



SECRETARY OF STATE
PUBLIC INFORMATION
CENTER
2021 JUL 21 PM 12:14


State of Rhode Island

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER

21-80

July 21, 2021

**WAIVER OF STATE BEACH USER FEES AND RECREATIONAL
SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE REQUIREMENT ON GOVERNOR'S BAY DAY**

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is committed to promoting and expanding outdoor recreation in the State; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island's magnificent public beaches are one of our State's most treasured natural resources enjoyed by residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, our State's ample saltwater fishing areas provide a great way for families and friends to experience the thrill of recreational fishing; and

WHEREAS, the State wishes to encourage Rhode Islanders to get outdoors, be active, and explore our network of recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, Narragansett Bay is a vital natural resource that supports our water-based economy and its critical business sectors; and

WHEREAS, the State's waters provide abundant and diverse local seafood, nourishing our families and strengthening our economy; and

WHEREAS, protecting and promoting Narragansett Bay and its surrounding watersheds are a top priority of the State; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island state beaches and parks attract more than 9 million visitors each year and generate an estimated \$311 million in consumer spending annually, which contributes significantly to the State's annual \$7.0 billion tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island's marine recreational fishing industry contributes \$420 million to the State's economy and supports over 4,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws § 42-17.1-9.1 permits the Director of the Department of Environmental Management to establish appropriate user fees for state beaches; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Environmental Management, consistent with Rhode Island General Laws § 42-17.1-9.1, may from time to time waive user fees for all state beaches; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Laws § 20-2.2-5 permits the Director of the Department of Environmental Management to establish a free-fishing day where a license is not required for recreational saltwater fishing; and

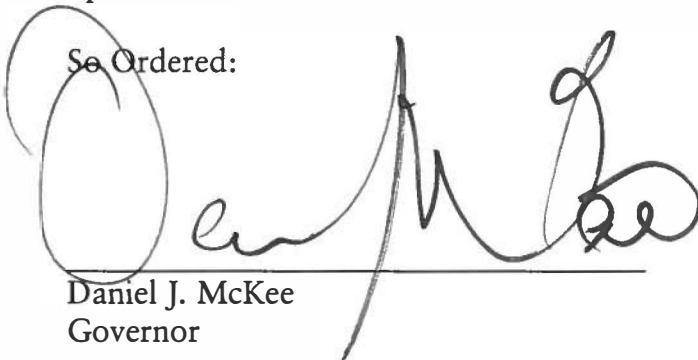
WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Environmental Management wishes to waive state beach user fees on Bay Day and designate Bay Day a free-fishing day for recreational saltwater fishing.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DANIEL J. MCKEE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby order as follows:

1. All Rhode Island state beaches will be open to the public free of user fees on July 25, 2021.
2. Recreational saltwater fishing shall be permitted in the marine waters of Rhode Island without possession of a recreational saltwater fishing license from July 23, 2021 through July 25, 2021.

This Executive Order supersedes Executive Order 19-07 and shall take effect immediately upon the date hereof.

So Ordered:



Daniel J. McKee
Governor