

**VOLUME IV: PUBLIC SAFETY,
NATURAL RESOURCES, AND
TRANSPORTATION**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT**

Agency Summary

Department of Environmental Management

Agency Mission

The mission of the Department of Environmental Management is to protect, restore, and promote our environment to ensure Rhode Island remains a wonderful place to live, visit, and raise a family.

Agency Description

The Department of Environmental Management has a broad charge inclusive of environmental protection and natural resources. The Department promotes economic opportunity that preserves the State's resources and maintains Rhode Island's high quality of life. The work of the Department impacts Rhode Island's economy both directly (e.g. through agriculture, fisheries, permitting for land development) and indirectly (e.g. contributing to tourism, protecting against climate change).

The Department is central to Rhode Island's efforts to confront climate change, including both mitigation of emissions from the electricity, transportation, and heating sectors and resiliency to the impacts of climate change (e.g. sea level rise, intense heat, flooding). The Department is charged with ensuring residents have equal access to environmental benefits and to prevent any segment of the State's population from bearing a disproportionate share of environmental risks and pollution. It ensures all residents and visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy a diverse mix of well-maintained, scenic, and accessible facilities and outdoor recreation opportunities and that the state's natural habitats are managed to maintain species biodiversity. The Department ensures air, water, and land resources are restored and maintained to protect public health and ecological integrity and educates residents and corporate entities to practice an environmental ethic based upon an understanding of their environment, and how their interactions affect it, including preventing pollution and minimizing waste at the source.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L 42-17.1 establishes the Department of Environmental Management.

Budget

Department of Environmental Management

	2024 Actuals	2025 Actuals	2026 Enacted Budget	2026 Revised Budget	2027 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Office of Director	13,209,030	16,142,646	15,732,070	17,084,501	18,230,007
Bureau of Natural Resources	70,215,757	80,733,166	106,502,682	101,717,314	103,887,249
Bureau of Environmental Protection	30,160,321	37,614,759	42,189,435	45,321,731	43,751,224
Total Expenditures	113,585,108	134,490,571	164,424,187	164,123,546	165,868,480
<i>Internal Services</i>	<i>[94,561]</i>	<i>[]</i>	<i>[]</i>	<i>[434,940]</i>	<i>[465,311]</i>
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	58,848,960	68,222,240	68,620,658	71,313,049	73,158,403
Contract Professional Services	12,610,705	16,867,503	16,900,049	45,646,715	41,455,823
Operating Supplies and Expenses	22,514,123	18,282,218	22,317,725	21,731,803	20,920,252
Assistance and Grants	8,232,807	13,074,118	10,826,333	11,414,535	8,093,510
Subtotal: Operating	102,206,595	116,446,079	118,664,765	150,106,102	143,627,988
Capital Purchases and Equipment	11,347,403	18,009,067	45,759,422	14,017,444	22,240,492
Aid to Local Units of Government	31,739	35,426	0	0	0
Operating Transfers	(631)	0	0	0	0
Subtotal: Other	11,378,512	18,044,492	45,759,422	14,017,444	22,240,492
Total Expenditures	113,585,108	134,490,571	164,424,187	164,123,546	165,868,480
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	55,457,395	56,014,424	58,380,368	58,553,292	60,615,642
Federal Funds	30,509,005	46,572,386	44,708,519	48,187,396	51,204,137
Restricted Receipts	15,102,590	21,295,674	24,775,624	26,710,589	27,287,646
Operating Transfers From Other Funds	12,516,117	10,608,088	36,559,676	30,672,269	26,761,055
Total Expenditures	113,585,108	134,490,571	164,424,187	164,123,546	165,868,480
FTE Authorization	425.0	439.0	439.0	439.0	440.0

Personnel Agency Summary

Department of Environmental Management

	FY 2026		FY 2027	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified	437.0	40,440,119	438.0	42,199,161
Unclassified	2.0	388,877	2.0	394,312
Subtotal	439.0	40,828,996	440.0	42,593,473
Overtime		1,172,318		1,173,680
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages		3,898,494		3,898,688
Turnover		(486,527)		(947,853)
Total Salaries		45,413,281		46,717,988
Benefits				
FICA		3,382,391		3,499,023
Health Benefits		6,652,375		7,134,470
Holiday		424,149		424,149
Payroll Accrual		233,380		239,621
Retiree Health		1,302,408		1,280,709
Retirement		12,742,903		12,614,990
Subtotal		24,737,606		25,192,962
Total Salaries and Benefits	438.9	70,150,887	439.9	71,910,950
Cost Per FTE Position		159,833		163,471
Statewide Benefit Assessment		1,162,162		1,247,453
Payroll Costs	438.9	71,313,049	439.9	73,158,403
Purchased Services				
Buildings and Ground Maintenance		2,629,124		2,500,842
Clerical and Temporary Services		7,800		6,000
Design and Engineering Services		28,297,513		28,200,467
Information Technology		77,600		828,600
Legal Services		1,200		1,200
Management & Consultant Services		14,252,270		9,576,282
Medical Services		36,550		30,600
Other Contracts		218,186		185,950
Training and Educational Services		97,528		96,938
University and College Services		21,500		21,500
Subtotal		45,639,271		41,448,379
Total Personnel	438.9	116,952,320	439.9	114,606,782
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue	371.9	43,907,876	372.9	45,504,319
Federal Funds	49.0	22,032,426	49.0	21,329,247
Restricted Receipts	18.0	22,323,944	18.0	22,779,761
Operating Transfers from Other Funds	0.0	28,688,074	0.0	24,993,455
Total All Funds	438.9	116,952,320	439.9	114,606,782

Program Summary

Department of Environmental Management

Office of Director

Mission

To develop and implement the Department's wide range of programs to protect Rhode Island's environment; protect the citizens of the state from public health threats resulting from pollution and climate change; support a diversity of outdoor recreational activities; and support a diversity of industries, including fishing and agriculture.

