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# STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

To: Senator Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair

Representative Melanie F. Sachs, House Chair

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

From: Senator David LaFountain, Senate Chair

Representative H. Scott Landry, Jr., House Chair

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Date: March 12, 2024

Subject: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee Recommendations on the Governor's

Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 2214)

We are writing to provide the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on the initiatives under the committee's policy jurisdiction included in the Governor's Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 2214). These items were considered at a public hearing held on March 1, 2024 and again at a work session held on March 6, 2024.

The 7 members<sup>1</sup> of the committee present and voting at the March 6<sup>th</sup> work session unanimously voted in all of the initiatives that fall under the committee's jurisdiction. With respect to Reference #589, which provides funding for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to replace 130 handguns, Representative Sally Cluchey also requested that the Department work with the Office of Fiscal and Program Review to determine what it would cost to have the handguns that are being replaced destroyed rather than selling them back to Sig Sauer, the manufacturer, which is the current practice.

We have attached the budget worksheet provided by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, showing the committee's votes on all initiatives. Please let us know if we can provide additional information or assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendations.

Sincerely,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Members present for vote: Rep. Cluchey, Rep. Dill, Rep. Drinkwater, Rep. Landry, Rep. Mason, Rep. Thorne and Rep. Wood. Members absent: Sen. Black, Sen. Curry, Sen. LaFountain, Rep. Golek, Rep. Hepler and Rep. Woodsome.

Sen. David LaFountain Senate Chair Rep. H. Scott Landry, Jr. House Chair

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs Members, Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Maureen Dawson, OFPR Michael Russo, OFPR Commissioner Judy Camuso, DIFW Sec. A-18. Appropriations and allocations.

The following appropriations and allocations are made.

## INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF

## **ATV Safety and Educational Program 0559**

Initiative: Adjusts funding to align with revenue changes approved in the December 2023 Revenue Forecast.

Ref. #: 592 Committee Vote: **7-0** AFA Vote

	(7 members in favor,	6 members absen	t)	
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other		\$0	(\$7,302)	(\$7,302)
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	_	\$0	(\$7,302)	(\$7,302)

#### **Justification:**

This initiative will adjust funding to reflect revenue changes based on the approved December 2023 Revenue Forecast Committee report.

#### **Endangered Nongame Operations 0536**

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Relations Specialist position to an IF&W Senior Resource Biologist position and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 584	Committee Vote: 7_0	AFA Vote:

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services		\$0	\$0	\$1,063
All Other		\$0	\$0	\$65
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$1,128
Ref. #: 585	Committee Vote: 7-0	AFA Vote	:	

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$1,067
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$65
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$1,132

#### Justification:

This position is responsible for administering, coordinating, and evaluating statewide efforts involving human-wildlife interactions, including wildlife in captivity, rehabilitation of wildlife, and wildlife conflict resolution.

### **Endangered Nongame Operations 0536**

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Service Coordinator I position from range 25 to range 26 and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 586	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote	e: 	
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$383
All Other			\$0	\$0	\$12
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$395

#### Justification:

This Federal Aid Coordinator position was approved in Public Law 2023 chapter 412 at a range 25; however, Bureau of Human Resources approved the job task for this position to be a range 26.

#### **Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0537**

Initiative: Provides funding for the increase in aircraft maintenance costs.

rei. <i>n.</i> 300	Committee Vote.	7-0	-		
GENERAL FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other			\$0	\$109,400	\$109,400
GENERAL FUND TOTAL			<u>\$0</u>	\$109.400	\$109,400

AFA Vote:

Committee Vote: 7-0

#### Justification:

Ref #: 588

There has been a large increase in aircraft maintenance expenses due to manufacturing and supply chain issues as well as a substantial increase in labor costs.

## **Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0537**

Initiative: Provides funding for the replacement of 130 handguns.

One Time

GENERAL FUND	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$146,250	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$146,250	\$0

Committee Vote: **7-0** 

## Justification:

Ref. #: 589

The handguns used by the Maine Warden Service are reaching the end of their expected life. Sig Sauer no longer manufactures the handguns that are currently being used, to ensure uniformity all handguns will be replaced.

## **Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0537**

Initiative: Provides funding for 130 rifle plate inserts used in ballistic vests.

Ref. #: 590 One Time Committee Vote: AFA Vote: 2022-23 **GENERAL FUND** 2023-24 2024-25 All Other \$0 \$150,000 \$0 GENERAL FUND TOTAL \$0

\$0

\$0

\$150,000

#### Justification:

This equipment is needed to provide ballistic protection from long guns.

## Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations 0535

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved range change of one Superintendent Fish Hatcheries position from a range 30 to a range 32, retroactive to August 14, 2020.

Committee Vote: **7-0** AFA Vote: Ref. #: 578

GENERAL FUND	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$0	\$38,021	\$9,303
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$38,021	\$9,303

## **Justification:**

This change assigns a new pay range for the position to the appropriate range for the work being performed.

#### Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations 0535

GENERAL FUND TOTAL

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Service Coordinator I position from range 25 to range 26 and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Committee Vote: 7-0 Ref. #: 579 AFA Vote: **GENERAL FUND** 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25 \$0 \$0 \$224 Personal Services

Ref. #: 580 Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote:

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25 Personal Services \$0 \$0 \$574

\$0

\$224

All Other	\$0	\$0	\$17
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$591

This Federal Aid Coordinator position was approved in Public Law 2023 chapter 412 at a range 25; however, Bureau of Human Resources approved the job task for this position to be a range 26.

#### Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations 0535

Initiative: Reallocates the cost of one Public Service Manager II position from 50% General Fund and 50% Federal Expenditures Fund to 100% General Fund within the same program and transfers and reallocates the cost of one Public Service Manager III position from 66% Federal Expenditures Fund and 34% General Fund to 100% General Fund within the same program. This initiative also adjusts funding for related All Other costs to meet the operational needs of the program.

Ref. #: 581	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
GENERAL FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT			0.000	0.000	1.000
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$186,132
All Other			\$0	\$0	\$286,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$472,132
Ref. #: 582	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT			0.000	0.000	(1.000)
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	(\$186,132)
All Other			\$0	\$0	(\$298,346)
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL			\$0	\$0	(\$484,478)

#### Justification:

This initiative provides funding for operating expenses for the Fisheries Division due to a decrease in federal grant funding.

#### Licensing Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0531

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Service Manager II position, range 30 to a Public Service Coordinator II position, range 32.

Ref. #: 564 Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote:

GENERAL FUND 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25

Personal Service				\$0	\$0	\$4,222
GENERAL FUND TO	TAL			\$0	\$0	\$4,222
Ref. #: 565		Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vot	te:	
OTHER SPECIAL RI	EVENUE FUNDS			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Service	es			\$0	\$0	\$4,222
OTHER SPECIAL RE	VENUE FUNDS TOTA	AL		\$0	\$0	\$4,222
other departmentwide t	echnology projects, and	e with Office of Informati d with Informe for variou ries.				
		ies and Wildlife 0529				
Office of the Commiss	sioner - Inland Fisheri	ies and Wildlife 0529 ers Compensation premiu	ıms for the search	and rescue voluntee	rs to 2015.	
Office of the Commiss	sioner - Inland Fisheri		oms for the search	and rescue voluntee		
	sioner - Inland Fisherion	ers Compensation premit			2023-24	<b>2024-2</b> :
Office of the Commiss Initiative: Provides fund Ref. #: 562  GENERAL FUND All Other	sioner - Inland Fisheric ding for unbilled Worke One Time	ers Compensation premit		AFA Vot 2022-23	te:	
Office of the Commiss Initiative: Provides fund Ref. #: 562  GENERAL FUND All Other GENERAL FUND TO  Justification: These funds are needed rescue volunteers.  Public Information and	sioner - Inland Fisherich ding for unbilled Worken One Time  TAL  It to pay unbilled premium of Education, Division ding for the approved response to the supproved response t	ers Compensation premit  Committee Vote:  ums for 9 years of Worke	7-0	2022-23 \$0 \$0 expenses for the sear	2023-24 \$199,260 \$199,260	\$0

**GENERAL FUND** 

Personal Services

GENERAL FUND TOTAL

This reclassifies the position to the appropriate job classification for the work being performed.

2023-24

\$10,866

\$10,866

2024-25

\$5,060

\$5,060

2022-23

\$0

\$0

Resource	Management	Services -	<b>Inland Fisheric</b>	s and V	Vildlife 0534
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Initiative: Provides funding for operating expenses in the Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife program, Black Bear Research and Management Fund.

Ref. #: 567 Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote:

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$30,000

#### Justification:

Revenues for this account are derived from the sales of nonresident late season bear hunting permits and the sales of bear trapping permits. These revenues will be used to fund ongoing operational expenses for the program.

## Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0534

Initiative: Provides funding for operating expenses in the Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife program, Moose Research and Management Fund.

Ref. #: 568 Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote:

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$40,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL		<u>\$0</u>	\$40,000

#### Justification:

Revenues for this account are derived from the sale of nonresident moose hunting permits and will be used to fund ongoing operational expenses for the program.

## Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0534

Initiative: Continues and makes permanent one IF&W Resource Biologist position previously established by Financial Order 02900 F4 in the Bureau of Resource Management and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 569 Committee Vote: 7-0 AFA Vote:

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	0.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$108,460
All Other	\$0	\$0	\$2,837
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$111,297

This position will collaborate with regional wildlife biologists, the deer biologist, and land acquisition staff to prioritize deer habitat for potential acquisition by the department, coordinate the management of department-owned wintering areas and associated summer habitat, and provide technical assistance to private landowners on the management of deer wintering areas.

## Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0534

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one IF&W Senior Resource Biologist position to an IF&W Resource Supervisor position and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 570	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$1,756
All Other			\$0	\$0	\$101
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$1,857
Ref. #: 571	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$5,273
All Other			\$0	\$0	\$303
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$5,576

## Justification:

This position has a supervisory role and is being reorganized to the appropriate job classification to account for those responsibilities.

#### Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0534

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Relations Specialist position to an IF&W Senior Resource Biologist position and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 572	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
GENERAL FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$1,063
GENERAL FUND TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$1,063
Ref. #: 573	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$3,192

All Other			\$0	\$0	\$196
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$3,388
Ref. #: 574	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$4,256
All Other			\$0	\$0	\$261
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$4,517

This position is responsible for administering, coordinating, and evaluating statewide efforts involving human-wildlife interactions, including wildlife in captivity, rehabilitation of wildlife, and wildlife conflict resolution.

## Resource Management Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 0534

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one Public Service Coordinator I position from range 25 to range 26 and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: 575	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
GENERAL FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$735
GENERAL FUND TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$735
Ref. #: 576	Committee Vote:	7-0	AFA Vote:		
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services			\$0	\$0	\$1,275
All Other			\$0	\$0	\$22
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$1,297

## Justification:

This Federal Aid Coordinator position was approved in Public Law 2023 chapter 412 at a range 25; however, Bureau of Human Resources approved the job task for this position to be a range 26.

## INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$653,797	\$602,139
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$0	\$0	(\$475,822)
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	(\$7,302)	\$189,442
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<del></del>	\$646,495	\$315,759