

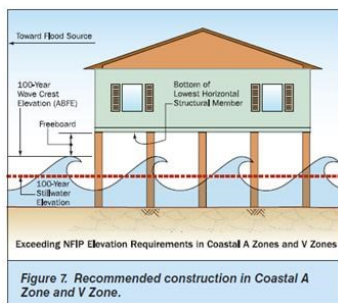
CRMC in the News

CRMC approves changes to sea level rise policy

The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, at its January 26 Council meeting, approved changes to section 145 of its coastal program to better reflect the latest in sea level rise projections, and language making STORMTOOLS an official tool of the agency.

The Council conducted a public hearing on proposed amendments to the RI Coastal Resources Management Program, Section 145, to update sea level rise (SLR) projections for 2035, 2050 and 2100 using current National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) models, and based on the Newport, RI NOAA tide gauge. The CRMC's existing policy in Section 145 is to periodically review the latest scientific data regarding SLR.

[Learn More](#)



FEMA schematic of residential structure on pilings in the presence of storm inundation and waves (Credit: URI)

CRMC introduces new risk index under Beach SAMP

The CRMC, along with the University of Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Center and RI Sea Grant, on February 4 unveiled its latest Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) tool: the Coastal Environmental Risk Index, or CERI.

The index, created for the Beach SAMP by its research team, is the first ever in Rhode Island that will provide an objective, quantitative assessment of risk to both structures and infrastructure from storm surge and waves in the presence of changing climate conditions, in particular, sea level rise.

The index – an online GIS-based tool – assesses risk to structures and infrastructure in the event of storm surges, including flooding and waves, considering sea level rise and shoreline erosion and/or accretion.

[Learn More](#)

RI Ed Exchange now offers paid aquaculture training

The RI Education Exchange has begun recruitment for its new workforce development training program in aquaculture. The Aquaculture Training Program is a 5-week, hands-on training aimed at preparing Rhode Islanders with the skills they need to acquire entry-level jobs in the rapidly growing field of aquaculture and hospitality. Participants will get an inside view of the farm-to-table experience Rhode Island is known for. The program is the result of a grant received through the Real Jobs Rhode Island initiative, led by Governor Gina Raimondo and the Department of Labor and Training.

The training session will prepare individuals to work in a number of positions throughout the aquaculture industry, and they will be provided with a stipend. Participants will be instructed in key employment areas such as essential job skills, basic boating skills, boating tools and maintenance, shellfish biology, dealer and shipper skills and more. The Education Exchange is looking to recruit 16 individuals for each of its two training sessions. Held at the Education Exchange twice a year, the first round will begin April 4, 2016 and run through May 6, 2016, with the second session beginning August 1, 2016, and running through September 2, 2016. All participants will receive a weekly stipend of \$9.60 per hour during the training. Classroom hours will be from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., while time served at on-site trainings will vary. All interested must fill out an application, at the Education Exchange website, www.edexri.org, or by calling 401-783-0293. The deadline is March 18.

[Learn more](#)

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Questions or comments? E-mail us at ldwyer@crmc.ri.gov or call 401-783-7886.

V.2 Iss.2 February 2016

Upcoming Events

- **Vibrio compliance workshop #2, 2/17/16, 6 p.m., URI Bay Campus Coastal Institute Large Conf. Room**
- **RI Coastal Erosion Control Workshop, 4/21/16, 8-3 p.m., Crowne Plaza Hotel, Warwick**

CRMC outreach effort

On January 27, 2016, CRMC staff met with Rhode Island high school students as part of the ACE (Architecture, Construction, and Engineering) Mentoring Rhode Island program. CRMC coastal geologist Janet Freedman, and marine infrastructure specialist Danni Goulet spoke to four students about their participation in a national competition and selection of the challenge called, Shoreline Design Challenge.

[Learn more](#)



Dan Goulet, top left, and Janet Freedman, right, speak to students about the CRMC.