

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 (EMERGENCY)  
2 SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
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4 ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE  
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6 **Legislative Document**

**No. 1953**

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8  
9 H. P. 1986 House of Representatives, February 10, 1982  
Filed by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources under  
Joint Rule 18, pursuant to H. P. 1693.  
Reported by Representative Fowlie from the Committee on Marine  
Resources, pursuant to H. P. 1693 and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.  
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

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10  
11 STATE OF MAINE  
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13 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
14 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO  
15

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16 AN ACT Concerning the Regulation of  
17 Atlantic Salmon.  
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19 Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature  
20 do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment  
21 unless enacted as emergencies; and

22 Whereas, Atlantic salmon are returning to Maine rivers  
23 in record numbers; and

24 Whereas, the number of persons fishing for Atlantic  
25 salmon has also increased dramatically, and this fishing  
26 pressure may endanger the restoration effort; and

27 Whereas, when the fishing season opens on May 1, there  
28 will be no controls on taking Atlantic Salmon in coastal  
29 waters unless this bill is enacted as an emergency; and

30 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these  
31 facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Consti-

1 tution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
2 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public  
3 peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

4 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

5       Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6504 is enacted to read:

6       §6504. Atlantic salmon

7       1. Stamp required. It is unlawful for any person to  
8 fish for Atlantic salmon from the areas indicated in subsec-  
9 tion 2, or take, possess, ship or transport fish taken from  
10 these waters without a current Atlantic salmon stamp de-  
11 scribed in section 7152.

12       2. Limit of application. This requirement applies to  
13 all inland waters and to the following coastal rivers, from  
14 the head of tide downstream to the line indicated:

15       A. Sheepscot River, above the Wiscasset-Edgecomb U.S.  
16 Route 1 bridge;

17       B. Dennys River, above the upstream side of the U.S.  
18 Route 1 bridge;

19       C. East Machias River, above a line extending from  
20 Simpson's Wharf due south to the opposite shore on the  
21 Rim Bridge;

22       D. Machias River, above the upstream side of the Rim  
23 Bridge, lower-most bridge on the Machias River;

24       E. Pleasant River, above the upstream side on the main  
25 river bridge in Addison;

26       F. Narraguagus River, above the upstream side on the  
27 Route 1A bridge in Milbridge;

28       G. Union River, above a line extending from the south-  
29 ern extremity of the Ellsworth City Boat Launch ramp  
30 due west to the opposite shore of the Union River;

31       H. Penobscot River, above the upstream side of the  
32 Joshua Chamberlain Bridge in Bangor; and

33       I. Ducktrap River, above the 3 red posts set on the  
34 shores approximately 1,000 feet downstream from the  
35 U.S. Route 1 bridge.

1           Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6553, sub-§§6 and 7 are enacted to  
2 read:

3           6. Bag limit. It is unlawful to take more than one  
4 Atlantic salmon in one day, or to take more than 10 Atlantic  
5 salmon in any calendar year. This subsection is repealed on  
6 December 31, 1982.

7           7. Tags. Any Atlantic salmon taken from inland waters  
8 or coastal waters designated in section 6504 must be identi-  
9 fied with a tag bearing the license number of the person who  
10 caught the fish. Ten of these tags shall be issued with  
11 each Atlantic salmon stamp described in section 7152. This  
12 subsection is repealed on December 31, 1982.

13           Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7152, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1979,  
14 c. 420, §1, is amended to read:

15           1. Issuance. The commissioner shall issue, in the  
16 form of a stamp, an Atlantic salmon permit to fish for  
17 Atlantic salmon in inland waters and coastal waters desig-  
18 nated in section 6504, subsection 2.

19           Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §7152, sub-§3, ¶¶A and B, as enacted  
20 by PL 1979, c. 420, §1, are amended to read:

21           A. The fee for an Atlantic salmon permit shall be \$1  
22 \$4 for any resident 16 years of age or older.

23           B. The fee for an Atlantic salmon permit shall be \$15  
24 \$30 for any nonresident 16 years of age or older.

25           Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §7152, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1979,  
26 c. 420, §1, is amended to read:

27           4. Use of permit fees. All The first \$10,000 of pro-  
28 ceeds, except for necessary expenses for issuing, shall be  
29 paid to the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission for the pur-  
30 poses of developing the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Restoration  
31 Program. The balance of the proceeds, less necessary  
32 expenses for issuing, shall be apportioned between the  
33 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Depart-  
34 ment of Marine Resources for the enforcement of Atlantic  
35 salmon fishing regulations.

36           Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in  
37 the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 Public Law 1981, chapter 459 enacted temporary controls  
3 on Atlantic salmon fishing. This bill implements the recom-  
4 mendations of the Marine Resources Study Committee on Atlan-  
5 tic salmon.

6 The bill increases fees for Atlantic salmon stamps from  
7 \$1 to \$4 for residents and from \$15 to \$30 for nonresidents.  
8 This stamp would be required for taking Atlantic salmon in  
9 designated coastal waters as well as inland waters. No  
10 fishing license is required to fish these designated coastal  
11 waters. The daily bag limit from these waters remains one  
12 fish, but no more than 10 fish may be taken in one calendar  
13 year. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and  
14 the Department of Marine Resources will develop a tagging  
15 system to implement this restriction.

16 Salmon stamps currently provide about \$10,000 in reve-  
17 nues to the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission. This bill  
18 allocates this amount to the commission, and requires any  
19 additional moneys to be apportioned between the Department  
20 of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of  
21 Marine Resources for enforcement.

22 The provisions for tags and season bag limits are sub-  
23 ject to review and expiration after one year, so the Legis-  
24 lature may determine whether they are effective and should  
25 be continued.

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