

## 2020 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME   | TOWN(S)   | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|--|---|--------------------|-----------------|
| A      | 5786_BLNK  | SEBAGO LAKE, AND ALL DIRECT TRIBUTARIES INCLUDING RIVERS | Naples, Casco, Raymond, Windham, Standish, Sebago | Cumberland         | MDIFW           |

### REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION

Remove no harvest slot limit on togue and change to only 1 over 26".

Language clarifications including restricted area language.

### PURPOSE

Recent research and data on the togue population indicates that it is very slow growing and currently exhibiting low mortality. Once togue move into the current protective slot they remain protected for an extensive period. In addition, our research indicates that the extreme depths of Sebago Lake, combined with togue habits, protects a large segment of the population (~75%) from harvest during the open water season; and anglers are often only able to fish a small portion of the lake during the ice fishing season due to the relatively recent trend of poorer ice conditions. Modeling and angler catch rate data both suggest togue abundance is increasing, which is contrary to the objectives identified in the Sebago Lake management plan.

### CURRENT REGULATIONS

**SEBAGO LAKE, AND ALL DIRECT TRIBUTARIES INCLUDING RIVERS**, Naples, etc (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1. Minimum length limit on landlocked salmon: 16 inches. No bag limit for togue under 26 inches and no minimum length limit. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 33 inches: 1 fish. All togue between 26 - 33 inches must be released alive at once. All trout (excluding lake trout) and landlocked salmon caught while ice fishing must be released immediately without removal from the water. Closed to all fishing within 100 feet of White’s Bridge.

**From October 1 - December 31:** ALO. Togue may be harvested as described above.

**From October 1 - March 31:** All trout (excluding lake trout) and landlocked salmon caught while open water fishing must be released alive at once. Direct tributaries are closed to fishing, except for the lower reach of the Muddy River south of the Lake House Road and the lower reach of the Sticky River northeast of the Route 114 crossing. Closed to open water fishing is the “mouth of the Songo River”, which is the area to the north of a line drawn between Bear Point and Outer Island and then

### PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

**SEBAGO LAKE, AND ALL DIRECT TRIBUTARIES INCLUDING RIVERS**, Naples, etc. (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1. Minimum length limit on landlocked salmon: 16 inches. No bag limit for togue under 26 inches and no minimum length limit. Daily bag limit on togue greater than 33 inches: 1 fish. All togue between 26 - 33 inches must be released alive at once. No bag limit for togue under 26 inches and no minimum length limit; only 1 may equal or exceed 26 inches. All trout (excluding lake trout) and landlocked salmon caught while ice fishing must be released immediately without removal from the water. Closed to all fishing within 100 feet of White’s Bridge.

**From October 1 - December 31:** ALO. Togue may be harvested as described above.

**From October 1 - March 31:** All trout (excluding lake trout) and landlocked salmon caught while open water fishing must be released alive at once. Direct tributaries are closed to fishing, except for the lower reach of the Muddy River south of the Lake House Road and the lower reach of the Sticky River northeast of the Route 114 crossing. Closed to open water fishing is the “mouth of

### PROPOSED REGULATIONS

**SEBAGO LAKE, AND ALL DIRECT TRIBUTARIES INCLUDING RIVERS**, Naples, etc. (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1. Minimum length limit on landlocked salmon: 16 inches. No bag limit for togue under 26 inches and no minimum length limit; only 1 may equal or exceed 26 inches. All trout (excluding lake trout) and landlocked salmon caught while ice fishing must be released immediately without removal from the water. Closed to all fishing within 100 feet of White’s Bridge.

**From October 1 - December 31:** ALO. Togue may be harvested as described above.

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along a line to the north shore.

Portland Water District restrictions: (1) the portion of Sebago Lake within 3,000 feet of the water intakes in Standish is a "No Trespassing" zone (including boating and fishing); and (2) the area of within 2 miles of the water intakes is a "No Bodily Contact" zone and no motor vehicles are allowed on the ice (ATVs and snowmobiles are allowed).

the Songo River", which is the area to the north of a line drawn between Bear Point and Outer Island and then along a line to the north shore.

Portland Water District restrictions: (1) the portion of Sebago Lake within 3,000 feet of the water intakes in Standish is a "No Trespassing" zone (including boating and fishing); and (2) the area from the "No Trespassing" zone to of within 2 miles from of the water intakes is a "No Bodily Contact" zone and no motor vehicles are allowed on the ice (motorboats, ATVs, and snowmobiles are allowed).

