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## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

### **DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

#### **Notice of Readoption**

##### **Oysters**

##### **Readoption: N.J.A.C. 7:25A**

Authority: N.J.S.A. 13:1D-9, 23:2B-14, 50:1-1 et seq., 50:2-7 through 50:2-12, and 50:3-1 et seq.

Authorized By: Shawn M. LaTourette, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection.

Effective Date: December 12, 2024.

New Expiration Date: December 12, 2031.

**Take notice** that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, the rules for Oysters at N.J.A.C. 7:25A are readopted and shall continue in effect for a seven-year period. The rules were scheduled to expire on February 28, 2025. The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has reviewed these rules and has determined that the rules should be readopted because they are necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purpose for which they were originally promulgated. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(1), timely filing of this notice extended the expiration date of the chapter seven years from the date of filing.

The Oysters rules, N.J.A.C. 7:25A, govern the management and harvest of oysters from the Delaware River, Delaware Bay, and their tributaries. The rules govern the issuance, renewal, and transfer of oyster dredge vessel licenses, the leasing of oyster ground in Section E in the Delaware Bay (located west of Egg Island Point), the reporting of oysters harvested, and fees for an oyster cultch and resource enhancement program. The rules also govern the harvest of oysters from the State's natural seed beds in the Delaware Bay and the transplant of oysters from the seed beds directly to leased grounds in the Delaware Bay.