

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1893

6
7 H.P. 1346

House of Representatives, January 16, 1986

8 Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council
pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

9 Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested
and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Davis of Monmouth.

11 Cosponsored by Representative Hoglund of Portland, Senator Usher of
Cumberland and Representative Holloway of Edgecomb.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SIX
16

17 AN ACT to Amend the Classification of Certain
18 Maine Rivers.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §403, sub-§14, as enacted by PL
23 1983, c. 458, §1, is repealed and the following en-
24 acted in its place:

25 14. Rapid River. The Rapid River from its ori-
26 gin at the outlet of Middle Dam to its confluence
27 with Umbagog Lake;

28 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §403, sub-§§17 and 18, as en-
29 acted by PL 1983, c. 458, §1, are amended to read:

30 17. Sheepscot River. The Sheepscot River from
31 the Route 1 bridge in Wiscasset to Halldale Road in
32 Montville, excluding Long Pond and Sheepscot Pond,
33 including its tributaries the West Branch of the
34 Sheepscot from its confluence with the Sheepscot Riv-

1 er in Whitefield to the outlet of Branch Pond in
2 China; and

3 18. West Branch Pleasant River. The West Branch
4 Pleasant River from the East Branch to the outlet of
5 Fourth West Branch Pond in Shawtown Township, exclud-
6 ing Silver Lake and West Branch Ponds (1-3);

7 Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §403, sub-§§19 to 21 are enacted
8 to read:

9 19. Kennebago River. The Kennebago River from
10 the outlet of Big Island Pond downstream to its con-
11 fluence with Mooselookmeguntic Lake;

12 20. Cupsuptic Stream. The Cupsuptic Stream, also
13 known as Cupsuptic River, from the outlet of
14 Cupsuptic Pond downstream to its confluence with
15 Cupsuptic Lake; and

16 21. Magalloway River. The Magalloway River and
17 its tributaries upstream from its confluence with
18 Aziscoos Lake, including the Little Magalloway River.

19 Sec. 4. 38 MRSA §426, sub-§§7 and 15, as enacted
20 by PL 1985, c. 481, Pt. A, §85, are repealed and the
21 following enacted in their place:

22 7. Kennebago River. The Kennebago River and its
23 tributaries from the outlet of Big Island Pond down-
24 stream to its confluence with Mooselookmeguntic Lake;

25 15. The Rapid River. The Rapid River and its
26 tributaries from its origin at the outlet of Middle
27 Dam downstream to its confluence with Umbagog Lake,
28 including Pond in the River;

29 Sec. 5. 38 MRSA §426, sub-§§22 and 23, as en-
30 acted by PL 1985, c. 481, Pt. A, §85, are amended to
31 read:

32 22. West Branch Pleasant River. The West Branch
33 Pleasant River from the East Branch to the Brownville
34 and Williamsburg Township townline; and

35 23. West Branch Union River. The West Branch
36 Union River from the Route 181 bridge in Mariaville

1 to the outlet of Great Pond in the Town of Great
2 Pond-;

3 Sec. 6. 38 MRSA §426, sub-§§24 and 25 are en-
4 acted to read:

5 24. Cupsuptic Stream. Cupsuptic Stream, also
6 known as Cupsuptic River, and its tributaries, from
7 the outlet of Cupsuptic Pond to its confluence with
8 Cupsuptic Lake; and

9 25. Magalloway River. The Magalloway River and
10 its tributaries, upstream from its confluence with
11 Aziscoos Lake, including the Little Magalloway River.

12 Sec. 7. 38 MRSA §437, sub-§10, as reallocated by
13 PL 1985, c. 481, Pt. A, §25, is repealed and the fol-
14 lowing enacted in its place:

15 10. Rapid River. The Rapid River and its tribu-
16 taries from its origin at the outlet of Middle Dam to
17 its confluence with Umbagog Lake, including Pond in
18 the River;

19 Sec. 8. 38 MRSA §437, sub-§§11 and 12, as real-
20 located by PL 1985, c. 481, Pt. A, §25, are amended
21 to read:

22 11. West Branch Pleasant River. The West Branch
23 Pleasant River from the East Branch to the Brownville
24 and Williamsburg Township townline; and

25 12. West Branch of Union River. The West Branch
26 of the Union River from the Route 9 bridge in Amherst
27 to the outlet of Great Pond in the Town of Great
28 Pond-;

29 Sec. 9. 38 MRSA §437, sub-§§13 to 15 are enacted
30 to read:

31 13. Kennebago River. The Kennebago River and
32 its tributaries from the outlet of Big Island Pond
33 downstream to its confluence with Mooselookmeguntic
34 Lake;

35 14. Cupsuptic Stream. The Cupsuptic Stream, al-
36 so known as Cupsuptic River, and its tributaries from

1 the outlet of Cupsuptic Pond downstream to its con-
2 fluence with Cupsuptic Lake; and

3 15. Magalloway River. The Magalloway River and
4 its tributaries upstream from its confluence with
5 Aziscoos Lake, including the Little Magalloway River.

6 STATEMENT OF FACT

7 The purpose of this bill is to provide upgraded
8 classification and protection for 4 western Maine
9 rivers which were not adequately protected when the
10 Maine rivers law was originally passed in 1983. The
11 4 rivers involved are among the most pristine remain-
12 ing in western Maine. At least 2 of these rivers,
13 the Kennebago and the Rapid, have been the subject of
14 recent studies by the Department of Conservation, Bu-
15 reau of Parks and Recreation and the Department of
16 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Both of these studies
17 recommended increased protection for these rivers.
18 The rivers included in this bill are of particular
19 importance to the economy of the region, which is
20 heavily oriented on tourist and sporting interests,
21 since these rivers constitute the 4 most important
22 trout and salmon rivers in the Rangeley area. Pro-
23 tection of these rivers is also vital to maintaining
24 natural stocks of salmon and trout in the region.
25 The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has
26 found that the Kennebago River naturally produces
27 over 12,000 salmon and 4,000 brook trout annually.
28 The cost of raising and stocking an equivalent number
29 of hatchery fish to the State would be over \$19,000
30 annually. Significant development or degradation of
31 these river systems would have a detrimental effect
32 on these important economic and recreational re-
33 sources.

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