

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is proposing regulation changes for the upcoming ice fishing and open water fishing seasons. These regulations are needed to provide for the effective conservation of Maine’s inland fisheries and to enhance fishing opportunities throughout the State. This rule-making packet includes 191 individual proposals presented in the following “themes”:

Theme	Pages	Proposals	
State Heritage Fish Waters	2-3	2	
Special Need	4-6	3	
Simplify to General Law	7-9	4	
Expanded Angler Opportunity	10-16	12	
Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion	17-26	22	
Lake Trout Regulation Simplification	27-42	144	
	Lake Trout General Law	28-32	70
	S-25	33-35	38
	S-26	36-37	15
	S-27	38-41	21

The goal of presenting the proposals in this manner is to better facilitate the public review process and to increase public understanding of the changes currently proposed.

- Note in each proposal: **Gray Highlighted Text = Eliminated text.**
Underlined Text = New text.

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Theme: State Heritage Fish Waters

Description: Proposed additions or removals to the State Heritage Fish Waters List consistent with statutory requirements and MDIFW's Heritage Waters consideration data review process.

Number of Proposals in this Theme: 2

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: State Heritage Fish Waters

Water: CRANBERRY POND (LITTLE NOTCH POND)

Region: E **WATCODE:** 0784

Town(s):

Bowdoin College Grant West Twp

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Piscataquis

Regulation Change Description:

Amend Chapter 1A by adding Cranberry Pond (Little Notch Pond) to the State Heritage Fish Waters list. No change to current regulations necessary.

Purpose of Change:

The Fisheries Division conducted a thorough review of the statewide lake inventory database and newly surveyed waters to identify candidates for potential inclusion as State Heritage Fish Waters. Cranberry Pond (Little Notch Pond) is a wild brook trout water in the upper West Branch Penobscot River drainage. Cranberry Pond (Little Notch Pond) was last stocked in 2000. Given that it has now been 25+ years since the last stocking event and it currently still supports a robust population of wild brook trout, Cranberry Pond (Little Notch Pond) meets all Heritage List eligibility criteria and is proposed to be added to the State Heritage Fish Waters List.

Proposed Modifications:

Proposed Final Regulations:

Theme: State Heritage Fish Waters

Water: MIRROR (MONKEY) POND

Region: E **WATCODE:** 0526

Town(s):

TA R11 WELS

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Piscataquis

Regulation Change Description:

Amend Chapter 1A by adding Mirror (Monkey) Pond to the State Heritage Fish Waters list. No change to current regulations necessary.

Purpose of Change:

The Fisheries Division conducted a thorough review of the statewide lake inventory database and newly surveyed waters to identify candidates for potential inclusion as State Heritage Fish Waters. Mirror (Monkey) Pond is a wild brook trout water in the upper West Branch Penobscot River drainage. Mirror (Monkey) Pond was last stocked in 2001. Given that it has now been 25 years since the last stocking event and it currently still supports a robust population of wild brook trout, Mirror (Monkey) Pond meets all Heritage List eligibility criteria and is proposed to be added to the State Heritage Fish Waters List.

Proposed Modifications:

Proposed Final Regulations:

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Theme: Special Need

Description: Management initiatives, typically in response to dramatic events, an emerging situation requiring adaptive rule changes, or needs not addressed by other regulatory themes (for example, addressing impacts of summer/winter fish kills, changes in management focus, or more complex and comprehensive initiatives).

Number of Proposals in this Theme: 3

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Special Need

Water: CROOKED RIVER

Region: A **WATCODE:** 04303101_BLNK

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Albany Twp to Casco

Cumberland, Oxford (South)

Regulation Change Description:

Add S-13 (No size or bag limit on bass).

Purpose of Change:

Crooked River is primarily managed for landlocked Atlantic salmon, particularly for the production of wild juvenile salmon. Brook trout also provide seasonal fishing opportunities. Given the importance of the cold-water fishery, anglers, Trout Unlimited, and Warden Service have asked MDIFW to add an S-13 to the river. Increased bass harvest may help reduce bass predation on wild juvenile landlocked salmon.

Proposed Modifications:

CROOKED RIVER, Albany Twp to Casco (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1, FFO, S-13, S-22. Minimum length limit on landlocked salmon: 26 inches.

– From Bolster’s Mill Road bridge downstream to Route 11 in Casco: October 1 - October 15: Fishing allowed as described above. All other fish caught must be released alive at once.

Proposed Final Regulations:

CROOKED RIVER, Albany Twp to Casco (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1, FFO, S-13, S-22. Minimum length limit on landlocked salmon: 26 inches.

– From Bolster’s Mill Road bridge downstream to Route 11 in Casco: October 1 - October 15: Fishing allowed as described above. All other fish caught must be released alive at once.

Theme: Special Need

Water: CUPSUPTIC RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

Region: D **WATCODE:** 0861751010

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Oxbow Twp to Adamstown Twp

Oxford (North)

Regulation Change Description:

Add S-7 (All trout, landlocked salmon, and togue caught must be released alive at once) from August 16 - September 30 on Cupsuptic River from Big Falls to confluence of Cupsuptic Lake.

Purpose of Change:

Recent research indicated that the Cupsuptic River system was extremely important to the production of wild brook trout in the popular Mooselookmeguntic Lake fishery. This change will protect spawning fish to support a sustainable fishery.

Proposed Modifications:

CUPSUPTIC RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES, Oxbow Twp to Adamstown Twp (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except:

– From headwaters downstream to the red markers at Little Falls: FFO, S-1.

– Downstream of the red markers at Little Falls: Mooselookmeguntic Lake regulations apply.

- From Big Falls in Lower Cupsuptic TWP to the red markers at Little Falls: S-7 from August 16 to September 30.

Proposed Final Regulations:

CUPSUPTIC RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES, Oxbow Twp to Adamstown Twp (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except:

– From headwaters downstream to the red markers at Little Falls: FFO, S-1.

– Downstream of the red markers at Little Falls: Mooselookmeguntic Lake regulations apply.

- From Big Falls in Lower Cupsuptic TWP to the red markers at Little Falls: S-7 from August 16 to September 30.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Special Need

Water: FAIRFIELD RECREATION (PAL) PONDS

Region: B **WATCODE:** 8079_BLNK

Town(s):

Fairfield

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Somerset

Regulation Change Description:

Catch and release for all fishes.

Purpose of Change:

The Fairfield PAL Ponds are heavily contaminated with PFAS chemicals and are currently listed under the fish consumption advisories. This regulation change will further deter the consumption of contaminated fish, while continuing to provide a popular and safe youth angling opportunity.

