

Administrative Procedures – Public Input Statement

Instructions:

In completing the public input statement, an agency describes what it did do, or will do to maximize the involvement of the public in the development of the rule. This form must be completed for the following filings made during the rulemaking process:

- Proposed Rule Filing
- Final Proposed Filing
- Adopted Rule Filing
- Emergency Rule Filing

1. TITLE OF RULE FILING:

Vermont Stream Alteration Rule

2. ADOPTING AGENCY:

Agency of Natural Resources

3. PLEASE LIST THE STEPS THAT HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE TAKEN TO MAXIMIZE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

The Agency has worked with its partner agencies and departments, including the Vermont Agency of Transportation and Department of Public Safety, and many municipalities since Tropical Storm Irene to persuade FEMA to accept Vermont's bridge and culvert standards under FEMA's Public Assistance Program. In the spring and summer of 2016, FEMA finally provided the Agency with the specific changes to the Rule and General Permit that would enable FEMA to approve the State's codes and standards, while allowing the State to maintain its general standard and overall approach to stream alteration permitting.

The Agency plans to provide the proposed Rule to the stakeholders it has worked with on this issue and to receive written public comment on the Rule during the public comment period.

4. BEYOND GENERAL ADVERTISEMENTS, PLEASE LIST THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

In addition to working closely with FEMA, the Department of Environmental Conservation has worked closely with the Department of Fish and Wildlife; the

Vermont Agency of Transportation; and the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security in the development of these rule amendments.