

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE 353 WATER STREET 41 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA ME 04333-0041



November 5, 2024

Dear Bass Club Representative:

The 2025 Bass Tournament Permit Drawing (drawing) will be held virtually on **December 12, 2024 (Zoom instructions attached)**. Clubs must pre-register no later than **Friday, November 22, 2024**. Attached is additional information on the bass tournament drawing and rules; information is also available on our website: www.maine.gov/ifw.

Please make sure your club has submitted all required 2024 aquatic plant and live well inspection forms no later than November 15, 2024; registration forms received from clubs who have outstanding aquatic plant and live well inspection forms will be returned.

Last year the Department underwent minor rule changes under Chapter 2. Rules Pertaining to Commercial Fishing, Fish Culture and Fishing Derbies and Tournaments; these rules took effect January 1, 2024. For more information, please see attached Chapter 2. Rules.

Bass tournaments may only be conducted on the water body as named on the permit; the Department retains the authority to change these boundaries as necessary to appropriately manage these waters for multiple user groups.

An application for each tournament selected at the drawing <u>must be completed and submitted</u> to the Department, along with applicable fees, <u>no later than January 24, 2025</u>. Permits will not be issued if applications are not received by this date and those dates/waters will be released to other applicants.

Please remember that the 3rd Saturday in July is loon count and no tournaments on that date will be allowed to start assembling before 9:00 AM (July 19, 2025).

The annual tournament for the Special Olympics will be held on Sunday, May 4, 2025 on Cobbosseecontee Lake.

Requests for Multi-day tournament permits <u>will not</u> be accepted from November 15, 2024, until December 16, 2024. The following water bodies/dates are already taken for 2025:

Androscoggin Lake – September 6th and 7th Great Pond – September 13th and 14th China Lake – October 18th and 19th

Thank you for your part in providing the requested information in a timely manner to support a successful Drawing. Please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Latti, Director of Fisheries

PHONE: (207) 287-8000

Enclosures