



2015 SESSION LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of actions during the 2015 General Assembly session that had important impacts on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

As in previous years, the Department of Natural Resources initiated and supported legislation consistent with the Department's stewardship role and mission of preserving, protecting, restoring, and enhancing the State's natural resources.

A thorough summary of actions taken during the legislative session is contained in [The 90 Day Report](#) written by the Department of Legislative Services. Part K of the report describes actions related to natural resources, environment and agriculture. Part A includes the FY 2015 budget.

Detailed budget information is contained in the bills that enacted the fiscal year 2015 operating and capital budgets ([HB 70](#) and [HB 71](#)), the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2015 (BRFA – [HB 72](#)), and the [Joint Chairmen's Report](#) on the Fiscal 2016 State Operating Budget (HB 70) and the State Capital Budget (HB 71) and related recommendations.

Texts of bills and fiscal notes, recordings of hearings and floor debates, and other detailed information on legislation and issues related to the Maryland General Assembly are available online at <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmlst.aspx?tab=home>.

During the Maryland General Assembly's 2015 session 2,248 pieces of legislation were introduced and 692 (31 percent) were passed by both the Senate and the House of Delegates. DNR's Legislative Office tracked 237 bills and provided 75 bill reports expressing support of or opposition to individual bills, or providing background information. DNR provided information to the Department of Legislative Services for 118 Fiscal and Policy Notes.

Our shared success during the 2015 legislative session would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the many people throughout DNR who provided critical assistance and expertise. Special thanks to Legislative Coordinator Lisa Eutsler and Legislative Fellow Joshua Moore, who were indispensable members of our team.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Department's Legislative Office at 410-260-8107 with any questions or comments.

Richard D. Norling
Legislative Director
Maryland Department of Natural Resources

NEW LAWS OF INTEREST TO DNR

Bills that Directly Affect DNR

SB 68 Charles County and St. Mary's County – Deer Management Permit – Repeals the rifle training and extended deer season provisions of SB 966 of 2014, and allows the use of rifles by individuals who hold a Deer Management Permit in Charles or St. Mary's County. Chapter 147, emergency bill, effective May 12, 2015.

SB 83 Environment – Vibrio Public Information Campaign – Requires the Department of the Environment, in consultation with DHMH, DNR and stakeholders, to conduct an appropriate public information campaign about the health risks associated with the *Vibrio* bacteria in the waters of the State. Chapter 322, emergency bill, effective May 12, 2015.

SB 88 Natural Resources – Game Birds – Baiting – Removes the ability of Natural Resources Police to use strict liability to enforce the law against bird baiting to hunt wetland game birds and upland game birds. Chapter 148, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 600 Chesapeake Bay Trust and Chesapeake Conservation Corps – Funding – Increases from \$250,000 to \$375,000, the amount allocated each fiscal year from the Environmental Trust Fund to fund the Chesapeake Conservation Corps, and requires the Maryland Transportation Authority to report to the General Assembly by October 1, 2015 on the feasibility of establishing an E-ZPass donation program to benefit the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Chapter 370, effective June 1, 2015.

SB 601 African American Heritage Preservation Program – Reestablishment and Revisions – Reestablishes the African American Heritage Preservation Program in the Maryland Historical Trust to identify and preserve buildings, communities, and sites of historical and cultural importance to the African American experience in the State. Chapter 371, effective June 1, 2015.

SB 666 Recreational Fishing Licenses – Duration and Expiration Date – Makes the term of recreational fishing licenses one full year from the date of purchase. Chapter 376, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 694 Income Tax Credit – Oyster Shell Recycling – Credit Amount – Increases the amount of income tax credit from \$1 to \$5 per bushel of oyster shells recycled during the taxable year. The total tax credit an individual or corporation can claim in any year remains capped at \$750. Chapter 193, effective July 1, 2015.

SB 844 Frederick County – Deer Management Permit – Use of Rifles – Expands permissible use of rifles by Deer Management Permit holders and their agents in Frederick County. Chapter 202, effective July 1, 2015.

SB 862 Maryland Park Service – Operations Revenue – Mandated Appropriation – Provides for allocation of administrative costs before implementing the requirement that a

percentage of revenues attributable to State park operations be appropriated to the Maryland Park Service (at least 60% in FY 2016, 80% in FY 2017, and 100% in later fiscal years). Chapter 389, effective June 1, 2015.

HB 14 Hunting Licenses – Exemption for Retired Members of the Armed Forces – Allows a retired military person to hunt on a family farm without obtaining a hunting license. Chapter 216, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 67 General Assembly – Mandated Reports by State Agencies – The bill makes changes in reporting requirements affecting many State agencies. It repeals requirements for the following reports from DNR:

- Biennial report on acid deposition (MSAR #884, NR 3-3A-04(a)).
- Annual report on collection of limited fishing guide license fees (NR 4-210(h)(3)).
- Annual report on collection of freshwater fishing guide license fees (NR 4-210.1(d)(2)).
- Annual status report on endangered or threatened fish species (MSAR #1968, NR 4-2A-04(g)).
- Annual report on results of striped bass survey (MSAR #1967, NR 4-746(b)).
- Annual report on building permits for additional dwelling units in the Critical Area (MSAR #2497, NR 8-1808.1(e)(3)).
- Annual and 5-year reports on phragmites infestation (MSAR #2052 and #2053, NR 8-2103(c)).
- Annual report on construction and operation of duck hatchery facilities (MSAR #6652, Chapter 791 of 1984).

The bill also modifies requirements for these reports from DNR:

- Biennial agency report becomes annual, no longer required to be printed (MSAR #867, NR 1-104(e)).
- Annual report on administration of the Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Fund now due September 30 instead of August 31 (MSAR #868, NR 1-706(a)).
- Annual Reforestation report now due September 30 instead of July 1 (MSAR #2054, NR 5-103(h)).
- Annual Mel Noland Woodland Incentives Fund report now due September 30 instead of June 1 (MSAR #8577, NR 5-307(j)).
- Annual Forest Conservation Act report now due September 30 instead of July 1 (MSAR #6958, NR 5-1613).

Chapter 58, effective June 1, 2015.

HB 287 Natural Resources – Aquaculture – Liability for Trespass – Creates a civil liability for individuals damaging an aquaculture lease or harvesting or transferring shellfish from a lease without written permission of the leaseholder, and sets a formula for calculating the damages to the leaseholder. Chapter 235, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 356 Department of General Services – Deep Creek Lake Buy Down Area Program – Extension – Requires DGS to reestablish the Deep Creek Lake Buy Down Area Program, with any proceeds after expenses earmarked for purchase of additional public access to Deep Creek Lake. Chapter 243, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 514 Maryland Commission on Climate Change – Establishes the Maryland Commission on Climate Change in law. Chapter 429, effective June 1, 2015.

HB 554 Natural Resources – Nonresident Senior and Junior Hunting Licenses – Establishes a nonresident senior hunting license at a cost of \$65; reduces the cost of a nonresident junior hunting license to \$32.50; requires a report by December 31, 2017; and sunsets on June 30, 2018. Chapter 260, effective July 1, 2015.

HB 860 Aquatic Invasive Species – Decontamination of Vessels (State Lakes Invasive Species Act of 2015) – Requires the owner of a vessel to clean it of all visible organic material before placing the vessel in a State owned or managed lake at a public launch ramp or public dock after April 1, 2017; establishes a civil penalty; and instructs DNR to convene a workgroup to make recommendations on the most appropriate actions to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species from vessels placed in lakes that are owned or managed by the State. The workgroup is required to report to legislative committees by December 21, 2015. Chapter 461, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 1074 Complimentary Hunting License for Former Prisoners of War or Disabled Veterans – Reciprocity – Authorizes issuance of complimentary lifetime hunting licenses to an out-of-state individual who is a former prisoner of war or 100% service connected disabled if the individual's state of residence grants reciprocal issuance to similar residents of Maryland. Chapter 295, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 1287 Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission and Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission – Membership – Adds one seat each to the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission and the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission, to be filled by a representative of the aquaculture industry. Chapter 307, effective July 1, 2015.

General Bills that Have Some Effect on DNR

SB 30 Procurement – Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise Participation – Award of Contracts – Requires agencies to award contracts that include a goal for veteran-owned small business enterprise participation to bidders or offerors who will comply with the participation mandate. Chapter 3, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 94 State Government – Automated Mapping-Geographic Information Systems – System Services Costs – Revises the rules regarding what fees government agencies can charge for automated mapping-geographic information systems products. Chapter 149, effective July 1, 2015.

SB 109 Task Force to Study Small and Minority Design Firm Participation in State Procurement – Establishes the Task Force to Study Small and Minority Design Firm Participation in State Procurement, and requires the Task Force to report to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2015. Chapter 12, effective June 1, 2015.

SB 133 Environment – Bay Restoration Fund – Use of Funds – Authorizing funds in the Bay Restoration Fund to be used to pay up to 87.5% of the total cost of projects relating to combined sewer overflows abatement, rehabilitation of existing sewers, and upgrading conveyance systems. Chapter 153, effective July 1, 2015.

SB 215 Pilots – Recreational Vessels – Employment Requirement – Allows pleasure vessels less than 200 feet in length to navigate in Maryland waters without a licensed bay pilot. Chapter 19, Emergency Bill, effective April 14, 2015.

SB 265 Calvert County – Electronic Bingo and Electronic Tip Jars – Distribution of Admissions and Amusement Tax Revenues – Increases the amount of Calvert County tip jar revenue that goes to the Calvert County Youth Recreational Opportunities Fund under Title 5, Subtitle 19 of the Natural Resources Article. Chapter 334, effective July 1, 2015.

SB 344 Public Health – Emergency and Allergy Treatment Program – Authorizes certain youth camp operators and agents to administer auto-injectable epinephrine to an individual under certain circumstances. Chapter 342, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 350 / HB 243 Procurement – Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprises – Participation Goal – Increases the participation goal in procurement contracts from 0.5% to 1% for veteran-owned small business enterprises. Chapters 343 and 344, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 353 Electric Companies – Installation of Solar Electric Generating Facility – New Interconnection Agreement – Specifies procedures for a person who is negotiating a solar installation and interconnection contract with a customer-generator to obtain approval of the customer-generator's electric company. Chapter 161, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 370 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research, Development, Regulation, and Privacy Act of 2015 – Provides that only the State (not a local government) may enact a law or take other

action to prohibit, restrict, or regulate the testing or operation of unmanned aircraft systems, and requires DBED to consult with other parties and make recommendations to the General Assembly by December 31, 2015. Chapter 164, effective July 1, 2015.

SB 371 State Highway Administration – Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Areas – Specifies procedures for the State Highway Administration and local governments to designate bicycle and pedestrian priority areas. Chapter 28, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 398 Electricity – Community Solar Energy Generating System Program – Establishes a pilot program on community solar energy generating systems under the authority of the Public Service Commission. Chapter 346, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 409 / HB 449 Environment – Hydraulic Fracturing – Regulations – Prohibits MDE from issuing a permit for hydraulic fracturing before October 1, 2017, and requires MDE to adopt regulations by October 1, 2016 (the regulations may not have an effective date earlier than October 1, 2017). Became law without the Governor’s signature under Article II, Section 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution. Chapters 480 and 481, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 413 Vehicle Laws – Race-Based Traffic Stops – Policy and Reporting Requirements – Requires specified law enforcement officers to record information pertaining to traffic stops, and requires law enforcement agencies to report information to the Maryland Statistical Analysis Center. Chapter 127, effective June 1, 2015.

SB 444 Public Records – Inspection – Requires an official custodian to make a certain designate and maintain a list of types of public records that are to be made available to any applicant immediately on request, and repeals a prohibition against an applicant receiving a copy of a judgment while an appeal is pending. Chapter 350, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 460 Public Utilities – Electricity – Construction of Overhead Transmission Lines – Allows persons other than electric utility companies to apply for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to begin construction of a new overhead electricity transmission line under certain circumstances. Chapter 174, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 482 Public Safety – Law Enforcement Officers – Body-Worn Cameras – Clarifies requirements for law enforcement officers and law enforcement agencies when using a body-worn camera to require that officers record in certain situations and refrain from recording in other situations. Chapter 128, emergency bill, effective May 12, 2015.

SB 542 Maryland Cybersecurity Council – Establishment – Establishes the Maryland Cybersecurity Council. Chapter 358, effective July 1, 2015.

SB 604 Human Relations – Employment Discrimination – Protection for Interns – Establishes protections for interns and applicants for internships from specified discriminatory acts, and specifies a complaint resolution procedure. Chapter 43, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 662 State Finance and Procurement – One Maryland Blue Ribbon Commission –

Establishes the One Maryland Blue Ribbon Commission to review the current State procurement process and develop policy recommendations to ensure transparency and greater participation of businesses located in the State in State contracting. Requires the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2015. Chapter 191, effective July 1, 2015.

SB 695 / HB 755 General Provisions – Public Information Act – Enforcement, Fees, and Exemptions –

Creates the State Public Information Act Compliance Board and Office of the Public Access Ombudsman, and prescribes procedures for handling of controversies related to implementation of the Public Information Act. Chapters 135 and 136, effective October 1, 2015.

SB 766 Agricultural Land Transfer Tax – Rate Determination –

Provides that land exempt from the agricultural land transfer tax shall not be included in calculation of the rate of the tax. Chapter 197, effective June 1, 2015.

SB 863 Watershed Protection and Restoration Programs – Revisions –

Repeals the requirement that certain counties have a separate stormwater remediation or “rain tax” fee, and requires counties to perform and report on stormwater remediation projects. The bill specifies the conditions in which State agencies are required to pay county stormwater remediation fees. Chapter 124, effective July 1, 2015.

HB 120 Criminal Procedure – Failure to Appear – Rescheduling – Authorizes a judge to set bail at the same time the judge issues a bench warrant for failure to appear in court. Chapter 402, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 207 Chesapeake Bay Trust – Investment Options – Expansion – Authorizes the Chesapeake Bay Trust to invest funds in marketable equity securities, marketable equity-related mutual funds, or debt-related mutual funds. Chapter 408, effective July 1, 2015.

HB 216 Environment – Personal Care Products Containing Synthetic Plastic Microbeads –

Prohibition on Manufacturing or Sale – Prohibits a person from manufacturing for sale or accepting for sale a personal care product or an over-the-counter drug that contains synthetic plastic microbeads on or after certain dates (ranging from December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2019). Chapter 409, effective July 1, 2015.

HB 323 Maryland Building Performance Standards – Modifications – Energy Codes –

Authorizes a local jurisdiction to adopt amendments to the Maryland Building Performance Standards that are equivalent to the requirements of specified international energy conservation and energy efficiency codes. Chapter 239, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 349 Procurement Preferences – Pricing and Selection Committees –

Removes the Pricing Committee for Blind Industries and Services of Maryland and merges the functions of the Committee with the Pricing and Selection Committee for the employment Works Program; altering the membership and duties of a specified pricing and selection committee; requiring the

Governor's Office of Minority Affairs and the Department of General Services to report to specified committees of the General Assembly on or before January 1 of each year. Chapter 415, effective July 1, 2015.

HB 674 Public Information Act – List of Contact Information for Governmental Unit Representatives – Requires each State agency and the Attorney General to post contact information for an agency representative who a member of the public should contact to request a public record. Chapter 266, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 821 Environment – Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee – Composition – Second Duties – Adds two members to the Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee and clarifies the duties of the Committee. Chapter 458, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 919 Land Use – Plans – Development and Adoption – Makes changes to the process for adoption of local land use plans. Chapter 288, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 939 Proposed Regulations – Determination of Impact on Small Businesses – Requires agencies to submit proposed regulations to the Advisory Council on the Impact of Regulations on Small Businesses at least 15 days before submitting the proposed regulations to the Maryland Register. Chapter 137, effective October 1, 2015.

HB 1087 Electricity – Community Solar Energy Generating System Program – Establishes a pilot program on community solar energy generating systems under the authority of the Public Service Commission; providing for the structure and operation of the program, including the generation of electricity and allocation of costs to subscribers to a community solar energy generating system. Chapter 347, effective July 1, 2015.

NEW REPORTS REQUIRED FROM THE 2015 SESSION

HB 554 *Natural Resources – Nonresident Senior and Junior Hunting Licenses*

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before December 31, 2017, the Department of Natural Resources shall submit a report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, describing:

- (1) the number of nonresident junior hunting licenses and nonresident regular hunting licenses issued by the Department for license years 2013–2014 through 2016–2017;
- (2) the number of nonresident senior hunting licenses issued by the Department for license years 2015–2016 and 2016–2017; and
- (3) an estimate of any economic benefits to the State attributable to any increase in the issuance of nonresident hunting licenses, including increased business activity and tax receipts.

HB 860 *Aquatic Invasive Species – Decontamination of Vessels (State Lakes Invasive Species Act of 2015)*

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Department of Natural Resources shall convene a workgroup consisting of the Department, at least one expert in boat cleaning and decontamination programs, and other stakeholders representative of interested parties to evaluate actions that reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species from vessels placed in lakes that are owned or managed by the State.

