

CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Section §42-35-2.6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, following is a concise explanatory statement for the below identified regulation, which was subject to a public hearing on May 11, 2021.

AGENCY: Department of Environmental Management

DIVISION: Fish and Wildlife

RULE IDENTIFIER: 250-RICR-40-05-3

RULE TITLE: Rules and Regulations Governing Importation and Possession of Wild Animals

REASON FOR RULEMAKING: This amendment is to establish a procedure for the issuance of permits for the importation and possession within Rhode Island of those exotic or native wild animals that are free of diseases and that do not pose a threat to humans, livestock and other domesticated animals, and native wildlife. These regulations also ensure that endangered and threatened species are not imported / possessed in the State of Rhode Island without a permit. The Importation regulations also allow importation / possession by only those persons who can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the DEM that they have adequate facilities, adequate knowledge of, animal health and husbandry, and the ability and resources to care for the subject animals in order to ensure public safety as well as the health and well-being of the imported / possessed exotic or native wild animal.

1. 3.6(12) – Changes to the Hybrid definition
2. 3.6(20)&(21) – New definitions for regulation
3. 3.7(A,B,C) – Addition of short term exhibition added to possession
4. Clarification to the common and scientific names of species throughout document
5. 3.9(F) – Additional language for possession of wild animals
6. 3.17(A)(6)(c) – additional species added
7. Clarification of language in document in regard to non-resident and resident and short-term exhibition

TESTIMONY AND COMMENTS (for not adopting a proposed rule): N/A.

CHANGES TO TEXT (between proposed and final rule):

REGULATORY ANALYSIS: N/A