

CHAPTER 567

(Senate Bill 234)

AN ACT concerning

Wildland and Open Areas – Designation of New Wildlands

FOR the purpose of expanding the State wildland program by designating certain additional areas of the State as State Wildland; and generally relating to wildland areas in the State.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Natural Resources

Section 5-1203(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources

Section 5-1203(h), (k), and (m)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Natural Resources

Section 5-1203(cc) through (ee)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Natural Resources

5-1203.

(a) In order to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the State, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition, it is the policy of the General Assembly to secure for the people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of State wildlands. For this purpose there is established a State wildlands preservation system composed of areas in the State designated by the General Assembly as "wildland areas". The wildland areas shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the people of Maryland in a manner that will leave them unimpaired for the future use and enjoyment as wildlands, to provide for their protection, preservation of their wildland character, and for gathering and