

**STATE OF MAINE**  
131<sup>ST</sup> 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**

October 2023

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# *Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

## **SUBJECT INDEX**

### **All-terrain Vehicles, Snowmobiles and Watercraft**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 221	An Act Regarding Airboat Noise	PUBLIC 209
	LD 296	An Act to Ensure Municipalities Receive a Higher Percentage of All-terrain Vehicle and Snowmobile Registration Fees to Cover Increased Expenses	PUBLIC 213
	LD 379	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study the Effects of Wake Boats on Shoreline Property and the Environment	RESOLVE 33
	LD 497	An Act to Prohibit the Use of Personal Watercraft on Keyes Pond in the Town of Sweden	PUBLIC 106
	LD 732	An Act to Prohibit Off-trail Operation of a Snowmobile in an Area Closed to Off-trail Operation	PUBLIC 163
	LD 1807	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Report on Boater Safety Education	PUBLIC 206
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 434	An Act to Protect Landowners and Increase Safety on All-terrain Vehicle Trails by Increasing Funding to the ATV Recreational Management Fund	ONTP
	LD 693	An Act to Protect Inland Water Quality, Shorelines, Wildlife and Public Safety by Prohibiting Operation of a Wake Boat to Create an Enhanced Wake Close to Shore or in Shallow Water	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 977	Resolve, to Study the Gasoline Tax Allocations for Nonhighway Recreational Vehicles and Make Recommendations for Changes	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1924	An Act to Provide for Enforcement of Snowmobile and All-terrain Vehicle Laws	ONTP

### **Antlerless Deer Permits**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 458	An Act to Require an Application for a Hunting License to Include a Check-off Box Indicating an Applicant's Wish to Be Entered in the Antlerless Deer Permit Lottery	ONTP
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LD 608	Resolve, to Improve Outcomes for Participants in the Antlerless Deer Permit Lottery	ONTP
LD 613	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Antlerless Deer Permit Process	ONTP
LD 614	An Act to Provide a Free Antlerless Deer Permit to Certain Landowners Who Allow the Public to Hunt on Their Property	CARRIED OVER
LD 763	An Act to Provide Antlerless Deer Permits to Certain Landowners	ONTP
LD 798	An Act to Eliminate the Antlerless Deer Permit Fee for Holders of Senior Complimentary and Senior Lifetime Hunting Licenses	ONTP
LD 929	An Act to Allow Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License Holders to Hunt Any Deer as a Part of Their Lifetime License	ONTP

### **Bear Hunting**

**Not  
Enacted**

LD 58	Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Establish Seasons That Do Not Overlap for Hunting Bear over Bait and Hunting Bear with Dogs	ONTP
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### **Complimentary and Reduced Fee Licenses**

**Not  
Enacted**

LD 305	An Act to Provide Youth Lifetime Hunting Licenses to Eligible Dependents of Veterans Who Are 100 Percent Disabled	Majority (ONTP) Report
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### **Coyote Hunting**

**Not  
Enacted**

LD 604	An Act to Extend the Night Hunting Season for Coyotes to Immediately Following the Muzzle-loading-only Deer Hunting Season	ONTP
LD 814	An Act to Restrict the Daytime and Nighttime Killing of Coyotes	Majority (ONTP) Report

### **Crossbows**

**Enacted**

LD 1879	An Act to Align Laws Governing Crossbow Hunting with Those Governing Archery Hunting	PUBLIC 239
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## *Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 131	An Act to Clarify and Correct Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws	PUBLIC 228
	LD 491	Resolve, to Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Develop a Plan for Communication Regarding Certain Municipal Regulation	RESOLVE 26
	LD 1186	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Develop a Hunting and Fishing Software Application	RESOLVE 113
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 55	An Act to Move the Headquarters for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	ONTP

## *Dogs and Dog Training*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 531	An Act to Add Gray Squirrels and Red Squirrels to the Species List for the Open Training Season for Hunting Dogs	PUBLIC 134
	LD 547	An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws as They Pertain to the Training of Dogs	PUBLIC 172

## *Endangered and Threatened Species*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 57	An Act to Amend Maine's Endangered and Threatened Species List	PUBLIC 60
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## *Firearms*

