

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**Department of Environmental Management**

**NOTICE OF THE PUBLICATION OF A PROPOSED DIRECT  
FINAL RULE**

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapters 20-1, 42-17.1, 42-17.2 and 42-17.6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island as amended, and in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act Chapter 42-35 of the General Laws of 1956, as amended, and specifically Section 42-35-2.11 of the amended Administrative Procedures Act, the Director of the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) hereby proposes to file a Direct Final Rule pursuant to Section 42-35-2.11 of the General Laws of 1956, as amended. The Director believes that this proposed action is noncontroversial and anticipates that no objections will be received to these proposed regulations given the fact that without these requested regulatory action a Falconer could be charged under the *Rules and Regulations Governing Importation and Possession of Wild Animals* for the possession of Falcons. In addition, without the additional clarification language of the *Rhode Island Falconry Regulations for the 2016 – 2017 Season*, it would be illegal for Falconers to hunt with falcons. Finally, the Direct Final Rule further seeks to clarify the references to undeveloped State Parks in the *Park and Management Area Rules and Regulations* by clarifying those activities permitted in certain undeveloped State Parks.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 42-35-2.6 and 42-35-2.7 of the Rhode Island General Laws, DEM has made the following determinations: DEM has considered alternative approaches to the proposed dismissal and has determined that there is no alternative approach among the alternatives considered that would be as effective and less burdensome.

A copy of the subject regulations will be available for examination from September 30, 2016 through October 30, 2016 by mail or at the offices of the Division of Fish and Wildlife located at 277 Great Neck Road, West Kingston, RI 02892, weekdays from 8:30 - 4:00 PM or by calling the Division at (401) 789-0281. Electronic copies of the proposed regulations to be repealed will also be available on the DEM website.

DEM encourages the submission of written objections to the proposed *Rhode Island Falconry Regulations for the 2016 – 2017 Season* (ERLID # TBD), *Rhode Island Regulations Governing Importation and Possession of Wild Animals* (ERLID # TBD) and *Rhode Island Park and Management Area Rules and Regulations* (ERLID # TBD) via a Direct Final Rule pursuant to Section 42-35-2.11 of the General Laws of 1956, as amended. If no objection is received on or before October 30, 2016 DEM will file the repeal without opportunity for public comment. All written objections should be sent to the Department at the Division of Fish and Wildlife located at 277 Great Neck Road, West Kingston, RI 02892 or via e-mail to [ashley.schipritt@dem.ri.gov](mailto:ashley.schipritt@dem.ri.gov) and must be received no later than 11:59 PM on **October 30, 2016**.

Janet L. Coit  
Director, Department of Environmental Management

Posted



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

**Department of Environmental Management**

Division of Law Enforcement,

Division of Fish and Wildlife,

Division of Forest Environment, and

Division of Parks and Recreation

# **Park and Management Area Rules and Regulations**

~~August 1, 2014~~

**AUTHORITY:** These regulations are adopted pursuant to Chapters 42.17.1, 42.17.6, 20-15, 32-2 and 32-3, and RIGL §§20-1-2, 20-1-4, and 20-1-8, and 42-35 “Administrative Procedures Act” of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956 as amended.

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

**Department of Environmental Management**

Division of Law Enforcement, Division of Fish and Wildlife,

Division of Forest Environment, and Division of Parks and Recreation

**PARK AND MANAGEMENT AREA RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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# **Park and Management Area Rules and Regulations**

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is for the control, custody, governance, and use of state Management Areas, State Parks, and other areas operated and maintained by the Divisions of Fish and Wildlife, Parks and Recreation, and Forest Environment within the Department of Environmental Management.

## **AUTHORITY**

These Rules and Regulations are promulgated pursuant to RIGL §§20-1-2, 20-1-4, and 20-1-8, and RIGL Chapters 42-17.1, 42-17.6, 20-18, 20-15, 32-2 and 32-3 and accordance with Chapter 42-35, Administrative Procedures Act of the Rhode Island General Laws of 1956, as amended.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS**

At the present time there are several sets of Rules and Regulations governing public use of the Department's Parks and Management Areas. Many of the existing Regulations are duplicative, vague, and out of date. Promulgation of these re-codified Regulations will eliminate confusion and make the regulations contemporary, benefiting both users of the Management Areas and Parks and the enforcement of these Rules and Regulations by DEM personnel.

## **APPLICATION**

The terms and provisions of these Rules and Regulations shall be liberally construed to permit the Department to effectuate the purposes of state law, goals, and policies.

## **SEVERABILITY**

If any provision of these Rules and Regulations or application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of the Rules and Regulations shall not be affected thereby.

## **SUPERSEDED RULES AND REGULATIONS**

On the effective date of these Rules and Regulations, all previous Rules and Regulations, and any policies regarding the administration and enforcement of Parks and management Area Rules and Regulations shall be superseded. However, any enforcement action taken by, or application submitted to, the Department prior to the effective date of these Rules and Regulations shall be governed by the Rules and Regulations in effect at the time the enforcement action was taken, or application filed.

## **Section 1 – Definitions**

- 1.1 Authorized Representative of the Department of Environmental Management – is an employee or agent of the Department of Environmental Management who has been delegated authority to enforce the provision of this Chapter.
- 1.2 Bay Island – the islands of Prudence, Patience, Hope, Dutch, East & West Island (off Sakonnet Point) Little & Big Gould, and Hog.
- 1.3 Blank Gun – any firearm designed to discharge only blank cartridges and is incapable of propelling any type of projectile.
- 1.4 Bow – long bow, re-curve bow, compound bow or crossbow for hunting deer.
- 1.5 Camping – the erecting of a tent or shelter of natural or synthetic material, preparing a sleeping bag or other bedding material for use, parking of a motor vehicle, motor home or trailer, or mooring of a vessel for the apparent purpose of overnight occupancy.
- 1.6 Designated Areas - any part of a public reservation specially set aside for one or more purposes and identified as such either by the posting of a sign or signs or so posted at the public reservation headquarters.
- 1.7 Disabled Person – an individual who has been issued by the Registry of Motor Vehicles, and whose vehicle displays a current certificate issued pursuant to R.I.G.L. 31-28-7 entitling that individual to parking privileges afforded to a disabled individual.
- 1.8 Domestic Animals – animals, which through extremely long association with humans, have been bred to a degree which has resulted in genetic changes affecting the temperament, color, conformation, or other attributes of the species to an extent that makes them unique and distinguishable from wild individuals of their species and as listed in R.I.G.L. §20-18-4, Chapter 18, Section 4, entitled, Importation of Wild Animal Regulations of the Department of Environmental Management.
- 1.9 Firearm – any machine gun, pistol, air rifle, air pistol, and “blank gun”, “BB gun”, so-called, or other instrument from which steel or metal projectiles are propelled, or which may readily be converted to expel a projectile, except re-curve, compound, crossbow or longbows and except such instruments propelling such projectiles that are designed or normally used for a primary purpose other than as a weapon. The frame or receiver of any such weapon shall be construed as a firearm under the provisions of this section.
- 1.10 Float Tube – any device manufactured and sold for use as a fishing float tube.

- 1.11 Group - a collection of at least ten (10) persons, which may be military, public or private, may or may not be chartered or incorporated, profit or non-profit and having a formal name, with or without officers and/or dues.
- 1.12 Management Area – public lands that are owned by the state of Rhode Island under the jurisdiction of the Department’s Division of Fish & Wildlife or Forest Environment or in conjunction with each other or subject to the enforcement authority of the Department.
- 1.13 Management Councils – internal Department coordinating group, which includes representatives from the divisions of Fish & Wildlife, Parks & Recreation, Planning and Development and Forest Environment. The councils are responsible for issuing use permits, land use issues, improvements, maintenance and projects in management areas.
- 1.14 Motor Vehicle - every vehicle that is self-propelled including, but not limited to, every vehicle that is propelled by an internal combustion engine or electric power, but not operated upon rails, or upon water.
- 1.15 Migratory Waterfowl – per R.I.G.L. §20-3-34, all waterfowl species in the family anatidae, including wild ducks, geese, brant, and swans.
- 1.16 Native Wildlife – animals occurring naturally, either presently or historically, within the boundaries of the state.
- 1.17 Off-Road Recreational Vehicles-any motorized vehicles which were or modified for manufactured use on terrain other than roads and streets and are not registered with the Registry of Motor Vehicles or its equivalent agency in a state other than Rhode Island for operation on roads or streets.
- 1.18 Official Written Permission - written permission obtained from an Authorized Representative of the Department.
- 1.19 Open Air Fire - any fire in the outdoors or in a structure not completely enclosed by walls and a roof, including charcoal grills and gas stoves.
- 1.20 Park – any property under the jurisdiction of the Department’s Division of Parks and Recreation.
- 1.21 Permitted organized fishing activity, i.e. tournaments, shall mean those permitted through the RIDEM, Division of Fish and Wildlife with all rules and stipulations included therein. (See Section 1.16 Freshwater and Anadromous Fishing Regulations.)
- 1.22 Person - an individual, firm, corporation, society, association, partnership, or private or public body.

