Office of
The Governor

No. 30 FY 20/21
DATE February 8, 2021

AN ORDER REGARDING CERTAIN FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISH & WILDLIFE

WHEREAS, I proclaimed a state of emergency on March 15, 2020 and renewed states of emergency on April 14, 2020, May 13, 2020, June 9, 2020, July 8, 2020, August 5, 2020, September 2, 2020, September 30, 2020, October 29, 2020, November 24, 2020, December 22, 2020, and January 19, 2021 to authorize the use of emergency powers in order to expand and expedite the State's response to the serious health and safety risks of the highly contagious COVID 19 virus; and

WHEREAS, the governor's emergency powers expressly include the authorities to adjust time frames and deadlines imposed by law and to suspend the enforcement of a statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business; and

WHEREAS, this Order is necessary to promote healthy and safe activities, encourage social distancing; mitigate concerns related to isolation, and allow Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife ("Department") enforcement staff to focus their attention on resource protection matters;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. Ch. 13, including but not limited to 37-B M.R.S. § 742(1)(C)(1), (12), (13)(a) and § 834, do hereby Order as follows:

I. ORDERS

A. For the 2021 calendar year, "Family Fishing Days" within the meaning of 12 M.R.S. § 12503(3) are hereby extended to include Saturday, February 13 through Sunday, February 21. All other provisions of 12 M.R.S. § 12503 continue to apply.

B. The Department shall establish an online registration process for persons to fish in Maine without a license during the extended "Free Fishing Days" as established in I(A) of this Order. Failure to comply with the online registration process is not a violation of any law or rule administered by the Department.

II. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Order is effective upon the date of its signing.

Feb 8, 2021

Janet T. Mills
Governor