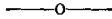


The Legislative Act, under which the Conservation Department now operates, was enacted in 1935 and all control and executive functions of this Department are vested in a Conservation Commission. The Commission consists of three members, two of which are of the same political party. The Commission is appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, for a term of four years from the first Monday in June, 1935. (Ch. 523, Act 1935.)

The Department formulates and effectuates conservation activities and enforces the laws governing the natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay and its tidewater, and maintains a research laboratory at Solomons Island, Maryland. Pertinent literature is issued concerning conservation and rehabilitation of the natural resources as well as the laws regulating the industries and involving the seasons, catch limitations, gears, devices, equipment and matters pertaining to leasing, pollution control, etc. Its duties include cooperation with neighboring states in the maintenance of and rehabilitation of migratory commercial and sport forms that contribute to the resources of the State. In addition, the problem of hatcheries, as a part of the conservation activities on marine fishes and terrapin, is a part of the program of the Department. The research work of its laboratory is largely biological in nature and deals with the fundamental facts of marine life and the principles underlying sound conservation practices.



CHESAPEAKE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY

Dr. R. V. Truitt, Director and State Biologist..... Solomons
 David H. Wallace, Associate Fishery Biologist..... Solomons
 Dr. Rodney A. Olsen, Associate Biologist..... Solomons
 Elizabeth McFarland Wallace, Assistant..... Solomons

The Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, located on Solomons Island, in the mid-region of the Chesapeake Bay Country, is making marked progress as an institution for wild life research and study of natural resources indigenous to the State. In progress at the Solomons Island institution are investigations into pertinent problems concerning crabs, oysters, fish and certain of their related forms and enemies. In the management of the laboratory, several colleges and independent institutions are cooperating, to wit: University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins University, Western Maryland College, Washington College, Goucher College, and the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

The following courses were offered as class work to advanced undergraduates and to graduate students during the 1939 session: *Algae, Economic Zoology, Protozoology, Ichthyology, Invertebrates, Biological Problems, and Biological Survey of the Solomons Island Region*. Class work is limited to eight students in these various subjects relating to local problems. Students are accepted on the basis of interest and scholarship, special consideration being given to those from cooperating institutions and to Maryland high school teachers. Instructional work is planned to the end of effecting a greater interest in the facts and principles of conservation. All research problems are associated with the resources of the State. Original work rather than formal classes is encouraged.

Pollution studies, both field and laboratory, chemical and biological, are in progress in several parts of the State, while intensive work of this type is being done in the Patapsco region, where industrial and other wastes are intense.