Description

The Office of the Director consists of management Services, Legal Services, and Administrative Adjudication. The Office also coordinates the Department's planning, policy initiatives, legislative & intergovernmental affairs, as well as communications and outreach.

The Office of Management Services is responsible for managing the financial, budget, licensing, and business support services for the Department. This involves maintaining approximately 200 separate accounts for the Department's programs, as well as the issuance of all boat registrations and all hunting and fishing licenses.

The Office of Legal Services counsels and represents the Department and its divisions and provides legal guidance on the development and administration of regulatory programs. It also provides legal assistance to a number of municipalities, particularly in the area of land use relating to the preservation of open space.

The Office of Administrative Adjudication is the administrative tribunal for environmental matters originating from the Department. It adjudicates appeals of enforcement actions taken by the Department's regulatory programs and hears enforcement appeals for alleged violations of statutes and/or regulations. The Office is responsible for ensuring that the regulated community has an opportunity to contest actions taken by the Department and have such actions reviewed at the agency level.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L 42-17.1 establishes the Department of Environmental Management.

Budget

Department of Environmental Management

Office of Director

Expenditures by Sub Program	2024 Actuals	2025 Actuals	2026 Enacted Budget	2026 Revised Budget	2027 Recommended
Administration	5,513,886	6,145,219	6,768,200	6,947,785	6,864,384
Administrative Adjudication	392,761	387,761	398,405	367,826	375,968
Environmental Coordination	360,048	1,370,000	1,010,292	1,282,475	1,364,936
Legal Services	757,790	1,004,520	779,780	776,412	802,818
Management Services	6,184,544	7,235,146	6,775,393	7,710,003	8,821,901
Total Expenditures	13,209,030	16,142,646	15,732,070	17,084,501	18,230,007
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	5,958,705	7,979,277	7,686,967	8,740,671	9,053,947
Contract Professional Services	493,850	1,283,669	377,780	410,289	1,124,780
Operating Supplies and Expenses	6,406,169	5,877,783	6,366,631	6,345,466	6,770,588
Assistance and Grants	298,723	962,487	1,251,942	1,226,942	1,251,942
Subtotal: Operating	13,157,448	16,103,215	15,683,320	16,723,368	18,201,257
Capital Purchases and Equipment	19,842	4,005	48,750	361,133	28,750
Aid to Local Units of Government	31,739	35,426	0	0	0
Subtotal: Other	51,582	39,431	48,750	361,133	28,750
Total Expenditures	13,209,030	16,142,646	15,732,070	17,084,501	18,230,007
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	8,977,530	9,385,151	9,446,875	9,319,111	10,509,829
Federal Funds	2,954	361,525	354,975	684,358	376,495
Restricted Receipts	4,228,545	6,395,971	5,930,220	7,081,032	7,343,683
Total Expenditures	13,209,030	16,142,646	15,732,070	17,084,501	18,230,007

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Office of Director

		FY 2026		FY 2027	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified					
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	0124 A	2.0	129,494	2.0	139,164
ADMINISTRATOR, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	0137 A	3.0	326,760	3.0	342,254
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	0134 A	1.0	91,970	1.0	98,196
ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT OFFICER	0319 A	2.0	114,681	2.0	118,588
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL (DEM)	0141 A	1.0	159,762	1.0	164,468
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FINANCIAL AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT	0141 A	1.0	129,588	1.0	137,547
ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR (DEM)	0136 A	1.0	106,965	1.0	115,240
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT OFFICER	0B26 A	3.0	258,888	3.0	266,646
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER II	0144 A	1.0	170,155	1.0	175,174
CHIEF IMPLEMENTATION AIDE	0128 A	1.0	79,584	1.0	82,899
CHIEF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	0134 A	1.0	101,660	1.0	104,710
CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER	0137 A	1.0	104,906	1.0	112,746
DEPUTY CHIEF OF LEGAL SERVICES	0139 A	2.0	248,439	2.0	255,891
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DEM)	0146 A	1.0	152,064	1.0	156,627
ENVIRON POLICY ANALYST II	0137 A	3.0	360,151	3.0	382,056
LEGAL ASSISTANT	0119 A	1.0	57,428	1.0	59,151
LEGAL COUNSEL	0134 A	2.0	188,456	2.0	202,562
LICENSING AIDE	0315 A	3.0	158,551	3.0	164,348
PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT	0326 A	4.0	282,878	4.0	295,736
PROGRAMMING SERVICES OFFICER	0031 A	1.0	105,749	1.0	112,196
PROGRAMMING SERVICES OFFICER	0131 A	4.0	364,856	4.0	382,216
SENIOR ACCOUNTANT	0323 A	1.0	60,704	1.0	64,398
SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL	0136 A	1.0	109,352	1.0	112,632
Subtotal Classified		41.0	3,863,041	41.0	4,045,445
Unclassified					
CHIEF HEARING OFFICER	0711 F	1.0	181,162	1.0	186,597
DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	0959KF	1.0	207,715	1.0	207,715
Subtotal Unclassified		2.0	388,877	2.0	394,312
Subtotal		43.0	4,251,918	43.0	4,439,757
Transfer Out			(5,494)		(5,833)
Transfer In			53,680		55,463

