

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 5 (a) of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Replacement Volume), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "In General," subheading "Department of Natural Resources," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; that Sections 154 (c) and 165 of said Article, Code and title, subtitle "Birds, Game and Inland Water Fish," subheading "Waterfowl and Migratory Birds," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; and that Section 165C of said Article, Code, title and subtitle, subheading "St. Mary's River Wild Fowl Sanctuary," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; and that Section 411AB of said Article, Code and title, subtitle "Patuxent River Watershed," subheading "Waste Control," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; and that Section 411AH of said Article, Code and title, subtitle "Severn River Watershed—Sediment and Waste Control," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; and that Section 758 of said Article, Code and title, subtitle "Shore Erosion Control," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, all to read as follows:

5.

(a) Generally.—The Secretary of Natural Resources, in addition to his other powers, duties and functions as provided by law, shall be responsible for the development of coordinated policies for the conservation, enhancement, wise use, perpetuation of the natural resources of the State, and shall be responsible for the efficient coordination of all the natural resources activities of the State including the settlement of conflicts that may arise among departments, agencies and institutions within the Department of Natural Resources. In the discharge of his responsibility the Secretary shall:

(1) Provide a forum of communication among natural resources agencies and a source of information for the Governor and General Assembly on the preservation, development and use of all the natural resources.

(2) Study and evaluate any plan, program or activity, or any combination of plans, programs or activities within one or more of the departments, agencies or institutions making up the Department of Natural Resources, and recommend any legislative, budgetary or administrative changes, which will provide more effective administration, clarify responsibilities, terminate obsolete programs, establish desirable programs, or alter or amend programs to meet changed or changing conditions.

(3) Review federal statutes and federal policies, programs and activities which affect or may affect natural resources of Maryland and recommend to federal, State and local agencies and institutions procedures for the coordination of these programs.

(4) Study the natural resources activities of the subdivisions of the State and recommend procedures for coordination of the natural resources activities of the State and its subdivisions.

(5) Maintain a catalog or inventory of public land acquired or used in the preservation, development, management or enjoyment of the natural resources; review and [approval] *approve* all plans and proposals of the departments associated with the Department for the