

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Maine Department of  
Inland Fisheries & Wildlife**



**Report back to Legislature on  
Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Advisory Council**

**Title 12 Section 10151**

**126<sup>th</sup> Legislature – Second Session**

**Annual Report back to the Legislature on the  
Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Advisory Council (2013)**

Date: February 20, 2014

To: Senator David Dutremble, Chair  
Representative Michael Shaw, Chair  
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Prepared By: Jeffrey Lewis IF&W Advisory Council, Chair

Subject: Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Advisory Council Annual Report

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Good afternoon Senator Dutremble, Representative Shaw and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Jeffrey Lewis, Chair of the Advisory Council for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. I am here today to present a summary of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Council's activities and accomplishments. During 2013 the IF&W Advisory Council members attended numerous meetings throughout the State of Maine at organizations such as fish and game clubs, trapping associations, guides associations, land trust associations, snowmobile clubs, lake associations, and town and county meetings. The purpose of our presence was to provide information on current affairs of the Department including rule proposals and to receive public input on these proposals and other important issues such as the deer herd, our moose population, turkey hunting, fishing and others to bring back to the Department. The Advisory Council members provide their phone numbers in the front of the IF&W law books and the website so the public can reach us about their concerns. Depending on the seasons, regulations and proposed changes to rules we get several calls a week from the public. We also receive public input on a wide variety of concerns which we address with the Department.

Here is a list of rules that were either created or modified by IFW in 2013:

Chapter 1 Open Water and Ice Fishing Regulations: This is modified annually and we attended 5 hearings around the state to present it to the public.

Chapter 3 Public Interaction and Conflicts with Wildlife: This addressed safe feeding of deer to make sure it is done appropriately to mitigate risk to deer and humans.

Chapter 4 Hunting and Trapping Regulations: This is done annually to set season dates and limits. Some of the regulations were on deer, falconry, migratory waterfowl and birds, moose, turkey, small game and trapping, turkey and a special hunt on Islesboro to reduce deer numbers.

Chapter 20 Taxidermy Rules: This rule change created a minimal testing process for taxidermists who wish to create European skull type mounts and it gave law enforcement a way to be able to hold a person whose taxidermist license is revoked, suspended or expired to return all specimens back to the rightful owner immediately after the license is no longer valid.

Chapter 23 Camp trip Leader Permits: To update the regulations governing youth camp trip leader permits and the testing process for them.

Chapter 26 Commercial Wildlife Permit for Amphibians or Nonmarine Invertebrates: These rules were adopted to regulate the commercial harvest of amphibians and nonmarine invertebrates. Persons interested in collecting these species from the wild for the purpose of export, sale or commercial purposes will now be required to obtain a permit from the commissioner.

This provides a brief overview of our role and the activities we were involved with in 2013. Thank you for your time. I would be happy to take any questions at this time.

Jeffrey C. Lewis, IF&W Council Chair