



The Maine Public Broadcasting Network

Listen LIVE Classical 24

Search



Home News On-Demand Radio Television Education Support Programming Guide Events About Contact

Login

» News » Maine News Archive

### Conservationists Take Maine Alewives Battle to Court

0

05/31/2012 02:37 PM ET

**The Conservation Law Foundation alleges that the U.S. EPA failed to review changes in a Maine law that blocks passage to alewives' spawning habitat in the St. Croix River.**

A conservation group is going to court in an effort to restore alewives to Maine's St. Croix River. The lawsuit, filed by the **Conservation Law Foundation**, alleges that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency failed to review changes in a Maine law that blocks passage to spawning habitat for the anadromous fish.

CLF Director Sean Mahoney says the Maine law kept the Grand Falls Dam fishway on the eastern Maine river closed, changing the water quality standards for that section of the St. Croix from Class A to Class B, or lower.

Maine guides and other sporting interests lobbied to keep the fishway closed to preserve the lucrative small mouth bass fishery. But CLF maintains that alewives don't pose a threat to the bass.

Alewives, which are native to the St. Croix, are an anadromous species, meaning they spawn in fresh water and grow and mature in the ocean. Conservationists say the fish are a crucial food source for other fish and a variety of birds.

Another environmental group in Maine, Friends of Merrymeeting Bay, announced earlier this month that it also intends to sue the EPA over the effect of the alewife blockades on water quality in the St. Croix.

Recommend this

Become a Fan of the NEW MPBNNews Facebook page. Get news, updates and unique content to share and discuss:



MPBN News

Like 821

Recommended by our audience on Facebook:

#### Recommendations

Sign Up

Create an account or **log in** to see what your friends are recommending.

**LePage: GOP Meeting About "Zipping my Mouth"**

67 people recommend this.

**Submerged Maine Town Lives on in Memory**

53 people recommend this.

**LePage Accusations Bring Maine Budget Talks to Temporary Halt**

20 people recommend this.

Facebook social plugin

[Return!](#)

Copyright © 2012 Maine Public Broadcasting Network. All rights reserved.

[Contact Us](#) [Terms Of Use](#) [Privacy Statement](#)