

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

Oliver Stedman Government Center  
4808 Tower Hill Road; Suite 3, Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

In accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the "Administrative Procedures Act" (Section 42-35-3 of the General Laws of Rhode Island) and the Rule and Regulations of the Coastal Resources Management Council, notice is hereby given of the intention of the Coastal Resources Management Council to change the management plans, policies, procedures and regulations of the agency regarding planning and management of the coastal resources of the State relative to Chapter 46-23 of the State of Rhode Island.

The following changes are proposed:

1. RI Coastal Resources Management Program – Management Procedures

**Revise** Section 3 - Subcommittees as follows:

The Chairman of the Council shall establish standing subcommittees with varying functions as approved by the Council. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman may establish these Subcommittees. There is hereby established a standing Ocean subcommittee.

Additionally, the Chairman in his discretion may appoint a standing Ocean Subcommittee to hear contested cases resulting from the implementation of the Council's Ocean Special Area Management Plan. However, in appropriate circumstances contested cases may be heard by the full CRMC as determined by the Chairman. The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall sit ex-officio on all subcommittees.

Hearing Subcommittees shall consist of all Council members who attend the initial Subcommittee meeting and all subsequent meetings of Subcommittee.

*The purpose of this proposed change is to create and define a standing Ocean subcommittee, allow for contested cases to be heard by the full council and clarify that the chairman and vice chairman sit on all subcommittee ex-officio.*

2. RI Coastal Resources Management Program – Rules and Regulations Governing the Protection and Management of Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast

**Revise in its entirety** the Council's Rules and Regulations Governing the Protection and Management of Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast:

The council is proposing to revise these Freshwater Wetland Rules and Regulations pursuant to the requirements and provisions of Chapter 46-23-6 of the Rhode Island General Laws (R.I.G.L.), as amended such that their format, context and readability are easier and more readily accessible to those subject to their requirements or interested in their application. Additionally the council is proposing these revisions to better preserve, protect, and restore the purity and integrity of all

freshwater wetlands located in the vicinity of the coast within the State of Rhode Island so that these freshwater wetlands shall be available for all beneficial purposes, and thus protect the health, welfare, and general well being of the people and the environment of Rhode Island and provide for consistent application of these regulations with the Department of Environmental Management.

The CRMC is responsible for the protection and management of freshwater wetlands in the vicinity of the coast as depicted on maps maintained on file at the offices the CRMC and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM), and the municipal offices of each coastal city or town. These maps are also available online at: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/maps/wetjuris.htm> The CRMC may at any time, when necessary, consult with and/or coordinate its responsibilities and duties with the DEM.

The full version of these proposed revisions showing all proposed revisions in strikethrough and underline is available at the Council's website [www.crmc.ri.gov](http://www.crmc.ri.gov).

*The purpose of the proposed changes is to revise entirely the format and content of the regulations for consistency with recent revisions to the RIDEM's freshwater wetland regulations.*

The Council has complied with the requirements of R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-35-3 by considering alternative approaches to the proposed regulation(s) and has determined that there is/are no alternative approach(es) that would be as effective and less burdensome. The Council has also determined that the proposed regulation(s) do(es) not overlap or duplicate any other state regulation. The Council has complied with the requirements of R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-35-3.3 by submitting copies of the proposed regulation(s) to the Governor's Office and the Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

Parties interested in or concerned with the above proposed changes are invited to **submit written comments** by **December 10, 2010**. All such comments should be directed to Grover J. Fugate, Executive Director, at the above address.

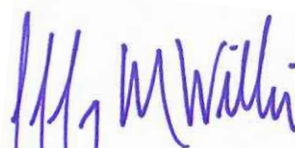
**A public hearing has been scheduled for these proposed changes to be held in Conference Room A of the Administration Building, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, on Tuesday, January 11, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.**

Copies of the proposed regulations are also available from the Coastal Resources Management Council offices and its website – [www.crmc.ri.gov](http://www.crmc.ri.gov).

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Council office at 783-3370, 72 hours in advance of the hearing date.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Coastal Resources Management Council offices at 783-3370.

Signed this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2010.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey M. Willis, Deputy Director  
Coastal Resources Management Council