



Rhode Island
Department of Environmental Management

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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TO: Director's Office, DFW Staff, RIMFC, Enforcement, and Fishermen
FROM: Nancy Scarduzio, RIDFW
DATE: March 22, 2013
SUBJECT: Regulation filing

Several amendments were filed on March 22, 2013. In summary, the changes are as follows:

3/22/2013

Part IV – Shellfish

4.27 and 4.28 - These actions **AMEND** the Shellfish Management Area regulations by modifying the shellfish harvest schedule for High Banks and Potowomut Management Areas by opening these areas to shellfishing commencing on May 1, 2013. [These regulation amendments become effective on April 11, 2013].

PART VII - MINIMUM SIZES OF FISH/SHELLFISH

7.15 and 7.24 - These actions **AMEND** regulations governing the management plans for **spiny dogfish**, and **coastal sharks, from the Non-Sandbar Large Coastal Sharks species group** in order to come in to compliance with federal requirements for 2013. [These regulation amendments become effective on April 11, 2013].

PART XII - STRIPED BASS

12.3 - This action **AMENDS** the commercial management plan for **striped bass** in the general category sector, and updates regulatory citations for consistency with certain statutory changes. [These regulations become effective on April 11, 2013].

Part XV – Lobster, Other Crustaceans, and Horseshoe Crabs

15.20.3(4) and 15.20.3(5) - These actions **AMEND** regulations governing the lobster fishery in order to come into compliance with federal requirements for mandatory v-notching of certain female lobsters in LCMA 4 and LCMA 5 along with establishing season closures for the landing of lobsters in these areas from February 1 through March 31. [These regulation amendments become effective on April 11, 2013].

The regulations can be viewed in their entirety when posted at the following web address:

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/rimftoc.htm>

As well, the Director's decision memo on the February 19, 2013 public hearing items, and the March 13, 2013 decision memo for High Banks and Pottowamut Management Areas can be viewed at the following web address:

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bnatres/fishwild/dirdecsn.htm>