Proposed Modifications:

FAIRFIELD RECREATION (PAL) PONDS, Fairfield (North Zone).
General fishing laws apply, except: Open to open water and ice fishing from January 1 - December 31. S-8, S-9. Catch and release for all fish species.

(See Fish Consumption Advisories on page A-4).

Proposed Final Regulations:

FAIRFIELD RECREATION (PAL) PONDS, Fairfield (North Zone).
General fishing laws apply, except: Open to open water and ice fishing from January 1 - December 31. S-8, S-9. Catch and release for all fish species.

(See Fish Consumption Advisories on page A-4).

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Theme: Simplify to General Law

Description: Consistent with ongoing MDIFW commitments to simplify the law book, proposals under this theme would result in complete removal from the "special fishing laws" section. This theme identifies waters with special regulations that can be effectively managed under general law. Removals typically result where there are changes in management, including suspension of ineffective stocking programs, lost public access and suspension of intensive management, and antiquated rules reflecting historical management needs that are no longer relevant.

Number of Proposals in this Theme: 4

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Simplify to General Law

Water: GOODWIN POND

Region: D **WATCODE:** 3006

Town(s):

Adamstown Twp

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Oxford (North)

Regulation Change Description:

Simplify to general law.

Purpose of Change:

Remote Pond Camera survey identified only six anglers fishing Goodwin Pond during the open water season, with no evidence of angler use during the extended fishing season. A proposal to suspend stocking in Goodwin Pond will be submitted this summer, and the fish currently allocated to this waterbody will be redirected elsewhere. General fishing laws are sufficient to manage this resource and would eliminate unnecessary text from the lawbook.

Proposed Modifications:

GOODWIN POND, Adamstown Twp (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

Theme: Simplify to General Law

Water: GREELY POND, LITTLE

Region: D **WATCODE:** 2382

Town(s):

Dallas Plt

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Franklin

Regulation Change Description:

Simplify to General Law.

Purpose of Change:

Little Greely Pond stocking was suspended in 2016. A healthy wild trout population persists, and the pond is remote with relatively low angler use. General law fishing regulations are sufficient to manage this resource and would eliminate unnecessary text from the lawbook.

Proposed Modifications:

GREELY POND, LITTLE, Dallas Plt (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Simplify to General Law

Water: LONG POND

Region: B **WATCODE:** 5272

Town(s):

Belgrade, Mount Vernon, Rome

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Kennebec

Regulation Change Description:

Remove restrictive fall fishing regulations.

Purpose of Change:

Allow year-round General Law fishing. This will create consistency within the Belgrade Lakes chain and eliminate angler confusion.

Proposed Modifications:

LONG POND, Belgrade, Mount Vernon, Rome (South Zone).
General fishing laws apply, except: From October 1 -
December 31: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

Theme: Simplify to General Law

Water: MINNEHONK LAKE

Region: B **WATCODE:** 5812

Town(s):

Mount Vernon

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Kennebec

Regulation Change Description:

Remove angling restrictions in the fall and recreational smelt harvest restrictions.

Purpose of Change:

Allow General Law fishing on a year-round basis. Recreational smelt harvest will not impact the cold water fish management, and will create a much-needed recreational smelt harvest opportunity in central Maine.

Proposed Modifications:

MINNEHONK LAKE, Mount Vernon (South Zone). General
fishing laws apply, except: S-3. From October 1 - November
30: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Theme: Expanded Angler Opportunity

Description: Creation of new or expanded seasonal fishing opportunities (including fall fishing, year-round fishing, or winter opportunities) commonly associated with stocked waters and supported by public interest.

Number of Proposals in this Theme: 12

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: CENTER POND

Region: A **WATCODE:** 0277

Town(s):

Phippsburg

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Sagadahoc

Regulation Change Description:

Change December 31 to November 30.

Purpose of Change:

This is a winter put-and-take fishery with no brook trout holdover, and no other salmonid stocking programs. This change allows harvest of stocked brook trout in December consistent with all other regional waters.

Proposed Modifications:

CENTER POND, Phippsburg (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From October 1 - December 31 November 30: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

CENTER POND, Phippsburg (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: COLD RAIN POND

Region: A **WATCODE:** 3376

Town(s):

Naples

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Cumberland

Regulation Change Description:

Change December 31 to November 30.

Purpose of Change:

This is a winter put-and-take fishery with no brook trout holdover, and no other salmonid stocking programs. This change allows harvest of stocked brook trout in December consistent with all other regional waters.

Proposed Modifications:

COLD RAIN POND, Naples (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: Motorboats over 10 horsepower prohibited. From October 1 - December 31 November 30: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

COLD RAIN POND, Naples (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: Motorboats over 10 horsepower prohibited. From October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: GRAND LAKE, WEST (INCLUDING PUG LAKE)

Region: C **WATCODE:** 1150_BLNK

Town(s):

T6 ND BPP, T6 R1 NBPP, Grand Lake Stream Plt

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Penobscot (South), Washington

Regulation Change Description:

Liberalize lake trout regulations, allow hook and line fishing for smelt, and allow additional harvest of bass.

Purpose of Change:

The proposed changes are intended to promote bass harvest and encourage a trophy lake trout fishery. Allowing angling of smelt will create new fishing opportunities and better aligns with lake whitefish management goals.

Proposed Modifications:

GRAND LAKE, WEST (INCLUDING PUG LAKE), T6 ND BPP, T6 R1 NBPP, Grand Lake Stream Plt (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1, S-2, S-3, S-13. No minimum length on togue. Daily bag limit on togue: 2 fish, only 1 of which may exceed 33 inches. All togue between 23 and 33 inches must be released alive at once. No bag limit on togue under 23. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 23 inches: 1 fish. From October 1 - 20: ALO, S-7. From October 21 - January 31: Closed to all fishing. Closed to all fishing within 150 feet of Grand Lake Stream Dam. Open to ice fishing for all fish during February and March only. The holding of any live baitfish not taken in West Grand Lake and Pug Lake is prohibited.

Proposed Final Regulations:

GRAND LAKE, WEST (INCLUDING PUG LAKE), T6 ND BPP, T6 R1 NBPP, Grand Lake Stream Plt (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: S-2, S-3, S-13. No bag limit on togue under 23. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 23 inches: 1 fish. From October 1 - 20: ALO, S-7. From October 21 - January 31: Closed to all fishing. Closed to all fishing within 150 feet of Grand Lake Stream Dam. Open to ice fishing for all fish during February and March only. The holding of any live baitfish not taken in West Grand Lake and Pug Lake is prohibited.

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: GREAT EAST LAKE

Region: A **WATCODE:** 3922

Town(s):

Acton

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

York

Regulation Change Description:

Reduce minimum length limit on lake trout from 16 to 15 inches. Remove 2-line restriction.

