

**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: February 15, 2024

Hearing Date: February 28, 2024

End of Public Comment: March 17, 2024

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. Striped Bass tagging clarification (section 7.13(A)): Division proposal to clarify that striped bass shall be tagged immediately “at the point of sale”. As currently written, the rule does not specify that tagging must take place no later than at the time and location of sale

2. Striped Bass reporting requirements (section 7.14(F)(2)): This rule was previously adopted (effective April 30, 2023) but was then inadvertently omitted by mistake in a subsequent filing (effective November 20, 2023). This proposal seeks to re-establish this omitted rule as previously adopted.

3. Jonah crab - whole crab requirements; consistency with harvester requirements (proposed new section 7.17): Division proposal to require that dealers only accept whole Jonah crabs, consistent with harvester requirements (as found in Part 5 - Lobsters, Crabs, and Other Crustaceans section 5.11(C)(2)) that specifies that only whole Jonah Crab may be retained and sold, consistent with the FMP for Jonah Crab.

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 March 17, 2024 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: February 28, 2024
Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: URI Bay Campus, Corless Auditorium, 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.