



NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

# *Connecting you to life outdoors...*

MANAGING FOR THE FUTURE



## **BIENNIAL REPORT**

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2019

Pursuant to RSA 206:9-a • Submitted October 1, 2019

New Hampshire Fish and Game Department • 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301 • [wildnh.com](http://wildnh.com)





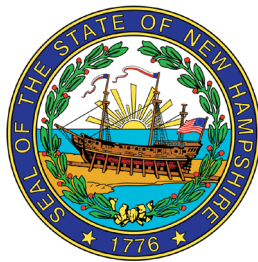
New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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New Hampshire Fish and Game Department  
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## **CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU**

*Governor*

### **EXECUTIVE COUNCILORS**

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*District 1*

**Andru Volinsky**

*District 2*

**Russell E. Prescott**

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**Debora B. Pignatelli**

*District 5*

*As of 6/30/19*





# New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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June 30, 2019

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
And the Honorable Council  
State House, 25 Capital Street  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Sununu and Honorable Members of the Council:

In accordance with RSA 206:9-a, I am pleased to submit the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's Biennial Report for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019.

The Department takes the lead role in conserving fish, wildlife, marine resources, and their habitats – keeping the state's wildlife and fish populations in a healthy balance while conserving our wild places. These natural resources enrich our quality of life and support New Hampshire's economy, generating more than half a billion dollars each year in economic activity related to hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching.

While the work of the Fish and Game Department benefits all of New Hampshire's citizens and visitors, our core functions are still being primarily funded by people buying hunting and fishing licenses. Responsibilities of the agency continue to increase, and the cost of doing business goes up, but our revenue does not. The State Legislature in recent years has provided some supplemental General Funds, allowing us to fulfill our obligations. All parties agree, however, that a revised, long-term, and sustainable funding solution should be found.

We are more committed than ever to our mission of conserving and protecting New Hampshire's fish, wildlife, and marine resources for all to use and enjoy, as new pressures are put on them, including diseases, climate change, and development. We look forward to working with the Governor, the Legislature, and the public in ensuring the sustainability of the NH Fish and Game Department and its essential work.

We thank the Governor and Legislature for their support in working through these challenges. Our dedicated staff will continue to work tirelessly to connect the public to the great outdoors.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Normandeau  
Executive Director

## ❖ FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE AND SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAM



*Together, the Wildlife  
and Sport Fish  
Restoration Programs  
have transformed  
the landscape and  
immeasurably improved  
the conditions and  
prospects for New  
Hampshire's wildlife.*

### KEEPING OUR WILDLIFE — AND OUR TRADITIONS — HEALTHY

Purchases of fishing tackle, firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, and motorboat fuels, along with license sales, help fund sport fish and wildlife restoration in New Hampshire. This provides opportunities for hunting, fishing, and other wildlife-associated recreation.

### NOT SO LONG AGO...

In the middle of the 19th century in New Hampshire, the numbers of many wildlife species were dwindling, or gone altogether, because of unregulated hunting and loss of habitat. Conservation efforts of the time were few – and frequently misguided or scientifically questionable – but leadership was beginning to understand that investing in wildlife and habitat pays great dividends.

### A UNIQUE SOLUTION

The Pittman-Robertson Act or Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act was passed in 1937. It was designed to counteract the wildlife crisis by providing local funding for wildlife management research; the selection, restoration, rehabilitation, and improvement of wildlife habitat; and public use and benefit related to the same.

In 1950, the Dingell-Johnson Act or Sport Fish Restoration Act was created to provide similar management, conservation, and restoration improvements for fisheries. Together, the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs (WSFR) have transformed the landscape and immeasurably improved the conditions and prospects for New Hampshire's wildlife. In short, both acts encourage a scientific approach toward managing – and restoring – fish and wildlife.

### USER-PAY, USER-BENEFIT

“Every time an American hunter buys a gun or ammunition he chips in to improve his sport,” said the author of a 10-year report on federal wildlife restoration released in 1949. It’s just as true today: WSFR programs are funded by revenues collected from the manufacturers of sporting arms, handguns, ammunition, archery equipment, fishing rods, reels, lures, and other fishing gear. Motorboat and small engine fuel taxes also help fund the system. The money is paid back to N.H. Fish and Game – and wildlife agencies in the other U.S. states and territories – to be used on specific wildlife restoration projects.

### MEETING THE PUBLIC'S WILDLIFE NEEDS

With the support of WSFR, deer, salmon, wild turkeys, and countless other species are now prospering. New Hampshire Fish and Game's scientific research and management give species a solid chance to re-establish healthy populations, while at the same time improving habitats for all to enjoy. Along the way, WSFR helps Fish and Game meet the public's need for wildlife resources by improving boating access, providing aquatic education and outreach, maintaining quality Hunter Education programs, and myriad related projects.

New Hampshire's hunters, anglers, and wildlife watchers – including tourists – can thank WSFR's creators for starting a system that has protected our wildlife and our outdoor traditions through the years.

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## ❖ ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION

**T**he New Hampshire Fish and Game Department was established on June 30, 1865, as the Fisheries Commission. It was reorganized in its current format in 1935 in accordance with R.L. 240:1 (RSA 206:1), which states that: “There shall be a Fish and Game Department under a Commission to be known as the Fish and Game Commission.”

### NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Commission members are appointed by the Governor and Executive Council. There are 11 members, one from each county in the state, plus one representing the coastal area. No more than six commissioners can be members of the same political party. Commission members must be well informed on the subject of fish and wildlife. Their duty is to represent the citizens of New Hampshire and be the stewards of the fish, wildlife, and marine resources of the State of New Hampshire and to set general policy for: conservation of wildlife; development, funding, and implementation of a strategic plan for the operation of the Department; acquisition and development of public access to lands and waters; conservation education and building support for Department programs; and establishment of positions on proposed legislation that affects the Department and fish, wildlife, and marine resources.

### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director has the responsibility of supervision of employees and of all activities and functions of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department and enforces all provisions of state laws relating to fish, wildlife, and marine resources. The Executive Director is nominated by the Commission and appointed by the Governor and Executive Council. Each candidate must be a competent administrator and have knowledge of, and experience in, the requirements for the protection, conservation, and restoration of the fish and wildlife resources of the state. The Executive Director serves a term of four years.

The Office of the Executive Director oversees budget development and oversight and coordination of federal aid, rules and legislation, environmental review, and personnel administration. Within the Director’s office, the Landowner Relations Program works in partnership with hunters, anglers, and landowners to maintain access to private lands for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation. This program identifies issues and concerns that landowners face in keeping their properties open, and works proactively to address them. The Director’s office also serves as the liaison with the nonprofit Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire.

The Environmental Review Coordinator serves in the Executive Director’s Office, and provides technical guidance to individuals, environmental consultants, federal and state agencies, municipalities, and non-governmental organizations to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife resources and their habitats from proposed development projects.

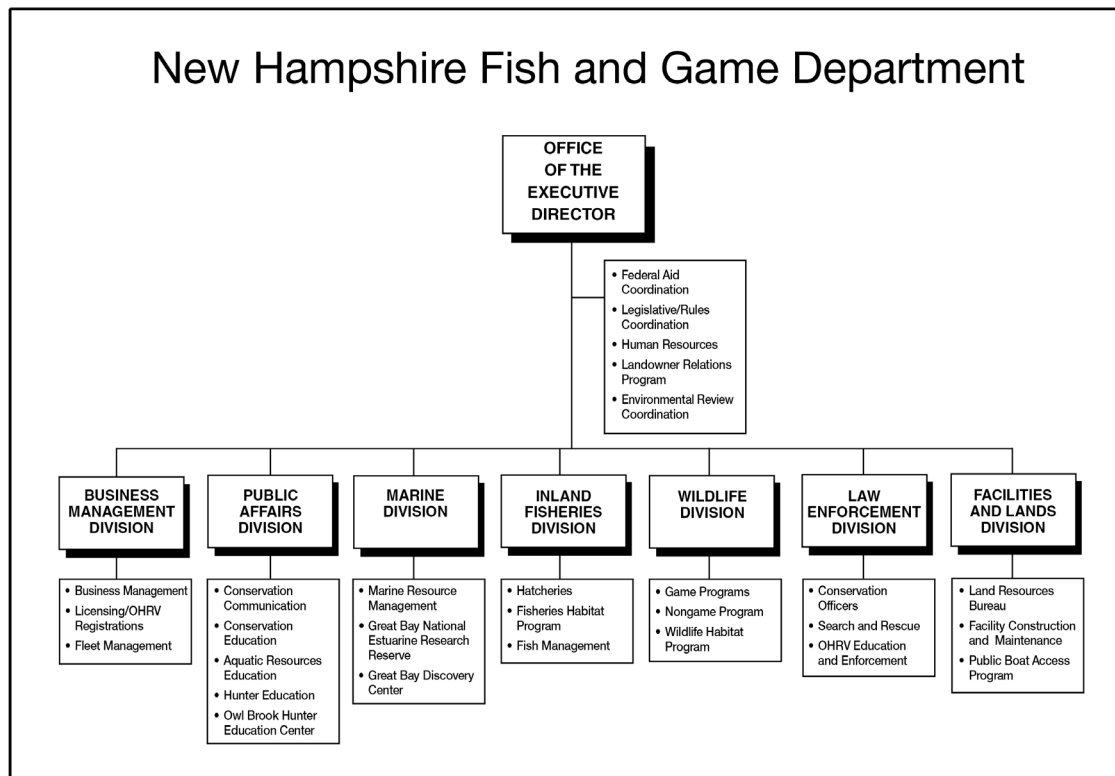


The Department's Human Resources (HR) office provides all aspects of human resources and payroll administration to the entire agency. HR staff also assist members of the public with all human resources-related inquiries. HR is comprised of the Human Resources Administrator, the Human Resources Coordinator, and the Payroll Officer. The HR office is responsible for the bi-weekly payroll of approximately 191 full-time and 54 part-time/seasonal employees. HR staff manage all workers' compensation claims and assist employees throughout the claims process, as well as their return to work. Human Resources responsibilities also include, but are not limited to: employee benefits administration, the State of New Hampshire's Wellness Initiative, recruitment, certification, hiring, and orientation, position reclassifications, Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), administration of personnel files, federal and state labor law compliance, ensuring adherence to the Collective Bargaining Agreements and personnel rules, conflict resolution, and labor relations.

