

**Department of Marine Resources  
Supplemental Budget Overview  
2022 - 2023**

Initiatives for the Department of Marine Resources can be found in Supplemental Budget Part A, pages 136 through 140.

**Legal Services:**

This initiative establishes one-time funding for the increased cost for legal services to the Department of Marine Resources related to pending litigation in D.C. Circuit regarding the protection of right whales and the authorization of the lobster fishery by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This funding will support the Department’s intervenor status in two cases (*CBD v. Ross*, *MLA v. NMFS*) pending in the D.C. Circuit, as well as monitoring of *IMLU v. Raimondo* in Maine federal court, and other relevant litigation.

Department of Marine Resources Legal Services				
All Other	Initiative #	Part A	FY2022	FY2023
Legal Fees	7000	A-137	\$ 980,000	\$ -
			\$ 980,000	\$ -

**Climate Adaptive Monitoring and Assessment:**

This initiative provides funding to support climate adaptive monitoring and assessment work for Maine’s coastal fisheries in collaboration with the University of Maine. This funding will allow the State to proactively respond to accelerating climate change on Maine’s marine resources and associated fisheries. Climate change is impacting the distribution and abundance of marine species faster than state and federal fisheries management can react. A combination of long-term monitoring programs and regional assessments is needed to provide critical adaptive management advice for both near and long-term time horizons.

Department of Marine Resources Support Climate Monitoring and Assessment				
All Other	Initiative #	Part A	FY2022	FY2023
Monitoring & Assessment	202	A-136	\$ -	\$ 250,000
			\$ -	\$ 250,000

**Expand and Improve support for Climate Change and Public Health:**

The department has requested four (4) new positions for the Bureau of Public Health. The Bureau is tasked with implementing the National Shellfish Sanitation Program and monitoring the various economically important shellfish resources of Maine including both wild harvest species such as soft-shell clams, and farm-raised product like oysters. Due to climate change and the increase in popularity of aquacultured shellfish, the Bureau is facing increasing demands to ensure the safety of Maine’s shellfish for the consuming public. Modified deep water currents and warmer waters in the Gulf of Maine have transported and increased the abundance of novel marine phytoplankton that cause Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) such as Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning (ASP) which first arrived in 2016. Warmer waters and the increase of oyster and hard

clam aquaculture have also led to an increase in the occurrence of Vibrio related illnesses in Maine. Vibrio are a naturally occurring marine bacteria that thrive at higher temperatures and can cause serious negative health outcomes if specific control measures are not implemented to prevent bacterial growth. Monitoring and managing these emerging threats to public health and protecting the Maine seafood brand requires new and innovative methods along with increased staff resources.

Department of Marine Resources Support Climate Change, Aquaculture, & Shellfish				
Personal Services	Initiative #	Part A	FY2022	FY2023
New Planning & Research Associate II	207	A-139	\$ -	\$ 89,228
New Marine Resource Scientist I	217	A-139	\$ -	\$ 92,762
New Marine Resource Scientist I	218	A-139	\$ -	\$ 92,762
New Marine Resource Scientist IV	221	A-139	\$ -	\$ 124,348
			\$ -	\$ 399,100

**Increased Central Services:**

We have three initiatives that request funding in response to central services rate increases:

- Office of Information Technology – This initiative provides funding for the additional cost in new vehicle radio installs completed by the Maine Department of Information Technology. The increase cannot be absorbed within existing resources.
- Office of the Attorney General – This initiative provides funding for additional legal services by one full-time Assistant Attorney General for litigation, settlement review and negotiation, rulemaking assistance and review, and other consultation as needed. This is a shared position between the Department of Marine Resources, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.
- Natural Resources Service Center (NRSC) – This initiative provides funding for Department of Administrative and Financial Services, NRSC rate increases related to salary adjustments approved by collective bargaining agreements.

Department of Marine Resources Central Services				
All Other	Initiative #	Part A	FY2022	FY2023
OIT - Radio installs	200	A-137	\$ 23,000	\$ 23,000
AG Office new position	209	A-137	\$ 58,878	\$ 61,685
NRSC	211	A-137	\$ 17,374	\$ 17,079
			\$ 99,252	\$ 101,764

**Transfers and Reclasses:**

The Department also has several initiatives related to transfers and reclasses. The first would provide funding for a Resource Management Coordinator position. This position was transferred

from the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) in FY2018 to support the In Lieu Fee program, which is still in development, in the Bureau of Sea Run Fisheries and Habitat. This position has served an essential role in providing support for federal, state, and local coordination of fisheries restoration actions, worth tens of millions of dollars annually. To ensure continued support for restoring Maine’s marine resources by leveraging the position for increased federal funding that supports restoration, improved road infrastructure and safety, and climate resiliency, permanent funding is needed.

Our second initiative here would one Seafood Technologist and one Office Specialist II from the Department’s Shellfish Fund to General Fund. There have been no increases in transfers from the Water Quality Improvement Fund as well as the Submerged Lands program. To continue to support the growing shellfish and public health need these two positions, like others in our department, are essential to help monitoring and managing emerging threats to public health.

Finally, we have a reclassification for a Marine Scientist position that has been approved by the Bureau of Human Resources.

Department of Marine Resources Transfers & Reclasses				
Personal Services	Initiative #	Part A	FY2022	FY2023
Transfer Resource Management Coordinator	212	A-137	\$ -	\$ 101,183
Transfer Seafood Technologist & Office Specialist II	208	A-139	\$ -	\$ 161,211
Reclass Marine Resource Scientist I to III	7001	A-139	\$ -	\$ 15,212
			\$ -	\$ 277,606

**Biennial Budget Cleanup Initiatives:**

We also have a few initiatives that involve cleaning up a couple of budget issues within the agency. First, we have four positions in the Biennial Budget, initially created as limited period, that the department wants to make permanent. We have several initiatives to move positions to the appropriate accounts, and others that correct allotment.

Department of Marine Resources Clean ups Personal Services				
Personal Services	Initiative #	Part A	FY2022	FY2023
Marine Resource Scientist II	215	A-136 & A-137	\$ -	\$ -
Marine Resource Scientist III	215	A-136 & A-137	\$ -	\$ -
Marine Resource Scientist IV	215	A-136 & A-137	\$ -	\$ -
Make Marine Resource Scientist I permanent	205	A-136	\$ -	\$ -
Make Public Service Manager I permanent	201	A-140	\$ -	\$ -
Make Biologist II permanent	213	A-140	\$ -	\$ -
Make Marine Resource Scientist II permanent	214	A-140	\$ -	\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -
All Other	Initiative #	Part A	FY2022	FY2023
Correcting Marine Science federal baseline	204	A-136	\$ 832,425	\$ 828,417
Increase Non Federal Program	206	A-136	\$ -	\$ 183,533
			\$ 832,425	\$ 1,011,950