Economic Costs of WOTUS on Small Businesses

RHODE ISLAND

According to SBA Office of Advocacy data, President Biden’s new WOTUS Rule will impact 15,498 RHODE ISLAND small businesses.

INDUSTRIES AT RISK

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
- An estimated 1,190 SMALL BUSINESSES are impacted
- An estimated 173 EMPLOYEES are impacted

Construction
- An estimated 12,079 SMALL BUSINESSES are impacted
- An estimated 18,692 EMPLOYEES are impacted

Manufacturing
- An estimated 2,229 SMALL BUSINESSES are impacted
- An estimated 22,617 EMPLOYEES are impacted

The EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers unveiled their final Revised Definition of WOTUS, which would significantly expand regulations around permits for land and building projects. It would create significant uncertainty around what criteria will be used to determine whether a permit is ultimately awarded. The Rule would even require private individuals to prove water on their land is not under the federal government’s jurisdiction. The rule is effective starting March 20, 2023.