### MAJOR DIVISIONS

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department carries out its mission through the work of seven divisions: Business, Facilities and Lands, Inland Fisheries, Law Enforcement, Marine Fisheries, Public Affairs, and Wildlife.

The **Business Division** facilitates all business functions for the Department, including preparation and submission of the biennial





## ❖ ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION

budget. It is responsible for issuing and collecting the revenue from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses and associated permits, as well as the processing of all accounts payable, accounts receivable, cash management, federal and other grants, financial management, and inventory control. Division staff supervise the purchase of all equipment, materials, and supplies, and coordinate all contracts. The Business Division also oversees fleet management and manages the Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle (OHRV) Registration Program. Division staff interact daily with other state agencies and provide all shipping and receiving functions, mail, and courier duties for the Department.

The **Facilities and Lands Division** is responsible for the management and maintenance of all Fish and Game properties statewide, including over 160 buildings, 143 boat ramps, 130 dams, 7 fish ladders, 83,768 acres of wildlife management areas, conservation easements, and other interests. The Division also provides the design and construction of boating access facilities and fabrication of informational kiosks and portable sanitary facilities. The Lands side of the Division negotiates land and habitat acquisitions in association with the Wildlife Division, manages conservation easement areas, and evaluates land use requests through Special Use Permits.



New Hampshire Fish and Game Headquarters

The **Inland Fisheries Division** is responsible for all freshwater fish in both state and interstate waters. Fisheries biologists and fish culturists work to protect and restore fish resources and aquatic habitat and to provide New Hampshire anglers with diverse freshwater fishing opportunities. This Division is comprised of six major program areas: Coldwater Fisheries, Warmwater Fisheries, Large Lakes Fisheries, Fish Conservation, Fisheries Habitat, and Fish Culture.

The **Law Enforcement Division** is responsible for enforcement of all laws and rules relating to fish, wildlife, and marine resources. Conservation Officers also have the authority to enforce motor vehicle and criminal laws. The Division is responsible for marine species enforcement, protecting our saltwater fisheries along the New Hampshire coast line and out in federal jurisdictional waters. These officers prosecute all of their own cases involving offenders and violators of these laws within our District Court System. They have a statutory mandate to coordinate all search and rescue operations occurring in the woodlands of the state and to conduct underwater searches and recoveries.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Law Enforcement Division is also responsible for the enforcement of all laws pertaining to snowmobiles, off-highway recreational vehicles (OHRV), and all-terrain vehicles (ATV) as well as supporting safety education and training programs. This Division also serves as the primary liaison to the New Hampshire Department of Safety's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency.

The **Marine Fisheries Division** is responsible for managing and protecting the rich natural

## ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION ❖

resources of the state's coast, harbors, and estuaries. The Division manages and develops sampling programs for recreational and commercial marine species and protects their habitats. It also oversees the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (GBNERR). The Marine Division licenses and monitors aquaculture in partnership with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and the Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health. The research program at GBNERR focuses on understanding the structure and function of the Great Bay ecosystem and the effects of natural and human-induced changes.

The Reserve's research and monitoring efforts focus on four themes: water quality, land use change, biological communities, and climate change.

The Great Bay Discovery Center hosts a variety of educational programs throughout the year which are designed to teach visitors about the unique natural and cultural resources of the Great Bay Estuary.

The **Public Affairs Division** informs and educates, building public support for conservation and the Department's mission and encouraging participation in hunting, angling, and other outdoor activities. The Division provides information through its website and a wide variety of publications, including the *New Hampshire Wildlife Journal* magazine, as well as television and radio programs, online videos, social media, advertising, exhibits, media relations, shows/events, marketing, and the sale of branded merchandise. Its educational programs include: Hunter and Trapper Education; Let's Go Fishing and Watershed Education; Wildlife Education and teacher training; and a variety of workshops for the public, such as hunting and fishing talks, hands-on workshops for hunters and anglers, and Becoming an Outdoors Woman programs.

The **Wildlife Division** manages, maintains, protects, and conserves the state's game and nongame wildlife resources and their habitats. Game populations are managed at healthy, sustainable levels consistent with available habitat and diverse public interests. Nongame species are managed to keep common species common and to secure the sustained presence and/or recovery of threatened and endangered species.

Habitat programs are designed to conserve, protect, restore, and manage diverse wildlife habitats including critical habitats for game and nongame species, and to provide technical guidance to municipalities and private landowners, including commercial forest interests, concerned with doing the same.

Wildlife biologists conduct surveys and analyze harvest data to assess and monitor populations and conduct research to better inform management decisions. Biologists disseminate harvest regulations for game and furbearer species to appeal to diverse public interests and to maintain healthy populations. Biologists also provide technical assistance to local, regional, and statewide planning boards to protect and enhance wildlife populations and habitats, and to minimize development impacts on wildlife species at risk. Biologists work in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services staff to prevent or mitigate wildlife damage to agricultural lands and private property, and to ensure public safety.

## ❖ ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION

### STATEMENT OF SALES OR EXCHANGES

Promotional expenditures related to licenses:

- During the biennium, 14 nonresident honorary licenses were issued in 2017, and 33 were issued in 2018.

#### PERSONNEL DATA

<u>Current Number of Employees</u>	<u>6/30/18</u>	<u>6/30/19</u>
Unclassified	1	1
Classified	190	190
Temporary*	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
Total	197	197

\*Permanent employees are those occupying positions permanently established by the Legislature, whereas temporary employees are those whose service is authorized for a limited or intermittent period.

#### PHYSICAL PLANT AND PROPERTY APPRAISAL

	<u>6/30/18</u>	<u>6/30/19</u>
Equipment	11,216,241	11,490,641
Physical Plant	111,846,205	116,726,606
Farm	0	0
Highway	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$123,062,446</b>	<b>\$128,217,247</b>

#### RECEIPTS

General Funds	799,912	808,000
Federal Funds	9,788,975	10,453,460
Agency Income	8,755,404	5,941,701
Fish And Game Funds	<u>12,868,817</u>	<u>15,295,344</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$32,213,108</b>	<b>\$32,498,685</b>

#### EXPENDITURES

Permanent Personnel	10,339,442	10,899,363
Current Expenses	2,168,576	2,564,947
Heat, Electricity & Water	350,816	338,900
Transfers to OIT	795,833	881,254
Equipment New/Replacement	663,351	636,400
Land Acquisition	2,832,308	550,000
Transfers To Other Agencies	4,440,794	4,494,469
Other Personnel Services (Seas & Pt)	541,732	640,215
Benefits	5,987,985	6,745,890
Retirement, Pension & Health Insurance	880,461	1,093,000
In-State Travel	342,091	433,850
Grants-Federal & Non Federal	188,473	124,097
Out-of State Travel	54,712	80,300
Contracts for Services	241,981	274,300
Interagency Payments	1,327,595	1,413,200
Research and Habitat Management	<u>1,056,958</u>	<u>1,328,500</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$32,213,108</b>	<b>\$32,498,685</b>

## A. DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department uses revenue from fishing and hunting license fees, federal funds, the state General Fund, donations, and other sources to accomplish its broad mission of conserving, managing, and protecting the state's fish, wildlife, and marine resources and their habitats; informing and educating the public; and providing opportunities for people to use and appreciate these resources. During the biennium, previous license fee increases and support from the state General Fund helped Department revenues keep pace with expenses. The amount of money raised from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses is, of course, dependent upon the price of the license and the number of people purchasing licenses. The number of people who buy hunting and fishing licenses is fairly flat in New Hampshire, a problem exacerbated by the state's aging demographic (as people reach age 68, they are eligible for discounted hunting and fishing licenses). Meanwhile, the Department's responsibilities have increased, and continue to do so, as have the expectations of the public while expenses have risen steadily.

As in the private sector, the highest increases have been in the area of health care costs for both active and retired employees. Step increases in salaries are also a factor. Additionally, payments to the State of New Hampshire for general services and funds paid to the Department of Information Technology have increased substantially in recent years. Other items, from our fish food for our hatcheries to vehicles, also increase yearly. Another area of concern has been reduced interest revenue on Fish and Game's various accounts.

While the economy is doing well in the last few years, expenses continue to increase. The Department often cannot control these costs, as we can our operational expenditures; they are dictated by the State's health management system, the Collective Bargaining Agreement, the Department of Administrative Services, and the Department of Information Technology, as well as by the economy at large.

## B. BUDGET DEMANDS

The Fish and Game Department continues its efforts to meet its obligations, in spite of limited resources. The Department has met budget challenges over the past decade or more by belt tightening, careful management, eliminating or not funding vacant positions, deferring maintenance on equipment and buildings, and reducing vehicle purchases to our fleet.

Efforts to secure alternative funding for search and rescue operations continue, as it is a constant drain on the Fish and Game Fund. Continued sales of Hike Safe cards have been better than expected but have by no means fully solved the problem. SB 48 in 2018, the Commission to study the efficiency and effectiveness of Fish and Game Department Operations, failed to provide any solutions to this and other funding challenges.

## EXPANDING OUR CONSTITUENCY

We have made it a priority to build connections with nontraditional constituencies that benefit from Fish and Game programs, but which have not had a direct avenue for contributing to the cost of operating the Department. Along these lines, we have worked diligently to broaden our constituency through outreach, education, and training. The success of our Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) program is a good example. This popular program involves hundreds of women each year in learning skills related to outdoor recreation. Without question, BOW participants are among our most enthusiastic supporters. As an example of the program's impact, 12% of New Hampshire hunters are women today, compared with just 1% in 1996 when NH BOW was started.

Our Hunter Education Program educates nearly 5,000 new hunters every year. Specialty courses

## ❖ OPERATIONAL FUNDING

at Owl Brook Hunter Education Center help those interested in hunting gain skills and confidence. The Let's Go Fishing Program introduces children and adults to the fun of fishing. We are involving youth through summer activities at Barry Conservation Camp and Owl Brook. The *North Woods Law: New Hampshire* television show exposes tens of thousands of viewers to the work of the NH Conservation Officers and biologists and brings recognition and support for the Department's mission.

Outreach to non-traditional constituencies that benefit from Fish and Game programs has included cooperative programming with the hiking and paddling communities, connecting with wildlife watchers through publications such as *New Hampshire Wildlife Journal*, and events such as our popular outdoor adventure talks. We also continue to enhance our watchable wildlife program to help people connect with wildlife wherever they may be.

