

STATE OF MAINE  
132<sup>ND</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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

May 2026

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# *Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

## **SUBJECT INDEX**

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

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 276	An Act Related to All-terrain Vehicle Registration	PUBLIC 679
	LD 350	Resolve, Directing the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board to Consider Issues Related to All-terrain Vehicles in the State	RESOLVE 173
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 19	An Act Related to Oversized All-terrain Vehicles	Died On Adjournment

### **Boating**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2023	Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Identify Ways to Manage Moorings on Inland Waters	RESOLVE 153
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### **Constitutional Provisions**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 820	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish the Right to Hunt and Fish	Died On Adjournment
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### **Deer Hunting**

<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 441	An Act to Allow the Investment of Money Deposited with the Treasurer of State for the Maine Deer Management Fund	Died On Adjournment
	LD 2217	An Act Related to the Electronic Tagging of Deer	Died Between Houses

### **Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2236	An Act Regarding Public Records Maintained by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	PUBLIC 692
	LD 2240	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 10: Significant Wildlife Habitat, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	RESOLVE 161
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 76	An Act to Allow Use of the Fish Hatchery Maintenance Fund to Compensate Hatchery Staff When Certain Operational Needs Require Overtime	ONTP

### **Fish; Fishing**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 1343	An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Fish and Wildlife	PUBLIC 642
<b>Not Enacted</b>	LD 76	An Act to Allow Use of the Fish Hatchery Maintenance Fund to Compensate Hatchery Staff When Certain Operational Needs Require Overtime	ONTP

### **Hunting**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 1343	An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Fish and Wildlife	PUBLIC 642
	LD 2055	An Act to Amend or Correct Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws	PUBLIC 563

### **IFW - Other**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 276	An Act Related to All-terrain Vehicle Registration	PUBLIC 679
	LD 350	Resolve, Directing the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board to Consider Issues Related to All-terrain Vehicles in the State	RESOLVE 173
	LD 2215	An Act Relating to Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures	PUBLIC 566

### **Landowner Relations**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 350	Resolve, Directing the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board to Consider Issues Related to All-terrain Vehicles in the State	RESOLVE 173
	LD 2221	An Act to Amend the Composition of the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board	PUBLIC 620

### **Licenses and Permits**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2054	An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Moose Hunting Permits for Hunting Outfitters	PUBLIC 727
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### **Moose Hunting**

<b>Enacted</b>	LD 2054	An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Moose Hunting Permits for Hunting Outfitters	PUBLIC 727
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**Trapping**

**Enacted**

LD 1343 An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Fish and Wildlife

PUBLIC 642

DIGEST OF BILLS  
132ND LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 2026

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

Committee	LD	Title	Sponsor	Committee Vote	Disposition	Law	Ch #	Analyst Note
IFW	19	An Act Related to Oversized All-terrain Vehicles	Moore, Marianne	OTP-AM/OTP-AM/OTP-AM	Died On Adjournment			
IFW	76	An Act to Allow Use of the Fish Hatchery Maintenance Fund to Compensate Hatchery Staff When Certain Operational Needs Require Overtime	Thorne, Jim	ONTP	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
IFW	276	An Act Related to All-terrain Vehicle Registration	Roberts, Tiffany	OTP-AM/ONTP	Enacted	PL	679	
IFW	350	Resolve, Directing the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board to Consider Issues Related to All-terrain Vehicles in the State	Baldacci, Joseph	OTP-AM/ONTP	Finally Passed	Resolve	173	
IFW	441	An Act to Allow the Investment of Money Deposited with the Treasurer of State for the Maine Deer Management Fund	Roberts, Tiffany	OTP-AM	Died On Adjournment			
IFW	820	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish the Right to Hunt and Fish	Caruso, Elizabeth	OTP-AM/ONTP	Died On Adjournment			
IFW	1343	An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Fish and Wildlife	Hickman, Craig	OTP-AM/ONTP	Enacted	PL	642	
IFW	2023	Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Identify Ways to Manage Moorings on Inland Waters	Dill, Jim	OTP-AM	Finally Passed	Resolve	153	
IFW	2054	An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Moose Hunting Permits for Hunting Outfitters	Mason, Rick	OTP-AM/ONTP	Enacted	PL	727	
IFW	2055	An Act to Amend or Correct Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws	Roberts, Tiffany	OTP-AM	Enacted	PL	563	
IFW	2215	An Act Relating to Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures		OTP	Enacted	PL	566	
IFW	2217	An Act Related to the Electronic Tagging of Deer		OTP-AM/ONTP	Died Between Houses			
IFW	2221	An Act to Amend the Composition of the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board		OTP-AM	Enacted	PL	620	
IFW	2236	An Act Regarding Public Records Maintained by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife		OTP-AM/ONTP	Enacted	PL	692	
IFW	2240	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 10: Significant Wildlife Habitat, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife		OTP/ONTP	Finally Passed	Resolve	161	

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**LD 276 An Act Related to All-terrain Vehicle Registration**

Public Law 2025, chapter 679 amends provisions of law related to the processes for all-terrain vehicle sales and registrations as follows.

