

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

—
S.P. 418 - L.D. 1049

Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to Address Aquatic Invasive Species

Sec. 1. Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Department of Marine Resources to enter into memorandum of understanding. Resolved: That, by December 15, 2024, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources, referred to jointly in this resolve as "the departments," shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to establish a process to plan for actions to control and prevent the further spread of aquatic invasive species as fish passages are improved and fish barriers are removed statewide.

Sec. 2. Review and update of memorandum of understanding. Resolved: That the departments shall include in the memorandum of understanding under section 1 a requirement that the memorandum be reviewed and updated at least every 5 years to coincide with the renewal of the memorandum. The memorandum must also include a provision authorizing the departments to review and update the memorandum at more frequent intervals when significant changes are planned with respect to how fish passages and fish barriers are managed. The review must include an assessment of the departments' progress on actions to control and prevent the further spread of aquatic invasive species and initiatives identified in the memorandum to ensure timely progress and completion, as well as identification of any new supporting initiatives.

Sec. 3. Departments' progress report to joint standing committee. Resolved: That the departments shall include in the memorandum of understanding under section 1 a requirement that the departments submit a report on the departments' progress under the memorandum to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters at least every 5 years, to coincide with the renewal of the memorandum under section 2.

Sec. 4. Other updates to joint standing committee. Resolved: That the departments shall include in the memorandum of understanding under section 1 a requirement that, if changes are planned that reduce commitments outlined in the memorandum to control and prevent the further spread of aquatic invasive species at the

dam on the Penobscot River in the Town of Medway or the dam on the Piscataquis River at Brown's Mill in the Town of Dover-Foxcroft, the departments shall notify the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters in writing prior to the changes being implemented.