### FUNDING

The Department receives a significant portion of its revenue from the Federal Government. These federal revenues represent nearly one-third of our budget. Not only are significant amounts of these funds annual appropriations, but the Wildlife and Sport Fish Trust Funds that are the foundation of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation are being questioned by the industries that pay them.

As we end FY19, Fish and Game continues to rely upon a small portion of state General Funds. All parties, the Governor, the Legislature, and the Department, understand that work needs to be undertaken to revise our funding model. It would be desirable to establish a new source of stable, dedicated funding for the Department.

## C. JUSTIFICATION FOR GENERAL FUND SUPPORT

During the biennium, the Fish and Game Department received state General Funds for both the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program matching grant and a separate allotment to the Fish and Game Fund to be used for the general operation of Fish and Game programs.

### CONSERVATION OF NONGAME SPECIES

In 1988, the New Hampshire Legislature established the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program, assigning the Fish and Game Department as the steward for the state's nongame wildlife – species not hunted, fished, or trapped. For 30 years, the Nongame Program at New Hampshire Fish and Game has worked under the legislative mandates of the state Endangered Species Act (RSA212-A) and the Nongame Act (RSA 212-B) to protect over 400 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians, as well as insects and other invertebrates and the habitats they depend on. To fund this work, the Legislature established a grant that matches private donations raised by the Nongame Program dollar-for-dollar, up to \$50,000 annually. This amount is due to increase to \$100,000 in FY20, bringing in much-needed funding to this important work.



Over the past 30+ years, the Department's Nongame Program has grown from one person to a fully staffed conservation section. The Nongame Program works with other state agencies, conservation organizations, and non-profits to develop and implement effective conservation strategies to protect and enhance this diverse group of wildlife and their habitats. The Nongame Program led the effort to develop the state's first comprehensive Wildlife Action Plan, which was approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2006, and a full revision was completed in the fall of 2015.



The Nongame Program does not receive any funding from the sale of hunting or fishing licenses, and by law, the Department is not allowed to use federal Wildlife Restoration funds to pay for the work of conserving endangered species. The State Wildlife Grants (SWG) program administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is appropriated annually and provides the bulk of funding for the Nongame Program. In order to qualify, the Department must contribute a percentage of the funding through non-federal sources as match, making the state contribution and private donations even more critical.

### GENERAL FUND SUPPORT FOR FISH AND GAME OPERATIONS

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department uses revenue from fishing and hunting license fees, federal funds, and other sources, along with state General Fund money, to accomplish its broad mission of conserving, managing, and protecting the state's fish, wildlife, and marine resources and their habitats; informing and educating the public; and providing opportunities for people to use and appreciate these resources.

The Department's FY18-19 budget included about \$800,000 per year in General Funds. This was slightly more than the Department received in General Funds during the previous biennium. While General Funds represent only about 2.4% of Fish and Game's budget, the Department relies upon this state money to make up the shortfall in the Fish and Game Fund.

A strong commitment is needed from the public and the Legislature to keep the state's fish and wildlife agency strong and effective. Fish and Game has a broad mandate to conserve wildlife and wild places and provide other services for all of New Hampshire's citizens and visitors. The Fish and Game budget sustains the full range of habitat and fish and wildlife management tasks, plus conservation education, law enforcement, search and rescue, assessing the impact of development projects on wildlife, boating access, and more. All of these functions are essential to ensure that the Department can effectively serve the wildlife and people of New Hampshire. With the increasing pressures on our fish and wildlife and their habitat from such forces as climate change, development, and a growing population, the Fish and Game mandate is more significant than ever.

The ongoing funding dilemma at Fish and Game has been extensively studied by the Legislature through three successive Commissions to Study Opportunities and Options to Improve the Sustainability of the Fish and Game Department (2013 - HB 588; 2014 - HB 256; and 2018 - SB 48). The shortfall is not the result of establishing new programs, creating new positions, nor even reductions in revenues. Even with the significant fee increases implemented during FY16 and FY17, it remains challenging to maintain the Department's services at a level the public has come to expect.

Certain functions of the Department, such as Law Enforcement, which are primarily funded by the Fish and Game Fund (as opposed to federal grants and dedicated accounts), are especially vulnerable to the major budget reductions that would be necessary without state General Funds. While this fact is generally acknowledged by the Legislature, efforts to expand our funding base with sustainable new revenue sources have not come to fruition. Therefore, the Legislature has opted to put state General Funds into the Fish and Game Fund in order to avoid drastic reductions in Department functions. The intent was to create a bridge to a future sustainable financial program that would include a mechanism through which the broader public would contribute to the cost of operating a Department that benefits all its citizens. We look forward to continuing to work with the Legislature and Governor's office to realize that ideal.

## ❖ OPERATIONAL FUNDING

COMPARISON OF INDIVIDUALS HOLDING PAID LICENSES TO HUNT AND FISH (From Data Collected For USFWS License Certifications)						
HUNTING						
YEAR	RESIDENT HUNTING	NUMBER CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE	NON-RES. HUNTING	NUMBER CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
2006	49,415	250	0.5%	11,661	89	0.8%
2007	48,786	(629)	-1.3%	10,982	(679)	-5.8%
2008	48,553	(233)	-0.5%	10,601	(381)	-3.5%
2009	48,947	394	0.8%	10,473	(128)	-1.2%
2010	48,486	(461)	-0.9%	10,815	342	3.3%
2011	46,506	(1,980)	-4.1%	9,905	(910)	-8.4%
2012	48,506	2,000	4.3%	10,562	657	6.6%
2013	50,294	1,788	3.7%	11,262	700	6.6%
2014	48,789	(1,505)	-3.0%	10,529	(733)	-6.5%
2015	47,599	(1,190)	-2.4%	10,500	(29)	-0.3%
2016	47,073	(526)	-1.1%	10,599	99	0.9%
2017	45,893	(1,180)	-2.5%	10,108	(491)	-4.6%
2018	45,590	(303)	-0.7%	9,972	(136)	-1.3%

FISHING						
YEAR	RESIDENT FISHING	NUMBER CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE	NON-RES. FISHING	NUMBER CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
2006	96,854	931	1.0%	43,970	(702)	-1.6%
2007	99,878	3,024	3.1%	46,631	2,661	6.1%
2008	99,833	(45)	0.0%	45,160	(1,471)	-3.2%
2009	103,657	3,824	3.8%	46,313	1,153	2.6%
2010	100,941	(2,716)	-2.6%	45,502	(811)	-1.8%
2011	105,055	4,114	4.1%	46,086	584	1.3%
2012	107,843	2,788	2.7%	47,331	1,245	2.7%
2013	109,444	1,601	1.5%	47,234	(97)	-0.2%
2014	111,871	2,427	2.2%	48,661	1,427	3.0%
2015	111,013	(858)	-0.8%	49,566	905	1.9%
2016	106,910	(4,103)	-3.7%	49,657	91	0.2%
2017	105,872	(1,038)	-1.0%	50,128	471	0.9%
2018	106,242	370	0.3%	50,239	111	0.2%

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

### BUSINESS DIVISION

- The Business Division processes approximately 6,000 individual invoices each fiscal year and is responsible for all Accounts Payable functions that support the Department's operation.
- Wasp, a robust inventory management system, was researched and purchased to replace the antiquated Microsoft Access program used by the Department. The investment will enhance all aspects of inventory control and reporting.
- Managed the complex finances of the agency.
- Administered the Department's Licensing Program.
- Administered the growing Off-Highway Recreational Vehicle (OHRV) Registration Program.
- Managed the Department's vehicle fleet to include appropriating budget dollars to promote a part-time mechanic to support the Department's need to maintain additional OHRVs.

### HUMAN RESOURCES

- Motor Vehicle Record Check process completely revised to establish strict confidentiality, consistency, value, and efficiency.
- Implementation of NH ALERTS for agency staff.
- Unpaid internship process was completely revised to establish consistency, value, and efficiency, while adhering to laws, rules, and regulations.
- Creation of document control format and index for Human Resources forms.
- Creation of documents for Human Resources, supervisors, and hiring managers to assist with the personnel process.
- Administration of projects, trainings, and initiatives for both the Department and the State.
- Provided employees with services and support to assist them with employment issues, needs, or concerns.

### FEDERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

- During the biennium, Fish and Game administered 57 separate federal assistance grants and cooperative agreements totaling over \$21 million in federal assistance to the Department. Federal revenue received as reimbursement for approved grant costs accounts for about one-third of total Department revenue.

### WILDLIFE HERITAGE FOUNDATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

- The Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire, the non-profit partner of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, continued to deliver significant private support to the Department by providing grants to 22 Fish and Game projects totaling \$166,815.



WILDLIFE HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION of NH  
SHARING THE PAST, SHAPING THE FUTURE.

## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### FACILITIES AND LANDS DIVISION

- With support from the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office, 41 of the Department's facilities were brought up to current fire code.
- Acquired 218 acres in Grantham, NH, for upland habitat and waterfowl protection adjacent to the Laramie Wildlife Management Area.
- Carry down access and parking lot improvements were made at Eagle Pond in Wilmot.
- Constructed a seasonal floating dock at the existing boat access site at Umbagog Dock in Cambridge.
- Designed and permitted lakeshore retaining wall, double-lane boat ramp, courtesy dock, and parking facilities at Downing's Landing in Alton.
- Constructed dining hall expansion in conjunction with the Department's Public Affairs Division at Barry Conservation Camp in Milan.
- At Pope Dam in Tuftonboro, constructed safety improvements with assistance from the NH Guides Association to prepare for Salmon Sunday, a well-attended annual Department event.
- Replaced an existing asphalt roof with a steel roof at the Owl Brook Hunter Education Center in Holderness and cleared, de-stumped, and graded land for a new archery range.
- Constructed a double-lane boat ramp and improved parking and drainage systems at Pine River in Ossipee.
- During this biennium, the agency has begun implementing improvements to security and safety systems while continuing to focus on energy-saving measures.
- A contract was initiated for preventive freezer maintenance for the Department's six walk-in coolers at the regional offices, two hatcheries, and Barry Conservation Camp.



A view of the new double ramp at the Pine River boat access area at Lake Ossipee.



