



RHODE ISLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES

Three Fort Wetherill Road
Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Agency: Department of Environmental Management

Division: Marine Fisheries

Rule identifier: ERLID # 8591

Regulation title: Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Regulations (RIMFR) “*Part 2 Commercial and Recreational Saltwater Fishing Licensing Regulations*”

Rulemaking action: Proposed Rulemaking

Type of filing: Amendment

Timetable for action on the proposed rule:

- Submission to Office of Regulatory Reform: July 17, 2017
- Date of public notice: August 18, 2017
- Date of hearing: September 18, 2017
- End of Comment period: September 25, 2017

Summary of proposed rule:

- Hearing Item #1a: Annual review of exit/entry ratios for Restricted Finfish, Quahaug, and Soft-shell clam endorsements (section 6.1.10 (a)(b) and (c)). The purpose of this rulemaking is to solicit public comment on the rule, which is required to be considered on an annual basis, and which will determine new license opportunities for 2018 for the identified categories.
- Hearing Item # 1b: Proposed amendment to “actively fishing” standard (section 6.7.11(a)). The purpose of this proposal is to amend the standard for “Actively fishing” such that fishing activity is not required to occur in each year of the two year interval, and was developed at the Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting held on August 10, 2017.

Comments invited: All interested parties are invited to submit written comments concerning the proposed regulations by 4:00PM on September 25, 2017. Comments may be submitted to the following address:

DEM Marine Fisheries
3 Fort Wetherill Road
Jamestown, RI 02835
ATTN: Peter Duhamel

Alternatively, written comments may be submitted by email to peter.duhamel@dem.ri.gov.

Public hearing information:

The PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:00PM** on **Monday, September 18, 2017** at the University of Rhode Island Bay Campus, Coastal Institute Building, Hazard Room, South Ferry Road, Narragansett, RI 02882.

The rooms are accessible to the disabled. Interpreter services for the deaf and hard of hearing will be provided if such services are requested at least three (3) business days prior to the hearing by contacting the RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at (401) 222-5300; or (401) 222-5301 (TTY); or <http://www.cdhh.ri.gov/>.

For further information please contact the email or address provided above.

Authority for this rulemaking: R.I. Gen. Laws Title 20, R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 42-17.1, 42-17.6, and 42-17.7, and in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-18(b)(5), Administrative Procedures Act.

Regulatory Findings: In the development of the proposed amendment, consideration will be given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business.

Filed with Sec. of State's office on August 18, 2017