

# **Deep Creek Lake**

**Options for  
Improved Management,  
Coordination and Accountability**

# Options

- No Change
- Augment existing infrastructure
- Cooperative Agreement
- 501c (3) Non Profit
- Watershed District Authority

# **Augment Existing Infrastructure**

## **Two approaches:**

- Add staffing to the State and County**
- Expand responsibilities for the Deep Creek Lake Policy and Review Board**

# Augment Existing Infrastructure

## Benefits

- Does not require legislative changes or other formal agreement.
- Familiar to lake owners
- Improvement over the current staffing level and responsiveness.
- Potentially more politically acceptable approach.

## Challenges

- Funding for staff needed.
- Will need to develop and strengthen mechanisms to connect gaps and improve coordination.
- For PRB augmentation – Legislative changes needed

# Cooperative Agreement

## Benefits

- Provides a clear path for operations related to the Lake.
- All parties are agreeing to specific terms and commitments..
- Higher likelihood of being acceptable approach to State and local government
- Can be combined with other options

## Challenges

- Developing Agreement language.
- Developing and agreeing to an annual work plan or action strategy.
- Oversight entity needed (NGO, State or County agency)
- Additional staffing needed for implementation oversight.
- Additional funding needed
- Authorities would not change.

# **Establish or Augment an Existing 501c3-Non-Profit**

## **Two approaches:**

- Non-profit independent of Homeowners Association**
- Non-profit organized and managed by homeowners as an HOA**

# **Establish or Augment an Existing 501c3-Non-Profit**

## **Benefits**

- **Provides a level of independence from State or local government**
- **Board of Directors includes State or local government**
- **Broader options for fund raising and financing which can include donations and endowments**
- **Independent oversight of all partner's implementing the action plan.**
- **Can support state and local policies and funding.**

## **Challenges**

- **Fundraising requires a dedicated staff.**
- **Need a paid Executive Director and/or staff to run the non-profit and provide fiscal management**
- **Authority is limited.**
- **Responsibilities can include monitoring, educational programs, and advisory to the State and County.**

# Watershed District Authority

## Benefits

- Creates an independent governmental entity (third party) to develop and oversee policies, programs, and funding.
- Allows for more stringent rules and regulations with local enforcement.

## Challenges

- Must be strongly funded, structured, and staffed.
- Requires legislative action
- Usurps some state and local authority
- Most examples of this type of authority were established in the 1960's and 70's when local zoning and regulatory authority was not strong.
- Local land use authority for strengthened over the years in Maryland which would be difficult to change through State legislation



# Discussion

- No Change
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