Portland Water District restrictions: (1) the portion of Sebago Lake within 3,000 feet of the water intakes in Standish is a "No Trespassing" zone; and (2) the area from the "No Trespassing" zone to 2 miles from the water intakes is a "No Bodily Contact" zone and no motor vehicles are allowed on the ice (motorboats, ATVs, and snowmobiles are allowed).

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| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME  | TOWN(S)       | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| B      | 5707       | DRESDEN BOG | ALNA, DRESDEN | LINCOLN            | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Clarify fishway restriction.

**PURPOSE**

Dresden Bog provides anglers with the opportunity to catch quality sized largemouth bass in a remote setting. Dresden Bog is also part of the Earl R. Kelly Wildlife Management Area owned by MDIFW. The MDIFW owned dam on the outlet is scheduled for maintenance in fall of 2019. After collaboration with the Maine Dept. of Marine Resources, the work plan also includes installation of a fishway to allow passage of migratory fish. This proposal would change the general law fishway restriction (prohibiting fishing within 150 feet of the fishway) to allow anglers to continue to fish immediately adjacent to the dam and fishway.

| CURRENT REGULATIONS | PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS | PROPOSED REGULATIONS  |
|---------------------|------------------------|---|
|                     |                        | <p><b>DRESDEN BOG</b>, Alna, Dresden (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: Fishing is prohibited in or from the fishway in the Dresden Bog Dam; there are no distance restrictions when fishing near the fishway.</p> |

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| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME      | TOWN(S) | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|-----------------|---------|--------------------|-----------------|
| C      | 4352       | BEECH HILL POND | Otis    | Hancock            | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Increase bag limit on togue under 23 inches to 6 fish.

**PURPOSE**

Recent data indicates that the abundance of togue under 23 inches is increasing. It is suspected that this increase has placed additional pressure on the smelt population and in turn affected growth and condition of landlocked salmon. In order to achieve objectives for togue and salmon, a more liberal togue bag limit is proposed. A 6 fish limit is proposed instead of "no size or bag limit" due to the relatively small size of Beech Hill Pond and concerns for over-harvest of togue.

**CURRENT REGULATIONS**

**BEECH HILL POND**, Otis (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1, 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. During January and February: All landlocked salmon must be released alive at once without removal from the water. From October 1 - December 31: ALO, S-7.

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

**BEECH HILL POND**, Otis (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1, S-3, S-13. No minimum length on togue. Daily bag limit on togue: ~~2~~ 6 fish, only 1 of which may exceed 33 inches. All togue between 23 and 33 inches must be released alive at once. During January and February: All landlocked salmon must be released alive at once without removal from the water. From October 1 - December 31: ALO, S-7.

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**BEECH HILL POND**, Otis (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-1, S-3, S-13. 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. During January and February: All landlocked salmon must be released alive at once without removal from the water. From October 1 - December 31: ALO, S-7.

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|--------|---------------|-------------------|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| C      | 42601820_BLNK | GRAND LAKE STREAM | Grand Lake Stream Plt, Greenlaw Chopping Twp | Washington         | Public Request  |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Extend fall fishing season by 5 days.

**PURPOSE**

This request was precipitated from three consecutive years of fall drought conditions, resulting in lower flows and warmer water in the fall. Thus, salmon have migrated into the stream later in October than usual, resulting in a shorter fall fishing season. The proposal to extend the season by 5 days is intended to allow additional catch and release opportunity while still preventing anglers from fishing over spawning salmon. Goals and objectives are not dependent upon salmon reproduction, however reproduction may augment the fishery.

**CURRENT REGULATIONS**

**GRAND LAKE STREAM**, Grand Lake Stream Plt, Greenlaw Chopping Twp. General fishing laws apply, except: FFO. The general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply. Closed to all fishing within 150 feet of Grand Lake Stream Dam. No size or bag limit on largemouth bass. From April 1 - August 15: S-19, S-22. From October 1 - 20: All fish caught must be released alive at once, except no size or bag limit on largemouth bass.

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

**GRAND LAKE STREAM**, Grand Lake Stream Plt, Greenlaw Chopping Twp. General fishing laws apply, except: FFO. The general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply. Closed to all fishing within 150 feet of Grand Lake Stream Dam. No size or bag limit on largemouth bass. From April 1 - August 15: S-19, S-22. From October 1 - ~~20~~ 25: All fish caught must be released alive at once, except no size or bag limit on largemouth bass.

