wild river system as required by law. The study rivers are already listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory and are afforded some special protection by the Federal Government.

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE

A. Program Description

The mission of Program Open Space is to provide for public recreational and open space areas within the State of Maryland.

Program Open Space coordinates the purchase of Natural Resources lands, and the design and development of Natural Resources facilities. Program Open Space also obtains federal grants to assist funding land acquisition and development and administers state and federal grants to Maryland's subdivisions for local recreation and open space acquisition and development projects.

B. Chesapeake Bay Initiatives

1. Since many of these recreational and open space areas are on or adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay or its major tributaries, the activities of Program Open Space do have a significant impact on efforts to preserve and enhance existing Bay resources. Since its role is one of implementing the Capital Budget or master plans developed by Resources Planning and other agencies, Program Open Space can best act to beneficially affect conditions in the Bay by efficiently and expeditiously carrying out its mission as stated above.
2. Activities generated from Program Open Space have a direct impact on the improvement of water quality in streams and rivers flowing to the Bay. Most of the State's purchases using Program Open Space funds are lands in the major river valleys such as the Elk, Susquehanna, Gunpowder, Patapsco, Severn, Patuxent, Seneca, Potomac, and Tuckahoe - and the Bay itself. State, counties and towns also use Program Open Space funds on numerous stream valley type parks and waterfront parks throughout the State; therefore, most of these new public parks, forests, and wildlife habitats funded through Program Open Space provide well-managed and protected buffers to the Bay and its tributaries.
3. Seven habitat acquisitions in the fiscal year 1986 Program Open Space Bill are directly related to the improvement of the Bay and its tributaries, as well as providing benefits to furthering the goals of preserving open space, providing public recreation opportunities, and preserving agricultural and forest land. A discussion of each of these items follows.

e. Natural Heritage Priorities - \$300,000

This is a new item to Program Open Space to allow for purchase of environmentally sensitive and unique natural sites that have been identified in the Maryland Heritage Program. All of these eventually drain to the Bay.

SHORE EROSION CONTROL

SHORE EROSION CONTROL PROGRAM

A. Program Description

The overall mission of the Maryland Shore Erosion Control Program is to assist in protecting the eroding shorelines of the State by providing technical and financial assistance to the private sector and political subdivisions bordering the shorelines of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. The importance of these activities is evident when it is considered that approximately 1,341 of Maryland's 4360 miles of shoreline along the Bay and its tributaries are eroding and DNR studies have shown that critical erosion rates (more than two feet annually) are evident along 376 miles of shoreline. In addition to the obvious loss of valuable land (approximately 350 acres per year estimated at 4 to 7 million dollars in market value), this erosion results in the destruction of shoreline communities and the transportation of sediment, pollutants and debris into the Bay. Since 1968 the Program has been charged with the following responsibilities:

1. Public Education - General dissemination of information to individuals, schools, and other interested groups;
2. Technical Assistance - Detailed evaluation of shore erosion problems coupled with specific recommendations for the protection of eroding property;
3. Project Design - Production of construction drawings and specifications for protective structures, accomplished by consulting engineering firms;
4. Project Construction - Complete management of construction for state-funded projects;
5. Financial Assistance Actions - Provision of interest-free loans to individuals and political subdivisions for the construction of projects; and

6. Maintenance Inspections - Periodic inspections of projects after construction to evaluate performance and recommend maintenance.

B. Chesapeake Bay Initiatives

1. The Shore Erosion Control Program is committed to implementing Initiative B-6. This initiative calls for reducing the amount of erosion and sedimentation into the waters of the Chesapeake Bay and tributaries by establishing a non-structural shore erosion control program for now critical eroding areas, augmenting the existing structural program, addressing critical eroding areas and talking for advantage of dredged materials to complement both approaches. While the primary responsibility to implement the Non-Structural approach to Shore Erosion Control has been transferred to Coastal Resources Division of Tidewater Administration, the SEC Program has pledged to assist in this effort.
2. In the months of July and August, the Shore Erosion Control Program has undertaken the following steps towards the implementation of Chesapeake Bay Initiative B-6:
 - SEC Personnel were advised of the increased responsibility and urged to support the effort implementing the Initiative.
 - The responsibility to implement the Non-Structural portion of CBI B-6 was transferred to Coastal Resources Division and various meetings were held to assist in the formulation of a working program.
 - Interviews for one of three positions allotted by the Initiative were held. One position of Engineer I will be filled in 2 weeks.
 - All existing Applications for State Assistance have been reviewed. Design and Construction Costs have been estimated and projects to be accomplished during FY85 have been selected as follows:
 - Encumber design contracts for 38 projects @ \$196,200.00
 - Encumber construction contracts for 45 projects @ \$3,783,530.00
 - Issue 61 loans to property owners @ \$3,278,300.00

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- Obtain property owner's cash contribution @ \$505,230.00
- Protect 16,253 feet of shoreline.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to call.

FMO:mcs