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LD 1529

I fully support LD 1529 - I would be so proud of Maine if you took this beautiful step to Strengthen protections for our most ecologically significant areas - remote, undeveloped ponds and rare stands of older growth forest that store carbon, support wildlife, and define the character of the North Woods.

It greatly saddens me that 70% of the North Woods was once older growth forests - there's just 3% left!!! We not only need to protect what's left, but we need to expand it again through protection. Without any action, you can be sure there will be 0% left much of what's left will be gone in 35 years.

Many of Maine's remote, undeveloped ponds are under development pressure now - the last stronghold of native brook trout in the US!!

LD 1529 is a great bill because it takes a balanced approach to protect these resources: It directs agencies to create a statewide conservation strategy, improve tracking, and elevate protection through existing programs like Land for Maine's Future and the Land Use Planning Commission's Lake Management Program.

Maine used to known for being different than every other state - there was wilderness everywhere. Now, there's too little left.