



**New Hampshire Wildlife Federation  
2019 Session**

**Hearings scheduled the week of April 22, 2019**

**HB 325**, *relative to control of marine pollution and aquatic growth. (Public Hearing)*

**SB 160**, *(new title) relative to swimming and non-motorized boating at public boat access areas. (Executive Session)*

**SB 200**, *relative to wildlife corridors. (Executive Session)*

**SB 201**, *requiring the department of transportation and the fish and game department to develop a plan for the construction of a ramp, dock, and parking at great bay waters at hilton park in dover. (Executive Session)*

**Bill:** **HB 138**  
**Title:** *relative to rules pertaining to marine species managed under the Magnusson-Stevens fishery conservation and management act.*  
**Sponsor:** Rep. James Webb  
**House:** Adopted on 02/14/2019.  
**Committee:** Senate Executive Departments and Administration  
**Status:** Schedule pending.  
**Comments:** Supporters argued that this bill would allow Fish and Game to more efficiently comply with new federal laws.

**Bill:** **HB 196**  
**Title:** *relative to proof of residency for fish and game purposes.*  
**Sponsor:** Rep. James Spillane  
**House:** Adopted with Amendment on 02/27/2019.  
**Committee:** Senate Executive Departments and Administration  
**Status:** Adopted by the Senate with Amendment on 04/11/2019.  
**Comments:** Language seeks to mirror requirements from DMV for obtaining a driver's license. Amendment make some technical language changes to better address the intent of the bill.

**Bill:** **HB 281**  
**Title:** *(new title) relative to flow devices designed to control beaver damming and minimize the risk of flooding behind an existing beaver dam.*  
**Sponsor:** Rep. Mel Myler  
**Committee:** Senate Energy and Natural Resources  
**Status:** Schedule pending.

Comments: Bill was well received by Senate Committee. Executive Session likely in the next few weeks.

Bill: **HB 325**  
Title: *relative to control of marine pollution and aquatic growth.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Grassie  
House: Adopted by the House on 3/20/2019.  
Committee: Senate Energy and Natural Resources  
Status: Public Hearing: 04/23/2019, Room 103, SH, 09:30 am  
Comments: Concerns raised at the hearing by Fish and Game about the cost of equipment and the possible misuse or vandalism of equipment.

Bill: **HB 591**  
Title: *amending the laws governing OHRVs and snowmobiles.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Wayne Moynihan  
House: Adopted by the House with Amendment on 03/20/2019.  
Committee: Senate Transportation  
Status: Schedule pending.  
Comments: Original bill was a request of Fish and Game. Amendment is exceedingly problematic as it would make the process for towns to allow use of Class V roads for OHRVs very burdensome.

Bill: **HB 605**  
Title: *relative to criminal penalties for possession, transfer, or manufacture of animal fighting paraphernalia with the intent to be present at, aiding in, or contributing to such fighting.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Katherine Rogers  
House: Adopted by the House on 03/19/2019.  
Committee: Senate Judiciary  
Status: Schedule pending.  
Comments: Large opposition from Dog owners and trainers. Supported primarily by HSUS.

Bill: **HB 630**  
Title: *increasing certain fines for OHRV and snowmobile operation violations.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Wayne Moynihan  
House: Adopted by the House on 04/04/2019  
Committee: Senate Judiciary  
Status: Schedule pending.  
Comments: Bipartisan support. Bill supporters believe that this will cut down on rouge riders.

Bill: **HB 701**  
Title: *(new title) relative to bow and arrow licenses for certain disabled veterans.*

Sponsor: Rep. Cathryn Harvey  
House: Adopted with Amendment on 02/27/2019.  
Committee: Senate Executive Departments and Administration.  
Status: Adopted by the Senate on 04/11/2019.  
Comments: Would better allow Fish and Game to offer these discounts by making language in compliance with federal guidelines.

Bill: **SB 160**  
Title: *(new title) relative to swimming and non-motorized boating at public boat access areas.*

Sponsor: Sen. Jeb Bradley  
Senate: Adopted with Amendment on 03/07/2019.  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Public Hearing held on 04/16/2019  
Comments: Large opposition from the Fish and Game Department at the Hearing.

Bill: **SB 187**  
Title: *relative to OHRV dealer and rental agency registration fees and relative to snowmobile registration fees.*

Sponsor: Sen. Bob Giuda  
Committee: House Transportation  
Status: Majority Committee Report: Ought to Pass for 05/02/2019 (Vote 12-4; RC);  
Minority Committee Report: Inexpedient to Legislate  
Comments: Primarily a snowmobile reg fee increase, but it would also increase dealer and rental company registration fees for OHRVs.

Bill: **SB 200**  
Title: *relative to wildlife corridors.*  
Sponsor: Sen. David Watters  
Senate: Adopted with Amendment on 02/14/2019.  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Public Hearing held on 04/16/2019  
Comments: Bill was well received by the committee. No testimony in opposition.