Installation of a new roof at the Owl Brook Hunter Education Center's shooting range.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### UNDEVELOPED LAND ACQUIRED DURING THE 2018–2019 BIENNIUM

LAND CONSERVATION PROJECTS July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018			
Town	Parcel Name	F&G Interest	Acreage
Rindge / Fitzwilliam	Pearl Lake Forest (Pearly Lake WMA)	Fee	679.32
Londonderry / Manchester	Ling parcel (Ellingwood Street WMA)	Fee	56.66
Alton	Troendle property (Merrymeeting Marsh WMA)	Fee	50.70
Total Fee Owned			786.68
Barrington / Nottingham	Stonehouse Forest	Conservation Easement	1,525.62
Total CE Area			1,525.62
Total Surplus			0.00
Total Lands Conserved			2,312.30

LAND CONSERVATION PROJECTS July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019			
Town	Parcel Name	F&G Interest	Acreage
Colebrook	Brunault Tract (Connecticut River Driver's WMA)	Fee	50.8
Stratford	Leclerc parcel (Fort Hill WMA)	Fee	0.5
Newfields	Swanson parcel (Piscassic WMA)	Fee	15.56
Grantham	Butternut Pond (Laramie WMA)	Fee	218.5
Groton	Merrill parcel (Kimball Hill WMA)	Fee	100
Groton	TNC parcel (Kimball Hill WMA)	Fee	2,730.75
Croydon, Grantham, Newport	Ruger properties (Ruger WMA)	Fee	3,186.00
Total Fee Owned			6,302.11
Ashland	Smith (Church Hill WMA)	Surplus	-2.23
Total CE Area			0
Total Surplus			-2.23
Total Lands Conserved			6,299.88



## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### INLAND FISHERIES DIVISION

The Inland Fisheries Division is responsible for all freshwater fish within both state and interstate waters. Fisheries biologists work to protect and restore fish resources and aquatic habitat and to provide New Hampshire anglers with diverse fishing opportunities. Fish culturists are responsible for operating Fish and Game's six fish hatcheries, which during the biennium produced nearly one million fish each year to meet a variety of the Division's management program needs.

#### *Coldwater Fisheries Program*

- As a partner in a 15-state effort to implement the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture's conservation action plan, 88 stream sites were surveyed in New Hampshire, spanning 22 different sub-watersheds; 71 of these sites were found to have self-sustaining populations of brook trout (81%).



Conservation efforts during the biennium have helped to increase self-sustaining populations of brook trout.

- Stream crossing assessments have occurred throughout the state using a watershed approach. A stream crossing team has been developed, and protocols have been established and updated over the years. Over 2,800 stream crossing assessments have been done in the state by the Department.
- Cutting-edge research on brook trout movement and habitat use, using PIT (passive integrated transponder) tags, has occurred in the Dead Diamond Watershed since 2017.
- In conjunction with Plymouth State University, a stream crossing replacement prioritization tool using specific information from fish community surveys and stream crossing assessments was developed for the Warner River Watershed. The hope is to be able to use this prioritization tool in other watersheds to guide restoration efforts.
- With support from local volunteers, 26 site visits were conducted on properties along wild brook trout streams. Full fish, aquatic macroinvertebrate, and water-quality surveys were conducted, and landowners received reports on ways to protect, restore, or enhance the stream while making land use decisions.

#### *Warmwater Fisheries Program*

- Assessed four trophy bass waters in southwestern New Hampshire that have had a winter slot limit since 2011 to determine if the rule did what it was intended to do: increase the number of bass measuring more than 15 inches in length.
- Conducted a mark-recapture study on four trophy bass waters in southwestern New Hampshire (Clement Pond in Hopkinton, Grassy Pond in Rindge, Gregg Lake in Antrim, and Warren Lake in Alstead) to determine if the slot limit that was established in 2011 did what it was intended to do: increase the number of bass more than 15 inches in length. Assessments of warmwater

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

fish populations included determining species abundance, size and condition statistics, and age and growth parameters. During the biennium, warmwater fish population assessments were completed for Goose Pond in Canaan and Turee Pond in Bow.

- Surveys to evaluate young-of-the-year black bass were completed on the Connecticut River in Hinsdale and Claremont, Big Squam Lake and Forest Lake in Whitefield, Spofford Lake in Chesterfield, and Lake Winnepesaukee.
- Staff continued to work with the NH Interscholastic Athletic Association to support the growth of fishing as a high school sport and assisted with the qualifying high school bass tournaments.

### ***Large Lakes Program***

- Conducted annual fall trap-netting surveys to monitor landlocked salmon size and age-class characteristics at Big Squam, Sunapee, and Winnepesaukee lakes.
- Conducted annual hydroacoustic and trawl netting surveys to monitor pelagic forage fish (primarily rainbow smelt) size characteristics, spatial distribution, and density at Big Squam, Little Squam, Merrymeeting, Newfound, Sunapee, Winnepesaukee, and Winnisquam lakes.
- Significantly increased landlocked salmon angling opportunities in selected lakes, including Big Squam and Sunapee, through experimental fall stocking of larger yearling landlocked salmon.
- Aerially stocked brook trout fingerlings into nearly 50 remote ponds annually.

### ***Fish Conservation Program***

- Collected data from 41 sites in an effort to monitor the status of American eel populations throughout the state.
- Drafted the Bridle Shiner Species Recovery Plan.
- Stocked over 75,000 river herring into suitable spawning habitat in the Merrimack River watershed as part of the Merrimack River Herring Restoration Plan.

### ***Fisheries Habitat Program***

- Provided technical assistance to four state agencies, two federal agencies, and at least twenty municipalities and non-governmental organizations on fish habitat restoration and conservation.
- Served on six technical and planning committees focused on issues related to aquatic habitat, water quality and quantity, and flooding.
- Continued the Nash Stream and Indian Stream Restoration Projects, including the removal of undersized crossings and several miles of instream habitat restoration and the removal of a crossing in the town of Swanzey.
- Continued wild brook trout habitat restoration research with partners.

### ***Fish Culture***

- The six Fish and Game hatchery facilities produced and distributed fish for trout and salmon stocking programs throughout the state to meet a variety of the Division's management needs. The hatcheries distributed 363,206 pounds of fish in FY18.

## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

- During the biennium, Conservation Officers coordinated 492 search and rescue missions involving hikers, climbers, snowmobilers, children, and elderly people. This total includes the recovery of victims who died while recreating on New Hampshire's trails and within the states wilderness areas and waters.

- The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Dive Team conducted a total of 51 drowning recoveries and evidence search missions during the past biennium. This team continues to be a resource for New Hampshire State Police and municipal agencies.



Conservation Officers work with local snowmobile clubs and landowners throughout the state to keep trails open and safe.

- Law Enforcement now has three trained and certified Conservation Officer K-9 Teams that are capable of assisting with search and rescue operations, evidence recovery for criminal investigations, and tracking suspects or lost victims. This past year Conservation Officer James Benvenuti and K-9 Cora received the Evidence Detection Team Award for 2018, selected from a group of over fifty other Vermont and New Hampshire K-9 teams.
- The Division's Operation Game Thief (OGT) Program continues to experience significant growth including new public relations and outreach initiatives to increase awareness and encourage citizens to report wildlife crimes. A grant from the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire funded the purchase of a trailer to be used as an interactive display at shows and events to promote OGT.
- The Division established a new Air Boat Team, and members continue to train with the Maine Warden's Service and our federal partners to master the operation and deployment of this challenging piece of equipment. After hundreds of hours of additional training and maintenance, the Division now has several qualified operators and an airboat equipped to be deployed to any water-related emergency.
- The *North Woods Law: New Hampshire* television series continues to feature the work of conservation officers and biologists in the course of their daily duties enforcing wildlife, fisheries, and coastal marine laws. The 2018 season broke ratings records, and the program continues to grow in popularity and social media followers. We consistently receive enthusiastic support from political leaders, the public from all over the country, and now from around the world.
- OHRV (wheeled vehicle) registration numbers continue to climb each year. In FY18, the state



The K-9 conservation team grew during the biennium increasing Law Enforcement's detection and location capabilities.



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

reached an historic high of over 35,000 registered vehicles. This represents a 63% increase in five years, yet accidents have decreased 27% from FY17 to FY18.

- Snowmobile registrations, which typically reflect our winter severity, have been consistent during the biennium with over 42,000 snowmobiles registered each year.
- Conservation Officers continued to support the New Hampshire Snowmobile Association and Easter Seals' "Camp Sno-Mo" fundraising efforts which help to ensure summer camp opportunities for children with a variety of life challenges.
- In FY18, over 1,300 students were certified in OHRV/Snowmobile Safety Classes with approximately 70% taking the online class.
- New Hampshire Fish and Game has secured the most advanced underwater search equipment in the state through generous grants from New Hampshire Department of Safety, Homeland Security and Emergency Management. This equipment includes a side scan sonar, remote operated vehicle (ROV), and related support equipment. This allows officers to search under water, under the ice, or at great depths without the risk of being in the water. The Law Enforcement Division now has a team of four advanced officers who are trained in the use and maintenance of this equipment.

## MARINE FISHERIES DIVISION

- Worked with federal and state partners via the New England Fishery Management Council and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to manage 62 marine species. This included participation in stock assessments and modifications to fisheries management plans for species such as Northern shrimp, lobsters, American eel, shad, herring, groundfish, menhaden, and their habitats.
- Operated and monitored fish ladders on six coastal rivers and American eel fish passage ramps on two coastal rivers to provide access to freshwater spawning habitat for more than 83,000 diadromous fish over the biennium.
- Partnered with state and federal agencies and dam owners to remove the upper and lower Sawyer Mill Dam on the Bellamy River to provide passage for diadromous fish such as river herring and American eels.
- Continued research of tagging studies of offshore lobster movement.



Lower Sawyer Mill Dam, before, during, and after deconstruction.

## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Continued annual monitoring programs that collect abundance and biological data on numerous marine species residing in or migrating through New Hampshire's marine waters.
- Monitored the catch and harvest of New Hampshire's commercial and recreational fisheries in tidal waters.
- Coordinated the removal of derelict commercial fishing gear with cooperation from fishing industry members and New Hampshire State Parks through organized trap clean ups and the Fishing for Energy Program. This effort resulted in the removal of 25 tons of gear from New Hampshire's coastline in Fiscal Year 2018, and about 10 tons in early 2019.
- The largest aquaculture interest in New Hampshire has been oyster farming, with 72 acres licensed in FY18. The total oysters harvested from aquaculture sites were 329,156 oysters in FY17 and 439,497 oysters in FY18.

### *Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*



Great Bay Discovery Center introduced hundreds of children to the unique habitat of the estuary during the biennium.