(b) The workgroup shall:

(1) make recommendations on the most appropriate actions to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species from vessels placed in lakes that are owned or managed by the State, including:

- (i) recommended budget items;
- (ii) recommended funding sources; and
- (iii) prioritized activities and resources; and

(2) include a plan in the report required under subsection (c) of this section to implement the recommendations of the workgroup by July 1, 2016.

(c) On or before December 31, 2015, the workgroup shall report its recommendations to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Environment and Transportation Committee, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article.

Section 40 Historical and Projected Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending

SECTION 40. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Maryland Department of Planning, the Department of Natural Resources, the Maryland Department of Agriculture, the Maryland Department of the Environment, and the Department of Budget and Management provide a report to the budget committees by December 1, 2015, on Chesapeake Bay restoration spending. The reports shall be drafted subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in terms of both electronic format to be used and data to be included. The report shall include:

- (1) fiscal 2015 annual spending by fund, fund source, program, and State government agency; associated nutrient and sediment reduction; and the impact on living resources and ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, and “chlorophyll a” for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries, which is to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS;
- (2) projected fiscal 2016 to 2025 annual spending by fund, fund source, program, and State government agency; associated nutrient and sediment reductions; and the impact on living resources and ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, and “chlorophyll a” for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries, which is to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS; and
- (3) an overall framework discussing the needed regulations, revenues, laws, and administrative actions and their impacts on individuals, organizations, governments, and businesses by year from fiscal 2015 to 2025 in order to reach the calendar 2025 requirement of having all best management practices in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay, which is to be both written in narrative form and tabulated in spreadsheet form that is submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS.

Explanation: This language expresses the intent that the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) provide a report by December 1, 2015, on recent and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending and associated impacts and the overall framework to meet the calendar 2025 requirement of having all best management practices in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay.

Information Request: Historical and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending

Authors: MDP, DNR, MDA, MDE, DBM

Due Date: December 1, 2015

Section 41 Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending

SECTION 41. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Department of Budget and Management, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Maryland Department of the Environment provide two reports on Chesapeake Bay restoration spending. The reports shall be drafted subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in terms of both electronic format to be used and data to be included. The scope of the reports is as follows:

- 1) Chesapeake Bay restoration operating and capital expenditures by agency, fund type, and particular fund source based on programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration for the fiscal 2015 actual, fiscal 2016 working appropriation, and fiscal 2017 allowance, which is to be included as an appendix in the fiscal 2017 budget volumes and submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS; and
- 2) 2-year milestones funding by agency, best management practice, fund type, and particular fund source along with associated nutrient and sediment reductions for fiscal 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017, which is to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS.

Explanation: This language expresses the intent that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) provide at the time of the fiscal 2017 budget submission information on (1) Chesapeake Bay restoration spending for programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration; and (2) two-year milestones funding.

Information Request: Summary of Chesapeake Bay restoration spending for programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration, and two-year milestones expenditures

Authors: DBM, DNR, MDE

Due Date: Fiscal 2017 State budget Submission

Joint Chairmen's Report – Capital Budget, April 2015, page 222

Comprehensive Workgroup-led Review of State Land Preservation and Easement

Acquisition Programs: The budget committees request an evaluation of State's land preservation and easement acquisition programs and all capital and operating programs funded with the State transfer tax. This evaluation should be conducted by a workgroup comprised of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), representatives from county parks and recreation department, and other interested stakeholders.

The workgroup should provide a report to the budget committees by December 1, 2015, on an evaluation of the full suite of land preservation and easement acquisition programs – Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program, Program Open Space – State and Local, Rural Legacy Program, and Maryland Environmental Trust – covering the roles the programs play relative to each other and current statute, and the funding each receives through the transfer tax formula. Topics of study should include the pros and cons of combining some or all of the land preservation and easement acquisition programs, and the possible expansion of State and local revenue generating opportunities from multi-use State working lands. In addition, specific programs should be evaluated as follows:

- Program Open Space – State – the appropriate level of operating and capital funding needed for maintaining State forest, park, and wildlife management area land in terms of general management, public interpretation, and infrastructure improvements, including the need to reduce the \$44 million (676 project) backlog in the Critical Maintenance Program, and provide the public amenities through the Natural Resources Development Fund;
- Program Open Space – Local – the appropriate percentage of funding to be devoted to acquisition of land before development projects may be funded, the trade-offs associated with increasing/decreasing this percentage, the current status of county fulfillment of the land acquisition requirement, and the status of the requirement to evaluate the Program Open Space – Local allocation formula annually by a committee;
- Rural Legacy Program – the status of local transfer of development rights programs in the State and the opportunities for leveraging these programs with Rural Legacy Program funding as allowed for in statute;
- Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program – the status of using federal funding, the methodology by which county funding allocations are determined relative to available funding, and the impacts of reduced funding on the county allocations thus requiring combined easement cycles; and
- Maryland Environmental Trust – the effectiveness of easement donations in terms of the tax expenditures by the State.

Following the workgroup-led review, it is the intent of the budget committees that the land preservation and easement acquisition programs be fully funded with the transfer tax at the level recommended in the report.

Information Request: Comprehensive workgroup-led review of State land preservation and easement acquisition programs

Author: DBM, DNR, MDA, MDP

Due Date: December 1, 2015

REPORTS OF INTEREST REQUIRED FROM OTHER AGENCIES

[Joint Chairmen's Report](#) – *Operating Budget, April 2015, page 8*

Board of Public Works

Improving Minority Business Enterprise Participation: The budget committees are concerned by the fact that the number of contracts awarded by the Board of Public Works (BPW) with 0% Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation increased by 51% in fiscal 2014. Although the increase in the State's MBE goal from 25% to 29% of the cost of the contract shows a step in the right direction, it is evident that more progress is necessary. As the lead agency for overseeing State procurement, BPW should play an integral part in guiding that improvement. To that end, the budget committees direct BPW, in consultation with the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, to provide a report identifying the State's plan for increasing the number of contracts that meet the State's MBE participation goal. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than September 30, 2015.

Information Request: Improving Minority Business Enterprise participation

Author: BPW

Due Date: September 30, 2015

[Joint Chairmen's Report](#) – *Operating Budget, April 2015, page 13*

Maryland Energy Administration

Committee Narrative

Program Specific Managing for Results Measures: The Maryland Energy Administration's (MEA) Managing for Results (MFR) submission currently focuses largely on measures of State energy policy. The MFR measures progress in meeting EmPOWER Maryland goals, increasing renewable energy in service, and alternative fuel vehicle use. Although there are a couple of measures of program activity related to MEA's pay-as-you-go programs, the MFR's otherwise do not reflect activities of the agency. With several years of experience with programs funded by the Strategic Energy Investment Fund, MEA should begin tracking performance in these programs. The budget committees request that MEA begin reporting performance related to agency programs and activities along with progress toward State energy goals in its annual MFR submission beginning with the fiscal 2017 budget books.

Information Request: Performance measures related to agency activities and programs

Author: MEA

Due Date: With submission of the fiscal 2017 budget books

Joint Chairmen's Report – Operating Budget, April 2015, page 35

Department of Budget and Management

Ratio of Supervisors and Managers to Employees for Agencies: The budget committees are concerned that State agencies, including those with independent personnel systems, may have become unbalanced in their ratio of employees to supervisors and managers. All executive branch personnel systems, including independent personnel systems, are asked to provide a report on ratio of supervisors and managers to employees for each of their agencies. The report should also include a report on the ideal ratio of employees to supervisors and managers for each agency. The report is due by December 1, 2015.

Information Request: Ratio of Executive Branch supervisors and managers to employees

Authors:

Department of Budget and Management
Maryland Department of Transportation
Higher Education
Maryland Transportation Authority
Maryland Food Center Authority
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund
Maryland Stadium Authority
College Savings Plans of Maryland
Maryland Environmental Services

Due Date: December 1, 2015

Joint Chairmen's Report – Operating Budget, April 2015, page 42

Department of General Services

Annual Report on Energy Conservation Efforts: The State Building Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act of 2006 required the Department of General Services (DGS) and the Maryland Energy Administration to develop energy use index and savings goals for every State agency. Consistent with the State Building Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act of 2008 established a State goal of achieving a 15% reduction in per capita electricity consumption and peak demand by the end of 2015. On November 1, 2015, DGS shall submit a status report to the committees outlining the State's energy conservation efforts. The report shall include:

- strategies employed by the department to reduce statewide energy consumption;
- an update on the implementation of the State's utility database, including the status of agency compliance in providing missing utility data;
- statewide utility costs and consumption data (by agency);
- energy use index and savings goals for every State agency; and
- the State's level of compliance with the State Building Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act and the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act.

