

The purchase of land and the construction of Bear Creek Station, Garrett County, that has produced since 1928, 20,000 trout yearly ranging in size from 7 to 14 inches. These have been stocked in the waters of Garrett County.

The leasing and operation of the Cushwa Rearing Station since 1929, where thousands of trout from 8 to 20 inches are stocked yearly in suitable waters of the State.

Steady progress is being made in the development, propagation and restoration of fish life to the interest of the angler and those interested in conservation work.

The purchase of 11,000 adult bass, ranging in size from one-half to five pounds, from the commercial fishermen and transplanting them in fresh water ponds and streams has resulted in much favorable comment from the inland fishermen. Plans call for an extension of this program.

During the Special Session of the Legislature, 1936, the following changes were made in the Conservation Laws:

Oysters: (Article 72)

Chap. 104, Amending Section 18.—Making it lawful to take oysters by use of hand scrapes from the waters of Worcester County at any time.

Chap. 18, Amending Section 26.—Reducing the dredging license.

Chap. 100, Amending Section 5.—Granting the tongers thirty days in which to license.

Clams: (Article 39)

Chap. 110, Amending Section 101A.—Reducing the license fee for clambers.

Crabs: (Article 39)

Chap. 138, Amending Section 98A.—Granting the Conservation Commission the power and authority, in its discretion, to prohibit the taking of crabs in any of the waters of Maryland during the month of November, 1936.

Fish: (Article 39)

Chap. 119, Amending Section 47.—Authorizing fishing within 800 yards of the natural shore line in Cecil County.

STATE GAME DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND.

Game.

The State Game Department, or Game Division, of the Conservation Commission acts as an agency for the enforcement of game and fresh water fish law and is supported entirely from receipts thru the sale of hunting licenses, which are credited to the State Game Protection Fund and disbursed for the protection and propagation of game, however, the deputy game wardens enforce the fish laws at all points above tide water and receive their compensation from the State Game Protection Fund and not from the anglers license. The General Treasury does not appropriate a single penny to the support of the Division.

The State Game Department was created by Chapter 293, General Assembly of 1896 and consolidated with the Conservation Commission by Chapter 682, Acts of 1916 when said Commission was created. Prior to 1916 the General Assembly appropriated \$2600 every two years for support and maintenance for said Department. With only one salaried officer, namely the State Game Warden, it was impossible for him, no matter how ambitious he may have been, to make a scratch on the surface in the enforcement of the laws and, of course, did not have one penny to expend for propagation.