

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES  
CHAPTER 60 - RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

Chapter 60 - Resource Management Plan

60.10 Kennebec River Fish Restoration Management Plan

SUMMARY:

The Strategic and Operational Plan outlines the Department of Marine Resource's plan for the restoration of American shad and alewives to their historical spawning and nursery areas in the Kennebec River above Augusta. The Strategic Plan identifies the Department's specific goals and objectives for fish restoration. The long term goal is to restore shad and alewives to their historical spawning and nursery areas above the Augusta dam. The objectives to be attained from this goal are to achieve an annual production of 6.0 million alewives and 725,000 American shad in the waters of the Kennebec River above the August dam.

The Operational Plan provides detail on how the Department of Marine Resources intends to carry out its plan during the period 1986 - 1998 (Phase I). The Operational Plan includes a "Fish Passage Action Plan" which identifies relevant dams and specifies dates when upstream and downstream fish passage facilities will be constructed. The "Fish Passage Action Plan" reflects conditions mutually agreed upon by the Department of Marine Resources, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Atlantic Sea-Run Salmon Commission, and a number of dam owners known as the Kennebec Hydro Developers Group (KHDG). During the time period covered by the Operational Plan (Phase I), the restoration methods consist of truck stocking of shad and alewives collected from various waters within and outside the state; selective passage of fish over the Augusta dam; and trapping of alewives and Atlantic salmon at the Augusta dam for trucking around selected upriver dams. A complete copy of the Plan may be obtained from:

Department of Marine Resources  
Anadromous Fish Division  
State House Station #21  
Augusta, Maine 04333

60.20 Saco River Interim Restoration Goals

SUMMARY:

The Saco River Strategic Plan for Fisheries Management represents the long-term management goals of the Maine D.M.R., I.F. & W., A.S.R.S.C., and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The management goals of the Department of Marine Resources are reflected in the document references to American shad, alewife, blueback herring, rainbow smelt, American eel, and striped bass. The two fish species of primary concern which would require improvements in passage above the Cataract Project include the American shad and alewife. A public hearing on the D.M.R. portion of the original plan was held in Saco, Maine, on March 31, 1987. Based on the public comment received at the hearing, the D.M.R. provides further information and clarification of its fishery restoration intentions as follows:

The Saco River restoration of shad and alewives will be accomplished by using residual stocks of these species which currently exist below the Cataract Dam. The high priority stocking programs on the Androscoggin and Kennebec Rivers require all other stocks of shad and alewives currently available to D.M.R. If additional stocks become available, the next priority would be to augment shad and alewife stocks in the Penobscot River.

The interim Saco River restoration goals of the D.M.R., encompassing the period from 1987 - 2002, are to provide American shad access to the Saco River immediately downstream of the Skelton

Project and to utilize the Skelton headpond and downstream areas for production of alewives. The goals can be achieved by the following methods:

- 1.) Provide fish passage (upstream and downstream) for American shad at the Cataract Project, including Spring and Bradbury Dams;
- 2.) Release up to 15,000 adult alewives above the Cataract Dam for utilization of spawning habitat below Skelton Dam;
- 3.) Truck stock up to 10,000 alewives, over and above the 15,000 passed at the Cataract, to the Skelton Dam impoundment,; and
- 4.) Provide for downstream passage at the Skelton Project

Following the end of the 15-year interim restoration program period, the D.M.R. will re-evaluate restoration goals, the status of existing shad and alewife stocks in the Saco River, and make appropriate recommendations to the Central Maine Power Company. The use of any New Hampshire waters (Ossipee and Little Ossipee Rivers) for production of American shad and alewives will be mutually agreed upon by Maine and New Hampshire fishery agencies prior to the introduction of these species into New Hampshire waters.

#### 60.21 Saco River Strategic Plan for Fisheries Management

##### SUMMARY:

Amendment One to the Saco River Strategic Plan for Fisheries Management dated March 8, 1994, establishes time tables and criteria under which upstream and downstream fish passage facilities will be constructed at main stem Saco River dams. This Amendment also provides for interim trap and truck of anadromous (sea-run) fish until such time as permanent fish passages are provided at dams which currently lack passage. The DMR and other fishery agencies intend to sign an agreement with the Central Maine Power Company to facilitate implementation of Amendment One to the Saco River Plan. Amendment One to the Saco River Plan is hereby incorporated by reference into Regulation 60.21. Copies of Amendment One are on file with the Department of Marine Resources and available upon request.

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EFFECTIVE DATE:

November 9, 1985 (EMERGENCY)

AMENDED:

February 14, 1987 – Section 10

April 25, 1988 – Section 20

May 25, 1994 – Section 21