Purpose of Change:

Great East Lake is primarily managed by New Hampshire Fish and Game, which requested that Maine reduce the lake trout length limit to 15 inches to match New Hampshire's updated general law. Maine also proposed increasing the number of allowed fishing lines from 2 to 5, creating consistency with general fishing regulations in both states. The 2-line limit was established in the 1980s when winter fishing pressure was higher. Since then, angler use has declined, and similar restrictions have been removed from most waters in the region. Additionally, lake trout populations are currently high while harvest remains low, contributing to forage concerns. Allowing more lines may increase angler participation and lake trout harvest while also simplifying and reducing special regulations.

Proposed Modifications:

GREAT EAST LAKE, Acton (South Zone). General fishing laws for Interstate Waters (page A-2) apply, except: S-1, S-3, S-8. Minimum length limit on togue: 16 inches.

Proposed Final Regulations:

GREAT EAST LAKE, Acton (South Zone). General fishing laws for Interstate Waters (page A-2) apply, except: S-1, S-3. Minimum length limit on togue: 15 inches.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: GREAT POND OUTLET

Region: B **WATCODE:** 52740

Town(s):

Belgrade

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Kennebec

Regulation Change Description:

Remove fall fishing restrictions. Add S-19 (Daily limit on brook trout: 2 fish).

Purpose of Change:

This change will allow for year round fishing consistent with Long Pond. The S-19 is to align with other regional brook trout stocking programs.

Proposed Modifications:

GREAT POND OUTLET, Belgrade (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From the outlet dam on Great Pond in Belgrade to the confluence with Long Pond: S-19. Open to ice and open water fishing from January 1 to December 31. From October 1 - December 31: ALO, S-7. The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies is permitted.

Proposed Final Regulations:

GREAT POND OUTLET, Belgrade (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From the outlet dam on Great Pond in Belgrade to the confluence with Long Pond: S-19. Open to ice and open water fishing from January 1 to December 31. The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies is permitted.

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: HANNINGTON POND

Region: F **WATCODE:** 9619

Town(s):

Reed Pt

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Aroostook

Regulation Change Description:

Add S-11 (The use of possession of live baitfish/live smelts is permitted) to a stocked water, allowing the use of bait during open water fishing by persons under 16 years of age or persons holding an eligible complimentary fishing license.

Purpose of Change:

Increase angling opportunity by allowing live bait to be used by persons under 16 years of age or persons holding an eligible complimentary fishing license.

Proposed Modifications:

HANNINGTON POND, Reed Pt (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI**. S-9, S-11, S-19.

Proposed Final Regulations:

HANNINGTON POND, Reed Pt (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI**. S-9, S-11, S-19.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: MUD LAKE

Region: G **WATCODE:** 1680

Town(s):

Cross Lake Twp, T17 R4 WELS

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Aroostook

Regulation Change Description:

Open to ice fishing through an A special season code (Open to ice fishing and open water fishing from Jan 1 - Dec 31).

Purpose of Change:

This change will create a winter angling opportunity for white perch, while maintaining protections for brook trout.

Proposed Modifications:

MUD LAKE, Cross Lake Twp, T17 R4 WELS (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CIA**. S-2, S-3, S-11, S-19. Only 1 brook trout may exceed 14 inches. While ice fishing: **S-7**. (See also Fish River Thoroughfares).

Proposed Final Regulations:

MUD LAKE, Cross Lake Twp, T17 R4 WELS (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **A**. S-2, S-3, S-11, S-19. Only 1 brook trout may exceed 14 inches. While ice fishing: **S-7**. (See also Fish River Thoroughfares).

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: NEZINSCOT RIVER

Region: B **WATCODE:** 086034_BLNK

Town(s):

Buckfield to Turner

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Androscoggin

Regulation Change Description:

Eliminate ALO (Artificial Lures Only) and S-7 (All trout, landlocked salmon, and togue caught must be released alive at once) restrictions from Turner Mill Dam to Meadow Brook.

Purpose of Change:

This section of the Nezinscot River does not provide suitable year-round habitat for trout. This area is managed as a put and take trout fishery and is proposed to be open for harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

NEZINSCOT RIVER, Turner (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except:

- From the Central Maine Power Company transmission line crossing approximately 500 yards below the junction with Martin Stream to the Turner Mill Dam: ALO, S-19. Open to open water and ice fishing from January 1 - December 31.
- From Turner Mill Dam downstream to its confluence with Meadow Brook: ALO, S-7. Open to open water fishing from January 1 - December 31.
- From its confluence with Meadow Brook downstream to its confluence with the Androscoggin River: S-19. Open to open water and ice fishing from January 1 - December 31. The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies is permitted.

Proposed Final Regulations:

NEZINSCOT RIVER, Turner (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except:

- From the Central Maine Power Company transmission line crossing approximately 500 yards below the junction with Martin Stream to the Turner Mill Dam: ALO, S-19. Open to open water and ice fishing from January 1 - December 31.
- From Turner Mill Dam downstream to its confluence with the Androscoggin River: S-19. Open to open water and ice fishing from January 1 - December 31. The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies is permitted.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: OXHEAD POND, UPPER

Region: F **WATCODE:** 5808

Town(s):

T40 MD

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Open to ice fishing and remove Artificial Lures Only. Allow bait harvest via trap only. Liberalize brook trout size and bag to general law.

Purpose of Change:

Increase opportunity on stocked brook trout fishery by opening to ice fishing, remove Artificial Lures Only to allow the use of bait, and liberalize brook trout size and bag. All bait harvest via trap only.

Proposed Modifications:

OXHEAD POND, UPPER, T40 MD (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI. ALO. Only 1 brook trout may exceed 14 inches. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. From October 1 - December 31: ALO, S-7.**

Proposed Final Regulations:

OXHEAD POND, UPPER, T40 MD (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From October 1 - December 31: ALO, S-7.

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: PLEASANT RIVER

Region: A **WATCODE:** 043018

Town(s):

Windham

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Cumberland

Regulation Change Description:

Remove April 1 - November 30: ALO (Artificial Lures Only), S-7 (All trout, landlocked salmon, and togue caught must be released alive at once). Add Open to open water fishing from January 1 - December 31: S-19 (Daily limit on brook trout: 2 fish). The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies permitted.

Purpose of Change:

This change will expand angling and harvest opportunity of stocked fish in Pleasant River where minimal to no holdover observed.

Proposed Modifications:

PLEASANT RIVER, Windham (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From the Route 302 bridge downstream to the River Road bridge: **April 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.** Open to open water fishing from January 1 - December 31: S-19. The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies permitted.

