

2023 Maine Sustainability and Water Conference

Augusta Civic Center
March 30, 2023



Ed Muskie's Legacy

By Matt Scott

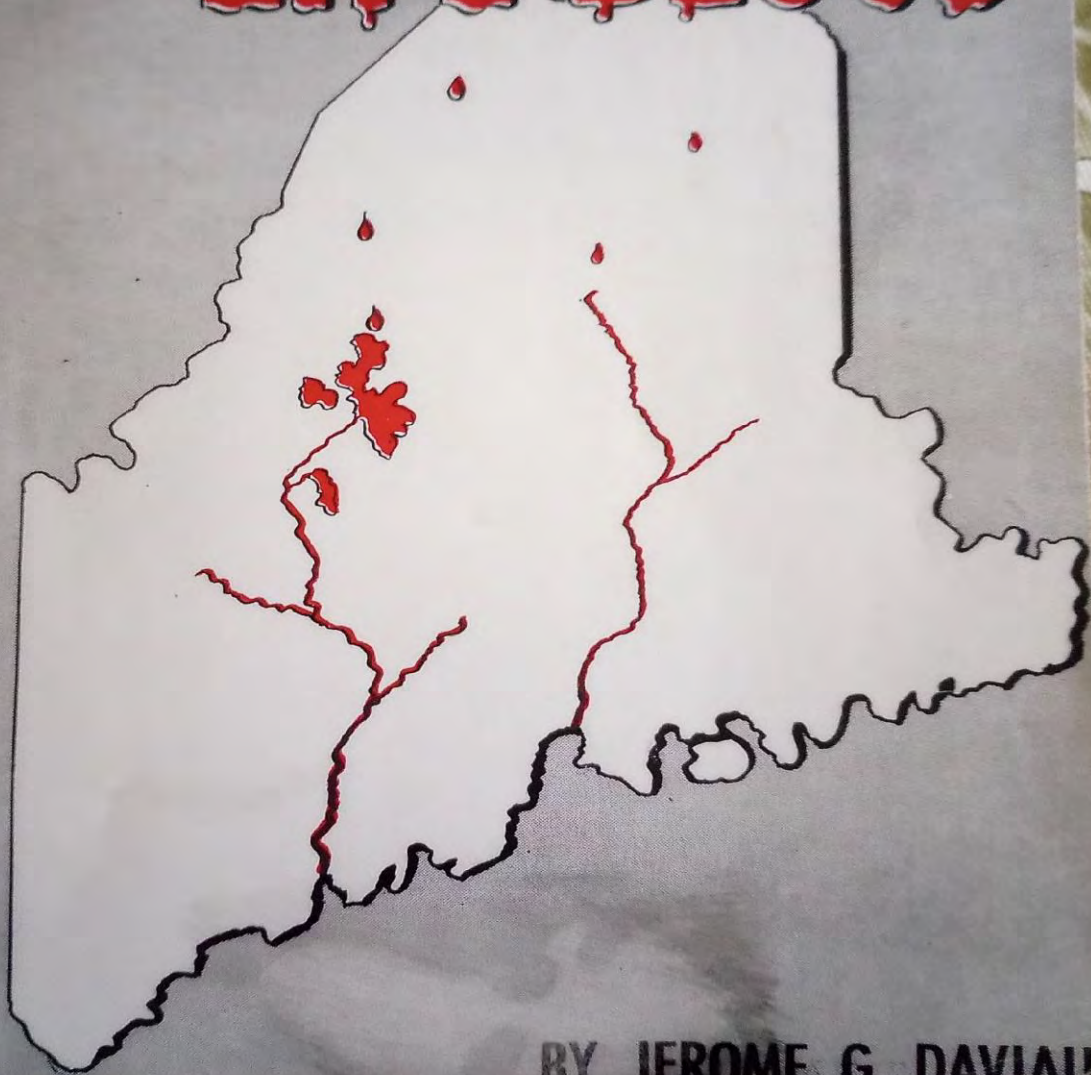
Events Leading up to the CWA

- ▶ In Maine there were many and my professional life began with Maine's polluted waters in 1959.
- ▶ The situation was terrible, in Maine and across the United States
- ▶ Water pollution was a health issue that needed to be corrected FWPCA
- ▶ Fish kills is what most folks saw and complained about. Waters were not Swimmable or Fishable
- ▶ The five downeast Atlantic salmon rivers escaped much of the ravages of pollution

