

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

August 2025

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landowner proposing to cause an impact on the buffer area defined for a significant vernal pool habitat is not subject to regulation pursuant to the rule if the significant vernal pool habitat depression is not on property owned or controlled by that landowner.

3. It provides that, when a vernal pool habitat has not previously been determined to be significant and the Department of Environmental Protection or the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife makes a determination concerning whether the vernal pool habitat is significant, the rule must provide that either department may determine that the vernal pool habitat is not significant if the vernal pool is located in northern Maine and dries out after filling and before July 15th or the vernal pool is located in southern Maine and dries out after filling and before July 1st.

LD 529 An Act to Establish the Alamoosook Lake Watershed Management District

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Subject to approval by the voters of the Town of Orland at referendum, Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 10 establishes the Alamoosook Lake Watershed Management District for the purposes of acquiring ownership of, owning, maintaining and operating the dam on Alamoosook Lake and engaging in other related activities. The costs of operations of the Alamoosook Lake Watershed Management District are to be funded as follows: 50% of the costs by municipal contribution from the Town of Orland, if approved by its voters; and the remainder of the costs by assessments on the owners of waterfront property abutting Alamoosook Lake as determined based on the shoreline frontage of each waterfront property owner.

Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 10 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 18, 2025.

LD 531 An Act to Establish the Toddy Pond Watershed Management District

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Subject to approval by the voters at referendum conducted by at least one of the Town of Orland, the Town of Penobscot, the Town of Blue Hill and the Town of Surry, Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 9 establishes the Toddy Pond Watershed Management District for the purposes of acquiring ownership of, owning, maintaining and operating the dam on Toddy Pond and engaging in other related activities. The costs of operations of the Toddy Pond Watershed Management District are to be funded as follows: 50% of the costs by municipal contribution from the Town of Orland, the Town of Penobscot, the Town of Blue Hill and the Town of Surry, if approved by the voters of those towns; and the remainder of the costs by assessments made on the owners of waterfront property abutting Toddy Pond as determined based on the shoreline frontage of each property owner.

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Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 9 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 18, 2025.

LD 704 An Act to Clarify Performance Standards for Quarries

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 91 amends the quarrying law to provide that a person that is operating a quarry or operating a quarry and conducting an excavation or grading preliminary to a construction project and that is otherwise exempt from the requirements of that law that intends to conduct blasting at that quarry or as part of that excavation or grading is required to comply with certain quarrying law notification requirements for blasting. Those notification requirements provide that, prior to blasting, the owner or operator must develop and implement a plan that provides an opportunity for prior notification of a planned blast for all persons located within 1,000 feet of the blast site. Notification may be by telephone, in writing, by public notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected or by other means identified in the plan.

LD 708 An Act to Allow for Rescission of a Site Location of Development Permit When a Development Is Decommissioned

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 49 amends the site location of development laws to require the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to rescind a site location of development permit for a development that is not a subdivision, upon the request of the permittee, if the development has been fully decommissioned to the satisfaction of the Department of Environmental Protection. The law defines “fully decommissioned” as all aboveground and belowground components of a development have been physically removed, the site has been restored to preconstruction grade, any previously vegetated areas have been revegetated with native vegetation similar to nearby native vegetation and all waste has been recycled or disposed of at a facility authorized to accept the materials for recycling or disposal.

LD 795 An Act to Establish a Waiver Process from the Permit Requirements for the Use of Explosives in Recreational or Hobby Mining Activities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 93 amends the laws regulating explosives and flammable liquids to provide that the Commissioner of Public Safety may approve a waiver from the requirement that a person possessing, using, storing or transporting explosives obtain a permit from the commissioner if the person is intending to conduct recreational or hobby mining activities and satisfies other specified criteria, including a requirement that the person requesting the waiver had previously been issued a waiver from the permit requirements prior to March 4, 2025. The law

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES