



## Testimony in Opposition to LD 350

### To Reconvene the 2019 Task Force on All-Terrain Vehicle Trail

#### Initiatives.

Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts and members of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, my name is Anthony Hourihan and I represent Irving Woodlands. Irving Woodlands owns and manages approximately 1.3 million acres of forest land in the State, and we have been landowners in Maine since 1947. We voluntarily host many forms of outdoor recreation on our timberlands, including approximately 295 miles of ATV trails.

We are testifying in opposition to LD 350 as amended. I will reiterate from my testimony in opposition to LD 276, "We are frustrated that despite participating in multiple studies, task forces, and working towards good policy on ATV recreational use on private lands, we are being ignored. This feels like we are trapped in the 1993 movie Ground Hog Day except it is in IF&W!

There is a common phrase "Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results". LD 350 must be insanity because we have done what is presented in LD 350, and obviously someone doesn't like the answers the task force provided the legislature. The size limits have been discussed Ad nauseam in this committee, with landowners stating consistently they are not interested in changes. The work of the last task force set out width and weight standards that begrudgingly the parties agreed to, which suggests it was the result of compromise. The report to this committee this Session resulting from LD 1308, again makes clear from a wide range of stakeholders that landowners are concerned with larger ATV's and UTV's and want better enforcement on trails. If this committee feels the burning desire to do something on ATV's stop asking others to waste more time, and resources on a topic we consider closed, and why not actually implement recommendations from LD 1308?

The continued effort to end run the existing rules, implemented as a result of the previous task force recommendations, and allow inclusion of larger machines, as well as ignoring the hard work and effort of stakeholders and 2 State departments is very frustrating to landowners and I fear will lead to the demise of what was a great outdoor recreational activity in the State.

**I urge you to Vote Ought Not to Pass on LD 350.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Anthony Hourihan  
Irving Woodlands, LLC