



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

PAUL R. LEPAGE

GOVERNOR

TO: Commissioners of IFW and DMR
FROM: Governor *Paul R. LePage*
DATE: January 23, 2018
RE: Sheepscot watershed

I recognize that the restoration of river herring as well as our freshwater fisheries is a priority for the State of Maine. I also understand that your missions to restore, protect and promote fish populations in Maine sometimes differ causing conflict as it relates to your respective goals within a watershed.

In the instance of the Sheepscot watershed, IF&W has a significant investment in the Palermo Rearing Station and it is important that we protect this investment and its related recreational benefits. Given the concerns around biosecurity risks at the Palermo Rearing Station I am directing the agencies to use an abundance of caution and maintain the status quo as it relates to the passage of river herring into Sheepscot Pond.

DMR shall focus its restoration efforts, with IF&W's support, on other watersheds.