

bars, a study of the blue crab to determine fluctuations in annual harvest, investigation of 77 instances of fish mortalities, an inventory of 106 1-mile stream sections in an anadromous fish study, and monitoring of striped bass reproduction and harvesting.

Its freshwater fishery management program including stocking Maryland ponds and streams with 766,978 finfish.

In addition, the administration produces over 321,624 freshwater trout, stocked from Maryland's hatcheries. Extensive rehabilitation of the lakes, ponds and streams was carried on through chemical and mechanical means to provide better freshwater fishing (Natural Resources Article, secs. 1-208 to 10-1101; 1970 Repl. Vol., Art. 66C, secs. 112A-328).

Freshwater fishing licenses totalled 135,000.

Appropriations	1973	1974
General Funds	\$1,102,606	\$ 703,599
Special Funds	1,692,419	1,928,138
Federal Funds	463,829	376,575
Total	<u>\$3,258,854</u>	<u>\$3,008,312</u>

Staff: 1973, 69; Staff: 1974, 72.

WILDLIFE ADMINISTRATION

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The Wildlife Administration, created by Chapter 348, Acts of 1972, is responsible for the maintenance of an abundant population of wildlife throughout the state. The Administrator is appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources.

Among its duties is the management of thirty-five wildlife acres, encompassing 102,587 acres.

Recreational activities on state-owned and cooperative lands included 161,104 days of hunting; 83,390 days of fishing and crabbing; 3,470 days of trapping; 15,176 days of birdwatchings; 2,402 days of field trials; 7,600 days of dog training and 65,441 days of hiking, nature study and appreciation.

In addition, the Administration evaluates public demands, wildlife population and harvest parameters, environmental factors and applies management techniques to insure sustained production for use.

During 1972 the administration developed and maintained thirty acres of dams, dikes and levees; 225 linear feet of canals and channels; 133 miles of roads and trails; 197 miles of signs and boundaries; 23,640 plants, trees and shrubs; 3,693 acres of herbaceous seeding and mowing; 97 acres thinned or cleared; 30 pot holes blasted; 789 acres custom farmed and 78 tree release cuttings.

The 1973 Session of the Maryland General Assembly approved a Non-Game Section to be added to the staff of the Wildlife Administration.

The Section is funded with general and special funds—approximately 90% general and 10% special.

Endangered species, song and insectivorous birds and other wildlife will be studied, managed and protected as the need arises and funds allow (Natural Resources Article, sec. 10-101).