

The Agency

Department of Environmental Management

Agency Operations

The mission of the Department of Environmental Management is to enhance the quality of life for this and future generations by protecting, managing, and restoring the natural resources of the State; enhancing outdoor recreation opportunities; protecting public health; preventing environmental degradation; guiding the utilization of the State's natural resources to provide for sustainable economic opportunity while sustaining the natural environment; and motivating the citizens of the State to practice an environmental ethic based upon an understanding of their environment, their own dependence on it, and the ways in which their actions affect it.

Agency Objectives

To ensure Rhode Islanders have equal access to environmental benefits; to prevent any segment of Rhode Island's population from bearing a disproportionate share of environmental risks and pollution.

To educate residents and corporate entities to practice an environmental ethic based upon an understanding of their environment, and how their interactions affect it; to ensure air, water, and land resources are restored and maintained to protect public health and ecological integrity.

To take necessary actions to preserve and enhance resources of the Narragansett Bay and coastal environments.

To practice careful stewardship of Rhode Island's finite water, air, land, agriculture, forest resources, and to ensure that Rhode Island's rich aquatic resources are maintained for the future.

To ensure all residents and visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy a diverse mix of well-maintained, scenic and accessible facilities and outdoor recreation opportunities.

To educate citizens so that all Rhode Islanders prevent pollution and minimize waste at the source.

To ensure natural habitats are managed to maintain species biodiversity.

To promote economic opportunity that preserves the State's resources and maintains Rhode Island's high quality of life for a sound economy.

To revitalize, protect and restore urban areas for reuse while conserving ecologically sensitive urban areas.

Statutory History

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

The Budget

Department of Environmental Management

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
Office of the Director	12,387,432	15,617,651	10,626,217	10,677,247
Bureau of Natural Resources	26,205,704	30,222,970	41,571,388	43,541,343
Bureau of Environmental Protection	18,496,716	18,888,076	30,259,390	35,198,116
Total Expenditures	\$57,089,852	\$64,728,697	\$82,456,995	\$89,416,706
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	43,810,641	45,054,479	52,077,379	52,002,327
Other State Operations	10,109,814	9,987,145	11,681,991	13,649,238
Aid To Local Units Of Government	977	242	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,803,155	3,257,749	6,851,697	10,918,956
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$55,724,587	\$58,299,615	\$70,611,067	\$76,570,521
Capital Improvements	1,365,265	6,429,082	11,845,928	12,846,185
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$57,089,852	\$64,728,697	\$82,456,995	\$89,416,706
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	31,448,346	33,277,951	37,539,885	38,728,932
Federal Funds	14,636,019	16,417,852	31,157,219	32,169,302
Restricted Receipts	9,856,218	9,171,245	10,635,082	15,886,924
Other Funds	1,149,269	5,861,649	3,124,809	2,631,548
Total Expenditures	\$57,089,852	\$64,728,697	\$82,456,995	\$89,416,706
FTE Authorization	539.7	538.7	531.3	503.5
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	6.0%	5.8%	5.8%	5.6%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	34.0%	33.5%	32.8%	32.8%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	7.7%	8.5%	8.5%	8.5%

The Program

Department of Environmental Management Office of the Director

Program Operations

The Office of the Director includes the following six offices: Policy, Communications, and Customer Service; Financial Management; Human Resources; Legal Services; Administrative Adjudication; and Management Information Systems.

The Office of Policy, Communications, and Customer Service coordinates overarching policy and strategic planning initiatives, legislation and intergovernmental affairs, media relations, public information and education, and frontline customer service operations.

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 38,000 boat registrations and all hunting and fishing licenses.

The Office of Human Resources provides administrative human resources support for over 520 full-time employees and approximately 475 seasonal positions. Functions include payroll, personnel administration, labor relations, equal employment opportunity, minority recruitment/internship program, and training.

The Office of Legal Services represents the department in hearings and enforcement, and provides legal guidance on the development and administration of regulatory programs.

Administrative Adjudication hears appeals of department permitting, regulatory, and enforcement decisions.

