

§13001. Definitions

As used in this subpart, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

1. Accompanied by adult. "Accompanied by an adult" means, with respect to operation of an ATV, within visual and voice contact and under the effective control of a child's parent or guardian or another person 21 years of age or older.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

2. Airmobile. "Airmobile" means any vehicle propelled by mechanical power that is designed to travel upon a cushion of air on or within 2 feet of the water or land surface of the earth.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

3. All-terrain vehicle or ATV. "All-terrain vehicle" or "ATV" means a motor-driven, off-road, recreational vehicle that was originally designed by the manufacturer for and is capable of cross-country travel. "All-terrain vehicle" or "ATV" includes, but is not limited to, a multitrack, multiwheel or low-pressure tire vehicle; a motorcycle or related 2-wheel, 3-wheel or belt-driven vehicle; an amphibious machine; or other means of transportation deriving motive power from a source other than muscle or wind. For purposes of this subpart, "all-terrain vehicle" or "ATV" does not include a motor vehicle as defined in Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 42.

[PL 2019, c. 204, §1 (AMD).]

4. Alpine tundra. "Alpine tundra" means high-elevation, treeless areas beyond the timberline that are dominated by low herbaceous or shrubby vegetation and, specifically, areas that are designated as alpine tundra by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by rule pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §5 (REV).]

4-A. Antique all-terrain vehicle or antique ATV. "Antique all-terrain vehicle" or "antique ATV" means an all-terrain vehicle more than 25 years old that is substantially maintained in its original or restored condition.

[PL 2021, c. 215, §4 (NEW).]

5. Antique snowmobile. "Antique snowmobile" means a snowmobile more than 25 years old that is registered as an antique snowmobile under section 13104, subsection 5.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

6. Aquatic plant. "Aquatic plant" means a plant species that requires a permanently flooded freshwater habitat.

[PL 2011, c. 47, §1 (AMD).]

6-A. Boater safety and education course. "Boater safety and education course" means an online or in-person education course that:

A. Provides basic information for recreational boaters about how to identify and reduce primary boating risk factors and mitigate the dangers of recreational boating; and [PL 2021, c. 656, §1 (NEW).]

B. Meets a national association of boating law administrators standard and is approved by the commissioner pursuant to section 13052, subsection 2. [PL 2021, c. 656, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2021, c. 656, §1 (NEW).]

6-B. Boater safety and education course certificate. "Boater safety and education course certificate" means a certificate or other evidence of completion of a boater safety and education course specified or approved by the commissioner pursuant to section 13052, subsection 2.

[PL 2021, c. 656, §2 (NEW).]

- 7. Bow.** "Bow" means the forward half of a watercraft.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 8. Cowling.** "Cowling" means the forward or rear portion of a snowmobile, usually of fiberglass or similar material, surrounding the motor and clutch assembly.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 9. Division.** "Division" means the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Division of Licensing, Registration and Engineering.
[PL 2009, c. 340, §18 (AMD).]
- 10. Dwelling.** "Dwelling" means any building used as a permanent residence or place of domicile.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 11. Federal waters.** "Federal waters" means all waters that are not internal waters and are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 12. Freshwater marshes and bogs.** "Freshwater marshes and bogs" means naturally occurring open areas with saturated soils or peat, often associated with standing water and dominated by low herbaceous vegetation, grasses, weeds and shrubs and including wetlands, as shown on the Freshwater Wetlands Map Series, Division of Geology, Natural Areas and Coastal Resources, Maine Geological Survey, or zoned as a Wetland Protection Subdistrict, P-WL, by the Maine Land Use Planning Commission.
[PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. C, §12 (AMD).]
- 13. Internal waters.** "Internal waters" means waters under the exclusive jurisdiction of the State.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 14. Invasive aquatic plant.** "Invasive aquatic plant" means a species of aquatic plant described in Title 38, section 410-N.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 15. Marina or boat yard owner.** "Marina or boat yard owner" means a person who owns a facility that leases storage, docking or mooring space to watercraft.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 16. Motorboat.** "Motorboat" means any watercraft, including airmobiles, equipped with propulsion machinery of any type, whether or not the machinery is the principal source of propulsion, is permanently or temporarily attached or is available for propulsion on the watercraft.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 17. Motorboat carrying passengers for hire.** "Motorboat carrying passengers for hire" means a motorboat used for the purpose of carrying a person or persons as passengers for valuable consideration, whether directly or indirectly flowing to the owner, charterer, agent or any other person interested in the watercraft.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- 18. Operate.** "To operate," in all its moods and tenses, means:
- A. When it refers to a snowmobile, to use a snowmobile in any manner within the jurisdiction of the State, whether or not the vehicle is under way; [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
- B. When it refers to watercraft of any type or description, to use that watercraft in any manner on the waters specified, whether or not the watercraft is under way; or [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

