$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{STATE OF MAINE} \\ 129^{\text{TH}} \text{ Legislature} \\ \text{First Regular Session} \end{array}$



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

August 2019

MEMBERS:

SEN. JAMES F. DILL, CHAIR SEN. LOUIS JOSEPH LUCHINI SEN. PAUL T. DAVIS

REP. CATHERINE M. NADEAU, CHAIR REP. JOHN L. MARTIN REP. ROLAND DANNY MARTIN REP. JESSICA L. FAY REP. STANLEY PAIGE ZEIGLER, JR.* REP. H. SCOTT LANDRY, JR. REP. H. SCOTT LANDRY, JR. REP. PAUL A. STEARNS REP. LESTER S. ORDWAY REP. TIMOTHY S. THERIAULT REP. RICHARD G. MASON REP. SEAN C. PAULUS*

*Committee member for a portion of the session

<u>Staff</u>:

DEIRDRE SCHNEIDER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS 13 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, ME 04333 (207) 287-1670 http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/

LD 26 An Act To Provide Complimentary Lifetime Hunting and Fishing Licenses to Retired Game Wardens with 25 Years of Service

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Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
THERIAULT T CYRWAY S	ONTP OTP	

This bill allows a retired game warden with 25 years of service to receive a complimentary lifetime license to hunt, trap and fish.

LD 27 An Act To Allow the Use of a Crossbow for a Limited Duration during PUBLIC 98 the Archery Season on Deer and the Fall Season on Wild Turkey

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
THERIAULT T CYRWAY S	OTP-AM	H-147

This bill allows crossbows to be used during the regular archery-only deer hunting season.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-147)

This amendment replaces the bill and the title. For a period of three years, beginning in 2020, it allows a person, in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, to hunt deer with a crossbow during the open archery season on deer and the fall open season on hunting wild turkey. It specifies that a person using a crossbow during the open archery season may not harvest an antlerless deer unless that person possesses an antlerless deer permit. It also clarifies that, outside of this limited time period, the use of a crossbow to hunt wild turkey is allowed only during the spring open season on hunting wild turkey. Lastly, it requires the commissioner to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters that includes a recommendation on whether to continue to permit the use of a crossbow during the use of a crossbow during the spring open season on hunting wild turkey and whether the commissioner allowed the use of a crossbow during the fall open season on hunting wild turkey and whether the commissioner allowed the use of a crossbow during a special archery season on deer and, if so, whether the use should continue to be permitted. The committee may report out a bill based on the report.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 98 allows a person for a period of three years, beginning in 2020, and in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, to hunt deer with a crossbow during the open archery season on deer and to hunt wild turkey during the fall open season on hunting wild turkey. It specifies that a person using a crossbow during the open archery season may not harvest an antlerless deer unless that person possesses an antlerless deer permit. It also clarifies that, outside of this limited time period, the use of a crossbow to hunt wild turkey is allowed only during the spring open season on hunting wild turkey. Lastly, it requires the commissioner to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters that includes a recommendation on whether to continue to permit the use of a crossbow during a special archery season on hunting wild turkey and whether the sommissioner allowed the use of a crossbow during a special archery season on hunting wild turkey and whether the use should continue to be permitted. The committee may report out a bill based on the report.

LD 33Resolve, To Encourage the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and
Wildlife To Establish a Youth Turkey Hunting Day during the Fall
SeasonRESOLVE 18

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TUELL W	OTP-AM	H-68
MOORE M		

This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a special youth hunting season from the Monday prior to Thanksgiving Day to the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day during which youth hunters with a valid junior hunting license may harvest one wild turkey.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-68)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve directing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to consider establishing a special youth turkey hunting day during the fall season, which the commissioner has statutory authority to do.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 18 directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to consider establishing a special youth turkey hunting day during the fall season, which the commissioner has statutory authority to do.

LD 56 An Act To Ban the Use of Personal Watercraft on Lower Wilson Pond ONTP and Upper Wilson Pond

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
STEARNS P	ONTP	

This bill prohibits the use of personal watercraft on Lower Wilson Pond in the Town of Greenville and Upper Wilson Pond in the Town of Greenville and Bowdoin College Grant West Township.

LD 74 An Act To Reform Maine's Fish and Wildlife Management System ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
POULIOT M	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill would reform Maine's fish and wildlife management system.

LD 79 An Act To Protect Shooting Ranges

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
COREY P	OTP	
BLACK R		

PUBLIC 14

This bill allows the discharge of a firearm on a sport shooting range that is within 100 yards of a building if the sport shooting range was established and in regular operation prior to the erection of the building.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 14 allows the discharge of a firearm on a sport shooting range that is within 100 yards of a building if the sport shooting range was established and in regular operation prior to the erection of the building.

LD 121 An Act To Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To PUBLIC 190 Promote Safety with Respect to the Handling or Use of Firearms, Watercraft, All-terrain Vehicles and Snowmobiles and in Other Outdoor Activities

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FECTEAU R	OTP-AM	H-276

This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to develop and implement a program focused on increasing the awareness and education of the public on matters relating to firearm safety and the prevention of firearm violence. The program may include, but is not limited to, print, radio, television and Internet advertising, the distribution of written materials and the offering or facilitation of public events.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-276)

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Division of Public Information and Education to annually undertake campaigns to promote safety in the handling and use of firearms, watercraft, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles. The division is also directed to promote safety with respect to other outdoor activities to the extent the division determines such campaigns would help improve safety. The campaigns must be designed to reach the target audiences effectively through television, radio, Internet or other communication mediums.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 190 requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Division of Public Information and Education to annually undertake campaigns to promote safety in the handling and use of firearms, watercraft, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles. The division is also directed to promote safety with respect to other outdoor activities to the extent the division determines such campaigns would help improve safety. The campaigns must be designed to reach the target audiences effectively through television, radio, Internet or other communication mediums.

LD 175 An Act To Extend the Deer Hunting Season by 2 Saturdays

ONTP

Sponsor(s) MCCREA D

CARPENTER M

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill extends the end of the regular firearm deer hunting season by two Saturdays.

LD 188	An Act To Provide for a Season	an Expanded Muzzle-loading-only	Deer Hunting ONTP
	Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
	TUELL W MOORE M	ONTP	
		son on deer extends for 12 hunting days rmined by the Commissioner of Inland I	
LD 190	An Act To Provide Ant Hunting License Holde	lerless Deer Permits to Senior Resi ers	dent Lifetime ONTP
	<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
	HUTCHINS S	ONTP	
-		of age or older who possesses a valid ser take an antlerless deer in any part of the	-

LD 212An Act To Provide a Source of Funding for the ATV RecreationalPUBLIC 75Management Fund and To Establish the ATV Enforcement FundEMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARTIN D JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-86

This bill increases ATV registration fees from \$33 to \$45 for annual registrations for residents, from \$53 to \$65 for seven-day registrations for nonresidents and from \$68 to \$80 for one-year registrations for nonresidents. The bill provides that the increased fee revenue be deposited in the ATV Recreational Management Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-86)

antlerless deer.

This amendment replaces the bill and adds an emergency preamble, an emergency clause and an appropriations and allocations section. It creates the ATV Enforcement Fund, which is a nonlapsing fund that is funded with \$10 from each nonresident ATV registration fee collected. Money from the fund is required to be used for the enforcement of ATV laws, ATV education and the purchase of necessary machinery or equipment related to ATV safety and enforcement activities.