- 11,000 people visited the exhibit room at the Great Bay Discovery Center in FY18-19.
- Hosted over 7,000 hours of volunteer time dedicated to education, research, and land stewardship.
- Conducted two Teacher on the Estuary workshops to give New Hampshire high school teachers hands-on science and technology curriculum through estuarine experiential learning.
- Conducted over 20 technical assistance workshops and meetings to bring technical information to community planners and local officials in the Great Bay watershed.
- Co-created and delivered the New Hampshire–Maine Beaches conference to ensure that coastal landowners, communities, and businesses understand ecological and economic information to help manage beaches.
- Created an online tool for evaluating trail placement to preserve wildlife habitat.
- Developed a handicap accessible water access point on the campus of the Great Bay Discovery Center.
- Created a geographic information system (GIS) model to evaluate the resilience of saltmarshes to sea level rise across the country.
- Installed new exhibits in the Discovery Center that interpret saltmarsh habitat and the food web that depends on coastal habitat.



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

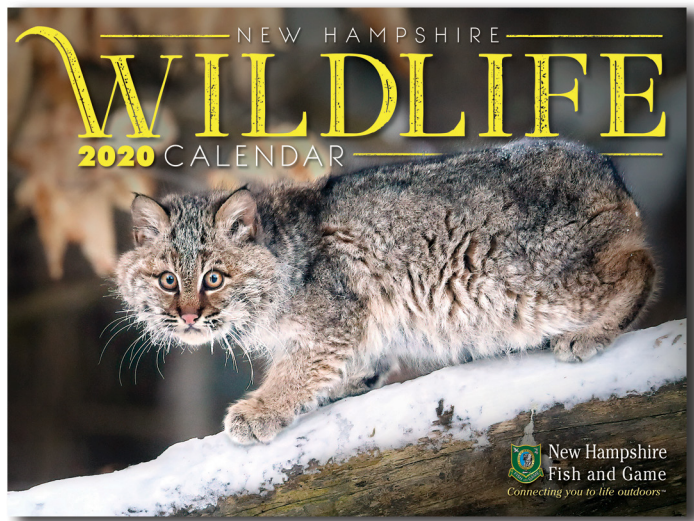
- Implemented monitoring indicators useful to assessing and tracking the health of Great Bay, including:
  - Saltmarsh vegetation surveys;
  - Upland forest surveys;
  - A macro algae survey; and
  - Invasive crab monitoring techniques that will be expanded upon and refined to understand how crab populations are changing in Great Bay.

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION

### INFORMATION UNIT

#### *Website, Publications, and News*

- The NH Fish and Game Department's mobile-friendly website saw over 100,000 unique visits each month of the biennium and an increase in visitors each year. The website boasts over 800 pages of informational and educational content, images, and videos.
- 537 news releases were issued by Public Affairs over the biennium in various formats, communicating the Department's messages to media outlets across New Hampshire and in Massachusetts, and to hundreds of followers.
- Public Affairs Division staff coordinated the Department's social media outreach and increased our following on all platforms. We now have over 63,000 followers on Facebook, 2,000 on Twitter, 13,600 on Instagram (a new account for FY18-FY19), and 2,287 on YouTube.
- On our YouTube channel we had over 121,000 views totaling 5,100 hours of our content.
- The Department's *New Hampshire Wildlife Calendar* sold over 5,000 copies each year including online sales and both wholesale and retail promotion, raising a total of over \$50,000 for the Department.
- Public Affairs staff coordinated the effort to bring WiFi to the Headquarters building at 11 Hazen Drive for the first time.



The NH Wildlife Calendar is produced and marketed each year by Public Affairs staff.

## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### *Broadcast Media*

- Staff produced 11 new episodes of the *NH WildSide* television program, which airs on YouTube.
- A total of 59 Public Education and Government Access television stations from across the country downloaded our *NH WildSide* content.
- Our show *Outdoor Almanac* is still running on radio stations through New Hampshire.
- We put Moose Radio back in service with new content on 1610 AM in the North Country.
- On Facebook over 2,700 hours of our videos were viewed during the biennium.

### *Advertising and Promotions*

- We have a new webpage and system for online sales of merchandise and our magazine, which is essential to growing our customer base and readership, and allows for quick and easy purchasing. Over 400 items were sold in the first 4 months.
- Our annual hunting and fishing marketing/promotional campaigns continued, featuring “This Outdoor Moment,” “Locavores,” and “Decision” themes.
- The Department held a Shop WILD Saturday event for the first time in December 2018, offering people a chance to purchase Fish and Game merchandise as gifts, which was very successful. We plan to make it an annual event.
- A total of 18 outdoor adventure talks were coordinated which promoted participation in outdoor recreation, with a total of 1,500 attendees.
- Two Discover WILD New Hampshire Day events were held, reaching a combined 17,000+ people, with a record single-day attendance of 10,000 in 2018.
- *New Hampshire* magazine recognized N.H. Fish and Game as having the best state merchandise for 2019.
- The Department staffed numerous shows as well as talks, fairs, and other promotional events to engage and educate the general public.
- We began selling the Department’s new cookbook, *New Hampshire’s Wild Eats*, in April 2019.
- Season 6 (which ran August–October 2018 and February–May 2019) of the *North Woods Law* television show on Animal Planet had over 140 million television “live views,” compared with 90 million “live views” for Season 5, an increase of more than 55%. This number does not include the people who record episodes, nor does it include people who watch on Animal Planet Go. Animal Planet has rolled out *North Woods Law* internationally, and the series has been viewed in more than 180 countries, further extending the reach of the series and the subsequent recognition of the New Hampshire and the work of Fish and Game.
- The *North Woods Law* Facebook page, managed by Engel Entertainment, has 205,000 followers and has reached 41 million people as of June 2019.



Discover WILD NH Day engages thousands of residents and visitors with the Department every spring.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

### *Barry Conservation Camp*

- Public Affairs Division staff managed the Barry Conservation Camp facility, including overseeing the building of a large addition to the dining hall. Over 450 youth attended the camp during the biennium.
- The Wild Culinary Adventure weekend was held each year to raise money for Barry Conservation Camp. At the close of the biennium, a new fundraising effort was being initiated to help secure enduring funding for maintenance of the camp.
- A new archery range was completed at Barry Conservation Camp through the work of Commission and other volunteers and generous donations.



The addition at Barry Conservation Camp allows for more classroom space and an enhanced dining experience for campers and guests.

### EDUCATION UNIT

- S3 Event Manager development continued expanding online registration to more education programs. In addition, a new volunteer time-management system was implemented which now provides electronic timesheets for all volunteers.

### *Wildlife Education*

- Twelve Durant grants were applied for, securing funds to support existing programs, initiate involvement in the Schoolyard Wildlife Actions Grants, continue the Wild Times for Kids educational magazine, begin upgrades to the Discovery Room, and revitalize the watchable wildlife program web site and signage in northern New Hampshire. The Durant funds are made available through the New Hampshire Wildlife Heritage Foundation.
- The Math and Science Partnership (MSP) provided a one-week teachers' institute in FY 2018. Twenty two Project WILD and Growing up WILD workshops were held. A total of 365 teachers were trained through the MSP and Project WILD workshops.
- The Wonders of Wildlife program delivered 119 presentations to schools reaching 2,642 elementary students.



The Mentored Turkey Hunting Program continued to introduce new participants to hunting during the biennium.



## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Owl Brook Hunter Education Center hosted thousands of program participants for Hunter Education and Becoming an Outdoors-Woman programming.

- Wildlife Stewards provided 103 presentations on bears, bobcats, and brook trout to the public reaching 2,443 people highlighting Fish and Game's successful wildlife management efforts funded through the Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration Act.
- Schoolyard Wildlife Action Grants provided \$3,917 in Durant Funds to seven schools. Projects included establishing pollinator gardens for native pollinators and Monarch butterflies, integrated wildlife education spaces in the schoolyard, and a Monarch monitoring station.

- Twenty schools and 400 students participated in the Winter Severity data collection program to learn how snow depth and temperature effects deer populations in the state. All wildlife education kits were upgraded using Durant funds.
- A total of 13 signs were replaced at watchable wildlife sites in the North Country, improvements and updates were made to the Department's watchable wildlife web page, and work began on a new kiosk for the Dixville Notch Moose Watching Platform.

### ***Owl Brook***

- Owl Brook Hunter Education Center improvements included the development of a habitat demonstration area for visitors. The practice archery range was moved to a better location to better serve those who use the woodland archery range.
- Over 3,200 people attended workshops or courses at Owl Brook year round during this biennium. This included youth skills days, mentored hunting workshops, advanced hunting skills workshops, shooting sports workshops, field days and Hunter Education Traditional courses, and Trapper Education classes.

### ***Hunter Education***

- During the biennium, the Hunter Education program administered 239 traditional Hunter Education classes and Field Days, certifying 4892, hunters. In addition, 349 people were certified for trapping through 19 mandatory Trapper Education courses.
- The Tree Stand Manufacturers Association funded training in New Hampshire for 27 Hunter Education volunteers to teach tree stand safety.
- The Mentored Turkey Hunting Program expanded from 2 workshops in the last biennium to 4 locations and 58 participants in 2018 and 74 participants in 2019.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

- The first Mentored Deer Hunting Program was initiated with 21 people participating. Important partnerships were formed with local NGO Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) and national NGO's QDMA, the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) and Whitetails Unlimited. NSSF used the New Hampshire program as a model to create a national campaign encouraging other industry members to participate in similar programs in their respective states.

### *Let's Go Fishing*

- Let's Go Fishing (LGF) Program offered 121 free courses attended by 3,300 people during the biennium. The Program also provided 2 educational seminars on bass fishing for the N.H. Interscholastic Athletic Association's (NHIAA) High School Bass Fishing Tournament. More than 40 schools participated each year. Let's Go Fishing reached another 3,000 people through 12 outreach events, and 80 youths through fishing-focused programming at Barry Conservation Camp.

### *Watershed Education*

- The Watershed Education Program provided teacher training and field trip support to over 100 schools, 120 teachers, and 6,000 students. This program was delivered through two Watershed Ecology Institutes and 14 teacher training workshops attended by 103 teachers. Direct youth education and field trip support was provided for 52 schools and organizations during the biennium.

