

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**This document is from the files of the Office of  
the Maine Attorney General as transferred to  
the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference  
Library on January 19, 2022**

720

August 16, 1955

To George W. Bucknam, Deputy Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game  
Re: Sporting Camps

. . . You ask for an interpretation of Section 37, Chapter 37, Revised Statutes of 1954, which defines "Sporting Camps" and provides that the same be licensed by your Department. The first paragraph of Section 37 defines these camps as follows:

'A sporting camp, under the provisions of this section, shall include any camp, lodge or building regularly or temporarily open for hunting and fishing parties as distinguished from private dwellings, and which are situated in any of the unorganized townships in the State.'

You ask if a sporting camp maintained by the Megantic Fish and Game Corporation on Chain of Ponds in Coburn Gore comes within the definition of sporting camps as set forth in Section 37 and is therefore required to pay \$5. for the statutory license.

It is the contention of the Fish and Game Corporation that, as the camp has never been open to the public, but is used only by the members of the corporation, it is not subject to the fee and license.

It is the opinion of this office that the sporting camp owned and maintained by the Megantic Fish and Game Corporation is such a sporting camp as brings it within the provisions of Section 37.

An examination of the entire section reveals that it is the intent of the legislature to provide the means of control, rather than to make this a revenue-raising law. This being so, we feel that the particular use to which the camp is being put, notwithstanding that its use is limited to members only and not to the public generally, makes it such a camp as requires license.

No attempt is being made in this opinion to define generally the term "Sporting Camps", but the opinion is based solely on the facts presented and the opinion should be so limited.

James G. Frost  
Deputy Attorney General

jgf/ffp