



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Amendment

LCO No. 4549

Offered by:
SEN. DAILY, 33rd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 30 File No. 408 Cal. No. 309

***"An Act Concerning Wildlife Management Programs Of
The Department Of Environmental Protection."***

-
- 1 In line 126, strike "or of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment"
- 2 In line 127, strike "Station"
- 3 After line 167, add the following:
- 4 "Sec. 6. Section 26-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 5 following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 6 The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall enforce all of
- 7 the laws relating to wildlife, fish, crustacea, game and nongame birds,
- 8 waterfowl and game and fur-bearing animals of the state and shall
- 9 possess all powers necessary to fulfill the duties prescribed by law
- 10 with respect thereto and to bring actions in the proper courts of this
- 11 state for the enforcement of such laws and the orders and regulations
- 12 adopted and promulgated by [him] said commissioner. [He] Said
- 13 commissioner shall have the supervision of hatcheries and retaining
- 14 ponds and of the introduction, propagation, securing and distribution

15 of such fish and game as are adapted to the waters or lands of this
16 state, and may designate, as closed to fishing, areas of inland waters to
17 provide for spawning beds, and, notwithstanding any other provision
18 of the general statutes, may take at any time or place, using any
19 method reasonably necessary, any fish, crustacean, bird or animal for
20 scientific and educational purposes, public health and safety,
21 propagation and dissemination, or protection of natural or agricultural
22 ecosystems. [He] Said commissioner shall have jurisdiction of all
23 matters relating to fish and game on any land belonging to the state
24 and the regulation of hunting, fishing and trapping and the use of the
25 waters of any lake, pond or stream on such land. The commissioner
26 shall not grant to any conservation officer, appointee or other person
27 any special privileges with respect to hunting, fishing, trapping or the
28 use of the waters of any lake, pond or stream on such land. [He] Said
29 commissioner may erect buildings upon any such land, subject to the
30 permission of the authorities of any institution or commission
31 controlling such land and the approval of the Commissioner of Public
32 Works and the State Properties Review Board. [He] Said commissioner
33 may employ such special assistants as [he finds advisable. He]
34 necessary. Said commissioner shall cooperate with the United States
35 Fish and Wildlife Service and the fish and game commissioners of
36 other states. [He] Said commissioner may acquire, by gift or lease and,
37 with the approval of the Governor alone, by purchase, lands for the
38 establishment of fish hatcheries or game preserves. [He] Said
39 commissioner may, with the approval of the Attorney General, grant
40 rights-of-way or other easements or leases for public purposes to the
41 United States government, any subdivision of the state or any public
42 utility within the state on or with respect to any lands under [his] the
43 jurisdiction of said commissioner if [he] said commissioner finds that
44 such purposes are not in conflict with the public interest, provided any
45 such public utility shall pay for any right-of-way, easement or lease so
46 granted such compensation as said commissioner considers
47 reasonable. [He] Said commissioner shall have authority to establish
48 the boundaries of any properties under [his] the jurisdiction of said
49 commissioner by agreement with owners of adjoining property and

50 may, with the approval of the Attorney General alone, exchange land
51 with such property owners and execute deeds in the name of the state
52 for the purpose of establishing such boundaries. The commissioner
53 may provide for the importation of game birds and game and fur-
54 bearing animals, and provide for the protection, propagation and
55 distribution of such imported or native birds and animals. The
56 commissioner may locate, lay out, construct and maintain nurseries
57 and rearing ponds where fish may be planted, propagated and reared
58 and liberate and distribute such fish in the waters of this state. [He]
59 Said commissioner may acquire by gift, purchase, capture or otherwise
60 any fish, game, game birds or animals for propagation, experimental
61 or scientific purposes, and may destroy and dispose of any undesirable
62 or diseased wildlife species in the interest of wildlife management if
63 [he] said commissioner determines that the species (1) aggressively
64 invades, or is likely to be detrimental to, agricultural crops or native
65 plants or wildlife, (2) is likely to be a carrier of insects, disease or
66 parasites detrimental to such crops, plants or wildlife, or (3) is likely to
67 have a detrimental effect on natural or agricultural ecosystems. The
68 commissioner may enter into cooperative agreements with educational
69 institutions and state, federal or other agencies to promote wildlife
70 research and to train personnel for wildlife management, information,
71 distribution and education projects, and may enter into cooperative
72 agreements with federal agencies, municipalities, corporations,
73 organized groups or landowners, associations and individuals for the
74 development of game, birds, fish or fur-bearing animals management
75 and demonstration projects. The commissioner may allocate and
76 expend for the protection, restoration, preservation and propagation of
77 fish, crustacea, game and fur-bearing animals, and game and nongame
78 birds, all funds of the state collected, appropriated and acquired for the
79 purpose.