1. It requires all-terrain vehicle dealers to supply all-terrain vehicle purchasers with a form with a check box indicating whether the all-terrain vehicle is oversized or not.
2. It directs all-terrain vehicle dealers to provide a copy of the signed form to the purchaser of the all-terrain vehicle and to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.
3. It establishes that an all-terrain vehicle owner must supply a copy of the signed form in order to register an all-terrain vehicle.

**LD 350 Resolve, Directing the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board to Consider Issues Related to All-terrain Vehicles in the State**

Resolve 2025, chapter 173 directs the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board to consider issues related to all-terrain vehicle weights, sizes and classifications and to report its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by February 1, 2027. The committee is authorized to report out a bill based on the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

**LD 1343 An Act to Protect the Right to Harvest Fish and Wildlife**

Public Law 2025, chapter 642 establishes that, pursuant to the right to food as declared in the Constitution of Maine, Article I, Section 25, the people of Maine have a right to harvest fish and wildlife by hunting, fishing or trapping for their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health or well-being, subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations.

**LD 2023 Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Identify Ways to Manage Moorings on Inland Waters**

Resolve 2025, chapter 153 directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a working group focused on identifying issues and solutions related to moorings on inland waters. The commissioner is directed to report the findings and conclusions of the working group, including any recommended legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by November 4, 2026. The committee is authorized to submit a bill related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

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**LD 2054 An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Moose Hunting Permits for Hunting Outfitters**

Public Law 2025, chapter 727 amends the process by which moose hunting lodge permits are allocated and directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to make changes to the moose hunting lodge permit public chance drawing system to allow applicants to indicate a preference on the permit application for moose hunting season and wildlife management district to reduce the need for permit swaps.

**LD 2055 An Act to Amend or Correct Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws**

Public Law 2025, chapter 563 makes the following changes to certain inland fisheries and wildlife laws.

1. It clarifies that a veteran transferee of a moose permit is subject to the 3-year ineligibility period to obtain another permit.
2. It reorganizes the statutes governing the use of lead jigs and lead sinkers and prohibits the use of certain lead jigs beginning September 1, 2026.
3. It replaces the term “fish eggs” and “fish spawn” with “gametes” in certain provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12 to clarify that the provisions apply to fish eggs and fish milt.

**LD 2215 An Act Relating to Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures**

Public Law 2025, chapter 566 makes the following changes to the laws governing nonwater-dependent floating structures.

1. It replaces the term “internal waters” with the term “waters of this State,” which is defined as all internal waters and all federal waters within the jurisdiction of the State.
2. It replaces the term “coastal waters” with the term “territorial waters.”
3. It provides that, for the owner of a homemade watercraft that is a houseboat or that is a nonwater-dependent floating structure capable of being used as a means of transportation on water to obtain a certificate of number from the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the homemade watercraft must meet all applicable operating visibility standards related to the field of vision from the helm position as recommended by the American Boat and Yacht Council or its successor organization.

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**LD 2221 An Act to Amend the Composition of the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board**

Public Law 2025, chapter 620 amends the composition of the Landowners and Land Users Relations Advisory Board as follows.

1. It increases the number of outdoor recreationists on the board and adds specificity regarding the requisite experience of those members.
2. It adds to the board a representative of an organization managing recreational access to the North Maine Woods.
3. It adds five nonvoting members to the board: two representatives of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Warden Service; one representative of the Department of Economic and Community Development; and two representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

**LD 2236 An Act Regarding Public Records Maintained by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

Public Law 2025, chapter 692 repeals a provision in law that allows an applicant for a hunting or fishing license to indicate that the applicant's e-mail address is confidential and that requires that information be held confidential by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It also enacts a new section of law related to records held by the department and databases the department contributes to related to department licenses, permits, registrations and applications, which includes the following provisions.

