

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 77****LR 251(02)****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****Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "****Committee: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife****Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	(\$1,474,000)	(\$1,474,000)	(\$1,474,000)	(\$1,474,000)
Appropriations/Allocations				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$500,500	\$500,500	\$500,500	\$500,500
Revenue				
General Fund	\$1,474,000	\$1,474,000	\$1,474,000	\$1,474,000
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill establishes the Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Program within the existing Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations (FHO) program in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It expands the authorized uses of the existing Fish Hatchery Maintenance Fund (FHMF) to include overtime personnel costs and specific design, construction, and operational expenses. Beginning December 1, 2025, the bill increases fees for certain inland fishing licenses by the amounts specified below and directs \$2 from each license sold to be deposited into the FHMF. These fee increases are projected to generate additional revenue of approximately \$1,474,000 annually for the General Fund and \$500,000 annually in Other Special Revenue Funds revenue beginning in fiscal year 2025-26. The bill includes corresponding Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$500,000 beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 to authorize expenditure of the additional revenue and initial baseline allocations of \$500 to create the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement program subaccount within the existing FHO program.

License Type	Current	Increase	New Fee
Non Resident Season Fishing	\$ 64	19	\$ 83
1-Day Fishing	\$ 11	7	\$ 18
3-Day Fishing	\$ 23	7	\$ 30
Non Resident 7-Day Fishing	\$ 43	19	\$ 62
Non Resident 15-Day Fishing	\$ 47	19	\$ 66
Non Resident Comb Hunt & Fish	\$ 150	19	\$ 169
Resident Season Fishing	\$ 23	5	\$ 28