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Office of Director

	FY 2026		FY 2027	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Longevity Pay		222,237		229,679
Regular Wages		5,078,465		5,298,487
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages		64,310		64,310
Turnover		(39,432)		(41,887)
Total Salaries		5,358,394		5,583,403
Benefits				
FICA		405,125		423,323
Health Benefits		947,900		1,015,397
Payroll Accrual		30,643		31,624
Retiree Health		170,989		168,976
Retirement		1,675,041		1,666,632
Subtotal		3,229,698		3,305,952
Total Salaries and Benefits	43.0	8,588,092	43.0	8,889,355
Cost Per FTE Position		199,723		206,729
Statewide Benefit Assessment		152,579		164,592
Payroll Costs	43.0	8,740,671	43.0	9,053,947
Purchased Services				
Clerical and Temporary Services		500		500
Design and Engineering Services		260,000		260,000
Information Technology		10,000		762,000
Management & Consultant Services		96,330		61,330
Medical Services		1,000		1,000
Other Contracts		9,609		7,100
Training and Educational Services		32,850		32,850
Subtotal		410,289		1,124,780
Total Personnel	43.0	9,150,960	43.0	10,178,727
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue	38.0	3,108,042	38.0	3,959,898
Restricted Receipts	5.0	6,042,918	5.0	6,218,829
Total All Funds	43.0	9,150,960	43.0	10,178,727

Performance Measures

Department of Environmental Management

Office of Director

Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

DEM looks to reduce Greenhouse Gas Scope 3 Emissions by implementing zero-waste initiatives as part of the broader lead-by-example initiative for RI State Government. Scope 3 Emissions occur during the purchase and disposal of products from supplies. The Office of Director will implement (1) waste diversion programs that will eliminate organics from entering the landfill, (2) eliminate single-use plastic bags used in office waste bins, and (3) provide water refill stations to minimize the purchase of single-use water bottles. The figures below represent the pounds of Greenhouse Gas Scope 3 Emissions that were eliminated as a result of DEM's zero-waste initiatives. [Note: This performance measure was established in FY 2024, and therefore a historical target is not available.]

Frequency: Annual

Reporting Period: Calendar Year

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Target	--	85,395	96,674	174,483	174,483
Actual	31,919	97,639	169,189	--	--

Program Summary

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Natural Resources

Mission

To provide stewardship of the state's finite water, air, land, agricultural, forest resources, and the conservation of the State's aquatic resources and to provide people with well-maintained, scenic, and accessible outdoor recreational opportunities.

Description

The Bureau of Natural Resources is organized into nine divisions.

The Division of Fish and Wildlife manages the State's freshwater and upland resources to achieve a sustained yield for recreational fisherman and hunters; to enhance non-consumptive uses of wildlife; and to protect the State's rare and endangered species. This division maintains state-owned management areas, fishing areas, and boat ramps.

The Division of Agriculture manages the State's agriculture programs, including farm viability and protection; licensing and permitting; farm best management practices; animal health, mosquito, and rabies disease control; and pesticide management and regulation.

The Division of Law Enforcement enforces state laws and regulations governing hunting and fishing, public safety in state parks, and recreational boating. This division maintains a 24-hour hotline and dispatch center, conducts search and rescue activities on both land and the bay, and responds to animal complaints, particularly those associated with rabies and oversees the Criminal Investigation Unit, which investigates solid, medical, and hazardous waste violations.

The Division of Parks and Recreation manages eight major state parks, seven state beaches, a golf course, the East Bay and Blackstone Bike Paths, and other secondary parks, historic sites, and monuments totaling approximately 14,000 acres, generating 3,700 jobs and over \$300 million in consumer spending annually.

The Division of Forest Environment manages 40,000 acres of state-owned forests. It coordinates forest fire protection plans, the Urban Forestry Grant Program, responds to wildland fires and conducts prescribed burns, and it assists rural volunteer fire departments.

The Division of Planning and Development is responsible for state land acquisitions, engineering/design work for improvements to state parks and facilities, and local matching grant programs for outdoor recreation, open space preservation, and greenways/trail grants.

The Division of Development is responsible for executing an over \$100 million capital budget including engineering/design work for improvements to state parks and facilities, protecting the state facilities managed by DEM, and upgrading the state's port infrastructure and docks throughout the state.

The Division of Coastal Resources is responsible for development, management, and maintenance of the Port of Galilee, State Pier #9 (Newport), State Pier #4 (Jerusalem), and State Pier #5 (Narragansett). These properties comprise 41 piers and 24 lease holdings with an approximate combined value of over \$100 million.

