

[(4)] (d) Plan a regulatory program and its related cooperation with the officials of other states and the federal government, and with local agencies;

[(5)] (e) Plan the improvement of the waterways of Maryland through the deepening of channels, the acquisition and development of access areas, the removal of obstructions, the building of docks and clearing waters of aquatic vegetation.

7.

(a) All fees and other revenues collected under the authority of this article, and any other available income, shall be deposited in the State treasury and be used exclusively for the administration, functions, and objectives of this article. These funds are to be credited to the Department of [Tidewater Fisheries but this Department shall make available to the Department of Game and Inland Fish an equitable share of such funds for the administration of this article in the nontidal waters of Maryland, which are within the jurisdiction of the Department of Game and Inland Fish] *Natural Resources*.

(b) The Department [of Tidewater Fisheries and the Department of Game and Inland Fish] shall [each] have the authority to use the funds credited to [their] *its* accounts to purchase, rent and operate such equipment as [each] *it* may need to accomplish the purposes of this article, within [their respective areas of jurisdiction, such expenditures, however, to be in accordance with] budgetary [requirements] *limitations*.

(c) Subject to available income, [each] *the* department is authorized to employ such personnel as it may need, such employment to be under and subject to the State merit system.

(d) Within the limits of funds available, [each] *the* department is authorized to enter into agreements with the federal government, with any municipality or other political subdivision of the State, or with any private agency for sharing the cost of any development, construction, or improvement of waterways, or facilities which are determined to have beneficial value to the boating public.

8.

(a) The Department [of Tidewater Fisheries and the Department of Game and Inland Fish] shall [jointly] establish [uniform] regulations governing the numbering, safety equipment, and operation of the vessels subject to this article so that any such vessel complying therewith may be operated with equal freedom, or under similar requirements, upon all the waters of Maryland. The numbering system to be used shall conform to the numbering system promulgated by the federal government. [Safety and operational regulations dealing with nontidal waters shall be adopted only with the recommendation of the Game and Inland Fish Commission.] Such regulations shall not be in conflict with federal laws and regulations applicable to such vessels upon the navigable waters of the United States which are within this State. [The departments are authorized and directed to alter and amend their regulations as need be, from time to time, to prevent conflict with federal laws.]

[(b) Each department is authorized to prescribe special rules and regulations governing the operation of vessels in special areas or under special conditions within their respective jurisdictions.]