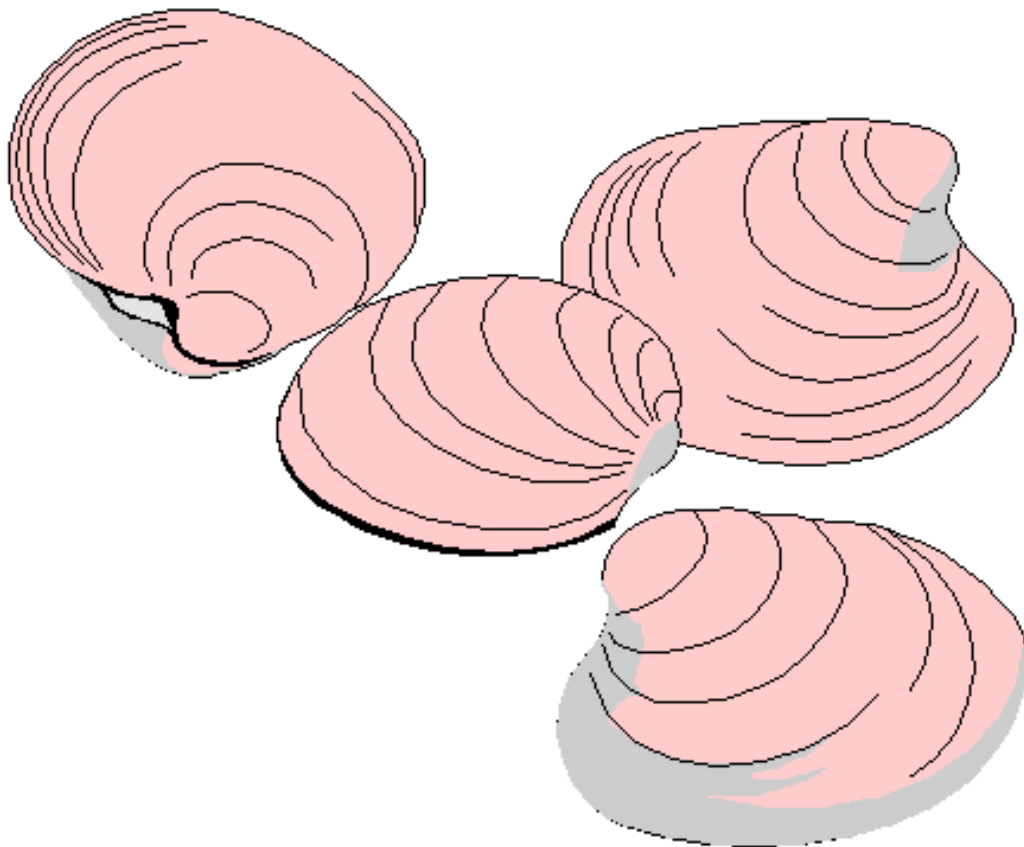




Connecticut Department of  
Energy & Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Water Protection & Land Reuse  
Office of Long Island Sound Programs

# REFERENCE GUIDE TO COASTAL POLICIES AND DEFINITIONS



**Connecticut Coastal Management Act  
 Statutorily Defined  
 Definitions, Policies & Adverse Impacts**

**Introduction** ..... 1

**Using the Coastal Policies**..... 2

**Definitions**..... 3

*Definitions of Adverse Impacts* ..... 3

**Characteristics & Functions of Resources**..... 3

**Coastal Flooding**..... 3

**Coastal Waters Circulation Patterns** ..... 3

**Drainage Patterns** ..... 3

**Patterns of Shoreline Erosion and Accretion** ..... 3

**Visual Quality**..... 3

**Water Dependency** ..... 3

**Water Quality**..... 3

**Wildlife, Finfish, Shellfish Habitat**..... 4

*Coastal Resources & Other Definitions* ..... 4

**Beaches and Dunes**..... 4

**Bluffs and Escarpments**..... 4

**Coastal Hazard Areas**..... 4

**Coastal Waters and Estuarine Embayments**..... 4

**Developed Shorefront** ..... 4

**Freshwater Wetlands and Watercourses**..... 5

**General Resource** ..... 5

**Intertidal Flats**..... 5

**Islands** ..... 5

**Rocky Shorefront** ..... 5

**Shellfish Concentration Areas** ..... 5

**Shorelands** ..... 5

**Tidal Wetlands** ..... 6

**Water Dependent Uses** ..... 6

**Policies**..... 7

*Resource Policies* ..... 7

**General Resources**..... 7

**Beaches & Dunes**..... 7

**Bluffs & Escarpments**..... 8

**Coastal Hazard Area** ..... 8

**Coastal Waters & Estuarine Embayments**..... 10

**Developed Shorefront** ..... 10

**Freshwater Wetlands & Watercourses**..... 10

<b>Intertidal Flats.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Islands .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Rocky Shorefront.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Shellfish Concentration Area.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Shorelands .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Tidal Wetlands .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<i>Activities Policies.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<b>General Development .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Boating .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Coastal Recreation &amp; Access .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Coastal Structures &amp; Filling .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Cultural Resources.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Dams, Dikes &amp; Reservoirs.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Dredging &amp; Navigation.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Energy Facilities.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Fisheries .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Fuel, Chemical &amp; Hazardous Materials .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Open Space &amp; Agricultural Lands.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Ports &amp; Harbors.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Sewer &amp; Water Lines.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Solid Waste .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Transportation .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Water Dependent Uses .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<i>Other Policies .....</i>	<i>25</i>
<b>Intergovernmental Coordination .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Coordination and Consistency.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Flooding and Erosion.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Dredging and Dredged Material Disposal Planning.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Coastal Related Research.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>National Interest Facilities and Resources.....</b>	<b>27</b>

## Introduction

The attached policies, taken from and developed specifically for the Connecticut Coastal Management Act, together with those preexisting the Act, provide the foundation for the coastal management program. Their purpose is to guide all federal and state planning, development, acquisition and regulatory activities that are subject to the management program within the coastal area. Further, they are to guide all municipal planning, development, acquisition and regulatory activities that are subject to the management program within the coastal boundary. In short, the coastal policies provide uniform standards and criteria for all public agencies that conduct or regulate activities subject to the management program. The policies have been adopted as an integral part of the Act and are directly enforceable through implementation of the management program.

To assist in the evaluation of adverse impacts on coastal resources and water-dependent uses associated with activities in the coastal area, the Act specifically defines the adverse impacts which must be considered for all coastal development proposals and in conjunction with all applicable coastal policies.

The Connecticut Coastal Management Act also defines all coastal resources within the land and water areas of the coastal boundary. Such resource definitions range from natural resources (e.g. tidal wetlands, beaches and dunes) to man-made resources (e.g. developed shorefront). Each defined resource category has a set of specific statutory policies pertaining to it. The defined coastal resources have been mapped (resource factor maps) and copies of such maps are available through DEEP's Office of Long Island Sound Programs and each coastal municipality.

Connecticut's coastal management program incorporates a resource management/impact zoning concept to be used by both state and municipal agencies. Uses and activities subject to the management program are evaluated, through all applicable state and municipal permit programs, for their consistency with the coastal policies and for their adverse impacts on coastal resources and water-dependent uses. To provide the necessary guidance to implement this resource-based approach to coastal management, the policies are divided into three broad categories - 1) coastal resource policies, 2) coastal use policies, and 3) governmental process policies.

The Coastal Management Act's "coastal resource" policies apply to all uses occurring in or affecting any resource category defined in the Act. Guidance on the location of coastal resources is provided by the resource factor maps.

The Act also contains specific "coastal use" policies for major uses and activities subject to the management program. These policies pertain to certain major uses and activities independent of their location within the coastal area. They must be considered in addition to and in conjunction with all applicable coastal resource policies and potential adverse impacts.

The third broad category of policies, "governmental process" policies, pertain to intergovernmental coordination, permit simplification, planning programs, national interest and related topics. Their purpose is to provide direction and standards for program implementation, coordination, and long-range planning by governmental entities in Connecticut.

## Using the Coastal Policies

The initial step in assuring consistency with the coastal policies for any use or activity subject to the management program is to determine the coastal resources on or near the site which may be affected. The coastal resource definitions and coastal resource factor maps will aid the applicant in determining these resources.

Once an accurate identification of the resources has been made, the coastal resource policies corresponding to each of the resources identified should be reviewed to determine which are applicable to the project.

