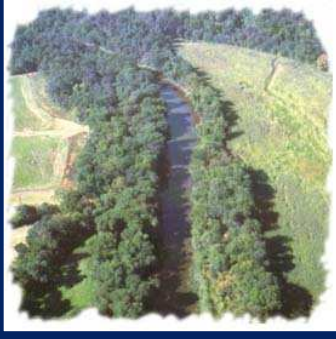


Maryland State Wildlife Grant Success Stories

In the five years since its inception, the State Wildlife Grant Program has played an important role in the conservation of Maryland's wildlife. The following are some projects funded through State Wildlife Grants:



Riparian Buffer, Photo
Courtesy of Maryland DNR

Research: Gathering Information to Take Action **Buffers for Birds**

The last fifty years have seen dramatic land-use changes in Maryland. As intensive agriculture and development have grown, grassland and young forest land has shrunk. This has resulted in a decline in many of the bird species that live in grassland and shrub-like habitats. One way we can help prevent these birds from declining to the point of endangerment is through the creation of small "buffer" strips of land with grass and forest around the edges of farm fields, rivers, and housing developments. State Wildlife Grants are helping create the best buffers possible by measuring how many birds are using what types of buffer lands. Buffers benefit wildlife, but they also benefit people by conserving natural places that enhance our own quality of life.



Stream Survey, Photo
Courtesy of Maryland
DNR

Management: Proactive Measures that Benefit Wildlife and People **Rare Freshwater Fish Conservation Needs**

Good information leads to good management and the most cost-effective means to conserve wildlife for future generations. Since 1993, the Maryland Biological Stream Survey has been collecting a variety of data on over 2,000 streams across Maryland. Included in this data is information on fish previously thought to be extinct in Maryland, as well as a number of other rare freshwater species. State Wildlife Grants are providing the resources to use this information to determine the management needs of rare freshwater fish in Maryland's streams. Good management now will conserve the fish before they become more rare and more costly to protect.



Conservation: Protecting Imperiled Land, Water, and Wildlife **Habitat Restoration for Amphibians**

Carolina bays (also known as Delmarva bays) are rare habitats found on Maryland's eastern shore. These shallow, seasonally flooded depressions offer the perfect habitat for a wide variety of wildlife, including three species of rare amphibians—the tiger salamander, barking tree frog and carpenter frog. State Wildlife Grants have helped transplant special marsh vegetation found in the Carolina bays to over 20 other bays along the Maryland coast, expanding the critical habitat for these amphibians. This is a proactive way to conserve the rare and unique Carolina bays and the wildlife that live there for future generations to enjoy.

Congress has appropriated \$4.8 million in State Wildlife Grants to Maryland since 2001. This has been matched with at least \$1.4 million state and partner dollars.

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