

Marina Mooney
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Senators Dill, Senator Miramant, Representative Landry, Representative McCreight and members of the Joint Standing Committees on Inland Fisheries & Wildlife & Marine Resources:

My name is Marina Mooney and I live in Gouldsboro. I am writing in support of LD 883 as amended by Senator Miramant.

I propose that:

1. Federal listing alone does not ensure state management.
2. The purpose of the federal ESA is to protect and recover imperiled native species and the ecosystems they depend on to prevent them from going extinct.
3. Inclusion of a Threatened or Endangered species on either Marine ESA or MESA means more attention and better management effort from all relevant state agencies.
4. If a species is listed as Endangered under the Federal ESA, it is by default and definition in danger of going extinct throughout its population range.
5. We know enough to list 30 species as Threatened or Endangered at the state level when the species is not at risk of extinction across its range. We cannot justify not listing a species at the state level when it is at risk of extinction across its national range.
6. From 1979 to 1996, Maine's definition of Endangered Species included a designation by the Secretary of the Interior.
7. In 1996 with LD 164, Maine took responsibility for listing endangered species away from the state and federal scientists and gave it to the legislature. Twenty-five years later it's time we gave it back.
8. There is no biological reason for Maine not to list a species that USFWS and NMFS have listed as Endangered or Threatened.
9. To the extent possible, besides protecting species, our goal is to depoliticize the listing process.
10. Maine is one of only ten states (and the only state in the northeast) that does not mandate or highly recommend state-level listing of federally-listed species.
11. There are currently 16 federally-listed threatened and endangered birds, mammals, reptiles and fish found in Maine. Of those, 10 are also listed at the state level. The 6 federally-listed species found in Maine that are not listed at the state level are the red knot, Canada lynx, blue whale, green turtle, Atlantic salmon, Atlantic sturgeon.