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STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION





February 15, 2012

The Honorable Thomas B. Saviello
The Honorable James M. Hamper
Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Cross Office Building Room 216
Augusta, Maine 04333

SUBJ: P.L. 2011 Chapter 380, Part ZZZ

Dear Senator Saviello, Representative Hamper and Members of the Committee:

Enclosed is a copy of the Part ZZZ Report as required by P.L. 2011, Chapter 380. The Report has been submitted to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, but I thought you would appreciate a copy of the report. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions

Best regards,

Patricia W. Aho

Commissioner

cc: Heather Parent, Policy Director, MDEP



February 15, 2012

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs State House Room 228 Augusta, ME 04333

RE: Part ZZZ - Natural Resources Agency Task Force

Dear Senator Rosen, Representative Flood and Members of the Committee:

P.L. 2011, Chapter 380 required the implementation of certain recommendations related to the Natural Resources Agency Task Force developed during 2008. Specifically, Part ZZZ-1 required the following:

- Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Conservation on unified management of all state boat launch facilities under their jurisdictions;
- Development of a plan for co-locating natural resources agencies and staff currently located in various regional offices to increase communication and collaboration; and
- Development of a plan for the rationale alignment of districts for natural resource agencies to increase communication and collaboration among staff members between agencies and the local government and citizens of those districts.

Further, Part ZZZ-2 requested the Commissioners of Conservation and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to provide a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding by February 15, 2012 to this Committee as well as a report by the Commissioners of Conservation, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, Environmental Protection and Marine Resources regarding a report on the plans developed under Section 1, subsections 2 and 3.

Letter to Appropriations & Financial Affairs February 15, 2012

ZZZ-1 (1) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The attached Memorandum of Understanding between the Departments of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Conservation is attached to this report as Appendix A.

ZZZ-1 (2) CO-LOCATION OF AGENCIES

The Commissioners met during the fall and early winter to discuss locations of current offices, staffing size, storage locations, equipment storage needs and other related building issues for the various agencies. The agencies are currently undertaking an overall inventory of all offices, maintenance and equipment facilities, and related spaces. The inventory is an on-going process, to ensure that specifics regarding each facility such as square footage, heated/unheated space, electrical needs, telecommunications, water service and related specifics will be appropriately inventoried for each location. Additionally, the agencies are working on providing GPS coordinates for each of the locations in order to ensure appropriate mapping of the facilities. Following the inventory work, the agencies plan to have further discussions to determine whether co-location between the agencies of certain staff, equipment, maintenance, and related services may be appropriate.

The target deadline for conclusion of this phase of the inventory work is scheduled for June 15, 2012.

Attached as Appendix B are copies of departments various locations throughout the state.

PART ZZZ-1 (3) PLAN FOR RATIONALE ALIGNMENT OF DISTRICTS

During meetings to discuss the Part ZZZ implementation, Commissioners did undertake a discussion regarding an alignment of districts for the natural resource agencies. We have provided you with maps showing the various districts, noting that each agency has aligned district offices for very specific reasons pertaining to its own statutory mission, delivery of services and locations to the customers it serves. All agencies understand the need to enhance communication, collaboration among staff and between agencies, as well as continuous improvement to local governments, and stakeholders each of the agencies serve. To that end, the agencies are continuing to further discuss collaboration and co-location of works between and among the agencies in order to increase communications. The commissioners are committed to continuing the discussion with a goal of further co-location and collaboration by June 15, 2012.

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Further, the commissioners will provide to this committee on-going updates regarding the colocation of staff, equipment, or facilities, as well as work toward aligning districts of the resource agencies.

