

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Title of Rule: Park and Management Area Rules and Regulations (250-RICR-100-00-1)

Rule Identifier: 250-RICR-100-00-1

Rulemaking Action: Direct Final Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: 07/03/2020

End of Public Comment: 08/02/2020

Authority for this Rulemaking:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 20- 1-2, 20-1-4, and 20-1-8

R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35

R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 42-17.1, 42-17.6, 42-17.10, 20-18, 20-15, 32-2 and 32-3

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is for the control, custody, governance, and use of state Management Areas, State Parks, and other areas operated and maintained by the Divisions of Fish and Wildlife, Parks and Recreation, and Forest Environment within the Department of Environmental Management ("RIDEM"). The purpose of this amendment is to give the RIDEM Director discretion to close or alter the operating hours of the state's parks, beaches, and management areas in the event of any emergency that may pose an imminent threat or peril to the public health, safety or welfare. A summary of non-technical changes between the previous version of the regulation adopted by the Department and the proposed regulation by section is as follows:

- Section 1.22 was amended to give the RIDEM Director discretion to close or alter the operating hours of the state's parks, beaches, and management areas in the event of any emergency that may pose an imminent threat or peril to the public health, safety or welfare.

Additional Information and Comments:

If no formal objection is received on or before August 2, 2020, Department of Environmental Management will file the Amendment without opportunity for public comment..

Objections should be addressed to:

Jennifer Ogren,

Department of Environmental Management

Division of Parks and Recreation
1100 Tower Hill Road
North Kingstown, RI 02895
jennifer.ogren@dem.ri.gov

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

The Department has determined that small businesses will not be adversely impacted by the proposed regulations referenced above. However, the public hearing is being conducted to solicit comment on the proposals and to allow public input from small businesses or any cities or towns, which may believe that that may be adversely affected. For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation see agency contact person above.

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