The Division of Marine Fisheries is responsible for researching, monitoring, and regulating marine species to support the effective management of finfish and shellfish with commercial and recreational importance.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L 42-17.1 establishes the Department of Environmental Management.

Budget

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Natural Resources

Expenditures by Sub Program	2024 Actuals	2025 Actuals	2026 Enacted Budget	2026 Revised Budget	2027 Recommended
Agriculture	6,150,757	7,062,951	5,465,408	4,972,145	4,881,668
Coastal Resources	9,540,450	7,947,737	22,441,355	19,090,118	26,081,731
Enforcement	6,518,679	8,510,918	8,833,486	8,337,483	8,070,574
Fish, Wildlife & Estuarine Res	12,122,004	18,223,565	16,011,575	14,784,230	13,334,606
Forest Environment	3,788,192	4,006,569	7,023,038	7,048,336	7,130,713
Marine Fisheries	5,525,873	5,121,474	6,135,616	5,023,347	4,932,111
Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	1,809,193	4,000,623	1,417,254	1,869,665	476,653
Natural Resources Admin	1,519,108	606,213	13,170,560	5,817,484	10,845,434
Parks and Recreation	21,594,371	22,715,454	22,935,735	29,171,420	24,963,001
Planning and Development	1,647,128	2,537,661	3,068,655	5,603,086	3,170,758
Total Expenditures	70,215,757	80,733,166	106,502,682	101,717,314	103,887,249
<i>Internal Services</i>	<i>[94,561]</i>	<i>[]</i>	<i>[]</i>	<i>[434,940]</i>	<i>[465,311]</i>
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	29,365,042	32,641,366	33,751,621	34,656,826	35,351,709
Contract Professional Services	10,300,717	14,021,286	9,051,474	37,414,981	32,610,538
Operating Supplies and Expenses	13,476,469	9,298,240	12,316,206	11,604,047	10,373,824
Assistance and Grants	6,038,839	7,414,350	5,970,509	5,103,949	3,464,186
Subtotal: Operating	59,181,067	63,375,242	61,089,810	88,779,803	81,800,257
Capital Purchases and Equipment	11,035,320	17,357,924	45,412,872	12,937,511	22,086,992
Operating Transfers	(631)	0	0	0	0
Subtotal: Other	11,034,689	17,357,924	45,412,872	12,937,511	22,086,992
Total Expenditures	70,215,757	80,733,166	106,502,682	101,717,314	103,887,249
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	30,592,600	31,784,608	32,325,750	32,406,455	32,814,994
Federal Funds	21,348,986	32,025,755	31,528,201	31,792,298	37,410,677
Restricted Receipts	5,825,136	6,410,563	6,185,022	6,906,393	6,962,400
Operating Transfers from Other Funds	12,449,035	10,512,241	36,463,709	30,612,168	26,699,178
Total Expenditures	70,215,757	80,733,166	106,502,682	101,717,314	103,887,249

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Natural Resources

		FY 2026		FY 2027	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified					
ADMINISTRATIVE COURT OFFICER (DEM)	0332 A	2.0	189,262	2.0	195,811
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	0024 A	1.0	71,700	1.0	73,765
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	0324 A	2.0	129,241	2.0	135,125
ADMINISTRATOR, BUREAU OF NATURAL RESOURCES & PARKS (DEM)	0142 A	1.0	165,457	1.0	170,381
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SPECIALIST (DEM)	0324 A	6.0	392,724	6.0	416,023
ASSISTANT ADMIN, BUREAU OF NATURAL RESOURCES & PARKS (DEM)	0138 A	1.0	137,182	1.0	141,224
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF STATE PIERS	0328 A	2.0	159,618	2.0	164,406
BIOLOGIST (WILDLIFE)	0326 A	1.0	65,506	1.0	69,650
CHIEF DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE & RESOURCE MARKETING(DEM)	0140 A	1.0	154,875	1.0	159,460
CHIEF DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT (DEM)	0140 A	1.0	127,368	1.0	131,189
CHIEF DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (DEM)	0140 A	1.0	152,417	1.0	156,809
CHIEF DIVISION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (DEM)	0140 A	1.0	127,368	1.0	131,188
CHIEF IMPLEMENTATION AIDE	0028 A	1.0	80,677	1.0	83,097
CHIEF IMPLEMENTATION AIDE	0128 A	5.0	415,788	5.0	430,858
CHIEF OF NARRAGANSETT BAY NATL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE	0140 A	1.0	127,368	1.0	131,189
CHIEF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	0134 A	3.0	295,926	3.0	308,294
CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT AREA ASSISTANT MANAGER (DEM)	0326 A	3.0	213,871	3.0	222,513
CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT AREA MANAGER (DEM)	0329 A	2.0	162,351	2.0	170,044
COOP FORESTRY PROGRAM SUPVR	0030 A	1.0	87,243	1.0	89,861
DATA ANALYST II	0138 A	1.0	131,940	1.0	135,806
DEPUTY CHIEF, DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT (DEM)	0138 A	1.0	118,866	1.0	126,703
DEPUTY CHIEF DIVISION OF FOREST ENVIRONMENT (DEM)	0138 A	1.0	117,155	1.0	120,670
DEPUTY CHIEF DIVISION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (DEM)	0138 A	1.0	114,608	1.0	120,670
DEPUTY CHIEF FOR FRESHWATER FISHERIES	0138 A	1.0	144,118	1.0	148,335
DEPUTY CHIEF FOR MARINE FISHERIES	0138 A	3.0	367,734	3.0	384,410
DEPUTY CHIEF FOR WILDLIFE	0138 A	1.0	131,436	1.0	135,300
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DEM)	0146 A	1.0	183,585	1.0	189,011
DISPATCH SYSTEM OPERATOR (DEM)	0021 A	1.0	55,322	1.0	58,503
DISPATCH SYSTEM OPERATOR (DEM)	0321 A	6.0	376,865	6.0	392,120
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER III	0336 A	1.0	114,289	1.0	117,667