Like the bill, this amendment increases the ATV registration fee from \$33 to \$45 for annual registrations for residents. It also increases from \$53 to \$75 7-day registrations for nonresidents and from \$68 to \$90 for one-year registrations for nonresidents. The amendment requires \$12 of each registration fee to be deposited in the ATV Recreational Management Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 75 creates the ATV Enforcement Fund, which is a nonlapsing fund that is funded with \$10 from each nonresident ATV registration fee collected. Money from the fund is required to be used for the enforcement of ATV laws, ATV education and the purchase of necessary machinery or equipment related to ATV safety and enforcement activities.

This law increases the ATV registration fee from \$33 to \$45 for annual registrations for residents. It also increases from \$53 to \$75, the registration fee for seven-day registrations for nonresidents and from \$68 to \$90 for one-year registrations for nonresidents. The amendment requires \$12 of each registration fee to be deposited in the ATV Recreational Management Fund.

Public Law 2019, chapter 75 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 1, 2019.

LD 235 An Act To Increase Funding To Contain and Manage the Spread of PUBLIC 264 Invasive Aquatic Species

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
RISEMAN W MIRAMANT D	OTP-AM	Н-309

This bill increases the fees for the lake and river protection stickers that are required for all resident and nonresident motorboats, personal watercraft and seaplanes operating on inland waters of the State as follows.

1. Beginning January 1, 2020, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by \$8 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by \$10.

2. Beginning January 1, 2022, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by an additional \$2 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$5.

3. Beginning January 1, 2024, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by an additional \$2 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$5.

The fee revenues from the sale of lake and river protection stickers are used to support the efforts of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Protection in preventing, eradicating and managing invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-309)

This amendment changes the fee increases proposed in the bill as follows.

1. Beginning January 1, 2020, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by \$5 instead of \$8, and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by \$15 instead of \$10.

2. Beginning January 1, 2021, instead of January 1, 2022, the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$10, but the resident fee remains the same.

This amendment also changes the allocation of the fee between the Invasive Aquatic Plant and Nuisance Species Fund and the Lake and River Protection Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 264 increases the fees for the lake and river protection stickers that are required for all resident and nonresident motorboats, personal watercraft and seaplanes operating on inland waters of the State as follows.

1. Beginning January 1, 2020, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by \$5, and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by \$15.

2. Beginning January 1, 2021, the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$10, but the resident fee remains the same.

This law also changes the allocation of the fee between the Invasive Aquatic Plant and Nuisance Species Fund and the Lake and River Protection Fund. The fee revenues from the sale of lake and river protection stickers are used to support the efforts of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Protection in preventing, eradicating and managing invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species in the State.

LD 258 An Act To Establish and Coordinate a Volunteer Corps of Search and ONTP Rescue Specialists within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MIRAMANT D DOUDERA V	ONTP	

This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish and coordinate a volunteer corps of search and rescue specialists whose initial and ongoing training is delivered by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and who are deputized to engage in search and rescue operations.

LD 265An Act To Increase Opportunities for Hunters, Anglers and SportingPUBLIC 42Camps by Extending the Seasons on Upland GameEMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
BLACK R LANDRY S	OTP-AM	S-26

This bill amends the general hunting season provisions to direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to extend the open seasons on upland game by one additional day, the last Saturday of September, annually. It defines the term "upland game" as snowshoe hare, gray squirrel, ring-necked pheasant, ruffed grouse and bobwhite quail.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-26)

This amendment replaces the bill and adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause. It establishes that the open season on upland game must begin on the last Saturday in September and authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish the length of the season. It also removes ring-necked pheasant from the definition of "upland game."

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 42 establishes that the open season on upland game must begin on the last Saturday in September and authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish the length of the season. This law defines the term "upland game" as snowshoe hare, gray squirrel, ruffed grouse and bobwhite quail.

Public Law 2019, chapter 42 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 22, 2019.

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LD 275 An Act To Change the Bag Limits on Wild Turkey

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MIRAMANT D	ONTP	
EVANGELOS J		

This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to double the bag limits on wild turkey in effect on January 1, 2018. It also requires the commissioner to submit a report by January 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, that includes recommendations regarding bag limits on wild turkey. It gives the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters authority to report out a bill based on the report.

LD 313 An Act To Increase Access to Moose and Doe Permits for ONTP Combat-injured Veterans

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
JAVNER K	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill would increase access to moose and doe permits for the rehabilitation of combat-injured veterans.

LD 321	An Act To Ensure the Continuation of the Landowner Relations	ONTP
	Program	

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
KESCHL D	ONTP	
BREEN C		

This bill provides funding to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow the department through the landowner relations program to improve relationships or maintain good relationships between landowners and outdoor recreationists.

LD 337 An Act To Start a Spring Bear Hunting Season

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LYFORD P	ONTP	

This bill amends the law on open and closed seasons on bear to direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a spring bear hunting season.

LD 339 An Act To Prohibit Unattended Watercraft on Open Water ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FAY J	ONTP	

ONTP

ONTP

This bill makes leaving a watercraft unattended in open water by a person a civil violation.

LD 442 An Act To Set Speed Limits for All-terrain Vehicles on Trails within 50 ONTP Yards of a Stream or Pond To Prevent Runoff

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DAVIS P PICKETT R	ONTP	

This bill prohibits the operation of an all-terrain vehicle at a speed of more than 15 miles per hour within 50 yards of a stream or pond, unless the ground is frozen and sufficiently covered with snow. It specifies that a person who violates this prohibition commits a civil violation, except that a person who violates this prohibition after having been adjudicated as having committed three or more violations of this prohibition within the previous five-year period commits a Class E crime.

LD 490An Act To Give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife thePUBLIC 19Authority To Extend Any Trapping Season Based on Weather
Conditions or Other FactorsConditions or Other Factors

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
BLACK R LANDRY S	OTP-AM	S-9

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to change a trapping season opening date if weather conditions make that change necessary.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-9)

This amendment replaces the bill. It gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to extend any open trapping season on any game species for up to 21 days if the commissioner has concerns about weather conditions or other unforeseen factors that may prevent publicly derived management goals from being met as long as the decision is based on sound scientific wildlife management principles.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 19 gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to extend any open trapping season on any game species for up to 21 days if the commissioner has concerns about weather conditions or other unforeseen factors that may prevent publicly derived management goals from being met as long as the decision is based on sound scientific wildlife management principles.

LD 525 An Act To Increase the Registration Fee for Snowmobiles for Residents ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
STANLEY S	ONTP	

This bill increases the annual snowmobile registration fee for residents from \$45 to \$55.

LD 528An Act To Increase the Number of Clubs That May Be Issued a SpecialPUBLIC 65Dog Training Area LicenseEMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DUNPHY M DILL J	OTP-AM	H-69

This bill increases the number of clubs in Penobscot County that may be issued a special dog training area license for training hunting dogs from five to eight.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-69)

This amendment replaces the bill and adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause. It increases from five to eight the number of clubs per county for which the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may issue a special dog training area license.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 65 increases from five to eight the number of clubs per county for which the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may issue a special dog training area license.

Public Law 2019, chapter 65 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 30, 2019.

LD 617 An Act To Increase to 3 the Number of Youth Deer Hunting Days

ONTP

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> HUTCHINS S Committee Report ONTP Amendments Adopted

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This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish two additional youth deer hunting days, the Monday and Tuesday following the last Saturday of the regular firearms season on deer, to the current youth deer hunting day, which occurs on the Saturday preceding the residents-only Saturday of the regular deer hunting season.