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**GRAND LAKE STREAM**, Grand Lake Stream Plt, Greenlaw Chopping Twp. General fishing laws apply, except: FFO. The general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply. Closed to all fishing within 150 feet of Grand Lake Stream Dam. No size or bag limit on largemouth bass. From April 1 - August 15: S-19, S-22. From October 1 - 25: All fish caught must be released alive at once, except no size or bag limit on largemouth bass.

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| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME  | TOWN(S)     | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| D      | 3332       | ARNOLD POND | Coburn Gore | Franklin           | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**  
Delete S-17.  
Add "only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches".

**PURPOSE**  
Over the last few years, anglers have raised questions about the use of tight modified slot limits (S-16 and S-17) and expressed discomfort with measuring a fish within the narrow 2-inch increment. The S-16 and S-17 regulations were created in the mid-90s in order to reduce harvest and increase size quality. In an effort to evaluate the effectiveness of an alternative regulation, this water is proposed as a study water to evaluate the use of "only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches". This regulation has been applied in recent years to other waters elsewhere in the state and will be evaluated over the coming years.

| CURRENT REGULATIONS  | PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS   | PROPOSED REGULATIONS  |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>ARNOLD POND</b>, Coburn Gore (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: <b>CI</b>. FFO, S-17.</p> | <p><b>ARNOLD POND</b>, Coburn Gore (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: <b>CI</b>. FFO, <b>S-17</b> <u>only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches</u>.</p> | <p><b>ARNOLD POND</b>, Coburn Gore (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: <b>CI</b>. FFO, only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches.</p> |

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|--------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| D      | 093087     | AUSTIN STREAM AND TRIBUTARIES | Moscow, Bingham | Somerset           | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Extend closure date to June 1.

**PURPOSE**

Historically this drainage was closed to all fishing until June 1. Following an effort to achieve consistency/simplification for Kennebec River regulations, the date was changed to May 15. However, recent prolonged winters have extended the rainbow trout spawning season beyond the date found during a previous radio telemetry study, and beyond the current May 15 opening date. The intent of this proposal is to protect these large mature fish from both angling pressure and harvest during the spawning season. The Department has fielded numerous angler requests to return to the June 1 date.

**CURRENT REGULATIONS**

**AUSTIN STREAM AND TRIBUTARIES**, Moscow, Bingham. General fishing laws apply, except: Austin Stream and all tributaries located below the falls as marked by red markers closed to all fishing until May 15.

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

**AUSTIN STREAM AND TRIBUTARIES**, Moscow, Bingham. General fishing laws apply, except: Austin Stream and all tributaries located below the falls as marked by red markers closed to all fishing until ~~May 15~~ June 1.

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**AUSTIN STREAM AND TRIBUTARIES**, Moscow, Bingham. General fishing laws apply, except: Austin Stream and all tributaries located below the falls as marked by red markers closed to all fishing until June 1.

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|--------|------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| D      | 3312       | BEAVER POND, LITTLE | Magalloway Plt | Oxford (North)     | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Delete S-17.  
Add "only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches".

**PURPOSE**

Over the last few years, anglers have raised questions about the use of tight modified slot limits (S-16 and S-17) and expressed discomfort with measuring a fish within the narrow 2-inch increment. The S-16 and S-17 regulations were created in the mid-90s in order to reduce harvest and increase size quality. In an effort to evaluate the effectiveness of an alternative regulation, this water is proposed as a study water to evaluate the use of "only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches". This regulation has been applied in recent years to other waters elsewhere in the state and will be evaluated over the coming years.

**CURRENT REGULATIONS**

**BEAVER POND, LITTLE**, Magalloway Plt (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI**. FFO, S-17. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: FFO, S-7.

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

**BEAVER POND, LITTLE**, Magalloway Plt (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI**. FFO, S-17 only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: FFO, S-7.

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**BEAVER POND, LITTLE**, Magalloway Plt (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI**. FFO, only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: FFO, S-7.



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|--------|------------|----------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------|
| D      | 093T       | KENNEBEC RIVER TRIBUTARIES | Moscow, Bingham, Concord Twp, Embden, Solon, etc. | Somerset           | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Extend closure date to June 1.

