



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY
LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION
22 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0022

PAUL R. LePAGE
GOVERNOR

WALTER E. WHITCOMB
COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS D. LIVESAY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**IRVING’S PROPOSED FISH RIVER CHAIN OF LAKES CONCEPT PLAN
 IN NORTHERN AROOSTOOK COUNTY, ZP 768**

PURPOSE: The Maine Land Use Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing and seeking public comment on Irving Woodlands LLC’s (PO Box 5777, Saint John, NB E2L4M3) proposed *Fish River Chain of Lakes Concept Plan* (Zoning Petition ZP 768), for lands within T15 R5 WELS, Madawaska Lake Township, T16 R5 WELS, T17 R3 WELS, Sinclair Township, and Cross Lake Township. As part of the Concept Plan, Irving proposes to rezone approximately 51,000 acres.

Concept plans are landowner-created, long-range plans for the development and conservation of a large area. These plans are a clarification of long-term landowner intent that indicate the areas where development is to be focused, the relative density of proposed development, and the means by which significant natural and recreational resources are to be protected. Concept planning is a flexible alternative to traditional subdivision and development regulation, designed to accomplish both public and private objectives. Concept plans are initiated by a landowner and must be approved by the Commission. Concept plans are implemented by rezoning land to a Resource Plan Protection (P-RP) Subdistrict.

The purpose of the hearing is to allow the petitioner and members of the public the opportunity to present testimony and evidence as to whether the petitioner’s proposal meets the statutory criteria for approval under the provisions of 12 M.R.S. § 685-A(8-A) and Sections 10.08, 10.23,H, and 10.25,A of the Commission’s rules, *Land Use Districts and Standards*.

TIME AND PLACE: Members of the public are welcome to attend and participate in either of the scheduled public sessions. Party sessions are devoted to testimony and questions by the petitioner, individuals and organizations previously granted formal status to participate in the party sessions, and the Commission. Members of the public may attend the party sessions, but may not participate.

The hearing will be governed by the Maine Administrative Procedures Act (5 M.R.S. Chapter 375) and Chapter 5 of the Commission’s *Rules for the Conduct of Public Hearings*.

Public Comment Sessions

Both public comment sessions will be held at the Caribou Inn & Convention Center, 19 Main Street, Caribou, Maine.

Tuesday, May 22, 2018 6:00 PM to TBD

Wednesday, May 23, 2018 6:00 PM to TBD

The Commission anticipates that these sessions will be heavily attended, and speakers will likely be limited to 3 to 5 minutes each, based on number of individuals interested in offering testimony. Members of the public who wish to speak during a public session may begin arriving between 5:30 PM and 6:00 PM to sign up. Members of the public will not be allowed to speak during more than one session.



Technical Sessions for Parties

The technical sessions will be held at the Caribou Inn & Convention Center, 19 Main Street, Caribou, Maine.

Tuesday, May 22, 2018	1:30 PM to 5:00 PM
Wednesday, May 23, 2018	8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Thursday, May 24, 2018	8:30 AM to TBD

Members of the public may attend, but may not participate in, the technical sessions.

CONTINUANCE OF HEARING: As provided by Section 5.08 of the Commission's rules, this hearing may be continued and reconvened from time to time and from place to place by the Presiding Officer as circumstances require. The Presiding Officer shall provide reasonable notice to parties and the public of the time and place of any such reconvened hearing.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: All members of the public are invited to attend and offer testimony relevant to the Commission's review of the proposal. The public is not required to submit written testimony before the hearing. Members of the public may simply attend the hearing and give oral testimony during the public comment sessions.

The hearing record will remain open until noon on June 22, 2018 to allow the public and parties to file written statements with the Commission, and for an additional 21 days until noon on July 13, 2018 to allow parties to file written statements in rebuttal of comments filed during the previous period. The hearing record will then close, but may be reopened in a limited capacity at a later date; notice of such possible reopening will be established in a subsequent public notice.

Written statements should be sent to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission, by mail to 22 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0022, or by email to Timothy.Beaucage@maine.gov.

Disabilities: Persons with disabilities planning to attend the hearing are requested to inform the Commission in advance so that arrangements can be made for services they require.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: A full copy of the proposed concept plan may be viewed at:

- the LUPC's website at www.maine.gov/dacf/lupc/reference/resourceplans/fishriverlakes_prp015.html
- the LUPC's Ashland office at 45 Radar Road, Ashland; (207) 435-7963; Hours: M-F, 8:00-4:00, please call first
- the LUPC's Augusta office at 18 Elkins Lane, Harlow Building, Augusta; (207) 287-2631; Hours: M-F, 8:00-4:00, please call first
- the Aroostook County Commissioner's Office at 144 Sweden St, Suite 1, Caribou; (207) 493-3318; Hours: M-F, 8:00-4:30, please call first
- Fort Kent Town Office on Main St., Fort Kent; (207) 834-3003; Hours: M-F, 8:30-4:30, please call first