LD 638 An Act To Legalize the Use of Supplemental Minerals To Assist with Wildlife Nutrition

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DAVIS P		

This bill allows a person to place supplemental minerals for deer from March 1st to July 31st if the supplemental minerals are placed on that person's own land, or on another person's land with the other person's oral or written permission, and the supplemental minerals do not contain any grain or food products.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 649 An Act To Enhance Collaboration among State Agencies To Improve ONTP Landowner Relations

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
COREY P	ONTP	
BREEN C		

This bill directs all state agencies and in particular the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, the Department of Marine Resources and the Department of Economic and Community Development to collaborate with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to implement the landowner relations program. This bill directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to organize the collaboration to distribute as evenly as practicable the burden experienced by the various agencies arising from the public use of private lands.

LD 650 An Act To Strengthen Maine's Landowner Relations Program

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedCOREY PBREEN C

CARRIED OVER

This bill provides ongoing funding for five additional Deputy Game Warden positions and associated costs in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 652 An Act To Modify Maine's Ice Fishing Laws with Respect to Cusk ONTP Fishing

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GRIGNON C FARRIN B	ONTP	

This bill changes how often a person is required to check cusk lines while ice fishing from at least once every hour in the nighttime to at least once every 24 hours.

LD 663 An Act To Allow Holders of Gold Star Family Registration Plates To Be INDEF PP Issued Complimentary Licenses To Hunt, Trap and Fish and To Exempt Them from Vehicle Registration Fees

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FECTEAU J		

This bill allows the holder of a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 524-B to be issued a complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish, including permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt. It also exempts a person with a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates from the annual motor vehicle registration fee.

This bill was not referred to committee.

LD 695 An Act To Require Biodegradable Hooks and Lures for Freshwater CARRIED OVER Fishing

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DAVIS P		
MASON R		

Beginning January 1, 2024, this bill prohibits fishing in inland waters using nonbiodegradable hooks or certain nonbiodegradable artificial lures. A person who violates this prohibition commits a Class E crime.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 708	An Act To Allow the	Transfer of a Moose Hunting Perr	nit to a Disabled	PUBLIC 191
	Veteran			EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
JACKSON T	OTP-AM	S-112
MARTIN J		

This bill allows a person eligible to participate in the public chance drawing for a moose hunting permit to indicate on the application for a permit the person's intention that the permit be issued to a wounded service member or veteran. The person may indicate the identity of the wounded service member or veteran or request that the commissioner randomly draw the name of a wounded service member or veteran from a list maintained by the commissioner of wounded service members and veterans who have submitted their names for consideration to receive a moose hunting permit under this process.

This bill defines a wounded service member or veteran as a person who incurred a physical or mental injury, illness or wound while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States and who is otherwise eligible to receive a moose hunting permit.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-112)

This amendment replaces the title and the bill and adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause. It allows a person who holds a valid moose permit to transfer that permit to an eligible disabled veteran. If a person does not identify a specific disabled veteran to receive the transferred permit, the permit may be returned to the department, which provides for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 191 allows a person who holds a valid moose permit to transfer that permit to an eligible disabled veteran. If a person does not identify a specific disabled veteran to receive the transferred permit, the permit may be returned to the department, which provides for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran.

Public Law 2019, chapter 191 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 5, 2019.

LD 713 An Act To Strengthen Maine's Endangered Species Laws

PUBLIC 267

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
NADEAU C	OTP-AM	Н-275

This bill gives a law enforcement officer discretion in issuing a warning to a first-time violator of the State's laws prohibiting negligently feeding, baiting or harassing an endangered or threatened species or feeding, baiting or harassing a delisted species. It removes the requirement that a law enforcement officer must issue a warning to a first-time violator of the law prohibiting intentionally feeding, baiting or harassing an endangered or threatened species.

It increases from Class E crimes to Class D crimes negligently importing, exporting, hunting, taking, trapping, possessing, processing, selling, offering for sale, delivering, carrying, transporting, shipping, feeding, baiting or harassing endangered or threatened species. It also increases from Class D crimes to Class C crimes intentionally engaging in any of those acts with endangered, threatened and delisted species.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-275)

This amendment replaces the bill. This amendment:

1. Provides that for conviction of certain Class E crimes of negligence related to endangered or threatened species, the maximum allowable fine of \$1,000 must be adjudged;

2. Removes the requirement that, for a first-time offense of negligently feeding, setting bait for or harassing any endangered or threatened species, a law enforcement officer must issue a warning;

3. Provides that for conviction of certain Class D crimes involving intentional acts related to endangered or threatened species, the maximum allowable fine of \$2,000 must be adjudged;

4. Removes the requirement that, for a first-time offense of intentionally feeding, setting bait for or harassing any endangered or threatened species, a law enforcement officer must issue a warning;

5. Provides that for conviction of certain Class D crimes involving intentional conduct related to a delisted species, the maximum allowable fine of \$2,000 must be adjudged;

6. Removes the requirement that, for a first-time offense of intentionally harassing a delisted species, a law enforcement officer must issue a warning; and

7. Removes the prohibition on intentionally feeding or setting bait for a delisted species.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 267 does the following:

1. Provides that for conviction of certain Class E crimes of negligence related to endangered or threatened species, the maximum allowable fine of \$1,000 must be adjudged;

2. Removes the requirement that, for a first-time offense of negligently feeding, setting bait for or harassing any endangered or threatened species, a law enforcement officer must issue a warning;

3. Provides that for conviction of certain Class D crimes involving intentional acts related to endangered or

threatened species, the maximum allowable fine of \$2,000 must be adjudged;

4. Removes the requirement that, for a first-time offense of intentionally feeding, setting bait for or harassing any endangered or threatened species, a law enforcement officer must issue a warning;

5. Provides that for conviction of certain Class D crimes involving intentional conduct related to a delisted species, the maximum allowable fine of \$2,000 must be adjudged;

6. Removes the requirement that, for a first-time offense of intentionally harassing a delisted species, a law enforcement officer must issue a warning; and

7. Removes the prohibition on intentionally feeding or setting bait for a delisted species.

LD 728 An Act To Fairly Compensate Registration Stations for Bear, Deer, ONTP Moose and Turkey Registrations

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
SAMPSON H BLACK R	ONTP	

This bill amends the law governing registration of harvested animals to have registration agents retain \$4 of each registration seal for a bear, deer or moose. It also increases the amount collected for each wild turkey registered to \$3, leaving the amount retained at \$2.

LD 865 An Act To Provide Funding for Hunting Opportunities for Disabled PUBLIC 199 Veterans

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
STEWART T LUCHINI L	OTP-AM	H-273

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to amend the laws governing the funding sources of the controlled moose hunt season in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-273)

This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, and changes the title. It allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to accept monetary donations to support hunting opportunities for disabled veterans. It requires the commissioner to transfer those donations to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to be deposited into the Hunting Opportunities for Disabled Veterans Fund, a nonlapsing fund to be used for the purpose of making funds available to organizations that provide disabled veterans with hunting opportunities. The fund may also receive any other monetary gifts, donations or other contributions from public or private sources. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 199 allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to accept monetary donations to support hunting opportunities for disabled veterans. It requires the commissioner to transfer those donations to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to be deposited into the Hunting Opportunities for Disabled Veterans Fund, a nonlapsing fund to be used for the purpose of making funds available to organizations that provide disabled veterans with hunting opportunities. The fund may also receive any other monetary gifts, donations or other contributions from public or private sources.

