

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

BY repealing

Chapter 576 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1985, as amended by Chapter 122 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1989

Section 3

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

Article - Natural Resources

1-203.

(a) The Secretary shall, within the limits of any appropriation made for this purpose, appoint Natural Resources police officers as the Secretary deems necessary for the efficient administration of the Natural Resources Police Force. All appointments shall be made from a list of eligible persons prepared by the Secretary of Personnel, in accordance with the merit system, or from a list prepared by the Department as permitted by the Secretary of Personnel.

(e) All Natural Resources police officers, including persons appointed for training prior to regular assignment as a Natural Resources police officer, shall remain in a probationary status for a period of 2 years from the date of initial appointment to the Natural Resources Police Force. The Secretary may discharge an employee in probationary status for any cause which is deemed sufficient in the sole discretion of the Secretary.

(f) In cases of inconsistency between this subtitle and the provisions of Article 64A, Merit System, the provisions of this subtitle shall control as to all matters relating to the Natural Resources Police Force.

5-206.

(b) The Secretary [may commission any employee of the Department as a forest, park, and wildlife ranger] SHALL, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF ANY APPROPRIATION MADE FOR THIS PURPOSE, COMMISSION FOREST, PARK, AND WILDLIFE RANGERS AS THE SECRETARY DEEMS NECESSARY FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS ~~UNDER THIS ARTICLE AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION.~~ ALL APPOINTMENTS SHALL BE MADE FROM A LIST OF ELIGIBLE PERSONS PREPARED BY THE SECRETARY OF PERSONNEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MERIT SYSTEM, OR FROM A LIST PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT AS PERMITTED BY THE SECRETARY OF PERSONNEL. An employee so commissioned and assigned law enforcement duties has and may exercise the powers of a Natural Resources police officer or a law enforcement officer of the State. These powers may be exercised upon:

- (1) Properties owned by the State and managed by the Department;
- (2) Railroad rights-of-way and utility properties which are not owned by the State, but which traverse properties owned by the State and managed by the Department;