



**Department of Conservation and Recreation and DCR Stewardship Council  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**DCR Strategic Readiness Initiative  
Public Listening Session  
Tuesday April 5, 2022 @ 4pm – 6pm**

**Meeting link: [Click here to pre-register for the meeting](#)**

At this virtual public meeting, Acting Commissioner Stephanie Cooper will be joined by members of the DCR Stewardship Council to discuss the DCR Strategic Readiness Initiative, a Baker-Polito Administration effort to help ensure the DCR is poised to adapt to our changing world. This summer DCR will begin its 20th year since being established in 2003. Through the pandemic, DCR properties experienced record-breaking levels of visitation which underscored the importance of universal access to nature and recreational opportunities. Climate change creates further strains on our state park systems infrastructure, including forests and coastal floodplains. As the largest landowner in the state, DCR's assets will play a critical role in adapting to and mitigating numerous threats of climate change, and we must be ready. Guided by internal and external engagement, DCR will develop a set of core principles and priorities to fully realize the agency's mission in the context of the 21st century. These principles will articulate how and why we carry out our mission, and why it matters. This process will incorporate and build off the recommendations in the DCR Special Commission Report.

The DCR Special Commission report can be found on our website [at this link](#).

The public will be invited to participate in small group discussions about DCR's core principles and the priorities for the Commonwealth's natural resources and recreation opportunities. Due to space limitations, pre-registration is strongly recommended. Pre-register at [this link](#). After the meeting, the presentation will be available for viewing at <https://www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings>. DCR encourages the public to share additional feedback, with a deadline for receipt of comments by DCR of April 12, 2022. Comments may be submitted via email to [DCRStrategicReadiness@mass.gov](mailto:DCRStrategicReadiness@mass.gov) or online at <https://www.mass.gov/dcr-strategic-readiness-initiative> or through an online survey also at <https://www.mass.gov/dcr-strategic-readiness-initiative>. The survey will be available starting Monday March 28, 2022.

If you have agency-related questions or concerns or would like to be added to an email list to receive DCR general or project-specific announcements, please email [Mass.Parks@mass.gov](mailto:Mass.Parks@mass.gov) or online at <https://www.mass.gov/forms/dcr-public-comments> or call 617-626-4973.

*Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities and language translation are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need, please include as much detail as you can. Also include a way we can contact you if we need more information. Please allow for advance notice. Last minute requests will be accepted, but we may be unable to fulfill the request. Please send an e-mail to Melixza G. Esenyie, ADA and Diversity Manager at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs at [Melixza.Esenyie2@mass.gov](mailto:Melixza.Esenyie2@mass.gov) or call 617-872-3270.*

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