

STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

August 2025

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Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

SUBJECT INDEX

All-terrain Vehicles, Snowmobiles and Watercraft

Not Enacted	LD 19	An Act to Change the Definition of "Oversized ATV" in the Laws Governing the Registration of All-terrain Vehicles	CARRIED OVER
	LD 341	An Act to Amend the Definition of "Oversized ATV" to Increase the Minimum Weight Requirement	ONTP
	LD 1051	An Act to Provide Funding to Maintain All-terrain Vehicle Trails	ONTP
	LD 1565	An Act to Allow the Use of Certain All-terrain Vehicles on Snowmobile Trails	ONTP

Birds

Not Enacted	LD 205	An Act to Amend the Bag Limit for Turkey	ONTP
	LD 1095	An Act to Restrict Removal of Common Loons for Relocation in Maine from Bodies of Water of 500 Acres or Less	ONTP

Boating

Enacted	LD 1042	An Act to Require a Person Operating a Watercraft for Recreational Purposes to Ensure All Children Under 13 Years of Age Wear United States Coast Guard Approved Personal Flotation Devices	PUBLIC 148
Not Enacted	LD 153	An Act to Prohibit the Unauthorized Mooring of Watercraft	ONTP
	LD 173	An Act to Exempt Certain Watercraft from Registration Requirements	Minority (ONTP) Report
	LD 1435	An Act to Allow a Municipality or Locally Recognized Lake Association to Post Certain Information on the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Information Kiosks Located at State Boat Launch Facilities	Majority (ONTP) Report

Complimentary and Reduced Fee Licenses

Not Enacted	LD 1171	An Act to Restore Complimentary Licenses to Hunt, Trap and Fish for Residents 70 Years of Age and Older	ONTP
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	LD 1692	An Act Regarding Antlerless Deer Permits for Certain Agricultural Landowners	ONTP
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Constitutional Provisions

Not Enacted	LD 820	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish the Right to Hunt and Fish	CARRIED OVER
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Coyote Hunting

Not Enacted	LD 716	An Act to Restrict the Hunting of Coyotes	ONTP
	LD 937	An Act to Establish a Permit to Hunt Coyote over Bait	ONTP
	LD 1293	An Act to Prohibit Coyote-killing Contests in Maine	ONTP

Deer Hunting

Enacted	LD 95	An Act to Amend and Simplify Certain Wildlife Laws	PUBLIC 333
	LD 777	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study Lengthening the Muzzle-loading Season for Deer in Certain Wildlife Management Districts	RESOLVE 35
	LD 866	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Implement a Landowner Antlerless Deer Permit Gift Program	RESOLVE 74
Not Enacted	LD 441	An Act to Allow the Investment of Money Deposited with the Treasurer of State for the Maine Deer Management Fund	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1050	An Act to Allow an Adult Hunter to Transfer That Hunter's Antlerless Deer Permit to a Junior Hunter	ONTP
	LD 1438	Resolve, Regarding Deer Hunting on Mount Desert Island	ONTP
	LD 1692	An Act Regarding Antlerless Deer Permits for Certain Agricultural Landowners	ONTP

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Enacted	LD 101	Resolve, to Convene a Working Group to Examine the Classification of and Access to Public Records Maintained by Certain State Agencies	RESOLVE 37
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	LD 976	Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Facilitate Public Access and Resilience Planning for Swan Island	RESOLVE 100
	LD 1241	An Act to Establish the Make Change for Wildlife Program to Support the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund	PUBLIC 283
Not Enacted	LD 76	An Act to Allow Use of the Fish Hatchery Maintenance Fund to Compensate Hatchery Staff When Certain Operational Needs Require Overtime	CARRIED OVER
	LD 77	An Act to Stabilize and Sustainably Fund the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Fisheries and Hatcheries Division by Increasing the Inland Fishing License Fees and Establishing the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Fund	Died On Adjournment
	LD 1435	An Act to Allow a Municipality or Locally Recognized Lake Association to Post Certain Information on the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Information Kiosks Located at State Boat Launch Facilities	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 1532	An Act to Expand the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Outdoor Education Programs to Schools and Communities	ONTP

Dogs and Dog Training

Enacted	LD 751	An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws Related to the Training of Dogs and Open Training Seasons	PUBLIC 27
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Education

