

STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

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

August 2015

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Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

**LD 22 An Act Regarding the Removal of Moorings and Floating Docks in
Great Ponds During Ice-in Conditions**

PUBLIC 105

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW GERZOFSKY	OTP-AM	H-34 H-137 SHAW

This bill requires the removal of mooring equipment protruding above the surface of great ponds on or before December 1st of each year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-34)

This amendment replaces the bill and authorizes a harbor master, a code enforcement officer or a board of county commissioners to direct the owner of a boat to remove that person's mooring or floating dock from a great pond if the harbor master, code enforcement officer or board of county commissioners determines that leaving the mooring or floating dock in during ice-in conditions would create a public safety hazard. It also states that a harbor master, code enforcement officer or board of county commissioners does not have the authority to direct the removal of a federally owned or state-owned mooring or floating dock.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-137)

This amendment removes the provision in Committee Amendment "A" regarding the authority of a harbor master, code enforcement officer or board of county commissioners to direct the removal of a federally owned or state-owned mooring or floating dock.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 105 authorizes a harbor master, a code enforcement officer or a board of county commissioners to direct the owner of a boat to remove that person's mooring or floating dock from a great pond if the harbor master, code enforcement officer or board of county commissioners determines that leaving the mooring or floating dock in during ice-in conditions would create a public safety hazard.

**LD 88 An Act To Authorize Snowmobile Registration Reciprocity with the
Provinces of New Brunswick and Quebec**

PUBLIC 130

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN R PATRICK	OTP	

This bill extends the reciprocity provision in current law allowing for operation in the State of snowmobiles registered in other states to the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Quebec.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 130 extends the reciprocity provision in current law allowing for operation in the State of snowmobiles registered in other states to the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Quebec.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 126 An Act To Restrict Swim Areas

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW DUTREMBLE		

This bill provides that the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may not issue a permit for a swim area the length of which, measured parallel to the shore, is more than 50 percent of the length of the shore frontage of the property from which the swim area extends or 200 feet, whichever is greater.

This bill was not referred to a committee.

LD 134 Resolve, To Study the Impact of Winter Ticks on the State's Moose Population

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN R EDGECOMB P	OTP ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to conduct a study of the impact of winter ticks on the State's moose population, including identifying any problems for the moose population created by the ticks and recommending possible courses of action, if any, to address those problems.

LD 142 An Act To Expand Deer Hunting Opportunities for Junior Hunters

PUBLIC 219

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HILLIARD	OTP-AM ONTP	H-273

This bill allows an adult holder of an antlerless deer permit to transfer that permit to a holder of a junior hunting license if the holder of the junior hunting license takes an antlerless deer while in the presence or under the supervision of the antlerless deer permit holder. Once the permit is transferred, the adult antlerless deer permit holder loses the right to take an antlerless deer under that permit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-273)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. It provides that an antlerless deer permit holder who is 18 years of age or older may transfer the antlerless deer permit to a person who holds a junior hunting license at least 48 hours prior to the time the person holding the junior hunting license hunts for antlerless deer. Once the antlerless deer permit is transferred, the transferor loses the right to take an antlerless deer under that permit but remains eligible, unless otherwise prohibited, to take an antlered deer in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 13.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 219 allows an antlerless deer permit holder who is 18 years of age or older to transfer the antlerless deer permit to a person who holds a junior hunting license at least 48 hours prior to the time the person holding the junior hunting license hunts for antlerless deer. It provides that once the antlerless deer permit is

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

transferred, the transferor loses the right to take an antlerless deer under that permit but remains eligible, unless otherwise prohibited, to take an antlered deer in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 13.

LD 156 An Act To Eliminate the Minimum Age Requirement for a Junior Hunting License and Increase the Number of Times a Person May Hold an Apprentice Hunter License PUBLIC 136

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HILLIARD SAVIELLO	OTP-AM ONTP	H-105 S-123 DAVIS

This bill lowers the eligibility age for a junior hunting license from ten years of age to eight years of age.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-105)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and removes the minimum age requirement for a junior hunting license. This amendment also provides that the adult supervisor of the junior hunter must hold or have held a Maine hunting license or have successfully completed a hunter safety course. It also increases the number of times a person may hold an apprentice hunter license from twice to five times before becoming ineligible to purchase the license. This amendment provides an effective date of January 1, 2016.

Senate Amendment "B" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-123)

This amendment requires that hunters under 10 years of age must hold a junior hunting license and be in the presence of and under the effective control of an adult supervisor who remains at all times within 20 feet of the hunter.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 136 removes the minimum age requirement for a person to hold a junior hunting license. It provides that hunters under 10 years of age must hold a junior hunting license and be in the presence of and under the effective control of an adult supervisor who remains at all times within 20 feet of the hunter. Chapter 136 also provides that the adult supervisor of the junior hunter must hold or have held a Maine hunting license or have successfully completed a hunter safety course.

Public Law 2015, chapter 136 increases the number of times a person may hold an apprentice hunter license from twice to five times before becoming ineligible to purchase the license.

Public Law 2015, chapter 136 has an effective date of January 1, 2016.

LD 157 An Act To Create an Advisory Committee To Review and Make Recommendations Regarding Hunting and Fishing Laws ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT DUTREMBLE	ONTP	

This bill creates the Hunting and Fishing Law Review Advisory Committee under the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review inland fisheries and wildlife laws and rules and make recommendations to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife regarding any necessary changes. It also directs the Hunting and Fishing Law Review Advisory Committee to conduct an annual survey of holders of fishing and hunting licenses on various inland fisheries and wildlife issues in the State.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

as being issued to a nonresident student.

LD 257 An Act To Allow a Person To Take a 20-minute Break from Monitoring Ice Fishing Lines ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS BLACK	ONTP	

This bill allows a person to leave that person's ice fishing lines unattended for up to 20 minutes every 2 hours.

LD 275 An Act To Allow the Use of a Crossbow for Recreational Target Practice within 100 Yards of a Building without the Owner's Permission PUBLIC 71

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD DAVIS	OTP-AM ONTP	H-61

Current law prohibits discharging a crossbow within 100 yards of a building or a residential dwelling without the permission of the owner or an authorized person. This bill removes that restriction.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-61)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. It allows a landowner or the landowner's invitee to discharge a crossbow for recreational target practice purposes on the landowner's property within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling owned by another without the permission of the owner.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 71 allows a landowner or the landowner's invitee to discharge a crossbow for recreational target practice purposes on the landowner's property within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling owned by another without the permission of the owner.

LD 291 An Act To Allow the Hunting of Small Game Animals with a Slingshot ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUSHING DAVITT	ONTP	

This bill allows the use of a slingshot to hunt certain small game species designated by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 296 An Act To Increase Economic Development in Rural Communities by Expanding Hunting Opportunities Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS TIMBERLAKE	ONTP OTP	

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill allows a person with a hunting license to hunt on Sundays during the month of November on public lands greater than 10 acres in size that are open to hunting or on private property greater than 10 acres in size with the consent of the property owner.

LD 320 An Act Regarding the Tracking of Wounded Animals with a Leashed Dog

PUBLIC 90

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLACK DAVIS	OTP-AM ONTP	H-76

This bill allows a person licensed to guide hunters to use one leashed dog outside of legal hunting hours to track and dispatch a bear wounded by the guide's client.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-76)

Current law provides for a license to use leashed dogs to track wounded animals and allows a person who holds such a license to provide dog tracking services to others for a fee without being licensed as a guide. This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill and consolidates those provisions and makes the following changes.

1. It converts the license to use leashed dogs to track wounded animals from an annual license for \$27 to a 3-year permit for \$81.
2. It provides that a person must hold a big game hunting license to be eligible to obtain the permit to use a leashed dog to track a wounded animal and specifies that the permit only allows the tracking of a lawfully wounded animal.
3. It allows the permit holder to track a wounded animal outside of legal hunting hours.
4. It expressly gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife rule-making authority to regulate activities conducted pursuant to the permit.

Current law allows a licensed hunting guide to track and dispatch a client's wounded bear, deer or moose after legal hunting hours without a license to use leashed dogs to track wounded bear, deer or moose. This amendment relocates and changes that provision of law to provide that the hunting guide must obtain authorization from the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to track and dispatch a client's wounded bear, deer or moose after legal hunting hours. It also specifies that a guide authorized to track a wounded bear, deer or moose may use one leashed dog for tracking purposes.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 90 consolidates the existing laws regarding the use of leashed dogs to track wounded animals and makes the following changes.

