**State of Maine: Notice of Agency Rulemaking – January 26, 2022**

**PROPOSALS**

AGENCY: **13-188 - Department of Marine Resources (DMR)**

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: **Ch. 41**, Atlantic Menhaden (2022 Harvest Start Date)

TYPE OF RULE: Routine Technical

PROPOSED RULE NUMBER: **2022-P001**

BRIEF SUMMARY: This proposed rulemaking is a technical update amending the opening date of the State Allocation fishery from Monday, June 14, 2021 to Monday, June 13, 2022 at 12:01 a.m. for the 2022 fishing year.

PUBLIC HEARING: None scheduled

COMMENT DEADLINE: February 25, 2022

CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS FILING: Amanda Ellis, 21 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0021. Telephone: (207) 624-6573. Fax: (207) 624-6024. TTY: (207) 624-6500 (Deaf/Hard of Hearing). Email: dmr.rulemaking@maine.gov.

CONTACT PERSON FOR SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT: Same

FINANCIAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES OR COUNTIES: None

STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THIS RULE: 12 MRS §6171

SUBSTANTIVE STATE OR FEDERAL LAW BEING IMPLEMENTED: Same

DMR RULEMAKING WEBSITE: <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/rulemaking/>.

DMR WEBSITE: <https://www.maine.gov/dmr/index.html>.

DMR RULEMAKING LIAISON: dmr.rulemaking@maine.gov.

**ADOPTIONS**

AGENCY: **01-001 - Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF)**

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: **Ch. 701**, Rules Governing Animal Welfare

ADOPTED RULE NUMBER: **2022-011**

CONCISE SUMMARY:

**Section I changes**. Over the past several years, there have been many changes to the way people acquire pets and the level of care needed to maintain healthy animals. These changes are the result of investigations of complaints to the department and the result of inspections of licensed facilities. These changes also remove the redundant civil violations that already exist in current law.

**Section VI changes**. These changes improve and clarify the requirements for horse shelter and care of horses that are in poor health to ensure that they will receive proper care.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 24, 2022

DACF CONTACT PERSON / RULEMAKING LIAISON: Shannon Ayotte, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, 22 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. Telephone: (207) 287-5976. Email: Shannon.Ayotte@Maine.gov.

DACF WEBSITE: <https://www.maine.gov/dacf/index.shtml>.

AGENCY: **02-031** - Department of Professional & Financial Regulation (PFR), **Bureau of Insurance**

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: **Ch. 856** *(New)*, Combination of the Individual and Small Business Health Insurance Risk Pools

ADOPTED RULE NUMBER: **2022-012**

CONCISE SUMMARY: The purpose of the rule is to establish the necessary conditions and procedures for implementation of the pooled individual and small group health insurance market, and the extension of Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association (MGARA) coverage to small group health insurance as provided in 24-A MRS §3958(1)(A-1). It also authorizes MGARA to implement a retroactive reinsurance program for individual health insurance in 2022 and, if applicable, in any subsequent year in which the pooled market has not been implemented.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 24, 2022

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON / RULEMAKING LIAISON: Benjamin Yardley, Senior Staff Attorney, Department of Professional & Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance, 76 Northern Avenue – 34 State House Station, Gardiner, ME 04345. Telephone: (207) 624-8537. Email: Benjamin.Yardley@Maine.gov.

AGENCY WEBSITE: <https://www.maine.gov/pfr/insurance/>.

AGENCY: **01-670** - Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF), **Bureau of Parks and Lands**

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: **Ch. 8**, Rules for Snowmobile Club Trail Maintenance Grant-In-Aid Program

ADOPTED RULE NUMBER: **2022-013**

CONCISE SUMMARY: The Bureau of Parks and Lands, Off Road Recreational Vehicle Office, administers a Snowmobile Club Grant Program and a Snowmobile Municipal/County Grant Program. The grant application and grant reimbursement submission deadlines for these two programs do not match. This causes confusion for club volunteers administering these separate grants. Bringing the due dates in alignment with each other will eliminate confusion over grant submittal deadlines.

The Office is changing the snowmobile club grant filing deadline date from December 31st to December 1" and changing the deadline for grant reimbursement filing from April 30 to May 15". These changes will align the due dates with the Municipal/County grant deadlines in ch. 7.

Also, the Bureau intends to change all references to the "Off Road Vehicle Division" to the "Off Road Recreational Vehicle Office"; this change corrects the title of the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 29, 2022

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON / RULEMAKING LIAISON: Shannon Ayotte, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, 22 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. Telephone: (207) 287-5976. Email: Shannon.Ayotte@Maine.gov.

BUREAU WEBSITE: <https://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/index.shtml>.