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 629	An Act to Improve, Protect and Defend the Individual Civil Right to Bear Arms Through Exemption of Firearms and Ammunition from Taxation	CARRIED OVER
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## *Fish; Fishing*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 958	An Act to Expand Protections to Maine's Loons from Lead Poisoning by Prohibiting the Sale and Use of Certain Painted Lead Jigs	PUBLIC 231
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 441	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Recreational Freshwater Fishing with Respect to a Portion of Middle River in Marshfield and Machias	ONTP

LD 537	An Act to Remove the Limits on Bass Fishing in Washington County Rivers	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 700	Resolve, to Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Examine the Northern Pike Population in Sabattus Pond	ONTP

### *Guides and Guiding*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 1319	An Act to Exempt Certain Boat Operators from Having to Become Maine Guides	PUBLIC 226
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 152	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Change the Term "Woodsmen" to "Woodsperson" in the Junior Maine Guide Program	ONTP

### *Invasive Aquatic Species*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 92	An Act to Minimize the Propagation of Invasive Aquatic Plants	PUBLIC 190
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 1049	An Act to Protect Maine's Inland Fisheries from Invasive Fish	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1342	An Act to Increase Funding for the Prevention and Control of Invasive Aquatic Species	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1534	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species	ONTP

### *Landowner Relations*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 491	Resolve, to Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Develop a Plan for Communication Regarding Certain Municipal Regulation	RESOLVE 26
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### *Licenses and Permits*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 189	An Act to Include an Expanded Archery Permit in the Super Pack License Issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	PUBLIC 49
	LD 438	An Act to Clarify and Amend the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licensing Laws	PUBLIC 308

	LD 1525	An Act to Allow for a Suspension of Licenses and Permits Issued Under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws for a Deferred Disposition or Written Filing Agreement	PUBLIC 265
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 90	An Act to Allow Persons 70 Years of Age or Older to Use a Subpermittee to Harvest Deer	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 163	An Act to Increase Communication Between the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Lifetime License Holders by Requiring Free License Renewals Under Certain Circumstances	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1127	Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Create a Process for Real-time Confirmation of Live Bait Retailer's Licenses by Electronic Means	ONTP
	LD 1599	An Act to Create an Outfitter License for Owners and Operators of Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Businesses That Are Not Maine Guides	ONTP

### **Moose Hunting**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 481	An Act to Allow the Deferral of a Moose Hunting Permit If More than One Permit Is Awarded Within the Same Household	PUBLIC 127
	LD 831	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Examine Issues Related to Moose Hunting Seasons	RESOLVE 36
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 126	An Act to Improve the Fairness of Adaptive Management Study Moose Hunt Permits by Exempting Those Permittees from the 4-year Limitation on Receiving Another Permit	ONTP
	LD 544	An Act to Increase the Chance of Receiving a Moose Permit for Maine Service Members and Veterans	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 795	An Act to Clarify Requirements for Moose Hunting Permittees	CARRIED OVER

### **Naming Body of Water**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 660	Resolve, Naming a Pond in the Town of New Gloucester as MacDonald Pond	RESOLVE 16
	LD 661	Resolve, Naming a Pond in Elm Stream Township as Plummer Pond	RESOLVE 35
	LD 1868	Resolve, to Name 2 Brooks in the Town of Orient	RESOLVE 48

### *Nuisance Animals*

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 1062	An Act to Allow a Landowner or Maintainer of Trails to Lethally Remove Nuisance Beaver	ONTP
	LD 1563	An Act to Allow a Resident of Agricultural Land to Enlist License Holders to Hunt on the Land	ONTP

### *Sport Shooting Ranges*

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 1000	Resolve, to Convene a Firearm Range Safety Working Group Within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Majority (ONTP) Report
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### *Sunday Hunting*

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 626	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 672	An Act to Establish Youth Deer Hunting Weekend	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 1166	An Act to Allow Sunday Hunting by Landowners on Their Land	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 1241	An Act to Allow Sunday Hunting with a Bow and Arrow or Crossbow	Majority (ONTP) Report

### *Wild Turkey Hunting*

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 728	An Act to Amend the Bag Limit for Turkey	ONTP
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### *Wildlife Management*

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 1826	An Act to Designate Deer Wintering Areas Under the Jurisdiction of the Bureau of Parks and Lands	PUBLIC 187
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 1919	An Act to Designate a State Wildlife Sanctuary at Blue Hill Falls	CARRIED OVER

**Youth Hunting**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 482	An Act to Extend the Time for Youth Deer Hunting	PUBLIC 191
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 261	An Act to Reinstate a Minimum Age for Hunting	ONTP
	LD 642	An Act to Protect Young Deer Hunters by Prohibiting Wild Turkey Hunting During Youth Deer Hunting Day	ONTP



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**Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Date of last Comm Action	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Analyst Note?	Session
								Law	Ch		
IFW	55	An Act to Move the Headquarters for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Reported Out	ONTP		3/17/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				R1
IFW	57	An Act to Amend Maine's Endangered and Threatened Species List	Reported Out	OTP-AM		4/25/23	Enacted	PL	60		S1
IFW	58	Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Establish Seasons That Do Not Overlap for Hunting Bear over Bait and Hunting Bear with Dogs	Reported Out	ONTP		5/10/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	90	An Act to Allow Persons 70 Years of Age or Older to Use a Subpermittee to Harvest Deer	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		4/10/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	92	An Act to Minimize the Propagation of Invasive Aquatic Plants	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP		6/6/23	Emergency Enacted	PL	190		S1
IFW	126	An Act to Improve the Fairness of Adaptive Management Study Moose Hunt Permits by Exempting Those Permittees from the 4-year Limitation on Receiving Another Permit	Reported Out	ONTP		5/22/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	131	An Act to Clarify and Correct Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws	Reported Out	OTP-AM		6/7/23	Enacted	PL	228		S1
IFW	152	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Change the Term "Woodsmen" to "Woodsperson" in the Junior Maine Guide Program	Reported Out	ONTP		2/17/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				R1
IFW	163	An Act to Increase Communication Between the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Lifetime License Holders by Requiring Free License Renewals Under Certain Circumstances	Carry Over Approved		Carried in Comm	7/25/23					S1

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								Law	Ch		
IFW	189	An Act to Include an Expanded Archery Permit in the Super Pack License Issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Reported Out	OTP-AM		4/10/23	Enacted	PL	49		S1
IFW	221	An Act Regarding Airboat Noise	Reported Out	OTP-AM		6/5/23	Enacted	PL	209		S1
IFW	261	An Act to Reinstate a Minimum Age for Hunting	Reported Out	ONTP		3/3/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				R1
IFW	296	An Act to Ensure Municipalities Receive a Higher Percentage of All-terrain Vehicle and Snowmobile Registration Fees to Cover Increased Expenses	Reported Out	OTP-AM		6/5/23	Enacted	PL	213		S1
IFW	305	An Act to Provide Youth Lifetime Hunting Licenses to Eligible Dependents of Veterans Who Are 100 Percent Disabled	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		4/26/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	379	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study the Effects of Wake Boats on Shoreline Property and the Environment	Reported Out	OTP-AM		5/26/23	Finally Passed	RESLV	33		S1
IFW	434	An Act to Protect Landowners and Increase Safety on All-terrain Vehicle Trails by Increasing Funding to the ATV Recreational Management Fund	Reported Out	ONTP		3/23/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				R1
IFW	438	An Act to Clarify and Amend the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licensing Laws	Reported Out	OTP-AM		6/15/23	Enacted	PL	308		S1
IFW	441	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Recreational Freshwater Fishing with Respect to a Portion of Middle River in Marshfield and Machias	Reported Out	ONTP		3/17/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				R1

