

Maryland

DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service
Presents



The Hellbender



Our Slimy Aquatic Pal

Fun Hellbender Facts

- America's largest salamander
- Up to 29 inches in length
- Weighs up to five pounds
- Nocturnal
- Long-lived – 25 years or more
- Adapted to life in big water
- Lives mostly on crayfish
- Harmless

The screenshot displays the Pennsylvania General Assembly website. At the top, there is a blue header with the text "Pennsylvania General Assembly" and a search bar labeled "Legislation Quick Search" with the placeholder "Enter a search term...". Below the header, the page title is "Bill Information" and the session is "Regular Session 2019-2020 Senate Bill 9". There are navigation links for "Text", "History", and "Votes". The main content area includes:

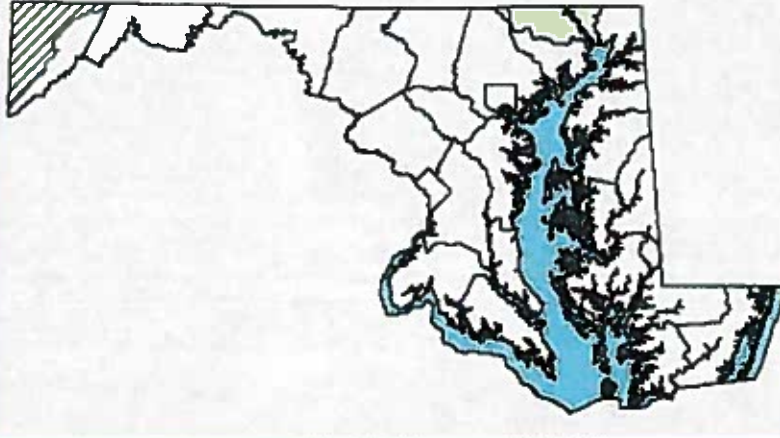
- Short Title:** An Act designating the Eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*) as the official amphibian of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Prime Sponsor:** [Senator YAW](#)
- Last Action:** Removed from table, April 10, 2019 [House]
- Memo:** [Designating the Eastern Hellbender as State Amphibian](#)

At the bottom, there is a table with columns for "Printer's No.", "Printer's No.", "Text", "(1) Amendments", "(5) Amendments", "(1) Fiscal Note", and "(5) Fiscal Note". The "Printer's No." column shows "43".