Maine's

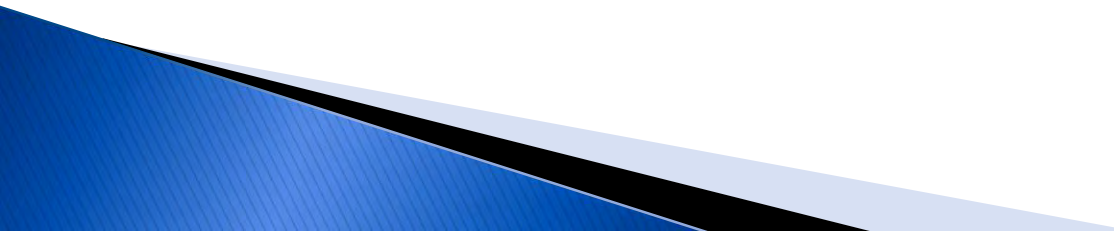
LIFE BLOOD

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BY JEROME G. DAVIAU

The Prestile Stream 1968

- ▶ Heavily polluted by a potato processing plant in Easton
 - ▶ The Prestile flows into New Brunswick at Centerville
 - ▶ The locals became outraged and dammed up the Stream for 24hrs.
 - ▶ It caused political vibrations all the way to Ottawa and Washington
 - ▶ The dam was removed the next day
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Prestile at the Centerville Border 1968



Prestile with Potato Waste



Androscoggin Fish Kill



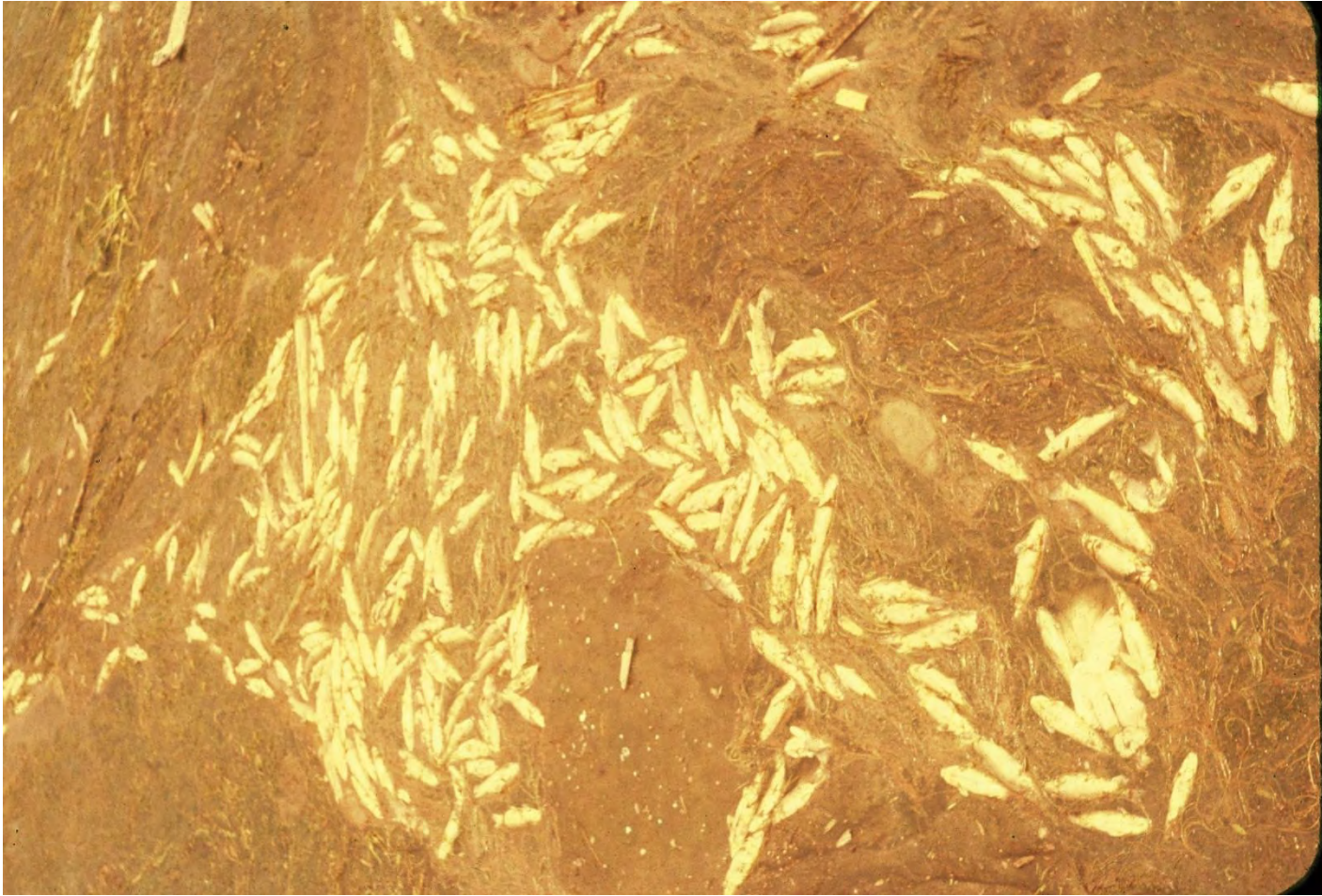
Little Androscoggin Poultry Waste



Fish Kills–Chemical Pollution



Kennebec Fisk Kills



Kennebec Farmingdale





Fish Killed by Pollution in Merrymeeting Bay

Belfast Harbor below the new Bridge Construction



Poultry Waste at Belfast



Poultry Waste Closeup



Kenduskeag 1970



LOG DRIVE

- **Spring wood pulp drive on the Brown Company timber holdings in Maine. Pulp wood in the Kennebago River waiting to be boomed out into Mooselookmeguntic Lake. (Library of Congress Picture)**