1. It converts the license to use leashed dogs to track wounded animals from an annual license for \$27 to a 3-year permit for \$81.
2. It provides that a person must hold a big game hunting license to be eligible to obtain the permit to use a leashed dog to track a wounded animal and specifies that the permit only allows the tracking of a lawfully wounded animal.
3. It allows the permit holder to track a wounded animal outside of legal hunting hours.
4. It expressly gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife rule-making authority to regulate activities

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

conducted pursuant to the permit.

Public Law 2015, chapter 90 also provides that a hunting guide must obtain authorization from the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to track and dispatch a client's wounded bear, deer or moose after legal hunting hours. It specifies that a guide authorized to track a wounded bear, deer or moose may use only one leashed dog for tracking purposes. Chapter 90 relocates within the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 13 the provisions of law regarding a licensed hunting guide's ability to use a leashed dog to track and then dispatch a client's wounded bear, deer or moose after legal hunting hours without a license to use leashed dogs to track wounded bear, deer or moose.

LD 373 An Act To Allow a Moose Permit To Be Transferred to a Family Member PUBLIC 95

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT EVANGELOS	OTP-AM	S-42

This bill authorizes a person who holds a moose permit to transfer that permit to a family member and defines "family member" to mean the transferor's spouse, child, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, half-sister, half-brother or adopted child. It also authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt rules to establish an administrative fee to cover costs associated with transferring moose permits.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-42)

This amendment replaces the bill. It limits the allowed transfer of a moose permit to a family member to cases determined by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to involve exceptional extenuating circumstances. It adds to the definition of "family member" in the bill the transferor's stepchild and grandchild.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 95 authorizes a person who holds a moose permit to transfer that permit to a family member in cases determined by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to involve exceptional extenuating circumstances. It defines "family member" to mean the transferor's spouse, child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, half-sister, half-brother and adopted child.

**LD 399 An Act To Establish a Youth Bear Hunting Day PUBLIC 79
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD DAVIS	OTP-AM	H-99

This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish by rule a youth bear hunting day on the Saturday prior to the opening of bear hunting season.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-99)

This amendment replaces the bill and adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause. It establishes a youth bear hunting day on the Saturday prior to the opening of the regular bear hunting season.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 79 establishes a youth bear hunting day on the Saturday prior to the opening of the regular bear hunting season.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Public Law 2015, chapter 79 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 15, 2015.

LD 400 An Act To Continue To Permit Persons 70 Years of Age and Older To Hunt with a Crossbow

**PUBLIC 42
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

CRAFTS
DAVIS

Committee Report

OTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill allows a person 70 years of age or older to hunt with a crossbow during any open season. Until January 1, 2015, a provision of law allowed this, but included language that repealed the provision on that date. The bill enacts the substance of that provision but without the repeal language.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 42 allows a person 70 years of age or older to hunt with a crossbow during any open season. Until January 1, 2015, a provision of law allowed this, but included language that repealed the provision on that date. Chapter 42 enacts the substance of that provision but without the repeal language.

Public Law 2015, chapter 42 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 30, 2015.

LD 424 An Act To Allow the Use of Suppressors for Hunting Nuisance Wildlife

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

WOOD
DAVIS

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill allows a person to use a firearm fitted or contrived with a device for deadening the sound of explosion to kill wild animals or wild turkeys that are damaging crops, orchards or property or harming domestic animals.

LD 479 An Act To Allow Hunting on Sunday with the Landowner's Written Consent

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

Sponsor(s)

GREENWOOD
WILLETTE

Committee Report

ONTP
OTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill allows a person to possess hunting equipment on Sunday on a landowner's property if the person possessing the equipment has the landowner's written consent to hunt on that property. The bill also allows hunting on a landowner's property on Sunday with the landowner's written consent.

LD 480 An Act To Allow Condominium and Homeowners Associations To Establish Swim Areas

**Died Between
Houses**

Sponsor(s)

POWERS

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill allows homeowners associations, unit owners associations and condominium owners associations to be issued a permit by the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to establish developed swim areas.

This bill was not referred to a committee.

LD 561 An Act To Recognize the Registrations of Snowmobiles and All-terrain Vehicles Owned by Residents of a State That Borders Maine ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PETERSON PATRICK	ONTP	

This bill allows for reciprocity of snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicle registrations with New Hampshire.

LD 570 An Act To Authorize the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Postpone or Cancel an Open Hunting Season PUBLIC 57

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD DAVIS	OTP	H-89 SHAW

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to postpone or cancel an open hunting season if, based on principles of sound scientific wildlife management, it is necessary for wildlife conservation purposes.

House Amendment "A" (H-89)

This amendment clarifies the reasons for which the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may postpone or cancel an open hunting season. Unlike the bill, which authorized the commissioner to postpone the season if "necessary for wildlife conservation purposes," this amendment specifies that the commissioner may postpone the season if the commissioner has concerns regarding disease, weather conditions, reduction in population or other unforeseen factors that may prevent publicly derived management goals from being met.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 57 authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to postpone or cancel an open hunting season if, based on principles of sound scientific wildlife management, the commissioner has concerns regarding disease, weather conditions, reduction in population or other unforeseen factors that may prevent publicly derived management goals from being met.

LD 571 Resolve, To Study the Need for a Standard Formula for the Horsepower of Motors Used on the Lakes and Ponds of the State Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAFTS DAVIS	ONTP OTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create a working group to study and recommend legislation regarding the need for a standard formula for determining maximum horsepower for motorized watercraft on lakes and ponds in the State. It also directs the department to submit the report and any

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by December 2, 2015.

LD 608 An Act To Allow Junior, Senior and Veteran Hunters To Shoot ONTP
Antlerless Deer on the Opening Day of Hunting Season

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HANINGTON WILLETTE	ONTP	

This bill allows a licensed junior hunter, veteran or person who is 65 years of age or older to take an antlerless deer with a firearm on the first day of the regular deer hunting season and imposes a \$10 deer registration fee.

LD 609 An Act To Provide an Incentive to Nonresident Landowners Who Own CARRIED OVER
More than 250 Acres To Keep That Land Open for Hunting

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J DAVIS		

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue any hunting or fishing license at a reduced rate to a nonresident who owns more than 250 acres of land in this State and keeps that land open for hunting.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 610 An Act To Provide That Inland Waters Stocked with Fish by the State ONTP
May Not Open for Ice Fishing until the Next January 1st

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TIMBERLAKE DAVIS	ONTP	

This bill requires inland waters stocked with fish by the State to be closed to ice fishing until the January 1st of the calendar year following the year in which stocking occurred.

LD 639 An Act To Allow Certain Youths To Take a Deer of Either Sex ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS LONG	ONTP	

This bill allows a person who is at least 10 years of age and under 15 years of age who holds a junior hunting license to take multiple antlered or antlerless deer without a permit during the years of the junior hunter's eligibility.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 640 Resolve, To Establish a Working Group To Review the Incidental Take Permitting Process under the Endangered Species Laws CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS SHERMAN		

This resolve requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to convene a working group of representatives of related industries to develop recommended statutory amendments or agency rules to implement the statute governing the incidental take permitting process governing the taking of an endangered or threatened species while engaged in a lawful activity.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 668 An Act To Market Maine's Hunting and Fishing Opportunities CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUCHESNE CYRWAY		

This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a comprehensive marketing program for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife that is led and coordinated by a dedicated marketing specialist, whose position is required to be created within the department's Division of Public Information and Education.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 691 An Act To Allow Sunday Hunting for Coyotes in Northern Maine Accepted Report A (ONTP)

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VOLK	ONTP OTP-AM OTP-AM	

This bill permits the hunting of coyotes on Sunday in the northern part of the State and sets the fee for a Sunday coyote hunting permit at \$10. It requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt rules to establish areas in northern Maine open to hunting coyotes on Sunday.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-117)

This amendment, which is a minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-118)

The amendment, which is a minority report of the committee, allows a person who holds a permit to hunt big game to hunt coyotes from 12:01 a.m. to sunrise on Sunday statewide. The amendment removes the bill's provision authorizing coyote hunting on Sunday only in the northern part of the State.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 703 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine INDEF PP
To Protect the People's Right To Hunt, Fish and Harvest Wildlife

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WARD DAVIS	ONTP OTP-AM	

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to provide that the citizens of Maine have the personal right to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife, subject to laws and rules that promote wildlife conservation and preserve the future of hunting and fishing, and to provide that public hunting, fishing and harvesting wildlife are a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-344)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 716 An Act To Amend the Fees for Snowmobile Registrations and To Create PUBLIC 237
the Snowmobile Trail Fund Donation Sticker EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STANLEY	OTP-AM	H-338

This bill makes the following changes related to snowmobile registration and sales tax on diesel fuel used in snowmobile trail-grooming machinery.