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Natural Resources

		FY 2026		FY 2027	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified					
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE OFFICER (CAPTAIN) (DEM)	0336 A	2.0	231,169	2.0	239,664
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE OFFICER I (DEM)	0330 A	18.0	1,567,816	18.0	1,635,303
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE OFFICER II (DEM)	0332 A	4.0	395,287	4.0	406,561
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE OFFICER III (DEM)	0334 A	3.0	332,212	3.0	341,806
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE VESSEL SPECIALIST (DEM)	0332 A	1.0	91,740	1.0	97,391
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST I	0328 A	1.0	81,739	1.0	84,191
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST II	0332 A	4.0	377,927	4.0	396,333
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST III	0034 A	1.0	114,676	1.0	118,039
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST IV	0036 A	1.0	130,942	1.0	134,806
ENVIRON POLICY ANALYST II	0137 A	3.0	332,778	3.0	348,609
FEDERAL AID PROGRAM COORDINATOR (DEM)	0038 A	1.0	131,900	1.0	135,775
FISCAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER	0B26 A	1.0	86,294	1.0	88,884
FISH CULTURIST II	0324 A	2.0	131,746	2.0	138,037
FORESTER	0327 A	3.0	225,021	3.0	236,184
FOREST FIRE PROGRAM MANAGER (DEM)	0327 A	1.0	76,809	1.0	79,114
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIALIST (FISCAL/ PROPERTY MGR)	0321 A	1.0	61,317	1.0	63,156
IMPLEMENTATION AIDE	0322 A	1.0	63,695	1.0	65,606
INFORMATION AIDE	0315 A	5.0	251,740	5.0	263,259
INFORMATION SERVICES TECHNICIAN I	0316 A	1.0	49,115	1.0	51,537
MARINE MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	0324 A	1.0	77,015	1.0	79,279
NAT RES OPER TECH II (DEM)	0326 A	4.0	268,154	4.0	282,972
NATURAL RESOURCE OPER CHF (DEM)	0330 A	2.0	182,541	2.0	192,803
NATURAL RESOURCES OPERATIONS TECHNICIAN I (DEM)	0000 A	25.0	1,397,749	25.0	1,397,749
PLUMBER SUPERVISOR	0000 A	1.0	91,416	1.0	91,416
PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST (FRESH WATER FISHERIES)	0332 A	3.0	290,262	3.0	298,891
PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST (MARINE FISHERIES)	0332 A	11.0	1,044,084	11.0	1,079,435
PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST (WILDLIFE)	0332 A	4.0	356,057	4.0	373,720
PRINCIPAL CIVIL ENGINEER (NATURAL RESOURCES)	0333 A	3.0	270,797	3.0	291,473
PRINCIPAL FIRE CONTROL OFFICER	0330 A	1.0	90,336	1.0	93,047
PROGRAMMING SERVICES OFFICER	0131 A	6.0	585,645	7.0	695,340
PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARIAN	0336 A	1.0	117,956	1.0	121,495
RESEARCH VESSEL CAPTAIN (DEM)	0334 A	1.0	99,923	1.0	102,920
RESEARCH VESSEL FIRST MATE (ASSOCIATE CAPTAIN)	0332 A	1.0	92,734	1.0	95,518

