

(I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE BUDGET.

10-301.

(n) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE UPLAND WILDLIFE HABITAT FUND.

(2) There is an Upland Wildlife Habitat Fund in the Department.

(3) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT OF UPLAND HABITAT PROGRAMS.

(4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

(5) (I) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

(II) THE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

[(2)] (6) The Fund consists of:

(i) Voluntary contributions made to the [Upland Wildlife Habitat] Fund at the time of purchase of a hunting license under this section; [and]

(ii) Any other donations made to the Fund; AND

(III) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND.

[(3)] The Secretary shall administer the Fund.

(4) The Fund may be used only as provided in this subsection.

(5) The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

(6) The Fund shall be invested and reinvested in the same manner as other State funds. Any investment earnings of the Fund may not be transferred or revert back to the General Fund, but shall remain in the Fund to be used for purposes specified in this subsection.]

(7) (I) [The Secretary shall use the Fund to] THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR:

[(i)] 1. [Provide] PROVIDING cost-share assistance to landowners for planting upland wildlife habitat;

[(ii)] 2. [Provide] PROVIDING matching funds to acquire grant funding for upland wildlife habitat programs;

[(iii)] 3. [Hire] HIRING contractual staff to implement upland wildlife habitat programs in the State; and