**PURPOSE**

Historically this section was closed to all fishing until June 1. Following an effort to achieve consistency/simplification for Kennebec River regulations, the date was changed to May 15. However, recent prolonged winters have extended the rainbow trout spawning season beyond the date found during a previous radio telemetry study, and beyond the current May 15 opening date. The intent of this proposal is to protect these large mature fish from both angling pressure and harvest during the spawning season. The Department has fielded numerous angler requests to return to the June 1 date.

**CURRENT REGULATIONS**

**KENNEBEC RIVER TRIBUTARIES**, Moscow, Bingham, Concord Twp, Embden, Solon, etc. General fishing laws apply, except: All Kennebec River tributaries from the Wyman Dam in Moscow to Williams Dam in Solon are closed to all fishing until May 15. For additional regulations and exceptions see Austin Stream.

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

**KENNEBEC RIVER TRIBUTARIES**, Moscow, Bingham, Concord Twp, Embden, Solon, etc. General fishing laws apply, except: All Kennebec River tributaries from the Wyman Dam in Moscow to Williams Dam in Solon are closed to all fishing until ~~May 15~~ June 1. For additional regulations and exceptions see Austin Stream.

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**KENNEBEC RIVER TRIBUTARIES**, Moscow, Bingham, Concord Twp, Embden, Solon, etc. General fishing laws apply, except: All Kennebec River tributaries from the Wyman Dam in Moscow to Williams Dam in Solon are closed to all fishing until June 1. For additional regulations and exceptions see Austin Stream.

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| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME    | TOWN(S)                  | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| E      | 9787       | ALLAGASH LAKE | T7 R14 WELS, T8 R14 WELS | Piscataquis        | MDIFW           |

### REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION

Remove current ice fishing season language and line restriction and add "B" season.

### PURPOSE

The priority for management at Allagash Lake is to maintain the wilderness setting, maintain the remote aspect of the experience, and to protect the native fish assemblage. Recent declines in angler use coupled with restrictive regulations have resulted in stockpiling and reduced quality of lake trout. Access to Allagash Lake is very limiting and therefore, the current shortened ice fishing season and line limit are unnecessary. This proposal would allow more fishing opportunity and likely increase togoe harvest, while still protecting the remote experience and protecting native fish populations. An increase in brook trout harvest is likely; however, it is not anticipated to be significant or result in negative impacts due to the current S-16 regulation.

### CURRENT REGULATIONS

**ALLAGASH LAKE, T7&8 R14 WELS (North Region).** General fishing laws apply, except:

**Ice Fishing:** Open to ice fishing for all fish during the month of February only. S-4, S-8 (except that 5 lines may be used from sunset to sunrise while fishing for cusk), S-16. Minimum length limit on whitefish: 16 inches. The use of motorized equipment is prohibited.

**Open Water Fishing:** ALO, S-16. Minimum length on whitefish: 16 inches. (See Allagash Wilderness Waterway).

### PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

**ALLAGASH LAKE, T7&8 R14 WELS (North Region).** General fishing laws apply, except:

**Ice Fishing:** B. Open to ice fishing for all fish during the month of February only. S-4, S-8 (except that 5 lines may be used from sunset to sunrise while fishing for cusk), S-16. Minimum length limit on whitefish: 16 inches. The use of motorized equipment is prohibited.

**Open Water Fishing:** ALO, S-16. Minimum length on whitefish: 16 inches. (See Allagash Wilderness Waterway).

### PROPOSED REGULATIONS

**ALLAGASH LAKE, T7&8 R14 WELS (North Region).** General fishing laws apply, except:

**Ice Fishing:** B. S-4, S-16. Minimum length limit on whitefish: 16 inches. The use of motorized equipment is prohibited.

**Open Water Fishing:** ALO, S-16. Minimum length on whitefish: 16 inches. (See Allagash Wilderness Waterway).

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| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME        | TOWN(S)                            | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| E      | 0916       | HOUSTON POND, BIG | Katahdin Iron Works Twp, T7 R9 NWP | Piscataquis        | MDIFW           |

### REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION

Remove 23-inch minimum length limit on togue.

Note: This water is also proposed to retain the use of live fish as bait under a previous regulations packet, the results of which have not yet been determined.

### PURPOSE

This water was historically noted for producing high quality togue. Following a regulation change in 1996 that included the addition of the 23-inch minimum length, the percentage of togue over 23 inches has declined (according to voluntary booklet data). Based on a winter creel survey in 2019, only 2 of the 71 togue anglers reported catching were over 23 inches. Data suggests most of the togue in this population are 18 to 22 inches, and anglers have requested the opportunity to harvest a fish after making the effort to get to this water. The current 23-inch minimum length is not achieving objectives. The proposed change is intended to allow the opportunity to harvest one togue 18 inches or larger while still maintaining the other regulations and the objective of producing better-than-average size quality.