LD 877 An Act To Equalize the Distribution of Gasoline Tax Revenues between INDEF PP Snowmobiles and All-terrain Vehicles

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
ACKLEY K		

Current law distributes 0.9045% of total gasoline tax revenues to programs related to snowmobiles and 0.1525% to programs related to all-terrain vehicles. This bill amends the law to provide that 0.5285% of gasoline tax revenues funds programs related to snowmobiles and 0.5285% funds programs related to all-terrain vehicles. This bill was not referred to committee.

LD 879 An Act To Decrease the Risk of the Spread of Invasive Aquatic Plants ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TUCKER R	ONTP	
GRATWICK G		

This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, to develop a risk assessment tool to evaluate the economic and environmental risks associated with public access, including the issuance of permits for fishing derbies and tournaments, on public waters with documented invasive aquatic plants. It requires the commissioner to utilize the risk assessment tool before the issuance of permits for fishing derbies and tournaments and when making decisions regarding public access on public waters with documented invasive aquatic plants.

LD 881An Act To Ensure Equitable Treatment of Super Pack License HoldersPUBLIC 116in Antlerless Deer Permit LotteriesEMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FAY J	OTP-AM	H-186
DIAMOND B		

This bill allows the holder of a super pack license who obtains an antlerless deer permit to also participate in an antlerless deer permit lottery.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-186)

This amendment replaces the bill and adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause. It specifies that a person who obtains a super pack license also receives an antlerless deer permit under certain conditions and the opportunity to enter a bonus antlerless-only deer permit lottery. It also allows a super pack licensee to enter an antlerless deer permit lottery if that person does not obtain an antlerless deer permit under certain conditions specified in law.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 116 specifies that a person who obtains a super pack license also receives an antlerless deer permit under certain conditions and the opportunity to enter a bonus antlerless-only deer permit lottery. It also allows a super pack licensee to enter an antlerless deer permit lottery if that person does not obtain an antlerless deer permit under certain conditions specified in law.

Public Law 2019, chapter 116 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 16, 2019.

LD 891 An Act To Preserve Maine's Heritage by Expanding Maine Youth ONTP Hunting

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
KEIM L	ONTP	

This bill allows the Commissioner of Inland and Fisheries and Wildlife to establish three consecutive days as youth hunting days for hunting bear and deer, and specifies these days as Thursday through Saturday.

LD 924An Act To Remove the Background Check Requirement for MaineONTPGuides Who Are at Least 70 Years of Age and Hold a Lifetime Hunting
or Fishing LicenseOntp

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARTIN T	ONTP	

This bill would exempt a registered Maine guide who holds a senior lifetime hunting, fishing, trapping or archery license and who is 70 years of age or older from having to undergo a background check when renewing their guide license, if that person had undergone a background check at 68 years of age or older.

LD 927 An Act To Minimize the Propagation of Invasive Aquatic Plants ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
ACKLEY K	ONTP	

This bill requires a person when removing a vessel from an inland water body to drain the vessel and other equipment and to remove or open drain plugs, bailers, valves and other devices to drain the water before that vessel is transported. It exempts emergency response vessels from these requirements.

LD 932 An Act Regarding the Transfer of a Deceased Person's Moose Permit to PUBLIC 143 a Family Member

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
PICKETT R	OTP-AM	H-185
DAVIS P		

This bill specifies that if a person who is issued a moose permit dies prior to the start of the moose hunting season, that person's subpermittee-designate or subpermittee, if an immediate family member, must be issued that person's moose permit. The new moose permit holder under this provision has the ability to name a subpermittee-designate and alternate subpermittee-designate.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-185)

This amendment replaces the bill. It requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to transfer a moose permit to a family member who meets eligibility and permit requirements and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding the moose permit if the permit holder dies at any time prior to or during the moose hunting season if a

moose has not yet been harvested under that permit.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 143 requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to transfer a moose permit to a family member who meets eligibility and permit requirements and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding the moose permit if the permit holder dies at any time prior to or during the moose hunting season if a moose has not yet been harvested under that permit.

LD 967 An Act To Reduce the Spread of Invasive Aquatic Plants by Prohibiting ONTP Seine Fishing in Great Ponds

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
ACKLEY K	ONTP	

This bill prohibits fishing using a seine in a great pond in which the Department of Environmental Protection has documented the occurrence of invasive aquatic plants.

LD 996 An Act To Establish a Special Handgun Hunting Season That Coincides ONTP with the Muzzle-loading Open Season on Deer

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GUERIN S	ONTP	

This bill establishes a special handgun open season on deer that coincides with the special muzzle-loading season.

LD 1109 An Act Regarding All-terrain Vehicles

PUBLIC 204

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARTIN D JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-272

This bill limits, by definition, the size of an all-terrain vehicle to 65 inches in width and 2,000 pounds in weight, prohibits operation of motor vehicles on a designated all-terrain vehicle trail that is not on a gravel road system and prohibits operation of all-terrain vehicles on trails posted with size or weight limitations unless that use has been authorized by the landowner or the landowner's agent.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-272)

This amendment:

1. Amends the definition of "ATV" to limit that definition to a motor-driven, off-road, recreational vehicle that was designed by the manufacturer for and is capable of cross-country travel. It preserves that portion of the bill that amends the definition of "ATV" to exclude a motor vehicle as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 42. It removes the size and weight limits added by the bill to the definition of "ATV"; and

2. Removes that section of the bill that prohibits the operation of an ATV on a trail posted with size or weight restrictions without authorization of the landowner.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 204 amends the definition of "ATV" to limit that definition to a motor-driven, off-road, recreational vehicle that was designed by the manufacturer for and is capable of cross-country travel and excludes a motor vehicle as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 42.

LD 1117 An Act To Encourage Turkey Hunting

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

BELLOWS S HICKMAN C

This bill does the following.

1. It removes the requirement that person would need to obtain a permit to hunt wild turkey and the corresponding fee for that permit.

2. It removes the requirement that person must tag a wild turkey harvested at a registration station.

3. It removes the discretion of the commissioner to establish the number of and sex of wild turkey that a person could harvest and specifies that the commissioner must allow by rule a person to harvest four male wild turkeys in the spring and eight wild turkeys of either sex during the fall.

4. It requires a person to report at the end of the wild turkey hunting season to the department how many wild turkeys that person harvested.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1118An Act To Give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and WildlifeCARRIED OVERRule-making Authority To Establish a Bear Season Framework and Bag
LimitsLimits

Sponsor(s)

DAVIS P NADEAU C Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill does the following.

1. It reduces the resident bear hunting and trapping permit fees from \$27 to \$10, but retains the nonresident hunting permit fee at \$74 and the nonresident trapping fee at \$67.

2. It removes the statutorily set bear hunting and trapping season dates and gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to establish the bear hunting and trapping season dates by rule, but prohibits those seasons from starting any earlier than August 1st and ending any later than December 15th.

3. It removes the two bear harvesting limit for an individual annually for hunting and trapping bear and gives the commissioner the authority to establish the bag limit for the hunting or trapping bear in rule.

4. It removes the requirement that a cable trap have a closing diameter of not less than 2.5 inches and instead

specifies that a person may not set a bear trap other than as authorized by rule.