1. It increases the resident snowmobile registration fee from \$40 to \$50 and allocates the additional \$10 to the Snowmobile Trail Fund of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands.
2. It increases the three-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee from \$43 to \$49 and increases the seasonal nonresident registration from \$88 to \$99 and allocates the additional revenue to the Snowmobile Trail Fund of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands.
3. It creates a seven-day nonresident snowmobile registration with a fee of \$75.
4. It amends the law governing the special fuel tax to make it clear that fuel qualifying for a refund under that law does not lose the sales tax exemption created in the bill for diesel fuel used in snowmobile trail-grooming machinery.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-338)

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It does the following.

1. It increases the resident snowmobile registration fee from \$40 to \$45 and dedicates the \$5 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
2. It increases the three-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee from \$43 to \$49 and dedicates the \$6 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
3. It increases the nonresident seasonal snowmobile registration fee from \$88 to \$99 and dedicates the \$11 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

4. It creates a 10-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee and sets the fee at \$75, of which \$6 is dedicated to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
5. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create the Snowmobile Trail Fund Donation Sticker Program and to create donation stickers to reflect a donor's donation of \$25, \$50 and \$100, respectively, of which \$2 is retained by the department and the remainder is transferred to the Snowmobile Trail Fund. The donation stickers are not a part of or associated with the State's snowmobile registration requirements.
6. It directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop written policies specifying the criteria the department will use to distribute additional revenues raised pursuant to this amendment to snowmobile clubs and to submit those policies for review to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than January 15, 2016.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 237 does the following.

1. It increases the resident snowmobile registration fee from \$40 to \$45 and dedicates the \$5 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
2. It increases the three-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee from \$43 to \$49 and dedicates the \$6 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
3. It increases the nonresident seasonal snowmobile registration fee from \$88 to \$99 and dedicates the \$11 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
4. It creates a 10-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee and sets the fee at \$75, of which \$6 is dedicated to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
5. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create the Snowmobile Trail Fund Donation Sticker Program and to create donation stickers to reflect a donor's donation of \$25, \$50 and \$100, respectively, of which \$2 is retained by the department and the remainder is transferred to the Snowmobile Trail Fund. The donation stickers are not a part of or associated with the State's snowmobile registration requirements.
6. It directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop written policies specifying the criteria the department will use to distribute additional revenues raised pursuant to this amendment to snowmobile clubs and to submit those policies for review to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than January 15, 2016.

Public Law 2015, chapter 237 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 23, 2015.

LD 723 An Act To Allow Reciprocal Recognition of New Hampshire and Maine ONTP
Snowmobile Registrations

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODSOME	ONTP	

This bill allows a person from November 15th to May 1st to operate in this State a snowmobile registered in the State of New Hampshire if the State of New Hampshire allows a person to operate in the State of New Hampshire a snowmobile registered in this State.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 746 An Act Regarding Captive Amphibian and Reptile Permits ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BECK CUSHING	ONTP	

This bill generally exempts nonnative amphibians and nonnative reptiles from the law that requires a permit for the possession of wildlife in captivity and the importation of wildlife from outside of the State but provides a list of nonnative amphibian and nonnative reptile species that are still subject to the permitting requirement. It also specifies that all native amphibians and native reptiles are subject to the permitting requirement.

LD 753 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine INDEF PP
To Establish the Right To Hunt and Fish

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD BURNS	ONTP OTP-AM	

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to provide that the right of the people of this State to hunt, fish and harvest game and fish, including by the use of traditional methods, may not be infringed, subject to reasonable laws and rules to promote wildlife conservation and management, to maintain natural resources in trust for public use and to preserve the future of hunting and fishing. It also provides that public hunting and fishing are a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-394)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 755 An Act Concerning Antler Restrictions ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD	ONTP	

This bill prohibits a person from taking a buck with fewer than three antler points on one side in any wildlife management district where antlerless deer permits are issued.

LD 773 An Act To Allow Anadromous Fish Passage through Beaver Dams Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE J MIRAMANT	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Commissioner of Marine Resources the authority to issue a permit to a person to construct a fishway or a passageway through a beaver dam for the passage of anadromous fish.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Committee Amendment "A" (H-178)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill. Currently, a person may remove a beaver dam with the authorization of a game warden and as long as certain conditions are met. This amendment provides that a person may also alter a beaver dam to allow the passage of anadromous fish with the authorization of a game warden.

LD 781 An Act To Expand Turkey Hunting Opportunities

PUBLIC 127

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	S-103

This bill expands turkey hunting opportunities by:

1. Eliminating the turkey permit requirements;
2. Allowing the hunting of turkey with a big game or small game hunting license;
3. Requiring deer registration stations to also register turkeys; and
4. Providing for electronic or telephonic registration of turkeys.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-103)

This amendment replaces the bill, which eliminates wild turkey permit requirements. Current law requires that a person hold a big game license to be eligible to purchase a wild turkey permit. This amendment makes the holder of a small game license also eligible to hold a wild turkey permit. It also directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a November wild turkey hunting season that is in addition to the current fall wild turkey hunting season in October. The amendment eliminates the bill's provisions regarding registration of wild turkeys. The amendment provides an effective date of January 1, 2016.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 127 makes the holder of a small game license also eligible to hold a wild turkey permit and directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a November wild turkey hunting season that is in addition to the current fall wild turkey hunting season in October.

Public Law 2015, chapter 127 has an effective date of January 1, 2016.

LD 799 An Act To Stimulate the Economy and Invigorate the Hunting Industry by Establishing a Pilot Project To Allow Hunting on Sundays in Limited Areas

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHACE	ONTP OTP	

This bill allows as a pilot project until January 1, 2018 hunting on Sundays in wildlife management districts 1 to 14, 17, 19 and 28 for any species during the open season on that species. It requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit by January 1, 2017 a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters regarding the status of the pilot project and recommendations

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

as to whether the project should be expanded, modified, reduced or terminated.

LD 801 An Act To Ensure Safe and Humane Bear Hunting Practices ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BATES	ONTP	

This bill prohibits a person from hunting bear with the use of dogs. It also makes a violation of that prohibition a Class D crime and a Class C crime for a 3rd or subsequent offense. This bill provides an exemption for the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to hunt bear with the use of dogs for public safety or research purposes.

LD 802 An Act To Allow the Breach or Removal of Beaver Dams That Obstruct Passage of Anadromous or Migratory Fish ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUCKER BAKER	ONTP	

This bill gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Commissioner of Marine Resources explicit authority to require fishways to be installed and maintained through beaver dams by the owners, lessees or other persons in control of the property on which a beaver dam exists or by which a beaver dam may be accessed or to require a beaver dam to be removed in order to conserve, develop or restore anadromous or migratory fish resources.

LD 807 An Act To Amend Maine's Threatened and Endangered Species List PUBLIC 121

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO WELSH	OTP-AM	S-90

This bill changes the status of certain species on the list of state endangered and state threatened species, adds species to the list and removes entries from the list.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-90)

This amendment removes the provision of the bill that would have removed two species from Maine's list of threatened species. This change corrects an error in the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 121 amends the list of state endangered and state threatened species as follows.

1. It changes the status of the Roaring Brook mayfly and Clayton's copper from endangered to threatened.
2. It adds the eastern small-footed bat to the list of state threatened species.
3. It adds to the state list of endangered species the cobblestone tiger beetle, frigga fritillary, northern long-eared bat, little brown bat and the six-whorled vertigo.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 811 An Act To Benefit Senior Hunters ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUSHING PETERSON	ONTP	

This bill allows a resident of the State who is 70 years of age or older and possesses a hunting license to lawfully take an antlerless deer without a permit during the open season on deer. It also requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to designate which hunting zones are open to the taking of antlerless deer by such residents.

**LD 833 Resolve, To Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To ONTP
Add Koi to the List of Fish Approved for Aquariums**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LONGSTAFF	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to amend its rules to add koi, *Cyprinus carpio haematopterus*, to the list of unrestricted fish that do not require an importation permit or possession permit and to allow koi to be kept only in a closed aquarium or pond system.