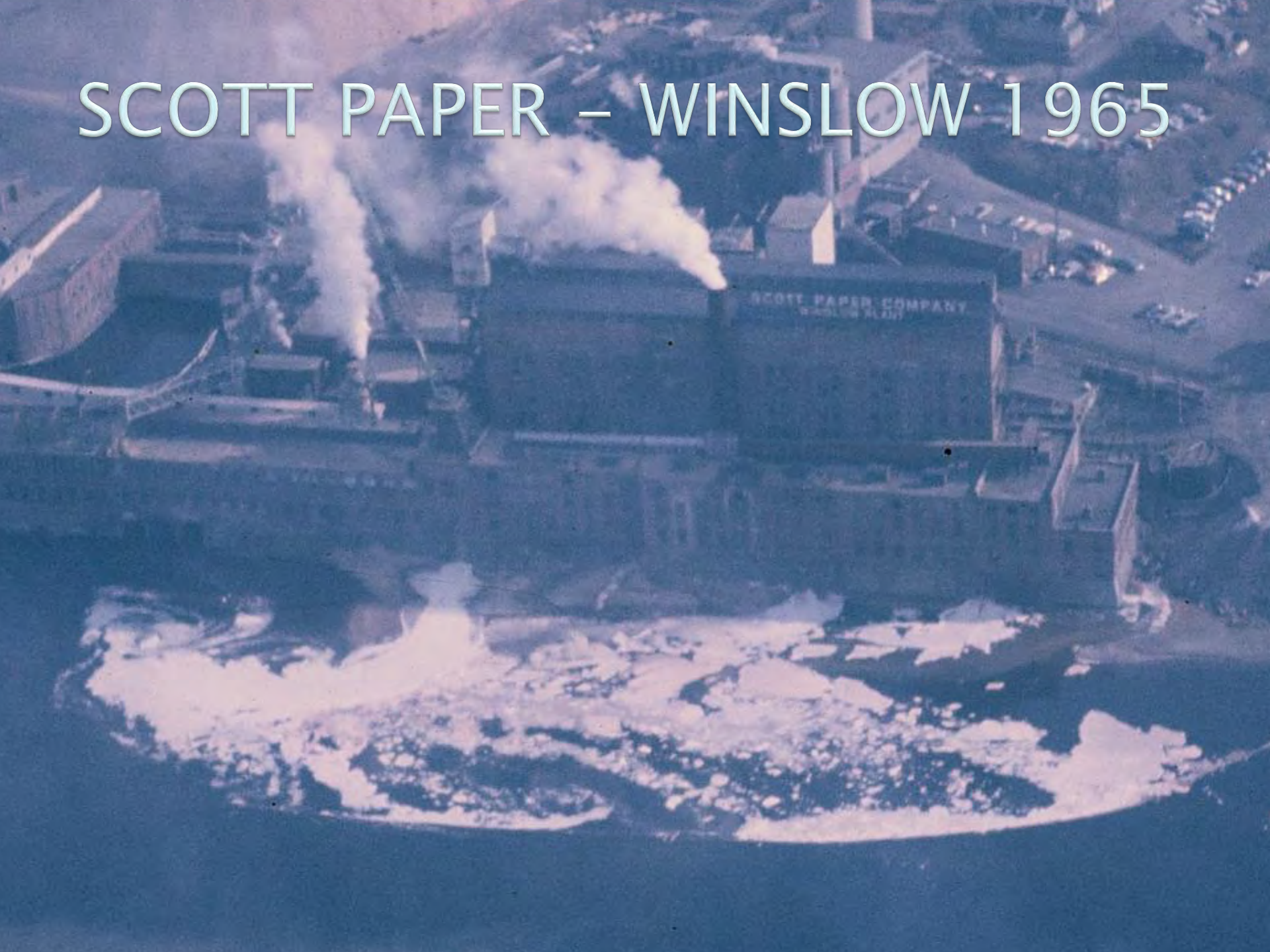






Pulpwood Boomed in Wyman Lake

SCOTT PAPER – WINSLOW 1965

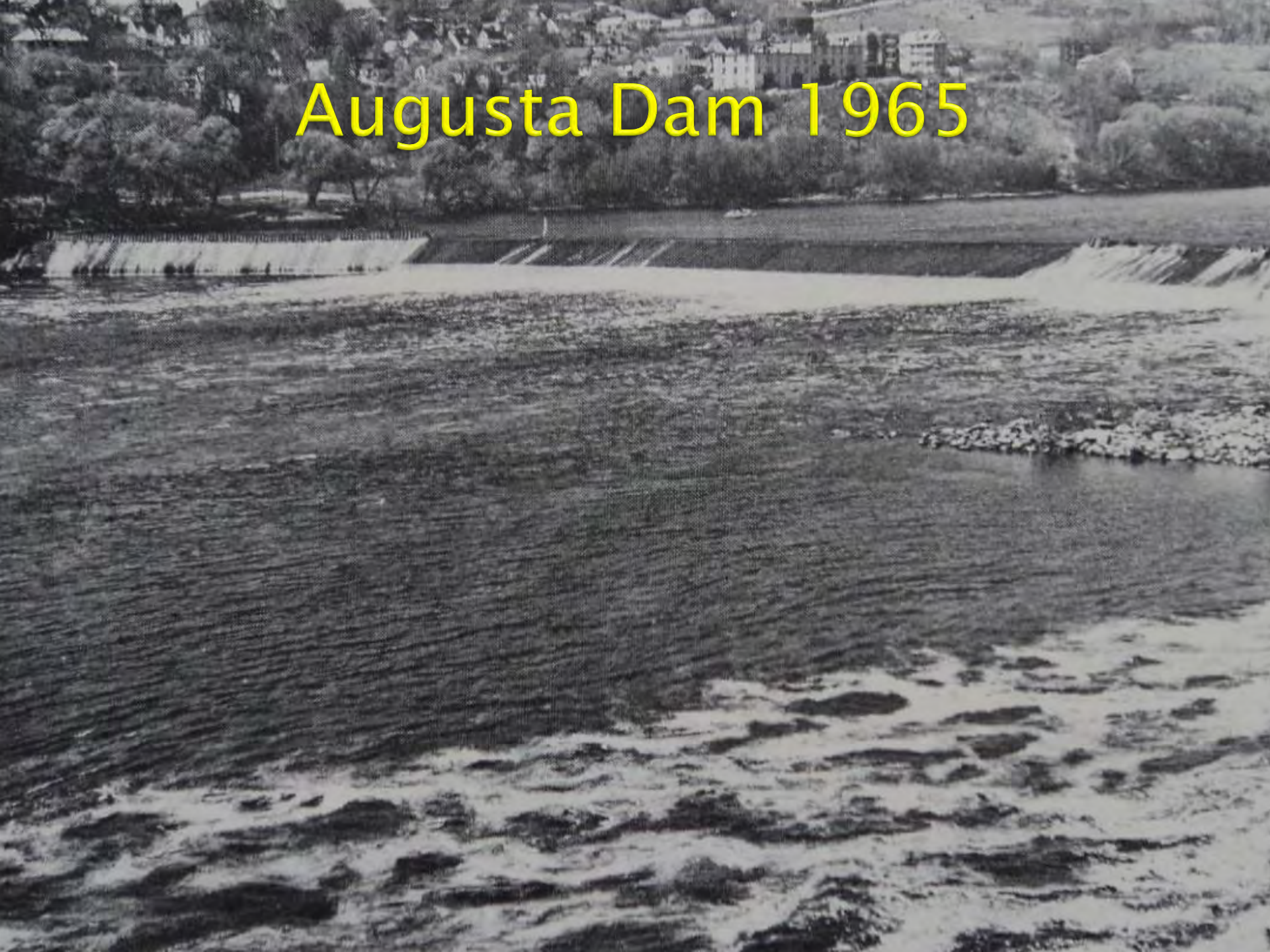


Augusta Dam 1965

Hudson
Pulp and
Paper

Bates
Woolen
mill

Augusta Dam 1965



Municipalities

- ▶ Open sewers
- ▶ Dumps
- ▶ Businesses

Gravel Bank Dump



Wood Chips & Bark Plies



Sawdust & Slabs



Gravel Washing lower Kennebec



Potato Waste



Stream Stabilization or Disposal?