5. It allows the commissioner by rule to prohibit the use of dogs to hunt black bear.

6. It changes the sentencing requirements for a person who hunts or traps a bear beyond the maximum number of bear allowed by rule during the hunting or trapping season.

7. It changes the sentencing requirement for a person that possess more than the number of bears allowed by rule.

8. It changes language that currently states that a person who possesses a valid trapping license may obtain a permit to trap a bear to state that a person who has a valid trapping license or a valid license to hunt deer, moose and bear may obtain a permit to trap bear.

9. It requires that a person who applies for a bear trapping permit to submit proof of having successfully completed a bear trapping education course provided by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or to show evidence that the person held a valid bear trapping permit in any year prior to 2020.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1124 An Act To Amend the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Process ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
BLACK R	ONTP	
LANDRY S		

This bill limits the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board to awarding no more than 20% of all grant funds to projects of the State's natural resources agencies. It also prohibits members of the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board who are members of natural resources agencies from participating in decisions awarding funding to their natural resources agencies.

LD 1147Resolve, To Direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife ToRESOLVE 35Study Registration Fees for All-terrain Vehicles and SnowmobilesResolve, To Direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
STEARNS P	OTP-AM	H-184
DAVIS P		

This bill limits, by definition, the size of an all-terrain vehicle to 65 inches in width and 2,000 pounds in weight, prohibits operation of motor vehicles on a designated all-terrain vehicle trail that is not on a gravel road system and prohibits operation of all-terrain vehicles on trails posted with size or weight limitations unless that use has been authorized by the landowner or the landowner's agent. It also increases all-terrain vehicle registration fees by \$12, which must be transferred to the ATV Recreational Management Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-184)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review, in consultation with interested parties, the current registration fees for all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles to consider alternatives to the current fee structure and the potential effects on revenue that these alternatives may have. It requires the commissioner to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife detailing the alternatives considered and any recommendations. It gives the committee the authority to

report out a bill based on the commissioner's report.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 35 directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review, in consultation with interested parties, the current registration fees for all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles to consider alternatives to the current fee structure and the potential effects on revenue that these alternatives may have. It requires the commissioner to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by February 1, 2020, detailing the alternatives considered and any recommendations. It gives the committee the authority to report out a bill based on the commissioner's report.

LD 1179 An Act To Expand Coyote Hunting to Every Day of the Coyote Hunting ONTP Season and To Eliminate Fees

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MCCREA D	ONTP	
JACKSON T		

This bill abolishes the coyote night hunting permit fee, allows hunters to hunt coyotes on Sundays during the regular hunting season, which under current Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife rules is from January 1st to December 31st, and eliminates any license fee that may be charged in connection with coyote hunting for the 2019 regular season.

LD 1252 An Act Regarding Snowmobile Registration Fees

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
HEAD F HAMPER J	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires an annual additional \$30 snowmobile registration fee, unless the registrant can show proof of membership in a snowmobile club in the State. It specifies that for a resident family residing in the same household the additional fee is \$30 for up to four snowmobiles. Lastly, it requires the transfer of \$20 collected from this additional fee to the Snowmobile Trail Fund and the transfer of \$10 collected from this additional fee to the Snowmobile Enforcement Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-274)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1298 An Act To Enhance Fish and Wildlife Laws

PUBLIC 9 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARTIN D JACKSON T Committee Report OTP Amendments Adopted

This bill provides the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to change the closing date of the recreational ice-fishing season by rule. It also amends the rule-making provision of the law governing open seasons for fishing to explicitly provide for adoption of emergency rules.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 9 provides the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to change the closing date of the recreational ice-fishing season by rule. It also amends the rule-making provision of the law governing open seasons for fishing to explicitly provide for adoption of emergency rules.

Public Law 2019, chapter 9 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 25, 2019.

LD 1307 An Act To Promote Snowmobiling in Maine

PUBLIC 207

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TIMBERLAKE J	OTP-AM	S-113
NADEAU C		

This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish an online notification process by which a nonresident who plans to operate in this State during the three-consecutive day period under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 13104, subsection 7, paragraph E a snowmobile that is not registered in this State may provide information, including the nonresident snowmobile operator's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address and the location or locations where the nonresident plans to operate the snowmobile, to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order to promote seasonal nonresident snowmobile registration opportunities to nonresident snowmobile operators and to promote general snowmobile recreational activities in the State through regional state tourism organizations and a statewide organization with an interest in snowmobiling. It provides that failure to comply with the provision setting out the online notification process is not a violation of any law or rule of the department but that nothing in the provision relieves a person of the person's responsibilities under any law or rule regulating the ownership or operation of a snowmobile in the State.

It requires, as a condition of the three-consecutive day period during which a nonresident may operate an unregistered snowmobile in the State, use of the online notification process by the operator.

It also directs the Director of the Office of Tourism within the Department of Economic and Community Development to collaborate, within existing budgeted resources, with the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in the production and distribution through regional state tourism organizations and a statewide organization with an interest in snowmobiling of promotional materials relating to seasonal nonresident snowmobile registration and general snowmobile recreational opportunities using the information collected by the notification process.

The legislation takes effect on December 1, 2019.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-113)

This amendment delays the effective date of the legislation to January 1, 2020.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 207 directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish an online notification process by which a nonresident who plans to operate in this State during the three-consecutive day period under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 13104, subsection 7, paragraph E a snowmobile that is not registered in this State may provide information, including the nonresident snowmobile operator's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address and the location or locations where the nonresident plans to operate the snowmobile, to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order to promote seasonal nonresident

snowmobile registration opportunities to nonresident snowmobile operators and to promote general snowmobile recreational activities in the State through regional state tourism organizations and a statewide organization with an interest in snowmobiling. It provides that failure to comply with the provision setting out the online notification process is not a violation of any law or rule of the department but that nothing in the provision relieves a person of the person's responsibilities under any law or rule regulating the ownership or operation of a snowmobile in the State.

It requires, as a condition of the three-consecutive day period during which a nonresident may operate an unregistered snowmobile in the State, use of the online notification process by the operator.

It also directs the Director of the Office of Tourism within the Department of Economic and Community Development to collaborate, within existing budgeted resources, with the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in the production and distribution through regional state tourism organizations and a statewide organization with an interest in snowmobiling of promotional materials relating to seasonal nonresident snowmobile registration and general snowmobile recreational opportunities using the information collected by the notification process.

The law takes effect on January 1, 2020.

LD 1488An Act To Allow Holders of Gold Star Family Registration Plates To BePUBLIC 443Issued Complimentary Licenses To Hunt, Trap and Fish

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FECTEAU J TIMBERLAKE J	OTP-AM	H-426

This bill allows the holder of a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 524-B to be issued a complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish, including permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-426)

This amendment provides that the complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish made available under the bill to a person who holds a registration certificate and gold star family registration plates is available to only residents of the State and a lifetime license.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 443 allows a resident of the State that is the holder of a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 524-B to be issued a lifetime complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish, including permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt.