LD 848 An Act To Increase the Safety of Hunting ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS ALLEY	ONTP	

This bill:

1. Imposes a mandatory \$500 penalty for a violation of discharging a firearm or crossbow within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling;
2. Increases the minimum distance for discharging a firearm to 100 feet from the center of a paved road and sets a penalty of \$500 for a violation; and
3. Requires that a firearm with a rifled barrel in or on a motor vehicle during deer hunting season be enclosed in a case.

**LD 849 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Veto Sustained
Examine the Use of an Antler Point Restriction System To Increase the
Age, Size and Number of Antlered Deer in Maine**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS ALLEY	OTP-AM ONTP	S-110

This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt an antler point restriction system to

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

increase the population of older antlered deer in the State. It also directs the commissioner to adopt rules to implement and enforce the system.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-110)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to study issues relating to increasing the number, size and age of antlered deer in this State, collect and examine relevant information from other states regarding the use of an antler point restriction system and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by January 15, 2016. The committee is authorized to report out a bill relating to the department's report to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

LD 887 An Act To Prohibit Hunting Bear Using Dogs and Trapping Bear ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARLOW	ONTP	

This bill prohibits the use of dogs while hunting bear and it prohibits trapping bear, unless necessary for the trapping of nuisance bears as permitted by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 888 An Act To Recognize and Provide for the Right To Hunt for Sustenance in Aroostook County for Maliseet and Micmac Tribal Members and Disabled Veterans Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BEAR WILLETTE	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill provides that members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and the Aroostook Band of Micmacs may hunt for any wild animal or bird at any time in Aroostook County for sustenance use. Tribal members engaging in this sustenance hunting are largely exempt from general wild game laws, except that moose and bear hunting must be done by special permits issued by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The commissioner is required to annually issue 33 moose permits and 33 bear permits to members of each respective tribe. The commissioner is also directed to annually issue 33 moose permits and 33 bear permits for sustenance hunting in Aroostook County to 100% disabled United States veterans residing in Aroostook County, who are bound by the general wild game laws except that they may hunt from a motor vehicle.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-106)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-73)

This amendment replaces the bill and directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue annually 33 moose permits to enrolled members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and 33 moose permits to enrolled members of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs valid only in wildlife management districts located in Aroostook County. The commissioner may limit the number of moose permits and all permits are subject to the provisions pertaining to moose hunting. The permits are free of charge.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 906 Resolve, To Review Maine's Fish Stocking Rules

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD DAVIS	ONTP	

This resolve is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This resolve proposes to have the fish stocking rules of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife reviewed for consideration and amending and the results of the review reported to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by January 30, 2016 with suggested changes, and the committee may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature on the subject matter of the report.

LD 907 An Act To Reduce Milfoil Infestations

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POWERS	ONTP	

This bill provides that a permit from the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is required to install, maintain or operate a water-ski jump or slalom course on the internal waters of the State and requires that if there is an invasive plant within the area of a regatta, race, boat exhibition, water-ski exhibition or water-ski jump or slalom course, the invasive plant may not be disturbed and must be properly removed or the event, jump or course must be relocated.

**LD 913 An Act To Expand Public Opportunities for Wildlife Management
Education**

PUBLIC 245

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	H-339

This bill increases hunting license fees by one dollar and directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to use that revenue on an annual basis to educate the public on the management of game species. It also directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to convene a stakeholders group to develop a five-year public outreach campaign on the efforts of the department to manage game species, including a plan on how to use the increased revenue. The commissioner must report by February 1, 2016 to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, which may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-339)

This amendment increases the trapping license fees by one dollar and directs that the revenue be used to educate the public on the management of game species.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 245 increases hunting license fees and trapping license fees by one dollar and directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to use that revenue to educate the public on the management of game species. It also directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to convene a stakeholders group to develop a five-year public outreach campaign on the efforts of the department to manage game species, including a

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

plan on how to use the increased revenue. The commissioner must report by February 1, 2016 to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, which may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

LD 926 Resolve, To Increase the Number of Days a Junior Hunter May Hunt ONTP
Deer

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALLEY BURNS	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to amend its rules to allow a youth 10 years of age or older and under 16 years of age who possesses a junior hunting license to hunt deer on the days between Youth Deer Hunting Day and the residents-only Saturday of the regular deer hunting season, excluding Sunday.

LD 942 An Act To Permit the Use of Firearm Noise Suppression Devices in PUBLIC 262
Hunting and To Provide for a Chief Law Enforcement Officer's
Certification for Certain Firearms

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON SHAW	OTP-AM	S-218

This bill removes the prohibition on the use of firearm noise suppression devices when hunting and provides that a person who is otherwise lawfully hunting may use such devices.

It also establishes a procedure for a person to obtain a chief law enforcement officer's certification under federal law for the approval of an application to transfer or make a firearm, requires that the certification be provided in a timely fashion unless the applicant is ineligible, limits the personal information required from the applicant, establishes a right to an appeal in the case of a denial and clarifies that under the Maine Tort Claims Act the chief law enforcement officer or an employee of the chief law enforcement officer making the certification is immune from liability.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-218)

This amendment replaces the bill but addresses both of the matters addressed in the bill: the use of noise suppression devices while hunting and requirements governing a chief law enforcement officer's certification of a federal application to transfer or make a firearm.

The portion of this amendment relating to the use of noise suppression devices:

1. Until August 1, 2018, allows a person to use a noise suppression device while hunting, as long as the person has lawful possession of the device and has not had a hunting license revoked as a result of a serious hunting violation;
2. Provides for enhanced penalties for a person who commits a hunting violation while in possession of a firearm with a noise suppression device;
3. Provides for the permanent revocation of a person's hunting license and the seizure and libel of the person's firearm and noise suppression device if the person commits a serious hunting violation while in possession of a firearm with a noise suppression device; and
4. Provides definitions of "hunting crime" and "serious hunting violation."

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

The portion of this amendment regarding a chief law enforcement officer's certification on a person's federal application to transfer or make a firearm, including a noise suppression device:

1. Directs a chief law enforcement officer to provide the certification within 15 days of receipt, unless the officer has information that prevents the officer from providing the certification. A generalized objection to a person's possessing or transferring a firearm or a certain type of firearm is not sufficient;
2. Requires an officer who denies an application for certification to provide in writing the reasons for the denial;
3. Clarifies that a denial of an application or refusal or failure to provide a certification is a governmental action subject to appeal under the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure; and
4. Limits the information an officer may require from an applicant for certification and prohibits the officer from requiring access or consent to inspect any private premises as a condition of making a certification.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 262 does the following regarding the use of noise suppression devices:

1. Until August 1, 2018, allows a person to use a noise suppression device while hunting, as long as the person has lawful possession of the device and has not had a hunting license revoked as a result of a serious hunting violation;
2. Provides for enhanced penalties for a person who commits a hunting violation while in possession of a firearm with a noise suppression device;
3. Provides for the permanent revocation of a person's hunting license and the seizure and libel of the person's firearm and noise suppression device if the person commits a serious hunting violation while in possession of a firearm with a noise suppression device; and
4. Provides definitions of "hunting crime" and "serious hunting violation."

Public Law 2015, chapter 262 does the following regarding a chief law enforcement officer's certification on a person's federal application to transfer or make a firearm, including a noise suppression device:

1. Directs a chief law enforcement officer to provide the certification within 15 days of receipt, unless the officer has information that prevents the officer from providing the certification. A generalized objection to a person's possessing or transferring a firearm or a certain type of firearm is not sufficient;
2. Requires an officer who denies an application for certification to provide in writing the reasons for the denial;
3. Clarifies that a denial of an application or refusal or failure to provide a certification is a governmental action subject to appeal under the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure; and
4. Limits the information an officer may require from an applicant for certification and prohibits the officer from requiring access or consent to inspect any private premises as a condition of making a certification.

LD 959 An Act To Amend the Membership of the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

LANGLEY
MAREAN

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill repeals the definition of the Coordinator of the Natural Areas Program and removes the Coordinator of the Natural Areas Program in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry as a member of the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board and replaces that member with the Commissioner of Marine Resources.

LD 1056 An Act To Exempt the Sale of Snowmobiles to Nonresidents from Sales Tax Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD DAVIS	OTP-AM	H-179

This bill establishes an annual \$15 snowmobile trail fund sticker that must be purchased for each snowmobile registered in the State by a nonresident and that is voluntary for residents, the proceeds of which are transferred to the Snowmobile Trail Fund of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands for snowmobile trail maintenance and grooming.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-179)

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It exempts the sales of snowmobiles to nonresidents from sales tax.