- 1.23 Public Reservation - any property under the care, control or custody of the Department of Environmental Management.
- 1.24 Rock Climbing – activities associated with a person moving upon, along, or across a non-horizontal rock surface, including but not limited to scrambling, bouldering, free climbing, assisted climbing, and technical climbing.
- 1.25 Snowmobiles – a motor vehicle designed to travel over ice or snow, and supported in whole or in part by skis, belts, or cleats.
- 1.26 Special Event – any activity in which seventy-five (75) or more participants not to exceed one hundred fifty (150) participants.
- 1.27 Special Use Permit - an authorized written permission for groups between 10-75 people or research studies to use the management areas.
- 1.28 Sponsor – the person(s) who applies for authorization to conduct, or conducts a special event as that term is defined in Part 1.27 of these rules and regulations.
- 1.29 Trash – garbage, rubbish, waste papers, bottles or cans, debris, litter, oil, solvents liquid waste, or other discarded materials.
- 1.30 Vehicle - every device in, upon, or by which a person or property is or may be transported or drawn on land, except snowmobiles including devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or track.
- 1.31 Wildlife Food Patches – any parcel of land that is physically planted or manipulated to provide food and/or cover for wildlife.

## **Section 2 – Animals, Including Horses and Dogs**

- 2.1 No Person shall bring into a state park property or picnic area any animal unless under control at all times on a leash of not more than six feet (6') in length. The handler of all animals is responsible for cleaning up and proper disposal of all animal wastes.
- 2.2 In management areas, persons may walk leashed dogs and domestic animals. The leash shall not exceed 25 feet in length with animal under control at all times.
- 2.3 All dogs must be wearing a collar with valid license tag. (See Section 16 for additional dog and dog training regulations in management areas.)
- 2.4 No person shall leave an animal unattended in a vehicle with the exception of dogs that are being used for hunting or dog trials between September 1st and March 31st.
- 2.5 No person shall bring onto any state bathing beach, East Beach/Ninigret Conservation Area, or Burlingame picnic area any animal from April 1st through September 30th.
- 2.6 Requirements for using the Reynolds Horseman's Area, Arcadia:
  - 2.6.1 Horses shall be allowed only on bridle trails and in designated areas. All users will clean up manure at campsites and dispose of it in bins provided.
  - 2.6.2 Ring is to be used for riding or attended exercising, not to be used for turnout or hitching.
  - 2.6.3 No camping permitted around ring.
  - 2.6.4 Fencing must be self-supporting with no nails or fasteners allowed in trees
  - 2.6.5 Horses are not to be tied to trees.
  - 2.6.6 Cemetery is not to be used for horse turnout.
  - 2.6.7 Only one site can be used at a time.
  - 2.6.8 Camping allowed in designated areas only. (See Section 12, Fires)
- 2.7 Horseback riding is prohibited in the Great Swamp Management Area during the established small game season and the established shot gun deer season.
- 2.8 Horses shall be allowed only in designated areas and bridle trails, except by official written permission.

- 2.9 During the established small game and shotgun deer hunting seasons, horses are prohibited from the Arcadia Dog Training Area with the exception of Thornley and Midway Trails and other DEM designated trails.
- 2.10 The exercising, training, or running of dogs from March 15 through August 15 is prohibited except by official written permission, or in designated areas. (See also Section 16.12, Dog Training and field trials.)
- 2.11 Cross-Country skiers are not allowed to bring dogs on designated cross-country ski trails.
- 2.12 The release of any animal within any State Park, Beach, or other public reservation is prohibited. (See Section 16, Hunting Regulations and Section 7, Camping, for additional animal regulations.)

### **Section 3 – Annoying or Questionable Activities**

- 3.1 Loitering is prohibited in or around restrooms.
- 3.2 Activities that interfere with designated activities are prohibited. It is unlawful for any person to engage in disorderly conduct as described below:
  - person commits disorderly conduct if he or she intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly engages in fighting or threatening or in violent or tumultuous behavior; or in a public place or near a private residence that he or she has no right to occupy, disturbs another person by making loud and unreasonable noise which under the circumstances would disturb a person of average sensibilities; or
  - 3.2.1 Directs at another person in a public place offensive words which are likely to provoke a violent reaction on the part of the average person so addressed; or
  - 3.2.2 Alone or with others, obstructs a highway, street, sidewalk, railway, waterway, building entrance, elevator, aisle, stairway, or hallway to which the public or a substantial group of the public has access or any other place ordinarily used for the passage of persons vehicles, or conveyances; or
  - 3.2.3 Engages in conduct which obstructs or interferes physically with a lawful meeting, procession, or gathering; or
  - 3.2.4 Public nudity is prohibited
- 3.3 Operation of sirens or any noise audible to a person of reasonable sensitive hearing at a distance of 200 feet from its source and other noise making devices or broadcast loud or raucous sounds or noises by use of an electrical amplifying system or sound track, is prohibited except by official written permission. Engine powered model airplanes, model boats, rockets and model cars shall be operated only upon receipt of official written permission from individual Park Facility Manager.
- 3.4 The possession or use of a paint ball gun or any other mechanism, which propels a projectile is prohibited, except as otherwise provided in these regulations.

## **Section 4 – Archaeology**

- 4.1 No one shall excavate, disturb, or conduct field investigations on any site or underwater historic property, nor shall anyone disturb or remove any specimens from any property under the care, control or custody of the Department of Environmental Management without first obtaining the written approval of the Director and a permit from the State Historical Preservation Commission.
- 4.2 All archaeological sites, underwater historic property, and archaeological specimens, as defined in the Antiquities Act of Rhode Island, R.I.G.L., Ch. 42-45.1, are the property of the State of Rhode Island.
- 4.3 Metal detectors and other location devices are restricted to designated areas during specified time periods.

## **Section 5 – Bicycles, Operator Propelled Vehicles**

- 5.1 No person shall operate or ride a bicycle, scooter, skate board or other operator propelled vehicle or device in any unit or portion thereof, of the Division of Parks and Recreation after the Regional Manager has made a finding that conditions are unsafe for the operation of such vehicles and has issued an order prohibiting such activity.
- 5.2 Ice-skating is permitted only in designated areas and at designated times.
- 5.3 Cross-country skiing is permitted, except where specifically prohibited.
- 5.4 Downhill skiing and sledding is permitted only in designated areas.
- 5.5 Windsurfers must launch and land only from designated areas.
- 5.6 During the established small game and shotgun deer hunting seasons, the use of mountain bikes is prohibited from the Arcadia Dog Training Area with the exception of Thornley and Midway Trails and other DEM designated trails. (See 16.7, fluorescent orange requirement.)

## Section 6 – Boating Regulations

6.1 Boating is prohibited within the impoundment created by the Great Swamp dike, except with official written permission. Official written permission is not required from July 15<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup>. All motors are prohibited at all times.

6.2 Boats are prohibited on the following ponds:

Round Top Pond, Burrillville  
Little Round Top Pond, Burrillville  
Peck Pond, Burrillville  
Gristmill Pond, Gloucester  
A.L. Mowry Pond, Smithfield  
Deep Pond, Arcadia, (off of Blitzkrieg Trail) Exeter  
Frosty Hollow Pond, Exeter  
Carolina Trout Pond, Richmond  
Lower Roaring Brook Pond

6.3 The launching, hauling, and operation of boats with motors of any kind are prohibited from state-owned and/or operated ramps on the following ponds:

Upper Roaring Brook Ponds, Exeter  
Asa Pond, South Kingstown  
Alton Pond, Hopkinton

6.4 The launching, hauling, and operation of boats with motors of any kind, except electric trolling motors, is prohibited from state-owned and/or operated ramps on the following bodies of water:

Spring Lake, Burrillville  
Union Pond, Burrillville  
Clarkville Pond, Gloucester  
Lake Washington, Gloucester  
Shippee Mill Pond, Foster  
Pawtuxet River (Hope), Scituate  
Carbuncle Pond, Coventry  
Silver Spring Lake, North Kingstown  
Barber's Pond, South Kingstown  
Blue Pond, Hopkinton  
Simmons Mill Pond, Little Compton  
Browning Mill Pond, Richmond

6.5 The use of motors in excess of ten (10) horsepower on boats launched, hauled, or operated from state-owned and/or operated ramps is prohibited on the following bodies of water:

Wilson Reservoir, Burrillville  
Keach Pond, Gloucester  
Smith and Sayles Reservoir (Sand Dam), Gloucester  
Bowdish Reservoir, Gloucester  
Woonasquatucket Reservoir (Stump Pond), Smithfield  
Indian Lake, South Kingstown  
Tucker Pond, South Kingstown  
Asheville Pond, Hopkinton  
Locustville Pond, Hopkinton  
Chapman's Pond, Westerly