Not Enacted	LD 1403	An Act to Expand the Hunter Safety Course Exemption for Certain Individuals with Firearm Training	ONTP
	LD 1532	An Act to Expand the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Outdoor Education Programs to Schools and Communities	ONTP

Endangered and Threatened Species

Enacted	LD 1241	An Act to Establish the Make Change for Wildlife Program to Support the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund	PUBLIC 283
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Fish;Fishing

Enacted	LD 47	An Act to Provide an Exception to a Fishing Prohibition near the Crooked Brook Dam	PUBLIC 41
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	LD 940	An Act to Increase the Maximum Cash Prize for the Long Lake Ice Fishing Derby	PUBLIC 204
	LD 971	An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Checking of Baitfish Traps	PUBLIC 205
	LD 1478	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Baitfish Wholesaler's Licenses	PUBLIC 248
	LD 1548	An Act to Prevent the Introduction or Transfer of Invasive Fish Species in Inland Waters of the State	PUBLIC 343
Not Enacted	LD 76	An Act to Allow Use of the Fish Hatchery Maintenance Fund to Compensate Hatchery Staff When Certain Operational Needs Require Overtime	CARRIED OVER
	LD 77	An Act to Stabilize and Sustainably Fund the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Fisheries and Hatcheries Division by Increasing the Inland Fishing License Fees and Establishing the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Fund	Died On Adjournment
	LD 728	An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Smelt Fishing	ONTP
	LD 1343	An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Wildlife	CARRIED OVER

Hunting

Enacted	LD 139	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study Establishing a Program for the Electronic Tagging of Deer	RESOLVE 32
	LD 751	An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws Related to the Training of Dogs and Open Training Seasons	PUBLIC 27
Not Enacted	LD 205	An Act to Amend the Bag Limit for Turkey	ONTP
	LD 964	An Act to Change the Definitions of "Sunrise" and "Sunset" in the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws to Better Allow for Variations in Timing Across the State	ONTP
	LD 1343	An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Wildlife	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1364	Resolve, Authorizing a Study on the Impacts and Risks of Lead-based Ammunition	Died Between Houses
	LD 1403	An Act to Expand the Hunter Safety Course Exemption for Certain Individuals with Firearm Training	ONTP

IFW - Other

Not Enacted	LD 276	An Act Regarding Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	CARRIED OVER
	LD 350	An Act Regarding the Operations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1142	An Act Regarding Reimbursement for Volunteers of the So-called Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs Program	Automatic Withdrawal Pursuant to Joint Rule 305.6

Invasive Aquatic Species

Enacted	LD 171	An Act to Enhance Protections Regarding Invasive Aquatic Plant and Animal Infestations in Inland Waters of the State	PUBLIC 116
	LD 1548	An Act to Prevent the Introduction or Transfer of Invasive Fish Species in Inland Waters of the State	PUBLIC 343

Land Management

Enacted	LD 976	Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Facilitate Public Access and Resilience Planning for Swan Island	RESOLVE 100
	LD 1763	An Act to Regulate Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures on Maine's Waters	PUBLIC 378
Not Enacted	LD 1441	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Future of Recreational Access in Maine	ONTP

Landowner Relations

Enacted	LD 866	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Implement a Landowner Antlerless Deer Permit Gift Program	RESOLVE 74
	LD 1308	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Examine Issues Related to Public Access to Privately Owned Lands	RESOLVE 82
	LD 1623	An Act to Amend Certain Fish and Wildlife Laws Related to Landowner Representation Regarding Abandoned Property	PUBLIC 267
Not Enacted	LD 1441	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Future of Recreational Access in Maine	ONTP

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 1692	An Act Regarding Antlerless Deer Permits for Certain Agricultural Landowners	ONTP
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Licenses and Permits

Enacted

LD 27	An Act to Amend and Simplify Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licensing and Permitting Laws	PUBLIC 126
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LD 157	An Act to Amend Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws	PUBLIC 132
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LD 1430	An Act Regarding the Transfer of Moose Permits to Disabled Veterans	PUBLIC 289
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LD 1478	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Baitfish Wholesaler's Licenses	PUBLIC 248
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LD 1548	An Act to Prevent the Introduction or Transfer of Invasive Fish Species in Inland Waters of the State	PUBLIC 343
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LD 1763	An Act to Regulate Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures on Maine's Waters	PUBLIC 378
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Not Enacted