LD 1102 Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study the Needs, Opportunities and Efficiency Associated with the Production of Salmonid Sport Fish in Maine Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLACK SAVIELLO	ONTP OTP	

This resolve creates the Commission to Study the Needs, Opportunities and Efficiency Associated with the Production of Salmonid Sport Fish in Maine. The commission is required to submit its report and any accompanying legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by January 15, 2016.

LD 1196 An Act To Correct and Clarify Maine's Fish and Wildlife Laws PUBLIC 301

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS SHAW	OTP-AM	S-267

This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing fish and wildlife.

1. It eliminates the disabled hunter, trapper and angler advisory committee and a reference to that committee.
2. It provides that a person must hold a valid archery hunting license to hunt with a hand-held bow and arrow during any open season on a bird or animal and that a person must hold a valid big game archery license or big game hunting license and a valid crossbow hunting license to hunt with a crossbow during any open season on a bird or animal.
3. It enacts in the statutes certain requirements regulating the use of crossbows and eliminates the maximum draw

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

weight for crossbows of 200 pounds.

4. It amends the supervisory requirements for apprentice hunter licenses and apprentice trapper licenses. It specifies that the holder of an apprentice hunter license must hunt in the presence of a person who is 18 years of age or older and who holds a valid adult hunting license and specifies that the holder of an apprentice trapper license must trap in the presence of a person that has held a valid adult trapper license for the prior three years.
5. It specifies that a nonresident junior hunting license includes all permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt at no additional cost.
6. It corrects cross-references to statutory provisions that authorize the taking of wildlife that attack domestic animals, destroy property or cause damage to crops or orchards.
7. It eliminates language imposing a five percent surcharge on agents who fail to pay the amount owed the State for watercraft registration, snowmobile registration and all-terrain vehicle registration.
8. It repeals the provision of current law that prohibits a person from operating an all-terrain vehicle on a private road after being forbidden to do so by the owner or a municipal official.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-267)

This amendment does the following.

1. It creates the Camp North Woods program to provide outdoor learning opportunities to youth and creates the Camp North Woods fund.
2. It prohibits possession of wild animals or wild birds that a person does not possess by lawful means.
3. It stipulates that if a person hunts with a crossbow that does not meet certain requirements, that person commits a Class E crime.
4. It prohibits the exchange of a moose permit for any consideration other than another moose permit.
5. It imposes certain requirements for hunting deer, bear or moose with bow and arrow and firearms and prohibits the use of medicinal, poisonous or stupefying substances as bait.
6. It provides that an ice shack must be removed from a body of water upon the earlier of the date of ice out or three days after the close of ice fishing season.
7. It creates a public records exception for information concerning the location of a threatened or endangered species.
8. It increases the minimum amount of damage to watercraft that requires reporting to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from \$1,000 in current law to \$2,000.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 301 makes the following changes to the laws governing fish and wildlife.

1. It eliminates the disabled hunter, trapper and angler advisory committee and a reference to that committee.
2. It provides that a person must hold a valid archery hunting license to hunt with a hand-held bow and arrow during any open season on a bird or animal and that a person must hold a valid big game archery license or big game hunting license and a valid crossbow hunting license to hunt with a crossbow during any open season on a bird or

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

animal.

3. It enacts in the statutes certain requirements regulating the use of crossbows and eliminates the maximum draw weight for crossbows of 200 pounds.
4. It amends the supervisory requirements for apprentice hunter licenses and apprentice trapper licenses. It specifies that the holder of an apprentice hunter license must hunt in the presence of a person who is 18 years of age or older and who holds a valid adult hunting license and specifies that the holder of an apprentice trapper license must trap in the presence of a person that has held a valid adult trapper license for the prior three years.
5. It specifies that a nonresident junior hunting license includes all permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt at no additional cost.
6. It corrects cross-references to statutory provisions that authorize the taking of wildlife that attack domestic animals, destroy property or cause damage to crops or orchards.
7. It eliminates language imposing a five percent surcharge on agents who fail to pay the amount owed the State for watercraft registration, snowmobile registration and all-terrain vehicle registration.
8. It repeals the provision of current law that prohibits a person from operating an all-terrain vehicle on a private road after being forbidden to do so by the owner or a municipal official.
9. It creates the Camp North Woods program to provide outdoor learning opportunities to youth and creates the Camp North Woods fund.
10. It prohibits possession of wild animals or wild birds that a person does not possess by lawful means.
11. It stipulates that if a person hunts with a crossbow that does not meet certain requirements, that person commits a Class E crime.
12. It prohibits the exchange of a moose permit for any consideration other than another moose permit.
13. It imposes certain requirements for hunting deer, bear or moose with bow and arrow and firearms and prohibits the use of medicinal, poisonous or stupefying substances as bait.
14. It provides that an ice shack must be removed from a body of water upon the earlier of the date of ice out or three days after the close of ice fishing season.
15. It creates a public records exception for information concerning the location of a threatened or endangered species.
16. It increases the minimum amount of damage to watercraft that requires reporting to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from \$1,000 in current law to \$2,000.

LD 1202 Resolve, To Ensure the Stocking of Inland Waters in the State

RESOLVE 53

Sponsor(s)

DAVIS
SHORT

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

S-171

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This resolve allows the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to spend up to \$200,000 from the department's carrying account during the 2016-2017 biennium to purchase fish to stock the inland waters of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-171)

This amendment increases the amount the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may spend from the department's carrying account during fiscal year 2015-16 for fish stocking purposes from \$200,000, as in the resolve, to \$700,000 and authorizes the department to use that money:

1. To contract for an engineering study to upgrade the Grand Lake Stream Fish Hatchery. The study must include an analysis of the feasibility and cost of a new cold water supply to that hatchery to raise fall yearly brook trout;
2. To contract for an engineering study for the construction of a new fish hatchery in the State. The study must include a comparative analysis on whether the State can best achieve its fish stocking objectives through the construction of a new fish hatchery or through upgrades to existing state-owned fish hatcheries; and
3. To use any remaining funds to purchase fish to stock the inland waters of the State.

This amendment also requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report, including any findings and recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by February 1, 2016.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 53 authorizes the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to spend up to \$700,000 from the department's carrying account during the 2016-2017 biennium to purchase fish to stock the inland waters of the State. It also authorizes the department to use that money:

1. To contract for an engineering study to upgrade the Grand Lake Stream Fish Hatchery. The study must include an analysis of the feasibility and cost of a new cold water supply to that hatchery to raise fall yearly brook trout;
2. To contract for an engineering study for the construction of a new fish hatchery in the State. The study must include a comparative analysis on whether the State can best achieve its fish stocking objectives through the construction of a new fish hatchery or through upgrades to existing state-owned fish hatcheries; and
3. To use any remaining funds to purchase fish to stock the inland waters of the State.

Resolve 2015, chapter 53 requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report, including any findings and recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by February 1, 2016.

LD 1225 An Act Concerning Swim Area Permits

PUBLIC 252

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW DAVIS	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-307

This bill provides that a person may not establish or maintain a swim line or a developed swim area unless the length of the developed swim area or of the area delineated by a swim line is equal to or less than 50 percent of the entire length of the shore frontage of the property from which the developed swim area or the area delineated by a swim line extends or 200 feet, whichever is greater. The length of a developed swim area or of an area delineated by a swim line is measured parallel to the shore. The length of the swim line will determine where a line, rope or

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

series of buoys used to delineate an area of surface water for the purpose of swimming may be placed.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-307)

This amendment, which is the majority report, replaces the bill. This amendment modifies the swim area law as follows.

1. It provides that a swim line or developed swim area may not exceed 50 percent of the entire length of the shore frontage of the property from which the developed swim area or the area delineated by a swim line extends or 200 feet, whichever is greater, except that in no event may the developed swim area or the area delineated by a swim line extend beyond the shore frontage of the property. The length of the developed swim area or of an area delineated by a swim line must be measured parallel to the shore.
2. It removes the special penalties for establishing a swim area without a permit. It leaves in place the general civil penalty applicable under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 1806.
3. It removes the permit fee exemptions for governmental entities and recreational camps and requires that all permits expire after five years.
4. It provides that permit fee revenues go into the Boating Facilities Fund and may be used in administering the swim area law.
5. It provides that a permit for a swim line or a developed swim area may be issued only if the swim line or developed swim area is designed solely to provide recreational swimming opportunities for the public. If the director determines, after notice and opportunity for hearing, that a swim line or a developed swim area is being used for purposes other than to provide recreational swimming opportunities for the public, the director may revoke the permit.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-308)

This amendment, which is the minority report, replaces the bill. This amendment modifies the swim area law as follows.