- 6.6 No person shall use any motorboat with a motor in excess of ten (10) horsepower from state-owned and/or operated ramps on Stafford Pond, Tiverton and Wilson Reservoir, Burrillville, with the exception that the use of motors in excess of ten (10) horsepower on boats launched, hauled, or operated from state-owned and/or operated ramps on Stafford Pond, Tiverton, and Wilson Reservoir, Burrillville is permitted for organized fishing activities possessing a valid permit from RIDEM – Fish and Wildlife. As described in Section 1.16, *Freshwater and Anadromous Fishing Regulations*.
- 6.7 The use of motors in excess of ten (10) horsepower on boats launched, hauled, or operated from the state-owned ramp on Wakefield Pond in Burrillville is prohibited at all times. The use of any motor on a boat from this state-owned ramp, except electric trolling motors, is prohibited from June 20<sup>th</sup> to September 20<sup>th</sup> of any year, inclusive.
- 6.8 No person shall launch any motorboat in excess of ten (10) horsepower from state-owned and/or operated ramps on Pascoag Reservoir at the state-owned launching ramp on Schoolhouse Road, Gloucester with the exception that permitted organized fishing activities, i.e., tournaments shall be allowed to use motors in excess of ten (10) horsepower on the waters of Pascoag Reservoir at the state-owned launching ramp on Schoolhouse Road, Gloucester, between the Saturday before Memorial Day and Labor Day of each year, inclusive.
- 6.9 The operation of boats with motors of any kind, except electric trolling motors, are prohibited on the waters of Olney Pond in Lincoln woods State Park on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays between the Saturday before Memorial Day and Labor Day of each year, inclusive.
- 6.10 The operation of boats with motors of any kind except electric trolling motors, owned by persons other than the State of Rhode Island with motors in excess of ten (10) horsepower are prohibited upon Olney Pond except with official written permission from the Department of Environmental Management.

- 6.11 The use of motors in excess of ten (10) horsepower on boats launched, hauled, or operated on the waters of Breakheart Pond in Exeter and John L. Curran State Park is prohibited.
- 6.12 Only vehicles launching or landing a boat will be permitted to park in designated boat trailer areas.
- 6.13 The mooring of boats, the parking of vehicles or engaging in any other activity on land or water so as to obstruct the use of a boat-launching ramp by others is prohibited.
- 6.14 Boats shall be launched only at designated areas.
- 6.15 Boats shall be tied up at state boat ramps for no longer than 30 minutes.
- 6.16 Gated access to the boat ramp located within the George Washington Management Area Campground (Bowdish Reservoir) is limited daily between 7:30 AM and 10:00 PM from Memorial Day to October 31<sup>st</sup>. Persons using the reservoir or boat ramp prior to 10:00 PM for authorized uses may exit the area unrestricted by gate access times.

## **Section 7 – Camping for All Camping Areas**

(See Section 8 for Specific Areas)

- 7.1 The washing of clothes, cooking utensils and actions relating to one's personal hygiene shall be limited to a designated campsite or to facilities provided for that purpose.
- 7.2 Camping is allowed only in designated areas with official written permission from individual park facility.
- 7.3 The person, to whom a camping permit is granted, shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older, shall be an occupant of the campsite, shall state the first and last names of members of the party, and shall be responsible for his or her party's compliance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Environmental Management and all other applicable laws. Only those members listed shall use the campsites. Only one family (immediate family) is allowed per campsite. Non-family groups shall be limited to six (6) persons per campsite. Any person or persons voided on a camping permit are not allowed to reenter any camping area for the duration of the camping season.
- 7.4 All campers shall check in with the caretaker at the beginning of the camping period and shall surrender their camping permit to the caretaker at the end of the camping period, where applicable.
- 7.5 No pets are allowed in camping areas, unless with written permission, or as may be allowed in accordance with the provisions of current State Law.
- 7.6 All visitors shall be out of the campsites by 10:00 PM each night. Campers shall be quiet between the hours of 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM.
- 7.7 All campground permit holders must be eighteen (18) years of age or older. No person shall occupy a campground for more than a continuous two (2) week period, with a seven-day minimum break prior to any re-occupancy. Permit renewals are limited to three within the two-week maximum period and must be obtained prior to 8:30 AM on the date of permit expiration. Charlestown Breachway, Ninigret Conservation Area are excepted from this rule.
- 7.8 Each campsite must be occupied on the first night of the permit and must be occupied at least four (4) nights during each week of the camping period. Noncompliance with the above is grounds for immediate revocation of the permit.
- 7.9 Public nudity is prohibited. No person shall disrobe other than in tents, campers or other properly designated structures.

## **Section 8 – Camping for Specific Areas**

### **8.1 Camping for Specific Management Areas**

- 8.1.1 Reservations for backpack areas and shelters will be accepted prior to stay. Payment for shelter reservations must be received within fourteen (14) working days of the date reservation is made and before the date of use. All permits must be picked up in person from Arcadia Forestry Headquarters.
- 8.1.2 Camping permits run from 3:00 PM on date of permit to 2:00 PM at end of camping period, except for the George Washington camp ground where camping permits run from 2:00 PM on the date of issue to 11:00 AM at the end of the camping period.
- 8.1.3 No person may occupy a backpack area or shelter for more than a continuous three (3) day period with a seven (7) day minimum break prior to any re-occupancy.
- 8.1.4 No person may occupy Escoheag 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. Use of this area is limited to campers with horses.
- 8.1.5 No person may occupy canoe campsites for more than one (1) night, with a minimum break of seven (7) days prior to any re-occupancy, unless with official written permission from Arcadia Forestry Headquarters.
- 8.1.6 In the Arcadia and George Washington Campgrounds, no more than two (2) cars shall be parked at each campsite. Vehicles are prohibited in backpack areas, unless with official written permission from respective Forestry Headquarters.
- 8.1.7 Visitors are prohibited from backpack areas and shelters, unless with official written permission from respective Forestry Headquarters.
- 8.1.8 Campsites must be occupied each night of the camping period in backpack and shelter areas and Escoheag Horsemen’s Area.
- 8.1.9 No more than two (2) tents per site shall be allowed in Arcadia designated camping areas, unless with official written permission from respective Forestry Headquarters.

### **8.2 Camping for specific Parks properties**

- 8.2.1 No more than two motor vehicles shall be parked at each campsite.

- 8.2.2 Camping permits shall be issued at the parks on a "first-come, first-served" basis or by contacting our current campground reservation system provider. Campers shall be ready to set up camp on date of issuance. Permits shall not be issued by phone at the campground.
- 8.2.3 Camping permits shall run from 1:00 PM on the date of permit to 11:00 AM at the end of the camping period as indicated on the permit.
- 8.2.4 Reservations shall be accepted for state campgrounds through the authorized campground reservation system provider.

## **Section 9 – Dunes**

- 9.1 Walking or crossing over the dunes is permitted only in designated areas.

## **Section 10 – Fees**

- 10.1 “User Fees at State Beaches, Parks, and Recreational Areas” as submitted to the Secretary of State May 11, 2012, and amended, shall remain in effect and are incorporated herein by reference.
- 10.2 For persons with disabilities. – No fee shall be charged to any person with a disability in accordance with the provisions of current State Law, RIGL §§ 32-1-17. For purpose of this section fees shall include all fees for parking, admittance, or other user-fees for playing golf. The term fees shall not include licensing fees; camping fees, picnic table fees or specialized facility use fees, including but not limited to, fees for the use of equestrian areas, performing arts centers, game fields, and mule shed.

## **Section 11 – Firearms and Archery Equipment**

- 11.1 Possession of a firearm or bow and arrow is prohibited in the state parks unless otherwise authorized in these Regulations, see sections 11.1, 16.13 or with a special use permit issued by the director or designee. In addition to above, blank guns are permitted for the purpose of dog training in designated areas from January 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 11.2 Target shooting is prohibited except in designated areas by and in accordance with official written permission from Fish and Wildlife Field Headquarters.
- 11.3 Possession of a loaded firearm, or firearm with magazine from which all shells or cartridges have not been removed, in or on any vehicle or conveyance while in or upon any part of a public reservation is prohibited.
- 11.4 No person shall hunt or trap or carry firearms within a public reservation unless in possession of a valid hunting or trapping license and other official written permission as required. (See Section 16, Hunting Regulations and current Abstract of Wildlife Laws.)
- 11.5 Hunting is prohibited within areas so designated by appropriate signage.
- 11.6 Hunting is prohibited except in designated areas.
- 11.7 No hunting is permitted within five hundred (500) feet of camping areas, picnic areas, ball fields, or occupied dwellings or structures, with the exception of archery hunting for deer with a safety zone of 200 feet.

## **Section 12 – Fires**

- 12.1 No person shall kindle an open fire, including charcoal fires, except in designated areas or with official written permission. From March 15th through May 15th, no open fires are allowed between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM without burning permit issued by local fire department.

## **Fireworks**

- 12.2 The possession or use of all classes of fireworks in any state park or management area is prohibited except in designated areas with official written permission. Permission may be given at the Director's discretion only as a part of a formal license agreement between the State of Rhode Island and the entity requesting permission. If granted, permission shall apply only to areas and times designated by the Director at his/her discretion and specified in the license. The Director may impose additional restrictions which he or she deems necessary.

