

CRMC in the News

CRMC funds 5 habitat projects through Trust Fund

The CRMC has awarded full funding for five habitat restoration projects, and partial funding for one project, through its RI Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration Trust Fund (CEHRTF).

The Council approved the funding at the February 23 semi-monthly meeting in Providence. Projects approved for funding include a coastal adaptation project, creation of a statewide oyster restoration guidance document, an extensive fishway project, a coastal habitat restoration project, fish passage improvements, and one equipment request for the RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM).

As with the previous year, in its request for proposals the CRMC put special emphasis on projects that would enhance the resiliency of Rhode Island's coastal habitats to climate change and sea level rise.

[Learn More](#)



Navigating the ice in Wickford Harbor (photo credit: Russel Blank)

2015 a good year for aquaculture despite harsh winter

The aquaculture industry in Rhode Island experienced growth in 2015 despite the long and difficult winter, according to the R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council's annual status report, "Aquaculture in Rhode Island."

In 2015, the farm gate value (the value for the product paid to the farmer) of the state's aquaculture products increased 7 percent, from just over \$5 million in 2014 to \$5.4 million, a much smaller increase than last year's 24 percent.

The number of farms increased from 55 to 61, and acres farmed grew by 35.18 acres, a 17 percent increase, to a total of 241.38 acres farmed. Oysters remain the aquaculture product of choice in the state, with more than 8.2 million sold for consumption, up 725,040 from last year.

[Learn More](#)

Ocean SAMP 5-yr update meeting slated for 3/29

Join the CRMC and the University of Rhode Island (URI) for this special stakeholder meeting to celebrate the past five years of the Rhode Island Ocean Special Area Management Plan (Ocean SAMP).

This is an opportunity to be updated on the latest Ocean SAMP news, from information about the Block Island wind farm pilot project (Aileen Kenney/Deepwater Wind), to research about birds, lobsters and underwater archaeology (Drs. Peter Paton, Jeremy Collier, John King/URI), to the effort to ensure that the Ocean SAMP contributes to the regional effort to protect and enhance ocean resources (Grover Fugate/CRMC and John Weber/Northeast Regional Ocean Council).

The Ocean SAMP is CRMC's chief regulatory document for managing the uses and resources of Rhode Island's offshore waters.

[Learn more](#)



Oyster Restoration in Bissel Cove (photo credit: Matt Griffin)

Erosion control workshop in April

E.J. Prescott, a Maine-based water, wastewater, and stormwater solutions provider, is offering its Know How 9 Rhode Island Coastal Erosion Control Workshop on April 21, from 8:30 to 3 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick. The workshop offers 5 professional development hours and will feature talks from CRMC on topics including sea level rise, climate change, STORMTOOLS, and the CRMC's Experimental Erosion Control Program.

[Learn more](#)

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Upcoming Events

- **Marine Trades Fair**, 9-12 p.m., New England Institute of Technology
- **Ocean SAMP Stakeholder meeting**, 3/29/16, 5-8 p.m., URI Bay Campus Coastal Institute, Hazards A & B
- **Coastal Erosion Control Workshop**, 4/21/16, 8:30-3 p.m., Crowne Plaza, Warwick

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