Dumps on Streams

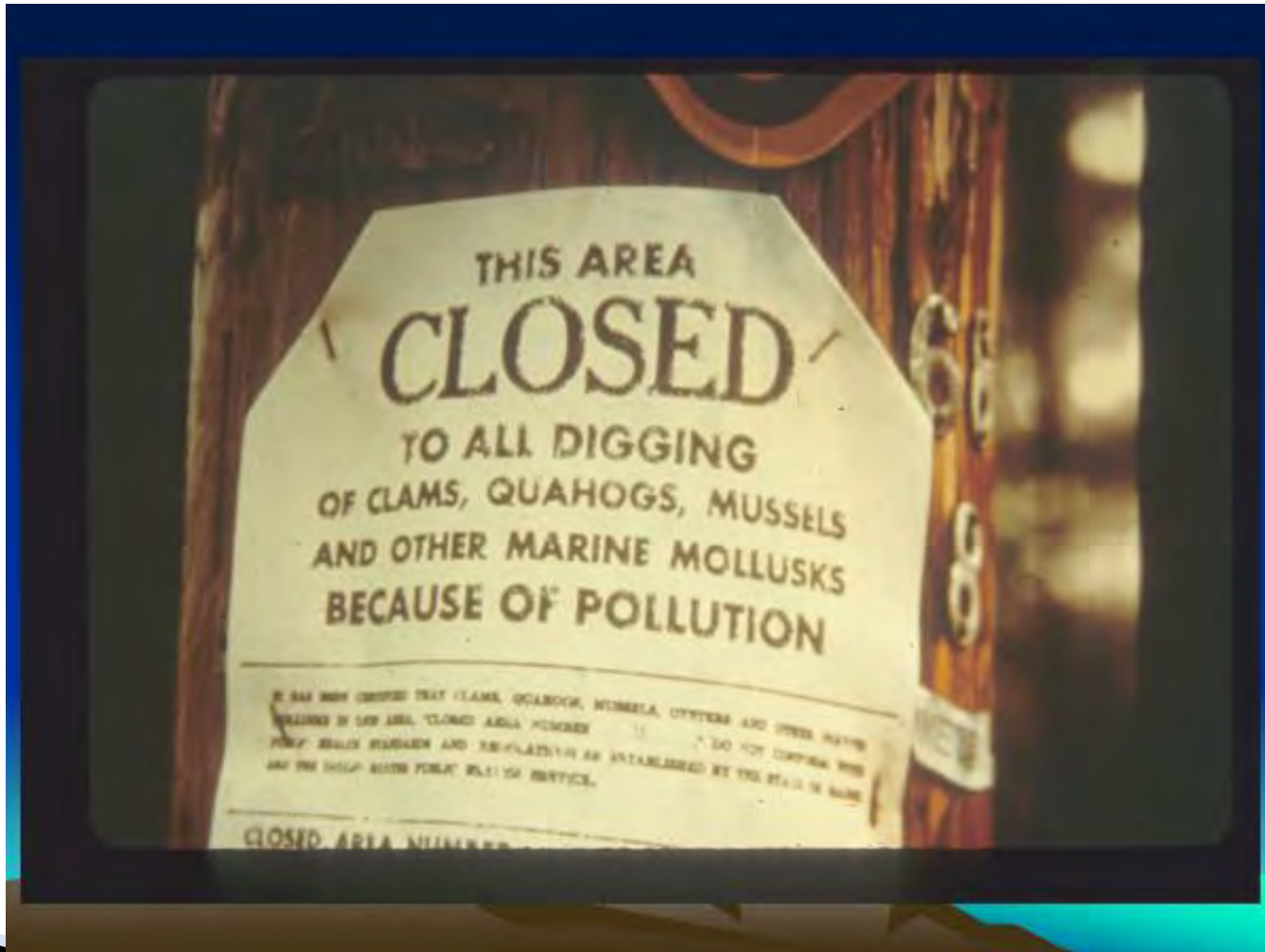


Other Sources

- Tanneries
- Textiles\Woolen Mills
- Slaughter Houses
- Municipalities – Direct discharge



Common Posting along the Coast



Prior to The CWA

The Water Quality Act of 1965

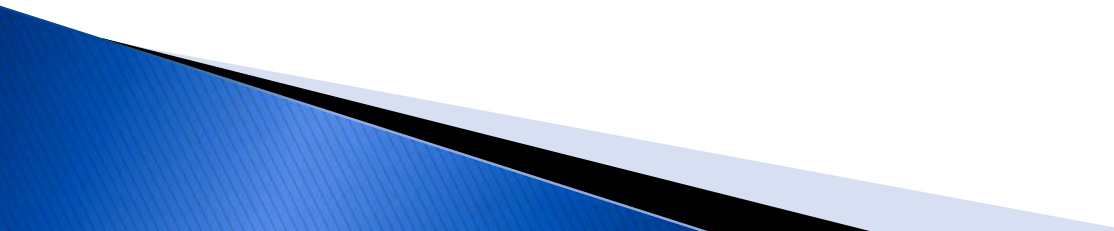
Maine like other states held public hearings regarding the planning, funding and public input for all of its waterways, inland and marine.

This act was the prelude of the CWA to set the stage of how it was to work with funding and public input.