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IFW	458	An Act to Require an Application for a Hunting License to Include a Check-off Box Indicating an Applicant's Wish to Be Entered in the Antlerless Deer Permit Lottery	Reported Out	ONTP		4/4/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	481	An Act to Allow the Deferral of a Moose Hunting Permit If More than One Permit Is Awarded Within the Same Household	Reported Out	OTP-AM		5/10/23	Enacted	PL	127		S1
IFW	482	An Act to Extend the Time for Youth Deer Hunting	Reported Out	OTP-AM		5/31/23	Emergency Enacted	PL	191		S1
IFW	491	Resolve, to Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Develop a Plan for Communication Regarding Certain Municipal Regulation	Reported Out	OTP		5/10/23	Finally Passed	RESLV	26		S1
IFW	497	An Act to Prohibit the Use of Personal Watercraft on Keyes Pond in the Town of Sweden	Reported Out	OTP-AM		5/4/23	Enacted	PL	106		S1
IFW	531	An Act to Add Gray Squirrels and Red Squirrels to the Species List for the Open Training Season for Hunting Dogs	Reported Out	OTP-AM		5/16/23	Emergency Enacted	PL	134		S1
IFW	537	An Act to Remove the Limits on Bass Fishing in Washington County Rivers	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		5/31/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	544	An Act to Increase the Chance of Receiving a Moose Permit for Maine Service Members and Veterans	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP		4/13/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	547	An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws as They Pertain to the Training of Dogs	Reported Out	OTP-AM		5/24/23	Emergency Enacted	PL	172		S1
IFW	604	An Act to Extend the Night Hunting Season for Coyotes to Immediately Following the Muzzle-loading-only Deer Hunting Season	Reported Out	ONTP		4/25/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1

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								Law	Ch		
IFW	608	Resolve, to Improve Outcomes for Participants in the Antlerless Deer Permit Lottery	Reported Out	ONTP		4/4/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	613	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Antlerless Deer Permit Process	Reported Out	ONTP		4/4/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	614	An Act to Provide a Free Antlerless Deer Permit to Certain Landowners Who Allow the Public to Hunt on Their Property	Carry Over Approved		Carried in Comm	7/25/23					S1
IFW	626	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	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP		5/30/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	629	An Act to Improve, Protect and Defend the Individual Civil Right to Bear Arms Through Exemption of Firearms and Ammunition from Taxation	Carry Over Approved		Carried in Comm	7/25/23					S1
IFW	642	An Act to Protect Young Deer Hunters by Prohibiting Wild Turkey Hunting During Youth Deer Hunting Day	Reported Out	ONTP		5/10/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	660	Resolve, Naming a Pond in the Town of New Gloucester as MacDonald Pond	Reported Out	OTP/ONTP		5/3/23	Finally Passed	RESLV	16		S1
IFW	661	Resolve, Naming a Pond in Elm Stream Township as Plummer Pond	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP		5/24/23	Finally Passed	RESLV	35		S1
IFW	672	An Act to Establish Youth Deer Hunting Weekend	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		6/5/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1

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								Law	Ch		
IFW	693	An Act to Protect Inland Water Quality, Shorelines, Wildlife and Public Safety by Prohibiting Operation of a Wake Boat to Create an Enhanced Wake Close to Shore or in Shallow Water	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		6/5/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	700	Resolve, to Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Examine the Northern Pike Population in Sabattus Pond	Reported Out	ONTP		5/1/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	728	An Act to Amend the Bag Limit for Turkey	Reported Out	ONTP		5/10/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	732	An Act to Prohibit Off-trail Operation of a Snowmobile in an Area Closed to Off-trail Operation	Reported Out	OTP-AM		5/24/23	Enacted	PL	163		S1
IFW	763	An Act to Provide Antlerless Deer Permits to Certain Landowners	Reported Out	ONTP		4/4/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	795	An Act to Clarify Requirements for Moose Hunting Permittees	Carry Over Approved		Carried in Comm	7/25/23					S1
IFW	798	An Act to Eliminate the Antlerless Deer Permit Fee for Holders of Senior Complimentary and Senior Lifetime Hunting Licenses	Reported Out	ONTP		4/4/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	814	An Act to Restrict the Daytime and Nighttime Killing of Coyotes	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		5/16/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	831	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Examine Issues Related to Moose Hunting Seasons	Reported Out	OTP-AM		5/16/23	Finally Passed	RESLV	36		S1

