

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)



OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 8 FY
DATE July 21, 1977

PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAINE
LAND AND WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

WHEREAS, there are numerous organizations with authorities and responsibilities concerning planning for and management of land and water resources, and

WHEREAS, there is a keenly felt need for integration of these programs that reflects the interests of State agencies having land and water related responsibilities, and that provides guidance for action by regional and local levels of government and the private sector and is consistent with broad national policy objectives, and,

WHEREAS, cooperation among these agencies is strongly encouraged under provisions of the State Planning Act as well as by provisions in related Federal legislation, and,

WHEREAS, coordination among the several State land and water programs will help to assure efficiency in the use of public funds,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES B. LONGLEY, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby order that a Maine Land and Water Resources Council be created as follows:

Membership

The Chairman of the Council shall be the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation.

The membership of the Council shall include the following:

1. The Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture
2. The Commissioner of the Department of Conservation
3. The Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection
4. The Commissioner of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
5. The Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources
6. The Director of the State Development Office
7. The Director of the State Planning Office
8. The Vice President for Research and Public Service, University of Maine
9. A member of the Maine Senate
10. A member of the Maine House of Representatives
11. The Chairman of the Regional Planning Commission's Directors Association

(Over)

EXECUTIVE ORDER PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAINE LAND
AND WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

Purposes

The fundamental task of the Council shall be to advise the Governor, Legislature and State agencies in the development of a comprehensive, integrated land and water resources planning and management program for the State of Maine to achieve broad social and economic goals. Any State, Federal, regional, local and private agency is invited to interact with the Council in fulfilling this mission.


In addition to this general charge, the Council shall,

1. Initiate an integrated program to provide a substantially improved land and water resources information base for planning purposes. The Council shall define information needs, standards, and relative priorities for data collection, and investigate the increased use of data-processing systems to expedite information storage and retrieval.
2. Develop a program to interpret and analyze this information base to facilitate the development of planning and management programs. This will involve determining resource capabilities for a variety of uses. In developing this program, the Council shall consider the legal constraints on development, the need to promote development on areas where development costs are low, the need to prevent use conflicts, the need to maintain land use options, the need to protect environmental quality, and the need to identify sites for development to provide economic opportunity.
3. Evaluate in consultation with affected interests, Maine's land use regulatory system, including rules, regulations, and procedures, as well as legislation and recommend administrative and legislative action, if any is needed, to improve service to applicants.
4. Provide direction to the State's efforts to develop a comprehensive land use program consistent with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 701 Program.
5. Encourage coordination of land and water resource planning and management activities through review of relevant agency work programs and proposals.
6. Recommend coordinated State policy for major proposals that transcend the concerns of any one State agency.
7. Seek cooperation from Federal agency programs for land and water management in order to ensure that these programs serve the best interests of the State. Programs shall include, but not be limited to those of the following major agencies:
 - a. Department of Agriculture
 - b. Department of Commerce
 - c. Department of Defense, Corps of Engineers
 - d. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - e. Department of the Interior
 - f. Environmental Protection Agency
 - g. New England River Basins Commission

EXECUTIVE ORDER PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAINE LAND
AND WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

Procedures

The Council shall meet at least quarterly. In addition, the Council shall prepare a work plan for each year of its operation covering priorities for its efforts and target dates for completion of projects undertaken. The work plan and a progress report on the previous year's work shall be submitted to the Governor at the end of each calendar year. The Resource Planning Division of the State Planning Office shall provide staff support for Council activities. As needed, additional support may come from the staffs of member agencies and others interested in land and water resource planning and management.



JAMES B. LONGLEY
Governor