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LD 1763

Dear Sen. Mike Tipping, Rep. Laurie Oshers, and IFWC Members: I am writing to voice my full support for LD 1763, legislation to ban Floating Camps on Maine lakes. Here is why I believe these structures should be banned:

I am very concerned about water quality in Maine's lakes. I have a year round camp on a cove in Sebec Lake, and detritus blows in from predominantly westerly wind. These floating structures tend to leave trash, grey water and excrement in their wake. Many of my neighbors have their water intake on the lake.

These floating camps also disrupt the local aquatic life. They put inordinate stress on the local habitat changing the temperature and oxygen content of the water. This affects fish breeding and feeding grounds and adversely affects the plant life.

We need a uniform state wide rule to avoid the burden on the bodies of water they may be slow to respond to this issue. LD 1763 includes a provision for rulemaking around additional exceptions and clarifications, which we believe will be important given the complexity of the bill and the challenge in clearly defining NWFS.

Thank you Mike and Laurie for your strong support of our natural resources.