

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 431 (Cecil County Delegation)  
Environmental Matters

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Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area Land Unit Plan - Codification

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This bill provides that the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area Land Unit Plan established by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and a citizens' advisory committee must be considered the land unit plan for the future use of the management area. In addition, DNR and other State agencies must use the plan and comply with it in any future consideration and decisions regarding the land use of the management area.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill would not materially affect State operations or finances; it essentially codifies the current land unit plan. The extent to which the current plan will alter future land use decisions that could affect State operations or finances, however, is unknown.

**Local Effect:** The bill would not directly affect local operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None. The bill does not directly affect small businesses.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area in Cecil County was established by DNR through regulation.

**Background:** Fair Hill is a 5,613-acre Natural Resources Management Area, where multiple management practices are employed for the maximum use and protection of Maryland's natural resources. Bordered by Pennsylvania to the north and less than one-half mile west of Delaware, Fair Hill is known for its pristine fields, woodlands, and

natural beauty. Fair Hill was acquired by the State in 1975. The Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area Land Unit Plan was established in 1997.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Department of Planning, Maryland Department of the Environment, Cecil County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 9, 2006  
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