### *Becoming an Outdoors-Woman*

- The Department's Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) program is co-sponsored with the New Hampshire Wildlife Federation and targets women age 18 or older for workshops that teach outdoor skills usually associated with hunting and fishing, but useful for many outdoor pursuits. Regular BOW fall and winter workshops use direct hands-on experiential learning techniques and are designed to remove barriers to participation specific to women. During the biennium, 411 women attended BOW and Beyond BOW Workshops.



BOW programs introduced hundreds of women to year-round outdoor opportunities during the biennium.

## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### WILDLIFE DIVISION

#### *Game Programs*

- The Department's Game Management Team used current harvest and biological data, in addition to management goals and objectives established in the 2016-2025 Game Management Plan, to review the population status and physical condition of New Hampshire game species.



Hunters experienced greater deer harvest opportunities in certain regions of the state due to a healthy population.

Recommended changes in deer, bear, moose, turkey, furbearer, small game, pheasant, and migratory bird seasons and bag limits were proposed, evaluated, and implemented through the Department's biennial season setting process during the winter of 2018, resulting in increased hunting opportunities for deer, bear, and turkey.

- In the fall of 2018, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was detected in a captive deer facility in Quebec. This finding represents the closest case of CWD to New Hampshire and the first time it has been documented in an adjacent jurisdiction. As a result, Fish and Game initiated an extensive

public relations campaign to inform hunters and the general public of the increased risk this poses to our state's deer population.

- The 2018 total deer harvest was 14,113 and represented the state's second highest harvest on record. The 2017 and 2018 total antlered deer harvests were the second and first highest on record, respectively. Given trends in increased development and posting of land, many municipalities potentially face overabundant deer populations and increasing deer-human conflicts. Over the biennium, the Department initiated a Deer Management Assistance Program to help municipalities document and address these issues. The Town of Hanover became the first to qualify for this program, and they received 100 additional antlerless deer tags in 2018 for use by hunters on town-designated "Special Deer Management Areas" to help reduce deer numbers.
- The Wildlife Division used dedicated funds from the game management



Fish and Game has been working with the USDA to improve our statewide black bear-human conflict mitigation program. ©Duane Cross.



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

account to hire a seasonal Bear Technician to aid Department staff and USDA-Wildlife Services personnel in assisting the public with bear–human conflict management.

- The Wildlife Division worked closely with the Public Affairs Division and USDA Wildlife Services to further improve our statewide bear–human conflict mitigation program. This program has helped stabilize bear–human conflicts in New Hampshire, which is a significant achievement given the increase in bear populations, people, and human-related food attractants in our state. Current efforts are focused on developing improved communication strategies to help educate and inform the public and other constituents.



As southern portions of the state reach maximum population density, the spring turkey bag limit was increases in the region in 2019.

- Of the six moose management regions, three have shown moose population growth and three have shown population declines. Lottery permit issuance was decreased to 51 during 2017 and 2018, and during 2018 biennial season setting, 49 permits were proposed for 2019. Statewide moose hunter success remains at about 70%.
- The Wildlife Management Units with the best turkey populations (H1, H2, K, J2, L, and M) are in the southern part of the state and have reached turkey population levels which allow for a two-gobbler spring season bag limit, which were implemented during the May 2019 season.
- Turkey harvests from southeastern New Hampshire (Units J2, L, and M) have now equaled or surpassed harvests from southwestern New Hampshire, which has more farmland and less development and has historically had the highest turkey harvests.
- Cases of Avian Pox and Lymphoproliferative Disease Virus (LPDV) in turkeys have been monitored for the past 7 years in New Hampshire. While the virus has been widespread, relatively few turkeys seem to have been seriously affected.
- The Department took action to close the pheasant season until noon on in-season pheasant stocking days due to safety concerns for Department staff, hunters, and the integrity of the pheasant program.
- In the fall of 2018, the Department participated in a multi-state West Nile Virus surveillance study by asking participants in the small game project's annual Wing and Tail Survey to collect blood samples from hunter-harvested ruffed grouse.
- In 2017, pheasants were stocked at 66 sites in 43 towns. In 2018, 63 sites in 44 towns were stocked with pheasants. The total number of birds released at each site averaged 135, with the exception of the flood-control areas which received approximately 40 more birds per site.
- Biologists captured and leg-banded 784 resident Canada geese and 2,048 ducks throughout the state as part of ongoing Atlantic Flyway waterfowl monitoring.
- The Wildlife Division, working in partnership with USDA Wildlife Services, collected a total of 572 samples from captured ducks during the biennium to aid nationwide Avian Influenza surveillance efforts.

## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In response to a population decline, the fisher bag limit for hunting and trapping was reduced to a combined annual limit of two per license holder.
- In a continuing effort to assess bobcat population dynamics in New Hampshire, during 2016-2017, 39 bobcat carcasses were collected while 53 were collected in 2017-18. These are necropsied and provide information on sex, age, weight, and productivity.

### *Animal Damage Control*

- The state's Fish and Game Department and USDA Wildlife Services animal damage control partnership responded to nearly 3,900 requests for animal damage assistance, including over 300 site visits, and distributed over 12,000 informational leaflets.

### *Nongame and Endangered Wildlife*

- The Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program celebrated 30 years of success. Summary stories were included in the Department magazine Wildlife Journal and the quarterly Nongame Program's newsletter Wildlines, and weekly messages (Wild Wednesdays) were posted to New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Facebook page.
- Published eight issues of the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program's nationally recognized Wildlines newsletter. Each newsletter was distributed to over 2,600 individuals.
- Successfully raised more than \$50,000 in private donations each year through a series of funding campaigns. As a result, the Nongame Program exceeded the requirement necessary to receive \$50,000 in matching General Funds.
- Completed a statewide Wildlife Corridors report that summarizes ongoing and completed research and implementation efforts and provides recommendations to improve wildlife corridors.
- The Taking Action for Wildlife Team, consisting of members from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, and the Association of Conservation Commissions, provided technical assistance on conservation planning, wildlife and wildlife habitats, and community engagement with a focus on implementing the NH Wildlife Action Plan. Technical assistance was provided through more than 14 workshops to over 500 people, and meeting with 4 regional planning commissions, 6 land trusts, and 15 towns.



New Hampshire contains 40% of the land area occupied by the endangered Blanding's turtle, one of the reptiles with the greatest need of protection in the Northeast.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

- Education staff at Amoskeag Fishways in partnership with the Department and New Hampshire Audubon, completed more than 250 Urban Wildlife programs in 9 Manchester elementary schools.
- *Bats* - Biologists continued to evaluate the status of bat populations following devastating declines from White Nose Syndrome. A gate was installed at the entrance of one bat hibernacula to protect the endangered bats.
- *New England Cottontail* - Recovery efforts for the New England cottontail continued. Surveys were conducted to determine presence of the species in suitable habitat. A captive breeding facility at the Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge was managed to enhance cottontail productivity. A new rabbit reporting website was launched to gather information on the distribution of rabbits in New Hampshire and hundreds of reports were received.
- *Forest Carnivores* - Biologists conducted surveys for American marten (removed from threatened list in 2017) and Canada lynx (federally threatened, state endangered) using game cameras to evaluate the species occupancy and distribution in northern New Hampshire.
- *Raptors* – In partnership with New Hampshire Audubon, bald eagle (state special concern) and peregrine falcon (state threatened) monitoring and management continued. Monitoring of bald eagles found that the population recovery continued post-delisting (removed from state threatened list during 2017) with 60 territorial pairs in 2018.
- *Coastal Birds* - Biologists continued to monitor and manage piping plover and least tern populations on the New Hampshire shoreline and common and Roseate terns on the Isles of Shoals. A record 9 pairs of piping plovers nested on New Hampshire beaches in 2018 hatching 32 chicks. During the biennium, least tern breeding pairs increased from 2 to 11.
- *Turtles* - Biologists surveyed Blanding's (state endangered), spotted (state threatened), wood (special concern), and box turtles (state endangered) in New Hampshire to determine the spatial extent and health of populations. Two nationally competitive federal grants were awarded for turtle conservation, one to implement priority conservation actions for Blanding's turtles and a second grant to conduct systematic surveys and develop conservation plans for spotted turtles. Nongame biologists partnered with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services to launch a Working Lands for Wildlife Program for turtles, a program where landowners can receive financial assistance with the implementation of priority turtle actions. Nesting habitat was enhanced for Blanding's turtles at several priority sites.
- *Butterflies* - Biologists continued restoration and recovery efforts for Karner blue butterflies (federally and state endangered) including raising and releasing butterflies in a captive rearing laboratory and performing habitat management annually. Additional surveys were initiated for the frosted elfin butterfly (state endangered), and surveys indicated a stable or growing population. The Program launched a new initiative in partnership with the White Mountain Observatory to evaluate the habitat needs of the White Mountain fritillary (state endangered), a species only known to occur on Mount Washington. A partnership was developed with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services to initiate research trials to benefit milkweed, the critical plant for declining monarch butterfly populations.
- *Freshwater mussels* – A nationally competitive federal grant was awarded for state endangered brook floater mussels to develop range-wide standard survey protocols, to identify conservation actions for restoration, and to develop propagation techniques and evaluate the feasibility of population augmentation. Biologists partnered with other regional biologists to evaluate the status of species across the species range.

## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### *Habitat Management Programs*

- Regional biologists reviewed and administered Small Grants Program funds for 37 habitat improvement projects on private lands in 21 towns.
- Regional biologists reviewed a total of 104 timber harvests covering approximately 20,459 acres.
- Serving on the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program and Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership Boards as well as the State Conservation Committee, Department staff reviewed and programs funded 77 land conservation projects awarding a total of \$4,540,361. More than 24,740 acres of land were conserved through these grant programs. Staff worked to ensure that awarded projects conserved significant wildlife habitats as identified in the NH Wildlife Action Plan and through field work, and that all funded projects were open for public access including hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching.
- The Division acquired eight properties in fee totaling 6,947 acres, which were added to our statewide Wildlife Management Area system. Another 1,500 acres of easement lands were also acquired. Funds for acquisitions were obtained through Federal Aid in Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) grants, donations, mitigation, or other sources of funding. Properties included:
  - Stonehouse Forest, Barrington (1,500 acres) - We received a \$1,000,000 grant from the USFWS Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant Program to assist the Southeast Land Trust of NH in acquiring the property. WSFR funds also contributed significantly to the purchase of a conservation easement that will be held by the Department.
  - Pearly Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Rindge (676 acres) – This property contains over 300 feet of frontage on Pearly Lake, hundreds of acres of manageable forestland, and extensive areas of open field and diverse wetlands.
  - Manchester Airport Mitigation Parcel, Londonderry and Manchester (56 acres) – The Department worked with the Manchester Airport to conserve this property which holds potential for state-endangered New England cottontails. It will be referred to as the Ellingwood Street WMA.
  - Kimball Hill Forest, Groton (2,700 acres) – The Department worked with The Nature Conservancy to conserve this large property sandwiched between Province Road State Forest in Dorchester and Cardigan State Park in Orange. It has been added to our system of WMAs and will be referred to as the Kimball Hill WMA.
  - Merrill Tract, Groton (100 acres) – This property abuts the Kimball Hill WMA and has been added to it. Once the owners heard of the pending NHFG purchase of Kimball Hill, they reached out to the Department to see if we would be interested in purchasing their abutting piece of property. Like many of the others, funding for this project came from federal WSFR program monies.
  - Ruger Lands, Newport, Croydon, and Grantham (3,181 acres) – The Department worked with The Conservation Fund to conserve two separate parcels in the towns of Newport, Croydon and Grantham owned by William Ruger of Sturm, Ruger & Co. These properties abut Corbin Park, and along with other surrounding lands comprise a nearly 49,000-acre unfragmented block of habitat, the largest such block south of the White Mountains. These properties will be referred to as Ruger North WMA and Ruger South WMA.
  - Butternut Pond, Enfield (218 acres) – This property, which abuts the Laramie WMA, had an easement held by the Department. The Department decided to purchase the remaining fee



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ❖

to own the property outright and it will become part of the Laramie WMA.

- Real Estate Advisors Land Donation, Newfields (16 acres) – This small parcel abuts the Piscassic WMA and will be added to it. The donation was a condition of the subdivision of the property, which will create three new house lots along Route 87.
- Timber harvests on six WMAs were completed to enhance wildlife food and cover, generating nearly \$320,000 in revenue. Harvests on six other WMAs are planned and are ready for implementation pending suitable ground conditions.
- Fields were mowed on 22 state properties to maintain 177 acres for wild turkey, deer, grassland birds, and other wildlife. Staff completed brontosaurus mowing on 8 acres and planted nearly 10,000 shrubs to promote shrubland and young forest habitat to benefit American woodcock, ruffed grouse, and several species of songbirds.
- The program controlled invasive exotic plants on 160 acres to improve native habitats and planned nearly 165 acres of additional habitat improvements on five state properties.
- The Division resurfaced and graded nine miles of access road on the CT Lakes Natural Area, built one parking area at Corey WMA, and replaced undersized culverts with a bridge over Knight Meadow Brook at Knights Meadow WMA.
- The Division funded a contract with the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension that:
  - Delivered 17 workshops/presentations reaching 689 landowners, natural resource professionals, and community decision makers on topics related to land and habitat management.
  - Provided technical assistance to 51 municipal and private landowners on habitat management issues affecting 7,204 acres of land.
  - Helped fund the training of 45 New Hampshire Coverts Project volunteers over the biennium; they join 389 existing Coverts volunteers, who actively help conserve wildlife habitat in their communities. Over the biennium these volunteers contributed over 46,800 hours of service on behalf of wildlife habitat in their communities (valued at over \$1,181,000).

## ❖ MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### WILDLIFE HERITAGE FOUNDATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

#### FISH AND GAME'S NONPROFIT PARTNER

As an official nonprofit partner of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire, an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization, continues to have a significant positive impact on Department programs, services, and activities.

The Foundation was established in 2006 and has awarded 96 grants to NHFG over the years. The Foundation focuses on investing in wild places and wild things, supporting critical Fish and Game Department needs that go under- and unfunded, and for programs impacting future generations. The Foundation helps fund the essential education, conservation, wildlife, fisheries, and law enforcement programs of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.



WILDLIFE HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION of NH  
SHARING THE PAST, SHAPING THE FUTURE.

During this biennium, the Foundation awarded \$166,815.38 in grants for 22 critical Fish and Game programs. Grant-funded projects included anti-predation netting and fencing at the Berlin, Warren, and New Hampton hatcheries, scholarships for the Department's popular Becoming an Outdoors Woman fall event, primary sponsorship of Discover WILD New Hampshire Day, and support for a wild brook trout migration assessment project in northern New Hampshire.

The Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire continues to support the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's Law Enforcement Division Canine Program by providing financial assistance for training, medical care, and equipment needs. During the biennium, Foundation board member Wesley Reed generously donated one new dog, Moxie, to join the canine unit.

The Foundation's Forever Locked moose display is a critical public education asset that is used around New Hampshire and the New England region to promote New Hampshire's great outdoors. The Foundation also continues its strong commitment to supporting the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's educational programs, and the Durant Educational Fund provided financial support to a variety of Department education projects. The Durant Fund was established to support educational programs for at least ten years; the first grants were awarded in March of 2018 and continue to be awarded to the Department.

The Foundation generates contributed income through fundraising campaigns, grant proposals, and individual major giving requests to directly support projects and programs at the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.

Funding for the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire's grant program comes from individual and corporate donors, memorial gifts, donations from the Foundation's Board of Directors, the Foundation's Friends Program, special events, and the annual Moose Permit Auction. The Foundation accepts general and targeted cash donations and welcomes annuities and endowments. In most cases, donations are tax deductible. For more information or to donate, visit [www.nhwildlifeheritage.org](http://www.nhwildlifeheritage.org).



## 2018 SESSION

### Enacted Law:

- **HB 1280 – Title: Relative to bow and arrow hunting licenses for permanently disabled military veterans.** Creates qualification for free lifetime licenses for certain veterans with a 100% service connected disability rating. Chapter 27; Effective Date 7/14/2018.
- **HB 1286 – Title: Relative to fish and game regulations relative to disabled veterans.** Creates qualification for reduced cost lifetime licenses for certain NH resident veterans with an 80-90% service connected disability rating. Chapter 346; Effective Date 1/1/2019.
- **HB 1352 – Title: Eliminating the nonresident freshwater bait dealers license.** Combines resident and non-resident freshwater bait dealers license into one license type, and authorizes rules to implement the change. Chapter 64; Effective Date 7/24/2018.
- **HB 1411 – Title: Relative to funds transferred to the nongame species account.** Increases funding for the nongame species account. Chapter 180; Effective Date 7/1/2019.
- **HB 1575 – Title: Permitting hunting with an air rifle.** Creates new definitions for air rifles and authorizes hunting of certain species with the newly defined rifles. Chapter 77; Effective Date 7/1/2018.
- **SB 48 – Title: Establishing a commission to study the efficiency and effectiveness of fish and game department operations.** Chapter 5; Effective Date 2/15/2018.
- **SB 410 – Title: Establishing a commission to study creating a boat safe card.** Study committee relative to a boat safe card. Chapter 129; Effective Date 5/30/2018.
- **SB 451 – Title: Relative to wildlife trafficking.** Makes violation of certain international standards a violation under state law, and authorizes rules to implement the new provisions. Chapter 226; Effective Date 1/1/2019.
- **SB 500 – Title: amending references to firearms terminology.** Changes references to certain firearms in existing statute, and changes definitions of certain actions and behaviors that violate such statutes. Chapter 324; Effective Date 8/24/2018.

## 2019 SESSION

### Enacted Law:

- **HB 138 – Title: Relative to rules pertaining to marine species managed under the Magnusson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.** Will exempt species regulated by the federal Department of Commerce, NOAA Fisheries, from normal procedures under RSA 541-A. Chapter 78; Effective Date 8/17/2019.
- **HB 196 – Title: Relative to proof of residency for fish and game purposes.** Allows certain additional documents to be provided as proof of residency to those who do not possess a NH driver's license or NH non-driver photo ID card to enable purchase of certain department licenses. Chapter 97; Effective Date 8/20/2019.
- **HB 325 – Title: Relative to control of marine pollution and aquatic growth.** Requires boaters to use cleanout equipment provided at boat launches, if such equipment is available. Chapter 100; Effective Date 1/1/2020.

## ❖ LEGISLATION

- **HB 591 – Title: Amending the laws governing OHRVs and snowmobiles.** A bill that changes certain safety related provisions in the OHRV and snowmobile statutes. Chapter 216; Effective Date 9/10/2019.
- **HB 592 – Title: Relative to OHRV operation and license.** Changes the age of persons who may accompany operators under age 16 who have no driver's license while such machines are operated on a public highway. Chapter 294; Effective Date 7/29/2019.
- **HB 660 – Title: Relative to studying the economic and other impacts of OHRV use in New Hampshire.** Study committee on these issues. Chapter 218; Effective Date 7/12/2019.
- **HB 701 – Title: Relative to bow and arrow hunting for permanently disabled veterans.** Extends the ability to purchase a lifetime license for archery purposes to certain disabled veterans. Chapter 161; Effective Date 9/7/2019.
- **SB 121 – Title: Relative to acquisition rights and easements at Weeks Crossing Dam in the town of Warren by the Department of Environmental Services.** A bill dealing with an area following failure of a dam seeking to restore the impoundment of water behind a new structure. Chapter 195; Effective Date 9/8/2019.
- **SB 187 – Title: Relative to OHRV dealer and rental agency registration fees and relative to snowmobile registration fees.** Bill to increase certain fees for these machines and use the proceeds to improve the ability of clubs to acquire and operate necessary trail grooming equipment. Chapter 241; Effective Date 7/12/2019-5/1/2023.
- **SB 200 – Title: relative to wildlife corridors.** A bill that defines wildlife corridors, and makes protection of such corridors an issue to be considered in transportation and other land use development projects. Chapter 243; Effective Date 9/10/2019.





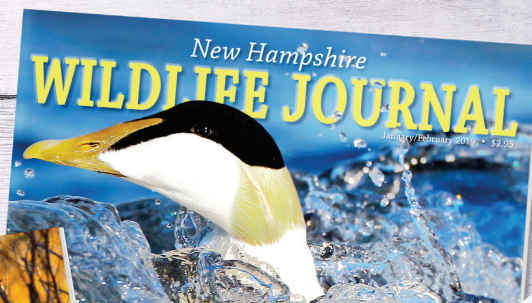
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## DEER SEASON PRIMER



### A LONGTIME HUNTER AND CONSERVATION OFFICER GIVES ADVICE ON DEER HUNTING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

by  
**JOHN WIMSATT**

**I** will admit it, writing a deer scouting and hunting article is a first for me. I am generally not interested in predictable annual fall hunting preparation pieces. The measure of a hunt is many things often left with the feeling that I could never measure up to the standard of the author who appeared to hunt for a living. Meanwhile, I was spending most of my time working on being a husband and father to a busy family, as well as a full-time Conservation Officer. So my goal is to omit the fluff and share some insights on hunting and scouting that have worked for me and my family.