Proposed Final Regulations:

PLEASANT RIVER, Windham (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From the Route 302 bridge downstream to the River Road bridge: Open to open water fishing from January 1 - December 31: S-19. The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies permitted.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: SILVER LAKE

Region: A **WATCODE:** 5676

Town(s):

Phippsburg

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Sagadahoc

Regulation Change Description:

Change December 31 to November 30.

Purpose of Change:

This is a winter put-and-take fishery with no brook trout holdover, and no other salmonid stocking programs. This change allows harvest of stocked brook trout in December consistent with all other regional waters.

Proposed Modifications:

SILVER LAKE, Phippsburg (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From October 1 - December 31 November 30: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

SILVER LAKE, Phippsburg (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

Theme: Expanded Angling Opportunity

Water: STOCKTON SPRINGS MUNICIPAL POND

Region: B **WATCODE:**

Town(s):

Stockton Springs

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Waldo

Regulation Change Description:

Add an S-8 (Restricted to two lines per person) and S-9 (Open to fishing only for persons under 16 years of age or persons holding an eligible complimentary fishing license).

Purpose of Change:

This change creates a new trout fishing opportunity for youth and complimentary anglers, with a two-line limit in anticipation of a popular ice fishing season.

Proposed Modifications:

STOCKTON SPRINGS MUNICIPAL POND, Stockton Springs (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: S-8, S-9.

Proposed Final Regulations:

STOCKTON SPRINGS MUNICIPAL POND, Stockton Springs (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: S-8, S-9.

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Description: A significant effort has been made to correct previously identified issues related to conflicting regulations, inconsistencies, inadvertent omissions, errors, and confusing regulations that have also created challenges for mapping special regulations in the Fishing Laws Online Angling Tool (FLOAT). This theme is retained from year to year to correct any newly identified issues.

Number of Proposals in this Theme: 22

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER

Region: A **WATCODE:** 086_BLNK

Town(s):

Gilead to Brunswick

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, Oxford (South), Sagad

Regulation Change Description:

Add language to allow the use of all legal forms of bait, lures, and flies from Livermore Falls to tidewater reach.

Purpose of Change:

Clarifies some confusion and offers more opportunity to target warmwater species. Ice fishing is already permitted, and it is a highly used water body year-round. The general law bait restriction for rivers, streams, and brooks is not protecting cold water species or necessary in this stretch of river.

Proposed Modifications:

ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER, , Gilead to Brunswick (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: Open to open water fishing from the Maine-New Hampshire Border to tidewater from January 1 - December 31.

– From the Maine-New Hampshire border downriver to the bridge crossing in Gilead: Single hook artificial lures only. S-7.

– From the bridge crossing in Gilead to the Route 232 Bridge, Rumford Point: From April 1 - September 30: ALO. Daily bag limit on trout: 1 fish; minimum length limit on landlocked salmon, rainbow trout, and brown trout: 12 inches. All trout between 16 and 20 inches must be released alive at once. From October 1 - March 31: ALO. All trout and landlocked salmon must be released alive at once.

– From the Route 232 Bridge, Rumford Point to Livermore Falls Dam: From April 1 - September 30: S-19; minimum length limit on landlocked salmon, rainbow trout, and brown trout: 12 inches. From October 1 - March 31: ALO. All trout and landlocked salmon must be released alive at once.

– From the Livermore Falls Dam to tidewater: S-19. Open to ice fishing. The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies permitted.

(Gilead to Merrymeeting Bay: See Fish Consumption Advisories on page A-4).

Proposed Final Regulations:

ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER, Gilead to Brunswick (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: Open to open water fishing from the Maine-New Hampshire Border to tidewater from January 1 - December 31.

– From the Maine-New Hampshire border downriver to the bridge crossing in Gilead: Single hook artificial lures only. S-7.

– From the bridge crossing in Gilead to the Route 232 Bridge, Rumford Point: From April 1 - September 30: ALO. Daily bag limit on trout: 1 fish; minimum length limit on landlocked salmon, rainbow trout, and brown trout: 12 inches. All trout between 16 and 20 inches must be released alive at once. From October 1 - March 31: ALO. All trout and landlocked salmon must be released alive at once.

– From the Route 232 Bridge, Rumford Point to Livermore Falls Dam: From April 1 - September 30: S-19; minimum length limit on landlocked salmon, rainbow trout, and brown trout: 12 inches. From October 1 - March 31: ALO. All trout and landlocked salmon must be released alive at once.

– From the Livermore Falls Dam to tidewater: S-19. Open to ice fishing. The use of all legal forms of bait, artificial lures, and artificial flies permitted.

(Gilead to Merrymeeting Bay: See Fish Consumption Advisories on page A-4).

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: BEMIS STREAM

Region: D **WATCODE:** 0861751005

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Township D, Rangeley Plt

Franklin

Regulation Change Description:

Add Fly Fishing Only and S-7 (All trout, landlocked salmon, and togue caught must be released alive at once) from August 16 - September 30 on tributaries to Bemis Stream.

Purpose of Change:

Bemis Stream is a dynamic system with many braided channels and several tributaries all of which provide important spawning habitat for Mooselookmeguntic Lakes wild Brook Trout population. There has been some confusion which channels are considered mainstem river vs tributaries and recent telemetry work has identified many tributaries and channels to be important spawning habitat. "Including Tributaries" to the regulation text is intended to clear up any confusion regarding fishing regulations on this system and provide adequate protection to fish.

Proposed Modifications:

Proposed Final Regulations:

BEMIS STREAM, Township D, Rangeley Plt (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From the headwaters downstream to the red markers on Mooselookmeguntic Lake: FFO, S-1, S-17. From August 16 - September 30: FFO, S-7 (including tributaries).

BEMIS STREAM, Township D, Rangeley Plt (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: From the headwaters downstream to the red markers on Mooselookmeguntic Lake: FFO, S-1, S-17. From August 16 - September 30: FFO, S-7 (including tributaries).

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: BURNT POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4288

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Clifton, Dedham, Otis

Hancock, Penobscot (South)

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

Proposed Final Regulations:

BURNT POND, Clifton, Dedham, Otis (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** S-4. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

BURNT POND, Clifton, Dedham, Otis (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** S-4. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: DUCK LAKE

Region: F **WATCODE:** 4746

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Oqiton Twp

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest and remove the togue regulation.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest. The togue population is presumed extirpated, so the regulation is no longer needed.

