# **NOTICE OF STATE AGENCY RULEMAKING**

**PUBLIC INPUT FOR RULES** A list of state agency rule proposals is published here each Wednesday. You can get a copy of a proposed rule by contacting the person listed in the notice. You can comment on a proposed rule by submitting a written comment to the agency or by attending the public hearing, if one is scheduled. If no hearing is scheduled, you can request one.  The agency must hold a hearing if it receives 5 or more requests.  If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in a hearing, you should tell the agency at least 7 days before the hearing. **ONLINE INFORMATION** Weekly notices, full text of adopted rules, and a list of agency rulemaking contacts are available at this website: [https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/index.html](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fsos%2Fcec%2Frules%2Findex.html&data=05%7C02%7CJ.Chris.Parr%40maine.gov%7C645b27059f0346864d7008dc94834bf0%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638548538834447354%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=K93i9Iukz%2F4M1hnG1XnmVSNiEpRD2zB99vb6RheIZ8A%3D&reserved=0)

**PROPOSALS**

**AGENCY: 29-255 Department of the Secretary of State, Maine State Archives**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 1, State and Local Government Agency Records Programs**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P104**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** Statutory authority for this Rule is 5 MRSA, Chapter 6, §95-C. This chapter prescribes policies, standards, and procedures for the economical and efficient management of State records. We will add a statement requiring state agencies to get approval from the Maine State Archives before purchasing a new document management system to ensure proper document management capability.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: None

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** August 23, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:** Tammy Marks, 230 State Street, 84 SHS, Augusta, Maine 04330, 207-287-5799, 207-287-5517, tammy.marks@maine.gov

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*:

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*:

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 5 MRSA, Chapter 6, §95-C

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*:

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <https://www.maine.gov/sos/archives>

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** tammy.marks@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 01-672 Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, Maine Land Use Planning Commission**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE:** **Ch. 1, Fee Schedule**

**TYPE OF RULE *(check one)*: Major Substantive**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P105**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The Land Use Planning Commission’s current fee schedule works well for complex and multi-faceted projects, but has adversely impacted the time needed to process residential development permits. The Commission is proposing to revise its fee schedule to simplify the application fee structure for residential development. Proposed revisions also include clerical edits.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: August 13, 2025 at 1:00 PM at Jeff’s Catering, 15 Littlefield Road, Brewer, Maine. The hearing will be conducted in hybrid format. Oral public comment on the proposed revisions will be accepted in-person or using the Microsoft Teams meeting platform. Information on how to access and participate in the hearing remotely will be posted at least seven days in advance of the hearing on the Commission’s rulemaking webpage.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:**

Written comments must be submitted on or prior to September 2, 2025;
Written rebuttal comments must be submitted on or prior to September 16, 2025.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:** Name: Tim Beaucage, Mailing Address: 22 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333; Email: timothy.beaucage@maine.gov; Telephone: 207-931-6974; Fax: 207-287-7439; TTY: 711

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*: NA

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: None

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 1 M.R.S. §408-A; 12 M.R.S. §§ 684, 685-B(2), 685-C(3)

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*: NA

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [www.maine.gov/DACF/lupc/laws\_rules/index.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/DACF/lupc/laws_rules/index.shtml)

**E-MAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULE-MAKING LIAISON:** Timothy.Beaucage@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 22, Rules Pertaining to Department Publication**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P106**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is proposing to repeal Chapter 22 rules. The Chapter is now obsolete as the Department’s magazine has been out of publication since Spring of 2008. Please contact the agency contact person for a complete copy of the rule proposal.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: none scheduled.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** August 22, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:** Becky Orff, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 353 Water Street 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333; phone: 207-287-5202; fax: 207-287-6395; e-mail: Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*:

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: No fiscal impact.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 12 MRS 10104

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*:

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [www.maine.gov/ifw](http://www.maine.gov/ifw)

