

(b) [The Secretary appoints the Director of the Administration, who serves at the Secretary's pleasure. The Director shall have executive ability, experience, and knowledge of the principles of water resource planning, management, conservation, and administration. The Director receives the salary provided in the State budget.

(c) The Director is responsible for the exercise of every power and duty conferred on the Department by the provisions of this title and delegated to the Director by the Secretary.

(d)] (1) The Administration shall be adequately staffed and organized to carry out the provisions of this title and at salaries provided in the State budget.

(2) Subject to the Secretary's authority as provided in Title 1 of this article, [the Director appoints and removes] the Administration's staff SHALL BE APPOINTED AND REMOVED in accordance with the provisions of the State Personnel Article that govern classified service employees.

[(3) When the provisions of the State Personnel Article provide for disciplinary or dismissal proceedings against classified service employees to be brought by the appointing authority, the Director is the appointing authority, unless the Secretary determines by written directive that the Secretary is the appointing authority.

(4) The Director supervises and controls the staff who perform duties the Director prescribes.]

(C) THE SECRETARY SHALL DESIGNATE THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION.

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(a) The Department has general supervisory power, regulation, and control over the [natural] WATER resources of the State within the boundaries of the tidal waters AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE.

(b) The Department shall exercise to the fullest extent possible the State's responsibility for its water resources by planning and supervising multiple purpose development and conservation of the waters of the State for the State's best interests and benefit. The Department shall develop a general water resources program which contemplates proper conservation and development of the waters of the State, in a manner compatible with multiple purpose management on a watershed or aquifer basis, or any other appropriate geographical unit. The program shall recognize and be consistent with functions of other State units. The Department shall be guided by the program in the performance of its duties.

(c) The Department may make or cause to be made surveys, maps, investigations, and studies of water resources of the State necessary to provide sufficient information to formulate a program and perform its duties. The Department may contract for research or scientific investigation with the Natural Resources Institute of the University of Maryland, the Chesapeake Bay Institute of The Johns Hopkins University, or other appropriate research organizations.