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Natural Resources

		FY 2026		FY 2027	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified					
SENIOR BIOLOGIST (FRESH WATER FISHERIES)	0330 A	4.0	348,645	4.0	363,003
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER	0327 A	1.0	76,810	1.0	79,114
SENIOR FIRE CONTROL OFFICER	0327 A	3.0	227,862	3.0	237,938
STATE BUILDING AND GROUNDS COORDINATOR	0132 A	1.0	91,551	1.0	96,909
STATE HUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION COORDINATOR (DEM)	0328 A	1.0	76,874	1.0	82,203
STATE PARK ASSISTANT DISTRICT MANAGER (DEM)	0330 A	6.0	494,113	6.0	528,769
STATE PARK DISTRICT MANAGER (DEM)	0334 A	6.0	604,015	6.0	642,656
STATE PARK MANAGER (DEM)	0326 A	8.0	561,890	8.0	596,844
STATE PORTS MANAGER	0140 A	1.0	127,368	1.0	131,189
STATE VETERINARIAN (DEM)	0138 A	1.0	123,013	1.0	126,703
SUPERINTENDENT OF STATE PARKS (DEM)	0138 A	1.0	109,798	1.0	118,744
SUPERINTENDENT OF STATE PIERS	0330 A	1.0	86,034	1.0	88,615
SUPERVISING BIOLOGIST (FRESHWATER FISHERIES)	0034 A	1.0	119,740	1.0	123,332
SUPERVISING BIOLOGIST (MARINE FISHERIES)	0034 A	2.0	193,447	2.0	202,702
SUPERVISING BIOLOGIST (WILDLIFE)	0034 A	3.0	310,577	3.0	319,750
SUPERVISING FORESTER	0030 A	1.0	87,243	1.0	89,860
SUPERVISOR LAND CONSERVATION & ACQUISITION PROGR (DEM)	0032 A	1.0	94,318	1.0	97,148
URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM COORDINATOR	0327 A	1.0	76,810	1.0	79,114
VOLUNTEER PRGM COORDINATOR(DEM)	0028 A	1.0	80,676	1.0	83,096
Subtotal Classified		216.0	18,701,236	217.0	19,518,084
Subtotal		216.0	18,701,236	217.0	19,518,084
Transfer Out			(20,659)		(21,306)
Longevity Pay			570,608		590,221
Regular Wages			17,453,068		18,224,760
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages			3,795,792		3,795,792
Turnover			(222,564)		(550,829)
Total Salaries			22,714,107		23,178,509

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Natural Resources

	FY 2026		FY 2027	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Benefits				
FICA		1,652,412		1,698,567
Health Benefits		3,120,442		3,353,027
Holiday		424,149		424,149
Payroll Accrual		102,073		104,444
Retiree Health		569,809		558,478
Retirement		5,565,374		5,490,570
Subtotal		11,434,259		11,629,235
Total Salaries and Benefits	215.9	34,148,366	216.9	34,807,744
Cost Per FTE Position		158,168		160,478
Statewide Benefit Assessment		508,460		543,965
Payroll Costs	215.9	34,656,826	216.9	35,351,709
Purchased Services				
Buildings and Ground Maintenance		2,629,124		2,500,842
Clerical and Temporary Services		2,300		500
Design and Engineering Services		20,952,513		20,955,567
Management & Consultant Services		13,534,640		8,893,652
Medical Services		20,550		14,600
Other Contracts		205,227		175,500
Training and Educational Services		45,183		44,433
University and College Services		18,000		18,000
Subtotal		37,407,537		32,603,094
Total Personnel	215.9	72,064,363	216.9	67,954,803
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue	207.9	25,263,162	208.9	25,613,795
Federal Funds	8.0	13,142,408	8.0	12,297,103
Restricted Receipts	0.0	5,025,220	0.0	5,106,727
Operating Transfers from Other Funds	0.0	28,633,573	0.0	24,937,178
Total All Funds	215.9	72,064,363	216.9	67,954,803

Performance Measures

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Natural Resources

Farm and Natural Resource Preservation and Protection

DEM purchases land and development rights to protect working farms, forests, drinking water supplies and fish and wildlife habitats and to provide ample recreational opportunities. These lands sustain the state's tourism industry and enhance Rhode Islanders' quality of life. The figures below represent the acres of farm and natural resource areas preserved and protected. [Note: 2025 data is as of early December 2025.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Target	93,000	93,250	93,650	94,500	95,300
Actual	92,085	93,498	95,398	--	--

State Park Visitors

DEM supports a robust outdoor recreation industry by operating a statewide system of parks, beaches, and recreation areas that provide residents and visitors with a diverse mix of well-maintained, scenic, safe, and accessible recreational facilities and opportunities. The system depends on the Department's ability to adequately service the visitor's needs, as well as the ability to sustain infrastructure and operations. The figures below represent the annual number of individuals that visit Rhode Island state parks. [Note: 2025 data is as of September 2025.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Target	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	7,500,000
Actual	9,094,013	6,589,228	7,881,490	--	--

Commercial Fish Landings - Ports of Galilee and Newport

The commercial fishing industry is a key sector of Rhode Island's economy. DEM works to sustain commercial fisheries in a variety of ways, including the monitoring, regulation, promotion, technical assistance, and operation of the Ports of Galilee and Newport. The figures below represent the value of commercial fish landings in the Ports of Galilee and Newport. [Note: 2025 data is as of September 2025.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Target	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000
Actual	\$72,174,122	\$53,708,414	\$33,931,517	--	--

Program Summary

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Environmental Protection

Mission

To ensure the quality of Rhode Island's air, water, and land resources through regulating activities that compromise public health and impact the environment; prevent further degradation of environmental resources; restore existing features and a bureau-wide ethic of customer assistance.

Description

The Bureau of Environmental Protection is composed of regulatory and assistance programs.

The Office of Water Resources operates the following regulatory and assistance programs: Pollutant Discharge Elimination System; Pretreatment; Underground Injection Control; Groundwater Protection; Water Quality Certification; Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems; Freshwater Wetlands; Water Quality Restoration Studies (TMDLS); Shellfish Area Monitoring; Wastewater Treatment Facility and Sludge Programs; Nonpoint Source; Water Quality Monitoring and Standards; and Financial Assistance (SRF/Bond Funds).