Department district maps (as applicable) are attached as Appendix C.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Walter Whitcomb, Commissioner

Dept. of Agriculture

William Beardsley, Commissioner

Dept. of Conservation

Patrick Keliher, Commissioner

Dept. of Marine Resources

Patricia W. Aho, Commissioner

Dept. of Environmental Protection

Chandler Woodcock, Commissioner

Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

State of Maine

Memorandum of Understanding

Departments of Conservation and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Appendix A



COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR FUNDING OF PUBLIC BOAT ACCESS SITE MAINTENANCE

between

Bureau of Parks and Lands Maine Department of Conservation

and

Bureau of Resource Management
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL), Maine Department of Conservation (MDOC), has a small staff of employees who spend the majority of their time on MDOC boat site operation and maintenance (O&M) by use of a combination of BPL staff and private contractors, and who could take on additional workload by relying more heavily on private contractors; and

WHEREAS, relying more heavily on private contractors will increase BPL's costs for O&M; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Resource Management (BRM) and the Engineering Division, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW), have no staff of employees dedicated to O&M, but utilizes MDIFW staff (that serve in other capacities), private contractors and existing maintenance agreements with certain towns to do O&M at a limited number of MDIFW boat sites; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of both agencies to improve maintenance at MDIFW boat sites by increasing the efficiency and efficacy of the agencies' O&M activities and budgets; and

WHEREAS, having O&M of MDOC and selected MDIFW boat sites managed by BPL, which can coordinate staff and contractors on a regional basis, and therefore offer potential for economies of scale;

WHEREAS, it is the desire of both agencies to accomplish necessary O&M of selected MDIFW boat sites commensurate with costs to MDIFW;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed that:

- 1. BRM will identify MDIFW's "major" boat sites, which are those sites that have the most improvements and see the heaviest use, and which need regular visits to assure such sites remain litter free, trimmed and provisioned;
- 2. BRM will identify MDIFW's "minor" boat sites, which are the rest of the boat sites for which BRM have responsibility, and which receive less use and as a

- result are less heavily developed, and need less frequent visits to check their condition and determine maintenance needs;
- 3. BRM will also identify those O&M functions they wish to transfer to BPL for both MDIFW "major" and "minor" boat sites by June 1, 2011 and by June 1 of subsequent years thereafter;
- 4. BPL will determine which MDIFW major and minor boat sites for which they can accept O&M responsibility and at what estimated cost;
- 5. BRM and BPL will enter into additional annual agreements that detail the MDIFW boat sites to be maintained, what O&M functions and level of service to be provided by BPL, and at what cost.
- 6. These lists of MDIFW boat sites, what O&M functions and levels of service to be considered will be provided by BRM to BPL by June 1, of each year to allow BPL sufficient time to evaluate and submit a proposal to BRM. The annual agreements will be executed no later than September 1, of the same year in order to allow BPL sufficient time to contract with needed private contractors no later than beginning January 1, of the following year.

	_		
John	Bo	land,	Director

Bureau of Resource Management

date May 4 2011

Willard Harris, Director

Bureau of Parks and Lands

Chandler E. Woodcock, Commissioner

William Beardsley, Commissioner Maine Department of Conservation

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

State of Maine

Statewide locations

Departments of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Environmental Protection, Agriculture, Marine Resources and Conservation

