

# Ocean and Coastal Resource Management | Environmental Affairs

## R.30-1, Statement of Policy – Proposed Amendment

## R.30-12, Specific Project Standards for Tidelands and Coastal Waters – Proposed Amendment

State Register Document No. 4995

General Assembly review required

Link to published Notice of Proposed Regulation (“NPR”): [www.scstatehouse.gov/regs/4995.docx](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/regs/4995.docx)

### Status |

NPR comment period open:  
September 25, 2020 – October 26, 2020

### Submit Comments To |

**Tara Maddock**, Office of Coastal and Resource Management  
1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400 | Charleston, SC 29405  
[maddoctc@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:maddoctc@dhec.sc.gov)

### Summary |

Pursuant to the S.C. Coastal Zone Management Act, S.C. Code Sections 48-39-10 et seq., the Department of Health and Environmental Control (“Department”) proposes amending R.30-1 and R.30-12 to provide a definition and add project standards for living shorelines. Coastal property owners and other stakeholders in South Carolina have expressed an increased interest in the use of living shorelines as an alternative to hardened erosion control structures within the estuarine environment. Coastal Division regulations currently do not provide guidance specific for living shoreline installations. The lack of a regulatory definition or specific project standards for living shorelines has resulted in longer permitting review times and uncertainties about project performance. Proposed new sections R.30-1.D(31) and R.30-12.Q will allow for a more efficient authorization process by defining which projects qualify as a living shoreline and establishing specific standards for living shoreline installations. The proposed new sections will also help ensure a project’s design will accomplish its intended goals.

The Department developed the proposed new sections using scientific data and monitoring results from existing living shoreline installations in South Carolina and with input from state, local, and federal agencies, the Living Shoreline Working Group, and additional stakeholder engagement.

The Administrative Procedures Act, S.C. Code Section 1-23-120(A), requires General Assembly review of these proposed amendments.

### History |

NOD published; comment period started:	April 24, 2020
NOD comment period closed:	May 26, 2020
Board approval to publish NPR:	September 10, 2020
Public Hearing (scheduled):	December 10, 2020