The Management Information Systems (MIS) Office provides department-wide computer/technology services including the environmental permit database, e-government services, and a help desk, and administers major federal grants for information reporting.

Statutory History

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

The Budget

Department of Environmental Management Office of the Director

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Administration	4,525,415	5,221,319	4,129,726	4,135,211
Environmental Coordination	864,760	857,241	1,276,863	1,245,287
Management Services	2,918,310	3,108,084	3,312,221	3,355,321
Legal Services	363,937	417,145	573,749	534,959
Employee Relations/Human Resources	559,512	420,470	401,466	433,285
Planning and Development	1,991,980	4,499,046	-	-
Administrative Adjudication	917,972	923,391	661,827	702,819
Permit Streamlining	245,546	170,955	270,365	270,365
Total Expenditures	\$12,387,432	\$15,617,651	\$10,626,217	10,677,247
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	7,850,368	8,078,312	7,123,582	6,428,416
Other State Operations	3,323,371	3,573,249	3,072,906	3,960,465
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	581,693	295,825	429,729	288,366
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$11,755,432	\$11,947,386	\$10,626,217	\$10,677,247
Capital Improvements	632,000	3,670,265	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$12,387,432	\$15,617,651	\$10,626,217	\$10,677,247
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	7,922,700	8,064,300	7,481,747	7,517,660
Federal Funds	549,054	710,373	1,276,863	1,245,287
Restricted Receipts	3,452,666	3,499,534	1,867,607	1,914,300
Other Funds	463,012	3,343,444	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$12,387,432	\$15,617,651	\$10,626,217	\$10,677,247

Program Measures

Cumulative Percentage of Land Acquisition				
Goal of 17,850 Acres Actually Acquired	67.1%	75.0%	80.0%	85.0%

The Program

Department of Environmental Management Bureau of Natural Resources

Program Operations

The Bureau of Natural Resources is organized into six divisions:

The Division of Fish and Wildlife manages the State's marine and freshwater, and upland resources to achieve a sustained yield for commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen and hunters; to enhance non-consumptive uses of wildlife; and to protect the State's rare, and endangered species. The division maintains state-owned management areas, fishing areas, and boat ramps, and ports facilities and commercial fishing piers in Galilee, Jerusalem, and Newport.

The Division of Agriculture and Marketing 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 Enforcement enforces state laws and regulations governing hunting and fishing, public safety in state parks, and recreational boating. The division maintains a 24-hour hotline and dispatch center for the department, conducts search and rescue activities on both land and the bay, and responds to animal complaints, particularly those associated with rabies. The division 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. The division oversees facilities and land management and coordinates recreational activities at the Narragansett Bay Estuarine Research Reserve.

The Division of Forest Environment manages 40,000 acres of state-owned forests. It coordinates forest fire protection plans, the Urban Forestry Grant Program, 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/trails grants.

Program Objective

The objectives of this bureau are to provide stewardship of the State's finite water, air, land, agricultural, forest resources, and the conservation of the State's aquatic resources; and provide people with well-maintained, scenic, and accessible outdoor recreational opportunities.