Appendix B

Regional office locations

Department of Agriculture

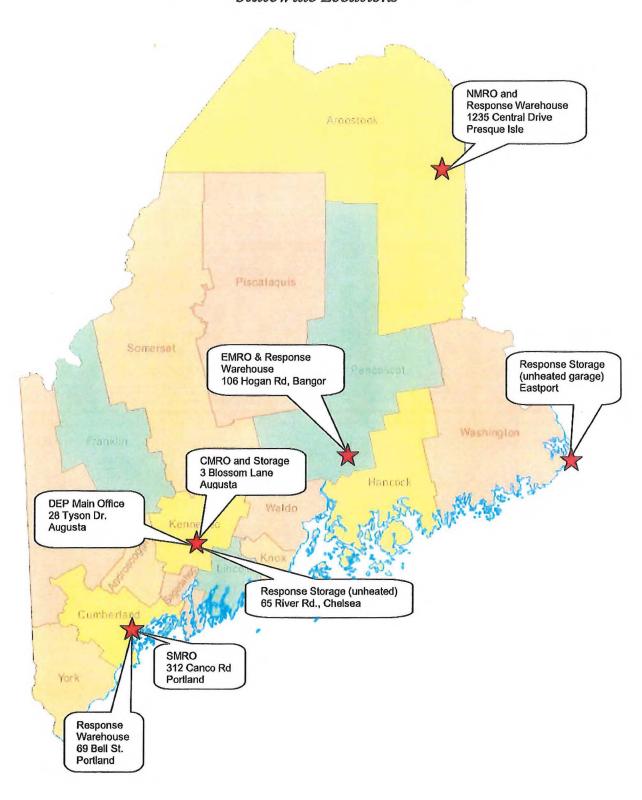
State of Maine

Statehouse Station #28 90 Blossom Lane Augusta, Me 04330

333 Cony Road Augusta Me 04330

744 Main Street Presque Isle Me 04769

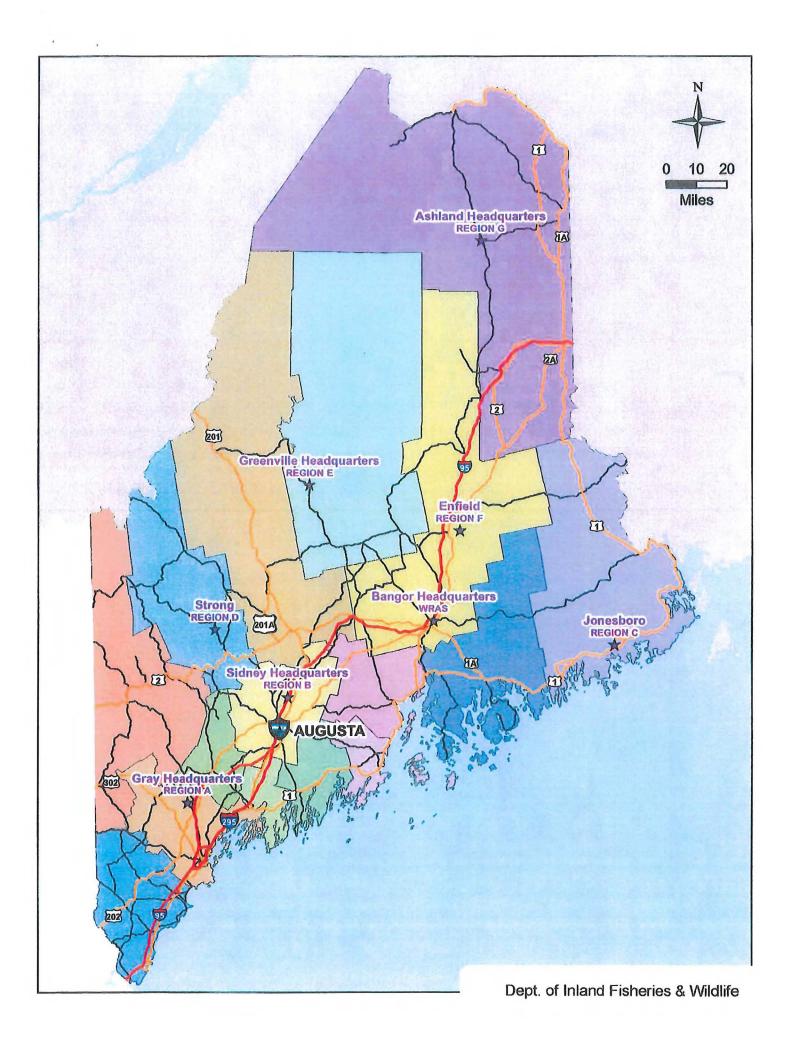
Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection Statewide Locations