Bill: **SB 201**  
Title: *requiring the department of transportation and the fish and game department to develop a plan for the construction of a ramp, dock, and parking at great bay waters at hilton park in dover.*

Sponsor: Sen. David Watters  
Senate: Adopted on 03/07/2019.  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Public Hearing held on 04/16/2019

Comments: Would require the department of transportation and the fish and game department to develop a plan for the construction of a ramp, dock, and parking at Great Bay Waters at Hilton Park in Dover.

### **Legislation Regarding Firearms**

Bill: **HB 109**  
Title: *requiring background checks for commercial firearms sales.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Katherine Rogers  
House: Adopted by the House on 03/19/2019  
Committee: Senate Judiciary  
Status: Schedule pending.  
Comments: Extended debate, with supporters saying that even if it is just a feel good measure, the committee needs to do something. Opponents said the state does not have a gun violence problem and the bill does nothing to stop criminals.

Bill: **HB 514**  
Title: *imposing a waiting period between the purchase and delivery of a firearm.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Katherine Rogers  
House: Adopted by the House on 3/19/2019  
Committee: Senate Judiciary  
Status: Schedule pending.  
Comments: Vote was along party line. Bill will be heavily debated.

Bill: **HB 564**  
Title: *relative to possession of firearms in safe school zones.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Mary Heath  
House: Adopted by the House on 04/04/2019  
Committee: Senate Judiciary  
Status: Schedule pending  
Comments: Language clarifies exemption for individuals with firearms in cars that are on campus picking students up from school.

Bill: **HB 696**  
Title: *establishing a protective order for vulnerable adults.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Robert Renny Cushing  
Committee: House Criminal Justice and Public Safety  
Status: Adopted by the House on 04/04/2019.  
Comments: Concerns raised surrounding possible constitutional conflicts and 2A infringements. Supporters argued that the language was lifted directly out of the domestic violence statutes.

### **2019 Retained Bills**

Bill: **HB 107**  
Title: *making appropriations for costs involved in controlling invasive aquatic species.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Linda Gould  
Committee: House Finance (2<sup>nd</sup> Committee)  
Status: Retained in Committee on 03/27/2019.  
Comments: Committee will include a smaller appropriation as a possible budget amendment.

Bill: **HB 501**  
Title: *establishing a cost of care fund to assist municipalities caring for animals during animal cruelty cases.*  
Sponsor: Rep. John O'Connor  
Committee: House Environment and Agriculture  
Status: Retained in Committee on 02/19/19.  
Comments: Committee retained bill to possibly place language into another related bill.

Bill: **HB 640**  
Title: *establishing a registration fee for canoes and kayaks.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Jeffrey Goley  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Retained in Committee on 02/13/19.  
Comments: Committee hopes to find some compromise over the summer and create a voluntary program for users of canoes and kayaks.

Bill: **HB 683**  
Title: *relative to the rights of property owners abutting certain highways and railtrails.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Wayne Moynihan  
Committee: House Resources, Recreation and Development  
Status: Retained in Committee on 03/13/2019.  
Comments: Committee felt that there were many possible unintended consequences and more time is needed to see if compromise is possible.

Bill: **HB 687**  
Title: *relative to extreme risk protection orders.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Debra Altschiller  
Committee: House Criminal Justice and Public Safety  
Status: Retained in Committee on 03/14/2019.  
Comments: Would establish a red flag law that would allow for an extreme risk protection order to be granted on an individual after a petitioner proves that there is clear and convincing evidence that the person poses a significant risk of causing bodily injury to himself, herself or others by having firearms and ammunition in their custody.

Bill: **HB 727**  
Title: *relative to boat ramp and parking improvements at Mount Sunapee state park beach and making an appropriation therefor.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Dan Wolf  
Committee: House Public Works and Highways  
Status: Retained in Committee on 03/19/2019.  
Comments: Concerned raised surround the taking on boat access funds to pay for the constructions. Funds would not be able to be used in order to utilize any match from the federal government.

### **2019 Killed Bills**

Bill: **CACR 3**  
Title: *relating to hunters' rights. providing that citizens of the state have the right to hunt subject to laws promoting sound wildlife conservation and management.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Robert Forsythe  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Killed by the House on 02/27/2019.  
Comments: Was not received well by committee. Many concerns raised by Fish and Game as well as by the committee members on implementation and conflicts with current state law. Committee was not sure whether or not this was needed.

Bill: **HB 101**  
Title: *relative to regulating possession of firearms in a school district.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Jacqueline Cali-Pitts  
Committee: House Education  
Status: Tabled on 02/28/2019.  
Comments: Bill was tabled by the House. Committee voted ITL by 14-5. The committee felt the bill had the possibility of too many unintended consequences. A motion to Retain failed 9-10.