### CURRENT REGULATIONS

**HOUSTON POND, BIG, T6&7 R9 NWP (North Region).**  
 General fishing laws apply, except: Open to ice fishing during the month of February only. S-2, S-3, S-8 (except that 5 lines may be used from sunset to sunrise while fishing for cusk), S-17, S-25. Minimum length limit on togue: 23 inches.

### PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

**HOUSTON POND, BIG, T6&7 R9 NWP (North Region).**  
 General fishing laws apply, except: Open to ice fishing during the month of February only. S-2, S-3, S-8 (except that 5 lines may be used from sunset to sunrise while fishing for cusk), S-17, S-25. **Minimum length limit on togue: 23 inches.**

### PROPOSED REGULATIONS

**HOUSTON POND, BIG, T6&7 R9 NWP (North Region).**  
 General fishing laws apply, except: Open to ice fishing during the month of February only. S-2, S-3, S-8 (except that 5 lines may be used from sunset to sunrise while fishing for cusk), S-17, S-25.

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| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME  | TOWN(S)     | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| E      | 2900       | SALMON POND | T4 R13 WELS | Piscataquis        | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Delete S-16.  
Add "only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches".

**PURPOSE**

Over the last few years, anglers have raised questions about the use of tight modified slot limits (S-16 and S-17) and expressed discomfort with measuring a fish within the narrow 2-inch increment. The S-16 and S-17 regulations were created in the mid-90s in order to reduce harvest and increase size quality. In an effort to evaluate the effectiveness of an alternative regulation, this water is proposed as a study water to evaluate the use of "only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches". This regulation has been applied in recent years to other waters elsewhere in the state and will be evaluated over the coming years.

**CURRENT REGULATIONS**

**SALMON POND**, T4 R13 WELS (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI**. ALO, S-16. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

**SALMON POND**, T4 R13 WELS (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI**. ALO, S-16 only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**SALMON POND**, T4 R13 WELS (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **CI**. ALO, only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

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|--------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| E      | 9704       | TEN FORTY POND | T2 R12 WELS | Piscataquis        | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Delete S-17.  
Add "only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches".

**PURPOSE**

Over the last few years, anglers have raised questions about the use of tight modified slot limits (S-16 and S-17) and expressed discomfort with measuring a fish within the narrow 2-inch increment. The S-16 and S-17 regulations were created in the mid-90s in order to reduce harvest and increase size quality. In an effort to evaluate the effectiveness of an alternative regulation, this water is proposed as a study water to evaluate the use of "only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches". This regulation has been applied in recent years to other waters elsewhere in the state and will be evaluated over the coming years.

**CURRENT REGULATIONS**

**TEN FORTY POND, T2 R12 WELS (North Region).** General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** ALO, S-17. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

**TEN FORTY POND, T2 R12 WELS (North Region).** General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** ALO, S-17 only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**TEN FORTY POND, T2 R12 WELS (North Region).** General fishing laws apply, except: **CI.** ALO, only 1 trout may exceed 14 inches. Open to open water fishing from October 1 - November 30: ALO, S-7.

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|--------|------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|
| F      | 1086       | FARROW LAKE | Topsfield | Washington         | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Change closed fall season to include "all" fishing.

**PURPOSE**

Early fishable ice last year identified this error in the law book. This water contains self-sustaining populations of togue and landlocked salmon. South Region waters with significant populations of self-sustaining salmonids are closed to all fishing from October 1 - December 31. This proposal would protect togue and salmon in the fall and would correct a law book error that appears to have occurred in 2017.

**CURRENT REGULATIONS**

**FARROW LAKE**, Topsfield (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-2, S-3, S-17, S-22, S-25. Closed to open water fishing from October 1 - December 31.

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

**FARROW LAKE**, Topsfield (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-2, S-3, S-17, S-22, S-25. Closed to open water all fishing from October 1 - December 31.

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**FARROW LAKE**, Topsfield (South Region). General fishing laws apply, except: S-2, S-3, S-17, S-22, S-25. Closed to all fishing from October 1 - December 31.

