

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1179

S. P. 389

In Senate, March 3, 1971

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Shute of Franklin.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Relating to Open Season on Deer in Management Units.**

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 12, § 2353, amended. The first 6 paragraphs of section 2353 of Title 12 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced, are repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

For the purpose of regulating open seasons on deer, the State shall be divided into the following 8 management units:

Unit 1. Beginning at Interstate 95 on the boundary between Maine and Canada at Houlton, Aroostook County; thence westerly along Interstate 95 to its junction with the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad in the Town of Oakfield, Aroostook County; thence northerly along said railroad tracks until they cross the Fish River in Fort Kent, Aroostook County; thence along the Fish River where it empties into the St. John River at the Canadian border; thence easterly and southerly along the Canadian border to Interstate 95 at Houlton.

Unit 2. Beginning at the intersection of the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad and Interstate 95 at Oakfield, Aroostook County; thence southerly along said Interstate 95 to its intersection with the Canadian Pacific Railroad at T2R8, Penobscot County; thence westerly along the C. P. R. tracks to where they cross the Appalachian Trail in Elliottsville Plt., Piscataquis County; thence westerly along the Appalachian Trail to its junction with the Kennebec River in Caratunk Plt., Somerset County; thence northeasterly along the Kennebec River to Indian Pond; thence through the East Outlet, so called, to Moosehead Lake; thence northerly along the west shore of Moosehead Lake to Seboomook; thence along the road from Seboomook to Seboomook

Dam at the easterly end of Seboomook Lake; thence westerly along the south shore of Seboomook Lake to the South Branch of the Penobscot River through Canada Falls Lake to its junction with Route 201 and Route 6 in Sandy Bay, Somerset County; thence northwesterly along Routes 201 and 6 to the Canadian border; thence northeasterly, easterly, southerly and easterly again along the Canadian border to the junction of the St. John and Fish Rivers at Fort Kent, Aroostook County; thence southerly along the Fish River to its junction with the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad in Fort Kent; thence southerly along the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad to its junction with Interstate 95 in Oakfield, Aroostook County.

Unit 3. Beginning at the junction of the Appalachian Trail and the Kennebec River in Caratunk Plt., Somerset County; thence southwestly along the Appalachian Trail to where it crosses the Maine-New Hampshire border; thence north along said border to where it reaches the Canadian border; thence northeasterly along the Maine-Canadian border to Routes 201 and 6 at Sandy Bay, Somerset County; thence southeasterly along Routes 201 and 6 to their junction with the South Branch of the Penobscot River; thence easterly along the South Branch of the Penobscot River through Canada Falls Lake to Seboomook Lake; thence easterly along the south shore of Seboomook Lake to Seboomook Dam at the easterly end of the lake; thence along the road from Seboomook Dam to Seboomook on Moosehead Lake, thence southerly along the west shore of Moosehead Lake to the East Outlet, so called; thence westerly along the East Outlet, through Indian Pond to the Kennebec River; thence southwestly along the Kennebec River to its junction with the Appalachian Trail at Caratunk Plt., Somerset County.

Unit 4. Beginning at the junction of the Canadian Pacific Railroad and Interstate 95 in T2R8, Penobscot County; thence westerly along the C. P. R. tracks to where they cross the Appalachian Trail in Elliottsville Plt., Piscataquis County; thence westerly along the Appalachian Trail until it crosses the Maine-New Hampshire border; thence south along the Maine-New Hampshire border to the Androscoggin River; thence easterly and southerly to the Androscoggin River to where it crosses the Maine Central Railroad in Jay, Franklin County; thence southeasterly along the Maine Central Railroad to Leeds Junction in Androscoggin County; thence northeasterly along the Maine Central Railroad to where it meets Interstate 95 in Waterville, Kennebec County; thence northeasterly and easterly along Interstate 95 to its junction with the Kenduskeag Stream in the City of Bangor, Penobscot County; thence southeasterly along the Kenduskeag Stream to the Penobscot River; thence northerly along the Penobscot River to its junction with the Piscataquis River at Howland, Penobscot County; thence northwesterly along the Piscataquis River to Interstate 95; thence northerly along Interstate 95 to the Canadian Pacific Railroad in T2R8, Penobscot County.

Unit 5. Beginning at Interstate 95 on the Maine-Canadian border at Houlton, Aroostook County; thence westerly and southerly along Interstate 95 to where it crosses the Piscataquis River at Howland, Penobscot County; thence southeasterly along the Penobscot River to Blackman Stream in Bradley, Penobscot County; thence southeasterly along Blackman Stream to Chemo Pond; thence along Parks Pond Brook to where it crosses Route

9 in Clifton, Penobscot County; thence easterly along Route 9 to Stony Brook in Baileyville, Washington County; thence northeasterly along Stony Brook to the Saint Croix River and the Maine-Canadian border; thence northwesterly along the Maine-Canadian border to Interstate 95 at Houlton, Aroostook County.