LD 552	An Act to Create an Outfitter License for Owners and Operators of Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Businesses Who Are Not Maine Guides	Majority (ONTP) Report
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LD 937	An Act to Establish a Permit to Hunt Coyote over Bait	ONTP
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LD 1050	An Act to Allow an Adult Hunter to Transfer That Hunter's Antlerless Deer Permit to a Junior Hunter	ONTP
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Maine Tribes

Not Enacted

LD 1054	An Act to Authorize the Penobscot Nation to Use Wild Game Harvested on the Penobscot Indian Territory at Food Venues Located Within the Penobscot Indian Territory	CARRIED OVER
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Moose Hunting

Enacted

LD 1430	An Act Regarding the Transfer of Moose Permits to Disabled Veterans	PUBLIC 289
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Safety

Enacted

LD 1042	An Act to Require a Person Operating a Watercraft for Recreational Purposes to Ensure All Children Under 13 Years of Age Wear United States Coast Guard Approved Personal Flotation Devices	PUBLIC 148
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Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Not Enacted	LD 1364	Resolve, Authorizing a Study on the Impacts and Risks of Lead-based Ammunition	Died Between Houses
	LD 1403	An Act to Expand the Hunter Safety Course Exemption for Certain Individuals with Firearm Training	ONTP

Sunday Hunting

Not Enacted	LD 439	An Act to Preserve Maine's Sporting Heritage and Enhance Sporting Opportunities for Maine's Youth by Allowing Maine's Youth to Hunt on Sunday	Majority (ONTP) Report
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Tagging

Enacted	LD 139	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study Establishing a Program for the Electronic Tagging of Deer	RESOLVE 32
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Trapping

Enacted	LD 6	An Act to Allow Persons to Label Their Wild Animal Traps with Their Online Identification Number Issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	PUBLIC 64
Not Enacted	LD 1343	An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Wildlife	CARRIED OVER

Youth Hunting

Enacted	LD 1322	Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program to Enhance Youth Hunting Participation	RESOLVE 44
Not Enacted	LD 439	An Act to Preserve Maine's Sporting Heritage and Enhance Sporting Opportunities for Maine's Youth by Allowing Maine's Youth to Hunt on Sunday	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 1050	An Act to Allow an Adult Hunter to Transfer That Hunter's Antlerless Deer Permit to a Junior Hunter	ONTP