The next step is to review the coastal use policies to determine if there are specific policies regarding the use or activity under consideration. The applicable coastal resource policies, together with any applicable coastal use policies, will indicate the criteria and standards with which the proposed activity or use must be consistent.

Review of applicable coastal policies constitutes the resource management component of the resource management/impact zoning system established by the Connecticut Coastal Management Act. The applicant bears the burden of demonstrating consistency with applicable coastal policies. For guidance in determining consistency with state policies, refer to Section 22a-92 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) and Planning Report 30. Assuming that the applicant has adequately demonstrated consistency with the coastal policies, the remaining step in the evaluation process is to assess the adverse impacts on the affected coastal resources and water-dependent use opportunities. The adverse impacts to be considered are defined by the Act. The magnitude of the impact is dependent upon the nature of the project (e.g. its size, available infrastructure such as sewers, water service, method and time of construction) and the project's location (e.g. the fragility of the affected resources). While the coastal resources and coastal use policies are designed to provide specific locational and siting criteria for major uses or facilities, the minimization or elimination of defined adverse impacts is designed to prevent significant long-term degradation of the coastal resources.

Once the applicant feels that consistency has been adequately demonstrated and that adverse impacts associated with the use or activity have been sufficiently evaluated, required permits are sought through municipal zoning and state regulatory programs. The review of the application by the permitting agency or agencies includes determination of consistency with the coastal policies and assessment of the adverse impacts, upon which permit certification is based. Further, any federal permits required must be issued consistent with the coastal policies under the state's federal consistency review responsibilities through coastal management. If a permit for a use or activity subject to the management program is issued without such certification, it does not constitute a legal permit.

## **Definitions**

### ***Definitions of Adverse Impacts***

#### **Characteristics & Functions of Resources**

Degrading tidal wetlands, beaches and dunes, rocky shorefronts, and bluffs and escarpments through significant alteration of their natural characteristics or function. CGS Section 22a-93(15)(H)

#### **Coastal Flooding**

Increasing the hazard of coastal flooding through significant alteration of shoreline configurations or bathymetry, particularly within high velocity flood zones. CGS Section 22a-3(15)(E)

#### **Coastal Waters Circulation Patterns**

Degrading existing circulation patterns of coastal waters through the significant patterns of tidal exchange or flushing rates, freshwater input, or existing basin characteristics and channel contours. CGS Section 22a-93(15)(B)

#### **Drainage Patterns**

Degrading natural or existing drainage patterns through the significant alteration of groundwater flow and recharge and volume of runoff. CGS Section 22a-93(15)(D)

#### **Patterns of Shoreline Erosion and Accretion**

Degrading natural erosion patterns through the significant alteration of littoral transport of sediments in terms of deposition or source reduction. CGS Section 22a-93(15)(C)

#### **Visual Quality**

Degrading visual quality through significant alteration of the natural features of vistas and viewpoints. CGS Section 22a-93(15)(F)

#### **Water Dependency**

"Adverse impacts on future water-dependent development opportunities" and "adverse impacts on future water-dependent development activities" include but are not limited to (A) locating a non-water-dependent use at a site that (i) is physically suited for a water-dependent use for which there is a reasonable demand or (ii) has been identified for a water-dependent use in the plan of development of the municipality or the zoning regulations; (B) replacement of a water dependent use with a non-water-dependent use; and (C) siting of a non-water-dependent use which would substantially reduce or inhibit existing public access to marine or tidal waters. CGS Section 22a-93(17)

#### **Water Quality**

Degrading water quality through the significant introduction into either coastal waters or groundwater supplies of suspended solids, nutrients, toxics, heavy metals or pathogens, or through the significant alteration of temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen or salinity. CGS Section 22a-93(15)(A)

## **Wildlife, Finfish, Shellfish Habitat**

Degrading or destroying essential wildlife, finfish or shellfish habitat through significant alteration of the composition, migration patterns, distribution, breeding or other population characteristics of the natural species or significant alteration of the natural components of the habitat. CGS Section 22a-93 (15)(G)

## ***Coastal Resources & Other Definitions***

### **Beaches and Dunes**

"Beaches and Dunes" means beach systems including barrier beach spits and tombolos, barrier beaches, pocket beaches, land contact beaches and related dunes and sandflats. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(C)

### **Bluffs and Escarpments**

"Coastal Bluffs and Escarpments" means naturally eroding shorelands marked by dynamic escarpments or sea cliffs which have slope angles that constitute an intricate adjustment between erosion, substrate, drainage and degree of plant cover. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(A)

### **Coastal Hazard Areas**

"Coastal Hazard Areas" means those land areas inundated during coastal storm events or subject to erosion induced by such events, including flood hazard areas as defined and determined by the National Flood Insurance Act, as amended (U.S.C. 42 Section 4101, P.L. 93-234) and all erosion hazard areas as determined by the commissioner. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(H)

### **Coastal Waters and Estuarine Embayments**

"Coastal Waters" means those waters of Long Island Sound and its harbors, embayments, tidal rivers, streams and creeks, which contain a salinity concentration of at least five hundred parts per million under the low flow stream conditions as established by the commissioner. CGS Section 22a-93(5)

"Nearshore Waters" means the area comprised of those waters and their substrates lying between mean high water and a depth approximated by the ten meter contour. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(K)

"Offshore Waters" means the area comprised of those waters and their substrates lying seaward of a depth approximated by the ten meter contour. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(L)

"Estuarine Embayments" means a protected coastal body of water with an open connection to the sea in which saline sea water is measurably diluted by fresh water including tidal rivers, bays, lagoons and coves. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(G)

### **Developed Shorefront**

"Developed Shorefront" means those harbor areas which have been highly engineered and developed resulting in the functional impairment or substantial alteration of their natural physiographic features or systems. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(I)

## **Freshwater Wetlands and Watercourses**

"Freshwater Wetlands and Watercourses" means "wetlands" and "watercourses" as defined by CGS Section 22a-38 and CGS Section 22a-93(7)(F).

"Wetlands" means land, including submerged land, not regulated pursuant to Sections 22a-28 to 22a-35, inclusive, which consists of any of the soil types designated as poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial, and flood plain by the National Cooperative Soil Survey, as may be amended from time to time, of the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. CGS Section 22a-38(15)

"Watercourses" means rivers, streams, brooks, waterways, lakes, ponds, marshes, swamps, bogs and all other bodies of water, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through or border upon this state or any portion thereof, not regulated pursuant to Sections 22a-28 to 22a-35, inclusive. CGS Section 22a-38(16)

## **General Resource**

"Coastal Resources" means the coastal waters of the state, their natural resources, related marine and wildlife habitat and adjacent shorelands, both developed and undeveloped, that together form an integrated terrestrial and estuarine ecosystem. CGS Section 22a-93(7)

## **Intertidal Flats**

"Intertidal Flats" means very gently sloping or flat areas located between high and low tides composed of muddy, silty and fine sandy sediments and generally devoid of vegetation. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(D)

## **Islands**

"Island" means land surrounded on all sides by water. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(J)

## **Rocky Shorefront**

"Rocky Shorefront" means shorefront composed of bedrock, boulders and cobbles that are highly erosion-resistant and are an insignificant source of sediments for other coastal landforms. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(B)

## **Shellfish Concentration Areas**

"Shellfish Concentration Areas" means actual, potential or historic areas in coastal waters, in which one or more species of shellfish aggregate. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(N)

## **Shorelands**

"Shorelands" means those land areas within the coastal boundary exclusive of coastal hazard areas, which are not subject to dynamic coastal processes and which are comprised of typical upland features such as bedrock hills, till hills and drumlins. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(M)



## Tidal Wetlands

"Tidal Wetlands" means "wetland" as defined by CGS Section 22a-29. CGS Section 22a-93(7)(E)

