**An Act To Provide Assistance to Areas Severely Infested with Browntail Moths**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec.** **1. 7 MRSA c. 421** is enacted to read:

**CHAPTER** **421**

**BROWNTAIL MOTH**

**§****2491.** **Browntail moth control**

**1.** **Program.**  The department shall administer a program to assist a government entity or nonprofit organization, upon application by that government entity or nonprofit organization to the department, with the control of browntail moths. This program must include the provision of resources, which may include resources for the mechanical, cultural or chemical control of the browntail moths; education campaigns; and other activities to mitigate browntail moth populations.

**2.** **Rules.**  The department shall adopt routine technical rules, as described in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, to implement the provisions of this section.

**Sec.** **2. Appropriations and allocations.**  The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Forest Resource Management Z233**

Initiative: Provides funding for one Entomologist I position and one Senior Entomology Technician position and associated All Other costs.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **GENERAL FUND** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
| POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 0.000 | 2.000 |
| Personal Services | $0 | $158,074 |
| All Other | $0 | $31,000 |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | $0 | $189,074 |

**Forest Resource Management Z233**

Initiative: Provides ongoing funding for the administration of a program to assist a government entity or nonprofit organization with controlling browntail moths.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **GENERAL FUND** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
| All Other | $0 | $150,000 |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | $0 | $150,000 |

**Office of the Commissioner 0401**

Initiative: Provides funding for the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information and Technology costs.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **GENERAL FUND** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
| All Other | $0 | $3,834 |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | $0 | $3,834 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND** **FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF** |  |  |
| **DEPARTMENT TOTALS** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** |
|  |  |  |
| **GENERAL FUND** | **$0** | **$342,908** |
|  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS** | **$0** | **$342,908** |

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to administer a program to assist a government entity or nonprofit organization, upon application by that government entity or nonprofit organization to the department, with the control of browntail moths. It also includes an appropriations and allocations section to provide funding for an Entomologist I position and a Senior Entomology Technician position in the department to support the management of forest insect pests.