DIGEST OF BILLS
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Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Comm	LD	Title	Sponsor	Committee Vote	Date of Last Committee Action	Carried Over?	Disposition	Law	Ch #	Analyst note?	Session
IFW	6	An Act to Allow Persons to Label Their Wild Animal Traps with Their Online Identification Number Issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Black, Russell	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/22/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	64		S1
IFW	19	An Act to Change the Definition of "Oversized ATV" in the Laws Governing the Registration of All-terrain Vehicles	Moore, Marianne		5/19/2025	Carried Over					S1
IFW	27	An Act to Amend and Simplify Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licensing and Permitting Laws	Carney, Anne	OTP-AM	5/19/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	126		S1
IFW	47	An Act to Provide an Exception to a Fishing Prohibition near the Crooked Brook Dam	Mason, Rick	OTP-AM	4/9/2025		Emergency Enacted	ACTPUB	41		S1
IFW	76	An Act to Allow Use of the Fish Hatchery Maintenance Fund to Compensate Hatchery Staff When Certain Operational Needs Require Overtime	Thorne, Jim		5/19/2025	Carried Over					S1
IFW	77	An Act to Stabilize and Sustainably Fund the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Fisheries and Hatcheries Division by Increasing the Inland Fishing License Fees and Establishing the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Fund	Wood, Stephen	OTP-AM/ONTP	5/28/2025		Died On Adjournment				S1
IFW	95	An Act to Amend and Simplify Certain Wildlife Laws	Cluchey, Sally	OTP-AM	6/10/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	333		S1
IFW	101	Resolve, to Convene a Working Group to Examine the Classification of and Access to Public Records Maintained by Certain State Agencies	Roberts, Tiffany	OTP-AM	5/20/2025		Finally Passed	RESLV	37		S1
IFW	139	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study Establishing a Program for the Electronic Tagging of Deer	Bailey, Donna	OTP-AM	5/6/2025		Finally Passed	RESLV	32		S1
IFW	153	An Act to Prohibit the Unauthorized Mooring of Watercraft	Milliken, Nina	ONTP	3/26/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	157	An Act to Amend Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws	Woodsome, David	OTP-AM	5/20/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	132		S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Sponsor	Committee Vote	Date of Last Committee Action	Carried Over?	Disposition	Law	Ch #	Analyst note?	Session
IFW	171	An Act to Enhance Protections Regarding Invasive Aquatic Plant and Animal Infestations in Inland Waters of the State	Hasenfus, Tavis	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/29/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	116		S1
IFW	173	An Act to Exempt Certain Watercraft from Registration Requirements	Wood, Stephen	OTP-AM/ONTP	5/30/2025		Accepted Minority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	205	An Act to Amend the Bag Limit for Turkey	Timberlake, Jeff	ONTP	3/26/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	276	An Act Regarding Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Roberts, Tiffany		5/19/2025	Carried Over					S1
IFW	341	An Act to Amend the Definition of "Oversized ATV" to Increase the Minimum Weight Requirement	Guerrette, Timothy	ONTP	5/22/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	350	An Act Regarding the Operations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Baldacci, Joseph		5/19/2025	Carried Over					S1
IFW	439	An Act to Preserve Maine's Sporting Heritage and Enhance Sporting Opportunities for Maine's Youth by Allowing Maine's Youth to Hunt on Sunday	Ardell, Donald	ONTP/OTP-AM	5/28/2025		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	441	An Act to Allow the Investment of Money Deposited with the Treasurer of State for the Maine Deer Management Fund	Roberts, Tiffany	OTP-AM	6/4/2025	Carried On Approps Table					S1
IFW	552	An Act to Create an Outfitter License for Owners and Operators of Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Businesses Who Are Not Maine Guides	Guerin, Stacey	ONTP/OTP-AM	6/3/2025		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	716	An Act to Restrict the Hunting of Coyotes	Milliken, Nina	ONTP	3/26/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Sponsor	Committee Vote	Date of Last Committee Action	Carried Over?	Disposition	Law	Ch #	Analyst note?	Session
IFW	728	An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Smelt Fishing	Dill, Jim	ONTP	3/26/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	751	An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws Related to the Training of Dogs and Open Training Seasons		OTP	3/26/2025		Emergency Enacted	ACTPUB	27		S1
IFW	777	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study Lengthening the Muzzle-loading Season for Deer in Certain Wildlife Management Districts	Mason, Rick	OTP-AM	5/6/2025		Finally Passed	RESLV	35		S1
IFW	820	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish the Right to Hunt and Fish	Caruso, Elizabeth	OTP-AM/ONTP	5/28/2025	Carried On Approps Table					S1