"Wetland" means those areas which border on or lie beneath tidal waters, such as, but not limited to banks, bogs, salt marsh, swamps, meadows, flats, or other low lands subject to tidal action, including those areas now or formerly connected to tidal waters, and whose surface is at or below an elevation of one foot above local extreme high water; and upon which may grow or be capable of growing some but not necessarily all, of the following: Salt meadow grass (*Spartina patens*), spike grass (*Distichlis spicata*), black grass (*Juncus gerardi*), saltmarsh grass (*Spartina alterniflora*), saltworts (*Salicornia Europaea*, and *Salicornia bigelovii*), sea lavender (*Limonium carolinianum*), saltmarsh bulrushes (*Scirpus robustus* and *Scirpus paludosus* var. *atlanticus*), sand spurrey (*Spergularia marina*), switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*), tall cordgrass (*Spartina pectinata*), high tide bush (*Iva frutescens* var. *oraria*), cattails (*Typha angustifolia*, and *Typha latifolia*), spike rush (*Eleocharis rostellata*), chairmaker's rush (*Scirpus americana*), bent grass (*Agrostis palustris*), and sweet grass (*Hierochloe odorata*), royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*), interrupted fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*), cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*), sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), marsh fern (*Dryopteris thelypteris*), bur-reed family (*Sparganium eurycarpum*, *Sparganium ndrocladum*, *Sparganium americanum*, *Sparganium chlorocarpum*, *Sparganium angustifolium*, *Sparganium fluctuans*, *Sparganium minimum*), horned pondweed (*Zannichellia palustris*), water-plantain (*Alisma triviale*), arrowhead (*Sagittaria subulata*, *Sagittaria graminea*, *Sagittaria eatoni*, *Sagittaria engelmanniana*), wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*), tuckahoe (*Peltandra virginica*), water-arum (*Calla palustris*), skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*), sweet flag (*Acorus calamus*), pickerelweed (*Pontederia cordata*), water stargrass (*Heteranthera dubia*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), false hellebore (*Veratrum viride*), slenderblue flag (*Iris prismatica*), blue flag (*Iris versicolor*), yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*), speckled alder (*Alnus rugosa*), commopn alder (*Alnus serrulata*), arrow-leaved tearthumb (*Polygonum sagittatum*), halberd-leaved tearthumb (*Polygonum arifolium*), spatter-dock (*Nuphar varegatum* *nuphar advena*), marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*), swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*), poison ivy (*Rhus radicans*), poison sumac (*Rhus vernix*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), jewelweed (*Impatiens apensis*), marshmallow (*Hibiscus palustris*), loostrife (*Lythrum alatum*, *Lythrum salicaria*), red osier (*Cornus stolonifera*), red willow *Cornus amomum*), silky dogwood (*Coronus obliqua*), sweet pepper-bush (*Clethra alnifolia*), swamp honeysuckle (*Rhododendron viscosum*), high-bush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*), sea lavender (*Limonium nashii*), climbing hemp-weed (*Mikania scandens*), joe pye weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*), joe pye weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*), thoroughwort (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*). CGS Section 22a-29(2)

## Water Dependent Uses

"Water-dependent uses" means those uses and facilities which require direct access to, or location in, marine or tidal waters and which therefore cannot be located inland, including but not limited to: Marinas, recreational and commercial fishing and boating facilities, finfish and shellfish processing plants, waterfront dock and port facilities, shipyards and boat building facilities, water-based recreational uses, navigation aides, basins and channels, industrial uses dependent upon water-borne transportation or requiring large volumes of cooling or process water which cannot reasonably be located or operated at an inland site and uses which provide general public access to marine or tidal waters. CGS Section 22a-93(16)

# Policies

## *Resource Policies*

### **General Resources**

- 1 To preserve and enhance coastal resources in accordance with the policies established by chapters 439 (Environmental Protection Department and State Policy), 440 (Wetlands and Watercourses), 446i (Water Resources), 446k (Water Pollution Control), 447 (State Parks and Forests), 474 (Pollution), and 477 (Flood Control and Beach Erosion). CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 2 The general assembly hereby declares that the policy of the state of Connecticut is to conserve, improve and protect its natural resources and environment and to control air, land and water pollution in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state. CGS Section 22a-1 as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 3 It is hereby found and declared that there is a public trust in the air, water and other natural resources of the state of Connecticut and that each person is entitled to the protection, preservation and enhancement of the same. CGS Section 22a-15 as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 4 The commissioner shall carry out the environmental policies of the state and shall have all powers necessary and convenient to faithfully discharge this duty. In addition to, and consistent with the environment policy of the state, the commissioner shall (a) promote and coordinate management of water, land and air resources to assure their protection, enhancement and proper allocation and utilization; (b) provide for the protection and management of plants, trees, fish, shellfish, wildlife and other animal life of all types, including the preservation of endangered species; (c) provide for the protection, enhancement and management of the public forests, parks, open spaces and natural area preserves; (d) provide for the protection, enhancement and management of inland, marine and coastal water resources, including, but not limited to, wetlands, rivers, estuaries and shorelines; (e) provide for the prevention and abatement of all water, land and air pollution including, but not limited to, that related to particulate, gases, dust, vapors, noise, radiation, odors, nutrients and cooled or heated liquids, gases and solids; (f) provide for control of pests and regulate the use, storage and disposal of pesticides and other chemicals which may be harmful to man, sea life, animals, plant life or natural resources; (g) regulate the disposal of solid waste and liquid waste, including but not limited to, domestic and industrial refuse, junk motor vehicles, litter and debris, which methods shall be consistent with sound health, scenic environmental quality and land use practices; (h) regulate the storage, handling and transportation of solids, liquids and gases which may cause or contribute to pollution; and (I) provide for minimum state-wide standards for the mining, extraction or removal of earth materials of all types. CGS Section 22a-5, referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

### **Beaches & Dunes**

- 5 To preserve the dynamic form and integrity of natural beach systems in order to provide critical wildlife habitats, a reservoir for sand supply, a buffer for coastal flooding and erosion, and valuable recreational opportunities. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(C)
- 6 To insure that coastal uses are compatible with the capabilities of the system and do not unreasonably interfere with natural processes of erosion and sedimentation. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(C)

- 7 To encourage the restoration and enhancement of disturbed or modified beach systems. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(C)
- 8 To require as a condition in permitting new coastal structures, including but not limited to, groins, jetties or breakwaters, that access to, or along, the public beach below mean high water must not be unreasonably impaired by such structures and to encourage the removal of illegal structures below mean high water which unreasonably obstruct passage along the public beach. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(K)

### **Bluffs & Escarpments**

- 9 To manage coastal bluffs and escarpments so as to preserve their slope and toe. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(A)
- 10 To discourage uses which do not permit continued natural rates of erosion. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(A)
- 11 To disapprove uses that accelerate slope erosion and alter essential patterns and supply of sediments to the littoral transport system. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(A)

### **Coastal Hazard Area**

- 12 To manage coastal hazard areas so as to insure that development proceeds in such a manner that hazards to life and property are minimized. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(F)
- 13 To promote nonstructural solutions to flood and erosion problems except in those instances where structural alternatives prove unavoidable and necessary to protect existing inhabited structures, infrastructural facilities or water-dependent uses. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(F)
- 14 To maintain the natural relationship between eroding and depositional coastal landforms. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(J)
- 15 To minimize the adverse impacts of erosion and sedimentation on coastal land uses through the promotion of nonstructural mitigation measures. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(J)
- 16 Structural solutions are permissible when necessary and unavoidable for the protection of infrastructural facilities, water-dependent uses, or existing inhabited structures, and where there is no feasible, less environmentally damaging alternative and where all reasonable mitigation measures and techniques have been provided to minimize adverse environmental impacts. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(J)
- 17 To maintain, enhance, or, where feasible, restore natural patterns of water circulation and fresh and saltwater exchange in the placement or replacement of culverts, tide gates or other drainage or flood control structures. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(2)(B)
- 18 It is hereby found and declared that, because of the occurrence of severe storms accompanied by winds up to hurricane force, abnormal high tides and tide flooding, the lives and property of residents and other persons within areas exposed to such hazards are endangered, and that, in the interest of public health, safety and general welfare, it is necessary to minimize, and as far as possible to

prevent, loss of life, property and revenue to municipalities and the state from taxation by the construction of protective works on or near shores and beaches within such areas. As title to the land between high and low watermark is vested in the state, it is further found and declared to be in the public interest to secure such exposed areas by the most economical and effective means for safeguarding life and protecting property and, because it is uneconomical and ineffective for the general purpose for an individual landowner to attempt to maintain protective installations separated from and lacking co-extension with those of abutting properties, that it is in the public interest to provide ways and means for collective and cooperative action to alleviate the dangers and destruction common to such exposed areas. It is further found and declared that because of the recurrence of severe flooding of many of the waterways of the state and their tributaries, taking a huge toll in life and property, extensive flood protection measures must be inaugurated. It is, therefore, found and declared to be in the public interest that encroachment limits along waterways be established and any flood control features at dams and reservoirs be utilized as a part of the construction and installation of any flood control project. CGS Section 25-69, referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