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IFW	929	An Act to Allow Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License Holders to Hunt Any Deer as a Part of Their Lifetime License	Reported Out	ONTP		3/23/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				R1
IFW	958	An Act to Expand Protections to Maine's Loons from Lead Poisoning by Prohibiting the Sale and Use of Certain Painted Lead Jigs	Reported Out	OTP/ONTP		5/30/23	Enacted	PL	231		S1
IFW	977	Resolve, to Study the Gasoline Tax Allocations for Nonhighway Recreational Vehicles and Make Recommendations for Changes	Carry Over Approved		Carried in Comm	7/25/23					S1
IFW	1000	Resolve, to Convene a Firearm Range Safety Working Group Within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP		5/30/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	1049	An Act to Protect Maine's Inland Fisheries from Invasive Fish	Carry Over Approved		Carried in Comm	7/25/23					S1
IFW	1062	An Act to Allow a Landowner or Maintainer of Trails to Lethally Remove Nuisance Beaver	Reported Out	ONTP		5/10/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1127	Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Create a Process for Real-time Confirmation of Live Bait Retailer's Licenses by Electronic Means	Reported Out	ONTP		5/1/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1166	An Act to Allow Sunday Hunting by Landowners on Their Land	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP- AM		6/2/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	1186	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Develop a Hunting and Fishing Software Application	Reported Out	OTP-AM		6/7/23	Finally Passed	RESLV	113		S1

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IFW	1241	An Act to Allow Sunday Hunting with a Bow and Arrow or Crossbow	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		6/6/23	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report				S1
IFW	1319	An Act to Exempt Certain Boat Operators from Having to Become Maine Guides	Reported Out	OTP-AM		6/7/23	Emergency Enacted	PL	226		S1
IFW	1342	An Act to Increase Funding for the Prevention and Control of Invasive Aquatic Species	Carry Over Approved		Carried in Comm	7/25/23					S1
IFW	1525	An Act to Allow for a Suspension of Licenses and Permits Issued Under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws for a Deferred Disposition or Written Filing Agreement	Reported Out	OTP-AM		6/6/23	Enacted	PL	265		S1
IFW	1534	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species	Reported Out	ONTP		5/22/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1563	An Act to Allow a Resident of Agricultural Land to Enlist License Holders to Hunt on the Land	Reported Out	ONTP		5/22/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1599	An Act to Create an Outfitter License for Owners and Operators of Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Businesses That Are Not Maine Guides	Reported Out	ONTP		5/22/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1
IFW	1807	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Report on Boater Safety Education	Reported Out	OTP/ONTP		5/30/23	Enacted	PL	206		S1
IFW	1826	An Act to Designate Deer Wintering Areas Under the Jurisdiction of the Bureau of Parks and Lands	Reported Out	OTP		6/2/23	Enacted	PL	187		S1
IFW	1868	Resolve, to Name 2 Brooks in the Town of Orient	Reported Out	OTP		5/30/23	Finally Passed	RESLV	48		S1

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IFW	1879	An Act to Align Laws Governing Crossbow Hunting with Those Governing Archery Hunting	Reported Out	OTP-AM		6/8/23	Enacted	PL	239		S1
IFW	1919	An Act to Designate a State Wildlife Sanctuary at Blue Hill Falls	Carry Over Approved		Carried in Comm	7/25/23					S1
IFW	1924	An Act to Provide for Enforcement of Snowmobile and All-terrain Vehicle Laws	Reported Out	ONTP		5/22/23	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310				S1



## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

### **LD 57 An Act to Amend Maine's Endangered and Threatened Species List**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 60 makes the following changes to the State's list of endangered and threatened species.

1. It removes the box turtle and the rapids clubtail from the endangered species list.
2. It adds the Ashton's cuckoo bumble bee and the saltmarsh sparrow to the endangered species list.
3. It adds the bank swallow, the Bicknell's thrush, the blackpoll warbler, the cliff swallow, the margined tiger beetle and the tricolored bat to the threatened species list.
4. It also makes some taxonomic nomenclature changes.

In addition to the changes made to Maine's Endangered and Threatened Species list, Public Law 2023, chapter 60 adds a requirement that the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters no less frequently than every four years on any recommendations, status updates or changes to the list of species designated as endangered or threatened.

### **LD 92 An Act to Minimize the Propagation of Invasive Aquatic Plants**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 190 makes the following changes to the laws governing the draining of watercraft upon removal from Maine's inland waters.