Proposed Modifications:

DUCK LAKE, T4 ND (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: Closed to the taking of toguelive baitfish. From October 1 - December 31: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

DUCK LAKE, T4 ND (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: Closed to the taking of live baitfish. From October 1 - December 31: ALO, S-7.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: FLOOD LAKE

Region: C **WATCODE:** 1090

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Talmadge

Washington

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

FLOOD LAKE, Talmadge (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO**. ALO, S-17. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

FLOOD LAKE, Talmadge (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO**. ALO, S-17. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: FLOOD LAKE, UPPER

Region: C **WATCODE:** 1092

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Talmadge

Washington

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

FLOOD LAKE, UPPER, Talmadge (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO**. ALO, S-21. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

FLOOD LAKE, UPPER, Talmadge (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO**. ALO, S-21. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: FLOODS POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4370

Town(s):

Otis

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

FLOODS POND, Otis (South Zone). Closed to all fishing. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

FLOODS POND, Otis (South Zone). Closed to all fishing. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: HARRIMAN POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4306

Town(s):

Dedham

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

HARRIMAN POND, Dedham (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** ALO, S-21. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. Motorboats over 6 horsepower prohibited.

Proposed Final Regulations:

HARRIMAN POND, Dedham (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** ALO, S-21. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. Motorboats over 6 horsepower prohibited.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: HATCASE POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4290

Town(s):

Eddington, Dedham

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Hancock, Penobscot (South)

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

HATCASE POND, Dedham, Eddington (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** ALO, S-21. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. Fishing and boating prohibited within 2,000 feet of the intake of the Brewer Water District.

Proposed Final Regulations:

HATCASE POND, Dedham, Eddington (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** ALO, S-21. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. Fishing and boating prohibited within 2,000 feet of the intake of the Brewer Water District.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: KING POND AND TRIBUTARIES

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4600

Town(s):

Great Pond

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

KING POND AND TRIBUTARIES, Great Pond (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** ALO, S-1, S-18. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

KING POND AND TRIBUTARIES, Great Pond (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** ALO, S-1, S-18. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: LITTLE (HORSESHOE) POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4402

Town(s):

Franklin

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

LITTLE (HORSESHOE) POND, Franklin (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** FFO, S-7. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

LITTLE (HORSESHOE) POND, Franklin (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** FFO, S-7. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: LONG POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4598

Town(s):

Aurora, Great Pond

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

LONG POND, Aurora, Great Pond (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** ALO, S-1, S-3, S-10, S-21. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. From October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

LONG POND, Aurora, Great Pond (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** ALO, S-1, S-3, S-10, S-21. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. From October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: MOUNT ZIRCON RESERVOIR

Region: A **WATCODE:** 7614

Town(s):

Rumford

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Oxford (South)

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

MOUNT ZIRCON RESERVOIR, Rumford (South Zone). Closed to all fishing including the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

MOUNT ZIRCON RESERVOIR, Rumford (South Zone). Closed to all fishing including the taking of live baitfish.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: NORSE POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 7471

Town(s):

Cutler

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Washington

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

NORSE POND, Cutler (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI. S-4**. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

NORSE POND, Cutler (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI. S-4**. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: NOYES (NORRIS) POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4656

Town(s):

Blue Hill

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

NOYES (NORRIS) POND, Blue Hill (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO. S-4, S-17**. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

NOYES (NORRIS) POND, Blue Hill (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO. S-4, S-17**. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: RIFT POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 0477

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Great Pond

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

RIFT POND, Great Pond (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** ALO, S-1, S-3, S-18. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Proposed Final Regulations:

RIFT POND, Great Pond (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO.** ALO, S-1, S-3, S-18. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: SABATTUS POND (INCLUDING DEAD RIVER UPSTREAM TO BULL RUN ROAD)

Region: B **WATCODE:** 3796

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

Greene

Androscoggin

Regulation Change Description:

Change definition of Sabattus Pond to include lower part of inlet stream.

Purpose of Change:

Allow year-round fishing on the lower section of Dead River, near its confluence with Sabattus Pond. This area is a popular angling location and most anglers assume it is open to year-round fishing, like Sabattus Pond. It is technically a stream and it has stream General Law open and closed seasons. This lower section of stream is at the same elevation as Sabattus Pond and provides a warm water fishery that does not require a fall closure to angling.

Proposed Modifications:

SABATTUS POND (INCLUDING DEAD RIVER UPSTREAM TO BULL RUN ROAD), Greene (South Zone). General fishing laws apply.

Proposed Final Regulations:

SABATTUS POND (INCLUDING DEAD RIVER UPSTREAM TO BULL RUN ROAD), Greene (South Zone). General fishing laws apply.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: SALMON POND

Region: C **WATCODE:** 4422

Proposal Source: MDIFW

Town(s):

County(ies):

T10 SD

Hancock

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

SALMON POND, T10 SD (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** S-10. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. Daily bag limit on brook trout: 5 fish. From October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

Proposed Final Regulations:

SALMON POND, T10 SD (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** S-10. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. Daily bag limit on brook trout: 5 fish. From October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: SAND POND

Region: A **WATCODE:** 5012

Town(s):

Limington

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

York

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

SAND POND, Limington (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO**. S-4. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. Motorboats prohibited.

Proposed Final Regulations:

SAND POND, Limington (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI, CO**. S-4. Closed to the taking of live baitfish. Motorboats prohibited.

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: SHEEPSCOT POND

Region: B **WATCODE:** 4896

Town(s):

Palermo

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Waldo

Regulation Change Description:

Change current description regarding the prohibition of keeping live baitfish in Sheepscot Pond.

Purpose of Change:

Eliminate angler confusion. Current wording causes some anglers to believe the use of live bait is prohibited.

Proposed Modifications:

SHEEPSCOT POND, Palermo (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: S-22, S-25. Minimum length limit on landlocked salmon: 16 inches. From October 1 - December 31: Closed to all fishing.

-The holdingstorage of any live baitfish not taken in Sheepscot Pond is prohibited. Sheepscot Pond Dam: Fishing is prohibited in or from the fishway; there are no distance restrictions when fishing near the fishway (Title 12, subsection 12457).

Proposed Final Regulations:

SHEEPSCOT POND, Palermo (South Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: S-22, S-25. Minimum length limit on landlocked salmon: 16 inches. From October 1 - December 31: Closed to all fishing.

-The storage of any live baitfish in Sheepscot Pond is prohibited. Sheepscot Pond Dam: Fishing is prohibited in or from the fishway; there are no distance restrictions when fishing near the fishway (Title 12, subsection 12457).