- 19 Land areas fronting on the ocean, or on bays, inlets and coves, or bordering on rivers in which tides occur, that are subject to the full force of storms; or land areas in direct contact with storm waves, including banks, bluffs, cliffs, promontories and headlands or similar topographical or geological formations, that are subject to erosion through wave action; or open beach areas, including spits, dunes and barrier beaches, that are subject to loss of sand through high waves, strong currents or scouring wave action; or land areas subject to inundation during storms or vulnerable to storm damage because of geographic situation, may be classed as exposed areas within the meaning of Sections 25-69 to 25-75, inclusive. The limits of such areas shall be the extent of the natural configuration of the land surface not necessarily co-extensive with political boundaries, and shall include privately-owned and municipally-owned properties upon which public money may be spent and public debt incurred for the protection and conservation thereof, and taxes levied to support expenditures for such purposes. CGS Section 25-70, referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 20 The commissioner shall establish, along any tidal or inland waterway or flood-prone area considered for stream clearance, channel improvement or any form-of flood control or flood alleviation measure, lines beyond which, in the direction of the waterway or flood-prone area, no obstruction or encroachment shall be placed by any person, firm or corporation, public or private, unless authorized by said commissioner. The commissioner shall issue or deny permits upon applications for establishing such encroachments based upon his findings of the effect of such proposed encroachments upon the flood carrying and water storage capacity of the waterways and floodplain, flood heights, hazards to life and property, and the protection and preservation of the natural resources and ecosystems of the state, including but not limited to ground and surface water, animal, plant and aquatic life, nutrient exchange, and energy flow, with due consideration given to the results of similar encroachments constructed along the reach of waterway. CGS Section 22a-342, referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 21 To require as a condition in permitting new coastal structures, including but not limited to, groins, jetties or breakwaters, that access to, or along, the public beach below mean high water must not be unreasonably impaired by such structures and to encourage the removal of illegal structures below mean high water which unreasonably obstruct passage along the public beach. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(K)

## **Coastal Waters & Estuarine Embayments**

- 22 It is found and declared that the pollution of the waters of the state is inimical to the public health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the state, is a public nuisance and is harmful to wildlife, fish and aquatic life and impairs domestic, agricultural, industrial, recreational and other legitimate beneficial uses of water, and that the use of public funds and the granting of tax exemptions for the purpose of controlling and eliminating such pollution is a public use and purpose for which public moneys may be expended and tax exemptions granted, and the necessity and public interest for the enactment of this chapter and the elimination of pollution is hereby declared as a matter of legislative determination. CGS Section 22a-422, as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 23 To manage estuarine embayments so as to insure that coastal uses proceed in a manner that assures sustained biological productivity, the maintenance of healthy marine populations and the maintenance of essential patterns of circulation, drainage and basin configuration. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(2)(A)
- 24 To protect, enhance and allow natural restoration of eelgrass flats except in special limited cases, notably shellfish management, where the benefits accrued through alteration of the flat may outweigh the long-term benefits to marine biota, waterfowl, and commercial and recreational finfisheries. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(2)(A)
- 25 The commissioner of environmental protection shall adopt, and may thereafter amend, standards of water quality applicable to the various waters of the state or portions thereof as provided in subdivision (a) of Section 22a-6. Such standards shall be consistent with the federal Water Pollution Control Act and shall be for the purpose of qualifying the state and its municipalities for available federal grants and for the purpose of providing clear and objective public policy statements of a general program to improve the water resources of the state; provided no standard of water quality adopted shall plan for, encourage or permit any wastes to be discharged into any of the waters of the state without having first received the treatment available and necessary for the elimination of pollution. Such standards of quality shall: (1) apply to interstate waters or portions thereof within the state; (2) apply to such other waters within the state as the commissioner may determine is necessary; (3) protect the public health and welfare and promote the economic development of the state; (4) preserve and enhance the quality of state waters for present and prospective future use for public water supplies, propagation of fish and aquatic life and wildlife, recreational purposes and agricultural, industrial and other legitimate uses; (5) be consistent with health standards as established by the state department of health. CGS Section 22a-426(a), as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

## **Developed Shorefront**

- 26 To promote, through existing state and local planning, development, promotional and regulatory programs, the use of existing developed shorefront areas for marine-related uses, including but not limited to commercial and recreational fishing, boating and other water-dependent commercial, industrial and recreational uses. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(G)

## **Freshwater Wetlands & Watercourses**

- 27 It is, therefore, the purpose of Sections 22a-36 to 22a-45, inclusive, to protect the citizens of the state by making provisions for the protection, preservation, maintenance and use of the inland wetlands and watercourses by minimizing their disturbance and pollution; maintaining and improving water

quality in accordance with the highest standards set by federal, state or local authority; preventing damage from erosion, turbidity or siltation; preventing loss of fish and other beneficial aquatic organisms, wildlife and vegetation and the destruction of the natural habitats thereof; deterring and inhibiting the danger of flood and pollution; protecting the quality of wetlands and watercourses for their conservation, economic, aesthetic, recreational and other public and private uses and values; and protecting the state's potable fresh water supplies from the dangers of drought, overdraft, pollution, misuse and mismanagement by providing an orderly process to balance the need for the economic growth of the state and the use of its land with the need to protect its environment and ecology in order to forever guarantee to the people of the state, the safety of such natural resources for their benefit and enjoyment and for the benefit and enjoyment of generations yet unborn. CGS Section 22a-36 as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

- 28 In carrying out the purposes and policies of Sections 22a-36 to 22a-45, inclusive, including matters relating to regulating, licensing and enforcing of the provisions thereof, the commissioner shall take into consideration all relevant facts and circumstances, including but not limited to:
- (1) The environmental impact of the proposed action;
  - (2) The alternatives to the proposed action;
  - (3) The relationship between short-term uses of environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity;
  - (4) Irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved in the proposed activity;
  - (5) The character and degree of injury to, or interference with, safety, health or the reasonable use of property which is caused or threatened; and
  - (6) The suitability or unsuitability of such activity to the area for which it is proposed. CGS Section 22a-41(a), referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

### **Intertidal Flats**

- 29 To manage intertidal flats so as to preserve their value as a nutrient source and reservoir, a healthy shellfish habitat and a valuable feeding area for invertebrates, fish and shorebirds. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(D)
- 30 To encourage the restoration and enhancement of degraded intertidal flats. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(D)
- 31 To allow coastal uses that minimize change in the natural current flows, depth, slope, sedimentation and nutrient storage functions. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(D)
- 32 To disallow uses that substantially accelerate erosion or lead to significant despoliation of tidal flats. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(D)
- 33 To require as a condition in permitting new coastal structures, including but not limited to groins, jetties or breakwaters, that access to, or along, the public beach below mean high water must not be unreasonably impaired by such structures. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(K)

## **Islands**

- 34 To manage undeveloped islands in order to promote their use as critical habitats for those bird, plant and animal species which are indigenous to such islands or which are increasingly rare on the mainland. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(H)
- 35 To maintain the value of undeveloped islands as a major source of recreational open. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(H)
- 36 To disallow uses which will have significant adverse impacts on islands or their resource components. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(H)

## **Rocky Shorefront**

- 37 To manage rocky shorefronts so as to insure that development proceeds in a manner which does not irreparably reduce the capability of the system to support a healthy intertidal biological community; to provide feeding grounds and refuge for shorebirds and finfish, and to dissipate and absorb storm and wave energies. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(B)

## **Shellfish Concentration Area**

- 38 To manage the state's fisheries in order to promote the economic benefits of commercial and recreational fishing, enhance recreational fishing opportunities, optimize the yield of all species, prevent the depletion or extinction of indigenous species, maintain and enhance the productivity of natural estuarine resources and preserve healthy fisheries resources for future generations. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(I)
- 39 The department of health services is empowered to prohibit the taking or harvesting of shellfish in certain tidal flats, shores and coastal waters whenever it finds by examinations and surveys that such flats, shores or coastal waters are contaminated or polluted to the extent that the waters do not meet standards of purity established by said department, and that shellfish obtained therefrom may be unfit for food and dangerous to the public health. Such closure may be permanent, temporary or contingent upon the occurrence of specified events. CGS Section 19a-98(a)
- 40 The department of health services may inspect shellfish beds and areas in this state where shellfish are grown or harvested for market, all boats, tools and appliances used in the production and preparation of shellfish for market and all wharves or buildings where shellfish are opened, packed and prepared for sale or shipment. It may prescribe regulations for the sanitary growth, production and preparation of shellfish for market. CGS Section 19a-96
- 41 Nothing in Sections 19a-95 to 19a-101, inclusive, shall prohibit the taking of shellfish by commercial harvesters from permanently closed areas when they are removed for transplanting to approved areas under permits issued by the department of health services and under supervision of state and local health agencies having jurisdiction. CGS Section 19a-101