LD 1525 An Act To Require Insurance on Motorized Watercraft

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LAWRENCE M		

This bill prohibits the owner of a motorboat of more than 75 horsepower from operating or allowing operation of the motorboat in the inland or tidal waters of the State without insurance on the motorboat similar to the financial responsibility provisions regarding motor vehicles. The bill requires the operator of the motorboat to provide proof of insurance, which may be in an acceptable electronic format, to a law enforcement officer upon request or, if the

motorboat is in an accident, to all persons involved in the accident. An operator of a motorboat who fails to provide proof of insurance commits a civil penalty unless proof of insurance is produced before adjudication of the violation, and an owner who fails to insure a motorboat that is then involved in an accident commits a Class D crime.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1551 An Act To Clarify Fishing Laws between the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources as They Relate to Striped Bass in Inland Waters

PUBLIC 224

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
NADEAU C	OTP-AM	H-308
DILL J		

This bill eliminates duplicative rulemaking by prohibiting the fishing or possession of striped bass taken from the inland waters of the State in violation of rules adopted by the Commissioner of Marine Resources.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-308)

This amendment clarifies the language of the bill but preserves the bill's intent, which is to provide that fishing for or possession of striped bass taken from the inland waters of the State in violation of striped bass rules adopted by the Commissioner of Marine Resources is prohibited and is subject to the applicable penalties for violating the fishing rules of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 224 provides that fishing for or possession of striped bass taken from the inland waters of the State in violation of striped bass rules adopted by the Commissioner of Marine Resources is prohibited and is subject to the applicable penalties for violating the fishing rules of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 1579 An Act To Create a Limited Fish Stocking Permit

PUBLIC 263

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MASON R	OTP-AM	Н-375
TIMBERLAKE J		

This bill allows a municipality to stock with fish an inland water of the municipality, subject to a determination by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Resource Management that the species of fish is appropriate to be stocked in that inland water and to the public notification requirements that apply when the bureau proposes to stock an inland water with fish.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-375)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a limited permit to a local government. A limited permit allows a local government to introduce fish only into a great pond within the jurisdiction of the local government that was previously stocked by the department and in which stocking was suspended prior to January 1, 2019, and has not been resumed by the department due to inadequate public access. The permit allows the introduction of only the same species of fish that was stocked at the time the department suspended stocking. The permit allows only the introduction of fish obtained by the local government at its own expense from an in-state commercial facility that meets testing and health guidelines

approved by the department. The permit may be issued only if the local government identifies public access to the great pond that is at least suitable for the hand carrying of boats to the water, includes a parking area and has been marked with signage adequate to ensure public awareness of the public access. "Local government" is defined as a municipality or, in the unorganized territory, a county.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 263 allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a limited permit to a local government. A limited permit allows a local government to introduce fish only into a great pond within the jurisdiction of the local government that was previously stocked by the department and in which stocking was suspended prior to January 1, 2019, and has not been resumed by the department due to inadequate public access. The permit allows the introduction of only the same species of fish that was stocked at the time the department suspended stocking. The permit allows only the introduction of fish obtained by the local government at its own expense from an in-state commercial facility that meets testing and health guidelines approved by the department. The permit may be issued only if the local government identifies public access to the great pond that is at least suitable for the hand carrying of boats to the water, includes a parking area and has been marked with signage adequate to ensure public awareness of the public access. "Local government" is defined as a municipality or, in the unorganized territory, a county.

LD 1717 An Act To Clarify and Correct Maine's Fish and Wildlife Laws PUBLIC 325

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARTIN J	OTP-AM	H-492

This bill changes the inland fisheries and wildlife laws to:

1. Define the terms "airbow," "crossbow" and "hand-held bow" or "bow" and establish an open season for hunting deer with an airbow during the open firearm season on deer;

2. Specify that lifetime license holders must meet eligibility requirements for hunting with bows and crossbows;

3. Make technical and grammatical corrections to the law regarding having a loaded firearm or crossbow in a motor vehicle or hunting or shooting from a motor vehicle or motorboat;

4. Repeal outdated language regarding carrying a handgun during the regular archery-only season on deer;

5. Clarify that it is only beaver, and no other species, that may be trapped by the holder of a nonresident trapping license who is not a citizen of the United States;

6. Require the court to impose a fine of \$20 for each quart of smelts rather than for each fish unlawfully possessed over the limit adopted by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by rule; and

7. Require any shack or temporary structure used for ice fishing to be removed by March 31st and, in the laws regarding litter control, amend the definition of the term "abandoned ice-fishing shack."

Committee Amendment "A" (H-492)

This amendment does the following.

- 1. It removes the provisions of the bill relating to airbows.
- 2. It clarifies the penalties for violating the smelt fishing limits.

3. It Modifies the provision relating to the removal of ice fishing shacks to provide that. In those portions of the State where the ice fishing season has a closed season, the current law applies, which requires removal before ice out or three days after the close of the season, whichever is earlier; and in those portions of the State where there is no closed season, removal must be by ice out or March 31st, whichever is earlier.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 325 changes the inland fisheries and wildlife laws to:

1. Define the terms "crossbow" and "hand-held bow" or "bow;"

2. Specify that lifetime license holders must meet eligibility requirements for hunting with bows and crossbows;

3. Make technical and grammatical corrections to the law regarding having a loaded firearm or crossbow in a motor vehicle or hunting or shooting from a motor vehicle or motorboat;

4. Repeal outdated language regarding carrying a handgun during the regular archery-only season on deer;

5. Clarify that it is only beaver, and no other species, that may be trapped by the holder of a nonresident trapping license who is not a citizen of the United States;

6. Require the court to impose a fine of \$20 for each quart of smelts rather than for each fish unlawfully possessed over the limit adopted by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by rule; and

7. Require, in those portions of the State where the ice fishing season has a closed season, the removal of any shack or temporary structure used for ice fishing before ice out or three days after the close of the season, whichever is earlier; and in those portions of the State where there is no closed season, removal must be by ice out or March 31st, whichever is earlier.

LD 1740 An Act To Clarify Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws Regarding PUBLIC 324 Boating and Hunting Licensing

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARTIN D	OTP-AM	H-491

This bill changes the term "adult supervisor" to "apprentice supervisor" in the law governing apprentice hunter license restrictions. It eliminates the threshold prohibiting persons younger than 18 years of age from transferring a valid anterless deer permit to a junior hunter. It repeals the provision requiring the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to designate locations where guide license examinations will be held. It also removes the requirement that a license must be obtained from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to operate a motorboat carrying passengers for hire and instead requires proof of successful completion of a boater safety education course approved by a national association of state boating law administrators.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-491)

This amendment:

1. Changes the term for the person supervising an apprentice hunter to "youth hunter supervisor"; and

2. Removes the portion of the bill that repeals the provision of law requiring the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to designate locations where the guide license examination is to be held and to hold the examination in one of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife regions if at least 10 applicants reside in that region.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 324 changes the term for the person supervising an apprentice hunter to "youth hunter supervisor" in the law governing apprentice hunter license restrictions. It eliminates the threshold prohibiting persons younger than 18 years of age from transferring a valid anterless deer permit to a junior hunter. It removes the requirement that a license must be obtained from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to operate a motorboat carrying passengers for hire and instead requires proof of successful completion of a boater safety education course approved by a national association of state boating law administrators.

