Legislators endorse higher environmental classification for Androscoggin River

It is likely that Gov. Janet Mills will sign the measure into law.

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AUGUSTA, Maine — Maine lawmakers have unanimously endorsed a proposal to upgrade a 14-mile stretch of the Androscoggin River to a higher environmental classification in an acknowledgment of cleanup efforts.

Beth Ahearn from Maine Conservation Voters called the votes in the House and Senate “a fitting tribute” to the landmark Clean Water Act pushed through 50 years ago by U.S. Sen. Edmund Muskie, a Maine Democrat who grew up in Rumford, the Sun Journal reported.

It is likely that Democratic Gov. Janet Mills will sign the measure into law.

The Maine Board of Environmental Protection already endorsed the move for a portion of the river’s status to upgraded from the lowest category, Class C, to Class B from Lisbon Falls to Merrymeeting Bay.

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