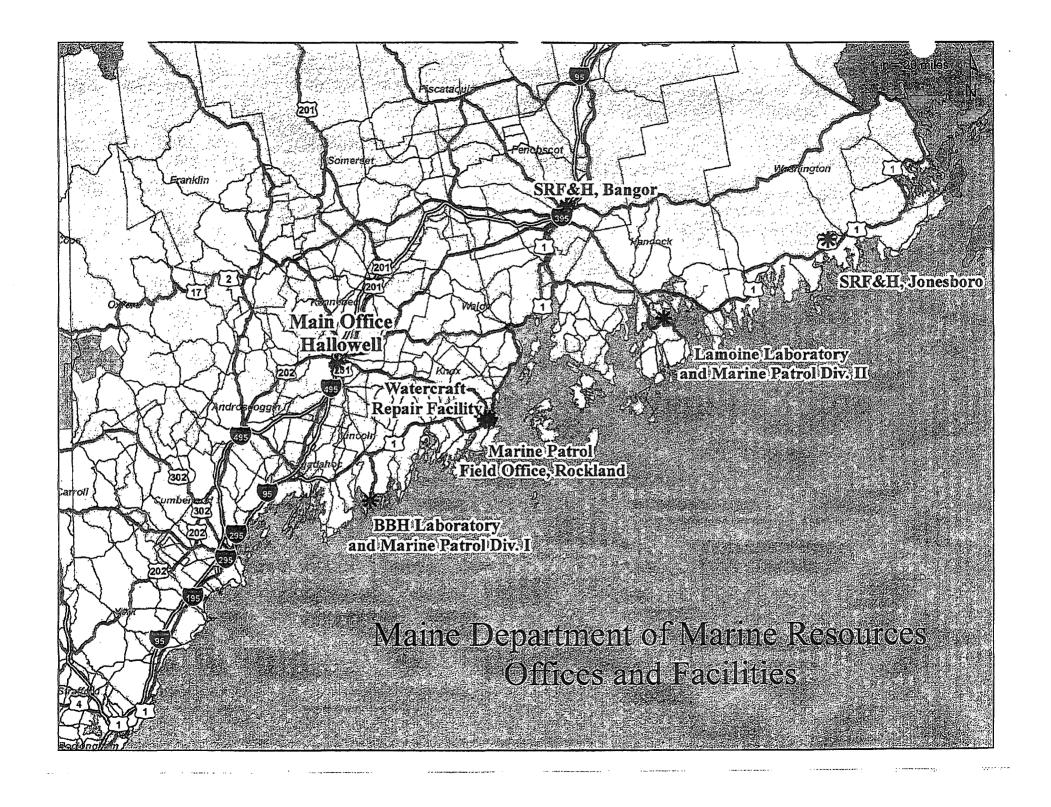


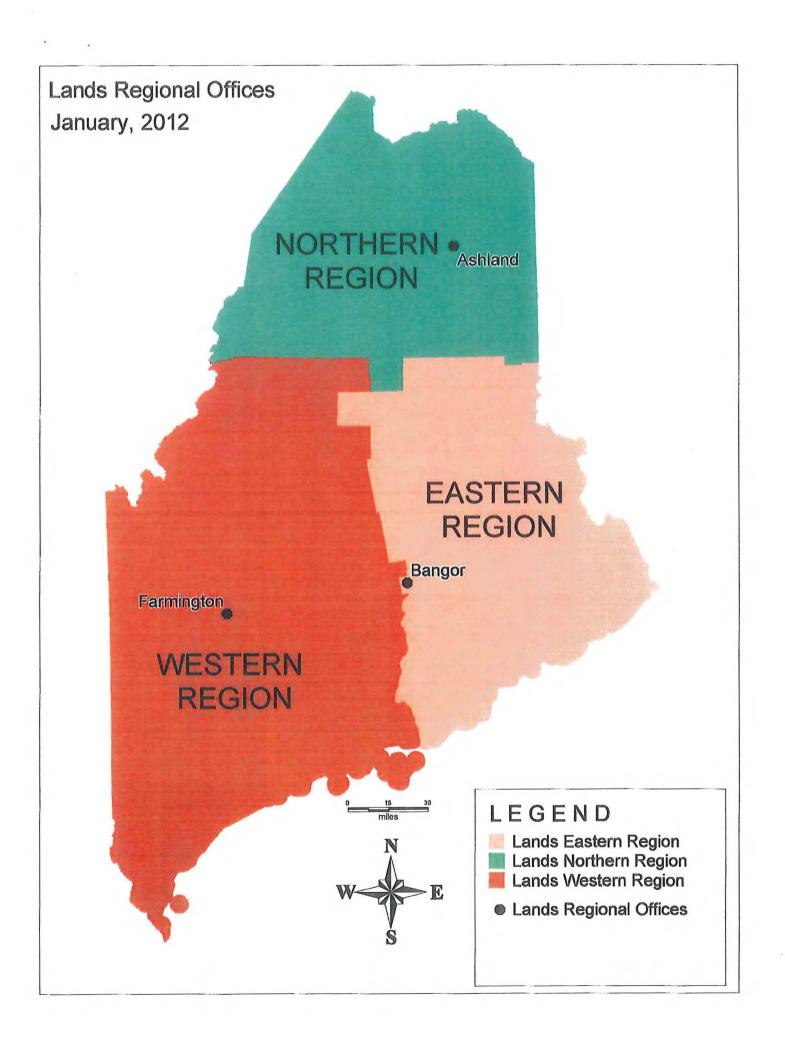
SMRO - Southern Maine Regional Office (Portland)