Information Request: Report on energy conservation

Author: DGS

Due Date: November 1, 2015

Department of the Environment

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that 6 regular positions shall be abolished and \$500,000 in general funds reduced from the appropriation of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) unless the 6 regular positions are reclassified by January 1, 2016, for statewide inspection, enforcement, compliance, compliance assistance, and permit issuance related to erosion and sediment control in the Water Management Administration – Compliance subprogram. MDE shall submit a report to the budget committees by January 15, 2016, indicating whether or not the positions were reclassified and, if they were reclassified, what work these positions will do to address the requirement to inspect every active construction site for compliance with erosion and sediment control plans on average of once every 2 weeks in accordance with State regulations.

Explanation: MDE has been unable to muster sufficient resources to inspect every active construction site for compliance with erosion and sediment control plans on average of once every two weeks in accordance with State regulations. This is reflected in the department's November 2011 audit and again in its January 2015 audit. This action abolishes 6 positions and funding unless the positions are reclassified for this purpose in the Water Management Administration – Compliance subprogram by January 1, 2016.

Information Request: Status of positions for erosion and sediment control inspection

Author: MDE

Due Date: January 15, 2016

Committee Narrative

Soil and Erosion Control Inspection: The committees are concerned that the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has been unable to inspect every active construction site for compliance with erosion and sediment control plans an average of once every two weeks in accordance with State regulations. This is reflected in MDE's November 2011 audit and again in its January 2015 audit. Therefore, the committees request the submission of a report on how MDE will meet this requirement. The report shall be coordinated with the construction industry, environmental advocacy stakeholders, and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and include the following:

- the universe of inspection sites;
- the number of sites that MDE inspects;
- the number of sites that each delegated authority inspects;
- the number of remaining sites that are not inspected;
- strategies for reducing the remaining sites not inspected to zero including, but not limited to, lowering the standard in regulation, delegating additional authority for inspections to other entities, fostering greater coordination with local governments, increasing inspection positions, and evaluating the usefulness of surveillance technology, such as unmanned aerial vehicles; and
- an action plan implementing the strategies for reducing the remaining sites not inspected to zero including funding, positions, programmatic changes, performance measures, and a timeline for implementation to which the fiscal 2016 working appropriation and fiscal 2017 allowance may be compared.

Information Request: Soil and erosion control inspection report

Authors: MDE, DBM

Due Date: September 1, 2015

Joint Chairmen's Report – Capital Budget, April 2015, page 211

Capital Overview

Committee Narrative

Capital Construction Process Review: The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), with the assistance of the Department of General Services (DGS) and the University System of Maryland (USM) Cost Centers, undertake a comprehensive review of the capital construction management processes, procedures, and controls used by all State agencies. This review should focus on the State's abilities and effectiveness in managing construction projects with respect to the following items: procedures and staffing used to manage capital projects; construction project oversight requirements and responsibilities, including project documentation, inspecting and testing, and change order authorization; and advantages and potential applicability of design build, private construction management, and construction management at-risk guaranteed maximum price delivery methods. The review should also address factors such as the optimum use of available funds; project scheduling; optimum use of design and construction firm skills; avoidance of delays, changes, and disputes; and options for improving the State's contracting and procurement processes. DBM, with the assistance of DGS and USM, should provide the committees with a report based on its comprehensive review by November 1, 2015.

Information Request: Comprehensive review of State construction project management

Authors: DBM, DGS, USM

Due Date: November 1, 2015

BILLS OF INTEREST TO DNR THAT DID NOT BECOME LAW

Bills DNR Supported

SB 117 / HB 285 Caroline County and Dorchester County – Sunday Hunting – Allows the Department to establish Sunday hunting for game mammals and game birds, except migratory and wetland game birds, in Caroline and Dorchester counties on private property and open public land where Sunday hunting of game mammals and game birds is permitted by the Department. SB 117 and HB 285 reported unfavorable by Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

SB 154 / HB 636 Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Thermal Energy – Creates a new thermal tier for burning of wood and other ways of producing thermal energy. The House Economic Matters Committee gave HB 636 an unfavorable report and SB 154 was not voted on in committee.

SB 322 / HB 914 Natural Resources – Nuisance Organisms – Reward for Information – Authorizes rewards for persons who provide information leading to a conviction for violation of the law that prohibits introduction of nuisance organisms. The Senate passed SB 322; the House Environment and Transportation Committee gave both bills an unfavorable report.

SB 378 / HB 18 Baltimore County – Sunday Hunting – Authorizes Sunday hunting on private property in Baltimore County for any game bird or game mammal except migratory game birds and wetland game birds. The sponsor withdrew HB 18 after the Baltimore County House Delegation did not vote to support the bill. The Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee did not vote on SB 378.

SB 696 / HB 1036 Natural Resources – Oyster Poaching – Administrative Penalties – Modifies penalties for oyster poaching to allow suspension instead of revocation of oyster privileges for certain first offenses and narrows the scope of gear violations to just power dredging. The House and Senate passed the two bills with different amended language and did not agree on final language before sine die adjournment.

SB 931 Oysters – Oyster Committees and Harvest Reserve Areas – With amendments proposed by the sponsor, requires the Department of Natural Resources to form a workgroup with representatives of the county oyster committees to examine issues related to the composition and duties of county oyster committees, and to report its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2015. Unfavorable report (7-4) by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

HB 411 Deer Bow Hunting Season – Private Property – Additional Sunday in January – Authorizes deer hunting statewide on one Sunday in January during bow hunting season. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 414 Sunday Hunting – Deer Bow Hunting Season – Authorizes the Department to use scientific information and public input to designate certain Sundays open to hunting deer during bow hunting season. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 655 Harford County – Sunday Hunting – Deer Bow Hunting Season – Authorizes deer hunting in Harford County on one Sunday in January during bow hunting season. The House passed HB 655; the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee did not vote on the bill.

HB 1002 Natural Resources - County Oyster Committees – Requires the Department of Natural Resources to form a workgroup with representatives of county oyster committees to examine issues related to the composition and duties of county oyster committees and submit a report by December 1, 2015. Reported unfavorable by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

Bills DNR Opposed

SB 657 / HB 702 State Personnel – Programs to Improve Employee to Supervisor or Manager Ratios – Requires the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, the Secretary of Transportation, and the governing boards of the State higher education institutions to establish goals pertaining to the ratios of State employees to supervisors or managers. Both bills were withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 748 Deer Hunting – Crop Damage Permit – Wild Venison – Legalizes commercial sale of wild venison from deer killed under a Deer Management Permit. The Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee did not vote on the bill.

SB 867 / HB 597 Prince George's County Board of Education - Public High Schools - Outdoor Synthetic Turf Fields – Requires installation of artificial turf fields at each public high school in Prince George's County and waives the local match requirement for local Program Open Space funds used for that purpose. The Senate passed SB 867; neither bill was voted on by the House Appropriations Committee.

SB 709 / HB 419 Natural Resources – Aquaculture Leases – Consideration of User Conflicts – Requires DNR to determine whether potential user conflicts exist, and to mitigate the effects of a potential aquaculture lease location on all other uses of the State's waters. SB 709 not voted on by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 419 was withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 412 Natural Resources – Deer Bow Hunting Season – End Date – Requires DNR to include the first Saturday in February in the deer bow hunting season in years when January 31 does not fall on a Saturday. Unfavorable report by Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 638 Natural Resources – Oysters – Shell Seeding, Shell Replenishment, and Rotational Harvest – Establishes county commercial oyster committees and authorizes these groups to set local regulations regarding catch limits, seasons, oyster surcharge and tax revenues, and the ability to use power dredge gear. The Department of Natural Resources is required to equally distribute oyster surcharges and bushel taxes among the tidewater county committees and the funds may be used for shell seeding and shell replenishment where needed. The bill removes from existence all but four oyster sanctuaries. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 1005 Natural Resources – Commercial Fisheries Offenses – Stay of Revocation – Requires an administrative law judge to stay the revocation of a commercial authorization in the event that a commercial licensee knowingly committed a listed violation in Natural Resources Article §4-1210 or §4-1211, until a conviction for the offense is found in court, unless the administrative law judge finds that the offense was committed wantonly or willfully. Unfavorable report (21-1) by Environment and Transportation Committee.