The Office of Compliance and Inspection centralizes response to citizen complaints and regulatory enforcement activities in Air Resources, Waste Management, and Water Resources to ensure that the Department has consistent enforcement policies to address the most serious issues and investigates suspected violations and takes enforcement actions.

The Office for Customer and Technical Assistance serves the public by coordinating the review of projects requiring multiple applications and permits and tracking the status of permitting activities through the Bureau. The Office assists businesses and the public by providing pre-application meetings; ensuring access to public records; serving as a single point-of-contact for high priority, complex projects; and collaborating on efficient methods to ensure compliance and prevent pollution through the Environmental Results Program.

The Office of Air Resources is responsible for the protection and improvement of Rhode Island's air resources through monitoring and regulating the emission of air pollutants from stationary and mobile sources. The Office also conducts compliance assurance monitoring of those sources, as well as fixed site air quality monitoring state-wide, forecasts daily air quality, calculates and maintains the State's annual Greenhouse Gas Inventory, oversees the low and zero emissions vehicles programs and manages and distributes grants through the Deisel Emissions Reduction grant programs.

The Office of Land Revitalization and Sustainable Materials Management regulates the transportation and disposal of solid, medical, and hazardous wastes and the investigation and remediation of unpermitted releases of those materials. It includes the Site Remediation Program; Brownfield Initiatives; Superfund and Department of Defense site programs; Waste Facility Management Program; and Underground Storage Tank Program, including administration of the RI Underground Storage Tank Financial Responsibility Fund.

The Emergency Response Program responds to emergency spills of oil and chemicals that present an immediate threat to public health and the environment, including events related to terrorism and natural disasters.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L 42-17.1 establishes the Department of Environmental Management.

Budget

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Environmental Protection

Expenditures by Sub Program	2024 Actuals	2025 Actuals	2026 Enacted Budget	2026 Revised Budget	2027 Recommended
Air Resources	4,077,596	6,606,249	6,595,101	8,757,997	7,320,766
Compliance & Inspection	5,000,336	5,420,811	5,989,471	5,461,322	5,607,367
Environmental Protection Admin	395,676	258,295	346,748	246,949	251,289
Environmental Response	2,358,571	3,682,733	7,528,883	8,284,156	8,360,530
RIPDES	449,427	284,121	199,046	289,918	299,227
Technical & Customer Assist	1,931,610	3,066,402	1,667,264	2,101,274	2,033,666
Waste Management	5,186,196	5,540,217	7,032,794	7,541,881	7,339,637
Water Resources	10,760,910	12,755,931	12,830,128	12,638,234	12,538,742
Total Expenditures	30,160,321	37,614,759	42,189,435	45,321,731	43,751,224
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	23,525,213	27,601,597	27,182,070	27,915,552	28,752,747
Contract Professional Services	1,816,137	1,562,548	7,470,795	7,821,445	7,720,505
Operating Supplies and Expenses	2,631,486	3,106,195	3,634,888	3,782,290	3,775,840
Assistance and Grants	1,895,245	4,697,281	3,603,882	5,083,644	3,377,382
Subtotal: Operating	29,868,080	36,967,622	41,891,635	44,602,931	43,626,474
Capital Purchases and Equipment	292,241	647,137	297,800	718,800	124,750
Subtotal: Other	292,241	647,137	297,800	718,800	124,750
Total Expenditures	30,160,321	37,614,759	42,189,435	45,321,731	43,751,224
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	15,887,265	14,844,666	16,607,743	16,827,726	17,290,819
Federal Funds	9,157,065	14,185,106	12,825,343	15,710,740	13,416,965
Restricted Receipts	5,048,909	8,489,140	12,660,382	12,723,164	12,981,563
Operating Transfers from Other Funds	67,082	95,847	95,967	60,101	61,877
Total Expenditures	30,160,321	37,614,759	42,189,435	45,321,731	43,751,224