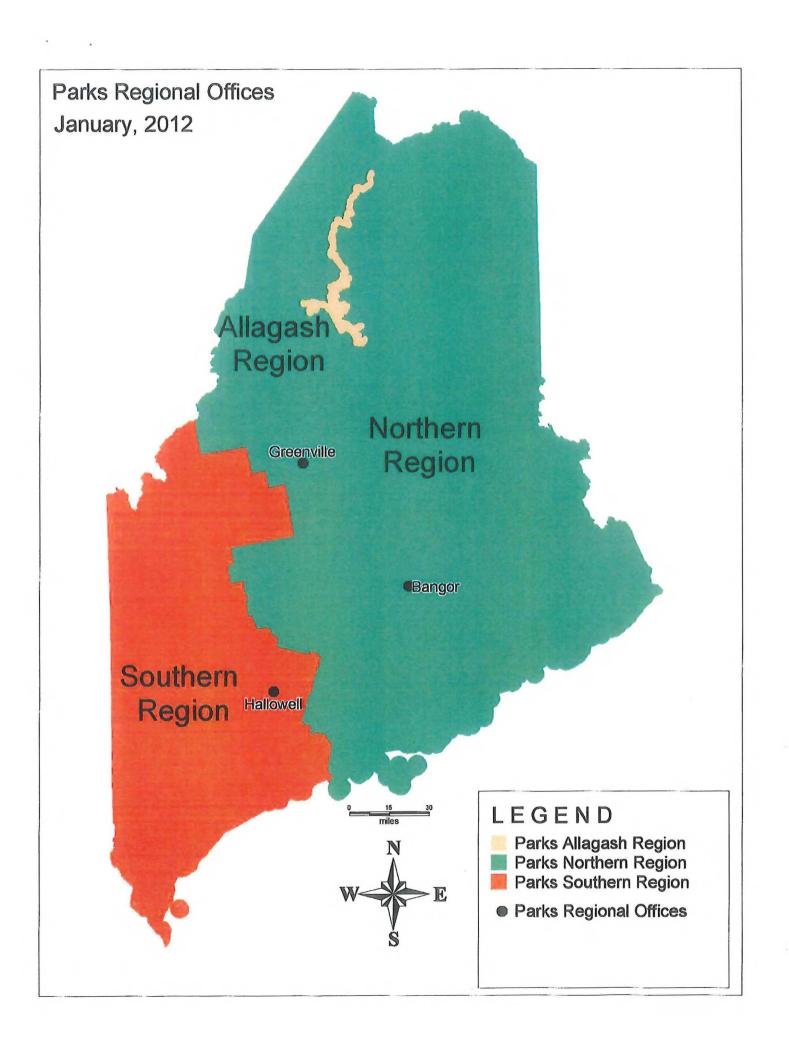
CMRO - Central Maine Regional Office (Response Services, Augusta)

