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March 18, 1948

To Ivan A. Trueworthy, Chairman, State Park Commission

I have your letter of March 12th, in which you request me to advise you as to what the legal responsibilities of the State Park Commission are, and also if there is a hold harmless provision in the Maine Statutes.

Section 23 of Chapter 32 outlines the duties and powers of the Park Commission. There is no hold harmless provision in the Maine Statutes in regard to the Park Commission. Of course the Park Commission has the responsibility of custody and control over all State Parks, Memorials, and National Parks, and the statute outlines the powers and authority in Subdivisions I-IX. I do not know what you mean in regard to legal responsibility, whether you have in mind accidents incurred by people visiting the State Parks, or whether you mean your own responsibility to the State as a Park Commissioner. The Commissioners are responsible to the State for the performance of their duties, but there is no hold harmless provision in the Maine Statutes in regard to any Commission.

If you would clarafy just what you want to know, rather than make such a general request as that contained in your letter of March 12th, I may be able to help you.

> Ralph W. Farris Attorney General

RWE:c