## **Shorelands**

- 42 To regulate shoreland use and development in a manner which minimizes adverse impacts upon adjacent coastal systems and resources. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(I)

## Tidal Wetlands

- 43 To preserve tidal wetlands and to prevent the despoliation and destruction thereof in order to maintain their vital natural functions. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(E)
- 44 To encourage the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded tidal wetlands. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(E)
- 45 Where feasible and environmentally acceptable, to encourage the creation of wetlands for the purpose of shellfish and finfish management, habitat creation and dredge spoil disposal. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(2)(E)
- 46 It is declared that much of the wetlands of this state have been lost or despoiled by unregulated dredging, dumping, filling and like activities and despoiled by these and other activities, that such loss or despoliation will adversely affect, if not entirely eliminate, the value of such wetlands as sources of nutrients to finfish, crustacea and shellfish of significant economic value; that such loss or despoliation will destroy such wetlands as habitats for plants and animals of significant economic value and will eliminate or substantially reduce marine commerce, recreation and aesthetic enjoyment and that such loss of despoliation will, in most cases, disturb the natural ability of tidal wetlands to reduce flood damage and adversely affect the public health and welfare; that such loss or despoliation will substantially reduce the capacity of such wetlands to absorb silt and will thus result in the increased silting of channels and harbor areas to the detriment of free navigation. Therefore, it is declared to be the public policy of this state to preserve the wetlands and to prevent the despoliation and destruction thereof. CGS Section 22a-28 as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 47 To disallow any filling of tidal wetlands and nearshore, offshore and intertidal waters for the purpose of creating new land from existing wetlands and coastal waters which would otherwise be undevelopable, unless it is found that the adverse impacts on coastal resources are minimal. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(B)
- 48 In granting, denying or limiting any permit the commissioner or his duly designated hearing officer shall consider the effect of the proposed work with reference to the public health and welfare, marine fisheries, shellfisheries, wildlife, the protection of life and property from flood, hurricane and other natural disasters, and the public policy set forth in Sections 22a-28 to 22a-35 inclusive. The fact that the department of energy and environmental protection is in the process of acquisition of any tidal wetlands by negotiation or condemnation under the provisions of Section 26-17a, shall be sufficient basis for denial of any permit. CGS Section 22a-33 as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)



## *Activities Policies*

### **General Development**

- 49 To insure that the development, preservation or use of the land and water resources of the coastal area proceeds in a manner consistent with the capability of the land and water resources to support development, preservation or use without significantly disrupting either the natural environment or sound economic growth. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(1)
- 50 To resolve conflicts between competing uses on the shorelands adjacent to marine and tidal waters by giving preference to uses that minimize adverse impacts on natural coastal resources while providing long-term and stable economic benefits. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(4)
- 51 It is hereby found and declared that there is a continuing need in the state for: (1) Economic development and activity to provide and maintain employment and tax revenues, promote the export of products and services beyond state boundaries, encourage innovation in products and services, and support or broaden the economic base of the state, the control, abatement and prevention of pollution to protect the public health and safety, and the development and use of indigenous and renewable energy resources to assist industrial and commercial businesses in meeting their energy requirements; (2) the development of recreation facilities to promote tourism, to provide and maintain employment and tax revenues and to promote the public welfare; (3) the development of commercial and retail sales and services facilities in urban areas to provide and maintain construction, permanent employment and tax revenues, to improve conditions of deteriorated physical development, slow economic growth and eroded financial health of the public and private sectors in urban areas and to revitalize the economy of urban areas; (4) assistance to public service businesses providing transportation and utility services in the state; (5) development of the commercial fishing industry to provide and maintain employment and tax revenues; and (6) assistance to nonprofit and governmental entities in financing facilities providing health, educational, charitable, community, cultural, agricultural, consumer or other services benefiting the citizens of the state; that the availability of financial assistance and suitable facilities are important inducements to industrial, commercial and nonprofit enterprises to remain or locate in this state and to provide economic development projects, recreation projects, urban projects, public service projects, commercial fishing projects, health care projects and nonprofit projects; that there are significant barriers inhibiting access by the authority and eligible financial institutions to the public capital markets and expansion of the secondary loan market to assist in financing economic development and other projects in the state; that the exercise by the authority of the powers in this chapter will promote economic development by increasing access to the public capital markets for the authority and eligible financial institutions; and that therefore the necessity in the public interest and for the public benefit and good for the provisions of this chapter is hereby declared as a matter of legislative determination. It is further found and declared that there is a necessity in the state of creating a department of economic development to coordinate and be responsible for matters affecting the growth of business and industry in the state and the maintenance and development of industry in the state as well as the promotion of tourism in the state and for the establishment and creation of an authority to assist the department and the state to carry out the needs and policies of the state as set forth in this section. It is further found and declared that existing, pending and proposed federal legislation has limited and restricted and may further limit and restrict the power of the authority to issue obligations the interest on which is exempt from federal income taxation; that the ability of the authority to issue obligations to provide financing for projects is essential to the maintenance and expansion of employment and the tax base in the state and to the economic development and health, education and general welfare of the state;

and that the issuance of obligations the interest on which may be includable in the holder's gross income for the purposes of federal income taxation serves a needed public purpose; and therefore the necessity in the public interest and for the public benefit and good for the provisions of this chapter is hereby declared as a matter of legislative determination. CGS Section 32-23c

## **Boating**

- 52 To encourage increased recreational boating use of coastal waters, where feasible, by (i) providing additional berthing space in existing harbors, (ii) limiting non-water-dependent land uses that preclude boating support facilities, (iii) increasing state-owned launching facilities, and (iv) providing for new boating facilities in natural harbors, new protected water areas and in areas dredged from dry land. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(G)
- 53 To protect coastal resources by requiring, where feasible, that such boating uses and facilities (i) minimize disruption or degradation of natural coastal resources, (ii) utilize existing altered, developed or redevelopment areas, (iii) are located to assure optimal distribution of state-owned facilities to the statewide boating public and (iv) utilize ramps and dry storage rather than slips in environmentally sensitive areas. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(H)
- 54 To protect and where feasible, upgrade facilities serving the commercial fishing and recreational boating industries. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(I)
- 55 To maintain existing authorized commercial fishing and recreational boating harbor space unless the demand for these facilities no longer exists or adequate space has been provided. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(I)
- 56 To design and locate, where feasible, proposed recreational boating facilities in a manner which does not interfere with the needs of the commercial fishing industry. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(I)
- 57 In performance of his duties under part II the commissioner shall (1) Classify all waters and all vessels for the purpose of establishing uniformity in the regulation of such waters and such vessels; (2) prescribe uniform navigation aids for state waters and regulate the use of such aids; (3) establish restricted zones or sea lanes within navigable waters and adopt regulations pertaining thereto for the purpose of protecting the natural ecology of such waters and the abutting shoreline from environmental damage resulting from marine accidents which cause the release of petroleum products or other hazardous substances and materials into the waters of the state, provided before establishing such lanes, zones and regulations the commissioner shall consider at least the following factors: (i) The danger in transporting the type of material; (ii) the evidence of deleterious incidents arising from the transportation of such hazardous materials; (iii) available alternatives; (iv) the public need; and (v) the effect on interstate commerce; and further provided any such regulations promulgated by the commissioner shall list and define the substance and materials which are classified as hazardous; (4) prescribe uniform standards for safety devices and equipment required by part II and certify the types of devices and equipment which meet such standards; (5) designate and assist the several towns in designating prohibited and restricted boating areas and waters limited to special boating purposes and prescribe uniform standards for the marking and regulation of such areas; (6) adopt such regulations respecting water skiing and underwater swimming and diving as he finds necessary for public safety; (7) study, plan and recommend the development of boating facilities, safety education and means of improving boating safety; (8) in cooperation with the department of health, investigate matters relating to and recommended means of improving boating

sanitation; (9) cooperate with the department of transportation and the bureau of aeronautics concerning regulations governing the operation of seaplanes on state waters; (10) cooperate with the United States and the several states in promoting uniformity of boating laws and regulations and their administration and enforcement, and (11) subject to the applicable provisions of chapter 54 and Section 4-117 and the limitations of part II, adopt such regulations to provide for public safety and environmental quality as he finds necessary to administer and enforce the provisions of said part and to promote the safe use and protection of waters and the safe operation of vessels, provided the commissioner shall make no regulations respecting the operation of vessels on Long Island Sound except as are necessary to secure inshore waters and establish and secure restricted areas. CGS Section 15-121(b)