2027 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: THISSELL POND

Region: E **WATCODE:** 2726

Town(s):

T5 R11 WELS

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Piscataquis

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

THISSELL POND, T5 R11 WELS (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI. ALO, S-16. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.**

Proposed Final Regulations:

THISSELL POND, T5 R11 WELS (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI. ALO, S-16. Closed to the taking of live baitfish.**

Theme: Errors, Conflicts, and Confusion

Water: TROUT POND

Region: D **WATCODE:** 0525

Town(s):

Brighton Plt

Proposal Source: MDIFW

County(ies):

Somerset

Regulation Change Description:

Close the water to baitfish harvest.

Purpose of Change:

This change creates consistency between recreational and commercial baitfish harvest.

Proposed Modifications:

TROUT POND, Brighton Plt (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **Closed to the taking of live baitfish.**

Proposed Final Regulations:

TROUT POND, Brighton Plt (North Zone). General fishing laws apply, except: **Closed to the taking of live baitfish.**

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Theme: Lake Trout Regulation Simplification

Description: These proposed changes would greatly reduce the diversity of Togue (Lake Trout) regulations statewide.

Changes to General Fishing Laws: 4; General Law, S-25, S-26, S-27

Waters affected by the changes: 140

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Change Description: Alter togue general law statewide

Purpose: This change simplifies togue General Law to better reflect the management needs in the majority of togue waters. These are waters where abundance and condition objectives are largely being met. Removal of the previous 18 inch minimum will not impact the sustainability of these populations under moderate harvest rates.

Waters affected: 70

Current Regulation	Proposed Modification	Proposed Regulation
Daily bag limit on togue: 2 fish; minimum length limit: 18 inches.	Daily bag limit on togue: 2 fish; <u>minimum length limit: 18 inches</u> <u>no minimum length limit.</u>	Daily bag limit on togue: 2 fish; no minimum length limit.

Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
ALLAGASH LAKE	Piscataquis	T7 R14 WELS, T8 R14 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
AUBURN LAKE	Androscoggin	Auburn	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
BEAR POND	Oxford	Waterford	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
BEAU LAKE	Aroostook	Big Twenty Twp, T19 R11 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
BENSON POND, BIG	Piscataquis	Bowerbank, T7 R9 NWP, Willimantic	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
BUTTERMILK POND, 1ST	Piscataquis	Bowerbank	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
CARR POND	Aroostook	T13 R8 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
CARRY POND, WEST	Somerset	Carrying Place Town Twp	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
CHAMBERLAIN LAKE (INCLUDING ROUND POND AND TELOS LAKE)	Piscataquis	Eagle Lake Twp, T5 R11 WELS, T6 R11 WELS, T6 R12 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
CHASE PONDS, 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD	Aroostook	T14 R9 WELS	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
CHURCHILL LAKE (INCLUDING HERON LAKE)	Piscataquis	T9 R12 WELS, T9 R13 WELS	Total daily bag limit on brook trout and togue: 1 fish.
CLEAR LAKE	Piscataquis	T10 R11 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
CROSS LAKE	Aroostook	T18 R10 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
CRYSTAL LAKE (ANONYMOUS POND)	Cumberland	Harrison	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
DAMARISCOTTA LAKE	Lincoln	Jefferson, Newcastle, Nobleboro	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
DEBSCONEAG LAKE, 1ST	Piscataquis	T2 R10 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
DONNELL POND	Hancock	Franklin, T9 SD BPP	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
DUCK LAKE	Hancock	Oqiton Twp	Closed to the taking of togue.
EAGLE LAKE	Hancock	Bar Harbor	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
EAGLE LAKE (INCLUDING ROUND POND)	Piscataquis	Eagle Lake Twp, Soper Mountain Twp, T7 R12 WELS, T7 R13 WELS, T9 R13 WELS	Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
ECHO LAKE	Piscataquis	T9 R11 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
ECHO LAKE (CROTCHED POND)	Kennebec	Fayette, Mount Vernon, Readfield	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
EMBDEN POND	Somerset	Embden	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
ENDLESS LAKE	Penobscot	Cedar Lake Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
FISH RIVER LAKE	Aroostook	T13 R8 WELS, T14 R8 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
GLAZIER LAKE	Aroostook	T18 R10 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
HEARTS POND	Hancock	Orland	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
HOPKINS POND	Hancock, Penobscot	Mariaville, Clifton	1 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
HURD POND	Piscataquis	T2 R10 WELS	Minimum length limit on togue: 14 inches, only 1 of which may be between 14 and 18 inches and only 1 of which may exceed 18 inches.
INDIAN POND	Piscataquis	T7 R12 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
JIM POND, LITTLE	Franklin, Somerset	Jim Pond Twp, King & Bartlett Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
JO-MARY LAKE, LOWER	Penobscot, Piscataquis	T4 Indian Purchase Twp, T1 R10 WELS, T1 R9 WELS, TA R10 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
JUNIOR LAKE	Penobscot	Lakeville, Pukakon Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
KING AND BARTLETT LAKE	Somerset	King & Bartlett Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
KING LAKE, LITTLE, AND TRIBUTARIES	Somerset	King & Bartlett Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
LONG LAKE	Aroostook	Madawaska, Saint Agatha, Sinclair Twp, T17 R3 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
LONG LAKE	Cumberland	Bridgton, Harrison, Naples	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
LONG LAKE AND OUTLET TO LONG LAKE DAM (INCLUDING HARVEY POND) AND TRIBUTARIES UPSTREAM TO THE ALLAGASH WILDERNESS WATERWAY BLAZED LINE	Aroostook	T11 R13 WELS, T12 R13 WELS	Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
LONG POND	Kennebec	Belgrade, Mount Vernon, Rome	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
MARANACOOK LAKE	Kennebec	Readfield, Winthrop	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
MATAGAMON LAKE, GRAND (FIRST LAKE)	Penobscot, Piscataquis	T6 R8 WELS, Trout Brook Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
MATAGAMON LAKE, GRAND (SECOND LAKE)	Penobscot, Piscataquis	T6 R8 WELS, Trout Brook Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
MESSALONSKEE LAKE	Kennebec	Belgrade, Oakland, Sidney	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
MILLIMAGASSET LAKE	Penobscot	T7 R8 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
MILLINOCKET LAKE	Penobscot, Piscataquis	T1 R8 WELS, T2 R8 WELS, T1 R9 WELS, T2 R9 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
MUSQUACOOK LAKES, 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD	Aroostook	T11 R11 WELS, T12 R11 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
NAHMAKANTA LAKE	Piscataquis	Rainbow Twp, T1 R11 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
NARROWS POND (UPPER)	Kennebec	Winthrop	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
NARROWS PONDS, LOWER AND UPPER	Kennebec	Winthrop	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
NICKERSON LAKE	Aroostook	Linneus, New Limerick	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
OSSIPEE LAKE, LITTLE	York	Waterboro	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
PEMADUMCOOK CHAIN OF LAKES (INCLUDES PEMADUMCOOK, AMBAJEJUS, ELBOW, NORTH AND SOUTH TWIN LAKES)	Penobscot, Piscataquis	T4 Indian Purchase Twp, T1 R10 WELS, T1 R9 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
PLEASANT LAKE, BIG	Piscataquis	T10 R11 WELS, T9 R11 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
POND IN THE RIVER	Oxford	C Surplus, Township C, Upton	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
PORTAGE LAKE	Aroostook	Portage Lake	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
RANGE POND, UPPER	Androscoggin, Cumberland	Poland, New Gloucester	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
SAINT FROID LAKE	Aroostook	T14 R7 WELS, Winterville Plt	2 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
SCRAGGLY LAKE	Penobscot, Washington	Pukakon Twp, T6 R1 NBPP	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
SEBEC LAKE	Piscataquis	Bowerbank, Dover- Foxcroft, Sebec, Willimantic	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
SOUTH POND	Oxford	Greenwood, Woodstock	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
SPIDER LAKE	Piscataquis	T9 R11 WELS, T9 R12 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
SQUARE LAKE	Aroostook	T15 R5 WELS, T16 R5 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
SYSLADOBSIS LAKE, LOWER	Penobscot, Washington	Lakeville, Sakom Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
TOGUE POND AND TRIBUTARIES	Aroostook	T15 R9 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
UMBAGOG LAKE	Oxford	Magalloway Plt, Upton	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
UMSASKIS LAKE (INCLUDING THOROUGHFARE TO LONG LAKE) AND TRIBUTARIES UPSTREAM TO THE ALLAGASH WILDERNESS WATERWAY BLAZED LINE	Aroostook, Piscataquis	T11 R13 WELS, T10 R13 WELS	Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
WASSOOKEAG LAKE, BIG (WEST OF STATE ROUTE 23)	Penobscot, Somerset	Dexter, Ripley	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
WASSOOKEAG LAKE, LITTLE (EAST OF STATE ROUTE 23)	Penobscot, Somerset	Dexter, Ripley	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
WEBSTER LAKE	Piscataquis	T6 R10 WELS, T6 R11 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
WYMAN LAKE	Somerset	Moscow, Pleasant Ridge Plt	2 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Change Description: Alter the S-25 definition.

