

to \$14,012,000 in 1966. The Department expects substantial further increases in 1967.

The phenomenal growth of recreational boating has imposed heavy responsibilities on the Department. This has necessitated the enlargement, retraining, and re-equipping of the Maryland Marine Police. This unit now mans forty-three mobile field units, including forty-two inboard cruisers and a 5-place helicopter equipped for search and rescue operations. Forty-eight high-powered outboards supplement the fleet during the boating season, and the full-time force of 122 men is augmented by 20 part-time inspectors on weekends and holidays. The Department accomplished the retraining of personnel by the establishment of the Maryland Marine Police Academy in March 1963. All law enforcement personnel are now qualified in skills which enable them to provide maximum service in the field of public safety. Many have received advanced training in scuba diving, underwater demolitions, and other skills. The Maryland Marine Police is believed to be the largest, best-trained, and best-equipped unit of its kind in the world.

Under legislation enacted in 1964, and amended in 1966, Maryland offers up to fifty percent funding for the construction of shore erosion control structures, which is substantially more than any other state. The Department offers, in addition, technical advice and assistance to Maryland property owners who have shore erosion problems.

The General Assembly in 1964 established the Waterways Improvement Program, which is supported by a three percent titling tax on boats. This is imposed in lieu of the three percent sales tax which owners formerly paid. These funds have enabled the Department to conduct an active program of improvements to our waterways, including the construction of launching ramps and piers, the dredging of channels and harbors, the clearing of aquatic vegetation, and a boating safety education program. Many of these projects have been financed on a matching fund basis with the counties or with the Federal government.

The Department also provides State administration of the Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act (Public Law 88-309), The Anadromous Fish Act (Public Law 89-304), and The Jellyfish Act (Public Law 89-720). The Department carried out many useful research and development projects during 1966 and 1967 under the provision of these acts, with a fifty to seventy-five percent funding by the Federal government.

Appropriations	1967	1968
General Funds .....	\$3,030,909	\$3,418,424
Special Funds .....	510,000	617,581
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Totals .....	\$3,540,909	\$4,036,005

Staff: 209.

**DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISH**

**The Commission**

Chairman: Dr. William B. Holton, 1970

Vice Chairman: George D. Walters, 1971

Royden A. Blunt, 1968; W. Desmond Walker, 1969; Harold E. Wibberley, Jr., 1972.

**The Department**

George B. Shields, Director

Edwin M. Barry, Assistant Director