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Environmental Protection

		FY 2026		FY 2027	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified					
ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEM)	0140 A	8.0	1,165,141	8.0	1,199,610
ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE (DEM)	0140 A	1.0	150,609	1.0	155,099
AIR QUALITY SPECIALIST	0328 A	5.0	377,601	5.0	401,448
APPLICATIONS COORDINATOR (DEM)	0320 A	6.0	336,855	6.0	352,555
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEM)	0142 A	1.0	162,527	1.0	167,346
CHIEF IMPLEMENTATION AIDE	0028 A	2.0	175,702	2.0	183,995
CHIEF IMPLEMENTATION AIDE	0128 A	3.0	264,577	3.0	278,787
CHIEF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	0134 A	2.0	208,405	2.0	214,658
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEM)	0138 A	5.0	657,097	5.0	681,965
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DEM)	0146 A	1.0	172,645	1.0	177,824
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER I	0034 A	1.0	101,905	1.0	104,963
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER I	0329 A	5.0	390,392	5.0	418,444
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER II	0333 A	10.0	1,007,062	10.0	1,051,590
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER III	0336 A	13.0	1,505,168	13.0	1,566,084
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING ASSOCIATE	0326 A	2.0	139,932	2.0	146,246
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER IV	0039 A	7.0	922,306	7.0	957,181
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER IV	0339 A	1.0	110,823	1.0	119,288
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST I	0328 A	27.0	2,076,623	27.0	2,203,199
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST II	0332 A	23.0	2,174,247	23.0	2,266,334
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST III	0034 A	3.0	337,746	3.0	347,760
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST III	0334 A	14.0	1,551,769	14.0	1,605,829
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST IV	0036 A	6.0	775,650	6.0	798,342
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST IV	0336 A	1.0	107,233	1.0	110,450
ENVIRON POLICY ANALYST II	0137 A	1.0	107,040	1.0	116,195
IMPLEMENTATION AIDE	0322 A	1.0	59,648	1.0	63,266
JUNIOR SANITARY ENGINEER	0326 A	1.0	77,513	1.0	79,839
OFFICE MANAGER	0K23 A	1.0	66,200	1.0	70,563
OIL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPECIALIST 1 (DEM)	0327 A	1.0	75,980	1.0	79,114
OIL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPECIALIST 1 (DEM)	0332 A	1.0	104,383	1.0	107,441
OIL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPECIALIST 2	0329 A	2.0	162,262	2.0	170,810
OIL & HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPECIALIST 3	0332 A	1.0	92,735	1.0	95,516
PRINCIPAL AIR QUALITY SPECIALIST	0334 A	4.0	409,681	4.0	421,972
PROGRAM ANALYST	0322 A	1.0	58,293	1.0	61,631

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Environmental Protection

		FY 2026		FY 2027	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified					
PROGRAMMING SERVICES OFFICER	0031 A	1.0	104,390	1.0	107,522
PROGRAMMING SERVICES OFFICER	0131 A	2.0	179,470	2.0	188,825
PROGRAMMING SERVICES OFFICER	0332 A	1.0	97,104	1.0	99,886
SENIOR AIR QUALITY SPECIALIST	0332 A	9.0	849,183	9.0	886,070
SENIOR INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALIST	0324 A	1.0	78,860	1.0	81,227
STATE METEOROLOGIST/ATMOSPHERIC SCIENTIST (DEM)	0332 A	2.0	205,860	2.0	211,981
SUPERVISING AIR QUALITY SPECIALIST	0036 A	1.0	128,862	1.0	132,644
SUPERVISING ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER	0031 A	1.0	90,774	1.0	93,497
TECHNICAL STAFF ASSISTANT (DEM)	0320 A	1.0	55,589	1.0	58,636
Subtotal Classified		180.0	17,875,842	180.0	18,635,632
Subtotal		180.0	17,875,842	180.0	18,635,632
Transfer Out			(37,827)		(39,134)
Transfer In			10,300		10,810
Longevity Pay			979,757		1,012,266
Regular Wages			16,524,861		17,238,060
Seasonal/Special Salaries/Wages			38,392		38,586
Turnover			(224,531)		(355,137)
Total Salaries			17,340,780		17,956,076
Benefits					
FICA			1,324,854		1,377,133
Health Benefits			2,584,033		2,766,046
Payroll Accrual			100,664		103,553
Retiree Health			561,610		553,255
Retirement			5,502,488		5,457,788
Subtotal			10,073,649		10,257,775
Total Salaries and Benefits		180.0	27,414,429	180.0	28,213,851
Cost Per FTE Position			152,302		156,744
Statewide Benefit Assessment			501,123		538,896
Payroll Costs		180.0	27,915,552	180.0	28,752,747
Purchased Services					
Clerical and Temporary Services			5,000		5,000
Design and Engineering Services			7,085,000		6,984,900
Information Technology			67,600		66,600

Personnel

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Environmental Protection

	FY 2026		FY 2027	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Purchased Services				
Legal Services		1,200		1,200
Management & Consultant Services		621,300		621,300
Medical Services		15,000		15,000
Other Contracts		3,350		3,350
Training and Educational Services		19,495		19,655
University and College Services		3,500		3,500
Subtotal		7,821,445		7,720,505
Total Personnel	180.0	35,736,997	180.0	36,473,252
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue	126.0	15,536,672	126.0	15,930,626
Federal Funds	41.0	8,890,018	41.0	9,032,144
Restricted Receipts	13.0	11,255,806	13.0	11,454,205
Operating Transfers from Other Funds	0.0	54,501	0.0	56,277
Total All Funds	180.0	35,736,997	180.0	36,473,252

Performance Measures

Department of Environmental Management

Bureau of Environmental Protection

Contaminated Site Cleanup

Contaminated properties present a risk to the health of the residents in the surrounding community. Contamination is also a barrier to economic reuse and redevelopment of property. The figures below represent the number of acres of contaminated properties/sites cleaned up annually. [Note: 2025 data is as of September 2025.]

	<i>Reporting Period: Calendar Year</i>				
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Target	80	80	80	80	80
Actual	154	243	83	--	--

Enforcement Action Compliance

Most instances of non-compliance with environmental rules result in the issuance of an informal enforcement action (essentially a warning letter with no fines). The figures below represent the percent of enforcement cases that return to compliance within 120 days of the issuance of an informal action.

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Target	75%	75%	75%	75%	75%
Actual	85%	87%	88%	--	--