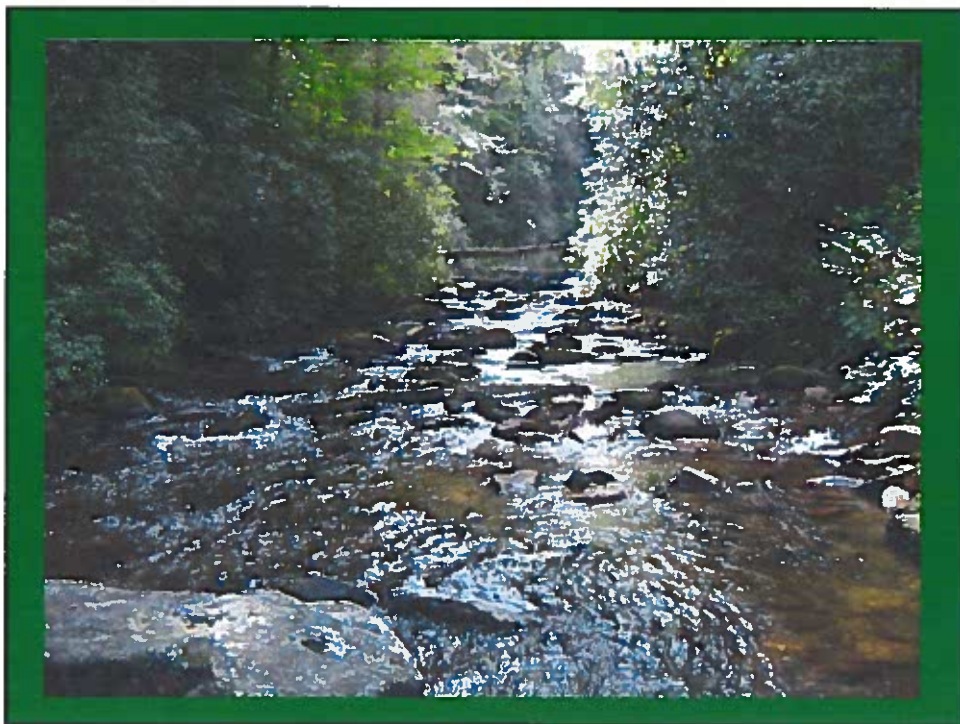
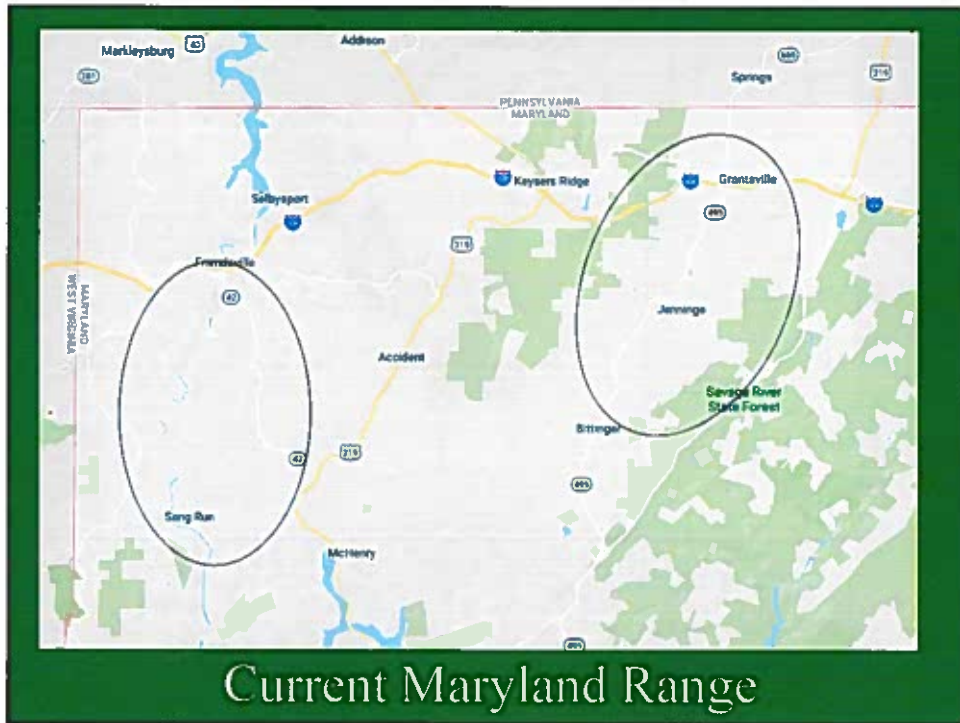


Global Range

Distribution in Maryland:



Maryland Historic Distribution

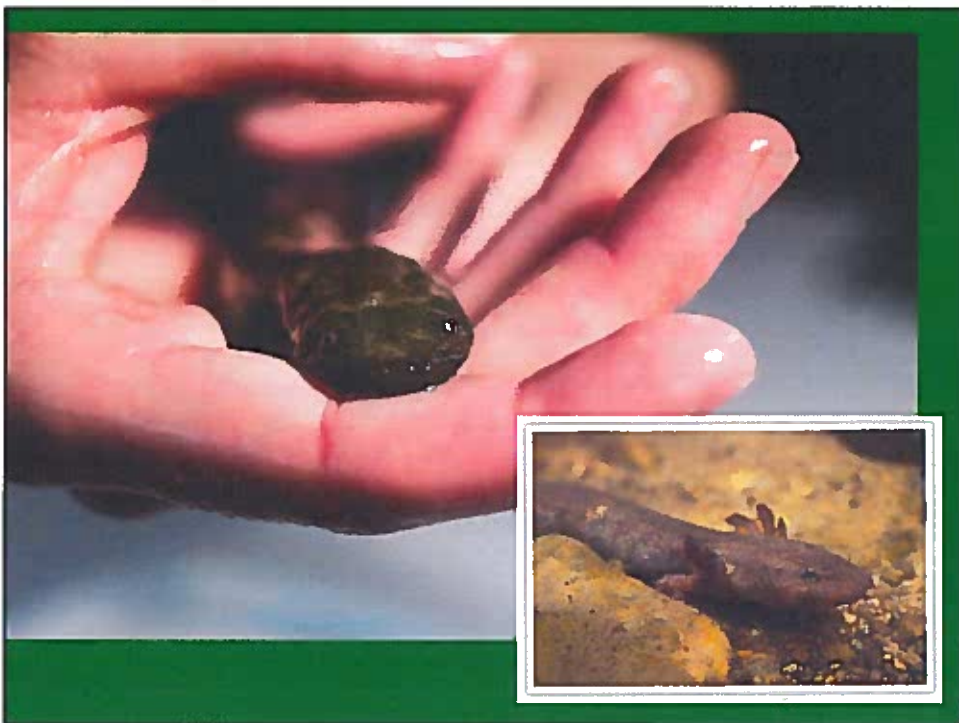




Dinner!



