

Chapter 330

(House Bill 313)

AN ACT concerning

Natural Resources – Woodland Incentives Fund – Renaming

FOR the purpose of renaming the Woodland Incentives Fund to be the Mel Noland Woodland Incentives Fund; making certain conforming changes; clarifying certain provisions of law relating to the contents of and reports about the Fund; and generally relating to the Woodland Incentives Fund.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources

Section 5–204(a)(2)(ii), 5–301(g), and 5–307(a), (b), (f), and (j)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2005 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources

Section 8–2A–04(c)(2)(iv)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2007 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Tax – Property

Section 13–306(a)(3)(i)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2007 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

5–204.

(a) (2) The purpose of the Council is to advise the Department on all matters related to:

(ii) The expenditure of funds from the **MEL NOLAND** Woodland Incentives Fund under § 5–307 of this title;

5–301.

(g) “**MEL NOLAND** Woodland Incentives Fund” means the special fund established in the State Treasury under § 5–307 of this subtitle.

5–307.

(a) In this section, “Fund” means the **MEL NOLAND** Woodland Incentives Fund.

(b) There is a **MEL NOLAND** Woodland Incentives Fund in the Department.

(f) The Fund consists of:

(1) As provided in § 13–306 of the Tax – Property Article, up to \$200,000 annually of the proceeds of the tax imposed by § 13–302 of the Tax – Property Article that are attributable to the taxation of instruments of writing that transfer title to parcels of land that are entirely woodland;

(2) Revenues collected by the Department from the payment of charges imposed for Department assistance in implementation of an approved practice; [and]

(3) **MONEY DISTRIBUTED FROM THE CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC COASTAL BAYS 2010 TRUST FUND UNDER § 8–2A–04 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND**

(4) Subject to approval by the Secretary and the Board of Public Works, a portion of the revenues derived from the forestry practices on designated lands owned and managed by the Department, that are conducted in accordance with applicable State law and regulation.

(j) On or before June 30 of each year, the Department shall report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Environmental Matters Committee, **IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE,** on the use of funds credited to the [Woodland Incentives] Fund, including an identification of and the reasons for those revenues derived from forestry practices on designated lands owned and managed by the Department that were not credited to the [Woodland Incentives] Fund.

8–2A–04.

(c) (2) The BayStat Subcabinet agencies shall administer the funds in accordance with the final work and expenditure plans, including the distribution of funds:

(iv) To the **MEL NOLAND** Woodland Incentives Fund established under § 5–307 of this article.

Article – Tax – Property

13–306.

(a) (3) The Comptroller shall deposit:

(i) up to \$200,000 annually of the revenue remitted under paragraphs (1)(i) and (2)(i) of this subsection or subsection (b) of this section into the **MEL NOLAND** Woodland Incentives Fund established in § 5–307 of the Natural Resources Article; and

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2011.

Approved by the Governor, May 10, 2011.