Following these hearings came amended versions all leading up to the CWA of 1972



THE CLEAN WATER ACT

- ▶ On October 18, 2022 was the official 50 year history since our Congress passed and then President Nixon **finally** signed the act into law.
 - ▶ This event was worthy of celebrating by all Natural Resource Advocates.
- 

The CWA Provided Funding

Section 314 of the CWA was the \$ for Maine
Lakes

We had some of the most expensive lake
restoration projects in Maine

Sebasticook Lake

Annabesacook Lake

Sabattus Pond

Protection was the final answer, GP-A

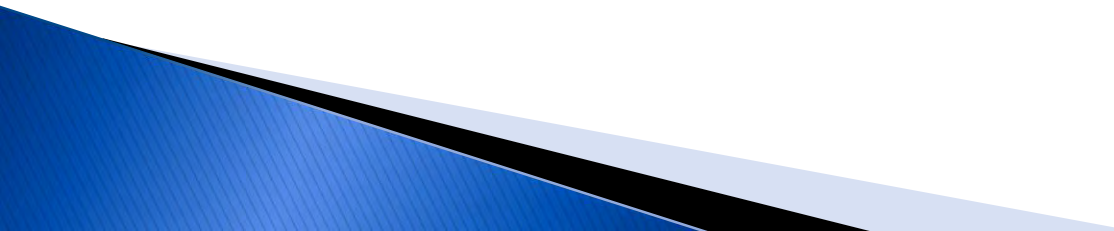
SWIMMABLE and FISHABLE



What Did the Act Do?

- ▶ 1. It provided a level Playing Field
- ▶ 2. Funding for Municipal Wastewater Treatment at the Secondary Level
- ▶ 3. Industrial Secondary treatment with tax deductible incentives for Capital expenditures
- ▶ 4. Provide for Fishable and Swimmable waters
- ▶ 5. Maine had one of the most polluted rivers in the US. **The Androscoggin River**

These Basic Goals were doable

- ▶ 1. A level playing field for all dischargers
 - ▶ 2. Utilizing the best available technology
 - ▶ 3. Fishable and Swimmable waters
 - ▶ 4. A discharge elimination system (NPDES)
 - ▶ 5. Addressing Dams and water quality
- 

CWA



- ▶ The CWA provided a national legacy where everyone would benefit
- ▶ Maine statutes became the basis for establishing rules and WQ standards.
- ▶ Both narrative, numerical and biological
- ▶ Ed Muskie knew what compromise was and with that he succeeded.

CHANGE

Augusta Dam Removal 1999



Sebasticook River in Clinton (below Pleasant St. Bridge)



Clean Water Act

- ▶ A long Road to recovery and still going into the new millennium
- ▶ Senator Ed Muskie was our point man and savior
- ▶ Political issues with the ACT were amazing
- ▶ President Nixon vetoed
- ▶ It went back to the Senate with not enough votes for his veto. He was overridden!
- ▶ He finally signed the document without debate

Muskie Memorial



UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE
EDMUND S. MUSKIE

- 1942 ENLISTED IN U.S. NAVY - SERVED AS OFFICER ABOARD DESTROYER ESCORTS IN ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC THEATERS
- 1946 ELECTED TO MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
- 1954 GOVERNOR OF MAINE, RE-ELECTED IN 1956
- 1958 ELECTED TO UNITED STATES SENATE - SERVED FROM 1958 TO 1980
- 1968 DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
- 1970 AUTHORED THE FEDERAL CLEAN AIR ACT
- 1972 CANDIDATE FOR DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION
- AUTHORED THE FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT
- 1975 FIRST CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE
- 1980 SERVED AS U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE 1980 - 1981
- 1981 RECEIVED THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM



EDMUND SIXTUS MUSKIE

MARCH 28, 1914 — MARCH 26, 1996

BORN IN RUMFORD, MAINE

NATIVE SON

EDMUND S. MUSKIE

- 1914 BORN IN RUMFORD MARCH 28 THE SON OF STEPHEN AND JOSEPHINE MUSKIE
 - 1932 GRADUATED FROM STEPHENS HIGH SCHOOL IN RUMFORD
 - 1936 GRADUATED (CUM LAUDE AND PHI BETA KAPPA) FROM BATES COLLEGE LEWISTON WITH DEGREE IN HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT AT BATES 1932-36. VARSITY DEBATER; CLASS PRESIDENT; STUDENT COUNCIL; VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY - TREASURER; POLITICS CLUB IVY DAY SPEAKER; TRACK
 - 1939 GRADUATED FROM CORNELL LAW SCHOOL AND ADMITTED TO MASSACHUSETTS BAR
 - 1940 ADMITTED TO MAINE BAR
 - 1948 MARRIED JANE GRAY OF WATERVERVILLE MAY 29 - FIVE CHILDREN
 - 1955 RECEIVED HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS DEGREE FROM BATES COLLEGE
 - 1984 RECEIVED BENJAMIN F. MAYS MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED ACCOMPLISHMENT BY A BATES ALUMNUS
 - 1996 DIED IN WASHINGTON, DC ON MARCH 26
 - 2000 THIS MEMORIAL DEDICATED ON THIS DAY AUGUST 19
- THE MUSKIE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
- I HAROLD MCQUADE - CHAIRMAN
- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| RICHARD ALLEN | FREDRIC KENNARD |
| WENDALL BROOMHALL | GABRIELLE LE VASSEUR |
| THOMAS CAREY | JOLENE LOVEJOY |
| EDWARD CLOHSEY | MARY ANN PRUE |
| NORMAN FERGUSON | ROBERT SAISI |
| DEE HOLMAN | |

CWA

- ▶ It has been a long road for recovery and continues to be long because environmental protection is forever!