## **Coastal Recreation & Access**

- 58 To encourage public access to the waters of Long Island Sound by expansion, development and effective utilization of state-owned recreational facilities within the coastal area that are consistent with sound resource conservation procedures and constitutionally protected rights of private property owners. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(6)
- 59 To make effective use of state-owned coastal recreational facilities in order to expand coastal recreational opportunities including the development or redevelopment of existing state-owned facilities where feasible. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(J)
- 60 To require as a condition in permitting new coastal structures, including but not limited to groins, jetties or breakwaters, that access to, or along, the public beach below mean high water must not be unreasonably impaired by such structures. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(K)
- 61 In making grants-in-aid for open space land acquisition or development to the commissioner of environmental protection shall: (a) Seek to achieve a reasonable balance among all parts of the state in the relative adequacy of present areas devoted to recreational and conservation purposes and the relative anticipated future needs for additional areas devoted to recreational and conservation purposes; (b) give due consideration to special park requirement needs of urban areas; (c) wherever possible, give priority to land which will be utilized for multiple recreational and conservation purposes; (d) give due consideration to coordination with the plans of departments of the state and regional planning agencies with respect to land use or acquisition and (e) give primary consideration to the needs of municipalities that have formed local housing partnerships pursuant to the provisions of Section 8-336f. CGS Section 7-131f
- 62 To such extent as may be necessary to assure the proper operation and maintenance of areas and facilities acquired by municipalities or regional authorities pursuant to any program participated in by this state under authority of Sections 22a-21 to 22a-26, inclusive, such areas and facilities shall be publicly maintained for outdoor recreation or natural resources purposes, and such city or other local governmental unit shall give such assurances to the state as may be required by the commissioner of environmental protection, that it has available sufficient funds to meet its share of the cost of the project and that the acquired or developed areas will be operated and maintained at municipal or regional expense for public outdoor recreation or natural resources use. CGS Section 22a-27 as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

## **Coastal Structures & Filling**

- 63 To require that structures in tidal wetlands and coastal waters be designed, constructed and maintained to minimize adverse impacts on coastal resources, circulation and sedimentation patterns, water quality, and flooding and erosion, to reduce to the maximum extent practicable the use of fill, and to reduce conflicts with the riparian rights of adjacent landowners. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(D)
- 64 To disallow any filling of tidal wetlands and nearshore, offshore and intertidal waters for the purpose of creating new land from existing wetlands and coastal waters which would otherwise be undevelopable, unless it is found that the adverse impacts on coastal resources are minimal. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(B)
- 65 To require as a condition in permitting new coastal structures, including but not limited to, groins, jetties or breakwaters, that access to, or along, the public beach below mean high water must not be unreasonably impaired by such structures. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(K)
- 66 To encourage the removal of illegal structures below mean high water which unreasonably obstruct passage along the public beach. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(K)
- 67 To maintain, enhance, or where feasible, restore natural patterns of water circulation and fresh and saltwater exchange in the placement or replacement of culverts, tide gates or other drainage or flood control structures. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(2)(B)
- 68 The commissioner of environmental protection shall regulate dredging and the erection of structures and the placement of fill, and work incidental thereto, in the tidal, coastal, or navigable waters of the state waterward of the high tide line. Any decisions made by the commissioner pursuant to this section shall be made with due regard for indigenous aquatic life, fish and wildlife, the prevention or alleviation of shore erosion and coastal flooding, the use and development of adjoining uplands, the improvement of coastal and inland navigation for all vessels, including small craft for recreational purposes, the use and development of adjacent lands and properties and the interests of the state, including pollution control, water quality, recreational use of public water and management of coastal resources, with proper regard for the rights and interests of all persons concerned. CGS Section 22a-359(a), as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

## **Cultural Resources**

- 69 To require reasonable mitigation measures where development would adversely impact historical, archaeological or paleontological resources that have been designated by the state historic preservation officer. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(J)
- 70 Any municipality may, by vote of its legislative body and in conformance with the standards and criteria formulated by the Connecticut historical commission, establish within its confines an historic district or districts to promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places associated with the history of or indicative of a period or style of architecture of the municipality, of the state or of the nation. CGS Section 7-147a(b)
- 71 The legislative body of any municipality may make appropriations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of Sections 7-147a to 7-147k, inclusive. CGS Section 7-147a(c)

- 72 Any municipality or private organization may acquire, relocate, restore, preserve and maintain historic structures and landmarks and may receive funds from the state and federal government for such purposes. Grants-in-aid may be made to owners of historic structures or landmarks in an amount not to exceed fifty percent of the non-federal share of the total cost of such acquisition, relocation, historic preservation and restoration. Grants-in-aid shall be made through an assistance agreement signed by the owners. Subsequent to the execution of any such assistance agreement, advances of funds may be made by the commissioner to the owner of such an historic structure or landmark. CGS Section 10-321a
- 73 It is found that the lower Connecticut River and the towns abutting the river possess unique scenic, ecological, scientific and historic value contributing to public enjoyment, inspiration and scientific study, that it is in the public interest that the provisions of this chapter be adopted to preserve such values and to prevent deterioration of the natural and traditional riverway scene for enjoyment of present and future generations of Connecticut citizens and that the powers of the commissioner of environmental protection, conferred by the provisions of Section 22a-25, should be exercised in the furtherance of the purposes hereof in conformity with his general responsibility to preserve the natural resources of the state. CGS Section 25-102a
- 74 The commission may, using such funds as may be appropriated to it or available from any other source, acquire by gift, grant, bequest, devise, lease, purchase or otherwise historic structures or landmarks, including such adjacent land as may be necessary for the comfort and safety of the visiting public, which the commission determines to be of national or state historical importance and to be of such concern to the public at large that they should be held forever in good condition for visitation by the public and for the protection of the heritages of the people of this state and nation. The commission may restore, maintain and operate such properties in such a condition as to render them suitable for public visitation and to inform the public of the historic event or circumstance connected therewith. The commission may charge reasonable visitation fees in order to help defray the cost of maintenance and operation. CGS Section 10-321d

### **Dams, Dikes & Reservoirs**

- 75 All dams, dikes, reservoirs and other similar structures, with their appurtenances, without exception and without further definition or enumeration herein, which, by breaking away or otherwise, might endanger life or property, shall be subject to the jurisdiction conferred by this chapter. CGS Section 22a-401 formerly CGS Section 25-110, as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 76 The commissioner or his representative, engineer or consultant shall determine the environmental impact of the construction work on the inland wetlands of the state, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 22a-36 to 22a-45, inclusive, and the need for a fishway in accordance with the provisions of Section 26-136, and examine the documents and inspect the site, and, upon approval thereof, the commissioner shall issue a permit authorizing the proposed construction work under -such conditions as the commissioner may direct. CGS Section 22a-403 formerly CGS Section 25-112 as referenced in CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

### **Dredging & Navigation**

- 77 To encourage, through the state permitting program for dredging activities, the maintenance and enhancement of existing federally maintained navigation channels, basins and anchorages. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(C)

- 78 To discourage the dredging of new federally maintained navigation channels, basins and anchorages. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(C)
- 79 To reduce the need for future dredging by requiring that new or expanded navigation channels, basins and anchorages take advantage of existing or authorized water depths, circulation and siltation patterns and the best available technologies for reducing controllable sedimentation. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(D)
- 80 To disallow new dredging in tidal wetlands except where no feasible alternative exists and where adverse impacts to coastal resources are minimal. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(E)
- 81 The commissioner of environmental protection shall regulate the taking and removal of sand, gravel and other materials from lands under tidal and coastal waters with due regard for the prevention or alleviation of shore erosion, the protection of necessary shellfish grounds and finfish habitats, the preservation of necessary wildlife habitats, the development of adjoining uplands, the rights of riparian property owners, the creation and improvement of channels and boat basins, the improvement of coastal and inland navigation for all vessels including small craft for recreational purposes and the improvement, protection or development of uplands bordering upon tidal and coastal waters, with due regard for the rights and interests of all persons concerned. CGS Section 22a-383 as referenced by CGS 22a-92(a)(2)
- 82 Harbor masters shall have the general care and supervision of the harbors and navigable waterways over which they have jurisdiction, subject to the discretion and control of the commissioner of transportation, and shall be responsible to the commissioner for the safe and efficient operation of such harbor and navigable waterways in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. The commissioner may delegate, any of his powers and duties under this chapter to such harbor masters or to any existing board of harbor commissioners, but shall at all times be vested with responsibility for the overall supervision of the harbors and navigable waterways of the state. CGS Section 15-1