80 Sec. 7. Section 26-69 of the general statutes is repealed and the
81 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

82 The commissioner may engage in wildlife management practice,
83 [and may expend from federal aid funds necessary moneys to

84 establish, construct and maintain, on any state-owned land and water
85 under his control and, with the consent of the owner, on private land
86 and water, wildlife propagation installations, facilities and associated
87 structures, experimental stations and facilities, and perform, or have
88 performed, any work related to the establishment, restoration,
89 improvement, control and protection of wildlife habitats, and perform
90 or have performed any work related to the creation of facilities for
91 ingress and egress and the creation of facilities for public use of any
92 area under its control] including, but not limited to: (1) Managing the
93 wildlife resources of the state to provide stable, healthy populations of
94 diverse wildlife species, including endangered and threatened species,
95 consistent with professional wildlife management principles; (2)
96 conducting research to better understand processes and relationships
97 affecting wildlife and habitats; (3) conducting public awareness and
98 technical assistance programs to enhance privately-owned habitat and
99 promote an appreciation for and understanding of the value and use of
100 wildlife; (4) performing any work for the establishment restoration,
101 improvement, control and protection of wildlife habitats; (5)
102 performing any work to create and maintain facilities for ingress and
103 egress for public use of any are under said commissioner's control; (6)
104 regulating hunting seasons and bag limits for all harvestable wildlife
105 species within Connecticut; (7) managing public hunting and wildlife
106 recreational opportunities on state-owned, state-leased, permit-
107 required areas and cooperative wildlife management areas; and (8)
108 conducting, with volunteer assistance, conservation education and
109 safety programs to promote safe and ethical hunting practices. Said
110 commissioner may expend from federal aid funds necessary moneys
111 for supplies, materials, equipment, temporary personal services and
112 contractual services to carry out the provisions of this section.

113 Sec. 8. Section 26-115 of the general statutes is repealed and the
114 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

115 The Commissioner of Environmental Protection may engage in
116 fisheries management practices, [and may expend from federal aid
117 funds necessary moneys to establish, construct and maintain, on any

118 state-owned land and water under his control and, with the consent of
119 the owner, on private land and water, fish cultural installations and
120 associated structures, stream and pond improvement and control
121 structures and experimental stations, and for the creation of facilities
122 for public use of any area under his control] including, but not limited
123 to: (1) Managing fishery resources to provide sustainable populations,
124 including endangered species, commensurate with habitat capability
125 and relevant ecological, social and economic considerations; (2)
126 regulating and managing diadromous and marine fisheries and habitat
127 consistent with interjurisdictional management plans and harvest
128 objectives; (3) regulating and managing inland fisheries and habitat
129 through various stocking, population manipulation and habitat
130 preservation and improvement programs; (4) protecting and
131 conserving aquatic habitat and associated riparian zones; (5)
132 performing any work to create and maintain facilities for ingress and
133 egress for public use of any are under said commissioner's control; (6)
134 managing public fishing opportunities on state-owned or state-leased
135 waterbodies; and (7) conducting public awareness and educational
136 programs to promote an understanding and appreciation for aquatic
137 resources and habitats. Said commissioner is delegated authority to
138 expend from federal aid funds necessary moneys for supplies,
139 materials, equipment, temporary personal services and contractual
140 services to carry out the provisions of sections 26-102 and 26-111 to 26-
141 117, inclusive."