ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GREEN ACRES PROGRAM

State Trails System

Readoption: N.J.A.C. 7:5D

Proposed: October 18, 2010 at 42 N.J.R. 2357(a)

Adopted: April 3, 2011 by Bob Martin, Commissioner,

Department of Environmental Protection

Filed: , 2011 as R. 2011 d. , **with**

technical changes not requiring additional public notice and comment (see N.J.A.C. 1:30-6.3).

Authority: N.J.S.A. 13:8-30 et seq.

DEP Docket Number: 08-10-09

Effective Date:

Expiration Date:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is readopting the State Trails System Rules at N.J.A.C. 7:5D. The State Trails System Rules implement the New Jersey Trails System Act, N.J.S.A. 13:8-30 et seq. (Act). The rules establish standards, procedures and practices for designating and maintaining trails as part of the System. Designation of trails to the System is intended to help preserve the natural, recreational, ecological, geological, historical and cultural qualities of trails and the areas through which they pass; to increase open space and recreational opportunities; and to enhance the quality of life for all State residents and visitors.

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The proposal of the readoption without amendments was published in the New Jersey Register at 42 N.J.R. 2357(a) on October 18, 2010. The comment period closed on December 17, 2010.

Summary of Public Comments and Agency Responses:

No comments were received.

Federal Standards Statement

Executive Order No. 27 (1994) and N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. (P.L. 1995, c. 65), require State agencies which adopt, readopt or amend State regulations that exceed any Federal standards or requirements include in the rulemaking document a Federal Standards Analysis. N.J.A.C. 7:20 is not promulgated under the authority of, or in order to implement, comply with or participate in any program established under Federal law or under State statute that incorporates or refers to Federal law, Federal standards or Federal requirements. Accordingly, Executive Order No. 27 (1994) and N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. do not require a Federal standards analysis.

Summary of Agency Initiated Changes:

The Department is correcting addresses at N.J.A.C. 7:5D-5.2 and N.J.A.C. 7:5D-8.2 to reflect the office within the Department currently administering this program.

Full text of the readopted rules may be found in the New Jersey Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 7:5D.

Full text of the adopted amendments follows (additions to proposal indicated in boldface with asterisks *thus*; deletions from proposal indicated in brackets with asterisks *[thus]*):

7:5D-5.2 Procedure and criteria for designation to the State Trails System

(a) Any Federal or State agency, local unit, private organization or person may submit to the Department a request for designation of a trail to the State Trails System in accordance with the criteria for eligibility set forth at (d)1 through 7 below. The trail designation request shall also include documentation prepared to support eligibility for designation in accordance with (e) below. The trail designation request shall be submitted to the Department at the following address: State Trails System, *[Office of Natural Lands Management, Department of Environmental Protection, PO Box 404, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0404]* * Green Acres Program, Department of Environmental Protection, Mailcode 501-01, PO Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420*.

(b) - (e) (No change.)

7:5D-8.2. Public Information

Interested persons may obtain information on the State Trails System by contacting:

*[Office of Natural Lands Management

Division of Parks and Forestry

Department of Environmental Protection

PO Box 404

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0404

(609) 984-1339

NatLands@dep.state.nj.us]*

*Green Acres Program

Department of Environmental Protection

Mailcode 501-01

PO Box 420

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

(609) 984-0500

trails@dep.state.nj.us*