## **Energy Facilities**

- 83 The legislature finds that power generating plants and transmission lines for electricity and fuels, community antenna television towers and telecommunication towers have had a significant impact on the environment and ecology of the state of Connecticut; and that continued operation and development of such power plants, lines and towers, if not properly planned and controlled, could adversely affect the quality of the environment, the ecological, scenic, historic and recreational values of the state. The purposes of this chapter are: to provide for the balancing of the need for adequate and reliable public utility services at the lowest reasonable cost to consumers with the need to protect the environment and ecology of the state and to minimize damage to scenic, historic, and recreational values; to provide environmental quality standards and criteria for the location, design, construction and operation of facilities for the furnishing of public utility services at least as stringent as the federal environmental quality standards and criteria, and technically sufficient to assure the welfare and protection of the people of the state; to encourage research to develop new and improved methods of generating, storing and transmitting electricity and fuel and of transmitting and receiving television and telecommunications with minimal damage to the environment and other values described above; to require annual forecasts of the demand for electric power, together with identification and advance planning of the facilities needed to supply that demand and to facilitate local, regional, state-wide and interstate planning to implement the foregoing purposes. CGS Section 16-50g

84 In a certification proceeding, the council shall render a decision upon the record either granting or denying the application as filed, or granting it upon such terms, conditions, limitations or modifications of the construction or operation of the facility as the council may deem appropriate. The council's decision shall be rendered within twelve months of the filing of an application concerning a facility described in subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of subsection (a) of Section 16-50i or subdivision (4) of said subsection if the application was incorporated in an application concerning a facility described in subdivision (1) of said subsection, and within one hundred eighty days of the filing of any other application concerning a facility described in subdivision (4) of said subsection and an application concerning a facility described in subdivisions (5) and (6) of said subsection, provided such time periods may be extended by the council by not more than one hundred eighty days with the consent of the applicant. The council shall file, with its order, an opinion stating in full its reasons for the decision. The council shall not grant a certificate, either as proposed or as modified by the council, unless it shall find and determine: (1) A public need for the facility and the basis of the need; (2) the nature of the probable environmental impact, including a specification of every significant adverse effect, whether alone or cumulatively with other effects, on, and conflict with the policies of the state concerning the natural environment, ecological balance, public health and safety, scenic, historic and recreational values, forests and parks, air and water purity and fish and wildlife; (3) why the adverse effects or conflicts referred to in subdivision (2) of this subsection are not sufficient reason to deny the application; (4) in the case of an electric transmission line, (A) what part, if any, of the facility shall be located overhead, (B) that the facility conforms to a long-range plan for expansion of the electric power grid of the electric systems serving the state and interconnected utility systems and will serve the interests of electric system economy and reliability, and (C) that the overhead portions of the facility, if any, are consistent with the purposes of this chapter, with such regulations as the council may adopt pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 16-50t, and with the Federal Power Commission "Guidelines for the Protection of Natural Historic Scenic and Recreational Values in the Design and Location of Rights-of-Way and Transmission Facilities" or any successor guidelines and any other applicable federal guidelines; (5) in the case of an electric or fuel transmission line, that the location of the line will not pose an undue hazard to persons or property along the area traversed by the line. CGS Section 16-50p(a)

## **Fisheries**

85 To manage the state's fisheries in order to promote the economic benefits of commercial and recreational fishing, enhance recreational fishing opportunities, optimize the yield of all species, prevent the depletion or extinction of indigenous species, maintain and enhance the productivity of natural estuarine resources and preserve healthy fisheries resources for future generations. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(I)

86 The party States, for the purpose of promoting the restoration of Anadromous Atlantic salmon, hereinafter referred to as Atlantic salmon, to the Connecticut River basin by the development of a regional program for stocking, protection, management, research and regulation, do hereby establish the Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission. CGS Section 26-302, Article I

## **Fuel, Chemical & Hazardous Materials**

87 To minimize the risk of oil and chemical spills at port facilities. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(C)

88 To disallow the siting within the coastal boundary of new tank farms and other new fuel and chemical facilities which can reasonably be located inland. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(E)

- 89 To require any new storage tanks which must be located within the coastal boundary to abut existing storage tanks or to be located in urban industrial areas and to be adequately protected against floods and spills. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(E)
- 90 To minimize the risk of spillage of petroleum products and hazardous substances. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(A)
- 91 To provide effective containment and clean up facilities for accidental spills. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(A)
- 92 To disallow offshore oil receiving systems that have the potential to cause catastrophic oil spills in the Long Island Sound estuary. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(A)
- 93 The commissioner of environmental protection shall, to the extent possible, immediately, whenever there is discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous wastes upon any land or into any of the waters of the state or into any offshore or coastal waters, which may result in pollution of the waters of the state, damage to beaches, wetlands, stream banks or coastal areas, or damage to sewers or utility conduits or other public or private property or which may create an emergency, cause such discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration to be contained and removed or otherwise mitigated by whatever method said commissioner considers best and most expedient under the circumstances. The commissioner shall also determine the person, firm or corporation responsible for causing such discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration. CGS Section 22a-449(a), as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 94 The commissioner may: 1) License terminals in the state for the loading or unloading of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous wastes and shall adopt, in accordance with Chapter 54, reasonable regulations in connection therewith for the purposes of identifying terminals subject to licensure and protecting the public health and safety and for preventing the discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous product or hazardous wastes. Each license issued under this section shall be valid for a period of not more than one year commencing July first, unless sooner revoked by the commissioner and there shall be charged for each such license or renewal thereof a fee established by regulation and sufficient to cover the reasonable cost of the state of inspecting and licensing such terminals; 2) provide by regulations for the establishment and maintenance in operating condition and position of suitable equipment to contain as far as possible the discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of any oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid-or gaseous products or hazardous wastes; 3) inspect periodically all hoses, gaskets, tanks, pipelines and other equipment used in connection with the transfer, transportation or storage of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous wastes to make certain that they are in good operating condition, and order the renewal of any such equipment found unfit for further use. Any person, firm or corporation which operates any such terminal in this state on or after the first day of July following the effective date of regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection, without a license issued by the commissioner, shall be fined one hundred dollars per day during any period of unlicensed operation. CGS Section 22a-449(b), as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)
- 95 The safe and sanitary disposal of toxic or hazardous wastes shall be the responsibility of the generator and shall be accomplished in a manner approved by the commissioner. CGS 22a-220(a)



96 The commissioner of environmental protection shall (1) provide and maintain necessary equipment and train adequate emergency response personnel for the purpose of oil spill containment and removal within the lower Connecticut river and adjacent shoreline area; and (2) assist in and coordinate the development of oil spill containment and removal contingency plans for the towns located within the lower Connecticut river and adjacent shoreline area. CGS Section 25-102t(b)

### **Open Space & Agricultural Lands**

97 It is hereby declared (a) that it is in the public interest to encourage the preservation of farm land, forest land and open space land in order to maintain a readily available source of food and farm products close to the metropolitan areas of the state (b) that it is in the public interest to prevent the forced conversion of farm land, forest land and open space land to more intensive uses as the result of economic pressures caused by the assessment thereof for the purposes of property taxation at values incompatible with their preservation as such farm land, forest land and open space land, and (c) that the necessity in the public interest of the enactment of the provisions of Sections 7-131c and 12-107b to 12-107e, inclusive, is a matter of legislative determination. CGS Section 12-107a

98 The general assembly finds that the growing population and expanding economy of the state have had a profound impact on the ability of public and private sectors of the state to maintain and preserve agricultural land for farming and food production purposes, that unless there is a sound, state-wide program for its preservation, remaining agricultural land will be lost to succeeding generations and that the conservation of certain arable agricultural land and adjacent pastures, woods, natural drainage areas and open space is vital for the well-being of the people of Connecticut. CGS Section 22-26aa

99 Connecticut is a state of relatively small area, undergoing rapid industrialization and rapid diminution of areas remaining in their natural condition. It is, therefore, declared to be the public policy that carefully selected areas of land and water of outstanding scientific and educational interest be preserved. In implementation of this policy, there is established a Connecticut system of natural area preserve. CGS Section 23-5a as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

