

Pamela McCullough
Hancock

Dear Sirs/Madams,

I am fortunate enough to live on Frenchman Bay, directly across from Acadia and Cadillac Mountain, in Hancock, ME. I chose to live there because of the unique beauty of this part of Maine....Cadillac Mountain, is, of course, the highest seaboard mountain north of Brazil. It is spectacular. It is unique. It is a precious jewel that we must protect.

One of the most precious aspects of Frenchman Bay and Acadia is that it remains so pristine. We enjoy one of the clearest, brightest night skies on the whole eastern coast of the United States. What would 24/7 year round lights in the bay do to that sky? Most certainly diminish its clarity and brilliance. This is a part of the massive salmon aquaculture project being proposed for Frenchman Bay. The proposal is for an industrial size "aqua" farm, with massive pens destroying the pristine beauty of the bay, and massive amounts of effluent potentially destroying the rich fishing grounds for lobstermen, fishermen and residents & visitors alike.

Of course there needs to be consideration of certain kinds of developments in the bay. Developments of the right scale and balance. But this proposed project, and others before it, are certainly far beyond a scale that makes any sense to those that make their livelihoods from these waters, and those that live here and visit to enjoy the rich beauty of our surroundings.

That is why LD 1211 makes so much sense, and is so crucial to keeping Frenchman Bay, and the surrounding waters, healthy, pristine and in the proper balance of development and conservation. Maine has to work really hard to keep what we have that makes Maine, Maine. I feel blessed to call this area my home. In every season, Frenchman Bay has abundant beauty to behold. In the Winter, I have seen seals float by on ice floes. In Spring, Summer and Fall, one hears the thrumming of the lobster boats as they work, and see the lovely colors of the fishermen's boats. In late Summer, I have seen from my porch, large schools of baitfish churning up the water, as they move closer to shore that time of year. And to hear, and then see....whales following the baitfish! And bald eagles gather to reap the bounty of these schools. And then seals begin splashing in a feeding frenzy. It is truly as if I was in a David Attenborough series, and it is magnificent beyond words to behold.

Every season, too, brings an abundance of different kinds of birds, both migratory and those that live here year round. Is it not our duty, then, as Mainers, to protect all the bounty that is in, and above, Frenchman Bay? That thrive here because of the health of the Bay? Of course, we must! So please, I implore you, give the Frenchman Bay a chance to remain healthy and pristine, when so many other bodies of water are being destroyed and polluted. A committee appointed to study what is best for these waters, to sustain its health and at the same time to provide livelihoods to those people that use it for their sustenance, is the only way to protect this precious part of Maine. Pamela McCullough