Other Bills

SB 28 / HB 302 Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund – Use of Funds – Prohibits the transfer of funds from the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund to the General Fund or a special fund of the State unless the Governor declares a state of emergency and the General Assembly concurs with the use of the funds by a three-fifths vote in each of the two houses. SB 28 passed the Senate; neither bill was voted on by the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 36 Stormwater Management – Watershed Protection and Restoration Program – Repeal – Repeals provisions of law enacted by Chapter 151 of 2012, which requires the nine largest counties and Baltimore City to adopt and implement local laws or ordinances that establish a stormwater remediation fee and a local watershed protection and restoration fund. Unfavorable report (6-4) by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

SB 42 / HB 874 Stormwater Management – Watershed Protection and Restoration Program – Repeal – Repeals provisions of law enacted by Chapter 151 of 2012, which requires the nine largest counties and Baltimore City to adopt and implement local laws or ordinances that establish a stormwater remediation fee and a local watershed protection and restoration fund. SB 42 received an unfavorable report (6-4) by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 874 reported unfavorable by Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 134 / HB 1091 Open Space Incentive Program – Payments to Counties – Institutes general fund payments to counties with substantial State land holdings, and repeals payment to counties of a percentage of revenues produced from State lands. SB 134 passed the Senate after the bill crossover date and remained in the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee. HB 1091 was not voted on by the Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 171 Program Open Space – Baltimore City – Purchase Talbot Road Property – Requires the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City to use a portion of Baltimore City Program Open Space funds to buy property in the 2400 and 2500 blocks of Talbot Road for inclusion in the Gwynn Falls/Leakin Park system. Withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 256 / HB 881 Maryland Shoreline Risk Assessment, Preparation, and Adaptation Act – Requires the Maryland Department of Agriculture, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, and the Maryland Department of the Environment to study the environmental and economic impacts of sea level rise, increased precipitation and temperature, storm surges, flooding and extreme weather events on the State's major cities and towns. The bill also requires an extension of the application of the Coast Smart siting and design criteria to state capital projects which involve the construction of a highway, beginning on July 1, 2016, and requires the Department of Planning, in consultation with the Coast Smart Council, to develop model local laws and ordinances that incorporate Coast Smart siting and design criteria in the development and construction of structures and highways. SB 256 was not voted on by the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 881 withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 279 / HB 404 Procurement – Public Work Contracts – Contractor Occupational Safety and Health Requirements – Requires public work contract bidders to submit a health and safety plan and requires the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to develop a method to evaluate the safety and health indicators used by contractors and subcontractors on public work contracts valued at \$100,000 or more. Unfavorable report by both Finance Committee and Economic Matters Committee.

SB 323 / HB 442 Mechanics’ Liens – Design Services – Permits the establishment of a mechanics’ lien on an owner’s land to secure payment for all debts regarding work or materials purchased pursuant to a contract for specific services, eliminating the requirement that at least 15% of the value of the property worked upon has been completed before a lien may be established. Both bills were withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 324 / HB 379 Minority Business Enterprise Participation – Liquidated Damages – Architectural or Engineering Services – Exempts architect and engineering contracts that are chosen and negotiated by the General Selection Board from regulations that require a payment of liquidated damages in the event that the contractor does not satisfy the minority business enterprise provisions or applicable terms of the contract. Both bills were withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 357 / HB 631 Program Open Space – Baltimore City Grants – Increase and Inflation Adjustment – Increases the statutory minimum annual grant to Baltimore City from \$1,500,000 to \$6,000,000, payable from the State’s share of the proceeds of Program Open Space (POS), and requires DNR to increase the grant by applying the growth in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to the amount of grants received in the prior fiscal year. SB 357 was not voted on by the Budget and Taxation Committee. HB 631 received an unfavorable report from the Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 396 / HB 279 Procurement – Prospective Responsible Bidders or Offerers – Transitioning to be Prime Contractors – Prohibits State procurement units from setting unreasonable requirements on bidders and offerers, drafting specifications requiring unnecessary experience, or drafting specifications requiring excessive bonding. Both bills were withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 438 / HB 883 Environment – Well Drilling – Notice to Municipalities – Requires the Maryland Department of the Environment to notify a municipality if a well will be drilled in the municipality or within one mile of the municipal boundary. SB 438 reported unfavorable by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 883 reported unfavorable (17-4) by Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 447 / HB 958 Sales and Use Tax – Tax-Free Periods – Hunting and Sporting Goods – Establishes a sales tax exemption from the third Sunday in April through the following Saturday for the sale of specified firearms, fishing supplies, and hunting supplies if the taxable price of each item sold is \$1,000.00 or less. SB 447 reported unfavorable by Budget and Taxation Committee. HB 958 reported unfavorable by Ways and Means Committee.

SB 458 Civil Actions – Hydraulic Fracturing Liability Act – Defines hydraulic fracturing and associated activities, makes information about the chemicals used during the process permissible as evidence, regardless of trade secret claims, and increases the liability coverage requirements necessary for a hydraulic fracturing permittee. SB 458 passed the Senate but was not voted on by the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 507 Maryland Strong Manufacturing Development Act – Establishes the Manufacturing Development (MD) Zone Program, mandates that qualified businesses that manufacture in a certain zone are entitled to local personal, real property, and income tax credits, and exempts salaries paid to certain employees employed by qualifying manufacturers within the zone from State income tax. Referred to interim study by Budget and Taxation Committee.

SB 527 / HB 42 Fair Employment Preservation Act of 2015 – Holds an employer liable for harassment in the workplace. SB 527 was not voted on by Judicial Proceedings Committee.

SB 533 / HB 886 Bay Tax Equity Act – Establishes a \$0.05 chicken manure population fee to be paid by a poultry integrator for each chicken an integrator provides to a state farmer and diverts a portion of bay restoration fees that are collected from users of septic systems and sewage holding tanks to fund cover crop activity. The revenue raised from the chicken manure population fee is used to fund cover crop activities on lands where poultry manure has been used as fertilizer. SB 533 was not voted on by the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 886 reported unfavorable by Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 543 Task Force on Procurement and Cybersecurity – Establishes a task force, outlines the composition of the Task Force and requires the Task Force to submit a report to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly. Withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 557 / HB 760 Food Fish and Shellfish – Labeling and Identification Requirements (Maryland Seafood Authenticity Act) – Prohibits selling or offering unidentified species of fish or shellfish in Maryland and requires clear labeling for the country of origin of all crab products unless those products are whole blue crabs. The Department of Natural Resources is authorized to enact regulations and create a website for the Maryland Seafood Authenticity Act. Both bills were withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 588 / HB 481 Stormwater Management – Watershed Protection and Restoration Program – Repeal – Sought to repeal provisions of law enacted by Chapter 151 of 2012, which requires the nine largest counties and Baltimore City to adopt and implement local laws or ordinances that establish a stormwater remediation fee and a local watershed protection and restoration fund. SB 588 received an unfavorable report (6-4) from the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 481 received an unfavorable report from the Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 615 / HB 2 Income Tax Credit – Preservation and Conservation Easements – Allows members of pass-through entities to claim an income tax credit on an amount up to \$5,000 for a

conservation easement. SB 615 was passed by the Senate late in the session; neither bill was voted on by the Ways and Means Committee.

SB 620 / HB 551 Community Cleanup and Greening Act of 2015 – Prohibits a store from distributing disposable plastic bags at the point of sale and requires the store to charge ten cents for each paper bag distributed. SB 620 was not voted on by the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 551 was withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 656 / HB 621 State Highway Administration – Entrance to State Highway – Permit Process – Requires the State Highway Administration to evaluate entrances from commercial or industrial properties and residential subdivisions to state highways for consistency with the comprehensive plan for the jurisdiction in which the entrance will be located. SB 656 reported unfavorable by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 621 reported unfavorable (8-7) by Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 687 / HB 776 State Personnel – Parental Leave – Authorizes up to 30 days of paid parental leave for employees in the State Personnel Management System following the birth or adoption of the employee's child under specific guidelines. Both bills were withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 688 / HB 969 Labor and Employment – Fair Scheduling Act – Requires an employer to give employees a work schedule at least 21 days before the first day the employee is scheduled to work and notify the employee of any changes to the schedule within 24 hours of the change. All changes must generally be agreed upon by the employee and employer and in some situations the employer must provide one hour of predictability pay. Both bills were withdrawn by sponsor.

SB 708 / HB 119 Construction Contracts – Change Orders (State Procurement Change Order Fairness Act) – Alters the procedure by which State agencies may issue a change order under a construction contract and provides requirements for compensating contractors for work performed under a change order. SB 708 passed the Senate on the last evening of the session. HB 119 passed the House, and was amended in the Senate when only a few minutes remained in the session before sine die adjournment.

SB 712 Natural Gas Severance Tax and Impact Account – Imposes a severance tax at 2.5% of the gross fair market value of natural gas produced for specified wells in the state, provides for the administration and revenue distribution of the tax. SB 712 was not voted on by the Budget and Taxation Committee.

SB 747 / HB 611 Public Utilities – Electric Companies – Vegetation Management – Requires electric utility companies to acquire property owner consent before removing trees and requires electric utility companies to comply with best management standards instead of the industry standards or ANSI standards. SB 747 withdrawn by sponsor. HB 611 reported unfavorable by Economic Matters Committee.