Unit 6. Beginning at the junction of Stony Brook and the Saint Croix River at Baileyville, Washington County; thence southwesterly along Stony Brook to Route 9; thence westerly along Route 9 to Parks Pond Brook in Clifton, Penobscot County; thence northwesterly along said brook to Chemo Pond; thence northwesterly along Blackman Stream to the Penobscot River in Bradley, Penobscot County; thence southwesterly along the Penobscot River following the western boundary of Hancock County in the Penobscot Bay area; thence to the Atlantic Ocean; thence along the coast to the Maine-Canadian border; thence northwesterly along the Maine-Canadian border to the junction of the Saint Croix River and Stony Brook.

Unit 7. Beginning at the junction of Interstate 95 and Kenduskeag Stream in the City of Bangor, Penobscot County; thence southeasterly along the Kenduskeag Stream to the Penobscot River; thence southerly along the Penobscot River following the western boundary of Hancock County in the Penobscot Bay; thence to the Atlantic Ocean; thence westerly along the coast to the Kennebec River; thence northerly along the Kennebec River to its junction with Interstate 95 in the Town of Benton, Kennebec County; thence northeasterly along Interstate 95 to where it crosses the Kenduskeag Stream.

Unit 8. Beginning where Interstate 95 crosses the Kennebec River, in Benton, Kennebec County; thence southwesterly along Interstate 95 to where it crosses the Maine Central Railroad in Waterville, Kennebec County; thence southeasterly along the Maine Central Railroad to Leeds Junction in Androscoggin County; thence northwesterly along the Maine Central Railroad to where it crosses the Androscoggin River in Jay, Franklin County; thence westerly along the Androscoggin River to the Maine-New Hampshire border; thence southerly along this border to the Atlantic Ocean; thence northeasterly along the coast to the Kennebec River; thence northerly along the Kennebec River to where it meets Interstate 95 in Benton, Kennebec County.

There shall be an open season on deer in the 8 units during the years 1971 and 1972 as follows:

1971	—	Units 1, 2 and 5:	October 25th — November 27th
		Unit 3:	November 1st — November 27th
		Unit 4:	November 1st — December 4th
		Units 6 and 7:	November 8th — December 4th
		Unit 8:	November 15th — December 4th
1972	—	Units 1, 2 and 5:	October 23rd — November 25th
		Unit 3:	October 30th — November 25th
		Unit 4:	October 30th — December 2nd
		Units 6 and 7:	November 6th — December 2nd
		Unit 8:	November 20th — December 9th

The commissioner is authorized, at any time, to shorten or terminate the open season on deer in any one of the 8 deer management units.

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 12, § 2501, amended.** The first paragraph of section 2501 of Title 12 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

There shall be an open season for the purpose of hunting deer with bow and arrow only during the years 1971 and 1972 as follows:

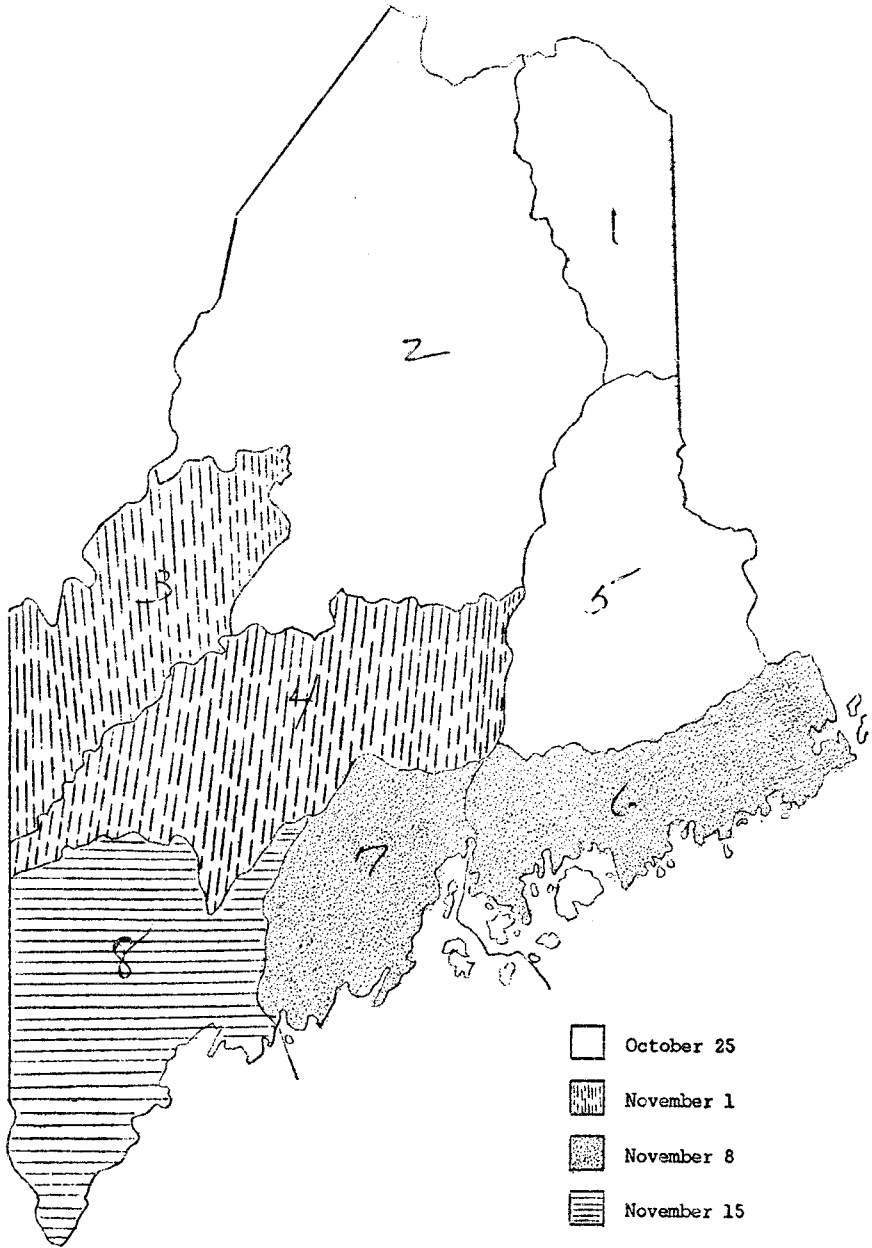
1971	—	Units 1, 2 and 5:	October 1st — October 24th
		Unit 3:	October 1st — October 31st
		Unit 4:	October 1st — October 31st
		Units 6 and 7:	October 1st — November 7th
		Unit 8:	October 1st — November 14th
1972	—	Units 1, 2 and 5:	October 1st — October 22nd
		Unit 3:	October 1st — October 29th
		Unit 4:	October 1st — October 29th
		Units 6 and 7:	October 1st — November 5th
		Unit 8:	October 1st — November 19th

**Sec. 3. R. S., T. 12, § 2501, amended.** The first sentence of the 2nd paragraph of section 2501 of Title 12 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

There shall be an annual open season ~~during the month of October in the Southern Zone as described in section 2353 for the purpose of hunting deer with bow and arrow only, except that~~ on the Island of Islesboro in Waldo County and Swan Island in the Town of Swan's Island in Hancock County ~~there shall be an open season~~ for hunting deer with bow and arrow during the months of October and November of each calendar year.

