

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Title of Rule: Ocean State Climate Adaptation Fund Policies and Procedures

Rule Identifier: 650-RICR-30-05-1

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Adoption

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: January 6, 2023

Hearing Date: January 24, 2023

End of Public Comment: February 6, 2023

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 46-23

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The CRMC proposes to jointly promulgate the Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience (OSCAR) Fund with the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management to provide funding for adaptation and resilience projects on public lands. OSCAR grants will provide a streamlined, cost-effective grant administration process for statewide climate resilience projects, provide local resilience projects that provide numerous co-benefits and can act in intra- and inter-municipal models, fund projects that address statewide natural and climate change hazards, which saves the state on emergency costs and create more job opportunities for Rhode Island residents. Parties required to comply with the proposed rule are any "applicant" that owns or controls public lands defined by R.I. General Laws section 46-23.3-2(8) that files an application for an OSCAR grant.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed adoption until February 6, 2023 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Jeffrey M. Willis
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879
cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5, to consider the proposed adoption shall be held at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. This hearing is subject to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46, Open Meetings.

Public Hearing Information:

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Location: Department of Administration
One Capital Hill
Conference Room A
Providence, RI, 02908

The seating capacity of the room will be enforced and, therefore, the number of persons participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-783-3370 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting. For questions regarding available parking, please contact the agency staffperson listed above.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

In the development of the proposed rulemaking consideration was given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach was identified based on available information. The proposed rulemaking is being jointly promulgated by the RI Infrastructure Bank, the RI Dept. of Environmental Management, and the RI CRMC so there is duplication/overlap in that regard. Additionally, the benefits of the proposed rulemaking justify any costs of the proposed rule, and the proposed rulemaking will achieve the objectives of the authorizing statute in a more cost-effective manner, or with greater net benefits, than other regulatory alternatives.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.