Dear Sir,

The Management Strategies are generally thoughtful and insightful. What is in question is whether there will be sufficient funding, including that for adequate staffing at the state and local level, and the political will to implement them effectively.

The Management Strategy for Protected Lands calls for the protection of an additional 2 million acres, including 225,000 acres of wetlands and 695,000 acres of forests. However, the Maryland legislature this year transferred dedicated funding from Program Open Space and other resource protection program programs to the General fund.

To be effective, the Management Strategies will need the effective involvement of local governments and non-profit organizations.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Earl Bradly,
Executive Committee Chair
Anne Arundel County Group
Sierra Club - Maryland Chapter

Founded in 1892, the Sierra Club is America’s oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization. We encourage our members, individually and collectively, to “Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.” We have chapters in all 50 states and Puerto Rico, with more than 600,000 members nationwide, including more than 15,000 members in the Maryland Chapter.