IFW	866	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Implement a Landowner Antlerless Deer Permit Gift Program	Foster, Steven	OTP-AM/OTP-AM	6/5/2025		Finally Passed	RESLV	74		S1
IFW	937	An Act to Establish a Permit to Hunt Coyote over Bait	Mason, Rick	ONTP	5/22/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	940	An Act to Increase the Maximum Cash Prize for the Long Lake Ice Fishing Derby	Albert, Roger	OTP-AM	5/23/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	204		S1
IFW	964	An Act to Change the Definitions of "Sunrise" and "Sunset" in the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws to Better Allow for Variations in Timing Across the State	Simmons, Abden	ONTP	4/4/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	971	An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Checking of Baitfish Traps	Strout, Tiffany	OTP-AM	5/22/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	205		S1
IFW	976	Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Facilitate Public Access and Resilience Planning for Swan Island	Cluchey, Sally	OTP-AM	6/4/2025		Finally Passed	RESLV	100		S1
IFW	1042	An Act to Require a Person Operating a Watercraft for Recreational Purposes to Ensure All Children Under 13 Years of Age Wear United States Coast Guard Approved Personal Flotation Devices	Hepler, Allison	OTP-AM	5/20/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	148		S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Sponsor	Committee Vote	Date of Last Committee Action	Carried Over?	Disposition	Law	Ch #	Analyst note?	Session
IFW	1050	An Act to Allow an Adult Hunter to Transfer That Hunter's Antlerless Deer Permit to a Junior Hunter	Woodsome, David	ONTP	4/4/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1051	An Act to Provide Funding to Maintain All-terrain Vehicle Trails	Hall, Randy	ONTP	5/22/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1054	An Act to Authorize the Penobscot Nation to Use Wild Game Harvested on the Penobscot Indian Territory at Food Venues Located Within the Penobscot Indian Territory	Dill, Jim		5/19/2025	Carried Over					S1
IFW	1095	An Act to Restrict Removal of Common Loons for Relocation in Maine from Bodies of Water of 500 Acres or Less	Lyman, Sheila	ONTP	5/28/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1142	An Act Regarding Reimbursement for Volunteers of the So-called Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs Program	Lawrence, Mark	AWD	3/31/2025		Automatic Withdrawal Pursuant to Joint Rule 305.6				S1
IFW	1171	An Act to Restore Complimentary Licenses to Hunt, Trap and Fish for Residents 70 Years of Age and Older	Faulkingham, Billy Bob	ONTP	4/4/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1241	An Act to Establish the Make Change for Wildlife Program to Support the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund	Cluchey, Sally	OTP-AM	6/4/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	283		S1
IFW	1293	An Act to Prohibit Coyote-killing Contests in Maine	Beebe-Center, Anne	ONTP	5/22/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Sponsor	Committee Vote	Date of Last Committee Action	Carried Over?	Disposition	Law	Ch #	Analyst note?	Session
IFW	1308	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Examine Issues Related to Public Access to Privately Owned Lands	Baldacci, Joseph	OTP-AM	6/6/2025		Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	82		S1
IFW	1322	Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program to Enhance Youth Hunting Participation	Roberts, Tiffany	OTP-AM	5/19/2025		Finally Passed	RESLV	44		S1
IFW	1343	An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Wildlife	Hickman, Craig		6/17/2025	Carried Over					S1
IFW	1364	Resolve, Authorizing a Study on the Impacts and Risks of Lead-based Ammunition	Bridgeo, William	ONTP/OTP-AM	6/5/2025		Died Between Houses				S1
IFW	1403	An Act to Expand the Hunter Safety Course Exemption for Certain Individuals with Firearm Training	Cray, Dean	ONTP	4/23/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1430	An Act Regarding the Transfer of Moose Permits to Disabled Veterans	Perkins, Chad	OTP-AM	6/4/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	289		S1
IFW	1435	An Act to Allow a Municipality or Locally Recognized Lake Association to Post Certain Information on the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Information Kiosks Located at State Boat Launch Facilities	Bridgeo, William	ONTP/OTP-AM	6/3/2025		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	1438	Resolve, Regarding Deer Hunting on Mount Desert Island	Faulkingham, Billy Bob	ONTP	5/22/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1441	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Future of Recreational Access in Maine	Black, Russell	ONTP	5/22/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1448	An Act to Provide Winter Access to the Bog Lake Public Boat Launch in Northfield	Moore, Marianne	ONTP	5/22/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1478	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Baitfish Wholesaler's Licenses	Strout, Tiffany	OTP-AM	5/30/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	248		S1