Adaptations





Lateral Line

Common Names for *Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*:

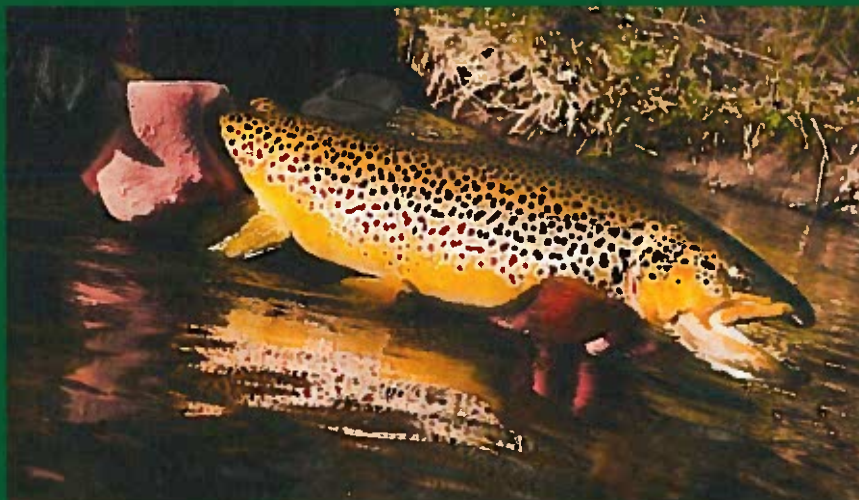
- Hellbender
- Lasagna Lizard
- Snot Otter
- Allegany Alligator
- Mud Dog
- Spotter Water Gecko
- Devil Dog
- Leverian Water Newt

Threats to the hellbender in
Maryland:

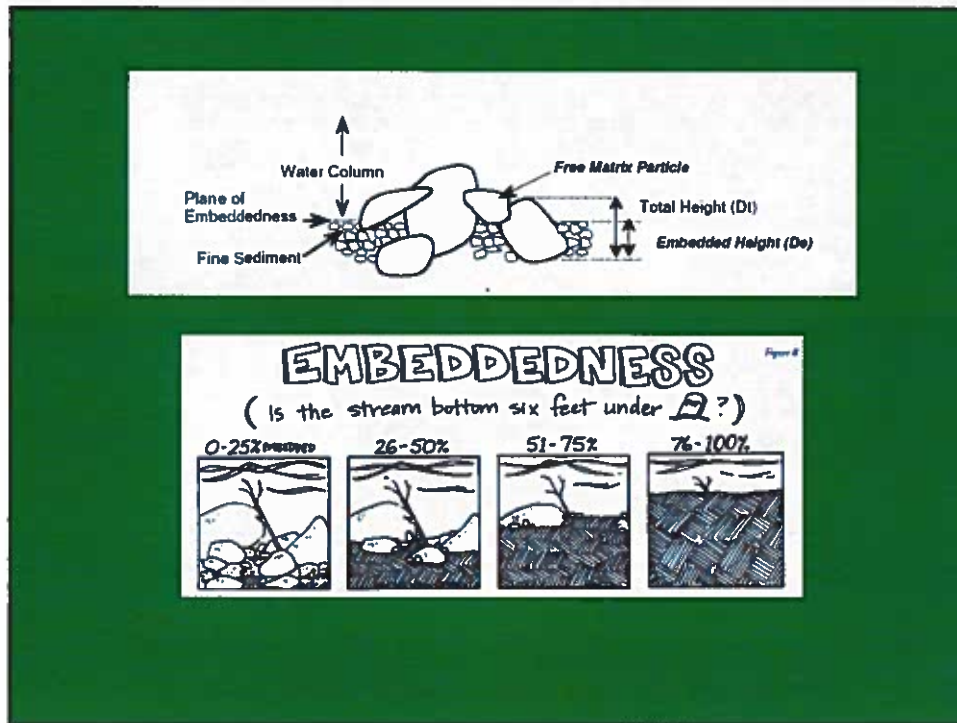
- Water Quality Degradation
- Invasive Species
- Predation
- Stream Embedding



Brown Trout



Prey and Predator



Hellbender Conservation Strategies

- Keep the streams clean!
- Stop stocking non-native predators
- Prevent invasive species
- Artificial nesting boxes
- Stocking / head-starting



