

training courses, police pistol qualifications, public speaking, driver improvement and narcotics and dangerous drugs.

A record 12,757 people received firearms and hunter safety instruction during the year. Six thousand eight hundred sixty seven persons successfully completed the full training course and were awarded Certificates of Competency, and the Maryland Safe Hunter shoulder patch. An additional 5,890 persons attended firearms safety lecture-demonstrations.

Units manned by this division include 44 patrol boats (28 feet to 45 feet), 45 runabouts, 21 vehicles, and one twin-engine Amphibian aircraft. All patrol boats and vehicles and most runabouts are equipped with two-way radios. 15 patrol boats have radar, 30 patrol boats have portable emergency pumps and most are equipped with depth finders.

In fiscal year 1972 the division made 134,587 inspections of boats for conservation and boating violations, 37,587 inspections at seafood processing houses and of trucks carrying seafood cargo, 1,448 arrests and 1,678 warnings for violations of boating laws, 1,378 arrests, 391 warnings, and 1,669 confiscations for violations of the conservation laws, 606 trips to collect water and shellfish samples for the Seafood Program in conjunction with the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and 181 boat accident investigations.

A continuing effort was made to promote firearms and hunter safety training during the year. The Program Coordinator attended meetings of sportsmen's clubs, conservation clubs, church civic groups, youth organizations, schools and industrial groups (Natural Resources Article, secs. 1-201 to 1-209, 2-405).

Appropriations	1973	1974
General Funds .....	\$1,974,911	\$2,085,598
Special Funds .....	1,106,582	1,227,160
Federal Funds .....	<u>          </u>	<u>156,674</u>
Total .....	\$3,081,493	\$3,469,432

Staff: 1973, 211; Staff: 1974, 224.

## FOREST SERVICE

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The Forest Service, created by Chapter 348, Acts of 1972, succeeded the Department of Forests and Parks established by Chapter 508, Acts of 1941. The latter department superseded the Board of Forestry created by Chapter 294, Acts of 1906. The Forest Service is responsible for the overall direction, supervision and coordination of the activities in the State Forests. Programs involve the administration of: (1) forest fire prevention and control; (2) forest management on private forest land including advisory services and assistance to county forest conservancy district boards; (3) roadside tree protection including administration of the Tree Expert Law; (4) forest improvement and (5) State forest operation.

Some 2,600,000 acres of forest land are located in Maryland. About 125,000 acres of this total are State-owned, and comprise the ten State forests administered by the Department at Savage River, Cedarville, Doncaster, Elk Neck, Green Ridge, Pocomoke, Potomac, Swallow Falls, Wicomico and Seth. These multiple-use forest areas produce wood fiber for industry and provide hunting, fishing, camping, picnicking, wildlife