### **Section 13 – Food, Beverage, Vending**

- 13.1 No person shall possess, drink, sell or offer for sale any alcoholic beverages except as follows:  
Permission may be requested from the Director of the Department of Environmental Management or his or her authorized representative to consume, serve, sell or offer for sale alcoholic beverages at events held at Fort Adams State Park, and at the Annual Oktoberfest Celebration held at World War II State Park. Requests shall be submitted in writing to the Director, or his/her authorized representative sixty (60) days in advance of the proposed date for the event. Permission may be given at the Director's discretion only as a part of a formal license agreement between the State of Rhode Island and the entity requesting permission. If granted, permission shall apply only to areas and times designated by the Director at his/her discretion and specified in the license. The Director may impose additional restrictions which he or she deems necessary.
- 13.2 No person shall offer for sale any goods or services without official written permission from the Director of the Department of Environmental Management or his/her authorized representative.

### **Section 14 – Groups, Meetings, Distribution of Printed Matter**

- 14.1 Persons may distribute or exhibit printed or written material, and/or hold public meetings only in accordance with an official written permit which shall regulate only the time, place and manner of such exhibit, distribution or meeting. Holders of a Special Use Permit (the “Permittees”) may offer leaflets or other documents to any person at the Management Area or Park and display such materials on tents or motor vehicles owned by the permittees. However, the permittees are prohibited from posting or otherwise attaching such materials to trees, as well as structures or motor vehicles located on the management area or park other than described above.
- 14.2 Organized groups utilizing public reservations under the jurisdiction of the Division of Parks and Recreation, scientific collectors and groups of ten (10) or more in other public reservations, must submit prior written request to and have official written permission for a Special Use Permit from the Director or his/her authorized representative. (See Section 23 for Large Event Permits for groups between 75 –150 people.)
- 14.3 Any group or organization bringing youths under the age of eighteen (18) into any State Park, Beach, Recreation, or Management Area must provide adequate adult supervision for these youths and their activities.

## **Section 15 – Hours of Operation**

- 15.1 All Management areas are closed from one-half (1/2) hour after sunset to one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise, except for fishing, hunting, launching and/or mooring of boats, snowmobiling on established trails in Arcadia and George Washington-Pulaski Section (see Section 20), or as provided by a written permit issued by the Director or his authorized representative, or as otherwise provided under regulations promulgated in Section 32-2-4. No person or vehicle shall be allowed within the limits of a state park or beach area between the hours of sunset and sunrise the following day except by official written permission or unless an area is designated otherwise by written regulation.

## **Section 16 – Hunting Regulations – Management Areas**

- 16.1 The possession of a valid Rhode Island hunting, or combination hunting and fishing license, shall serve as a permit to hunt State Management Areas, and Tidal Lands pursuant to Titles 20 and 18, and Sections §§20-18-2 and §§20-18-3 of the General Laws.
- 16.2 Permit as stated in 16.1 shall be valid only from the first day of dove season in September through the last day of February, except when check stations are in operation for upland game at the Great Swamp, Carolina, Durfee Hill, and Arcadia; for turkey hunting; when special permits are required for deer hunting; or for waterfowl hunting on state lands. (See current abstract for check station dates). Bow hunters and muzzleloading hunters hunting deer on state management areas do not need to check in or out.
- 16.3 The carrying of firearms on state management areas at any time is prohibited except as provided in Management Area Regulations. (See Section 11, Firearms) In management areas and designated undeveloped parks, the carrying of firearms and bows and arrows at any time, except during the open season for game birds and mammals, and while on shooting ranges, is prohibited. In addition to above, blank guns are permitted for the purpose of dog training in designated areas from January 1 to September 30.
- 16.4 Individuals must check in, and out, of state management hunter check stations each day they are open for upland season. Check station dates will be listed in the current Hunting and Trapping Season Abstract.
- 16.5 Dog training and all hunting, except for bow hunting for deer, and waterfowl hunting, as provided, is prohibited on state land during the five (5) day period prior to small game season, unless otherwise provided. (See Section 8)
- 16.6 From the period April 1<sup>st</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup>, annually, the following are prohibited except by special permit: trespassing, disturbing, or molesting of any species of nesting birds on Hope Island in the West Passage; East Island and West Island off Sakonnet Point or Gould Island in the East Passage. All cats, dogs, and other domestic animals are prohibited at all times upon these Islands, except that hunting dogs may be used during that period set aside by the Department for hunting of game birds and mammals on Hope Island only.
- 16.6.1 No person shall engage in any activity that interferes or interrupts lawful hunting on a management area.
- 16.7 Fluorescent Orange Requirement: Fluorescent orange safety clothing is required during the hunting season statewide for all hunters. To meet this requirement, safety clothing must be solid daylight fluorescent orange. Fluorescent camouflage does not meet this requirement. The hunter orange must be worn above the waist and be visible in all directions. Examples that meet the orange requirements are a

hat that covers 200 square inches or combination of hat and vest covering 500 square inches. The following orange requirements apply:

- 16.7.1 Two hundred (200) square inches by small game hunters during the Small game season.
- 16.7.2 Two hundred (200) square inches by fall turkey hunters while traveling.
- 16.7.3 Two hundred (200) square inches by muzzleloaders during muzzleloading season.
- 16.7.4 Two hundred (200) square inches by archers when traveling to/from stands during muzzleloading deer season.
- 16.7.5 Five hundred (500) square inches by all hunters and other users (including archers) during shotgun deer season.
- 16.7.6 Those hunters using Pop-up blinds during the firearms deer season must display 200 square inches of fluorescent orange visible on the outside of the blind from all directions. Hunters must also wear orange in accordance with the rules for the specific season while in the blind.

16.7.7 Exempt from fluorescent orange requirements are:

- Waterfowl hunters hunting from a boat or blind, over water or field, when done in conjunction with decoys.
  - Archery deer hunters (except during muzzleloader and shotgun deer season).
  - Hunters crow hunting over decoys.
  - First segment dove hunters.
  - Not required in areas limited to Archery only by regulation.
- 16.7.8 All other users of State Management areas and designated undeveloped state parks, including but not limited to: hikers, bikers and horseback riders, are required to wear two hundred (200) square inches of solid daylight fluorescent orange from the second Saturday in September to the last day of February, and the third Saturday in April to the last day in May annually.

- 16.8 A hunting license is required when training dogs on wild game on state management areas, except when participating in state-sanctioned field trials.
- 16.9 Complete dressing of game birds and mammals on state property is prohibited. Field dressing (removal of entrails only) is permitted. Head, skin, feathers, wings, tails, etc., shall remain attached to the carcass.
- 16.10 Dogs on State Management Areas allowed only under the following rules:
- No dogs are allowed to be trained, run, or exercised or be permitted to run at large on state management areas from March 15<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>, inclusive, without written permission of the Stateland Management Council, except as otherwise provided in these regulations.
- 16.11 Dog Training Areas -- Dog training areas shall be allowed on designated areas only, between January 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>. During this period, dogs may run freely provided they are under the command of the trainer by voice, training collar, or check cord.
- 16.11.1 Areas designated for training dogs are: the Black Farm Management Area; the Nicholas Farm Management Area north of the Trestle Trail; and the Arcadia Midway Trail Area confined to the developed field complex east of Brook Trail, south of Austin Farm Road and west of the established field edges comprising the Midway fields area. Field trial areas are as depicted on maps drawn by the Division of Fish and Wildlife.
- 16.11.2 Training hours shall be sunrise to sunset.
- 16.11.3 All persons using areas for training shall possess a hunting license.
- 16.11.4 All dogs using areas shall be licensed and have proof of rabies vaccinations.
- 16.11.5 Training with live birds (pheasants/quail) is permitted provided the bird is released unharmed and all necessary permits are obtained.
- 16.11.6 Shooting of live birds for training purposes is prohibited.
- 16.11.7 Sanctioned field trial events may be held at the following locations by requesting a special use permit application from the Stateland Management Councils: Arcadia, Carolina, Durfee Hill Marsh, and Burlingame (Durfee) Pond, and Nicholas Farm.

16.12 JOHN L. CURRAN STATE PARK/MANAGEMENT AREA

16.12.1 All hunting shall be within the inner boundaries of the buffer zones marked as posted by the Department.

16.12.2 Only shotguns and bow & arrows may be possessed or used while hunting.

16.12.3 The hunting of and/or possession of Mourning Dove or Wild Pigeons (Rock Dove) is prohibited.

16.13 NINIGRET CONSERVATION AREA / EAST BEACH

16.13.1 Designated as an undeveloped State Park and is open for small game and Archery Deer Hunting only.

16.14 Permits for trapping all management areas may be obtained from the Division of Fish & Wildlife at the Great Swamp Field Headquarters.

16.15 SIMMONS MILL POND MANAGEMENT AREA –Deer hunting using archery, muzzleloader and shotgun is permitted while hunting within the Simmons Mill Pond Management in Little Compton. Sunday hunting will be allowed. (See Section 11, Firearms)

**Section 17 – Miscellaneous Regulations**

17.1 The playing of golf or the driving of golf balls is permitted only in designated areas at designated time.

17.2 Bicycles, mountain bikes, and horses shall only be used on designated trails and roads for said use.

17.3 Horses, bicycles or motorcycles are prohibited in streams, rivers or bodies of water except at designated crossings (trails and roads.) Exceptions are granted to hikers, fishermen, boaters, hunters and swimmers using official designated areas in an appropriate manner.

