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**By: Delegates Hubbard, Conroy, Pitkin, Frush, D. Davis, Proctor, Menes, Healey, and Crumlin**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 1997

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Wildland and Open Areas - Belt Woods Wildland - Modification of Boundary**

3 FOR the purpose of modifying the boundary of Belt Woods Wildland; increasing the total  
4 acreage of Belt Woods Wildland; establishing certain conditions regarding  
5 tenancies; establishing certain conditions regarding agricultural leases; establishing  
6 certain conditions regarding existing structures; establishing certain conditions  
7 regarding reforestation; and generally relating to the modification of the boundary  
8 of Belt Woods Wildland.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Natural Resources  
11 Section 5-1203(k)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1989 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Natural Resources**

17 5-1203.

18 (k) (1) Under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, that property in  
19 Prince George's County, containing approximately [109] 610 acres and described as  
20 follows is a Type 2 State wildland and shall be named the "Belt Woods Wildland":

21 [Beginning at the intersection of Maryland Route 214 (Central Avenue) and  
22 Church Road, and proceeding in a clockwise direction around the wildland along the  
23 following approximate bearings and distances.

24 Leaving the beginning point and proceeding (south 83 degrees west) 2,436 feet  
25 along the north side of the Maryland Route 214 right-of-way, then turning (north 20  
26 degrees east) and proceeding in such a manner as to include the two hillocks within the  
27 wildland, for 3,300 feet to the head of a stream, then (south 52 degrees east) paralleling  
28 the southern side of the stream for 1,704 feet to a junction with the western edge of the  
29 Church Road right-of-way, then (south 6 degrees west) along the curvilinear edge of  
30 Church Road for 1,824 feet, back to the beginning point.

1           The wildland excludes nonstate property which begins on Maryland Route 214, 539  
2 feet (south 83 degrees west) from the beginning point, then turning clockwise (north 6  
3 degrees west) for 250 feet, then (north 83 degrees east) turning for another 250 feet, then  
4 going (south 6 degrees east) for 250 feet back to Maryland Route 214.]

5           BEGINNING AT A POINT, SAID POINT BEING THE END OF THE 11TH LINE OF A  
6 TRACT OF LAND WHICH BY DEED DATED, NOVEMBER 30, 1984, AND RECORDED IN  
7 THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY IN LIBER 6041, FOLIO 249, WAS  
8 CONVEYED BY THE MERCANTILE SAFE DEPOSIT AND TRUST COMPANY TO THE  
9 STATE OF MARYLAND, TO THE USE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES,  
10 AND RUNNING THENCE WITH THE WEST SIDE OF CHURCH ROAD IN A  
11 SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION 1810 FEET MORE OR LESS TO A POINT IN THE  
12 NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF CHURCH ROAD AND CENTRAL  
13 AVENUE, THENCE RUNNING ALONG THE NORTHERN RIGHT-OF-WAY OF CENTRAL  
14 AVENUE IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION 2433 FEET MORE OR LESS TO A POINT IN THE  
15 7TH LINE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED DEED, THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID  
16 RIGHT-OF-WAY IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION 573 FEET MORE OR LESS TO A POINT,  
17 THENCE RUNNING, NORTH 05 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 10 SECONDS WEST 2977.54 FEET  
18 TO A POINT, NORTH 32 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 26 SECONDS WEST 2093.66 FEET TO A  
19 POINT, NORTH 27 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 31 SECONDS EAST 1899.67 FEET TO A POINT,  
20 NORTH 02 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 07 SECONDS WEST 701.52 FEET TO A POINT, NORTH 83  
21 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 23 SECONDS EAST 2989.80 FEET TO A POINT, SOUTH 03 DEGREES  
22 32 MINUTES 21 SECONDS EAST 1073.29 FEET TO A POINT, NORTH 85 DEGREES 20  
23 MINUTES 56 SECONDS EAST 737.15 FEET TO A POINT IN THE WESTERN RIGHT-OF-WAY  
24 OF CHURCH ROAD, THENCE RUNNING WITH SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY IN A SOUTHERLY  
25 DIRECTION 2700 FEET MORE OR LESS TO A POINT IN SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY, THENCE  
26 RUNNING, NORTH 81 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST 800 FEET MORE OR  
27 LESS TO A POINT, SOUTH 13 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST 780 FEET MORE  
28 OR LESS TO A POINT, SOUTH 81 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST 680 FEET  
29 MORE OR LESS TO A POINT IN THE WESTERN RIGHT-OF-WAY OF CHURCH ROAD,  
30 THENCE RUNNING WITH THE WESTERN RIGHT-OF-WAY OF SAID ROAD IN A  
31 SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION 1230 FEET MORE OR LESS TO THE POINT OF  
32 BEGINNING.

33           (2) EXISTING AGRICULTURAL FIELDS WILL BE REFORESTED OR  
34 ALLOWED TO REVERT NATURALLY TO A FORESTED CONDITION ACCORDING TO A  
35 MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPED FOR THE WILDLAND. AGRICULTURAL LEASES  
36 MAY CONTINUE WITHIN THE BELT WOODS WILDLAND UNTIL FORESTATION  
37 OCCURS. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE, THE  
38 DEPARTMENT MAY REFOREST EXISTING FIELDS USING MECHANICAL OR  
39 MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT.

40           (3) EXISTING TENANCIES IN THE BELT WOODS WILDLAND MAY  
41 CONTINUE UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1997.

42           (4) ALL EXISTING STRUCTURES INCLUDING THE BARNs, HOUSES,  
43 SHEDS, AND ELECTRIC UTILITY LINES IN THE BELT WOODS WILDLAND SHALL BE  
44 ALLOWED TO REMAIN. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE,  
45 THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW THE USE OF MECHANICAL OR MOTORIZED

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1 EQUIPMENT TO REMOVE THESE EXISTING STRUCTURES AND OTHER EXISTING  
2 DEBRIS FROM THE WILDLAND.

3 (5) THE BELT WOODS WILDLAND CONTAINS UNIQUE ECOLOGICAL  
4 FEATURES INCLUDING SPECIES SENSITIVE TO PRESSURES CAUSED BY THE  
5 BURGEONING POPULATIONS OF NONNATIVE AND DOMESTICATED SPECIES.  
6 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE, THE DEPARTMENT  
7 MAY, AS CALLED FOR IN THE MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPED FOR THE WILDLAND,  
8 REMOVE NONNATIVE OR DOMESTICATED SPECIES OF PLANTS OR ANIMALS, AND  
9 ERECT FENCING, GATES, AND SIGNAGE ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROTECTION AND  
10 INTERPRETATION OF UNIQUE ECOLOGICAL FEATURES.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 1997.