

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 249

H. P. 192

House of Representatives, January 20, 1971

Referred to Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Parks of Presque Isle.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Establishing an Open Season on Moose.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

R. S., T. 12, § 2355-D, additional. Title 12 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 2355-D to read as follows:

§ 2355-D. Moose; open season

There shall be a controlled open season on moose within the hunting zones described for 2 successive years.

Dates for the controlled open season on moose shall be as follows:

The first 5 legal deer hunting days, beginning December 1st for the years 1972 and 1973.

There shall be 7 moose hunting districts which are described as follows:

District 1. Starting at the intersection of the Canadian Pacific Railroad and the Maine-Canadian border at Vanceboro, Washington County; thence southerly along the border to the Atlantic Ocean; thence westerly along the coast to the Narraguagus River; thence northerly along the Narraguagus River to Barrel Brook; thence up Barrel Brook to the Dead River Road, so-called; thence along the Dead River Road to Coombs Brook; thence along Coombs Brook to Nicatous Lake; thence along the easterly shore of Nicatous Lake and Nicatous Stream to the Passadumkeag River; thence along the Passadumkeag River to Saponac Pond; thence along Saponac Pond and the Passadumkeag River to its junction with the Penobscot River; thence northerly along the river to the Canadian Pacific Rail-

road in Mattawamkeag, Penobscot County; thence easterly along the Canadian Pacific Railroad to the Maine-Canadian border at Vanceboro.

District 2. Starting at the intersection of the Canadian Pacific Railroad and the Maine-Canadian border at Vanceboro, Washington County; thence northerly and westerly along the border to where the Fish River empties into the St. John River at Fort Kent; thence southerly along the Fish River to the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad in Fort Kent; thence southerly along the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad to Interstate 95 at Oakfield, Aroostook County; thence south along Interstate 95 to the Canadian Pacific Railroad, Township 2, Range 8, Penobscot County; thence easterly along the Canadian Pacific Railroad to the Maine-Canadian border at Vanceboro.

District 3. Starting at the intersection of the Canadian Pacific Railroad and Interstate 95 in Township 2, Range 8, Penobscot County; thence north along Interstate 95 to where it crosses the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad at Oakfield, Aroostook County; thence north along the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad to where it crosses Route 11 in Ashland, Aroostook County; thence west along Route 11 to the Garfield Road; thence along the Garfield Road to the American Reality Road so-called; thence west along the American Reality Road passing north of Big Machias Lake and Pratt Lake and continuing west between Third Lake Musquacook and Second Lake Musquacook to the thoroughfare between Long Lake and Umsaskis Lake; thence south along the Allagash Waterway to Telos Lake; thence southeasterly along the Great Northern Paper Company Road to the western boundary of Baxter State Park; thence south along the west boundary of the Park and east along the south boundary to the Appalachian Trail; thence southerly along the Appalachian Trail to the Canadian Pacific Railroad; thence easterly along the Canadian Pacific Railroad to Interstate 95.

District 4. Beginning at the junction of Fish River and the St. John River at Fort Kent, Aroostook County; thence westerly along the St. John River to the Allagash River; thence southerly along the Allagash Waterway to where the American Reality Road, so-called crosses the thoroughfare between Long Lake and Umsaskis Lake; thence easterly along the American Reality Road which passes between Second Lake Musquacook and Third Lake Musquacook and continues along north of Pratt Lake and Big Machias Lake to the Garfield Road; thence northerly along the Garfield Road to Route 11; thence easterly along Route 11 to the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad, in Ashland; thence northerly along the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad to where it crosses Fish River in Fort Kent, Aroostook County; thence northerly along Fish River to the St. John River.

District 5. Beginning at the intersection of the Maine-Canadian Border and the American Reality Road, so-called, Township 11, Range 17, Aroostook County; thence easterly along the American Reality Road passing north and east of Clayton Lake and continuing east to the bridge that crosses the thoroughfare between Umsaskis Lake and Long Lake; thence north along the Allagash Waterway to the St. John River; thence northeasterly along the St. John River to the Maine-Canadian border; thence

northwesterly and southwesterly following the Maine-Canadian border to the American Reality Road.

District 6. Beginning at the intersection of the Canadian Pacific Railroad and the Maine-Canadian border in Township 2, Range 8, Franklin County; thence north along the border to the American Reality Road that crosses the border in Township 11, Range 17, Aroostook County; thence easterly along the American Reality Road, passing to the north and east of Clayton Lake and continuing to the thoroughfare between Long Lake and Umsaskis Lake; thence southerly along the Allagash Waterway to Telos Lake; thence southeasterly along the Great Northern Paper Company Road to the western boundary of Baxter State Park; thence southerly along the western border and easterly along the southern border of Baxter State Park to the Appalachian Trail; thence southerly along the Appalachian Trail to the Canadian Pacific Railroad; thence westerly along the Canadian Pacific Railroad to the Maine-Canadian border.

District 7. Beginning at the intersection of the Canadian Pacific Railroad and the Maine-Canadian border in Township 2, Range 8, Franklin County; thence easterly along the Canadian Pacific Railroad to the Appalachian Trail; thence south along the Appalachian Trail to Route 27, thence northwesterly along Route 27 to the Maine-Canadian border; thence northeasterly along the border to the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game is authorized to issue not more than 750 resident moose hunting permits for the 1972 season. Such permits shall be issued at a fee of \$55 each. Permittees will be chosen by chance drawing if there are more than 750 applicants. The number of resident permits to be issued for the 1973 season shall not exceed 750. A regular hunting license in addition to a moose permit shall be required to hunt moose. The Commission of Inland Fisheries and Game may determine the appropriate number of permits to be issued for each moose hunting district. To be eligible for the official drawing, at which time such permits shall be drawn, it will be necessary for applicants to file a written application to be furnished by the commissioner prior to July 1st of each proposed season.

The bag limit shall be one moose of either sex per licensed hunter.

The commissioner is authorized to issue applications for moose hunting licenses, issue licenses and make all rules and regulations pertaining thereto. The commissioner is authorized to designate the type of weapons which will be lawful, and make all other rules and regulations which he may deem necessary for the protection of the moose resource.

It shall be unlawful during the open season on moose to hunt any wild bird or animal.

If, during any open season on moose, it shall be the opinion of the commissioner that more moose are being killed in any one of the 7 districts indicated that is in the best interests of conserving said species, he shall have the authority to terminate such season at once.

All moose taken legally must be presented for examination at one of a number of departmental checking stations which shall be established for the purpose of registering and tagging the harvested animals and collecting biological and hunter data. The registration fee shall be \$25. These stations shall ensure that information is collected on which future management decisions can be made with respect to the moose resource.

No employee of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Game shall be eligible to obtain a moose hunting license during the experimental period.

No person who receives a moose hunting license during the 1972 season is eligible to apply for a 2nd moose hunting license the following year.

Any moose legally taken under this section shall not be in violation of section 2467.

STATEMENT OF FACT

There is an increasing moose population in the State estimated to be about 15,000 with the majority of that population in the northern part of the State.

A potential harvest for moose based on mortality data is in the interest of conservation.

This legislation would provide much needed biological data to determine the influence on moose population and productivity.