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|--------|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| G      | 427252_BLNK | ALLAGASH RIVER | T10 R12 WELS to Allagash | Aroostook, Piscataquis | MDIFW           |

### REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION

Change the 150' General Law fishway restriction to only restrict fishing in or from the fishway.  
Add/remove additional text for law book consistency.

### PURPOSE

Churchill Dam was reconstructed in 1997 to better manage water levels in the lakes above and flows in the river below for recreation and habitat improvements. Churchill Dam is a major access point for the Allagash Wilderness Waterway with a significant amount of angling; several campsites are available for overnight stays. This proposal would remove the General Law restriction prohibiting fishing within 150 feet of the fishway. Since the dam was rebuilt, the outlet pool has seen physical changes and the current general law unnecessarily limits fishing opportunity.

Proposed deletion in second bullet: Round Pond is already listed in the law book and referencing it in this regulation is redundant.

### CURRENT REGULATIONS

**ALLAGASH RIVER, T10 R12 WELS to Allagash.** General fishing laws apply, except:

- From Churchill Dam downstream to the red markers at the confluence of Chisholm Brook, T10 R12 WELS. ALO, S-19. Only one brook trout may exceed 14 inches. From August 16 - September 30: ALO. Minimum length limit on trout: 12 inches. Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
- From Long Lake Dam downstream to Allagash Falls (Including Round Pond, T13 R12 WELS) and all tributaries. S-4. From August 16 - September 30: ALO. Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
- From Allagash Falls downstream to the confluence with the St. John River. Closed to the taking of live baitfish except by hook and line. The general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply. From October 1 - November 30: ALO. Open to taking bass and muskellunge only.

(See Allagash Wilderness Waterway).

### PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

**ALLAGASH RIVER, T10 R12 WELS to Allagash.** General fishing laws apply, except:

- From Churchill Dam downstream to the red markers at the confluence of Chisholm Brook, T10 R12 WELS. Fishing is prohibited in or from the fishway in Churchill Dam; there are no distance restrictions when fishing near the fishway. ALO, S-19. Only one brook trout may exceed 14 inches. From August 16 - September 30: ALO. Minimum length limit on brook trout: 12 inches. Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
- From Long Lake Dam downstream to Allagash Falls (Including Round Pond, T13 R12 WELS) and all tributaries. S-4. From August 16 - September 30: ALO. Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
- From Allagash Falls downstream to the confluence with the St. John River. Closed to the taking of live baitfish except by hook and line. The general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply. From October 1 - November 30: ALO. Open to taking bass and muskellunge only.

(See Allagash Wilderness Waterway).

### PROPOSED REGULATIONS

**ALLAGASH RIVER, T10 R12 WELS to Allagash.** General fishing laws apply, except:

- From Churchill Dam downstream to the red markers at the confluence of Chisholm Brook, T10 R12 WELS. Fishing is prohibited in or from the fishway in Churchill Dam; there are no distance restrictions when fishing near the fishway. ALO, S-19. Only one brook trout may exceed 14 inches. From August 16 - September 30: ALO. Minimum length limit on brook trout: 12 inches. Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
- From Long Lake Dam downstream to Allagash Falls and all tributaries. S-4. From August 16 - September 30: ALO. Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.
- From Allagash Falls downstream to the confluence with the St. John River. Closed to the taking of live baitfish except by hook and line. The general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply. From October 1 - November 30: ALO. Open to taking bass and muskellunge only.

(See Allagash Wilderness Waterway).

## 2020 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME | TOWN(S)   | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|------------|---|--------------------|-----------------|
| G      | 1634       | EAGLE LAKE | Wallagrass, Eagle Lake, T16 R6<br>WELS, Square Lake Twp | Aroostook          | MDIFW           |

### REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION

Delete: S-26

Add: Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; no minimum length limit; only 1 may exceed 23 inches.

Note: This water is also proposed to retain the use of live fish as bait under a previous regulations packet, the results of which have not yet been determined.

### PURPOSE

Eagle Lake supports a highly important sport fishery. It has excellent habitat for coldwater fishes with abundant deep, well-oxygenated water that is best known for producing large togue. Togue 10 lbs or larger are caught each year with fish over 20 lbs caught every few years. Eagle Lake also supports popular wild landlocked salmon and brook trout fisheries. For at least 30 years, balancing the lake's fisheries for togue and salmon with the principal forage, rainbow smelt, has been problematic. Both predators are wild and become over-abundant when harvest in the fishery declines. Salmon remain very abundant in the lake and there is currently an experimental salmon regulation in place to encourage harvest. Recent sampling suggests that the togue population has also increased. In an effort to achieve a balance between predators and prey, a liberalized togue regulation is proposed.

