

CRMC in the News

CRMC instrumental in Providence public access

Through its oversight of the Providence Harbor Management Plan, the first for the city, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) has become an integral player in public access improvements in a number of different areas in Providence.

The CRMC worked with the City of Providence to create their HMP – a major component of which was promoting public access – by working with the city and the other partners to add more instances and better variety of public access. CRMC staff also worked with the Providence harbormaster and the Providence Harbor Commission to identify potential...

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A screenshot of Wickford, North Kingstown from the STORMTOOLS mapper

Beach SAMP products making waves in RI

The CRMC, along with the URI Coastal Resources Center and R.I. Sea Grant, is meeting with southern Rhode Island coastal communities to demonstrate a suite of tools for coastal adaptation and resilience planning as part of the ongoing Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) effort. In addition, the CRMC and URI team are discussing implementation of these tools to address sea level rise, coastal erosion and coastal flood inundation.

CRMC and the SAMP team have visited Block Island, Narragansett, North Kingstown, Westerly and Charlestown to present the decision-makers in these towns with a number of planning tools, including STORMTOOLS, and potential municipal adaptation actions to address storm events, erosion and coastal resilience.

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First commercial shellfish hatchery permitted

The first commercial shellfish hatchery in Rhode Island was recently permitted by the CRMC. It will be located in Charlestown at the former Lavin's Landing Marina.

Christian Durfee, who previously worked as a hatchery and shellfish seed operator in Hawaii, has decided to try his luck in Rhode Island, using what he knows as well as the rich institutional knowledge resources that the state and its aquaculture community offers. Durfee is working with three other aquaculturists who have leases from the CRMC on Ninigret Pond, and who recently purchased the marina. Durfee plans to construct an upland greenhouse to house his hatchery on the marina property.

“[The partners] are fully aware that all of the seed purchased for farms in Rhode Island comes from out-of-state: New York, Maine, Connecticut, Virginia,” CRMC aquaculture coordinator David Beutel said. “All of that imported seed has Biosecurity Board concerns and must be tested, and each of those tests costs hundreds of dollars. There might now be a facility that could have a hatchery and the seed it could produce in native waters could alleviate the need for all of that ...

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Upcoming Events

- **Vibrio compliance workshop #1**, 1/ 28/2016, 6 p.m., URI Bay Campus Coastal Institute Hazards Room
- **Beach SAMP Stakeholder meeting**, 2/4/16, 6-8 p.m., URI Coastal Institute

Vibrio compliance workshops

The CRMC will be holding a mandatory workshop on compliance with the state's regulations for temperature control of harvested shellfish, for all aquaculturists.

All current leaseholders must attend one of the three workshops that will be held in early 2016.

[Learn more](#)



Oysters grown using suspension