

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

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**Title of Rule:** PART 3 – Finfish (250-RICR-90-00-3)

**Rule Identifier:** 250-RICR-90-00-3

**Rulemaking Action:** Proposed Amendment

**Important Dates:**

Date of Public Notice: 11/02/2018

Hearing Date: 11/19/2018

End of Public Comment: 12/03/2018

**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 Chapter 42-35-18(b)(5), Administrative Procedures Act, as amended

**Summary of Rulemaking Action:**

1. HEARING ITEM 1a. – 2019 COMMERCIAL BLACK SEA BASS MANAGEMENT:

Option 1: Status quo.

Option 2: Amend starting possession limit from 50 lbs/day to 25 lbs/day during July sub-period.

2. HEARING ITEM 1b. – 2019 COMMERCIAL SCUP MANAGEMENT:

Proposal 1: Management program.

Option 1: Status quo.

Proposal 2: Amend maximum pot limit

Option 1: Remove maximum pot limit.

Option 2: Increase maximum pot limit from 50 to 300 pots

3. HEARING ITEM 1c. – 2019 COMMERCIAL SUMMER FLOUNDER MANAGEMENT:

Option 1: Status quo.

Option 2: Re-open one additional day during the week in the Summer sub-period.

4. HEARING ITEM 1d. – 2019 RECREATIONAL TAUTOG MANAGEMENT:

Option 1: Status quo.

5. HEARING ITEM 1e. – 2019 COMMERCIAL TAUTOG MANAGEMENT:

Proposal 1: Management program.

Option 1: Status quo.

Option 2: Remove summer sub-period, split allocation 50/50 spring and fall sub-periods

Proposal 2: Proposed adoption of a fish tagging program.

**Additional Information and Comments:**

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until December 3, 2018 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Peter Duhamel  
Department of Environmental Management  
3 Fort Wetherill Road  
Jamestown, RI 02835  
peter.duhamel@dem.ri.gov

**Public Hearing:**

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, to consider the proposed amendment shall be held on November 19, 2018 at 6:00 pm at URI Bay Campus, Corless Auditorium, 215 South Ferry Rd, Narragansett, RI 02882 at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. The seating capacity of the room will be enforced and therefore the number of persons participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer, in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals who are handicapped. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-421-7005 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting.

**Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:**

N/A

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation see agency contact person above.