### CURRENT REGULATIONS

**EAGLE LAKE**, Eagle Lake, T16 R5&6 WELS, Wallagrass (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **B. S-2, S-3, S-16, S-26.** No bag limit on landlocked salmon less than 14 inches. Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon over 14 inches: 2 fish. (See also Fish River Thoroughfares).

### PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

**EAGLE LAKE**, Eagle Lake, T16 R5&6 WELS, Wallagrass (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **B. S-2, S-3, S-16, S-26.** Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; no minimum length limit; only 1 may exceed 23 inches. No bag limit on landlocked salmon less than 14 inches. Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon over 14 inches: 2 fish. (See also Fish River Thoroughfares).

### PROPOSED REGULATIONS

**EAGLE LAKE**, Eagle Lake, T16 R5&6 WELS, Wallagrass (North Region). General fishing laws apply, except: **B. S-2, S-3, S-16.** Daily bag limit on togue: 6 fish; no minimum length limit; only 1 may exceed 23 inches. No bag limit on landlocked salmon less than 14 inches. Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon over 14 inches: 2 fish. (See also Fish River Thoroughfares).



## 2020 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME    | TOWN(S)     | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| G      | 1592       | FERGUSON POND | T14 R8 WELS | Aroostook          | MDIFW           |

**REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION**

Delete: S-18  
 Add: S-19, only 1 brook trout may exceed 14 inches.

**PURPOSE**

Ferguson Pond is a known producer of size quality brook trout. However, recent sampling indicates average length of age 3 brook trout has decreased, catch rates have increased, and no trout surpass the 18 inch minimum length (no trout captured in department sampling have exceeded 18 inches and [according to voluntary booklet data] only 5.5% of trout caught since 1996 have been 18 inches or larger.) Fortunately, condition factor (fatness) of brook trout at Ferguson Pond has remained better than average. This proposal would allow the opportunity for limited harvest of brook trout while maintaining the goal of producing size quality brook trout.

| CURRENT REGULATIONS   | PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS   | PROPOSED REGULATIONS   |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>FERGUSON POND, T14 R8 WELS (North Region).</b> General fishing laws apply, except: <b>CI. S-18.</b> Artificial lures only with one hook-a single pointed hook or a treble hook-allowed.</p> | <p><b>FERGUSON POND, T14 R8 WELS (North Region).</b> General fishing laws apply, except: <b>CI. S-18S-19, only 1 brook trout may exceed 14 inches.</b> Artificial lures only <u>ALO</u> with one hook <u>(a single pointed hook or a treble hook)</u>-allowed.</p> | <p><b>FERGUSON POND, T14 R8 WELS (North Region).</b> General fishing laws apply, except: <b>CI. S-19, only 1 brook trout may exceed 14 inches.</b> ALO with one hook (a single pointed hook or a treble hook) allowed.</p> |

## 2020 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

| REGION | WATCODE ID          | WATER NAME  | TOWN(S)  | COUNTY OR COUNTIES | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|---------------------|---|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| G      | 42721616.1_BLN<br>K | FISH RIVER THOROUGHFARES (CONNECTING SQUARE, EAGLE AND ST. FROID LAKES) | T17 R4 WELS, Square Lake Twp,<br>T16 R6 WELS, Winterville Plt,<br>Eagle Lake | Aroostook          | MDIFW           |

### REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION

Add fall/winter open water season and clarify period allowing harvest of landlocked salmon and specify catch and release of brook trout at that time.  
Create bullets for season language.

### PURPOSE

This proposal would create year-round open water fishing opportunities in the two thoroughfares connected to Eagle Lake. The goals of this proposal are to increase harvest of the over-abundant landlocked salmon population within Eagle Lake and to create additional opportunity for year-round open water fishing. A recent radio telemetry study of Eagle Lake brook trout indicated that spawning is primarily occurring in the outlet and not in the thoroughfares included in this proposal. Even so, artificial lures only and a catch and release regulation on brook trout is proposed. This proposal would assist in reaching objectives aimed at reducing salmon numbers in Eagle and St. Froid Lakes.

