

THIS IS A COURTESY COPY OF THIS NOTICE. THE OFFICIAL VERSION WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE May 6, 2013 NEW JERSEY REGISTER. SHOULD THERE BE ANY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THIS TEXT AND THE OFFICIAL VERSION OF THE NOTICE, THE OFFICIAL VERSION WILL GOVERN.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

OFFICE OF NATURAL LANDS MANAGEMENT

Notice of Readoption

Endangered Plant Species Program

Readoption: **N.J.A.C. 7:5C**

Authority: N.J.S.A. 13:1B-1 et seq., 13:1B-15.151 et seq., and 13:1D-9.

Authorized By: Bob Martin, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection.

Effective Date: April 9, 2013.

New Expiration Date: April 9, 2020.

Take notice that pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, the Department of Environmental Protection's (Department) Endangered Plant Species Program rules at N.J.A.C. 7:5C are readopted and shall continue in effect for a seven-year period. The rules had been scheduled to expire on May 12, 2013. The 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.c1, timely filing of this notice extended the expiration date of the chapter seven years from the date of filing.

The Endangered Plant Species Program rules implement the Endangered Plant Species List Act (Act), N.J.S.A. 13:1B-15.151 through 15.158. Under the Act, the Department has

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adopted a list of plant species native to the State that are endangered due to the destruction, drastic modification, or severe curtailment of their habitat, or for other natural or anthropogenic reasons. (See N.J.S.A. 13:1B-15.154.) The rules contain procedures, standards, and criteria for developing and adopting a list of endangered plant species native to the State, and also contain the official Endangered Plant Species List at N.J.A.C. 7:5C-5.1 (List), which currently includes 339 native New Jersey plant species.

On August 6, 2012, the Department proposed amendments to the Endangered Plant Species Program rules. The changes proposed include, among other things, updates to the Endangered Plant Species List based on the criteria for designating plant species as endangered and information currently available in the Department's Natural Heritage Database. (see 44 N.J.R. 2020(a)). Any further [action](#) on those proposed amendments would be the subject of a separate notice in the New Jersey Register.