SB 758 State Government – Equal /Access to Public Services for Individuals with Limited English Proficiency – Web Sites – Requires certain departments and State agencies (including

the Department of Natural Resources) to provide equal access versions of websites in languages other than English for limited English proficient populations that comprise at least three percent of the State population. SB 758 passed the Senate but was not voted on by the Health and Government Operations Committee.

SB 801 / HB 1169 Natural Resources – Black Fly Management and Control – Washington County – Requires the Department of Natural Resources to establish a program to control the spread of black flies in the State, initially in Washington County. SB 801 received an unfavorable report (7-4) from the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 1169 received an unfavorable report from the Environment and Transportation Committee.

SB 825 / HB 1150 Allegany County – Video Lottery Facilities – Distribution of Proceeds – Requires \$700,000 of video lottery terminal proceeds from a video lottery in Allegany County to be distributed in fiscal year 2016 to the video lottery operation licensee. SB 825 withdrawn by sponsor. HB 1150 was filed late and was not released from the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

SB 854 State Government – Administrative Procedure Act – Effective Date of Adopted Regulations – Alters the dates that regulations are to be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. The bill passed the Senate after the bill crossover date and was not released by the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

SB 899 Offshore Wind – Application for Proposed Project – Evaluation and Procedure – Requires the Public Service Commission to evaluate proposed offshore wind projects based on how they will impact all other people or entities in the area and will not impact the physical area or any part of the electromagnetic spectrum in line of sight of the Chesapeake and Atlantic Test Ranges, or the Wallops Island Flight Facility. The bill was not voted on by the Finance Committee.

SB 903 / HB 1145 State Board of Tree Experts – Establishment – Removes the existing tree expert statute from the Natural Resources Article and reenacts it in the Business Occupations and Professions Article with the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulations as the authority for issuance and enforcement of tree care professional licenses and related enforcement activities. SB 903 not voted on by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

SB 919 / HB 1268 Environment – Implementation of Watershed Implementation Plan – Limitation – Prohibits a person from implementing a State Watershed Implementation Plan to administer the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay until the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes a 2017 Bay TMDL midpoint assessment and the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science completes a two-year study of sediment and nutrients in the lower Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay. SB 919 was reported unfavorable (9-2) by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. HB 1268 was a late filed bill and was not referred from the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

SJ 1 Susquehanna River Basin – Sediment and Nutrient Pollution (National Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act of 2015) – Requests that the United States Congress authorize and provide funding for a study of the Conowingo Dam by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in order to take a course of action that will allow the State to meet the requirements of the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load. The resolution passed the Senate but was not voted on by the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

SJ 5 Natural Resources – Goose and Duck Hunting Seasons – Extension – Establishes a later start date and end date for duck and goose hunting season. The resolution passed the Senate but was not voted on by the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee

HB 55 Calvert and St. Mary's Counties – Archery Hunting – Safety Zone – Changes the bow hunting safety zone in Calvert and St. Mary's Counties from 150 yards to 50 yards from an inhabited building. The Senate amended the House-passed bill to apply only to hunting from a tree stand and the two bodies did not resolve their disagreement before sine die adjournment.

HB 238 Forest Conservation Act – Exemption – Hazards to Air Navigation – Exempts airports that are reviewed by the Maryland Aviation Administration from restriction on removing trees and requirement to generate a Forest Conservation Plan provided that the Maryland Aviation Administration has determined that the trees are a hazard to air navigation. Unfavorable report (15-7) by Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 305 Administrative Procedure Act – Limitation on Adoption of Regulations – Prohibits a State agency from adopting a proposed regulation from the time between the day after a statewide gubernatorial general election and the day when the succeeding Governor takes office, if at the time of election the current Governor is not a candidate for Governor in the election or is defeated in the election. Unfavorable report (16-7) by Health and Government Operations Committee.

HB 326 Environment – Monocacy River Watershed – Water Resources Plan – Requires the Maryland Department of the Environment to collaborate with the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin on the development and implementation of a comprehensive water resources plan for the portion of the Monocacy River watershed. Unfavorable report by Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 333 Electronic Bingo and Electronic Tip Jars – Distribution of Admissions and Amusement Tax Revenues – Alters the distribution of revenue from State admissions and amusement tax on electronic bingo and electronic tip jars. The bill was not voted on by the Ways and Means Committee.

HB 336 Procurement – State Funds – Energy Efficient Outdoor Lighting Fixtures – Prohibits using State funds to install or replace outdoor lights on the property of buildings not owned or leased by the State unless the fixture meets specific criteria regarding energy efficiency and light emission. The bill also changes the standards for permanent outdoor lights on buildings

owned or leased by the State and applies those criteria to the replacement of roadway and parking lot lighting. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 338 Public Safety – SWAT Team – Deployment and Reporting – Limits the circumstances under which a SWAT team may be deployed and establishes reporting requirements regarding the deployment of SWAT teams. The bill was not voted on by the Judiciary Committee.

HB 376 Electric Companies – Vegetation Management – Local Law, Rule, or Regulation – Repeals a prohibition against a county or municipality from taking an action that hinders or increases the cost of the work of electric companies to maintain compliance with vegetation management standards adopted by the Public Service Commission. Unfavorable report (5-5) by Economic Matters Committee.

HB 377 Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Revisions (Maryland Clean Energy Advancement Act of 2015) – Increases the minimum required percentage of electricity that must be derived from Tier 1 renewable energy sources in the State’s renewable energy portfolio standard in specified years and establishes the renewable energy portfolio standard for years 2018 to 2025. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 378 Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Qualifying Biomass – Limits the eligibility of biomass for qualification as a Tier 1 renewable energy source for the renewable energy portfolio standard. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 387 Harford County – Archery Hunting – Safety Zone – Changes the bow hunting safety zone in Harford County from 100 yards to 50 yards from an inhabited building. The Senate amended the bill to apply only to hunting from a tree stand and the two bodies did not resolve their disagreement before sine die adjournment.

HB 458 Environment – Exploration and Production Waste and Waste From Hydraulic Fracturing – Prohibits a person from accepting, receiving, collecting, storing, treating, transferring, or disposing of waste from fracking in the state of Maryland. Unfavorable report (14-5) by Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 513 Natural Resources – Forest Harvesting – Public Notice of Process and Licensees – Requires DNR to post on its website: 1) a list of all foresters licensed in Maryland by DLLR and their contact information; 2) a list of all licensed forest product operators in Maryland along with their contact information, and 3) the application process and appropriate contact information for filing a forest harvest application in each county of the State. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 656 Electricity – Energy Storage – Fuel Cells (Stored Energy and Power (StEP) Act) – Requires the Public Service Commission to establish a pilot program that encourages the use of “energy fuel cells” for energy storage within the state and to submit a corresponding study, in cooperation with the Maryland Energy Administration, to the Governor, Finance Committee, and Economic Matters Committee by December 31, 2015. Unfavorable report by Economic Matters Committee.

HB 698 Reorganization of State Procurement – Establishes the position of Chief procurement Officer within the Board of Public Works and repeals control authority currently exercised by various agencies. Requires that all contracts subject to Board of Public Works oversight valued at \$1 million or more must be approved by the board. Unfavorable report by Health and Government Operations Committee.

HB 713 Natural Resources – Trade in Ivory and Rhinoceros Horn – Prohibition – Prohibits a person from purchasing, selling, or possessing with intent to sell rhinoceros horn and specifies penalties for violating the prohibition. Any restitution paid as a result of a violation will go into the Birdwatcher’s Fund and DNR will be authorized to adopt regulations to implement the bill. Unfavorable report by Judiciary Committee.

HB 762 State Highway Administration – Entrance to State Highway – Permit Process – Requires the State Highway Administration to make a decision to issue a permit granting access from a commercial or industrial property to a state highway within 45 days after receipt of the application. The State Highway Administration must send written notice to the applicant if the application is denied, at which point the applicant may file a petition for judicial review in the circuit court for the county in which the entrance was proposed. Unfavorable report (14-2) by Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 773 Baltimore County – Watershed Protection and Restoration Program – Exemption – Exempts Baltimore County from requirement to establish a local stormwater remediation fee and a local watershed protection and restoration fund. Unfavorable report (14-7) by Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 787 Dedicated State Funds Protection Act – Dedicates state funds to be used for specific purposes and renders the funds unavailable for transfer into the general fund unless the state is either invaded or a major catastrophe occurs. In addition, the Governor must declare a state of emergency, an immediate need based on defense or relief, a plan to repay the fund within five years, and must secure a vote from the Maryland General Assembly with a three-fifths majority supporting the motion. Failed in the Appropriations Committee on a (20-4) vote.