1. It provides that a swim line or developed swim area may not exceed 200 feet. The length of the developed swim area or of an area delineated by a swim line must be measured parallel to the shore.
2. It removes the special penalties for establishing a swim area without a permit. It leaves in place the general civil penalty applicable under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 1806.
3. It removes the permit fee exemptions for governmental entities and recreational camps and requires that all permits expire after five years.
4. It provides that permit fee revenues go into the Boating Facilities Fund and may be used in administering the swim area law.
5. It provides that a permit for a swim line or a developed swim area may be issued only if the swim line or developed swim area is designed solely to provide recreational swimming opportunities for the public. If the director determines, after notice and opportunity for hearing, that a swim line or a developed swim area is being used for purposes other than to provide recreational swimming opportunities for the public, the director may revoke the permit.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 252 amends the swim area law as follows.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

1. It provides that a swim line or developed swim area may not exceed 50 percent of the entire length of the shore frontage of the property from which the developed swim area or the area delineated by a swim line extends or 200 feet, whichever is greater, except that in no event may the developed swim area or the area delineated by a swim line extend beyond the shore frontage of the property. The length of the developed swim area or of an area delineated by a swim line must be measured parallel to the shore.
2. It removes the special penalties for establishing a swim area without a permit. It leaves in place the general civil penalty applicable under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 1806.
3. It removes the permit fee exemptions for governmental entities and recreational camps and requires that all permits expire after five years.
4. It provides that permit fee revenues go into the Boating Facilities Fund and may be used in administering the swim area law.
5. It provides that a permit for a swim line or a developed swim area may be issued only if the swim line or developed swim area is designed solely to provide recreational swimming opportunities for the public. If the director determines, after notice and opportunity for hearing, that a swim line or a developed swim area is being used for purposes other than to provide recreational swimming opportunities for the public, the director may revoke the permit.

LD 1226 An Act To Establish a Comprehensive Hunting License

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

Sponsor(s)

SHAW

Committee Report

ONTP
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

This bill expands the current resident hunting license and nonresident hunting license to encompass and replace all other hunting licenses and hunting permits except the:

1. Junior hunting license;
2. Resident and nonresident apprentice hunting licenses;
3. Antlerless deer and special deer season permits;
4. Moose permit;
5. Pheasant permit;
6. Waterfowl permit;
7. Falconry permit; and
8. Migratory bird permit.

This bill increases the fee for a resident and a nonresident hunting license from \$25 to \$38 and from \$114 to \$143, respectively. This bill also increases the fee on resident and nonresident hunting and fishing combination licenses from \$42 to \$55 and from \$149 to \$178, respectively, to reflect the increase in the hunting license fee.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

It also provides that infant, junior and senior resident archery lifetime hunting licenses purchased prior to January 1, 2016 remain valid and provide the same hunting opportunities as the expanded infant, junior and senior resident lifetime hunting licenses.

This bill maintains the current firearm, bow and arrow and crossbow hunter education requirements.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-431)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, changes the title and replaces the bill. It creates a permit package, which authorizes the holder to hunt with a crossbow or muzzle-loader, and authorizes the holder to hunt bear, wild turkey, pheasant, migratory waterfowl, coyote at night and antlerless deer and deer of either sex during an expanded archery season, if an expanded archery season is adopted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by rule. The amendment sets the fee for the permit package at \$34, except as otherwise provided.

**LD 1232 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Accepted Majority
Amend Its Rules Regarding the Bag Limit on Smelts (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS	ONTP OTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to amend its rules to increase the daily bag limit on smelts from two quarts of live smelts to 72 live smelts.

LD 1239 An Act To Allow Persons To Train and Use Dogs To Hunt Coyotes ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO	ONTP	

This bill allows a person to train and use dogs to hunt coyotes.

**LD 1296 An Act To Repeal Authorization for Smelt Fishing in Mud Brook in PUBLIC 125
Aroostook County EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCELWEE EDGECOMB P	OTP	

Current law provides that, notwithstanding laws to the contrary, a person may fish for smelt by use of a dip net in Mud Brook, a tributary of Long Lake within Township 17, Range 3, Aroostook County. This bill repeals the provision that authorizes smelting in Mud Brook.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 125 repeals the provisions of law that authorize smelting by use of a dip net in Mud Brook, a tributary of Long Lake within Township 17, Range 3, Aroostook County.

Public Law 2015, chapter 125 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 29, 2015.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 1321 An Act To Expand the Landowner Relations Program at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

PUBLIC 277

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ESPLING	OTP-AM ONTP	H-348

This bill amends the landowner relations program within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by adding to the program the requirement that the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife establish an ongoing relationship with various outdoor recreationists and the nonprofit organizations representing these outdoor recreationists, and must provide ongoing education to these groups and individuals about good landowner relations.

The bill gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, instead of the Governor, authority to appoint board members for the Landowners and Sportsmen Relations Advisory Board, and it reduces the size and membership of the board and expands the board's duties to include an annual stakeholder meeting and an annual reporting requirement.

This bill also directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a Keep Maine Clean program to recruit volunteers to pick up trash along roadsides, fields and forests while they are walking, hiking, fishing and otherwise enjoying public and private lands.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-348)

The bill amends the landowner relations program within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by adding to the program the requirement that the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife establish an ongoing relationship with various outdoor user groups. This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, removes that requirement.

The amendment also amends the Keep Maine Clean program established in the bill to remove the requirement that volunteers be recruited to pick up trash along roadways.

The amendment provides that any money received by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the Keep Maine Clean program must be deposited in the Landowner Relations Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 277 gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, instead of the Governor, authority to appoint board members for the Landowners and Sportsmen Relations Advisory Board, and it reduces the size and membership of the board and expands the board's duties to include an annual stakeholder meeting and an annual reporting requirement. It also directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a Keep Maine Clean program to recruit volunteers to pick up trash in fields and forests while they are walking, hiking, fishing and otherwise enjoying public and private lands and further provides that any money received by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the program must be deposited in the Landowner Relations Fund.

LD 1369 An Act To Restructure the Permitting Process for Wildlife and Exotic Species in Captivity

PUBLIC 374

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS	OTP-AM OTP-AM	S-282

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill does the following.

1. It repeals the section of law that provides for an importation permit for wildlife and exotic species and amends the section of law regarding permits for the possession of wildlife in captivity to include importation.
2. It provides for an application fee and amends the permit fees.
3. It provides that the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may grant permits to introduce, import, transport, receive or possess fish or gametes and must maintain a list of unregulated fish and wildlife species that is available to the public.
4. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to amend its rules to maintain an updated inspection provisions for applicants attempting to acquire a permit to possess or introduce, import and possess fish or wildlife in captivity; maintain a fee structure to establish fees for inspection provisions for regulated species; provide a process that allows authorized independent contractors to meet with permit applicants to educate applicants on minimum standard facility requirements and to inspect current facilities to recommend approval or denial of a permit; and to charge a responsible party for the cost incurred to remove or euthanize unpermitted regulated fish or wildlife species.
5. It adds educational purposes to the purposes for which the commissioner may issue permits to hunt, trap, possess, band and transport wild animals and wild birds. Current law provides that such permits may be issued for scientific purposes.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-282)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, does the following.

1. It increases the penalty for keeping wildlife in captivity in violation of law to not less than \$500.
2. It clarifies that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may seize fish or wildlife unlawfully kept in captivity for which a permit is required and may recover costs incurred to remove or euthanize seized wildlife.
3. It provides that the department may charge a \$25 late fee to a person who does not renew a permit to keep wildlife in captivity before the permit expires.
4. It provides that a person may be issued a permit for an additional fee of \$500 to keep wildlife in captivity after the person has already kept that wildlife in captivity.
5. It creates separate application and permit fees for importation and possession of wildlife in captivity. The bill creates one permit and fee schedule for both importation and possession.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-283)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, increases the penalty for keeping wildlife in captivity in violation of law to not less than \$500. This amendment clarifies that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may seize fish or wildlife unlawfully kept in captivity for which a permit is required and may recover costs incurred to remove or euthanize seized wildlife. It provides that the department may charge a \$25 late fee to a person who does not renew a permit to keep wildlife in captivity before the permit expires. It provides that a person may be issued a permit for an additional fee of \$500 to keep wildlife in captivity after the person has already kept that wildlife in captivity. It creates separate application and permit fees for importation and possession of wildlife in captivity; the bill creates one permit and fee schedule for both importation and possession. It provides that the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife must adopt rules limiting the number of animals that may be imported or possessed under a permit before an additional permit is required.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 374 does the following regarding wildlife and exotic species kept in captivity.

