

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND  
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST  
L.D. 189**

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

**Sponsored By:** Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative BRIDGEO of Augusta and Senators: BLACK of Franklin,  
BRAKEY of Androscoggin, HARRINGTON of York.

**DATE OF HEARING: February 6, 2023**

Good afternoon Senator LaFountain, Representative Landry and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Bill Swan, Director of Licensing and Registration for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, speaking on behalf of the Department, neither for nor against **L.D. 189**.

This bill proposes to include the expanded archery either-sex permit in the super pack license issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The bill also increases the super pack license fee by \$32.

Currently, the only hunting permit that is not included in the super pack license is the expanded archery either-sex permit. This proposal would include that permit and thus simplify the super pack license by removing this one exception. In 2022, we had 5,732 customers purchase a super pack license. Of those, only 913 also purchased the expanded archery either-sex permit which is currently not included in the super pack license. Those 913 customers harvested 188 adult male deer. This proposal will be seen only as a fee increase by the majority of super pack license holders and will not be popular with most of them. The Department is not overly concerned with the potential for increased adult male deer harvest as a result of this proposal. Our thought is that most superpack license holders who are interested in harvesting a buck in expanded archery areas are already purchasing the permit.

The Department would like to offer a suggestion for an amendment that might be more palatable for the majority of superpack license holders, which is to include one either-sex permit with the superpack license at no cost. This would have a fiscal impact on the Department of approximately \$29,000 annually.

I would be glad to answer any questions at this time or during the work session.