



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



August 29, 2019

Peter Joseph, Town Manager
Town of Freeport
30 Main, St.
Freeport, ME. 04032

RE: Airboat Noise Enforcement

Dear Mr. Joseph,

This letter is a follow-up to the meeting on 8/22 to discuss noise complaints related to airboats operating on the river in Freeport and surrounding area. I appreciate you and your staff taking the time to come to Augusta to find a solution to the problem.

Deputy Commissioner Peabody briefed me on the discussion and indicated that much of the conversation centered around having appropriate rules in place to enforce the current statute regarding watercraft noise limits.

I agree that a review of the current watercraft rules regarding noise enforcement would be appropriate to provide more clarity to the public and enforcement officers when responding to noise complaints from the operation of airboats.

As the agency authorized by law to promulgate rules to regulate watercraft, we will research what other states have for noise regulations related to airboats, and work with the Department of Marine Resources to create a rule proposal that would provide more guidance on this issue. As part of the rulemaking process we will hold a public hearing in the Freeport/Brunswick area to gather public comment.

Thanks again for taking the time to work with us on this issue.

Sincerely,

Judith Camuso,
Commissioner

Pc: Mark Randlett, AAG
Patrick Keliher, Commissioner DMR
Major Chris Cloutier, MWS
Major Rob Beal, DMR