17.4 Closure of Management Areas and/or roads and trails may occur if environmental conditions warrant.

17.5 Washing of vehicles, bicycles, or animals is prohibited in any natural body of water.

17.6 The feeding of all wildlife, migratory waterfowl, or any feral animal is prohibited within any State Park, Beach, or Management Area.

- 17.7 There shall be no traveling by vehicles in streams, rivers or bodies of water except to cross at designated crossings (trails, roads).
- 17.8 Wildlife Food patches can only be used by hikers, hunters, and for running of dogs. The use of food patches is prohibited between June 1<sup>st</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>, except for the running of dogs in designated areas.
- 17.9 Rock climbing is permitted at state parks, and management areas except at Fort Wetherill State Park, Jamestown. However, in State Park Areas individuals participating in rock climbing activities must sign a release and waiver of liability (a copy of which is attached hereto and designated as Appendix # 1) prior to commencement of rock climbing activity. For organized group of any size, a group must submit a Special Use Application to the Chief of the Division of Parks and Recreation and obtain prior written approval of said Application. In addition, each member of the group of participants must sign Appendix #1 prior to commencement of any rock climbing activities in the State Parks. If the organized group is being sponsored by a commercial entity, the sponsor must provide evidence of the issuance of liability insurance in the amount of at least One Million (\$1,000,000.00) Dollars naming the State of Rhode Island as an additional insured at the time of the submittal of its Special Use Application.
- 17.10 All users of State Management Areas must wear at least 200 square inches of solid daylight fluorescent orange material such as a hat or vest, visible from all directions, from the second 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in September to the last day of February. Exceptions include boat launching sites, raccoon hunters at night, archers in tree stands, or waterfowl hunters as provided.

## **Section 18 – Mooring**

- 18.1 No person shall moor, dock or berth a vessel, boat, or any other object overnight except in designated mooring, docking, or berthing areas.
- 18.2 The Regional Manager may, by posting of an order, specify time limits for the mooring, docking, or berthing of a vessel, boat or any other object at mooring, docking, or berthing facilities. No person shall moor, dock, or berth a vessel, boat or any other object in violation of time limits so established. (See also Section 25, Swimming and Bathing)

## **Section 19 – Motorcycle use in Arcadia Management Area**

- 19.1 Motorcycle use is only allowed within designated areas of Arcadia Management Area subject to conditions 20.2 through 20.6 listed below. Town and state roads within the Arcadia Management Area which are not part of the designated route may be used at any time provided all local and state motor vehicle regulations are adhered to. The designated trail for motorcycle use is subject to change or

correction by the Department of Environmental Management if conditions warrant. The designated trail (18.9 miles total loop) for motorcycle use shall consist of gravel roads and fire trails as delineated on the Arcadia Trail Map and described as follows: Arcadia Road; Austin Farm Road; Brook Trail; Barber Road; Blitzkrieg Trail; Bliven Trail; Frosty Hollow Road; Mt. Tom Road; Summit Road; Old Ten Rod Road (White Church Trail).

- 19.2 Only street-legal registered motorcycles operated by riders who hold a valid motorcycle operator's license may use the area. Riders must also maintain liability insurance according to Rhode Island State law.
- 19.3 No riding shall be allowed behind any gated gravel or fire trail unless said roads are designated for motorcycle use. Motorcycles are not allowed on hiking trails and single-track trails.
- 19.4 No new motorcycle trails shall be cut or created within the Arcadia Management Area.
- 19.5 Trails may be periodically closed by DEM for use by motorcycles when habitat or natural resource protection issues, weather, or road conditions warrant. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, high/extreme fire danger or seasonal muddy conditions. There shall be no motorcycle riding beyond gated portions of the loop during March, April, and before 1300 hours during May.
- 19.6 Speed limit on the trail designated for motorcycle use shall be 25 mph or as posted.
- 19.7 Use of "Trials" motorcycles in the Arcadia Management Area is covered under a separate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Rhode Island Trials Club and DEM. The MOU designates the portion of Arcadia where Trials riding can occur and the time of year that use is permitted. The use of the management area by RITC and the MOU will be evaluated by DEM on an annual basis to determine if changes are necessary in order to protect the natural resources of the Arcadia Area.

## **Section 20 – Motor Vehicles**

- 20.1 The traffic laws of the State of Rhode Island are fully applicable unless these regulations provide otherwise.
- 20.2 All motor vehicles must be legally street registered and operated by a licensed driver.
- 20.3 Motor vehicles shall be operated only in designated areas, no motor vehicles are allowed off roads or trails where prohibited, except with official written permission. All electrically propelled devices, except those used to assist handicap or disabled persons are prohibited on state property unless prior permission has been obtained from the park manager.
- 20.4 No person shall park a vehicle so as to block any road or trail or to prevent access to others, nor shall they block another vehicle in a designated parking area, nor shall any vehicle be parked in any area, where prohibited.
- 20.5 The speed limit is 25 miles per hour unless otherwise posted.
- 20.6 The operator of a motor vehicle shall grant the right-of-way to all pedestrians, persons on horseback and who are using or crossing roads, trails or highways.
- 20.7 Airborne conveyances such as balloons, gliders, engine-powered airplanes and ultra-lights shall not be operated without official written permission from Individual Park Facility Manager.
- 20.8 Off-highway recreational vehicles shall be street legally registered and used in accordance with law. Their use shall be limited to designated areas or trails at designated times.
- 20.9 No person shall wash, polish, clean, change oil, or repair any motor vehicle or motorcycle in a public reservation.
- 20.10 Snowmobile Operation –General Snowmobiles shall be allowed at designated areas and at times designated for those areas.
  - 20.10.1 Snowmobiles must operate within the posted speed limit for that area.
  - 20.10.2 Operators shall grant the right-of-way to all pedestrian, horses and vehicular traffic when operating and crossing roads or trails.
  - 20.10.3 Snowmobiles shall not operate in a manner intended to or reasonably be expected to harass, drive or pursue any wildlife.

- 20.10.4 In addition to firearm restrictions in RIGL §§ 31-3.2, carrying of bows and arrows-all arrows shall not be nocked and shall be secured to the bow or in a quiver or other container.
- 20.11 Snowmobile Operation-Management Area
  - 20.11.1 Hours of operation are one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to 11:00 PM in Arcadia and George Washington, only. During the period one-half (1/2) hour after sunset to 11:00 PM, the buddy system must be used.
  - 20.11.2 Hours of operation are one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset in Burlingame Management Area, Wickaboxet, and Woody Hill, only.
  - 20.11.3 During the established shotgun deer season, snowmobiling is not permitted in management areas.
  - 20.11.4 Snowmobiles Operation-Parks
  - 20.11.5 Hours of operation are sunrise to sunset in Burlingame, Colt, Lincoln Woods and Snake Den. (See Section 31-3.2, Snowmobiles.)
- 20.12 The vehicle patterns as established by the filing on May 5, 1972 Regulations of the Department of Natural Resources for Colt State Park, which became effective on June 1, 1972 shall remain in force and are incorporated herein by reference.
- 20.13 The Les Pawson Loop shall have a one-way counter-clockwise traffic pattern with two exceptions. When the gates across the road are closed, traffic shall be two-way. That section of road, which lies between Twin River Road and the North Parking Lot area, shall be two-way.
- 20.14 Commercial vehicles in excess of two and one-half (2-1/2) tons gross weight are prohibited on the highway running through Veterans Memorial Parkway in East Providence, Dean Parkway in Cranston, and Narragansett Parkway in Warwick, except by official written permission.

## **Section 21 – Picnicking and Playing Field Permits**

- 21.1 No person shall use a picnic table at Goddard Memorial State Park, Burlingame Picnic Area, or Lincoln Woods State Park without first obtaining a permit.
- 21.2 When conflicts arise in permit applications for playing field league use, the following priorities shall apply:
  - 21.2.1 Every consideration shall be given by the Division of Parks and Recreation to provide opportunities, consistent with public safety, for such

conflicting recreational uses by time or space zoning or by other controls and devices.

21.2.2 Prior playing field league users will receive first consideration for traditional times and areas.

21.2.3 Children's playing leagues will receive priority over adult leagues and use shall be established pursuant to items 1 and 2 stated above.

21.3 Users of the pavilion and/or ball field at Browning Mill Pond must obtain a permit prior to use from the Arcadia Headquarters, 260 Arcadia Road, Hope Valley, RI 02832, (401) 539-2356.

## **Section 22 – Refunds**

22.1 No refunds are allowed unless authorized by the director or designee.

## **Section 23 – Special Events**

23.1 Arcadia and George Washington Management Areas

23.1.1 Special Event permits are required for any group of 75 participants or more and shall not exceed a total of 150 participants.

23.1.2 Permits will be issued during the period of July 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup> ONLY.

23.1.3 Exemptions from the limitation on the maximum participants and/or time of year restrictions may be granted by the DEM for educational workshops, use of picnic/beach areas, and use of DEM boat launching ramps for fishing tournaments.

23.1.4 The Arcadia and George Washington Management Areas will be granted two (2) special event permits each during the period designated in 23.1.2. These permits will be granted for these Management Areas ONLY.

