

Landis Hudson  
Maine Rivers

We are writing in support of LD 489, a bill which proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to establish a right to a healthy environment. This is an extraordinarily broad and ambitious initiative, but the challenges to our natural systems and the life they support are imperiled to a degree that they never have been before. A recent study from the World Wildlife Fund (link below) shows that freshwater dependent organisms are the most imperiled group of species on the planet. The declines are catastrophic. We hope that this bill and the discussion it brings forth forge a new path forward.

Thank you.

[https://wwf.panda.org/discover/our\\_focus/freshwater\\_practice/the\\_world\\_s\\_forgotten\\_fishes/](https://wwf.panda.org/discover/our_focus/freshwater_practice/the_world_s_forgotten_fishes/)