

**HB 1603-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE**  
2026 SESSION

19Feb2026...0518h

26-3192  
08/06

HOUSE BILL                    ***1603-FN***

AN ACT                    requiring the executive director of the department of fish and game to adopt rules relative to procedures for verifying accuracy of records collected relative to threatened and endangered wildlife and ensuring landowner permission is granted for the gathering of such record.

SPONSORS:                Rep. DeVito, Rock. 8; Rep. Beaulier, Graf. 1; Rep. Litchfield, Rock. 32; Rep. Tom Mannion, Hills. 1; Rep. Mazur, Hills. 44; Rep. McGrath, Rock. 40; Rep. Sabourin dit Choiniere, Rock. 30; Rep. Harvey-Bolia, Belk. 3; Rep. DeRoy, Straf. 3; Rep. Mary Murphy, Hills. 27; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16

COMMITTEE:              Resources, Recreation and Development

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the executive director of the department of fish and game to adopt rules relative to procedures for verifying accuracy of records collected relative to threatened and endangered wildlife and ensures landowner permission is granted for the gathering of such record.

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Explanation:            Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six*

AN ACT requiring the executive director of the department of fish and game to adopt rules relative to procedures for verifying accuracy of records collected relative to threatened and endangered wildlife and ensuring landowner permission is granted for the gathering of such record.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 1 Conservation Programs. Amend RSA 212-A:9, III to read as follows:

2 III.(a) All other state departments and agencies, to the extent possible, consistent with their  
3 authorities and responsibilities, shall take such action as is reasonable and prudent to ensure that  
4 actions authorized, funded, or carried out by them do not appreciably jeopardize the continued  
5 existence of such species or result in the destruction or modification of habitat of such species which  
6 is determined by the executive director to be critical, by requiring that all such action is designed to  
7 avoid, minimize, and mitigate harm to such species and habitat designated as critical. Other  
8 departments and agencies may consult with the executive director or hire their own internal wildlife  
9 biologists to carry out the requirements of this paragraph. The executive director shall assist other  
10 departments and agencies in carrying out this paragraph.

11 (1) *The executive director shall adopt rules pursuant to RSA 541-A, not later*  
12 *than one year after the effective date of this chapter, to establish procedures to verify the*  
13 *accuracy of records for threatened and endangered wildlife records under this paragraph,*  
14 *including but not limited to the age of the data.*

15 (2) *The executive director shall adopt rules pursuant to RSA 541-A not later*  
16 *than one year after the effective date of this chapter, to establish procedures to ensure*  
17 *landowner permission is granted for the gathering of site-specific species location.*

18 (b) For the purpose of this statute, "appreciably jeopardize the continued existence of  
19 such species" shall be defined in rules adopted by the executive director pursuant to RSA 541-A. The  
20 provisions of RSA 212-A or any rule promulgated under this chapter shall not be applicable to a  
21 state department or agency when that state department or agency, in the process of undertaking an  
22 action, is required by federal law or regulation to address the environmental impact on wildlife or  
23 wildlife habitat, of that action.

24 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

LBA  
26-3192  
02/24/2026

**HB 1603-FN- FISCAL NOTE**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2026-0518h)**

AN ACT            requiring the executive director of the department of fish and game to adopt rules relative to procedures for verifying accuracy of records collected relative to threatened and endangered wildlife and ensuring landowner permission is granted for the gathering of such record.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This bill requires the Executive Director of Fish and Game to adopt administrative rules relative to procedures for verifying accuracy of records collected relative to threatened and endangered wildlife and ensuring landowner permission is granted for the gathering of such record. This bill has no fiscal impact on state, county and local expenditures or revenue.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

None