

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

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**Title of Rule:** Hunting and Trapping Regulations for the 2023 - 2024 and 2024 - 2025 Seasons (250-RICR-60-00-9)

**Rule Identifier:** 250-RICR-60-00-9

**Rulemaking Action:** Proposed Amendment

**Important Dates:**

Date of Public Notice: April 21, 2023

Hearing Date: May 17, 2023

End of Public Comment: May 24, 2023

**Rulemaking Authority:**

R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 42-17.1; 20-15 and 20-18

§§ 20-1-2; 20-1-4; 20-1-8; 20-1-12; 20-1-13; 20-2-35

20-2-37 and 1-8-1

and in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35

R.I. Gen. Laws § R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 42-17.1;

**Summary of Rulemaking Action:**

The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is to establish recreational hunting seasons; to set the possession and bag limits; and to regulate the manner of hunting in order to efficiently manage the wild life resources of Rhode Island.

**Additional Information and Public Comments:**

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until May 24, 2023 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Ashley Schipritt  
Department of Environmental Management  
3 Fort Wetherill Road  
Jamestown, RI 02835  
ashley.schipritt@dem.ri.gov

**Public Hearing:**

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5, to consider the proposed amendment 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: May 17, 2023

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Location: 140 Sockanosset Cross Road  
James T. Giles Community Room  
Cranston, RI, 02920

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 401-423-1928 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:**

The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is to establish recreational hunting seasons; to set the possession and bag limits; and to regulate the manner of hunting in order to efficiently manage the wildlife resources of Rhode Island. There are new season dates for hunting as well as grammatical changes, removal of redundant language, sections reworded, additional species and bag limits added for those species. Specific changes to sections below.

9.5(15) New definition for Deer Hunting Activity

9.7(E) removal of old dates and addition of new deer hunting dates for the season.

9.7(L) Deer Decoy Language

9.7(N) New section for tracking shot deer with a dog.

Removal of proficiency language from regulations

9.9.1 removal of Northwest Cooperative - new owners do not want hunting

9.9.1 - addition of Beaver River Preserve

9.9.4 - New hunting opportunity in Bristol

9.9.5 New hunting opportunity in Bristol

9.10(B) additional species to be hunted, made all shooting hours the same for the segments

9.10(F)(6) removal of language

9.10(F)(7) addition of a closed location

Due to federal regulations / laws the reduction of take of ducks and a reduced brant season.

9.12(A) removal of language

Multiple sections has removed language as Prudence Island is closed

9.12(B)(6) new language a Prudence is being closed

9.12(C)(8) removal of Prudence Island language

9.12(C)(8) pheasant dates for New Shoreham

9.16(N)(2) additional language

9.16(N)(4) reduction of min number of decoys required.

These Regulations do not impose any new requirements on regulated entities including any small businesses or any city or town; therefore, there is no adverse economic impact.

In the development of the proposed rule/amendment 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, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information.

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