1. It requires a person immediately before placing on or after removing a watercraft from an inland water body to drain the watercraft and other equipment and to remove or open drain plugs, bailers, valves and other devices to drain the water before that watercraft is transported.
2. It exempts emergency response watercraft from these requirements.
3. It prohibits draining or releasing water held on or within a watercraft and allowing that water to enter any inland water body of the State if the water in the watercraft is from a different water source.

Public Law 2023, chapter 190 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 16, 2023.

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### **LD 131 An Act to Clarify and Correct Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 228 makes the following changes to sections of Title 12.

1. It eliminates provisions relating to the annual reports to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters on deer and moose management.
2. It renames the Species Management Education Fund the Fish and Wildlife Management Education Fund and allows funding to be used for education on the management of fish and wildlife and to communicate with the public about department programs. It also removes the requirement in current law that education provided under the fund must include information about how hunting and fishing help to manage specific species.
3. It renames the Black Bear Research Fund the Black Bear Research and Management Fund and modifies its purpose to allow the fund to be used for both research and management activities.
4. It removes the requirement that a person involved in a hunting incident or a watercraft, snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle crash submit to a mandatory chemical test and removes references to that requirement.
5. It provides clarity on how a super pack licensee applies for an antlerless deer permit.
6. It exempts members of certain federally recognized Indian nations, bands or tribes from the requirement to complete a bear trapping education course.
7. It resolves a conflict in Title 12 regarding the cost of combination licenses.
8. It removes references to specific types of personal flotation devices.

### **LD 189 An Act to Include an Expanded Archery Permit in the Super Pack License Issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 49 makes the following changes to Maine's super pack hunting licenses.

1. It allows for the harvesting of six deer including three antlerless deer and one deer of either sex during the special archery season as determined by the commissioner.

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2. It increases the fee for a super pack license to \$207 for residents and \$182 for a person holding 2 or more lifetime licenses.

### **LD 221 An Act Regarding Airboat Noise**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 209 makes the following changes to the laws regarding airboat usage in Maine.

1. It extends to September 30, 2025 the prohibition on the operation of a motorboat that exceeds a noise level of 75 decibels between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. and 90 decibels between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m..
2. It reconvenes the stakeholder group on airboat noise issues and requires a report to be submitted by January 15, 2025 to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources and inland fisheries and wildlife matters that includes the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group, including any recommended legislation. After receiving the report, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters may report out a bill relating to airboats to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

### **LD 296 An Act to Ensure Municipalities Receive a Higher Percentage of All-terrain Vehicle Registration Fees to Cover Increased Expenses**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 213 increases the fee an agent may charge for processing a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle registration or renewal registration to not more than \$5.

### **LD 379 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study the Effects of Wake Boats on Shoreline Property and the Environment**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 33 requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a stakeholder group to review completed studies relating to wake boats and their effects on shoreline property and the environment paying special attention to issues relating to the types of boats used, the appropriate distance from the shoreline and depth of the body of water, enforcement mechanisms, including fines, and the definition used for "wake boat."

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The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall report the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than February 1, 2024. The committee may report out a bill related to wake boats and their effects on shoreline property and the environment to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

### **LD 438 An Act to Clarify and Amend the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licensing Laws**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 308 makes the following changes to the laws governing licensing and registration by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

1. It provides that all members of the Advisory Board for the Licensing of Guides except state employees are entitled to receive compensation and increases the daily rate of compensation for examiners of the Advisory Board for the Licensing of Guides and the Advisory Board for the Licensing of Taxidermists from \$50 per day to \$150 per day and per diem.
2. It increases the guide examination fee from \$100 to \$125 and the taxidermist application fee from \$50 to \$125 and clarifies that the taxidermist application fee also applies to examinations for general classification.
3. It repeals the provision of law that allows a guide applicant to take a 2nd test for free.
4. It clarifies that the owner of a snowmobile is not required to register that snowmobile if it is operated on land that the owner lives on or land that the snowmobile operator owns or leases.
5. It increases the fee for a pheasant hunting permit from \$18 to \$29 and increases the amount that is retained by the authorized agent of the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from \$1 to \$2.

### **LD 481 An Act to Allow the Deferral of a Moose Hunting Permit If More than One Permit Is Awarded Within the Same Household**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 127 allows a holder of a valid moose hunting permit to defer the permit to the next hunting season if another person in the permit holder's household also holds a valid moose hunting permit for the same hunting season.

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### **LD 482 An Act to Extend the Time for Youth Deer Hunting**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 191 makes the following changes to Maine's youth deer hunting day.

1. It establishes a 2-day youth deer hunting period for 2023 to begin 8 days before the start of the regular deer hunting season.
2. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to examine the impact of an additional dedicated youth deer hunting day on the deer population and wildlife management goals.
3. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the findings and recommendations of the examination and authorizes the committee to report out legislation on those findings in 2024.

Public Law 2023, chapter 191 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 16, 2023.

### **LD 491 Resolve, to Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Develop a Plan for Communication Regarding Certain Municipal Regulation**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 26 requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to develop and report by January 1, 2024 to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife a plan to inform municipalities about the limits on local regulation of hunting, fishing and trapping and the operation of watercraft, snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles and a distribution scheme for the information.

### **LD 497 An Act to Prohibit the Use of Personal Watercraft on Keyes Pond in the Town of Sweden**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 106 prohibits the use of personal watercraft on Keyes Pond in the Town of Sweden.

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### **LD 531 An Act to Add Gray Squirrels and Red Squirrels to the Species List for the Open Training Season for Hunting Dogs**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 134 adds gray squirrels and red squirrels to the list of those animals upon which a person may train dogs during the open training season for dogs.

Public Law 2023, chapter 134 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 8, 2023.

### **LD 547 An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws as They Pertain to the Training of Dogs**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 172 removes the prohibition on training hunting dogs on bear in those portions of Washington County and Hancock County that are situated south of Route 9 until May 1, 2025 for residents who have permission to train on land used for wild blueberry production. It also requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters any recommendations resulting from this change to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

Public Law 2023, chapter 172 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 15, 2023.

### **LD 660 Resolve, Naming a Pond in the Town of New Gloucester as MacDonald Pond**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 16 names a pond in the Town of New Gloucester MacDonald Pond.

### **LD 661 Resolve, Naming a Pond in Elm Stream Township as Plummer Pond**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 35 names a pond in Elm Stream Township Plummer Pond.

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### **LD 732 An Act to Prohibit Off-trail Operation of a Snowmobile in an Area Closed to Off-trail Operation**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 163 prohibits a person from operating a snowmobile off a snowmobile trail identified by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands as having been funded by the Snowmobile Trail Fund, in an area that is posted as being closed to off-trail snowmobile operation. It provides for a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 for the first violation of the prohibition and that a violation after three or more civil violations of the inland fisheries and wildlife laws is a Class E crime.

### **LD 831 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Examine Issues Related to Moose Hunting Seasons**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 36 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to examine issues and make recommendations related to the timing and length of moose hunting seasons and strategies to reduce conflicts during moose hunting seasons.

### **LD 958 An Act to Expand Protections to Maine's Loons from Lead Poisoning by Prohibiting the Sale and Use of Certain Painted Lead Jigs**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 231 makes it illegal to sell or offer for sale painted lead jigs weighing one ounce or less or measuring 2 1/2 inches or less in length beginning September 1, 2024 and illegal to use such jigs beginning September 1, 2026.

### **LD 1186 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Develop a Hunting and Fishing Software Application**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 113 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to develop a software application that a person can download onto the person's electronic device to allow the person to access the department's publicly accessible website pages regarding hunting and fishing information, licenses and permits.

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### **LD 1319 An Act to Exempt Certain Boat Operators from Having to Become Maine Guides**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 226 makes the following changes to the laws governing the operation of a watercraft without a guide license as an employee of a seasonal business engaged in instruction in recreational activities.

1. It allows a person who has completed an approved boater safety education course and is certified in first aid to operate a watercraft without a guide license as an employee of a seasonal business engaged in instruction in recreational activities during the 2023 recreational boating season.
2. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a stakeholder group to examine the guide requirements for recreational sports.
3. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than January 15, 2024. The committee may report out a bill related to recreational guide requirements to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Public Law 2023, chapter 226 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 20, 2023.