**AS RIVERS FLOW FROM SOURCE TO SEA,
THEY CHRONICLE THEIR HISTORY**

**WE HAVE SEEN HISTORY OF PAST AND PRESENT
USE & ABUSE OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER, Kennebec
Penobscot Rivers**

**HOW WILL MAINE CITIZENS VALUE RIVERS IN THE
FUTURE?**

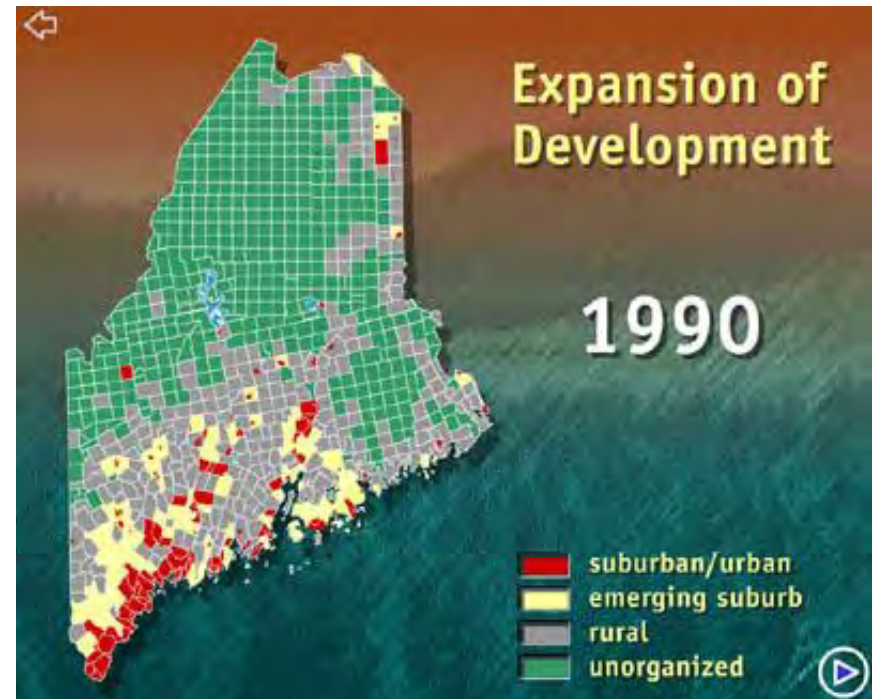
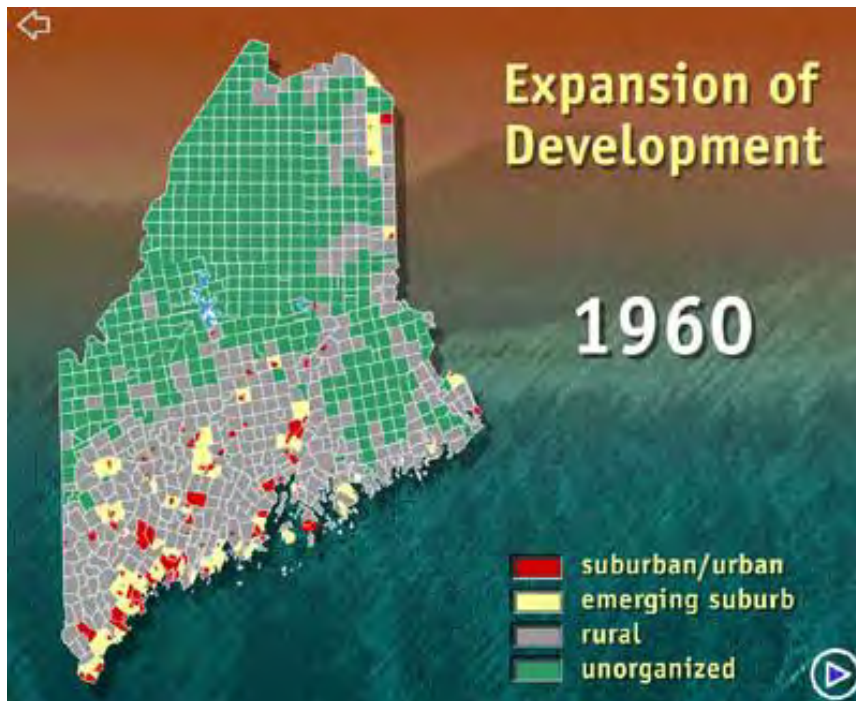
PERHAPS IT IS TIME FOR A CHANGE.