1. It repeals the section of law that provides for an importation permit for wildlife and exotic species and amends the section of law regarding permits for the possession of wildlife in captivity to include importation.
2. It clarifies that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may seize fish or wildlife unlawfully kept in captivity for which a permit is required and may recover costs incurred to remove or euthanize seized wildlife.
3. It creates separate application and permit fees for importation and possession of wildlife in captivity.
4. It provides that the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may grant permits to introduce, import, transport, receive or possess fish or gametes and must maintain a list of unregulated fish and wildlife species that is available to the public.
5. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to amend its rules to maintain an updated inspection provisions for applicants attempting to acquire a permit to possess or introduce, import and possess fish or wildlife in captivity; maintain a fee structure to establish fees for inspection provisions for regulated species; provide a process that allows authorized independent contractors to meet with permit applicants to educate applicants on minimum standard facility requirements and to inspect current facilities to recommend approval or denial of a permit; and charge a responsible party for the cost incurred to remove or euthanize unpermitted regulated fish or wildlife species.
6. It adds educational purposes to the purposes for which the commissioner may issue permits to hunt, trap, possess, band and transport wild animals and wild birds. Current law provides that such permits may be issued for scientific purposes.
7. It increases the penalty for keeping wildlife in captivity in violation of law to not less than \$500.
8. It provides that the department may charge a \$25 late fee to a person who does not renew a permit to keep wildlife in captivity before the permit expires.
9. It provides that a person may be issued a permit for an additional fee of \$500 to keep wildlife in captivity after the person has already kept that wildlife in captivity.

LD 1409 An Act To Clarify and Simplify the Licensing and Registration Provisions of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws

PUBLIC 281

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HILLIARD SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	H-435

This bill amends the inland fisheries and wildlife laws as follows.

1. It provides for the use of electronic licenses and permits.
2. It requires ATV registration numbers to be displayed by means of stickers.
3. It provides that, beginning January 1, 2016, a license holder, including a holder of a complimentary license, who hunts during a special season on deer implemented by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to maintain a deer population must be issued one antlerless deer permit and one either-sex permit, which is a new

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

permit title established in the law governing special seasons.

4. It allows holders of junior hunting licenses, after they turn 16 years of age, to hunt pheasants and migratory waterfowl and to hunt with a bow and arrow for the remainder of the calendar year for which their licenses are issued without their having to purchase pheasant permits, migratory waterfowl permits or archery hunting licenses.
5. It removes references to big game licenses, changes references to crossbow and muzzle-loading licenses to crossbow and muzzle-loading permits and clarifies that hunting licenses allow the hunting of all legal species, subject to permit requirements.
6. It amends the license application and testing process for taxidermists to increase the application fee from \$10 to \$50, set the examination fee at \$50, require the examination of all persons who allow their licenses to lapse or who have not held a license within the previous three years, increase the license fee from \$67 to \$77, which is the current renewal fee, and make the license a three-year license.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-435)

This amendment does the following.

1. It removes the requirement in the bill that an antlerless deer permit and either-sex permit be issued to the holder of a complimentary license to hunt, trap or fish.
2. It adds the requirement that the holder of a license under which an antlerless deer permit and either-sex permit are issued must meet the archery hunting license eligibility requirements.
3. It provides that a nonresident junior hunting license includes all authorizations to hunt at no cost in addition to the cost of that license.
4. It alters the issuing schedule for taxidermist licenses to provide for their expiration on December 31st.
5. It makes technical changes to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 281 does the following.

1. It allows the use of electronic licenses and permits.
2. It requires ATV registration numbers to be displayed by means of stickers.
3. It allows holders of junior hunting licenses, after they turn 16 years of age, to hunt pheasants and migratory waterfowl and to hunt with a bow and arrow for the remainder of the calendar year for which their licenses are issued without their having to purchase pheasant permits, migratory waterfowl permits or archery hunting licenses.
4. It removes references to big game licenses, changes references to crossbow and muzzle-loading licenses to crossbow and muzzle-loading permits and clarifies that hunting licenses allow the hunting of all legal species, subject to permit requirements.
5. It amends the license application and testing process for taxidermists to increase the application fee from \$10 to \$50, set the examination fee at \$50, require the examination of all persons who allow their licenses to lapse or who have not held a license within the previous three years, increase the license fee from \$67 to \$77, which is the current renewal fee, and make the license a three-year license.
6. It requires the holder of a license under which an antlerless deer permit and either-sex permit are issued to meet

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

the archery hunting license eligibility requirements.

7. It provides that a nonresident junior hunting license includes all authorizations to hunt at no cost in addition to the cost of that license.

8. It alters the issuing schedule for taxidermist licenses to provide for their expiration on December 31st.

LD 1410 An Act To Strengthen Maine's Fisheries Laws

PUBLIC 298

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS MARTIN R	OTP-AM	S-265

This bill amends and adds definitions in the inland fisheries and wildlife laws. It establishes a reporting requirement for persons licensed to fish for eels, suckers, lampreys or yellow perch. The reported information must be used for scientific purposes and is confidential. It provides for suspension or revocation of a permit for noncompliance with a permit restriction. The bill also repeals a provision of law allowing eel permits to be issued to trappers.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-265)

This amendment clarifies that the holder of an individual permit for harvesting suckers, lampreys or yellow perch may purchase a crew permit that authorizes up to three persons to engage in the permitted activity. The amendment provides that the holder of a smelt or baitfish dealer license may not receive, possess for resale, sell or offer to sell gift baitfish or gift smelts. The amendment also provides that the required report from the holder of a sucker, lamprey or yellow perch permit must be submitted to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by December 31st of each year.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 298 does the following.

1. It removes the bridle shiner, longnose dace and creek chubsucker from the definition of "baitfish" and provides definitions for lamprey eel and sucker.
2. It establishes a reporting requirement for persons licensed to fish for eels, suckers, lampreys or yellow perch and provides that the reported information will be used for scientific purposes and is confidential. The report must be filed with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than December 31st annually.
3. It repeals a provision of law allowing eel permits to be issued to trappers.
4. It clarifies that the holder of an individual permit for harvesting suckers, lampreys or yellow perch may purchase a crew permit that authorizes up to three persons to engage in the permitted activity.
5. It provides that the holder of a smelt or baitfish dealer license may not receive, possess for resale, sell or offer to sell gift baitfish or gift smelts.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 1430 An Act To Allow Hunters Whose Religion Prohibits Wearing Hunter Orange Clothing To Instead Wear Red

Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THIBODEAU	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill allows a hunter whose religion prohibits the wearing of hunter orange to instead wear red. It also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to amend its rules to reflect this exemption.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-244)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, provides that a person may substitute articles of red clothing with a specified excitation purity and luminance factor for articles of hunter orange clothing, as long as the person is hunting on the person's own land.

LD 1442 An Act To Establish a Bag Limit for Brook Trout on Portions of Webster Stream in Piscataquis County

**PUBLIC 234
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>

This bill was reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to joint order, H.P. 953.

This bill provides for a daily bag limit of one brook trout for Webster Stream in Piscataquis County from the Telos Lake dam downstream to Webster Lake that is effective between August 16th and September 30th annually.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 234 provides for a daily bag limit of one brook trout for Webster Stream in Piscataquis County from the Telos Lake dam downstream to Webster Lake that is effective between August 16th and September 30th annually.

