

Diana McLaughlin  
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LD 171

I strongly urge the Committee to support passage of LD 171. More and more lakes and ponds in Maine are becoming infested with invasive plant species, including Androscoggin Lake and Tilton Pond, both of which are in the 30 Mile River Watershed. While some "control" of an invasive infestation may be possible in some cases (at huge expense and continuing effort), it is nearly impossible to eradicate an invasive species from a waterbody once it has arrived. Prevention is key, and more collaboration between the scientists at DEP and IF&W to strengthen Boat Inspections -- which should not be optional for boat owners -- can only help in this crisis.