Statutory History

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

The Budget

Department of Environmental Management Bureau of Natural Resources

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Fish, Wildlife & Estuarine Resources	6,556,394	8,686,678	9,902,333	10,869,973
Agriculture	2,026,958	2,172,248	4,912,660	4,952,541
Enforcement	3,987,325	3,966,970	5,330,593	5,872,520
Natural Resources Administration	1,067,509	649,028	8,384,020	7,948,219
Parks and Recreation	8,949,885	9,881,049	9,762,563	9,882,740
Forest Environment	2,503,047	2,555,347	3,104,219	3,665,350
Coastal Resources	1,114,586	2,311,650	175,000	350,000
Total Expenditures	\$26,205,704	\$30,222,970	\$41,571,388	\$43,541,343
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	19,084,505	19,721,685	23,179,027	24,192,332
Other State Operations	5,568,247	5,224,610	6,040,345	7,011,968
Aid To Local Units Of Government	977	242	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,006,188	2,582,027	5,535,866	5,616,390
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$25,659,917	\$27,528,564	\$34,755,238	\$36,820,690
Capital Improvements	545,787	2,694,406	6,816,150	6,720,653
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$26,205,704	\$30,222,970	\$41,571,388	\$43,541,343
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	15,446,791	16,094,045	18,254,546	18,774,575
Federal Funds	7,306,014	8,641,175	16,663,458	17,977,153
Restricted Receipts	2,766,642	2,969,545	3,528,575	4,158,067
Other Funds	686,257	2,518,205	3,124,809	2,631,548
Total Expenditures	\$26,205,704	\$30,222,970	\$41,571,388	\$43,541,343
Program Measures				
Quahog Biomass in Metric Tons as a Percentage of Biomass Required for Stock to be Self-Sustaining				
	70.0%	55.0%	62.0%	68.0%
Percentage of Rhode Island Farms Certified in Good Agricultural Practice				
	5.0%	7.0%	9.0%	10.0%
Percentage of RI Communities on Designated Levels in the Urban Forestry Program:				
Percentage of RI Communities on at least:				
Formative Level	75.0%	80.0%	85.0%	80.0%
Developmental Level	50.0%	55.0%	57.5%	55.0%
Sustained Level	25.0%	27.5%	30.0%	27.5%

The Program

Department of Environmental Management Bureau of Environmental Protection

Program Operations

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

The Office of Water Resources operates the following regulatory programs: Pollutant Discharge Elimination System; Pretreatment; Underground Injection Control; Groundwater & Surface Water Quality Certification; Individual Septic Disposal Systems; Freshwater Wetlands; Water Quality Restoration Studies; Total Maximum Daily Loading (TDML); Wastewater Treatment Facility and Sludge Programs, and Sustainable Watershed Initiatives.

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. It also investigates suspected violations and takes enforcement actions based on a coordinated effort with the respective receiving offices.

The Office for Permitting Coordination and Innovations assists the public by coordinating review of multiple applications and permits and tracking the status of permitting activities throughout the bureau. The office assists businesses to prevent pollution by adhering to regulations made more effective by the Environmental Results Program in priority sectors.

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 of Waste 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.

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.

Program Objective

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.

Statutory History

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The Budget

Department of Environmental Management Bureau of Environmental Protection

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Revised	FY 2007 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Water Resources	5,441,735	6,479,930	8,773,338	8,809,771
Environmental Protection Administration	130,343	126,958	185,187	158,218
Compliance & Inspection	2,164,349	2,306,490	5,378,187	5,159,980
Technical & Customer Assistance	770,634	658,926	422,673	389,731
RIPDES	798,645	803,550	900,755	941,734
Air Resources	3,851,709	3,670,048	3,368,356	3,704,297
Waste Management	3,330,386	3,217,098	8,825,737	9,009,229
Environmental Response	2,008,915	1,625,076	2,405,157	7,025,156
Total Expenditures	\$18,496,716	\$18,888,076	\$30,259,390	\$35,198,116
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	16,875,768	17,254,482	21,774,770	21,381,579
Other State Operations	1,218,196	1,189,286	2,568,740	2,676,805
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	215,274	379,897	886,102	5,014,200
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$18,309,238	\$18,823,665	\$25,229,612	\$29,072,584
Capital Improvements	187,478	64,411	5,029,778	6,125,532
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$18,496,716	\$18,888,076	\$30,259,390	\$35,198,116
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	8,078,855	9,119,606	11,803,592	12,436,697
Federal Funds	6,780,951	7,066,304	13,216,898	12,946,862
Restricted Receipts	3,636,910	2,702,166	5,238,900	9,814,557
Total Expenditures	\$18,496,716	\$18,888,076	\$30,259,390	\$35,198,116
Program Measures				
Percentage of Sites Suspected or Identified as Contaminated that are Cleaned Up	48.8%	46.0%	42.5%	44.0%
Percentage of Operating Permit Programs that are Inspected Annually for Compliance with Air Quality Standards	63.0%	32.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Percentage of Emission Caps that are Inspected Annually	31.0%	14.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Average Number of Days Required to Process Wetlands Permits from Receipt of Application to Final Decision Date	86	84	74	66