LD 1787 An Act To Clarify and Enhance Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Laws

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DILL J	OTP-AM	S-315

This bill makes several changes to the State's fish and wildlife enforcement laws. The bill:

1. Makes it illegal for nonviolent juvenile offenders and persons convicted of domestic violence to possess a firearm hunting license. It also prohibits a person convicted of a domestic violence offense from owning or possessing a crossbow, a muzzleloader or archery or airbow equipment;

2. Provides that a person is guilty of aggravated trafficking in a scheduled drug if the person is convicted of trafficking while in an area open to fishing for only persons under 16 years of age or complimentary fishing license holders;

3. Requires all edible meat from bear, deer and moose to be presented for registration with evidence of sex;

4. Clarifies that a person's hunting license will be revoked if the person is convicted of night hunting while in possession of a thermal imaging device;

5. Amends the definition of "owner" for the purpose of registration of a snowmobile, watercraft and all-terrain vehicle;

6. Provides for penalties for bag limit and possession limit violations for individual upland game species as established by the commissioner;

7. Clarifies the time limit to register a bear, deer, moose or wild turkey;

8. Clarifies that bear fat not attached to the meat can legally be used for personal or commercial use without a hide dealer's license;

9. Provides for restitution of expenses incurred as a result of scientific testing to enhance investigation procedures;

10. Clarifies that a person may not take or possess reptiles or amphibians from the wild for export, sale or commercial purposes;

11. Strengthens the prohibition of abuse of another person's property by removing reference to certain stated activities such as hunting, fishing or trapping to allow the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to enforce the law against persons who abuse another person's property but who may not be involved in an activity such as hunting, fishing or trapping; and

12. Replaces the prohibition on operating a motorboat that exceeds noise limits with a prohibition on operating a marine engine that exceeds noise limits.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-315)

This amendment does the following.

1. It removes language in the bill regarding restitution to a landowner whose property is damaged because that remedy is already available under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, chapter 69.

2. It reallocates the section of the bill regarding penalties for bag limit and possession limit violations for upland game to the chapter that is specific to hunting.

3. It removes the section of the bill that prohibits a person convicted of domestic violence from owning or possessing a crossbow, a muzzleloader or archery or airbow equipment.

4. It reallocates the bill's provision in the law governing aggravated trafficking of scheduled drugs and specifies that the property on which the offense occurs is designated by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in rules as open to fishing for only persons under 16 years of age or persons holding a complimentary fishing license.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1804 An Act Regarding the Baiting of Deer

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

DAVIS P

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to make changes to the laws regarding the baiting of deer.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1818 An Act To Clarify and Enhance Certain Maine Wildlife Laws

PUBLIC 355 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted	
THERIAULT T	OTP-AM	H-538	
		H-560 THERIAULT T	

This bill does the following.

1. It amends the definition of "antlerless moose" to exclude moose with antlers that are shorter than their ears.

2. It allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to prohibit or limit the feeding of deer, bear, moose and wild turkey if there is documented evidence of chronic wasting disease in a jurisdiction contiguous to the State or the commissioner has a reason to believe that the type or location of feed may create a public safety hazard or may have a detrimental effect on the wildlife.

3. It provides consistency in the laws regulating the hunting or trapping of wild birds.

4. It changes the expiration date for a wildlife rehabilitation permit to December 31st of the second complete year after the date of issuance.

5. It updates the description of the boundary of the Beauchamp Sanctuary.

6. It clarifies that hunting is prohibited in the Megunticook Lake and Vicinity Sanctuary from April 1st to September 30th of each year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-538)

This amendment allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to prohibit or limit the feeding of deer, bear, moose and wild turkey if there is documented evidence of chronic wasting disease within 50 miles of the border of the State.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-560)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 355 does the following.

1. It amends the definition of "antlerless moose" to exclude moose with antlers that are shorter than their ears.

2. It allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to prohibit or limit the feeding of deer, bear, moose and wild turkey if there is documented evidence of chronic wasting disease within 50 miles of the border of the State or the commissioner has a reason to believe that the type or location of feed may create a public safety hazard or may have a detrimental effect on the wildlife.

3. It provides consistency in the laws regulating the hunting or trapping of wild birds.

4. It changes the expiration date for a wildlife rehabilitation permit to December 31st of the second complete year after the date of issuance.

5. It updates the description of the boundary of the Beauchamp Sanctuary.

6. It clarifies that hunting is prohibited in the Megunticook Lake and Vicinity Sanctuary from April 1st to September 30th of each year.

Public Law 2019, chapter 355 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 18, 2019.

LD 1824 An Act To Make Certain Snowmobile and Watercraft Laws Consistent PUBLIC 452 with All-terrain Vehicle Laws

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DAVIS P	OTP	

This bill amends certain laws governing snowmobiles and watercraft to make them consistent with laws governing all-terrain vehicles. Specifically, this bill:

1. Extends to operators of snowmobiles and watercraft certain penalties that apply to violations applicable to

operation of all-terrain vehicles that result in the mandatory revocation of a license;

2. Updates the laws concerning operation of a recreational vehicle while under the influence to more closely mirror the laws governing operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence;

3. Extends the general prohibition against the fraudulent acquisition or possession of licenses and permits issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to also apply to registrations and repeals specific prohibitions that are therefore unnecessary;

4. Exempts from registration fees motorboats used for governmental purposes and owned and operated in the State by the Federal Government, the State or a political subdivision of the State;

5. Specifies that, for purposes of the laws governing recreational vehicles, a motor vehicle is not a snowmobile; and

6. Removes language that limits to on or adjacent to a snowmobile trail the location of a snowmobile collision that constitutes operating a snowmobile to endanger.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 452 amends certain laws governing snowmobiles and watercraft to make them consistent with laws governing all-terrain vehicles. Specifically, this law:

1. Extends to operators of snowmobiles and watercraft certain penalties that apply to violations applicable to operation of all-terrain vehicles that result in the mandatory revocation of a license;

2. Updates the laws concerning operation of a recreational vehicle while under the influence to more closely mirror the laws governing operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence;

3. Extends the general prohibition against the fraudulent acquisition or possession of licenses and permits issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to also apply to registrations and repeals specific prohibitions that are therefore unnecessary;

4. Exempts from registration fees motorboats used for governmental purposes and owned and operated in the State by the Federal Government, the State or a political subdivision of the State;

5. Specifies that, for purposes of the laws governing recreational vehicles, a motor vehicle is not a snowmobile; and

6. Removes language that limits to on or adjacent to a snowmobile trail the location of a snowmobile collision that constitutes operating a snowmobile to endanger.

SUBJECT INDEX

All-terrain Vehicles, Snowmobiles and Watercraft

Enacted

LD 212	An Act To Provide a Source of Funding for the ATV Recreational Management Fund and To Establish the ATV Enforcement Fund	PUBLIC 75 EMERGENCY
LD 1109	An Act Regarding All-terrain Vehicles	PUBLIC 204
LD 1147	Resolve, To Direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Study Registration Fees for All-terrain Vehicles and Snowmobiles	RESOLVE 35
LD 1307	An Act To Promote Snowmobiling in Maine	PUBLIC 207
LD 1824	An Act To Make Certain Snowmobile and Watercraft Laws Consistent with All-terrain Vehicle Laws	PUBLIC 452
Not Enacted		
LD 56	An Act To Ban the Use of Personal Watercraft on Lower Wilson Pond and Upper Wilson Pond	ONTP
LD 339	An Act To Prohibit Unattended Watercraft on Open Water	ONTP
LD 442	An Act To Set Speed Limits for All-terrain Vehicles on Trails within 50 Yards of a Stream or Pond To Prevent Runoff	ONTP
LD 525	An Act To Increase the Registration Fee for Snowmobiles for Residents	ONTP
LD 877	An Act To Equalize the Distribution of Gasoline Tax Revenues between Snowmobiles and All-terrain Vehicles	INDEF PP
LD 1252	An Act Regarding Snowmobile Registration Fees	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1525	An Act To Require Insurance on Motorized Watercraft	CARRIED OVER