C. When it refers to an ATV, to use an ATV in any manner within the jurisdiction of the State, whether or not the vehicle is moving. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

19. Operation. "Operation" means the act of operating as defined in subsection 18.

[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §354 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

20. Operator. "Operator" means the person who is in control or in charge of a watercraft, snowmobile or ATV while it is in use.

[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §354 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

21. Owner. "Owner" means:

A. For the purpose of registration of a snowmobile, a person holding title to a snowmobile or having equitable interest in a snowmobile that entitles the person to possession of the snowmobile; [PL 2021, c. 54, §20 (AMD).]

B. For the purpose of registration of a watercraft, a person holding title to a watercraft or having equitable interest in a watercraft that entitles the person to possession of the watercraft; or [PL 2021, c. 54, §20 (AMD).]

C. For the purposes of registration of an ATV, a person holding title to an ATV or having equitable interest in an ATV that entitles the person to possession of the ATV. [PL 2021, c. 54, §20 (AMD).]

[PL 2021, c. 54, §20 (AMD).]

22. Passenger. "Passenger" means every person carried on board a watercraft other than:

A. The owner or the owner's representative; [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

B. The operator; [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

C. Bona fide members of the crew engaged in the business of the watercraft who have not contributed consideration for their carriage and who are paid for their services; and [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

D. A guest on board a watercraft that is being used exclusively for pleasure purposes who has not contributed any consideration, directly or indirectly, for that guest's carriage. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §354 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

23. Personal watercraft. "Personal watercraft" means any motorized watercraft that is 14 feet or less in hull length as manufactured, has as its primary source of propulsion an inboard motor powering a jet pump and is capable of carrying one or more persons in a sitting, standing or kneeling position. "Personal watercraft" includes, but is not limited to, a jet ski, wet bike, surf jet and miniature speedboat. "Personal watercraft" also includes motorized watercraft whose operation is controlled by a water skier. "Personal watercraft" does not include a motorized watercraft that does not have a horsepower rating greater than 15 horsepower and does not generate an unreasonable amount of noise.

[PL 2007, c. 169, §1 (AMD).]

24. Protective headgear. "Protective headgear" means a helmet that conforms with minimum standards of construction and performance as prescribed by the American National Standards Institute specification Z90.1 or by the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 218.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

25. Snowmobile. "Snowmobile" means a vehicle propelled by mechanical power that is primarily designed to travel over ice or snow and is supported in part by skis, belts or cleats. "Snowmobile" does not include a motor vehicle as defined in Title 29-A, section 101.
[PL 2019, c. 452, §9 (AMD).]

26. State of principal use. "State of principal use" means the state on whose waters a watercraft is used or to be used most during a calendar year.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

27. Use. "Use" means, with respect to watercraft, operate, navigate or employ.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

28. Watercraft. "Watercraft" means any type of vessel, boat, canoe or craft capable of being used as a means of transportation on water, other than a seaplane, including motors, electronic and mechanical equipment and other machinery, whether permanently or temporarily attached, that are customarily used in the operations of the watercraft. "Watercraft" does not include a vessel, boat, canoe or craft located and intended to be permanently docked in one location and not used as a means of transportation on water.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

29. Water safety zone. "Water safety zone" means the area of water within 200 feet of shoreline, whether the shoreline of the mainland or of an island.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

30. Waters of this State. "Waters of this State" means all internal waters and all federal waters within the jurisdiction of the State.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B354 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2007, c. 169, §1 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 340, §18 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 47, §1 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. KK, §16 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. KK, §34 (AFF). PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §5 (REV). PL 2011, c. 682, §38 (REV). PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. C, §12 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 204, §1 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 452, §9 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 54, §20 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 215, §4 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 656, §§1, 2 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 130th Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2022. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.