I offer up the following practical, simple tips, things that stand out as important to me when I think about how I have prepared for and spent time in the deer woods of New Hampshire over the last four decades. I owe my deepest gratitude to my father and our longtime family friend, the late Conservation Officer Captain James Jones, for instilling in me a passion for hunting and great respect for the outdoors... and for reminding me of the importance of sometimes having a full bacon and eggs breakfast first before hitting the woods, even if it means missing first light!

#### Timing Is Everything

Get started by doing some scouting from home studying topographical maps, Google Earth, or the maps on the Fish and Game website at [www.nhfishandgame.com/hunting-where-hunt-kind](http://www.nhfishandgame.com/hunting-where-hunt-kind). This can really cut down your scouting time and increase your odds of success.

Next, unless you are hunting public land or have plenty of private land (with permission in hand), you'll need to spend a good deal of your scouting time visiting landowners and respectfully asking permission. Be prepared for plenty of rejection, but like deer hunting, timing is everything. Be patient and keep trying. Don't get knocking wearing camouflage and face paint, dress in a clean and respectable manner, and respect the

a deer.  
don't try too hard.  
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time in the woods with  
has been my most gen-  
a experience of all.

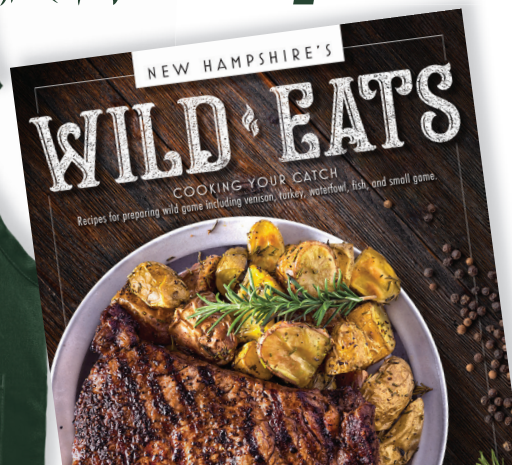
Watts retired in 2017 from  
al Game Department after  
is as a Conservation Officer  
rthwood with his wife, Cathy,  
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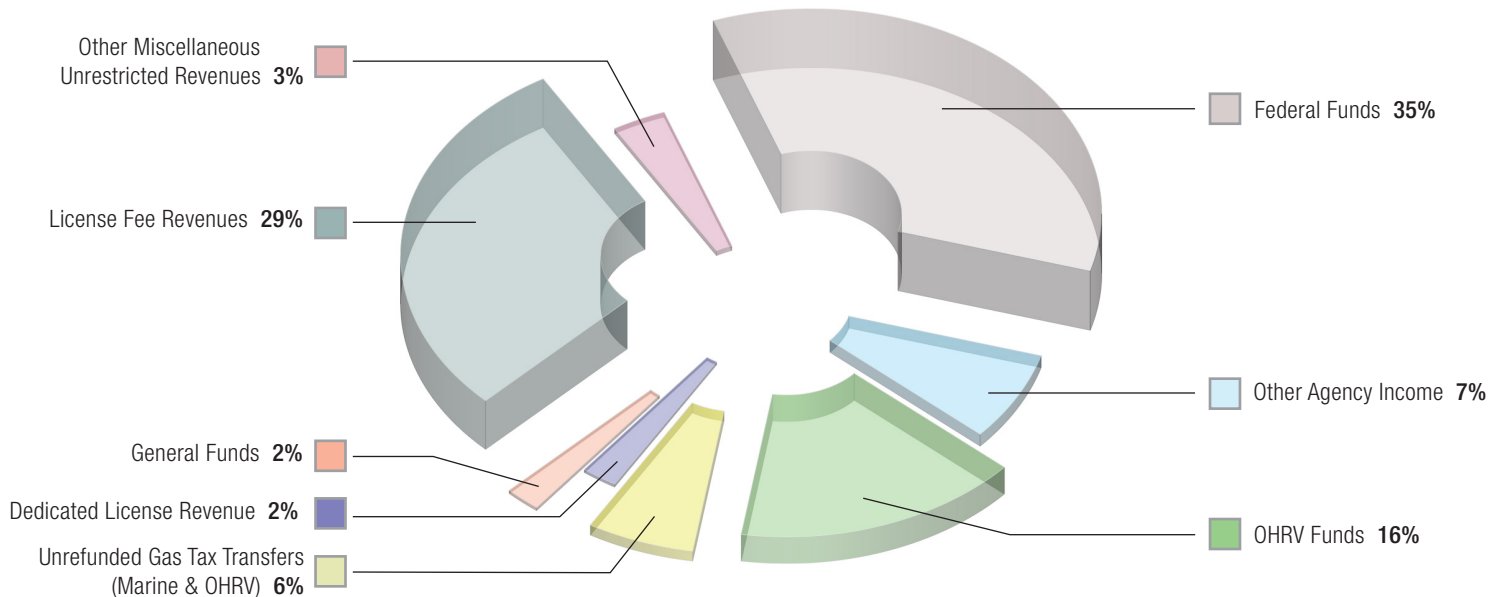


# A COMPLEX FUNDING PICTURE

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department uses revenue from fishing and hunting license fees, federal funds, state general funds, and other sources to accomplish its broad mission to serve the people and wildlife of New Hampshire.

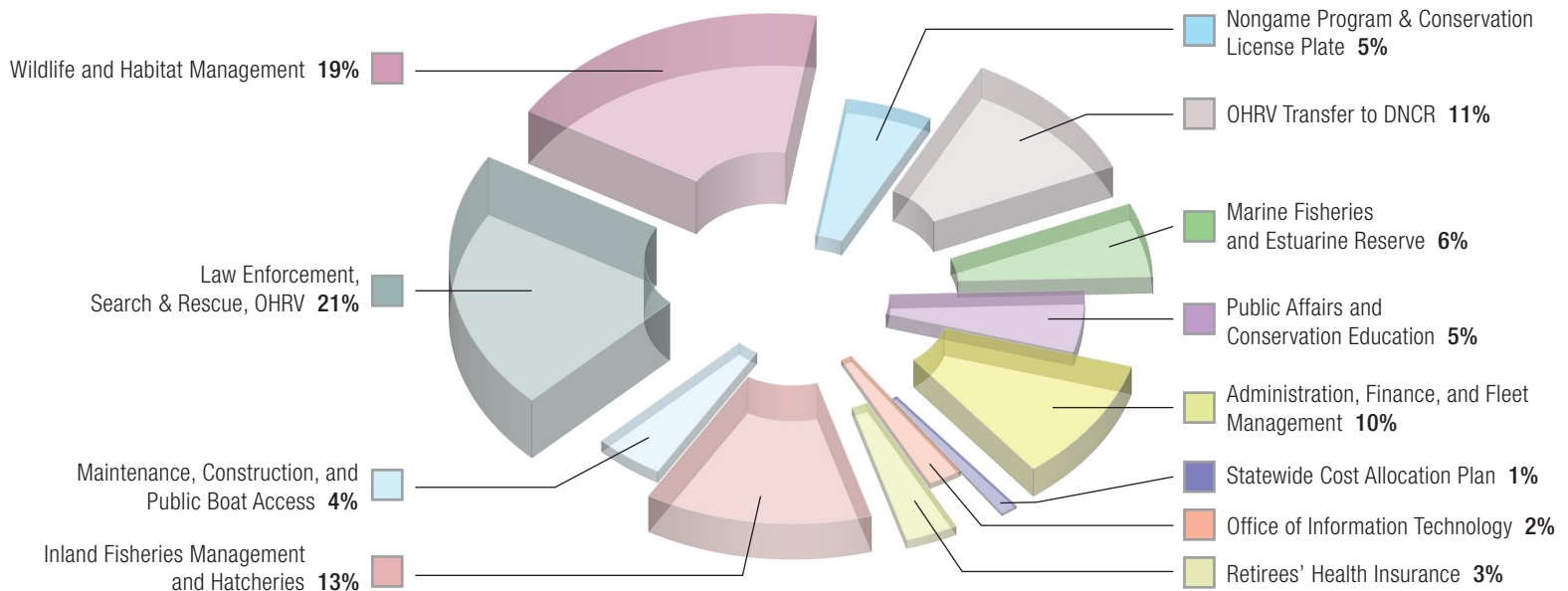
## WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM...

**TOTAL REVENUES (FY 2018): \$31,185,096**



## WHERE THE MONEY GOES...

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES (FY 2018): \$31,185,096**



**License Fee Revenue:** Includes all resident and nonresident fishing and hunting licenses received for Fiscal Year 2018.

**Other Miscellaneous Unrestricted Revenues:** Includes court and license agent fines and penalties, sales of surplus property, miscellaneous sales, and interest earnings. Actual receipts of miscellaneous unrestricted revenues were \$915,782.

**Total Expenditures of the Fish and Game fund for Fiscal Year 2018** per year-end Monthly Statement of Appropriation by Office is \$32,163,108. Included within this amount is \$978,012 of inter-fund expenditure reimbursements. Net result of expenditures for Fiscal Year 2018 is \$31,185,096.

**Other Agency Income:** \$5 Boat surcharge - \$369,316; \$1 Search and Rescue surcharge on boat, OHRV and snowmobile registrations - \$170,461; Hike Safe Card - \$135,075; Nongame donations and program income - \$326,703; Conservation License Plate Funds - \$380,349; Revenue from Sales of Timber - \$251,991; Wildlife Heritage Foundation Grant Funds - \$96,606; Other miscellaneous grants, donations and income - \$441,445.

**Federal Funds:** Sport Fish Restoration Act (Dingell-Johnson and the Wallop-Breaux Amendment) for inland fisheries management, boat access and aquatic resources education - \$3,120,616; Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson) for wildlife management and hunter education - \$4,515,021; State Wildlife Grants - \$929,943; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for marine fisheries management, the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve program and marine law enforcement - \$1,088,638, other miscellaneous federal revenues - \$1,114,780.