23.1.5 Applications to hold a special event must be submitted to Stateland Management Council for review and approval. Applications must be submitted from January 1<sup>st</sup> to the last day of February of the year that the event will take place. Applications will be reviewed by DEM to determine if they meet the requirements specified by this policy. If necessary, permit applications will be selected by a lottery drawing that will be held on the first Monday in March at 1200 hours (noon). In the event that all the allotted special event permits are not filled by the first Monday in August,

remaining permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis. No more than two special event permits will be issued per year per individual recreation use type to allow fair access to other user groups.

- 23.1.6 DEM, at its sole discretion, will determine the suitability of a proposed event at the management area requested and may refuse permission if the event threatens the integrity of the management area's natural resources, including but not limited to soil, water, fish, wildlife, and forest and DEM's responsibility to provide for availability to the public for multiple use of the area.
- 23.1.7 DEM at its sole discretion can impose restrictions or refuse to permit an event during periods of high or extreme fire danger or where environmental, public health, and/or safety concerns so dictate.
- 23.1.8 Special event sponsors shall be responsible for the following in running an event:
  - 23.1.8.1 Paying for adequate DEM law enforcement personnel during events.
  - 23.1.8.2 Notifying and obtaining written permission for said use from all local towns/cities affected by the event. Written permission must be submitted before the permit will be issued.
  - 23.1.8.3 Notifying state and local police, fire, and rescue of the event.
  - 23.1.8.4 All event sponsors shall provide a liability insurance policy of \$1,000,000 and must sign an indemnification of the state and all its employees. Event sponsors shall be required to post a bond payable to DEM in an amount DEM determines to be necessary and appropriate to reimburse DEM for any damages incurred as a result of the event and which has not been repaired by the event sponsors within seven (7) days of the closing of the event. The event sponsors shall also be required to execute an agreement in which the sponsors agree to be personally liable, both jointly and severally, for any damage as determined by DEM to have resulted from the permitted event over and above amount of the bond.
  - 23.1.8.5 All participants must sign a liability waiver and release for the State.
  - 23.1.8.6 Event sponsors shall be responsible for repairing any damage to the management area caused by the event in the time designated in the permit.

23.1.8.7 Event sponsors are responsible for removing all signs, markers, and trash from the management area caused by the event within one week of its conclusion.

23.1.8.8 Event sponsors shall provide to DEM an estimation of the number of spectators that can be expected for an event.

23.1.8.9 DEM reserves the right to include additional special conditions on any permitted event if conditions so warrant.

23.1.8.10 These regulations do not apply to the use of areas under the jurisdiction of the DEM's Division of Parks and Recreation.

## **Section 24 – State Park Policies**

24.1 Specific written policies relating to individual park units may be promulgated by Regional Park Managers with the prior approval of the Chief of the Division of Parks and Recreation. Such written policies shall be kept on file at the Division of Parks and Recreation Headquarters.

## **Section 25 – Swimming, Bathing, Floating**

25.1 No person shall bathe or swim except in areas specifically designated for such purposes and only during posted or permitted times.

25.2 The use of flotation equipment and other objects including fishing float tubes capable of supporting a person while the person is in the water, is prohibited in the following areas:

25.2.1 All designated bathing areas, except that a Coast Guard Approved Personnel Flotation Devices (PFDs) may be utilized in designated swim areas by individuals with disabilities under the supervision of an adult and approval of a Beach Manager or Lifeguard Supervisor.

25.2.2 Carolina Trout Pond, Richmond

25.2.3 Frosty Hollow Pond, Exeter

25.2.4 Little Round Top Pond, Burrillville

25.2.5 A.L. Mowry Pond, Smithfield

## **Section 26 – Target Range Regulations**

### **26.1 GUN HANDLING REQUIREMENTS – While using the target range, all users shall:**

- 26.1.1 **TREAT ALL FIREARMS AS IF LOADED.** Keep the muzzle of the firearm pointed in a safe direction at all times. Keep firearms pointed down range while on the firing line.
- 26.1.2 Keep his/her finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- 26.1.3 Keep the action open and the firearm unloaded until ready to shoot. For range purposes, muzzleloading firearms are considered unloaded when free of powder, projectile, and primer.
- 26.1.4 Know his/her target and what is beyond.
- 26.1.5 Know how to safely operate his/her firearm.
- 26.1.6 Use only the correct ammunition for his/her firearm.
- 26.1.7 Not handle firearms or stand at the firing line where firearms are present while others are down range or during any “cease fire” period.
- 26.1.8 In the event a “cease fire” command is called by any individual on the range, immediately bench all firearms, and move to the area behind the yellow line known as the “ready line”.
- 26.1.9 In case of misfire or hang fire, point his/her firearm down range until it can be safely cleared.
- 26.1.10 Perform aimed fire only. No uncontrolled rapid fire, shooting from the hip, “combat style” shooting, or drawing from a holster.
- 26.1.11 Never use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting.
- 26.1.12 Transport firearms to and from the parking lot unloaded and cased. Holstered firearms are not permitted. Upon entering the firing line, firearms must be uncased at the shooting bench with the muzzle pointed down range.
- 26.1.13 Control his/her firearms and ammunition to prevent access by unauthorized persons.

**26.2 GENERAL RANGE REGULATIONS – At all times, while present on the target range, all individuals shall observe the following:**

- 26.2.1 No cell phones or electronic devices not related to shooting are allowed on the firing line.
- 26.2.2 Dress properly. No flip-flops, sandals or open toed shoes. No sleeveless shirts, tank tops, bikini tops, low cut blouses or shirtless.
- 26.2.3 Know and obey all range regulations and commands.
- 26.2.4 Know where others are at all times and be aware of his/her surroundings.
- 26.2.5 No smoking on, or within twenty (20) feet of the firing line.
- 26.2.6 Climbing on berms and backstop is prohibited.
- 26.2.7 Mining of lead from berms and backstop is prohibited.
- 26.2.8 Firing at targets on the ground, or placing targets on the berms or backstop is prohibited.
- 26.2.9 Firing at objects other than prescribed targets is prohibited.
- 26.2.10 No incendiary (tracer type) ammunition is allowed.
- 26.2.11 Guests are not allowed on the firing line.
- 26.2.12 Please limit range time to one (1) hour when others are waiting to shoot.
- 26.2.13 The Wildlife Management Area requirement of solid daylight fluorescent orange is not required of Rifle/Pistol Range users.

**26.3 REGULATIONS FOR RIFLE / PISTOL RANGE**

- 26.3.1 The discharge of any firearm other than a handgun, shotgun, rimfire rifle, muzzleloading rifle, or airgun is prohibited on the rifle/pistol range.
- 26.3.2 The use of shot ammunition on the pistol/rifle range is limited to patterning for seasonal hunting. Appropriate shot and patterning targets required.
- 26.3.3 No firing from positions forward of the designated firing line.
- 26.3.4 No firing from positions other than a designated shooting lane.

26.3.5 Use only the provided target stand designated for your shooting lane. No cross firing to other shooting lanes.

26.3.6 Use paper targets only no larger than 15" x 20". All other targets are prohibited. Human silhouette targets and targets depicting people are not allowed.

#### 26.4 **REGULATIONS FOR CLAY TARGET RANGE**

26.4.1 The discharge of any firearm other than a shotgun is prohibited on the clay target range.

26.4.2 Ammunition is limited to maximum shot size of # 7-1/2 lead, or equivalent size non-toxic shot. No larger shot size or slugs are permitted on the shotgun range.

26.4.3 Clay pigeons are the only allowable target on the shotgun range.

26.4.4 Shoot from designated shooting stations only.

26.4.5 Guns are to be unloaded, actions open, when not standing in a designated shooting station.

26.4.6 Load no more than two (2) shells at a time.

26.4.7 Only two (2) shooters may simultaneously utilize the shotgun range.

26.4.8 At no time shall shots be fired, or clay targets launched toward the parking area or rifle range.

#### 26.5 **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

26.5.1 All users must obtain a range permit prior to using the target range. Range permit may be issued by mail ONLY. The RI Division of Fish & Wildlife reserves the right to limit the number of permits issued and are non-transferable.

26.5.2 To apply for a range permit through the mail, all applicants eighteen (18) years of age or older must:

26.5.2.1 Obtain an application from the RI Division of Fish & Wildlife, Great Swamp Field Headquarters, 277 Great Neck Rd., West Kingston, RI 02892 or the Fish and Wildlife Education Office at 1B Camp E-Hun-Tee Place, Exeter, RI 02822 or at [www.dem.ri.gov](http://www.dem.ri.gov).

