APPROVED BY [signature]

DATE 2/7/17

START ACTION NOTICE # 2017-01

1. TYPE OF ACTION: To adopt guidelines to evaluate land being considered for permanent protection by the Open Space Program. The guidelines will be used to evaluate lands that a landowner has offered for permanent protection to ensure that the land should be permanently protected.

2. PURPOSE OF ACTION: As a result of amendments to the Land Protection Act, effective August 3, 2016, the guidelines currently used by staff to support the Open Space Program, which have been approved by the Open Space Council, must go through notice and public hearing pursuant to Chapter 101 of Title 29.

3. STATUTORY BASIS: 7 Del. Code Ch. 75, The Land Protection Act

4. DATE OF MOST RECENT REVIEW/AMENDMENT: December 7, 2016 by the Open Space Council

5. LIKELY AFFECTED PUBLIC: Property owners wishing to sell a property interest to the State through the Open Space Program

6. PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES: Public hearing in late February/ early March 2017

7. REVIEW COMMITTEE: Open Space Council

8. RESPONSIBLE STAFF MEMBER: Elena Stewart, Delaware State Parks, 89 Kings Highway, Dover, DE 19901; Phone 302-739-9935; Fax 302-739-3817; Email Elena.Stewart@state.de.us

9. APPROVALS:

Elena Stewart 1/6/17

Responsible Staff Member Date

Acting 1/6/17

Division Director Date