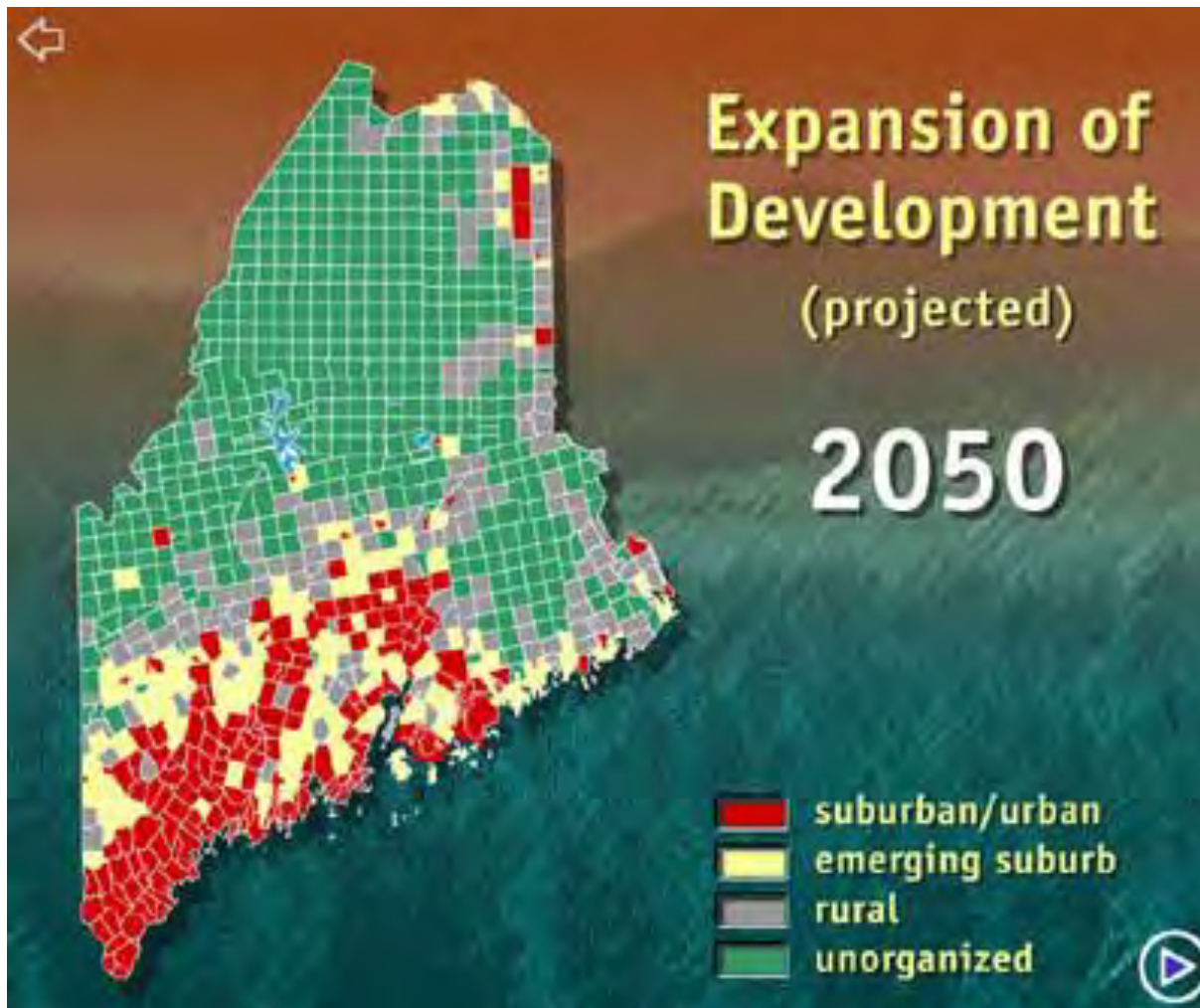
CHANGE

Future Protections

- 10 – 20 Years
 - Municipal/Industrial WWTF Infrastructure
 - Design Life ~ 20 to 30 Years
 - 20 + Years
 - Development/Sprawl
 - Non Point Source
 - Urban Runoff (Stormwater)
 - Municipal Growth
 - Climate Change and PFAS
- 

Growth within State





Parting Words:

- ▶ The Rivers and Lakes are a public trust
- ▶ Never forget how everyone's rivers got cleaned up
- ▶ ...and how much more remains to be done for the future

Questions, Answers and Comments