Public Law 2015, chapter 234 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 22, 2015.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

SUBJECT INDEX

Bear

Enacted

LD 399	An Act To Establish a Youth Bear Hunting Day	PUBLIC 79 EMERGENCY
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Not Enacted

LD 801	An Act To Ensure Safe and Humane Bear Hunting Practices	ONTP
LD 887	An Act To Prohibit Hunting Bear Using Dogs and Trapping Bear	ONTP

Constitutional Provisions

Not Enacted

LD 703	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Protect the People's Right To Hunt, Fish and Harvest Wildlife	INDEF PP
LD 753	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Establish the Right To Hunt and Fish	INDEF PP

Crossbow

Enacted

LD 275	An Act To Allow the Use of a Crossbow for Recreational Target Practice within 100 Yards of a Building without the Owner's Permission	PUBLIC 71
LD 400	An Act To Continue To Permit Persons 70 Years of Age and Older To Hunt with a Crossbow	PUBLIC 42 EMERGENCY

Deer

Enacted

LD 142	An Act To Expand Deer Hunting Opportunities for Junior Hunters	PUBLIC 219
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Not Enacted

LD 608	An Act To Allow Junior, Senior and Veteran Hunters To Shoot Antlerless Deer on the Opening Day of Hunting Season	ONTP
LD 639	An Act To Allow Certain Youths To Take a Deer of Either Sex	ONTP
LD 755	An Act Concerning Antler Restrictions	ONTP
LD 849	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Examine the Use of an Antler Point Restriction System To Increase the Age, Size and Number of Antlered Deer in Maine	Veto Sustained

LD 926 Resolve, To Increase the Number of Days a Junior Hunter May Hunt Deer ONTP

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Enacted

LD 570 An Act To Authorize the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Postpone or Cancel an Open Hunting Season PUBLIC 57

LD 913 An Act To Expand Public Opportunities for Wildlife Management Education PUBLIC 245

LD 1321 An Act To Expand the Landowner Relations Program at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife PUBLIC 277

Not Enacted

LD 157 An Act To Create an Advisory Committee To Review and Make Recommendations Regarding Hunting and Fishing Laws ONTP

LD 668 An Act To Market Maine's Hunting and Fishing Opportunities CARRIED OVER

LD 959 An Act To Amend the Membership of the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board ONTP

Dogs and Dog Training

Enacted

LD 320 An Act Regarding the Tracking of Wounded Animals with a Leashed Dog PUBLIC 90

Not Enacted

LD 1239 An Act To Allow Persons To Train and Use Dogs To Hunt Coyotes ONTP

Endangered and Threatened Species

Enacted

LD 807 An Act To Amend Maine's Threatened and Endangered Species List PUBLIC 121

Not Enacted

LD 640 Resolve, To Establish a Working Group To Review the Incidental Take Permitting Process under the Endangered Species Laws CARRIED OVER

Firearms

Enacted

LD 942 An Act To Permit the Use of Firearm Noise Suppression Devices in Hunting and To Provide for a Chief Law Enforcement Officer's Certification for Certain Firearms PUBLIC 262

Not Enacted

LD 424 An Act To Allow the Use of Suppressors for Hunting Nuisance Wildlife ONTP

Fish and Fishing

Enacted

LD 1202	Resolve, To Ensure the Stocking of Inland Waters in the State	RESOLVE 53
LD 1296	An Act To Repeal Authorization for Smelt Fishing in Mud Brook in Aroostook County	PUBLIC 125 EMERGENCY
LD 1410	An Act To Strengthen Maine's Fisheries Laws	PUBLIC 298
LD 1442	An Act To Establish a Bag Limit for Brook Trout on Portions of Webster Stream in Piscataquis County	PUBLIC 234 EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 158	Resolve, To Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Modify Fishing Rules for Webster Stream in Piscataquis County	ONTP
LD 257	An Act To Allow a Person To Take a 20-minute Break from Monitoring Ice Fishing Lines	ONTP
LD 610	An Act To Provide That Inland Waters Stocked with Fish by the State May Not Open for Ice Fishing until the Next January 1st	ONTP
LD 773	An Act To Allow Anadromous Fish Passage through Beaver Dams	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 802	An Act To Allow the Breach or Removal of Beaver Dams That Obstruct Passage of Anadromous or Migratory Fish	ONTP
LD 906	Resolve, To Review Maine's Fish Stocking Rules	ONTP
LD 1102	Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study the Needs, Opportunities and Efficiency Associated with the Production of Salmonid Sport Fish in Maine	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1232	Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Amend Its Rules Regarding the Bag Limit on Smelts	Majority (ONTP) Report

Hunting

Not Enacted

LD 242	An Act To Allow Hunters To Wear Hunter Pink Instead of Hunter Orange in October in Recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 291	An Act To Allow the Hunting of Small Game Animals with a Slingshot	ONTP
LD 811	An Act To Benefit Senior Hunters	ONTP
LD 848	An Act To Increase the Safety of Hunting	ONTP
LD 1430	An Act To Allow Hunters Whose Religion Prohibits Wearing Hunter Orange Clothing To Instead Wear Red	Died Between Houses

Lake and River Protection - Invasive Species

Not Enacted

LD 907	An Act To Reduce Milfoil Infestations	ONTP
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Licenses and Permits

Enacted

LD 156	An Act To Eliminate the Minimum Age Requirement for a Junior Hunting License and Increase the Number of Times a Person May Hold an Apprentice Hunter License	PUBLIC 136
LD 256	An Act To Allow Nonresident College Students To Obtain Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Licenses at the Resident Fee and with Resident Privileges	PUBLIC 226
LD 1409	An Act To Clarify and Simplify the Licensing and Registration Provisions of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws	PUBLIC 281

Not Enacted

LD 609	An Act To Provide an Incentive to Nonresident Landowners Who Own More than 250 Acres To Keep That Land Open for Hunting	CARRIED OVER
LD 1226	An Act To Establish a Comprehensive Hunting License	Majority (ONTP) Report

Maine Tribes

Not Enacted

LD 888	An Act To Recognize and Provide for the Right To Hunt for Sustenance in Aroostook County for Maliseet and Micmac Tribal Members and Disabled Veterans	Majority (ONTP) Report
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Moose

Enacted

LD 373	An Act To Allow a Moose Permit To Be Transferred to a Family Member	PUBLIC 95
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Not Enacted

LD 134	Resolve, To Study the Impact of Winter Ticks on the State's Moose Population	Veto Sustained
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Omnibus

Enacted

LD 1196	An Act To Correct and Clarify Maine's Fish and Wildlife Laws	PUBLIC 301
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Snowmobiles and All-terrain Vehicles

Enacted

LD 88	An Act To Authorize Snowmobile Registration Reciprocity with the Provinces of New Brunswick and Quebec	PUBLIC 130
LD 716	An Act To Amend the Fees for Snowmobile Registrations and To Create the Snowmobile Trail Fund Donation Sticker	PUBLIC 237 EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 561	An Act To Recognize the Registrations of Snowmobiles and All-terrain Vehicles Owned by Residents of a State That Borders Maine	ONTP
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LD 723	An Act To Allow Reciprocal Recognition of New Hampshire and Maine Snowmobile Registrations	ONTP
LD 1056	An Act To Exempt the Sale of Snowmobiles to Nonresidents from Sales Tax	Died Between Houses

Sunday Hunting

Not Enacted

LD 296	An Act To Increase Economic Development in Rural Communities by Expanding Hunting Opportunities	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 479	An Act To Allow Hunting on Sunday with the Landowner's Written Consent	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 691	An Act To Allow Sunday Hunting for Coyotes in Northern Maine	Report A (ONTP)
LD 799	An Act To Stimulate the Economy and Invigorate the Hunting Industry by Establishing a Pilot Project To Allow Hunting on Sundays in Limited Areas	Majority (ONTP) Report

Swim Areas

Enacted

LD 1225	An Act Concerning Swim Area Permits	PUBLIC 252
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Not Enacted

LD 126	An Act To Restrict Swim Areas	INDEF PP
LD 480	An Act To Allow Condominium and Homeowners Associations To Establish Swim Areas	Died Between Houses

Watercraft

Enacted

LD 22	An Act Regarding the Removal of Moorings and Floating Docks in Great Ponds During Ice-in Conditions	PUBLIC 105
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Not Enacted

LD 571	Resolve, To Study the Need for a Standard Formula for the Horsepower of Motors Used on the Lakes and Ponds of the State	Majority (ONTP) Report
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Wild Turkey

Enacted

LD 781	An Act To Expand Turkey Hunting Opportunities	PUBLIC 127
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Wildlife in Captivity

Enacted

LD 1369	An Act To Restructure the Permitting Process for Wildlife and Exotic Species in Captivity	PUBLIC 374
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Not Enacted

LD 746	An Act Regarding Captive Amphibian and Reptile Permits	ONTP
LD 833	Resolve, To Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Add Koi to the List of Fish Approved for Aquariums	ONTP