Purpose: This is a conservative management strategy to promote persistence of, or rebuild, togue populations in waters that generally have some combination of low recruitment, limited habitat, and moderate harvest.

Waters affected: 38

Current Regulation	Proposed Modification	Proposed Regulation
S-25: Daily bag limit on togue: 1 fish.	S-25: Daily bag limit on togue: 1 fish.; <u>minimum length limit: 18 inches.</u>	S-25: Daily bag limit on togue: 1 fish; minimum length limit: 18 inches.

Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
BIG WOOD POND, LITTLE	Somerset	Attean Twp, Dennistown Plt	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
CAUCOMGOMOC LAKE	Piscataquis	T6 R14 WELS, T6 R15 WELS, T7 R14 WELS, T7 R15 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
CHESUNCOOK LAKE (INCLUDING MOOSE POND, CARIBOU LAKE, AND RIPOGENUS LAKE)	Piscataquis	Chesuncook Twp, T2 R12 WELS, T3 R12 WELS, T3 R13 WELS, T4 R12 WELS, T4 R13 WELS, T5 R12 WELS, T6 R13 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
CLIFF LAKE INCLUDING TWIN LAKE	Piscataquis	Soper Mountain Twp, T9 R12 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
COLD STREAM PONDS, UPPER	Penobscot	Lincoln	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
CRAIG POND	Hancock	Orland	1 fish, minimum length limit on togue: 23 inches.
CRAWFORD POND AND TRIBUTARIES AND OUTLET TO TA R10 TOWN LINE	Piscataquis	TA R11 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
CRESCENT POND AND OUTLET TO MUD POND	Piscataquis	T9 R15 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
DEBSCONEAG LAKE, 4TH	Piscataquis	T1 R10 WELS, T1 R11 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
EBEEMEE LAKE (EAST AND WEST PONDS)	Piscataquis	Brownville, Ebeemee Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
FARROW LAKE	Washington	Topsfield	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
FISH POND	Somerset	Thorndike Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
FOSS POND	Piscataquis	Kingsbury Plt	1 fish, Minimum length limit on togue: 23 inches.
GRAND LAKE, EAST	Aroostook, Washington	Orient, Weston, Danforth, Forest City Twp	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
GREEN LAKE	Hancock	Dedham, Ellsworth, Otis	1 fish, minimum length limit on togue: 23 inches.
GREENWOOD POND, BIG	Piscataquis	Elliottsville Twp, Willimantic	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
HALFMILE POND	Hancock	Aurora	1 fish, minimum length limit on togue: 23 inches.
HARRINGTON LAKE	Piscataquis	T3 R11 WELS, T4 R11 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
HAYMOCK LAKE	Piscataquis	T7 R11 WELS, T8 R11 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
HEBRON LAKE	Piscataquis	Monson	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
HOUSTON POND, BIG	Piscataquis	T7 R9 NWP	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
INDIAN POND	Piscataquis, Somerset	Big Moose Twp, Chase Stream Twp, Indian Stream Twp, Sapling Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
INDIAN POND, BIG	Piscataquis	Moosehead Junction Twp	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
JOHNSON POND	Piscataquis	T8 R14 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
JO-MARY LAKE, UPPER	Penobscot, Piscataquis	Veazie Gore, TA R10 WELS, TB R10 WELS	1 fish, minimum length limit on togue: 23 inches.
LONG POND	Piscataquis	Bowdoin College Grant East Twp, Bowdoin College Grant West Twp, Elliottsville Twp, T7 R9 NWP	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
LONG POND	Somerset	Dole Brook Twp	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
MONSON POND	Piscataquis	Monson	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
MUSQUASH LAKE, EAST	Washington	Topsfield	1 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
PLEASANT LAKE	Washington	Kossuth Twp, T6 R1 NBPP	1 fish, minimum length limit on togue: 23 inches.
PLEASANT POND, BIG AND TRIBUTARIES	Piscataquis	TA R11 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
POLLYWOG POND AND TRIBUTARIES	Piscataquis	Rainbow Twp, T1 R11 WELS, T1 R12 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
RAGGED LAKE	Piscataquis	T2 R13 WELS, T3 R13 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
ROSS (CHEMQUASABAMTICOOK) LAKE	Piscataquis	T10 R15 WELS, T9 R14 WELS, T9 R15 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
SCRAGGLY LAKE	Penobscot	T7 R8 WELS	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
SPEDNIC LAKE	Washington	Forest City Twp, Forest Twp, T11 R3 NBPP, Vanceboro	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
WADLEIGH POND AND TRIBUTARIES	Piscataquis	T1 R11 WELS	1 fish, 18 inch minimum
WHETSTONE POND AND OUTLET DOWN TO THE DAM	Piscataquis	Abbot, Blanchard Twp, Kingsbury Plt	2 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Change Description: Alter the S-26 definition.

