

Paul Hannemann
St George
LD 2014

Dear Linda LaCroix,

3/11/22

I am writing with my concerns about the reintroduction of a proposal for Sunday hunting in the State of Maine.

As the owner of 50 scenic acres on the coast of Maine onto which I allow as many people as possible to enjoy I have concerns that they will not have one day of guaranteed safe hiking per week. I am able to control access to this property to a high degree but over years I have had many a scofflaw disobey my posting and enter the land for the purpose of hunting without permission. This does intimidate my welcomed guests and they appreciate that they can come here on Sundays without fear for their safety.

As a mineral collector who is a past president of the Maine Mineralogical and Geological Society (the largest such organization in the state) I speak for a number of mineral collectors who access remote areas of the state in pursuit of their hobby and do find the fall to be possibly be the most beautiful time of the year to be in the woods on our way to collection sites.

I have met hunters in the woods on other days of the week during my collecting activities and have found them to be both safety oriented and courteous, but on these days I did feel a need to keep up constant chatter with my companions to make said hunters aware we were about. Having one day a week where you can just enjoy the quiet serenity of the forest would be nice.

Lastly it is my understanding that the hunters are having record or near record harvest of game animals as it is and are doing a good job of maintaining the deer herd size in particular, if there were to be a need to do more thinning of the herds in certain areas would not just increasing the bag limits accomplish this end?

God rested on the Seventh Day why can't our hunters?

Thank you for listening,

Paul Hannemann
St George, Maine