

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 3 FY 98/99
DATE April 16, 1999

**AN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT AMENDMENTS TO
THE MAINE ATLANTIC SALMON CONSERVATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, State of Maine, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior, and the National Marine Fisheries Service of the Department of Commerce entered into an agreement on December 15, 1997, committing to a five year conservation plan for Atlantic salmon on the seven designated rivers; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2 FY 97/98, also dated December 15, 1997, set forth directives for implementing the conservation plan, and designated the Land and Water Resource Council as having responsibility for oversight and monitoring of the plan consistent with its responsibility for effective interagency coordination of natural resource and land management activities under 5 M.R.S.A. sec. 3331; and

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Resources Council submitted the 1998 Annual Progress Report to said federal services in January, 1999; and

WHEREAS, said federal services have received public comments on the annual report, and compiled and forwarded comments together with their own comments to the State of Maine on the status of activities under the plan; and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised about certain aspects of the implementation of the plan by state agencies and others; and

WHEREAS, in response to said concerns the Land and Water Resources Council has approved certain amendments to the conservation plan that prioritize the actions to be taken under the plan, establish clear benchmarks and deadlines for completing these actions, and identify agencies responsible for completing the work;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby order the following:

1. Implementation of Plan Amendments

All state agencies shall fully implement the amendments to the Maine Atlantic Conservation Plan adopted by the Land and Water Resources Council on April 15, 1999. State agencies assigned specific goals and actions under the plan amendments shall prepare and finalize no later than April 22, 1999 a detailed action plan to carry out the designated responsibilities of their respective agencies. Said action plans shall, at a minimum, set out clearly the tasks to be accomplished by the agency, the individual(s) responsible for accomplishing said tasks, and the deadline for accomplishing the tasks.

2. Quarterly Report

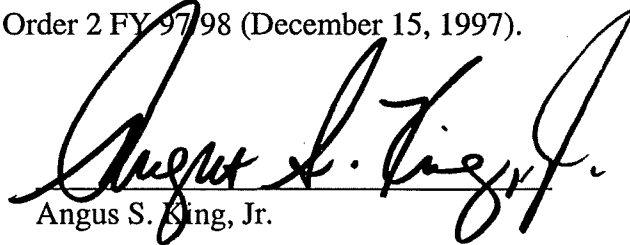
The entities preparing action plans in section 1, above, shall furnish every quarter beginning June 15, 1999 a report summarizing the status of implementation efforts pursuant to said plan for the preceding quarter to both Land and Water Resources Council and the Governor. The Land and Water Resources Council shall report in writing to the Governor semiannually on the status of implementation efforts together with a summary of the progress made during that period.

3. Monitoring and Coordination of State Agency Activities

In conjunction with the Land and Water Resources Council, the Commissioners of the Departments of Agriculture, Conservation, Environmental Protection, Inland Fisheries & Wildlife and Marine Resources, as well as the Director of the State Planning Office and the Chair of the Maine Atlantic Salmon Authority, shall monitor, oversee and coordinate the efforts of their respective agencies in carrying out activities under the Plan. The Land and Water Resources Council shall periodically review these efforts and include in its semiannual report to the Governor recommendations, if any, for improving oversight by, and coordination among, these agencies.

4. Effect of Order

This order shall take effect on the date set forth above. This order is intended to supplement, and not supersede, Executive Order 2 FY 97/98 (December 15, 1997).



Angus S. King, Jr.