- 26.5.2.2 Complete the application form and have his/her signature notarized.
- 26.5.2.3 Attach a copy of your driver's license or other government issued picture ID along with one of the following certifications:
- a. State issued Hunter Education Card
  - b. Valid, state issued, firearms hunting license
  - c. DEM Pistol/Revolver Certification Card (Blue Card)
  - d. Valid, RI Department of Attorney General Pistol Permit
  - e. Active Military I.D.
  - f. Equivalent Certification as determined by the RI Division of Fish and Wildlife.
- 26.5.2.4 Mail the completed application package along with a LEGAL SIZE, self-addressed stamped envelope to: Range Permit, RI Division of Fish and Wildlife, 1B Camp E-Hun-Tee Place, Exeter, RI 02822.
- 26.5.2.5. When this material is received, applicants will be notified that they are eligible to attend a range safety briefing. A range pass will be issued at the conclusion of the range safety briefing. Applications for minors (under 18 years of age) must include the notarized signature and a copy of the driver's license or other government issued picture ID of a parent or legal guardian. Minors are exempt from requirement three (3) of the application process. Illegible, incomplete, or incorrect permit applications will not be processed.
- 26.5.2.6 For renewal of permits issued in 2010 or later, please complete the Target Range Permit Application and check the RENEWAL box at the top right and attach your previous permit. It is not necessary to attach your certification or have your signature notarized unless you are moving from a "minor" to an "adult" permit in which case you must apply as a new user. Users who renew must attend a safety briefing to be updated on any changes in regulations or policy.
- 26.5.3 All minors (under 18) must be accompanied by a "qualified adult" when using the range. A "qualified adult" is any person twenty-one (21) years of age or older who is permitted by law to possess and use a firearm. The "qualified adult" must also possess a valid range permit and is directly responsible for the actions of minors under their supervision. The "qualified adult" must assure by direct supervision that minors follow all mandated safety procedures. The "qualified adult" shall supervise only one (1) minor at a time.

- 26.5.4 All individuals must wear their Range Permit so it is visible to other users and to supervisory personnel. The Range Permit must be presented, upon request, to any authorized person.
- 26.5.5 Persons so designated by the RI Division of Fish & Wildlife are authorized to carry out the Rules and Regulations with regard to range users.
- 26.5.6 Hours of operation will vary by season and environmental conditions and availability of staff. The Division of Fish & Wildlife reserves the right to alter hours and days of operation as conditions warrant.~~3.~~
- 26.5.7 The primary use of the range is for Hunter Education training. Secondary use is for public practice. Range may be closed without notice for special training, maintenance, safety, or weather conditions.
- 26.5.8 Pets must be leashed and strictly controlled at all times. No pets are allowed on the firing line. At no time should pets be allowed to interfere with the range operation.
- 26.5.9 Parking is allowed in designated parking area only.
- 26.5.10 Individuals are responsible to dispose of all trash generated, including shell casings, prior to leaving the range.
- 26.5.11 **ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK OF INJURY AND INDEMNIFICATION**  
In exchange for a person's use of the target range facility or issuance of a range permit for such use or the issuance of a range permit to a minor at the person's request, said person agrees that he/she shall at all times assume full liability for any injuries which he/she or the subject minor may suffer while at or near the target range facility. In addition, said person shall hold the state and its agents harmless from any and all claims or damage suits arising from the person's or the subject minor's actions at or near the target range facility either by way of omission or commission.

## 26.6 ADMINISTRATIVE SUSPENSION/REVOCAION OF PERMIT

- 26.6.1 Any person who is found, pursuant to the authority of RIGL §§42-17.1-2, to have committed a violation of any of the obligations set out in Section 26, shall have his or her range permit suspended for a period of thirty (30) days.
- 26.6.2 Any person who is found, pursuant to the authority of RIGL §§42-17.1-2, to have committed a violation of any of the obligations set out in this Section 26 within three (3) years of the violation which gave rise to the suspension of his or her range permit pursuant to Part 26.6.1 shall have his or her range permit suspended for a period of sixty (60) days.
- 26.6.3 Any person who is found, pursuant to the authority of RIGL §§42-17.1-2, to have committed a violation of any of the obligations set out in this section within three (3) years of the violation, which gave rise to the suspension of his or her range permit pursuant to Part 26.6.2 shall have his or her range permit suspended for a period of one (1) year.
- 26.6.4 Any person who is found, pursuant to the authority of RIGL §§42-17.1-2, to have committed a violation of any obligations set out in this Section 26 within three (3) years of the violation, which gave rise to the suspension of his or her range permit pursuant to Part 26.6.3 shall be permanently ineligible for the issuance of a range permit.
- 26.6.5 Any person aggrieved by a final decision pursuant to Section 26, may appeal the decision in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, RIGL §§42-35 and the Administrative Adjudication for Environmental Matters Act, RIGL §§42-17.7.

## 26.7 ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES

- 26.7.1 Any person who is found, pursuant to the authority of RIGL §§42-17.1-2, to have used or to have attempted to use the target range prior to having been issued a range permit or during a period when the range is closed shall be assessed an administrative penalty in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- 26.7.2 Any person who is found, pursuant to the authority of RIGL §§42-17.1-2, to have used or to have attempted to use the target range during the period of a suspension/revocation of his or her range permit pursuant to Part 26.6 shall be assessed an administrative penalty in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).
- 26.7.3 Any person aggrieved by a final decision pursuant to Section 26, may appeal the decision in accordance with the provisions of the

Administrative Procedures Act, RIGL §§42-35 and the Administrative Adjudication for Environmental Matters Act, RIGL §§42-17.7.

## **Section 27 – Trash and Litter**

- 27.1 No person shall bring into any public reservation any trash, ashes, garbage or any other material for the purpose of disposal.
- 27.2 All trash and waste material shall be deposited in receptacles provided for that purpose and shall not be left on the grounds or waters.
- 27.3 In areas designated as Carry In/Carry Out, all trash must be carried out of the area for proper disposal.

## **Section 28 – Trees, Shrubs, Buildings**

- 28.1 No person shall cut, remove or damage any tree, stone walls, natural element or feature, including but not limited to fossils and minerals, shrub or vegetation except with official written permission, nor shall any person deface or alter any structure, sign, or other public property or improvements.

## **Section 29 – Area Specific Regulations**

- 29.1 Bay Islands
  - 29.1.1 Camping in the Bay Islands is prohibited.
  - 29.1.2 From the period April 1<sup>st</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup> annually, there shall be no trespassing, disturbing, or molesting of any species of nesting birds on Hope Island in the West Passage; East Island and West Island off Sakonnet Point, or Gould Island in the East Passage, except by special permit official written permission from an authorized Representative of the Department of Environmental Management. All cats, dogs and other domestic animals are prohibited at all times upon these islands, except for hunting dogs that may be used during the period set aside by the Department for hunting of game birds and mammals *on* Hope Island only.
- 29.2 Beavertail State Park
  - 29.2.1 The Rules and Regulations for the Development and Operation of Beavertail State Park, Jamestown, Rhode Island, which were received by the Office of the Secretary of State on August 15,

1980, shall remain in force and are incorporated herein by reference.

### 29.3 Charlestown Breachway

29.3.1 Camping permits shall be issued at the Charlestown Breachway on a "first-come, first-serve" basis. Camping is limited to fully self-contained vehicles. The permits shall run from 1:00 PM on date of issuance to 11:00 AM at end of camping period.

29.3.2 No canvas top camping units shall be allowed in the day use areas or camping areas.

29.3.3 No camping shall be allowed in the Day Use Lot.

29.3.4 At Charlestown Breachway the maximum period of permit is seven days. There shall be a four-day minimum break prior to any re-occupancy.

29.3.5 All visitors to the camping area will pay the daily parking rate and park in the day use parking lot.

29.3.6 Only one additional non-towed vehicle is allowed to be parked in the camping area per site. Vehicle pass is required.

### 29.4 Campground Reservations

29.4.1 Reservations shall be accepted for State camping areas in accordance with the procedures and policies established by the Department, and amended as necessary, for the proper administration of a campground reservation system and with a State authorized campground reservation system provider.

### 29.5 Salty Brine State Beach

29.5.1 The parking lot at Salty Brine State Beach is for the use of State Beach Patrons only. All vehicles using the lot must fit within the designated parking spaces and cannot protrude or obstruct any traffic within the parking lot.

### 29.6 Ninigret Conservation Area / East Beach

29.6.1 No more than thirty (30) day use barrier beach vehicles, DEM inspected, are permitted beyond the beach parking lot at any one time.

- 29.6.2 Camping permits shall be issued at the Ninigret area on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Camping is limited to self-contained vehicles, properly DEM inspected and licensed. Only twenty (20) camping permits may be issued at any one time. The permits shall run from 1:00 PM on the date of issuance to 11:00 AM at the end of camping period.
- 29.6.3 At the end of a consecutive 72-hour period, self-contained units must leave the Ninigret area and empty holding tanks at designated dumping stations. This operation shall be verified by the clerk on duty at the dump station.
- 29.6.4 No person may occupy a campground for more than a continuous four (4) day period with a three (3) day minimum break prior to any re-occupancy.
- 29.6.5 Parking shall be allowed only in designated areas. All holes and ruts caused by immobilized vehicles shall be filled and the area left in good condition by the operator of the vehicle causing damage.
- 29.6.6 All persons and vehicles must vacate the designated beach parking area by sunset. Parking is prohibited in the beach parking area before sunrise.
- 29.6.7 Day use vehicles displaying a season pass or paying the daily beach fee will be allowed only in the beach parking area designated for this purpose, unless given official written permission to use the Back Track.

