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:

AGENCY: **Department of Environmental Management**

DIVISION: Parks and Recreation

RULE IDENTIFIER: **250-RICR-100-00-7, 8, & 9**

RULE TITLE: RHODE ISLAND GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR STATE PARKS AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT AREAS, STATE PARKS, AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT AREAS

REASON FOR RULEMAKING:
The regulatory re-write of the Parks and Management Area regulations reflects a reorganization of parts, consolidation of fees and area specific regulations, and modernizes the structure to be more user friendly. As part of regulatory re-write a small number of sections were changed substantively to reflect a closer alignment to current management by the Bureau's divisions. The sections substantively changed were the lifeguard regulations, camping regulations, and removing hunting and the target shooting range and moving it to the hunting regulations contained in the Fish and Wildlife regulations. Below are the three areas that received public testimony or written comment on. The remainder of the regulatory restructure did not have any comments.

ANY FINDING REQUIRED BY LAW AS A PREREQUISITE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RULE: *(if any)*

TESTIMONY, COMMENTS AND OBJECTIONS: Comments were received, please see attached response to public comments.

CHANGE TO TEXT OF THE RULE: The Department will accept comments pertaining to LeGrand Horsemen's Camping Area and will include language as noted below:

A. Camping in designated conservation management areas is allowed with official written permission or through a special use permit.

B. LeGrand Reynolds Horsemen's Camping Area
   a. No person may occupy Reynolds Horsemen's Area for more than a continuous four (4) day period with a one (1) day minimum break prior to any re-occupancy, unless with official written permission from Arcadia Forestry Headquarters.

b. Use of this area is limited to campers with horses unless written permission from the Department is given.

Goddard Park Equestrian Area Rental

The Department recognizes the confusion for the fee and its applicability and recommends making a technical change to the fee table to indicate current practice and have it say "$30 per day, per group" with an asterisk for the bottom of the page indicating that it only applies to groups with a special use permit. The Department also recommends amending the seasonal fee for the Equestrian Area to also say "$100 per season, per group" with another asterisk indicating that this only applies to groups with a special use permit.

REGULATORY ANALYSIS: Please see the attached document.

DATE THE FINAL RULE WAS SIGNED BY THE AGENCY HEAD: