

Ocean + Coastal Resource Management | Environmental Affairs

R.30-1, Statement of Policy; R.30-2, Applying for a Permit; R.30-11, General Guidelines for All Critical Areas; R.30-13, Specific Project Standards for Beaches and the Beach/Dune System; R.30-15, Activities Allowed Seaward of Baseline – Proposed Amendment

State Register Document No. 5200

General Assembly review required

Link to published Notice of Proposed Regulation (“NPR”): www.scstatehouse.gov/regs/5200.docx

Status |

NPR published; comment period open:
July 28, 2023 – August 28, 2023

Submit Comments To |

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Summary |

South Carolina’s beachfront policies and jurisdictional authorities are established under the South Carolina Beachfront Management Act (S.C. Code Sections 48-39-250 et seq.). Over the past three decades, these rules have guided where and how areas along the state’s beachfront can be developed. In 2018, Act 173 amended the Beachfront Management Act to replace the state’s 40-year policy of retreat with a policy of beach preservation. However, Coastal Division regulations currently lack specific guidance to effectively implement the new policy. In 2022, the Department convened the Beach Preservation Stakeholder Workgroup (“Workgroup”), which represented a wide range of backgrounds and constituencies, to provide input and diverse perspectives on beach preservation in South Carolina. The Workgroup’s recommendations and key findings were the primary basis for developing the proposed amendments to R.30-1, R.30-2, R.30-11.D, and R.30-13 to establish a regulatory definition for beach preservation, provide for a process and standards to permit pilot projects proposed within the beaches or beach/dune system critical areas, and provide for consistency in the application of standards for activities across beaches and beach/dune system critical areas. The proposed amendments will provide clarity for the regulated community, guidance for regulatory staff, and allow the Department to more effectively implement the state’s beach preservation policy. The proposed amendments also include corrections for clarity and readability, grammar, punctuation, codification, and other such regulatory text improvements.

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:	February 24, 2023
NOD comment period closed:	March 27, 2023
Board approval to publish NPR:	July 13, 2023
Public hearing (scheduled):	October 12, 2023