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 94-411 Maine Public Employees Retirement System**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 510, Reduction of Disability Retirement Benefits Because of Lump-Sum Settlements or Benefits Payable Under the Workers’ Compensation or Similar Law**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P107**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The proposed amended rules eliminates reference to the offset of disability retirement benefits for Social Security benefits received by a member for the same condition.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*: August 14, 2025 11:30 AM

Maine Public Employees Retirement System

139 Capitol Street

Augusta, ME 04332

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** August 25, 2025

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

Bill Brown, Director of Actuarial and Legislative Affairs

Maine Public Employees Retirement System

P.O. Box 349

Augusta, ME 04332

1-800-451-9800 or (207) 512-3100

bill.brown@mainepers.org

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*:

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*:

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 3 M.R.S.A. §853; 4 M.R.S.A. §1353(6); 5 M.R.S.A. §§ 17930(4) and 18530(4)

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*:

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** [www.mainepers.org](http://www.mainepers.org)

**EMAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULEMAKING LIAISON:** bill.brown@mainepers.org

**AGENCY: 13-188 Department of Marine Resources**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 26, Sea Urchins (2025-2026 Season)**

**TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical**

**PROPOSAL FILING NUMBER: 2025-P108**

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** This regulation would establish open harvest days and tote limits for the taking of sea urchins by divers, rakers, trappers, and draggers in Zones 1 and 2 for the 2025-2026 season. For Zone 1, seasons are proposed for divers, trappers, rakers and draggers in 2025-2026, from which harvesters may only fish up to 15 days of their choosing, the same number of days allowed during the 2024-2025 season. For Zone 1, the daily tote limit is nine (9). For Zone 2, 40-day seasons are proposed for divers, trappers, rakers and draggers in 2025-2026, from which harvesters may only fish up to 30 days of their choosing. This proposal has the same number of fishing days and opportunity days as the 2024-2025 season. For the Whiting & Dennys Bays Limited Access Area in Zone 2, a 12-day season is proposed for Zone 2 divers, trappers, rakers and draggers in 2025-2026. For Zone 2, the daily tote limit is six (6).

Due to the incorporation of the Flex Harvest option in the previous fishing season, a correction to the electronic reporting section for the upcoming 2025-2026 season is proposed. The use of the swipe card no longer equates to a fishing day, therefore a portion of the language in Chapter 26.5 is being struck.

**PUBLIC HEARING** *(if any)*:

* August 13, 2025, 5:00 p.m., DMR HQ, room 118 Marquardt Building (32 Blossom Lane, Augusta ME), with an option to participate remotely via Microsoft Teams. For information on how to join the hearing, please visit: [www.maine.gov/dmr](http://www.maine.gov/dmr). Instructions will be posted on DMR’s homepage under meetings and events.

**COMMENT DEADLINE:** August 25, 2025.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING:**

NAME: Deirdre Gilbert

MAILING ADDRESS: 21 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0021

E-MAIL: dmr.rulemaking@maine.gov

TELEPHONE: 207-592-9311

FAX: 207-624-6024

TTY: 207-624-6500 (Deaf/Hard of Hearing)

Hearing facilities: If you require accommodations due to disability, please contact Meredith Mendelson at 207-624-6553.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT** *(if different)*: Same

**FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES** *(if any)*: None

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE:** 12 MRS §6749

**SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED** *(if different)*: Same

**AGENCY WEBSITE:** <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/rulemaking/>

**E-MAIL FOR OVERALL AGENCY RULE-MAKING LIAISON:** dmr.rulemaking@maine.gov

**ADOPTIONS**

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 17, Trapping (Furbearers and Trapping)**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER 2025-145**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has made changes to Chapter 17 rules to adjust the time limits to register furbearer pelts by trappers, clarify the requirements for exclusion devices, and adjust the areas open or closed to beaver trapping. Please contact the agency contact person for a complete copy of the rules.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Becky Orff

AGENCY NAME: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

ADDRESS: 353 Water St, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-287-5202

