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15 FY 06/07 June 19, 2006 DATE

AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE ALLAGASH WILDERNESS WATERWAY WORKING GROUP

WHEREAS, the year 2006 marks the 40th anniversary of the creation by the Maine Legislature of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Act;

WHEREAS, the Allagash Wilderness Waterway is one of the great natural resources of the people of Maine and the nation;

WHEREAS, the people of the Allagash have a rich history and culture tied to the river that includes recreational use and enjoyment of the river and job opportunities in the region;

WHEREAS, the citizens of Maine, in creating the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, committed themselves to preserve, protect and develop the maximum wilderness character of the watercourse in the midst of a working forest; and

WHEREAS, the river has been designated a wild river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; and

WHEREAS, the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Act marks an appropriate time to consider the governance, management, and oversight structure established for this resource, and whether this structure will best secure its qualities for the indefinite future.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John E. Baldacci, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Working Group ("the Working Group") for the purpose of providing advice and guidance pertaining to the best governance, management, and oversight structure that will assure:

1. effective communication and compatibility between the goals and objectives of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Act and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the goals of recreational and commercial users and neighboring landowners:

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- 2. the continuing protection and preservation of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway and enhancement of its ecosystems;
- 3. the continuing and effective expression of the history and culture of the region in which the river exists; and
- 4. the sound, effective, and efficient management of all its resources;

Duties

The Working Group is to offer its best guidance and advice to the Governor respecting the long-term governance, management, and oversight structure for the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

Membership

The Allagash Working Group shall consist of 7 members:

- 1. Don Nicoll (as Chair)
- 2. Senator John Martin
- 3. Phyllis Jalbert
- 4. Richard Barringer
- 5. Don Hudson
- 6. Brownie Carson
- 7. Anthony Hourihan

Meetings

Meetings of the Allagash Working Group shall take place as follows:

June 26th in Augusta
July 17th in Augusta
August 13th, 14th or 15th in the St. John Valley
September 11th in Bangor
October 23^{td} in Augusta
November 28th in Augusta

Notice of the times and locations of the meetings will be given in advance of all meetings. All meetings shall be open to the public. To the extent possible, the Working Group shall arrange for videoconferencing or online audio streaming of all meetings so that people can observe and participate or listen from remote locations. A draft of the Working Group's report will be made available prior to the meeting of November 28th. The November 28th meeting shall include a public hearing.

The Working Group, through its Chair, may schedule additional meetings if the Chair determines it is necessary for the Working Group to complete its charge. Any such meeting shall be preceded by public notice and shall be open to the public.

Staffing

Staffing for the Working Group will be provided by the Governor's Office and the Attorney General's Office. Additionally, the State Planning Office will provide resources as needed to the Working Group.

Report

The Working Group shall report to the Governor not later than December 15, 2006, presenting its advice and guidance respecting the best governance, management, and oversight structure for the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, together with proposals for change, if any, and suggested means to implement them.

Effective Date

The effective date of this Executive Order is June 19, 2006.

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