Purpose: This will liberalize togue regulations on waters which, in general, experience low angling effort, lack larger fish, and may have an abundance of smaller togue negatively impacting the waters forage base.

Waters affected: 15

Current Regulation	Proposed Modification	Proposed Regulation
S-26: Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.	S-26: Daily bag limit on togue: <u>35</u> fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.	S-26: Daily bag limit on togue: 5 fish; only 1 may exceed 18 inches.

Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
CLEARWATER POND	Franklin	Farmington, Industry	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
HANCOCK POND	Somerset	Embden, Lexington Twp	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
LINCOLN POND	Oxford	Parkertown Twp	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
MOOSEHEAD LAKE	Piscataquis, Somerset	Greenville, etc.	No minimum length limit on togue. Daily bag limit on togue: 5 fish (only 1 togue may be greater than 18 inches).
PHILLIPS LAKE	Hancock	Dedham	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
PORTER LAKE	Franklin	New Vineyard, Strong	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
RANGE POND, MIDDLE	Androscoggin	Poland	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
ROACH POND, FIRST AND NORTH INLET	Piscataquis	Frenchtown Twp	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
SPRING LAKE	Somerset	T3 R4 BKP WKR	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
THOMPSON LAKE (INCLUDING THE HEATH)	Androscoggin, Cumberland, Oxford	Poland, Casco, Otisfield, Oxford	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
TODDY POND	Hancock	Blue Hill, Orland, Penobscot, Surry	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
VARNUM POND	Franklin	Temple, Wilton	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
WILSON POND	Franklin	Wilton	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
WILSON POND, LOWER	Piscataquis	Greenville	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.
WILSON POND, UPPER AND TRIBUTARIES AND THOROUGHFARE TO LOWER WILSON POND	Piscataquis	Bowdoin College Grant West Twp, Greenville	Daily bag limit on togue: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 18 inches.

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Change Description: Create a new S-27 definition.

Purpose: This new special regulation is primarily intended for waters where togue abundance has negatively affected the growth and condition of togue and potentially other managed species. No bag limit on togue under 23 inches provides additional harvest opportunities while reducing competition. Limiting harvest to one fish over 23 inches is intended to protect larger fish that have shifted to feeding on larger prey items.

Waters affected: 21

Current Regulation	Proposed Modification	Proposed Regulation
	<u>S-27: No daily bag limit on togue under 23 inches; only 1 may exceed 23 inches.</u>	S-27: No daily bag limit on togue under 23 inches; only 1 may exceed 23 inches.

Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
BEECH HILL POND	Hancock	Otis	No minimum length on togue. Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish, only 1 of which may exceed 33 inches. All togue between 23 and 33 inches must be released alive at once.
BRANCH LAKE	Hancock	Ellsworth	No minimum length limit on togue. Daily bag limit on togue: 2 fish, only 1 may exceed 33 inches. All togue between 23 and 33 inches must be released alive at once.
COLCORD POND	Oxford	Porter	No bag limit on togue under 23 inches and no minimum length limit. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 23 inches: 1 fish.

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
COLD STREAM POND	Penobscot	Enfield, Lincoln, Lowell	2 fish, 18 inch minimum
DEBSCONEAG LAKE, 3RD	Piscataquis	T1 R10 WELS, T2 R10 WELS	Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 23 inches.
EAGLE LAKE	Aroostook	Eagle Lake, T16 R5 WELS, T16 R6 WELS, Wallagrass	Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; no minimum length limit; only 1 may exceed 23 inches.
GRAND LAKE, WEST (INCLUDING PUG LAKE)	Penobscot, Washington	Pukakon Twp, Grand Lake Stream Plt, Sakom Twp, T6 ND BPP, T6 R1 NBPP	Daily bag limit on togue: 2 fish, only 1 of which may exceed 33 inches. All togue between 23 and 33 inches must be released alive at once.
JIM POND	Franklin	Jim Pond Twp	Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; no minimum length limit; only 1 may exceed 23 inches.
JORDAN POND	Hancock	Mount Desert	No bag limit on togue under 23 inches and no minimum length limit. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 23 inches: 1 fish.
KEZAR LAKE	Oxford	Fryeburg, Lovell, Stow	Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 23 inches.
MOUSAM LAKE	York	Acton, Shapleigh	No bag limit on togue under 23 inches and no minimum length limit. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 23 inches: 1 fish.

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
MUNSUNGAN LAKE (INCLUDING LITTLE MUNSUNGAN)	Piscataquis	T8 R10 WELS, T9 R10 WELS	Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 23 inches.
MUSQUASH LAKE, WEST	Washington	T6 R1 NBPP, Talmadge	No bag limit on togue under 23 inches and no minimum length limit. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 33 inches: 1 fish. All togue between 23 and 33 inches must be released alive at once.
PLEASANT POND	Somerset	Caratunk, The Forks Plt	Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; minimum length limit: 14 inches, only 1 may exceed 23 inches.
POCUMCUS LAKE	Washington	Sakom Twp, T6 ND BPP	No minimum length on togue. Daily bag limit on togue: 2 fish, only 1 of which may exceed 33 inches. All togue between 23 and 33 inches must be released alive at once.
RICHARDSON LAKES, LOWER AND UPPER AND TRIBUTARIES	Oxford	Magalloway Plt, Richardsontown Twp	No bag limit on togue under 23 inches and no minimum length limit. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 23 inches: 1 fish.
SCHOODIC LAKE	Piscataquis	Brownville, Lake View Plt, T4 R9 NWP	No minimum size or bag limit on togue less than 23 inches. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 23 inches: 1 fish.
SHEEPSCOT POND	Waldo	Palermo	1 fish, 18 inch minimum

MDIFW Fishing Regulation Proposals

For the 2027 fishing season



Water	County	Town(s)	Current Togue Regulations
SPENCER LAKE	Somerset	Hobbestown Twp, T3 R5 BKP WKR	Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; no minimum length limit; only 1 may exceed 23 inches.
SWAN LAKE	Waldo	Frankfort, Searsport, Swanville	No size or bag limit on togue.
TUNK LAKE	Hancock	Sullivan, T10 SD BPP, T7 SD BPP	No bag limit on togue under 23 inches and no minimum length limit. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 33 inches: 1 fish. All togue between 23 and 33 inches must be released alive at once.