

CRMC funds 9 restoration projects

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The R.I. CRMC has awarded funding for nine habitat restoration projects in the 14th round of its RI Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration Trust Fund (CEHRTF).

Projects approved for funding include four salt marsh restoration and enhancement projects, two projects involving restoration of fish passage, one coastal buffer project, and two awards for

technical and support services related to habitat restoration.

As with the previous two years, 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. The largest award this year – \$92,295 – was awarded to CRMC and its partners (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA], Town of Charlestown, and



Goosewing Beach received CEHRTF funds in 2015 for invasives management.

Save The Bay) for salt marsh restoration and enhancement in Quonochontaug Pond in Charlestown. This project includes restoring ap-

proximately 30 acres of salt marsh and eelgrass habitat. The back-barrier marshes in the Salt Ponds Region exhibit signs of poor condition associated with sea level rise.

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MyCoast app continues with Trust Fund monies

MyCoast, the online reporting tool that provides real-time tide, storm and shoreline monitoring data and pictures to coastal managers including the CRMC, has received funding to stay online.

MyCoast Rhode Island is a portal to collect and analyze pictures and information relating to coastal events. Information collected through this site is used to visualize the impact of coastal hazards and to enhance awareness among decision-makers and stakeholders. MyCoast users can upload storm or tide event photos, tag their locations and current conditions (time, tide, etc.) via an app, and the information is stored on the web site, <https://mycoast.org/ri>. The CRMC, as one of the administrators of the MyCoast app, received \$10,000 recently from the RI Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration Trust Fund (CEHRTF) in order to assess sea level rise impacts. Along with partners [Save The Bay](#), [Rhode Island Sea Grant](#), the [University of Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Center](#), the [Northeast Region Association of Coastal and Oceans Observing Systems](#), and [Blue Urchin, LLC](#), the CRMC will use the MyCoast information to ground truth [STORMTOOLS](#) flood modeling.

[Learn more](#)

Engineering with nature to protect RI shorelines

On April 10, 2018 the CRMC will sponsor a one-day workshop for engineers, designers and regulatory staff on the use of nature-based practices to address shoreline erosion. CRMC staff will discuss RI regulations that apply to these practices. Representatives from [The Nature Conservancy](#) will discuss how these practices are used throughout New England and introduce new information and resources for designers created by the [Northeast Regional Ocean Council](#) and The Nature Conservancy. Practitioners will present examples of projects that have been installed throughout RI. There will be an opportunity to discuss current regulations and how they help or hinder the use of nature-based erosion control practices.

The workshop will be held at the University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute, and the registration fee is \$40, or \$25 for non-profit organizations and government agencies.

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