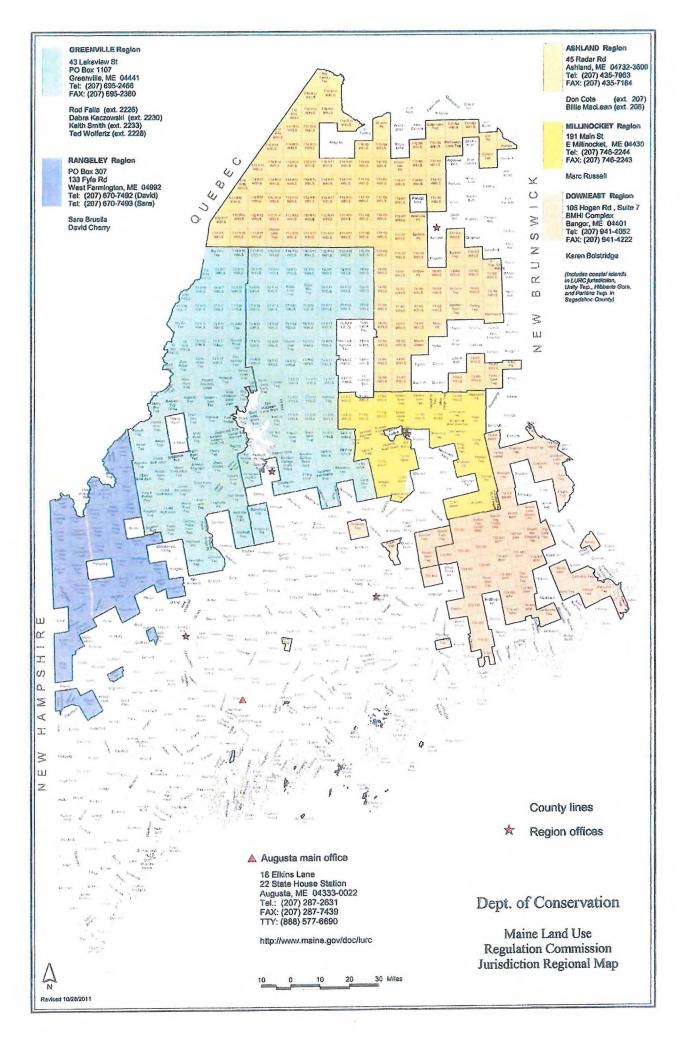
EMRO - Eastern Maine Regional Office (Bangor)
NMRO - Northern Maine Regional Office (Presque Isle)

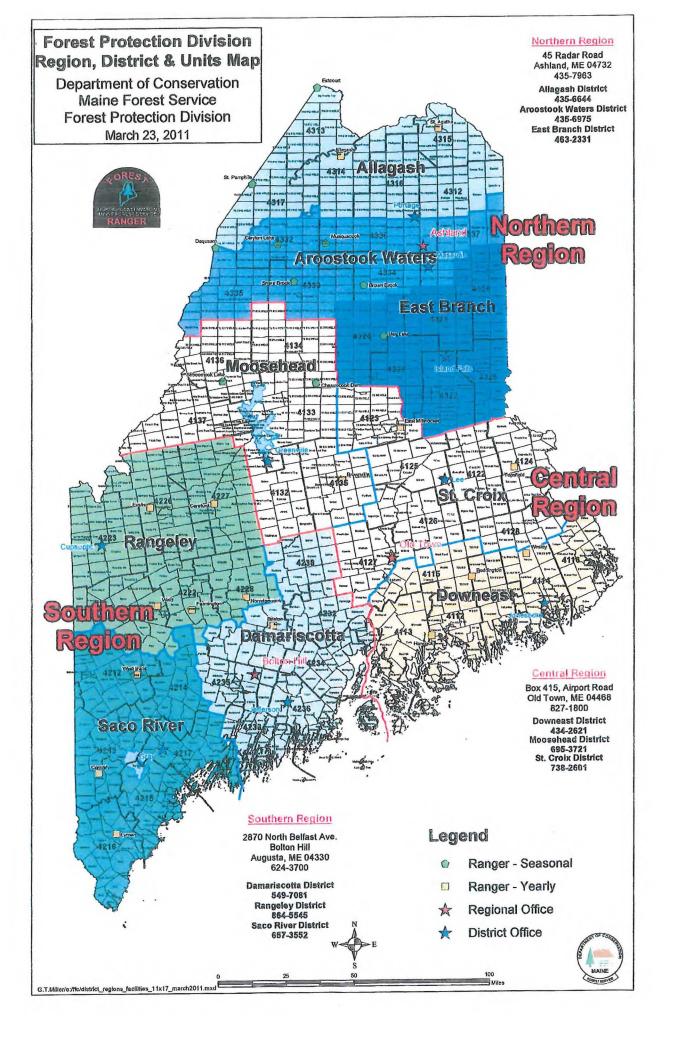












State of Maine

District maps

Departments of Environmental Protection and Conservation

Appendix C

