

10 AN ACT CONCERNING

20 **Natural Resources - Forest Resources - Forest Resource Plan**

30 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to consider  
40 certain goals when developing, reviewing, and revising a certain forest resource  
50 plan; and generally relating to the forest resource plan.

60 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
70 Article - Natural Resources  
80 Section 5-214  
90 Annotated Code of Maryland  
100 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

110 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE, that the  
120 Laws of Maryland read as follows:

130 **Article - Natural Resources**

140 § 5-214.

150 (a) The Department shall develop a system for long-range renewable forest  
160 resources planning. The public and private forest land resources of Maryland,  
170 including, but not limited to, wood fiber, forest recreation, wildlife, fish, forest  
180 watershed, and wilderness potential, shall be examined and inventoried periodically.  
190 As part of the forest resource planning process, the Department periodically shall  
200 develop, review and revise a resource plan [that should help to provide for a  
210 sustained yield of forest resource benefits for the citizens of Maryland]. The forest  
220 resource plan shall be made available for public and legislative review and comment.

230 (B) (1) IN DEVELOPING, REVIEWING, AND REVISING THE FOREST  
240 RESOURCE PLAN AS IT RELATES TO PUBLIC FOREST LAND  
250 RESOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER AS PRIMARY  
260 GOALS FOR THE PLAN THE LONG-TERM PRESERVATION AND  
270 CONSERVATION OF THE PUBLIC FOREST LAND RESOURCES,  
280 INCLUDING:

290 (I) WILDLIFE, FISH, AND PLANT COMMUNITIES; AND

300 (II) STREAMS, WATER SUPPLIES, AND WATERSHEDS.

310 (2) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IN  
320 DEVELOPING, REVIEWING, AND REVISING THE FOREST RESOURCE PLAN  
330 AS IT RELATES TO PUBLIC FOREST LAND RESOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT  
340 MAY, AS APPROPRIATE, PROVIDE FOR:

350 (I) THE RECREATIONAL USE OF FORESTS; AND

360 (II) THE SUSTAINABLE YIELDS OF FOREST PRODUCTS ON  
370 FOREST LANDS.

380 (C) IN DEVELOPING, REVIEWING, AND REVISING THE FOREST RESOURCE  
390 PLAN AS IT RELATES TO PRIVATE FOREST LAND RESOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT  
400 SHALL:

- 410 (1) CONSIDER THE PRIMARY GOALS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION  
420 (B) (1) OF THIS SECTION;
- 430 (2) CONSIDER THE DESIRES OF INDIVIDUAL FOREST LAND OWNERS;  
440 AND,
- 450 (3) ENCOURAGE PRIVATE FOREST LAND OWNERS TO PROVIDE FOR A  
460 SUSTAINED YIELD OF FOREST RESOURCES.
- 470 (D) To assure the availability and compatibility of planning data,  
480 scientific information and funding, the Department shall cooperate with the U.S.  
490 Department of Agriculture in forest resource planning efforts as provided for in the  
500 Forest and Rangelands Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 and the  
510 Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.
- 520 (E) The Department may accept federal funds and may provide cost  
530 share funds to cooperative governments.

540 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Act shall take effect  
550 October 1, 2003.

560 MANDATES: Governor Robert L. Ehrlich  
570 Lieutenant Governor Michael S. Steele  
580 Senator Paula Hollinger, Chair, Education, Health & Environmental Affairs  
590 Delegate Maggie McIntosh, Chair, Environmental Matters Committee  
600 State Senator John Hafer  
610 Delegate Kevin Kelly  
620 Delegate George Edwards  
630 Bob DeGroot, Maryland Alliance for Greenway Improvement and Conservation  
640 Sue Brown, Maryland League of Conservation Voters

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