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Comm	LD	Title	Sponsor	Committee Vote	Date of Last Committee Action	Carried Over?	Disposition	Law	Ch #	Analyst note?	Session
IFW	1532	An Act to Expand the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Outdoor Education Programs to Schools and Communities	Stewart, Trey	ONTP	5/22/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1548	An Act to Prevent the Introduction or Transfer of Invasive Fish Species in Inland Waters of the State	Black, Russell	OTP-AM	6/6/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	343		S1
IFW	1565	An Act to Allow the Use of Certain All-terrain Vehicles on Snowmobile Trails	Hymes, Benjamin	ONTP	5/6/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1623	An Act to Amend Certain Fish and Wildlife Laws Related to Landowner Representation Regarding Abandoned Property	Dill, Jim	OTP-AM	6/3/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	267		S1
IFW	1692	An Act Regarding Antlerless Deer Permits for Certain Agricultural Landowners	Tuell, Will	ONTP	5/28/2025		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1763	An Act to Regulate Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures on Maine's Waters	Hepler, Allison	OTP-AM	6/12/2025		Enacted	ACTPUB	378		S1

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

LD 6 Act to Allow Persons to Label Their Wild Animal Traps with Their Online Identification Number Issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 64 allows a person to label that person's trap set for any wild animal with that person's trapping online licensing system identification number issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 27 An Act to Amend and Simplify Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licensing and Permitting Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 126 changes the provisions of law governing the right of a resident and the resident's immediate family to hunt, trap or fish without a license on land on which they are legally domiciled so that all of the provisions require the land to be 10 or more contiguous acres in size. Public Law 2025, chapter 126 also repeals the provisions requiring that the land be used exclusively for agricultural purposes in order for the resident and the resident's immediately family to hunt, trap or fish on the land without a license. Public Law 2025, chapter 126 makes changes to the list of persons considered to be family members in moose permit transfers and moose permit deferments by removing "adopted child" from the list because "child" is already on the list and encompasses "adopted child"; adding "step grandchildren" to make the list more consistent with the list of family members used in moose permit deferment determinations; and adding "domestic partners" to the list of eligible family members.

LD 47 An Act to Provide an Exception to a Fishing Prohibition near the Crooked Brook Dam

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 41 establishes an exception to the 150-foot fishing setback around the Crooked Brook Dam, in the Town of Danforth in Washington County, which will allow fishing closer to the fishway but still prohibit fishing in or from the fishway for safety reasons.

Public Law 2025, chapter 41 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 25, 2025.

LD 95 An Act to Amend and Simplify Certain Wildlife Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 333 repeals certain provisions of law related to special regulations regarding deer hunting seasons that are now redundant due to that language being placed in

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife rule. Public Law 2025, chapter 333 also reorganizes certain laws regarding rulemaking related to open and closed seasons for deer hunting, clarifies the distinctions between the expanded archery season and a special hunting season and corrects cross-references. Finally, Public Law 2025, chapter 333 designates location data regarding species of special concern confidential in statute in the same manner as location data regarding threatened and endangered species and removes outdated language in current law regarding public records exceptions.

LD 101 Resolve, to Convene a Working Group to Examine the Classification of and Access to Public Records Maintained by Certain State Agencies

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 37 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to convene a working group, composed of representatives from specified state agencies and the Right to Know Advisory Committee, to examine the classification of and access to public records maintained by certain state agencies. Resolve 2025, chapter 37 also directs the working group to, no later than January 14, 2026, submit a report that includes the working group's findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources and the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety and authorizes each committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature based on the report.

LD 139 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study Establishing a Program for the Electronic Tagging of Deer

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 32 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to study and establish a plan for a program for the electronic tagging of deer and report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than January 14, 2026. The law also gives the committee the authority to report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

LD 157 An Act to Amend Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 132 makes the following changes to the laws governing inland fisheries and wildlife.

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1. It moves the laws governing the Fish and Wildlife Management Education Fund into a subchapter dealing with specific dedicated funds.
2. It provides a mandatory hunting license suspension for a person convicted of discharging archery equipment within 100 yards of a residential dwelling without owner permission.
3. It removes the word “written” from the laws governing the moose permit lottery application.
4. It provides that if a person submits satisfactory evidence of having previously held an adult license to trap in any other state, province or country, the person must also submit proof of having successfully completed a trapper education course comparable to the type described in law.
5. It amends a provision by adding and removing definitions related to the sale and use of fishing equipment and provides that the laws governing the use of lead sinkers, bare lead jigs and painted lead jigs apply within inland waters.
6. It adds four new wildlife management areas to the list of wildlife management areas and removes one from the list.
7. It provides that, beginning on January 1, 2026, a taxidermist license entitles a person to practice the art of taxidermy through the remainder of the calendar year in which the license was issued plus two calendar years unless revoked sooner.
8. It changes “motorboat” to “watercraft” and “bathing area” to “swim area” in the laws governing motorboat operation.

LD 171 An Act to Enhance Protections Regarding Invasive Aquatic Plant and Animal Infestations in Inland Waters of the State

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 116 requires the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to jointly review and recommend more stringent watercraft inspection protocols on inland waters of the State known to be infested with invasive aquatic plants and to review surface use restrictions and notification of those restrictions to members of the public. The law requires the departments to annually submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters and authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the commissioners’ annual report to any regular or special session of the Legislature.

