

Tom Wright
Cape Elizabeth

From Tom Wright, 1 pine ridge rd, cape elizabeth, email twrightski1@gmail.com
Hello committee members. I would like your support of the bill LD 394 because I think it is essential to have permits on lakes and rivers for boat races and regattas to include consideration of the effect on wildlife.

It is the responsibility of maine inland fisheries and wildlife to protect maine wildlife and habitats by responsible recreation, sport and science.

Not having wildlife effect on races considered in permits makes no sense at all considering this mission you have!

Most permit laws for any other environmental effect by projects have strict requirements for wildlife effect- so why not boat races.

An example is boat races where up to 4 abreast at high speeds up to 70 mph (90 feet per second) gives wildlife in the area of the lake no time to escape. The effects on wildlife should also be closely studied and monitored to get a real sense of the effects on wildlife of races which I'm sure is a lot more devastating than presently known.

I'm a resident for 30 years in maine and years of camping and hiking here and appreciate the stewardship of your committee which is imperative to include this protection of wildlife in your permits for lake and river races.

Thank you for all your committee does to ensure our enjoyment of Maine's very special environment and protection.