### **Ports & Harbors**

100 To promote, through existing state and local planning, development, promotional and regulatory authorities, the development, reuse or redevelopment of existing urban and commercial fishing ports giving highest priority and preference to water-dependent uses, including but not limited to commercial and recreational fishing and boating uses. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(C)

101 To disallow uses which unreasonably congest navigation channels, or unreasonably preclude boating support facilities elsewhere in a port or harbor. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(C)

### **Sewer & Water Lines**

102 To locate and phase sewer and water lines, so as to encourage concentrated development in areas which are suitable for development. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(B)

103 To disapprove extension of sewer and water services into developed and undeveloped beaches, barrier beaches and tidal wetlands except that, when necessary to abate existing sources of pollution, sewers that will accommodate existing uses with limited excess capacity may be used. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(B)

## **Solid Waste**

- 104 Each municipal authority shall make provisions for the safe and sanitary disposal of all solid wastes which are generated within its boundaries, including septic tank pumping, sludge from water pollution abatement facilities and water supply treatment plants, solid residues and sludge from air pollution control facilities and solid wastes from commercial, industrial, agricultural and mining operations, but excluding wastes which are toxic or hazardous. CGS Section 22a-220
- 105 The commissioner shall administer and enforce the plumbing and implementation requirements of this chapter. He shall examine all existing or proposed solid waste facilities, provide for their planning, design, construction and operation in a manner which conserves, improves and protects the natural resources and environment of the state and shall order their alteration, extension and replacement when necessary to conserve, improve and protect the state's natural resources and environment and to control air, water and land pollution so that the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state may be safeguarded and enhanced. CGS Section 19-524b

## **Transportation**

- 106 To make use of rehabilitation, upgrading and improvement of existing transportation facilities as the primary means of meeting transportation needs in the coastal area. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(F)
- 107 To require that new or improved shoreline rail corridors be designed and constructed so as (i) to prevent tidal and circulation restrictions and, when practicable, to eliminate any such existing restrictions, (ii) to improve or have a negligible adverse effect on coastal access and recreation and (iii) to enhance or not unreasonably impair the visual quality of the shoreline. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(F)
- 108 To require that coastal highways and highway improvements, including bridges, be designed and constructed so as to minimize adverse impacts on coastal resource. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(G)
- 109 To require that coastal highway and highway improvements give full consideration to mass transportation alternatives. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(G)
- 110 To require that coastal highways and highway improvements where possible enhance, but in no case decrease coastal access and recreational opportunities. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(G)
- 111 To disallow the construction of major new airports. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(H)
- 112 To discourage the substantial expansion of existing airports within the coastal boundary. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(H)
- 113 To require that any expansion or improvement of existing airports minimize adverse impacts on coastal resources, recreation or access. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(H)

## **Water Dependent Uses**

- 114 To give high priority and preference to uses and facilities which are dependent upon proximity to the water or the shorelands immediately adjacent to marine and tidal waters. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(3)

115 To manage uses in the coastal boundary through existing municipal planning, zoning and other local regulatory authorities and through existing state structures, dredging, wetlands, and other state siting and regulatory authorities, giving highest priority and preference to water-dependent uses and facilities in shorefront areas. CGS Section 22a-92(b)(1)(A)

## *Other Policies*

### **Intergovernmental Coordination**

- 116 To coordinate planning and regulatory activities of public agencies at all levels of government to insure maximum protection of coastal resources while minimizing conflicts and disruption of economic development. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(9)

### **Coordination and Consistency**

- 117 To coordinate the activities of public agencies to insure that state expenditures enhance development while affording maximum protection to natural coastal resources and processes in a manner consistent with the state plan for conservation and development adopted pursuant to Part I of chapter 297. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(8)
- 118 In addition to the policies in this section, the policies of the state plan of conservation and development adopted pursuant to Part I of chapter 297 shall be applied to the area within the coastal boundary in accordance with the requirements of Section 16a-31. CGS Section 22a-92(d)
- 119 In furtherance of and pursuant to Sections 22a-1 and 22a-15, the general assembly, recognizing the profound impact of man's activity on the interrelations of all components of the natural environment, particularly the profound influence of population growth, high-density urbanization, industrial expansion, resource exploitation, and new and expanding technological advances, and recognizing further the critical importance of restoring and maintaining environmental quality to the overall welfare and development of man, declares that it is the continuing policy of the state government, in cooperation with federal and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations, to use all practicable means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements to present and future generations of Connecticut's residents.

In order to carry out the policy set forth in Sections 22a-1a to 22a-1f, inclusive, it is the continuing responsibility of the state government to use all practicable means, consistent with other essential considerations of the state policy, to improve and coordinate state plans, functions, programs, and resources to the end that the state may: (1) Fulfill the responsibility of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations; (2) assure for all residents of the state safe, healthful, productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings; (3) attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences; (4) preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our Connecticut heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice; (5) achieve an ecological balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; (6) enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources; and (7) practice conservation in the use of energy, maximize the use of energy efficient systems and minimize the environmental impact of energy production and use. CGS Section 22a-1a(a) and (b) as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

- 120 The general assembly finds that the growing population and expanding economy of the state have had a profound impact on the life-sustaining natural environment. The air, water, land and other natural resources, taken for granted since the settlement of the state, are now recognized as finite

and precious. It is now understood that human activity must be guided by and in harmony with the system of relationships among the elements of nature. Therefore the general assembly hereby declares that the policy of the state of Connecticut is to conserve, improve and protect its natural resources and environment and to control air, land and water pollution in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people in the state. It shall further be the policy of the state to improve and coordinate the environmental plans, functions, powers and programs of the state, in cooperation with the federal government, regions, local governments other public and private organizations and concerned individuals, and to manage the basic resources of air, land and water to the end that the state may fulfill its responsibility as trustee of the environment for the present and future generations. CGS Section 22a-1 as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(2)

- 121 The secretary of the office of policy and management shall develop a form for capital development impact statements on which state agencies shall indicate the manner in which a planned or requested capital project or program addresses the following goals: (1) Revitalization of the economic base of urban areas by rebuilding older commercial and industrial areas, and encouraging new industries to locate in the central cities in order to protect existing jobs and create new job opportunities needed to provide meaningful economic opportunity for inner city residents; (2) revitalization of urban neighborhoods to reduce the isolation of various income, age and minority groups through the promotion of fair and balanced housing opportunities for low and moderate income residents; (3) revitalization of the quality of life for the residents of urban areas by insuring quality education, comprehensive health care, access to balanced transportation, adequate recreation facilities, responsive public safety, coordinated effective human service programs, decent housing and employment and clean water and by insuring full and equal rights and opportunities for all people to reap the economic and social benefits of society; (4) coordination of the conservation and growth of all areas of the state to insure that each area preserves its unique character and sense of community and further insure a balanced growth and prudent use of the state's resources. The secretary shall establish criteria for determining the capital projects and programs for which such statements shall be required to be filed with said secretary and with the state bond commission. CGS Section 4-66b as referenced by CGS Section 22a-92(a)(8)

### **Flooding and Erosion**

- 122 To consider in the planning process the potential impact of coastal flooding and erosion patterns on coastal development so as to minimize damage to and destruction of life and property and reduce the necessity of public expenditure to protect future development from such hazards. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(5)

### **Dredging and Dredged Material Disposal Planning**

- 123 To initiate in cooperation with the federal government and the continuing legislative committee on state planning and development a long range planning program for the continued maintenance and enhancement of federally maintained navigation facilities in order to effectively and efficiently plan and provide for environmentally sound dredging and disposal of dredged materials. CGS Section 22a-92(c)(1)(C)

### **Coastal Related Research**

- 124 To conduct, sponsor and assist research in coastal matters to improve the database upon which coastal land and water use decisions are made. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(7)

## **National Interest Facilities and Resources**

125 To insure that the state and the coastal municipalities provide adequate planning for facilities and resources which are in the national interest as defined in Section 3 of this act and to insure that any restrictions or exclusions of such facilities or uses are reasonable. Reasonable grounds for the restriction or exclusion of a facility or use in the national interest shall include a finding that such a facility or use: (A) may reasonably be sited outside the coastal boundary; (B) fails to meet any applicable federal and state environmental, health or safety standard or (C) unreasonably restricts physical or visual access to coastal waters. This policy does not exempt any nonfederal facility in use from any applicable state or local regulatory or permit program nor does it exempt any federal facility or use from the federal consistency requirements of Section 307 of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act. CGS Section 22a-92(a)(10)