



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary
Allan Fisher, Deputy Secretary

Bill Number: SB 674

Short Title: State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund

Department's Position: Letter of Information

Explanation of Department's Position

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR or Department) provides the following information on SB 674.

There are 16 state-owned lakes throughout Maryland. Funding in the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund is used to remove and treat sediment, prevent the spread of invasive species, improve ecological and recreational value, and other actions deemed necessary to protect and restore these lakes.

Prior to the sunset of the fund, DNR completed projects for each lake such as increasing shoreline stabilization, completing water quality assessments, increasing fish habitat, and controlling harmful algal blooms. Past projects have also increased the viability of the lakes to remain as hydraulic power generators and suppliers of drinking water. All of the aforementioned projects resulted in positive ecological benefits while also improving outdoor recreation opportunities and citizen engagement.

For any additional information, please feel free to contact our Legislative and Constituent Services Director, Bunky Luffman.