

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 193

H.P. 144

House of Representatives, January 13, 2005

An Act To Strengthen Wildlife Habitat Protection

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor.
Cosponsored by Senator COWGER of Kennebec and
Representatives: DUCHESNE of Hudson, EBERLE of South Portland, FAIRCLOTH of
Bangor, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, THOMPSON of China, TWOMEY of Biddeford.

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §480-B, sub-§10, as amended by PL 1999, c. 401, Pt. BB, §17, is further amended to read:

10. Significant wildlife habitat. "Significant wildlife habitat" means the following areas to the extent that they have been mapped by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or are within any other protected natural resource: habitat, as defined by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, for species appearing on the official state or federal lists of endangered or threatened animal species; high and moderate value deer wintering areas and travel corridors as defined by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; ~~high-and-moderate value waterfowl-and-wading-bird-habitats,-including-nesting-and feeding-areas-as-defined-by-the-Department-of-Inland-Fisheries and-Wildlife,~~ and critical spawning and nursery areas for Atlantic salmon as defined by the Atlantic Salmon Commission; "Significant wildlife habitat" also means the following areas to the extent they have been defined by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or are within any other protected natural resource: high and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitats, including nesting and feeding areas; shorebird nesting, feeding and staging areas and seabird nesting islands as-defined by--the--Department--of--Inland--Fisheries--and--Wildlife; and significant vernal pools as--defined--and--identified--by--the Department--of--Inland--Fisheries--and--Wildlife. For purposes of this--subsection--,"identified"--means--identified--in--a--specific location-by-the-Department-of-Inland-Fisheries-and-Wildlife.

SUMMARY

This bill eliminates the mapping requirements for 3 types of significant wildlife habitat: high and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitats, including nesting and feeding areas; shorebird nesting, feeding and staging areas and seabird nesting islands; and significant vernal pools.