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LD 751 An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws Related to the Training of Dogs and Open Training Seasons

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 27 continues a provision in law related to the training of dogs for bear hunting scheduled to be repealed May 1, 2025.

Public Law 2025, chapter 27 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 18, 2025.

LD 777 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study Lengthening the Muzzle-loading Season for Deer in Certain Wildlife Management Districts

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 35 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to study lengthening the six-day muzzle-loading season on deer in wildlife management districts to additional wildlife management districts in the State where winter conditions are less severe. Resolve 2025, chapter 35 also directs the department to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by January 1, 2026 with findings and recommendations and authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

LD 866 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Implement a Landowner Antlerless Deer Permit Gift Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 74 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish and implement a landowner antlerless deer permit gift program. Under the program, a person may purchase an antlerless deer permit for \$12 for a landowner that allows hunting on that landowner's property as a gesture of appreciation. Resolve 2025, chapter 74 directs the department to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by January 1, 2027 with an update on the program and other outreach activities related to landowners. The report may include recommendations for legislative changes. Resolve 2025, chapter 74 also authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

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LD 940 An Act to Increase the Maximum Cash Prize for the Long Lake Ice Fishing Derby

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 204 increases to two the number of fishing derbies in the State where the maximum total value of prizes may exceed \$100,000. Previously, the fishing derby held on Sebago Lake was the only fishing derby with this exception. Public Law 2025, chapter 204 establishes that the same exception exists for the Long Lake Ice Fishing Derby held in northern Aroostook County.

LD 971 An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Checking of Baitfish Traps

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 205 amends the law regarding checking baitfish traps by increasing the amount of time permitted between baitfish trap checks from seven calendar days to 21 calendar days from November 1st to April 1st annually. Public Law 2025, chapter 205 also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report concerning this change to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by January 1, 2029 and authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the report to the 134th Legislature in 2029.

LD 976 Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Facilitate Public Access and Resilience Planning for Swan Island

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 100 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to convene a working group to develop a comprehensive plan to enhance public access to Swan Island in Perkins Township in Sagadahoc County. Resolve 2025, chapter 100 outlines the working group's duties and directs the working group to provide public notice for its meetings. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, on or before January 1, 2026, must submit a Swan Island public access plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

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LD 1042 An Act to Require a Person Operating a Watercraft for Recreational Purposes to Ensure All Children Under 13 Years of Age Wear United States Coast Guard Approved Personal Flotation Devices

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 148 modifies the provision of law governing operation of a watercraft to prohibit a person from operating a watercraft unless all passenger children who are under 13 years of age and the boat operator, if also under 13 years of age, are wearing an appropriate United States Coast Guard approved personal flotation device while the watercraft is underway and being used for recreational purposes unless they are below decks or in an enclosed cabin.

LD 1241 An Act to Establish the Make Change for Wildlife Program to Support the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 283 repeals the Wildlife Enthusiast's Conservation Appreciation, Recreation and Enjoyment support program and establishes the Make Change for Wildlife Program as a way to generate voluntary contributions to benefit the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund. Public Law 2025, chapter 283 also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, no later than January 1, 2026, regarding the Make Change for Wildlife program, including suggested legislation. The law authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

LD 1308 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Examine Issues Related to Public Access to Privately Owned Lands

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 82 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to establish a working group that is broadly representative of landowner and land user interests to explore ways to maintain and expand public access to privately owned lands in the State. The departments are directed to report any findings and recommendations of the working group to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by February 15, 2026. Each committee is authorized to report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

Resolve 2025, chapter 82 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 17, 2025.

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LD 1322 Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program to Enhance Youth Hunting Participation

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 44 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to, in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Tourism, to establish a two-year pilot program to take place in calendar years 2026 and 2027 to enhance youth hunting participation in the State. The program must include expanded youth hunting seasons and outreach initiatives. Resolve 2025, chapter 44 also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report following each year of the pilot program to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters with information on youth participation data and demographic trends, feedback from participants and stakeholders, the pilot program's impact on youth engagement and conservation awareness and recommendations for pilot program continuation, modification or termination. The law authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the 2027 report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

LD 1430 An Act Regarding the Transfer of Moose Permits to Disabled Veterans

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 289 modifies a provision of law governing moose hunting permits by removing language that provides that a disabled veteran who has obtained a moose hunting permit through transfer, as well as a person who has transferred a moose hunting permit to a disabled veteran, is ineligible to obtain another permit until the fourth calendar year after the issuance of the last permit and clarifying that this ineligibility period does not apply to those transferees and transferors.