Bill: **HB 108**  
Title: *relative to the number of days per year a charitable organization may offer bingo.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Timothy Lang  
Committee: House Executive Departments and Administration  
Status: Killed by the House on 01/31/2019.  
Comments: Legislation seeks to increase the number of charitable bingo games allowed per month from 10 to 16 with a cap of 120 in any calendar year.

Bill: **HB 276**  
Title: *permitting swimming at a fish and game department cartop boat launch access area.*

Sponsor: Rep. Ed Comeau  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Killed by the House on 02/27/2019.  
Comments: Supported by one individual that has had an issue on Connor Pond in Ossipee. Fish and Game concerned that they will lose federal matching funds if they allow swimming at these launches.

Bill: **HB 282**  
Title: *relative to the authority of fish and game officers to search without a warrant.*

Sponsor: Rep. James Spillane  
Committee: House Criminal Justice and Public Safety  
Status: Killed by the House on 01/31/2019.  
Comments: Opposed by sportsman's groups and the Fish and Game department. Would have severely limited the ability of conservation officers to do their jobs.

Bill: **HB 316**  
Title: *relative to the law governing training permits for the training of bird dogs and trail or tree hounds.*

Sponsor: Rep. Josh Yokela  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Killed by the House on 02/14/2019.  
Comments: Body felt that there were too many unintended consequences to move the bill forward.

Bill: **HB 322**  
Title: *relative to reporting the taking of a turkey.*  
Sponsor: Rep. James Spillane  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Killed by the House on 02/14/2019.  
Comments: Concerns were raised about the impact of losing much of the data that is collected on the health of the turkey population. Fish and Game also concerned about the lack of funding for the program.

Bill: **HB 439**  
Title: *relative to unauthorized occupation of land or structures.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Werner Horn  
Committee: House Criminal Justice and Public Safety  
Status: Killed by the House on 01/31/2019.  
Comments: Concerns raised about too many unintended consequences.

Bill: **HB 442**  
Title: *relative to coyote hunting.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Ellen Read

Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Killed by the House on 03/20/2019.  
Comments: Majority of committee believed that any decisions on hunting seasons should be left to the experts at fish and game.



Bill: **HB 498**  
Title: *prohibiting OHRV operation on class v ways.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Wayne Moynihan  
Committee: House Transportation  
Status: Killed by the House on 03/20/2019.  
Comments: Majority of the committee agreed that removing OHRVs from the roads would have a detrimental impact on the economy of the north country.

Bill: **HB 512**  
Title: *relative to dogs on hiking trails in state parks and state forests.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Michael Harrington  
Committee: House Resources, Recreation and Development  
Status: Killed by the House on 03/20/2019.  
Comments: Committee was not sure if this bill was necessary and believed there were too many unanswered questions to pass the bill at this time.

Bill: **HB 516**  
Title: *relative to funding for pollution control equipment at the powder mill fish hatchery through the purchase of a trout/salmon stamp.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Michael Harrington  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Killed by the House on 02/27/2019.  
Comments: Majority of the committee felt that creating a program to collect funds was premature being that the project has not been studied or developed at this time.

Bill: **HB 580**  
Title: *relative to bonding construction projects for the department of natural and cultural resources.*  
Sponsor: Rep. David Danielson  
Committee: House Public Works and Highways  
Status: Killed by the House on 02/14/2019.  
Comments: It was felt that this is not needed at this time.

Bill: **HB 679**  
Title: *authorizing the department of environmental services to lease land associated with state-owned impoundments.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Henry Parkhurst  
Committee: House Public Works and Highways  
Status: Killed by the House on 02/14/2019.  
Comments: Concurs were raised that this bill might have too many unintended consequences.

Bill: **HB 699**  
Title: *relative to discounts for OHRV and snowmobile registration.*  
Sponsor: Rep. James Spillane  
Committee: House Fish and Game and Marine Resources  
Status: Killed by the House on 02/27/2019.  
Comments: Risk to the operation of clubs was too high to move forward currently.

Bill: **HB 688**  
Title: *relative to transfer and inspection of animals.*  
Sponsor: Rep. Peter Bixby  
Committee: House Environment and Agriculture  
Status: Tabled by the House on 02/27/2019.  
Comments: Large amount of testimony in opposition to bills. Opposition argued that there is no need to pass legislation when you are only concerned about a small amount on irresponsible breeders.

Bill: **SB 234**  
Title: *establishing the position of director of the office of outdoor recreation industry development in the department of business and economic affairs.*  
Sponsor: Sen. Jeb Bradley  
Senate: Adopted with Amendment on 03/14/2019.  
Committee: Senate Finance (2<sup>nd</sup> Committee)  
Status: Tabled by the Senate on 03/28/2019  
Comments: Amendment clarifies technical concerns that were raised at the public hearing.