

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

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**Title of Rule:** Dealers  
**Rule Identifier:** 250-RICR-90-00-7  
**Rulemaking Action:** Proposed Amendment  
**Important Dates:**  
Date of Public Notice: August 23, 2023  
Hearing Date: September 11, 2023  
End of Public Comment: September 22, 2023

**Rulemaking Authority:**

Title 20

Chapters 42-17.1

42-17.6

and 42-17.7

and in accordance with Chapter 42-35-18(b)(5)

Administrative Procedures Act of the Rhode Island General Laws of 1956

as amended.

**Summary of Rulemaking Action:**

1. Tautog tagging requirements (proposed new section 7.14):  
Division proposal to amend the rule to require that tautog cannot be sold, purchased, bartered, or traded in Rhode Island unless a tautog tag issued by the Director has been affixed to the left opercula bone with the tag number displayed, consistent with harvester tautog tagging requirements.
2. Summer flounder packaging requirements (sections 7.13(F)(5) and 7.15(F)(1)): Division proposal to delete rule regarding summer flounder packaging requirements. The Division of Law Enforcement has indicated that summer flounder packaging requirements is no longer necessary and can hinder inspection operations.
3. Striped bass finning requirement (section 7.15(D)): Division proposal to delete rule regarding the dealer requirement that striped bass may not be purchased and/or offered for sale if the entire right pectoral fin has been removed. With new recreational slot limit recently adopted there is no longer an overlap and the rule is no longer needed.

**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 September 22, 2023 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Peter Duhamel  
Department of Environmental Management  
3 Fort Wetherill Road  
Jamestown, RI 02835  
peter.duhamel@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: September 11, 2023  
Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: URI Bay Campus, Corless Auditorium, 215 South Ferry Rd  
215 South Ferry Rd  
Narragansett, RI, 02882

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 401-423-1927 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 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.