

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 245

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H.P. 200

House of Representatives, January 23, 2003

### An Act To Promote Planning To Protect the State's Waters

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Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PINEAU of Jay.  
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and  
Representatives: BLANCHETTE of Bangor, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, MARLEY of  
Portland, McKEE of Wayne, O'BRIEN of Lewiston, SAVIELLO of Wilton, Senator: HATCH  
of Somerset.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §8870** is enacted to read:

6 **§8870. Water resources protection plans**

8 A landowner owning 10,000 acres or more of forest land  
10 statewide and engaged in forest management activities shall  
12 develop and implement a plan to protect water resources on that  
14 forest land from the impacts of timber harvesting. A water  
16 resources protection plan developed in accordance with this  
18 section is a public record and must be available upon request.

20 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §8879, sub-§1-B** is enacted to read:

22 **1-B. Report on water resources protection plans.** Beginning  
24 in 2005, the director shall include in the biennial report a  
26 summary of landowner progress in developing and implementing  
28 water resources protection plans required under section 8870.

30 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill requires landowners owning more than 10,000 acres  
26 of forest land to prepare and implement a plan to protect water  
28 resources from the impacts of timber harvesting. It stipulates  
30 that such a plan is a public record and requires the Department  
of Conservation, Director of the Bureau of Forestry to include in  
the biennial state of the forest report a summary of progress in  
developing and implementing the plans.