



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 922

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H.P. 650

House of Representatives, March 7, 2017

**An Act Directing the Commissioner of Marine Resources To  
Investigate the Conditions of Sheepscot Pond Related to a  
Management Plan for Anadromous Fish Species**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PIERCE of Dresden.  
Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc and  
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, DEVIN of Newcastle, HAWKE of Boothbay Harbor,  
KUMIEGA of Deer Isle, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, SUTTON of Warren, TUCKER of  
Brunswick, TUELL of East Machias.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6003**, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 312, §3, is amended to read:

3 **§6003. Coordination of fisheries management**

4 The ~~Commissioner of Marine Resources~~ commissioner, in consultation with the  
5 Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, may regulate the taking of freshwater  
6 fish species in coastal waters. ~~Rules shall be promulgated in accordance with section~~  
7 ~~6171.~~ Whenever a bag limit on freshwater fish species in coastal waters exists, as defined  
8 in section 6001, subsection 17-A, ~~no~~ a person may not possess more than one day's bag  
9 limit, regardless of whether the fish are taken from inland or coastal waters. The  
10 Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall cooperate with the commissioner in  
11 carrying out the provisions of section 6171 for the management of anadromous fish  
12 species and habitat. The commissioner shall adopt routine technical rules as defined by  
13 Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A in accordance with section 6171 to carry out the  
14 purposes of this section.

15 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §12760, sub-§10** is enacted to read:

16 **10. Sheepscot Pond fishway.** The commissioner shall open and keep operational  
17 the fishway on the Sheepscot River located at the outlet of Sheepscot Pond in the Town  
18 of Palermo from April 15th to June 30th annually to allow the passage of anadromous  
19 fish.

20 **Sec. 3. Commissioner of Marine Resources to monitor anadromous fish**  
21 **in Sheepscot Pond.** Pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6171, the  
22 Commissioner of Marine Resources shall develop a management plan for anadromous  
23 fish species and habitat for Sheepscot Pond in the Town of Palermo. The commissioner  
24 shall investigate the conditions of Sheepscot Pond during and after the period of time the  
25 fishway located at the outlet of the pond is open and operational under Title 12, section  
26 12760 for the purpose of developing a management plan for anadromous fish species and  
27 habitat.

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This bill directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to open and keep operational  
30 from April 15th to June 30th annually the fishway on the Sheepscot River located at the  
31 outlet of Sheepscot Pond in the Town of Palermo and to investigate the conditions of the  
32 pond for the purpose of developing a management plan for anadromous fish species.