HB 832 Natural Resources – Licensed Tree Experts – Insurance and Fee – Changes insurance and fee requirements for licensed tree experts. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 867 Public Information Act – State Public Information Act Compliance Board and State Policy – Establishes the Public Information Act Compliance Board and specifies the duties of Board members. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 876 – Agriculture – Animal Shelters – Uniform Standards of Operation and Care (Animal Shelter Standards Act of 2015 – Regulates euthanasia procedure in animal shelters and the ability of shelters to sell animal traps to the public. Contains provisions recognizing trap-neuter-release programs for feral cats. The bill was not voted on by the Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 962 Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area – Lot Coverage – Exclusion for Driveways Constructed of Decking Material – Alters the definition of “lot coverage” to exempt driveways that are made using decking material with gaps that allow the water to pass freely from a provision of law related to the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area. Unfavorable report by Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 963 Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area – Lot Coverage – Calculation for Swimming Pools – Requires that the “lot coverage” of a swimming pool be calculated as 50% of the surface area of the pool if the pool is constructed to be able to hold or absorb an additional six inches of water during a rain event. Unfavorable report (19-3) by Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 995 Lawn Care Pesticides - Child Care Centers, Schools, and Recreation Facilities – Prohibition – Prohibits the application of lawn care pesticide on grounds used by children unless application is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health. The bill was not voted on by the Environment and Transportation Committee.

HB 998 Natural Resources – Striped Bass Permits – Annual Fees – Reduces the commercial striped bass fee by \$40 and \$30 per certain striped bass permits in FY 2016 only. The bill passed the House and received an unfavorable report from the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

HB 1045 Hunting – Use of Motorized Vehicles – Wounded or Disabled Military – Authorizes a wounded or disabled veteran or current member of the U.S. Armed Forces an exemption to use an off-road vehicle while hunting and requires the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources to authorize off-road vehicle use in a manner consistent with the exemption. Withdrawn by sponsor.

HB 1174 Kent County – Fisheries – Use of Haul Seines – Authorizes a person to catch gizzard shad, also known as mud shad, with a haul seine during the period from Friday midnight until sunrise on Monday in Kent County; and requires the Department of Natural Resources to adopt specified regulations. HB 1174 was a late filed bill and was not referred from the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

HB 1254 State Boat Act – Registered Vessel – Disclosure of Owner Information – Authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to disclose information about the owner of a registered vessel to a dealer for the purpose of compiling information regarding current and prospective customers, and authorizes the Department to impose a fee not to exceed \$150 for providing the information. HB 1254 was a late filed bill and was not referred from the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

HB 1274 Oysters and Clams – Dredging by Auxiliary Yawl – Authorized Vessels – Establishes standards for skipjacks (dredge boats that harvest oysters or clams while propelled by an auxiliary yawl boat). HB 1274 was a late filed bill and was not referred from the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

DNR FOLLOWUP ACTIONS WITH TARGET COMPLETION DATES

SB 68 Charles County and St. Mary's County – Deer Management Permit – Repeals the rifle training and extended deer season provisions of SB 966 of 2014, and allows the use of rifles by individuals who hold a Deer Management Permit in Charles or St. Mary's County. Chapter 147, emergency bill, effective May 12, 2015.

Action Item: Update regulations and hunting guide.

Staff: Wildlife and Heritage Service

Target Date: ASAP

SB 83 Environment – Vibrio Public Information Campaign – Requires the Department of the Environment, in consultation with DHMH, DNR and stakeholders, to conduct an appropriate public information campaign about the health risks associated with the *Vibrio* bacteria in the waters of the State. Chapter 322, emergency bill, effective May 12, 2015.

Action Item: Participate in consultations with MDE

Staff: Fisheries Service and Office of Communications

Target Date: ASAP

SB 88 Natural Resources – Game Birds – Baiting – Removes the ability of Natural Resources Police to use strict liability to enforce the law against bird baiting to hunt wetland game birds and upland game birds. Chapter 148, effective October 1, 2015.

Action Item: Update regulations and hunting guide

Staff: Wildlife and Heritage Service

Target Date: Propose regulations in May, 2015

Action Item: Update training and guidance to officers

Staff: Natural Resources Police

Target Date: October 1, 2015

SB 666 Recreational Fishing Licenses – Duration and Expiration Date – Makes the term of recreational fishing licenses one full year from the date of purchase. Chapter 376, effective October 1, 2015.

Action Item: Propose implementing regulations

Staff: Fisheries Service

Target Date: no later than July, 2015

Action Item: Implement COMPASS changes

Staff: Information Technology

Target Date: October 1, 2015

Action Item: Have materials and processes ready

Staff: Licensing and Registration Service

Target Date: October 1, 2015

SB 694 Income Tax Credit – Oyster Shell Recycling – Credit Amount – Increases the amount of income tax credit from \$1 to \$5 per bushel of oyster shells recycled during the taxable year. The total tax credit an individual or corporation can claim in any year remains capped at \$750. Chapter 193, effective July 1, 2015.

Action Item: Update regulations in consultation with Comptroller’s Office

Staff: Fisheries Service

Target Date: December 1, 2015

SB 844 Frederick County – Deer Management Permit – Use of Rifles – Expands permissible use of rifles by Deer Management Permit holders and their agents in Frederick County. Chapter 202, effective July 1, 2015.

Action Item: Update hunting guide, and regulations if needed.

Staff: Wildlife and Heritage Service

Target Date: ASAP

HB 14 Hunting Licenses – Exemption for Retired Members of the Armed Forces – Allows a retired military person to hunt on a family farm without obtaining a hunting license. Chapter 216, effective October 1, 2015.

Action Item: Update hunting guide.

Staff: Wildlife and Heritage Service

Target Date: May, 2015

HB 554 Natural Resources – Nonresident Senior and Junior Hunting Licenses – Establishes a nonresident senior hunting license at a cost of \$65; reduces the cost of a nonresident junior hunting license to \$32.50; requires a report by December 31, 2017; and sunsets on June 30, 2018. Chapter 260, effective July 1, 2015.

Action Item: In COMPASS create nonresident senior hunting license and change price of nonresident junior hunting license

Staff: Information Technology, Licensing & Registration

Target Date: July 1, 2015

Action Item: Update hunting guide.

Staff: Wildlife and Heritage Service

Target Date: May, 2015

HB 860 Aquatic Invasive Species – Decontamination of Vessels (State Lakes Invasive Species Act of 2015) – Instructs DNR to convene a workgroup to make recommendations on the most appropriate actions to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species from vessels placed in lakes that are owned or managed by the State. The workgroup is required to report to legislative committees by December 21, 2015. Chapter 461, effective October 1, 2015.

Action Item: Convene workgroup

Staff: Resource Assessment Service, with participation by other units

Target Date: May, 2015

HB 1074 Complimentary Hunting License for Former Prisoners of War or Disabled

Veterans – Reciprocity – Authorizes issuance of complimentary lifetime hunting licenses to an out-of-state individual who is a former prisoner of war or 100% service connected disabled if the individual's state of residence grants reciprocal issuance to similar residents of Maryland.

Chapter 295, effective October 1, 2015.

Action Item: Update hunting guide.

Staff: Wildlife and Heritage Service

Target Date: May, 2015

HB 1287 Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission and Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission –

Membership – Adds one seat each to the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission and the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission, to be filled by a representative of the aquaculture industry.

Chapter 307, effective July 1, 2015.

Action Item: Recommend potential appointees to the Governor's Appointments Office

Staff: Fisheries Service

Target Date: June 1, 2015

DNR FOLLOWUP ACTIONS FROM PRIOR LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

- 6/30/2015 Coast Smart Council to adopt initial siting and design criteria in accordance with the provisions of § 3-602.3(c) of the State Finance and Procurement Article. ([HB 615](#), Chapter 415 of 2014, § 2).
Staff: Chesapeake and Coastal Service (Coast Smart Council)
- 9/1/2015 Adopt regulations detailing professional development requirements for tree expert licensees (in time for tree experts to have fulfilled the requirements for license renewal by 9/1/2017).
Natural Resources Article § 5-419 ([HB 572](#), Chapter 620 of 2013).
Staff: Forest Service
- January 2017 Following the release of the first statewide forest resource inventory after January 1, 2017 convene a stakeholder group comprised of representatives from local government, agriculture, forestry, development, conservation, and other interested parties to review the statewide forest resource inventory and make recommendations regarding implementation of the State's no net loss of forest policy.
([HB 706](#), Chapter 384 of 2013, § 7).
Staff: Forest Service

LEGISLATION SUNSET DATES OF INTEREST TO DNR

- 6/30/2016 \$15,000 per vessel cap on the vessel excise tax.
Natural Resources Article § 8-716 ([SB 90](#), Chapter 180 of 2013).
- 9/30/2016 Authority for the Department to set tree expert license terms and fees by regulation.
Natural Resources Article § 5-419 ([SB 80](#), Chapter 20 of 2011).
- 6/30/2018 \$5 credit against the State individual or corporate income tax for each bushel of oyster shells recycled during the taxable year.
Tax-General Article § 10-724.1 ([SB 484](#) / [HB 184](#), Chapters 278, 279 of 2013), as amended by [SB 694](#), Chapter 193 of 2015.
- 6/30/2018 Existence of nonresident senior hunting license and reduced price for nonresident junior hunting license.
Natural Resources Article § 10-301(g) ([HB 554](#), Chapter 260 of 2015).
- 6/30/2018 Exemption from the reemployment benefit offset for a reemployed retiree of the State Police Retirement System if the retiree is reemployed on a contractual basis at a rank of trooper first class or as a civilian employee.
State Personnel and Pensions Article § 24-405 and Chapter 644 of 2009, § 3 ([HB 902](#), Chapter 649 of 2013).
- 6/30/2020 Surcharge on electricity usage for the Environmental Trust Fund, which funds Power Plant Assessment Program and other activities.
Natural Resources Article § 3-302(b)(2) and Public Utilities Article § 7-203(f) ([SB 27](#) / [HB 385](#), Chapters 434 and 435 of 2011).

**REPORTS REQUIRED FROM DNR TO THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY, THE GOVERNOR, OR THE PUBLIC**

Due	Frequency	Report	To	Impetus
6/30/2015	annual Jun 30	Aquaculture Advancement	GOV/EHE/E&T	NR 4-11A-03.2(c)(1)(i)
7/1/2015	annual Jul 1	Nutria Management Plan Implementation	GA	NR 10-202.1(c)
8/1/2015	one time	Vessel Excise Tax Cap	GOV/GA	2013 Ch 180(3) SB 90
9/1/2015	annual Sep 1	Land Trust Grant Fund	GOV/B&T/APP/DLS	NR 3-2A-14
9/1/2015	one time	Task Force re Enhancing Boating & Industry	GOV/GA	2013 Ch 180(4) SB 90
9/30/2015	annual	Tree Expert Licenses	GA	NR 5-419(c)
9/30/2015	annual Sep 30	Forest Conservation Report	EHE/E&T	NR 5-1613
9/30/2015	annual Sep 30	Mel Noland Woodland Incentives Fund	EHE/E&T	NR 5-307(j)
9/30/2015	annual Sep 30	Reforestation Report	EHE/E&T	NR 5-103(h)
9/30/2015	annual Sep 30	Chesapeake Bay & Endangered Species Fund	GA	NR 1-706
10/1/2015	annual Oct 1	Lands Closed to Hunting	GA	NR 10-212(c)
11/1/2015	annual Nov 1	Rural Legacy Board Progress	GOV/GA	NR 5-9A-07(g)
12/1/2015	one time	Workgroup-led Review of State Land Preservation and Easement Acquisition Programs	B&T/APP	2015 JCR p 222
12/1/2015	one time	Chesapeake Bay Restoration Funding	B&T/APP	2015 JCR p 170
12/31/2015	annual (usually December)	Fishery Management Plans	LPC/EHE/E&T	NR 4-215(g)
12/31/2015	one time	Reducing Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species	EHE/E&T	HB 860 Sec 2

Due	Frequency	Report	To	Impetus
1/1/2016	annual Jan 1	Waterway Improvement Fund	B&T/APP	NR 8-707(c)(2)
1/1/2016	annual Jan 1	POS Contingency Fund	GA	NR 5-903.1(f)
1/1/2016	annual Jan 1	State & Local Open Space by County	GA	1995 Ch 584(2) HB 1105
1/1/2016	one time with budget	Chesapeake Bay Restoration Funding and Milestones	DLS	2015 JCR p 171
1/1/2016	annual with budget	2010 Trust Fund Work Plan	GA	NR 8-2A-03(d)
1/24/2016	every 2 years	Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Program and Resources Status	GA	EN 9-321
3/10/2016	annual	MET Annual Report	GOV/GA	NR 3-203.1(10)
4/1/2016	annual	DNR Annual Report	public	NR 1-104(e)
7/1/2016	every 2 years Jul 1	Power Plants Cumulative Report	public	NR 3-304(4)
8/1/2016	one time	Vessel Excise Tax Cap	GOV/GA	2013 Ch 180(3) SB 90
9/30/2017	one time	Recreational Incentives Pilot Program	GOV/GA	NR 1-901(f)
12/31/2017	one time	Nonresident Junior and Senior Hunting Licenses	GOV/GA	HB 554 Sec 2
12/16/2018	every 5 years at least	Long Term Electricity Report		EO 01.01.2010.16
	annual	Angler's License receipts & expenditures	public	NR 4-604(f)(3)
	annual	Tidal Sport License receipts & expenditures	public	NR 4-745(b)(4)(1)
	trigger	Waterway Improvement District establishment	local govt	NR 8-705
	trigger	Statewide Base Map Completion	DLS	2008 Ch 119(4) HB 1253
	trigger	Shore Erosion Control District creation	county	LG 21-303(c)
	trigger	POS Contingency Fund Expenditure	B&T/APP	NR 5-903.1(e)(3)(i)
	trigger	Administrative Expense Methodology change	APP/B&T	NR 1-103(b)(ii)

Due	Frequency	Report	To	Impetus
	trigger	Financing for Public/Private Partnership	B&T/APP	SF 10A-104((b))
	trigger	Oyster Daily Catch Limits	AELR/public	NR 4-1009(b)
	trigger	Oyster Seed Area Establishment	AELR/public	NR 4-1103(b)
	trigger	Introducing non-native oysters	GA	NR 4-1008(c)(2)
	trigger	Waters Closed to Finfishing	public	NR 4-215.1 HB 202
	trigger	Advance Option & Purchase Fund expenditure	B&T/APP	NR 5-904(b)(5)(i)
	trigger	Bay Access Areas Fund expenditure	B&T/APP	NR 5-904(c)(5)(i)
	trigger	Property Purchase >\$2 million	B&T/APP	NR 1-104(k)
	trigger	Disposal of State Property	B&T/APP/LPC	SF 10-305(b)(2)(ii)
	trigger	Response to Nature Conservancy proposals	NC/BPW/Pres/Spkr	NR 5-1221
	annual with budget	Capital Project documentation		SF 3-602(f)(2)
	annual with budget	List of State Acquisition Projects	DBM/GA	NR 5-904(a)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDING TO REPORT REQUIREMENTS

Internal DNR Review: Final draft reports must be submitted to the appropriate DNR Assistant Secretary and DNR's Legislative Director, Rich Norling, no later than **3 weeks prior to the report's statutory due date.** DNR's Legislative Director will then submit the final draft report to the Deputy Secretary and Secretary for final internal approval.

DBM and Governor's Legislative Office Review of Reports to the Budget Committees: As has been the administrative policy for many years, both the Department of Budget and Management and the Governor's Legislative Office must have an opportunity to review reports requested by the Joint Chairmen's Report prior to submission to the General Assembly or external distribution to stakeholders or other interested persons. To assure appropriate review, DNR's Legislative Director will submit your draft report at least ten working days before the report is due to the Governor's Legislative Office and the appropriate DBM budget analyst.

Budget Committees and DLS Submission:

Restricted Appropriations: Where all or a portion of an appropriation is restricted, approval to release restricted funds should be requested from the budget committees, with a copy sent to the agency's budget analyst at the Department of Legislative Services (Andrew Gray). Each request should include a cover letter addressed to the budget committee chairs and should identify the agency, the amount restricted, the fund source, and should specifically note that the release of restricted funds is being requested.

Submission Procedures: All agency reports and studies submitted in response to committee narrative or budget bill language will be submitted by DNR's Legislative Coordinator, Lisa Eutsler, in electronic form and hard copy. The naming for each item should include the session year of the JCR, the page in the JCR in which the item appears, an agency abbreviation, and the title of the report (2011_p95_DNR_Dredging Report).

If an assigned DNR unit cannot for some reason meet the deadline for submission of a final draft report at least 3 weeks prior to the statutory or JCR report due date, the assigned unit must notify their Assistant Secretary and DNR's Legislative Office as soon as possible.

Requesting an Extension: If a time extension for delivery of a report to the General Assembly is needed, please notify DNR's Legislative Office as soon as possible so that the Department can send correspondence indicating why an extension is needed (and the anticipated submission date) to the Governor's Legislative Office, appropriate committee chairmen, Cathy Kramer, and the DLS analyst.