Antlerless Deer Permits

Enacted		
LD 881	An Act To Ensure Equitable Treatment of Super Pack License Holders in Antlerless Deer Permit Lotteries	PUBLIC 116 EMERGENCY
Not Enacted		
LD 190	An Act To Provide Antlerless Deer Permits to Senior Resident Lifetime Hunting License Holders	ONTP
	Bear Hunting	
Enacted		
LD 337	An Act To Start a Spring Bear Hunting Season	ONTP
LD 1118	An Act To Give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Rule-making Authority To Establish a Bear Season Framework and Bag Limits	CARRIED OVER
Enacted	Complimentary and Reduced Fee Licenses	
LD 1488	An Act To Allow Holders of Gold Star Family Registration Plates to Be Issued Complimentary Licenses To Hunt, Trap and Fish	PUBLIC 443
Not Enacted		
LD 26	An Act To Provide Complimentary Lifetime Hunting and Fishing Licenses to Retired Game Wardens with 25 Years of Service	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 663	An Act To Allow Holders of Gold Star Family Registration Plates To Be Issued Complimentary Licenses To Hunt, Trap and Fish and To Exempt Them from Vehicle Registration Fees	INDEF PP
	Coyote Hunting	
Not Enacted		
LD 1179	An Act To Expand Coyote Hunting to Every Day of the Coyote Hunting Season and To Eliminate Fees	ONTP

Crossbow

Enacted

LD 27	An Act To Allow the Use of a Crossbow for a Limited Duration during the Archery Season on Deer and the Fall Season on Wild Turkey	PUBLIC 98
Not Enacte	<u>Deer Hunting</u>	
LD 175	An Act To Extend the Deer Hunting Season by 2 Saturdays	ONTP
LD 188	An Act To Provide for an Expanded Muzzle-loading-only Deer Hunting Season	ONTP
LD 996	An Act To Establish a Special Handgun Hunting Season That Coincides with the Muzzle-loading Open Season on Deer	ONTP
Enacted	Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	
LD 1298	An Act To Enhance Fish and Wildlife Laws	PBULIC 9 EMERGENCY
LD 1717	An Act To Clarify and Correct Maine's Fish and Wildlife Laws	PUBLIC 325
LD 1740	An Act To Clarify Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws Regarding Boating and Hunting Licensing	PUBLIC 324
LD 1818	An Act To Clarify and Enhance Certain Maine Wildlife Laws	PUBLIC 355
Not Enacte	d	
LD 258	An Act To Establish and Coordinate a Volunteer Corps of Search and Rescue Specialists within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	ONTP

LD 1787 An Act To Clarify and Enhance Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Laws CARRIED OVER

Dogs and Dog Training

Enacted		
LD 528	An Act To Increase the Number of Clubs That May Be Issued a Special Dog Training Area License	PUBLIC 65 EMERGENCY
	Endangered and Threatened Species	
Enacted		
LD 713	An Act To Strengthen Maine's Endangered Species Laws	PUBLIC 267
	<u>Fish and Fishing</u>	
Enacted		
LD 1551	An Act To Clarify Fishing Laws between the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources as They Relate to Striped Bass in Inland Waters	PUBLIC 224
LD 1579	An Act To Create a Limited Fish Stocking Permit	PUBLIC 263
Not Enacte	<u>ed</u>	
LD 652	An Act To Modify Maine's Ice Fishing Laws with Respect to Cusk Fishing	ONTP
LD 695	An Act To Require Biodegradable Hooks and Lures for Freshwater Fishing	CARRIED OVER
	TT	
	<u>Hunting</u>	
Enacted		
LD 865	An Act To Provide Funding for Hunting Opportunities for Disabled Veterans	PUBLIC 199

Not Enacted

LD 728 An Act To Fairly Compensate Registration Stations for Bear, Deer, ONTP Moose and Turkey Registrations

	Invasive inquance species			
Enacted				
LD 235	An Act To Increase Funding To Contain and Manage the Spread of Invasive Aquatic Species	PUBLIC 264		
Not Enacte	<u>d</u>			
LD 879	An Act To Decrease the Risk of the Spread of Invasive Aquatic Plants	ONTP		
LD 927	An Act To Minimize the Propagation of Invasive Aquatic Plants	ONTP		
LD 967	An Act To Reduce the Spread of Invasive Aquatic Plants by Prohibiting Seine Fishing in Great Ponds	ONTP		
	Landowner Relations			
Not Enacte	<u>d</u>			
LD 321	An Act To Ensure the Continuation of the Landowner Relations Program	ONTP		
LD 649	An Act To Enhance Collaboration among State Agencies and To Improve Landowner Relations	ONTP		
LD 650	An Act To Strengthen Maine's Landowner Relations Program	CARRIED OVER		
Licenses and Permits				
Enacted				
LD 708	An Act To Allow the Transfer of a Moose Hunting Permit to a Disabled Veteran	PUBLIC 191 EMERGENCY		
LD 932	An Act Regarding the Transfer of a Deceased Person's Moose Permit to a Family Member	PUBLIC 143		
<u>Not Enacte</u>	<u>d</u>			

LD 313An Act To Increase Access to Moose and Doe Permits for Combat-
injured VeteransONTPLD 924An Act To Remove the Background Check Requirement for Maine
Guides Who are at Least 70 Years of Age and Hold a Lifetime HuntingONTP

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Enacted	<u>Safety</u>	
Enacted		
LD 121	An Act To Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Promote Safety with Respect to the Handling or Use of Firearms, Watercraft, All-terrain Vehicles and Snowmobiles and in Other Outdoor Activities	PUBLIC 190
	Sport Shooting Panaes	
Enacted	<u>Sport Shooting Ranges</u>	
LD 79	An Act To Protect Shooting Ranges	PUBLIC 14
	Trapping	
Enacted		
LD 490	An Act To Give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the Authority To Extend Any Trapping Season Based on Weather Conditions or Other Factors	PUBLIC 19
	Upland Game	
Enacted		
LD 265	An Act To Increase Opportunities for Hunters, Anglers and Sporting Camps by Extending the Seasons on Upland Game	PUBLIC 42 EMERGENCY
	Wild Turkey Hunting	
Not Enacte	<u>d</u>	
LD 275	An Act To Change the Bag Limits on Wild Turkey	ONTP
LD 1117	An Act To Encourage Turkey Hunting	CARRIED OVER

Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund

ONTP

An Act To Amend the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Process

Not Enacted

LD 1124

<u>Wildlife Management</u>

Not Enacted	<u>1</u>		
LD 74	An Act To Reform Maine's Fish and Wildlife Management System	ONTP	
LD 638	An Act To Legalize the Use of Supplemental Minerals To Assist with Wildlife Nutrition	CARRIED OVER	
LD 1804	An Act Regarding the Baiting of Deer	CARRIED OVER	
<u>Youth Hunting</u>			
LD 33	Resolve, To Encourage the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Establish a Youth Turkey Hunting Day during the Fall Season	RESOLVE 18	
Not Enacted			
LD 617	An Act To Increase to 3 the Number of Youth Deer Hunting Days	ONTP	
LD 891	An Act To Preserve Maine's Heritage by Expanding Maine Youth Hunting	ONTP	