LD 1478 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Baitfish Wholesaler's Licenses

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 248 amends the authorizations and restrictions applying to baitfish wholesaler's licenses. Public Law 2025, chapter 248 removes the restriction that prohibits a license holder from taking or selling suckers, Genus Catostomus, greater than 10 inches in length between April 1st and September 30th of each year. Public Law 2025, chapter 248 also prohibits a license holder from attempting to take from inland waters live baitfish for resale using drop nets through the ice unless the license holder sufficiently marks the holes in the ice by evergreen boughs or fluorescent biodegradable tape.

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LD 1548 An Act to Prevent the Introduction or Transfer of Invasive Fish Species in Inland Waters of the State

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 343 increases the suspension and revocation of a fishing license from five years to 10 years for the following three offenses: failing to acquire a permit to import live freshwater fish or eggs except for live baitfish or smelts; failure to acquire a permit to stock inland waters; and failure to acquire a permit to import live fish taken within the State. It reduces the mandatory suspension of a fishing license for the violation of illegal possession of live fish from five years to one year. It adds mandatory restitution for failing to acquire a permit to stock inland waters and failing to acquire a permit to introduce fish or fish eggs into a private pond, and directs the court to order an offender to pay the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife an amount equal to the cost of labor, equipment, chemicals and all other related expenses directly associated with mitigating or reclaiming waters affected as a result of a violation and requires the offender to provide the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife proof of that payment.

Previously, the law required a permit to transport live fish for breeding and advertising. Public Law 2025, chapter 343 eliminates the specific activities of breeding and advertising so the permit is required more generally for transport of live fish except for live baitfish and smelts taken within the State.

Public Law 2025, chapter 343 creates a prohibition for disposal of live baitfish or smelts into inland waters, which is a civil violation. It also changes references to gametes and fish spawn to fish eggs.

LD 1623 An Act to Amend Certain Fish and Wildlife Laws Related to Landowner Representation Regarding Abandoned Property

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 267 allows a landowner's representative to act on behalf of a landowner regarding the placement of a ladder, an observation stand, a camera or electronic surveillance equipment or the operation of an all-terrain vehicle on the landowner's property. It requires persons operating all-terrain vehicles upon the land of another to stop and identify themselves upon the request of the lessee of the land. It provides that a landowner, lessee or landowner's representative may limit in writing the use of a designated state-approved ATV trail on that landowner's or lessee's property. It provides that if a landowner or landowner's representative finds an abandoned ladder, an observation stand, a camera or electronic surveillance equipment on the landowner's land in violation of law and the owner of the ladder, observation stand, camera or electronic surveillance equipment is unknown, the landowner or the landowner's representative may take ownership of the abandoned ladder, observation stand, camera or electronic surveillance

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equipment. The law authorizes the landowner or the landowner's representative to remove, destroy, sell or possess the abandoned ladder, observation stand, camera or electronic surveillance equipment.

LD 1763 An Act to Regulate Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures on Maine's Waters

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 378 implements a prohibition on the placement or use of a nonwater-dependent floating structure on internal waters of the State. “Nonwater-dependent floating structure” is defined to mean a waterborne structure that is supported wholly or partially by the structure's own buoyancy and that supports a nonwater-dependent use. “Nonwater-dependent uses” is defined as those uses that can function in a location other than the surface waters of the State and that do not require, for their primary purpose, location on submerged lands or direct access to internal waters. The prohibition includes exceptions for functionally water-dependent uses; swimming structures; water toys; ice fishing shacks; aquaculture facilities; authorized nonwater-dependent floating structures; preexisting nonwater-dependent floating structures; and other facilities and structures exempted through agency rulemaking. The law establishes criteria for authorized and preexisting nonwater-dependent floating structures. Public Law 2025, chapter 378 establishes penalties for violating the prohibition on nonwater-dependent floating structures.

Public Law 2025, chapter 378 also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, by February 1, 2026, to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife with updated information on nonwater-dependent floating structures in the State and the implementation of the law. The report may include recommendations for statutory changes. The law authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.