EMAIL: Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 16, Hunting (Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP))**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-146**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has adopted a rule to create a deer management assistance program (DMAP) to improve ability to serve some landowners that have deer conflicts. Part of this program will be providing landowners with additional deer removal options where deer are damaging market trees and crops, and this additional removal will come by way of DMAP permits allowing for the removal of additional antlerless deer from impacted properties. Please contact the agency contact person for a complete copy of the rule.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Becky Orff

AGENCY NAME: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

ADDRESS: 353 Water St, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-287-5202

EMAIL: Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 16, Hunting (Chapter 16.10 – Wild Turkey Hunting)**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-147**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has amended Chapter 16 rules to open WMD 3 to fall turkey hunting with a one turkey (can be either sex) season limit. Please contact the agency contact person for a complete copy of the rule.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Becky Orff

AGENCY NAME: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

ADDRESS: 353 Water St, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-287-5202

EMAIL: Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 20, Taxidermy License**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-148**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has amended Chapter 20 rules to separate the current “Mammals and Heads” classification into their own classifications. Separate mammal and head classifications will allow applicants to choose one or both classifications for testing, which may help with the quality of the specimen produced during the exam process. Please contact the agency contact person for a complete copy of the rule.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**: **Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Becky Orff

AGENCY NAME: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

ADDRESS: 353 Water St, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-287-5202

EMAIL: Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 16,** **Hunting (Antlerless Deer Permit allocations)**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER : 2025-149**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IFW) has adopted antlerless deer permit (ADP) numbers for the 2025 deer hunting seasons and special muzzle-loading season by setting specific permit allocations by Wildlife Management District (WMD) or deer management subunit. New for the 2025 season, the Department is designating six WMDs (WMD 21-25 and 29) as open to either-sex hunting with a hunting license. Continuing for the 2025 season, all WMDs are designated as open to the harvest of antlerless deer without a permit during the youth and regular archery seasons. Antlerless deer permit numbers are adjusted by IFW on an annual basis by department biologists who consider deer harvest levels, biological metrics and indices, and estimates of winter severity when evaluating the status of the deer population within each wildlife management district (WMD). A complete copy of the rule may be obtained from the agency contact person.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Becky Orff

AGENCY NAME: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

ADDRESS: 353 Water St, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-287-5202

EMAIL: Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 27, Animal Damage Control Agent Certificate**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-150**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The MDIFW has amended Chapter 27 rules to provide clarity in the eligibility and standards to operate as an Animal Damage Control (ADC) agent. Changes will allow the Department to address factors such as geographic location, unique services, and changing levels of human-wildlife conflict in the assessment of certification of prospective ADC agents. Addressing these Departmental program needs will help meet the increased demand for services on Departmental staff and ADC agents that deal with nuisance wildlife issues and provide consistent, safe, and reliable services to Maine’s citizens resolving human-wildlife conflicts. ADC agents certified as of July 1, 2025, may continue to perform ADC services and upon recertification is exempt from the examination requirements but must still meet the background and training requirements for that recertification and any future recertification.

Please contact the agency contact person for a complete copy of the rule.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Becky Orff

AGENCY NAME: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

ADDRESS: 353 Water St, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-287-5202

EMAIL: Becky.Orff@maine.gov

**AGENCY: 09-137 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Ch. 14, Commercial Whitewater Rafting**

**ADOPTION FILING NUMBER: 2025-151**

**CONCISE SUMMARY:**

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has amended Chapter 14 rules Commercial Whitewater Rafting as follows: Changed the whitewater guide total training run requirement for a Level One Whitewater Guide from 20 to 15 total training runs; changed the whitewater guide written exam waiting period for an applicant that is unsuccessful in passing the written exam from 30 days to 14 days; and, clarified the language that requires a whitewater guide to carry on their person a knife. The changes will assist outfitters in the quality of training runs and increase safety for rafters. Please contact the agency contact person for a complete copy of the rule.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSON:** Becky Orff

AGENCY NAME: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

ADDRESS: 353 Water St, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

TELEPHONE: 207-287-5202

EMAIL: Becky.Orff@maine.gov