

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 556

H.P. 439

House of Representatives, February 15, 2011

An Act Concerning Fish and Wildlife Program Funds

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered
printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative DAVIS of Sangerville.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CLARK of Millinocket, DUCHESNE of Hudson, FOSSEL
of Alna, FREDETTE of Newport, HARVELL of Farmington, SARTY of Denmark, SHAW of
Standish, WINTLE of Garland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10257**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected
3 by Pt. D, §7 and c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

4 **§10257. Lake and River Protection Fund**

5 **1. Fund established.** The Lake and River Protection Fund, referred to in this section
6 as the "fund," is established within the department as a nonlapsing fund. The fund must
7 be administered by the commissioner. The fund is funded from fees collected for lake
8 and river protection stickers issued under section 13058, subsection 3 and from other
9 funds accepted for those purposes by the commissioner or allocated or appropriated by
10 the Legislature. Money in the fund may be used for enforcing laws pertaining to invasive
11 aquatic plants and nuisance species, inspecting watercraft for invasive aquatic plant and
12 nuisance species materials, educational and informational efforts targeted at invasive
13 aquatic plant and nuisance species prevention, eradication and management activities and
14 the production and distribution of lake and river protection stickers required under section
15 13058, subsection 3. For purposes of this section, "nuisance species" has the same
16 meaning as in Title 38, section 1861, subsection 2.

17 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10263** is enacted to read:

18 **§10263. Moose Research Fund**

19 The Moose Research Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established
20 within the department as a nonlapsing fund to be used by the commissioner to fund or
21 assist in funding the research and the management of moose. Revenue from the sale of
22 any moose hunting permits issued by the commissioner under section 11154, subsection
23 2-A must be deposited in the fund. The commissioner may accept and deposit into the
24 fund monetary gifts, donations or other contributions from public or private sources for
25 the purposes specified in this section. The fund must be held separate and apart from all
26 other money, funds and accounts.

27 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§2-A** is enacted to read:

28 **2-A. Additional permits.** In addition to moose hunting permits issued under
29 subsection 2, and subject to the requirements of subsection 2, the commissioner may
30 issue moose hunting permits to fund moose research and management activities; the
31 revenue from these permits must be deposited into the Moose Research Fund established
32 in section 10263.

33 **SUMMARY**

34 This bill adds language concerning nuisance species to the law concerning the Lake
35 and River Protection Fund in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12 to be consistent with
36 similar laws in Title 38.

1 The bill establishes a fund for moose management and research, funded by the
2 issuance of extra moose hunting permits, and authorizes the Commissioner of Inland
3 Fisheries and Wildlife to issue additional permits for this fund.