29.7 Purgatory Chasm

- 29.7.1 Parking is prohibited from sunset to sunrise the following day.
- 29.7.2 Parking in excess of thirty (30) minutes is prohibited.

29.8 Salter Grove

- 29.8.1 No person or vehicle shall be allowed within the limits of the State Park at Salter Grove, in the City of Warwick, between the hours of sunset and sunrise the following day except by official written permission by City of Warwick.

29.9 Meshanticut Grove

29.9.1 No person or vehicle shall be allowed within the limits of Meshanticut State Park, in the City of Cranston, between the hours of sunset and sunrise the following day except by official written permission.

**Section 30 – Penalties for Violation**

- 30.1 PENALTIES: Any person found to have violated any rule and/or regulation shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$100.00 for each violation, except Section 26, which is governed by 26.6 and 26.7.
- 30.2 All persons failing to pay or evade payment of any user or admission fee shall be subject to the penalty provision R.I.G.L. §§1956 (1982 Reenactment) 32.2.4 as amended.
- 30.3 No person shall refuse or neglect to obey the direction of an environmental police officer or forest ranger or any other authorized representative of the Department of Environmental Management.

## **Appendix 1 – Permits**

Many kinds of permits are required for a variety of activities on DEM properties and reservations. This appendix will serve to reference specific permits to their appropriate sections:

Airborne Conveyances Section 20  
Alcoholic Beverages Section 13  
Ball Fields Section 21  
Engine Propelled Models Section 3  
Camping Section 7 & 8  
Dog Training & Field Trials Section 16  
Horseback Riding Section 2  
Camp Fires Section 12  
Picnicking Section 21  
Pavilions Section 21  
Power Boats Section 6  
Reservations for Camping Permits Section 7 & 8  
Range Section 27  
Organized Events Section 24  
Sale of Food Section 13  
Salters Grove Section 30  
Special Use Permits Section 24  
Large Events Section 24  
Scientific Collectors Section 4  
Target Range Section 27  
Rock Climbing Section 17  
Releasing Game Birds Section 16\*  
Burlingame North Camp Section 16\*  
Great Swamp Waterfowl Impoundment Section 16  
Northwest Cooperative Section 16\*  
Prudence Archery Deer Section 16\*  
South Shore Management Area Goose Fields Section 16\*  
\*See Current Hunting Abstracts

**WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY  
RISK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
COVENANT NOT TO SUE**

This Waiver and Release of Liability, Risk Acknowledgement, and Covenant Not to Sue (the "Waiver and Release") is executed by the undersigned (the "Individual") on the date indicated below in favor of the State of Rhode Island and the State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ("RIDEM"), its directors, officers, employees, officials, and agents (collectively, the "State"). The undersigned Individual intends to participate in climbing activities on property owned by the State. The Individual understands and acknowledges that climbing activities are inherently dangerous and involve the risk of personal injury to the Individual and others. The Individual or his/her guardian does hereby freely, voluntarily and without duress execute this Waiver and Release under the following terms:

**WAIVER AND RELEASE.** The Individual does hereby release and forever discharge and hold harmless the State and its successors and assigns from any and all liability, claims and demands of whatever kind of nature, either in law or in equity, which arise or may hereafter arise from the Individual's climbing activities. The Individual understands and acknowledges that this Release discharges the State from any liability or claim that the Individual, his/her spouse, heirs, successors, children, guardian, legal representatives, and assigns may have against the State with respect to any bodily injury, personal injury, illness, death, property damage, or worker's compensation claim that may result from the Individual's activities on State property, whether caused by the negligence of the State, its officers, directors, employees, or agents or otherwise. The Individual hereby covenants not to sue the State for any personal injuries, losses, or claims that may arise as a result of climbing activities.

**ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK.** The Individual understands that climbing activities are inherently dangerous and include activities that may be hazardous to the Individual, including, but not limited to, the risk of falls, cuts, scrapes, concussions, paralysis, and death that may result from such or similar occurrences. The Individual hereby expressly and specifically assumes the risk of injury or harm in these climbing activities and releases the State from all liability for injury, illness, death or property damage resulting from the activities of the Individual. Except as otherwise agreed to by the State in writing, the Individual does hereby release and forever discharge the State from any claim whatsoever that arises or may hereafter arise on account of any first aid, treatment or service rendered in connection with the Individual's activities.

**OTHER.** The Individual expressly agrees that this Waiver and Release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Rhode Island, and that this Waiver and Release shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Rhode Island. The Individual agrees that in the event that any clause or provision of the Waiver and Release shall be held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such clause or provision shall not otherwise affect the remaining provisions of this Waiver and Release which shall continue to be enforceable.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Individual (and/or guardian) hereby certifies that he/she has carefully reviewed and understands the Waiver and Release, and that this document is signed of his/her own free will.

**SIGNATURE** (All individuals under the age of eighteen (18) must have the consent of a legal guardian)

Individual: _____ Print Name: _____ Dated: _____, 20____	Guardian: _____ Print Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Dated: _____, 20____
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**Emergency Information      PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!!!**

In case of emergency please contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Appendix 2 – State Parks and Beaches**

### **PARKS**

Beavertail State Park \*

Blackstone River State Park Bikeway

Brenton Point State Park

Burlingame State Park

Burlingame Campground

Burlingame North Camp\*

Cocumcussoc Park\*

Colt State Park

Diamond Hill State Park\*

East Bay Bike Path

Fisherman's Memorial State Park (Campground)

Fort Adams State Park

Fort Wetherill State Park

George Washington State Park (Campground)

Goddard Memorial State Park

Haines Memorial State Park

John H. Chaffee Nature Preserve

J.L. Curran<sup>z</sup> State Park \*

Lincoln Woods State Park

Meshanicut Park

Ninigret Conservation Area / East Beach\*

Pulaski State Park

Snake Den State Park \*

Washington Grove\*

World War II Memorial State Park

\* Undeveloped, hunting permitted according to regulations in Section 16 of the Parks and Management Area Regulations and current Wildlife Hunting Regulations and Abstract.

### **BEACHES**

Charlestown Breachway-Camp Area

Ninigret Conservation Area / East Beach-Camp Area

East Matunuck State Beach

Misquamicut State Beach

Salty Brine State Beach

Scarborough North & South Beaches

Roger W. Wheeler State Beach

### **Appendix 3 – Wildlife Management Areas**

Arcadia  
Black Hut  
Black Farm  
Big River  
Buck Hill  
Burlingame  
Carolina  
Durfee Hill  
Dutch Island  
Galilee Bird Sanctuary  
George Washington  
Great Swamp  
Grills Preserve  
Killingly  
Newton Swamp  
Nicholas Farm  
Prudence and Patience Islands  
Rockville  
Sapowet Marsh  
Simmons Mill  
South Shore  
Tillinghast  
Wickaboxet  
Woody Hill

**Note: See Hunting & Trapping Abstract for restrictions.**

## **Appendix 4 – Management Areas Access**

### **Durfee**

Reynolds Road - Parking lots along road

### **Nicholas Farm**

Nicholas Road

Parking lot north and south sides' fields – short walk.

Roadside parking and lot at fishing access

### **Sapowet Marsh**

Sapowet Road

Roadside parking and lot at fishing access

### **Big River**

Burnt Sawmill Road - Roadside parking – small lot

Congdon Mill Road - Roadside parking

### **Burlingame**

Buckeye Brook Road - Gate open until end of December, Weather permitting

### **Carolina**

White Brook Trail

Parking lot, wide trail access to Nichols Trail

Check Station to Andrews Trail Parking lot, flat trail access fields of Carolina south

Meadow Brook Trail Access to field from this trail, parking lot adjacent to fields.

Essex Trail Gated. Small parking area, flat trail to adjacent fields.

### **Great Swamp**

Liberty Lane & Great Neck Rd.

Fields along Liberty Lane and Great Neck Rd. with small adjacent parking areas.

Road to shooting range and sub-station with pull-off parking areas.

### **Arcadia**

Woodmansee Unit Rte. 165

Pratt Farm Summit Road

Richmond Sister K.G. Ranch Road

Austin Farm Road Gates open until end of December - weather permitting

Barber Trail Gates open until end of December.

Breakheart/Stone Trail Flat wide trail extends past gated area with parking lot.

Samos Unit Escoheag Hill Rd., north of Austin Farm Rd.

Mt. Tom Field Extends a short distance from gated road parking.

**South Shore Mgt. Area**

Field 5

Portable blind in hedgerow available.

## Section 31 – Effective Date

The foregoing Park and Management Area Rules and Regulations, after due notice, are hereby adopted and filed with the Secretary of State to become effective twenty (20) days thereafter, in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 20-1-2, 20-1-4, 20-1-8, 20-18, 32-2-4, 31-3.2, 42-17.1, 42-17.6, and 42-35 of the RIGL's of 1956, as amended.

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Janet L. Coit, Director  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Notice Given: ~~04/28/2014~~  
Public hearing: ~~06/03/2014~~

Filing Date: ~~08/01/2014~~  
Effective Date: ~~08/21/2014~~

ERLID #: ~~7762~~