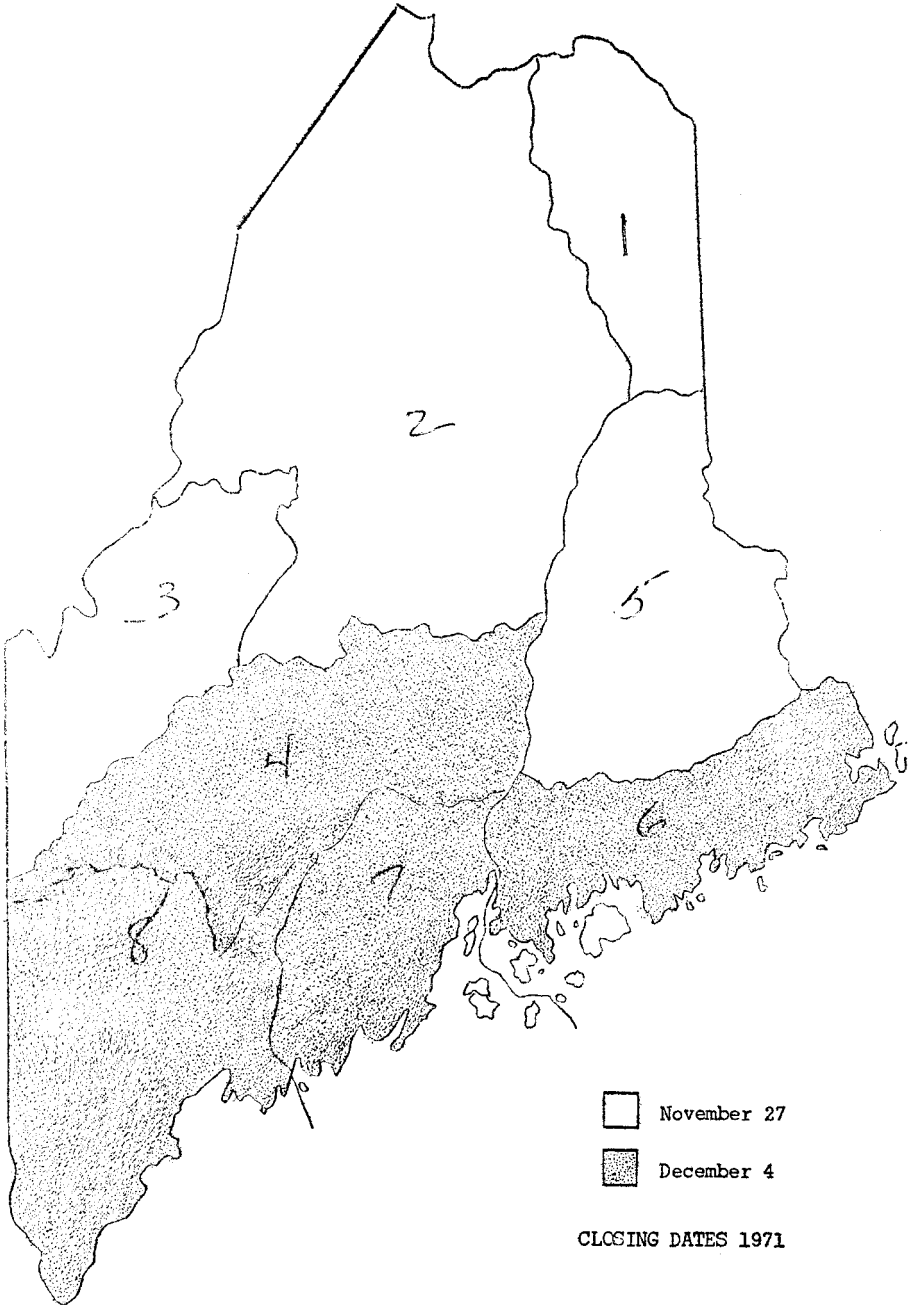
**Sec. 4. R. S., T. 12, § 2502, amended.** The first sentence of section 2502 of Title 12 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

An archery license shall be issued by the commissioner to take deer under this chapter, the fee for which shall be \$5.25 for hunting deer by residents of this State and \$15.25 for hunting deer by nonresidents; the fee of 25¢ to be retained by the issuing agent; except that such archery licenses shall also permit the hunting of such wild birds and animals which can be legally hunted from October 1st to ~~October 14th of each calendar year in the Northern Zone and during the month of October in the Southern Zone~~ the open firearm season on deer in the deer management units as indicated in section 2501.



OPENING DATES 1971

DEER MANAGEMENT UNITS



DEER MANAGEMENT UNITS

## STATEMENT OF FACT

Changes in land use patterns, deer populations and hunting pressure in Maine dictate the need for greater flexibility in managing deer in this State. In order to be able to respond to immediate needs, such as severe winter mortality in a portion or portions of Maine, increased or decreased hunting pressure and underharvest or overharvest in particular areas, the State must be divided into more discrete, smaller management areas than is currently the case. The 8 management units described in this bill recognize some of the physio-graphic and climatic differences which exist in Maine. The proposed hunting seasons for these units take into consideration variability in hunting pressure and deer densities.

These units will also permit the restriction or temporary cessation of seasons in certain areas when hunting pressure increases to threaten population levels, or when particularly severe winter or late spring weather causes heavy losses in the overwintering populations of fawn crop.

The unit locations do not mean that the 8 units currently proposed are the only major differences which exist in Maine. However, they do represent as well as possible, within the limitation of suitable boundary lines, the major ecological regions of Maine.

The units are the best compromise between the realities of deer population densities, hunter densities and composition, resident vs. nonresident, and suitable boundary lines for enforcement purposes. The units furthermore acknowledge that those factors relating to harvest are not the same for all parts of Maine. This plan provides a base for more effective management of the deer resource to ensure its perpetuation as an important component of Maine's recreational and natural resource assets. By conserving deer populations when and where necessary and utilizing them when they threaten to over-populate areas we can achieve the objective of maintaining Maine's position as one of the finest white-tailed deer hunting experience areas in the United States.