### CURRENT REGULATIONS

**FISH RIVER THOROUGHFARES (CONNECTING SQUARE, EAGLE, AND SAINT FROID LAKES),** T17 R4 WELS, Square Lake Twp, T16 R6 WELS, Winterville Plt, Eagle Lake.  
General fishing laws apply, except: **Cl. S-1, S-16.** No bag limit on landlocked salmon less than 14 inches. Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon over 14 inches: 2 fish. The general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply. From August 16 - September 30: ALO. No bag limit on landlocked salmon less than 14 inches. Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon over 14 inches: 2 fish.  
Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.

### PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

**FISH RIVER THOROUGHFARES (CONNECTING SQUARE, EAGLE, AND SAINT FROID LAKES),** T17 R4 WELS, Square Lake Twp, T16 R6 WELS, Winterville Plt, Eagle Lake.  
General fishing laws apply, except: **Cl. S-1, S-16.** Open to the taking of landlocked salmon year-round under the following: No bag limit on landlocked salmon less than 14 inches; Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon over 14 inches: 2 fish; The general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply.  
- From August 16 - September 30: ALO. No bag limit on landlocked salmon less than 14 inches. Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon over 14 inches: 2 fish. Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.  
- From October 1 - March 31: ALO. All brook trout must be released alive at once.

### PROPOSED REGULATIONS

**FISH RIVER THOROUGHFARES (CONNECTING SQUARE, EAGLE, AND SAINT FROID LAKES),** T17 R4 WELS, Square Lake Twp, T16 R6 WELS, Winterville Plt, Eagle Lake.  
General fishing laws apply, except: **Cl. S-1, S-16.** Open to the taking of landlocked salmon year-round under the following: No bag limit on landlocked salmon less than 14 inches; daily bag limit on landlocked salmon over 14 inches: 2 fish; the general law maximum length limit on landlocked salmon does not apply.  
- From August 16 - September 30: Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish.  
- From October 1 - March 31: ALO. All brook trout must be released alive at once.

## 2020 Rule Making Proposals - Statewide Waters

| REGION | WATCODE ID | WATER NAME                       | TOWN(S)                  | COUNTY OR COUNTIES             | PROPOSAL SOURCE |
|--------|------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| G      | 42713572   | MUNSUNGAN STREAM AND TRIBUTARIES | T8 R9 WELS to T8 R8 WELS | Penobscot (North), Piscataquis | MDIFW           |

### REGULATION CHANGE DESCRIPTION

Remove catch and release regulation on landlocked salmon.  
 Add a 3 salmon bag limit and 12-inch minimum length.

### PURPOSE

An overabundance of salmon at Munsungan Lake has resulted in reduced salmon growth and condition. Munsungan Stream (the outlet) is one of the primary spawning areas for the lake's salmon population and the area just downstream of the lake is a popular fishing location. The intent of this proposal is to increase the harvest of salmon and create consistent salmon regulations in the lake and the stream. This proposal would simplify the regulations and aid in achieving goals and objectives for Munsungan Lake.

### CURRENT REGULATIONS

**MUNSUNGAN STREAM AND TRIBUTARIES, T8 R9 WELS to T8 R8 WELS.** General fishing laws apply, except: From the red markers at the outlet of Little Munsungan Lake in T8 R9 WELS downstream to the confluence with Millinocket Stream in T8R8 WELS, including all tributaries upstream to the first road crossing: ALO, S-17. All landlocked salmon caught must be released alive at once. From August 16 - September 30: Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish. All landlocked salmon caught must be released alive at once.

### PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

**MUNSUNGAN STREAM AND TRIBUTARIES, T8 R9 WELS to T8 R8 WELS.** General fishing laws apply, except: From the red markers at the outlet of Little Munsungan Lake in T8 R9 WELS downstream to the confluence with Millinocket Stream in T8R8 WELS, including all tributaries upstream to the first road crossing: ALO, S-17. All landlocked salmon caught must be released alive at once. Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 12 inches. From August 16 - September 30: Total daily bag limit on trout and togue: 1 fish. All landlocked salmon caught must be released alive at once.

### PROPOSED REGULATIONS

**MUNSUNGAN STREAM AND TRIBUTARIES, T8 R9 WELS to T8 R8 WELS.** General fishing laws apply, except: From the red markers at the outlet of Little Munsungan Lake in T8 R9 WELS downstream to the confluence with Millinocket Stream in T8R8 WELS, including all tributaries upstream to the first road crossing: ALO, S-17. Daily bag limit on landlocked salmon: 3 fish; minimum length limit: 12 inches.