1. It defines “data,” “commercial record,” “noncommercial record” and “personally identifiable information” within a noncommercial record and within a commercial record and provides that personally identifiable information made confidential must remain confidential until the records have been in existence for 100 years.
2. It authorizes the disclosure of confidential personally identifiable information for law enforcement purposes in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 16, section 805-A, for fish and wildlife management purposes, to other state and federal government entities and to the person who is the subject of the record or that person's agent.
3. It provides that data contained in a records database, whether individual or multiple records, maintained, administered or contributed to by the department that is considered confidential may not be publicly disseminated except as authorized by statute.
4. It authorizes the department to publicly disseminate nonpersonally identifiable data that is contained in a records database and may provide copies of individual records and whole or partial databases of records to individuals, businesses and other entities.

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5. It provides that the department may charge reasonable fees for both individual record requests and database requests at the expense of the person making the request. The cost of furnishing a copy of the record is not subject to the limitations of Title 1, section 408-A.

Public Law 2025, chapter 692 also establishes confidentiality provisions for all-terrain vehicle and snowmobile accident reporting system data that mirror the Department of Public Safety's provisions for motor vehicle crash report data that is held in the Maine Crash Reporting Online Search and Ordering Service. These provisions allow any nonpersonally identifiable all-terrain vehicle and snowmobile accident report data to be released to the public, and the cost to process these data requests and release the records is not subject to the limitations within Title 1, section 408-A. These provisions also create definitions for “data,” “nonpersonally identifiable accident report data” and “personally identifiable accident report data.”

Public Law 2025, chapter 692 also provides that all-terrain vehicle and snowmobile accident reports or statements contained within those records have specific uses for law enforcement purposes and authorizes the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to disseminate individual records or information within these records databases in accordance with this law. All-terrain vehicle and snowmobile registration numbers may be released only under certain conditions and failure to comply with reporting obligations related to all-terrain vehicle and snowmobile accidents is a Class E crime.

**LD 2240 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 10: Significant Wildlife Habitat, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

Public Law 2025, chapter 161 authorizes final adoption of Chapter 10: Significant Wildlife Habitat, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

**132nd LEGISLATURE  
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**Summary of Committee Actions**

<b>I. BILLS AND PAPERS CONSIDERED</b>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Comm Activity</u>	<u>% of All Bills/Papers</u>
<b>A. Bills referred to Committee</b>			
<i>Bills referred and reported out</i>	7	53.8%	1.0%
<i><u>Bills carried over from previous session</u></i>	<u>5</u> *	<u>38.5%</u>	<u>0.7%</u>
<b>Total Bills referred</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>92.3%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
<b>B. Bills reported out by law or joint order and not referred back to committee</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Total Bills considered by Committee</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
<b>Orders and Resolutions referred to Committee</b>			
<i>Joint Study Orders referred and reported out</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Joint Resolutions/Orders referred and reported out</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Joint Resolutions/Orders carried over from previous session</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
<b>Total Orders and Resolutions Referred</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
		<b>% of this Committee's Reports</b>	<b>% of All Committee Reports</b>
<b>II. COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	<u>Number</u>		
<b>A. Unanimous committee reports</b>			
<i>Ought to Pass</i>	1	7.7%	0.2%
<i>Ought to Pass as Amended</i>	3	23.1%	0.7%
<i>Leave to Withdraw</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i><u>Ought Not to Pass</u></i>	<u>1</u>	<u>7.7%</u>	<u>0.2%</u>
<b>Total unanimous reports</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>38.5%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>B. Divided committee reports</b>			
<i>Two-way reports</i>	7	53.8%	1.6%
<i>Three-way reports</i>	1	7.7%	0.2%
<i><u>Four-way reports</u></i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
<b>Total divided reports</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>61.5%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
<b>Total committee reports</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
<b>III. CONFIRMATION HEARINGS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
		<b>% of Comm Bills/Papers</b>	<b>% of All Bills/Papers</b>
<b>IV. FINAL DISPOSITION</b>	<u>Number</u>		
<b>A. Bills and Papers enacted or finally passed</b>			
<i>Joint Study Orders</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Public laws</i>	7	53.8%	1.0%
<i>Private and Special Laws</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Resolves</i>	3	23.1%	0.4%
<i><u>Constitutional Resolutions</u></i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
<b>Total Enacted or Finally Passed</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>76.9%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>B. Resolves to authorize major substantive rules</b>			
<i>Rules authorized without legislative changes</i>	1	100.0%	11.1%
<i>Rules authorized with legislative changes</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i><u>Rules not authorized by the Legislature</u></i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
<b>Total number of rules reviewed</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>11.1%</b>
<b>C. Bills vetoed or held by Governor</b>			
<i>Vetoed over-ridden</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Vetoed sustained</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i><u>Held by the Governor</u></i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

\* The total number of bills carried over from the previous session does not include LD 1054, which was carried over in the IFW Committee at the end of the 132nd First Special Session and then referred to the ACF Committee during the Second Regular Session.