### **LD 1525 An Act to Allow for a Suspension of Licenses and Permits Issued Under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws for a Deferred Disposition or Written Filing Agreement**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 265 allows for the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to suspend any license issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for a deferred disposition or when there is a written filing agreement with the State.

### **LD 1807 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Report on Boater Safety Education**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 206 makes the following changes to the laws governing boater safety education requirements in Maine.



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1. It defines recreational boating as being primarily used for pleasure and excludes from that definition the use of motorboats carrying passengers for hire.
2. It applies the boater safety and education course requirement for inland waters to territorial waters defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6001.
3. It adds exemptions to the requirement of a boater safety and education course to possessors of valid or expired United States merchant marine licensure documents, persons test driving a motorboat as part of a possible purchase, persons renting a motorboat who have completed a temporary boater safety course and noncitizens who arrive by sea and are temporarily using Maine's territorial waters.

### **LD 1826 An Act to Designate Deer Wintering Areas Under the Jurisdiction of the Bureau of Parks and Lands**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 187 allows the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands to designate, pursuant to a habitat management agreement with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, deer wintering areas on parcels of land under the jurisdiction of the bureau that are high-quality deer wintering habitat with a documented history of significant use by deer. It requires the bureau to manage the designated area with deer conservation as the highest management priority and permits the bureau to manage the designated area to benefit other wildlife species that rely on mature softwood forests, and the designated areas are eligible for funding from the Maine Deer Management Fund. It also directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to survey public lands in the northern, eastern and western regions of the State for unmapped deer wintering areas for inclusion as designated deer wintering areas by the bureau.

### **LD 1868 Resolve, to Name 2 Brooks in the Town of Orient**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 48 names two brooks in the town of Orient.

1. The brook in the Town of Orient, Aroostook County, that flows under Boundary 7 Road and into MacAllister Cove of Grand Lake is named the Calais Bound Brook.
2. The brook in the Town of Orient, Aroostook County, that flows under Boundary 9 Road and Route 1, towards Skagrock Brook is named the Bangor Bound Brook.

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

### **LD 1879 An Act to Align Laws Governing Crossbow Hunting with Those Governing Archery Hunting**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 239 makes the following changes to the laws governing the use of crossbow and archery hunting.

1. It defines "archery equipment" to mean a bow or crossbow.
2. It provides that a person commits a Class E crime if while within the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands the person discharges archery equipment within 300 feet of any picnic area, designated camping area, parking area, building, shelter or boat launching site or in violation of park rules or in areas closed to hunting by rule, law or ordinance.
3. It changes references in the hunting laws to "bow and arrow" and "bow and arrow or crossbow" to "archery equipment."
4. It provides that except as provided in the laws governing the muzzle-loading-only deer hunting season, a person may hunt any wild bird or wild animal with archery equipment during any open season on that bird or animal if the person holds a valid archery hunting license. It repeals the laws governing open seasons for hunting with a crossbow, issuance of crossbow permits and crossbow permits and fees.
5. It provides that beginning January 1, 2024, a person who previously held a crossbow permit is eligible to obtain an archery hunting license.
6. It adds instruction on all types of archery equipment to the archery hunting education program.
7. It removes the discharge of a crossbow within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling without the permission of the owner from the laws governing prohibited discharges and allows the discharge of a crossbow on a landowner's own land for any purpose, including target practice and hunting.
8. It provides that a person may not discharge an arrow or bolt from archery equipment when on land of another person and within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling on that land without the permission of the owner of that building or residential dwelling or cause an arrow or bolt from archery equipment to pass across the land of another person and within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling on that land without the permission of the owner of that building or residential dwelling.
9. It clarifies the laws governing hunting or shooting from motor vehicles.

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10. It specifies that there is a continual closed season on deer on the Cranberry Isles in Hancock County, except that a person may hunt deer on the Cranberry Isles with a shotgun or bow in accordance with applicable laws and rules.
11. It provides that a person may not hunt wild hares or rabbits in any manner except by the ordinary method of shooting with guns, archery equipment or by falconry.
12. It provides that a person may take suckers by the use of a hand spear, by archery equipment or by snagging.
13. It repeals the laws governing the crossbow hunting education program.
14. It removes references to crossbows from the archery hunter education requirements.