

CRMC's Fugate receives leadership award for climate change work

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Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council's Executive Director Grover J. Fugate was recently honored for his work on climate change adaptation in New England with the New England Regional Adaptation Leadership Award given by the American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP). Fugate was honored on May 1 at the Antioch University Center for Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience's "2018 Local Solutions: Eastern Climate Preparedness Conference" in New Hampshire. The ASAP Regional Adaptation Leadership Award (RALA)



CRMC Executive Director Grover J. Fugate

recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves in the climate change adaptation field through exceptional leadership. It recognizes the fact that "deliberate, proactive adaptation, preparedness, and resilience-building is a change process, a deviation from business-as-usual, and a courageous act of doing something new and different," according to the ASAP. "At its heart are individuals who make this change happen, sometimes with very few resources."

Fugate, who has served as CRMC's executive director since 1986, was one of three people chosen from the New England area, selected by a committee of adaptation professionals from across the region.

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Fugate speaks to Dutch Wavemakers

CRMC Executive Director Grover J. Fugate was invited to share knowledge on climate change and resilience with officials from the Netherlands on May 16, 2018. Dutch Wavemakers, an initiative to increase water awareness worldwide and to begin conversations about the "value of human capital for a future-proof water sector," asked Fugate to be a guest lecturer at their brainstorming session in Newport as part of the Volvo Ocean Race event. On the major stopover locations of the Volvo race, the Dutch Wavemakers – part of a Dutch non-profit – is organizing brainstorming sessions including this one, "Water Resilience and its Impact on Human Capital: how can we prepare for climate change through excellent water education?"

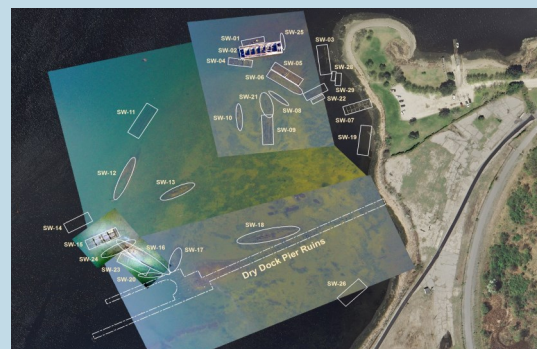
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CRMC working to protect RI's largest ship graveyard

Marine archaeologist and third-generation Rhode Island diver David Robinson is very excited about a collection of old timbers exposed along the East Providence shoreline. He recently discovered that these are the remains of 29 abandoned vessels that make up the largest ship graveyard in Rhode Island – and that's an amazing feat in a state with a rich shipping and sailing history.

"This site captures the maritime focus that Providence had during its 'Golden Era,' at the peak of its history as an industrial port city," he said one recent morning, the excitement clear in his voice. "The Bay has been a highway forever" and it only made sense that with the birth of America's Industrial Revolution in Pawtucket, there would be some visible remnants of that time. Among the remains, according to Robinson, are six sailing vessels, a schooner barge, the *Bay Queen* and *Mount Hope* sidewheel steamers, and a collection of various types and sizes of scow-barges.

Now, the CRMC is working with the City of East Providence, the East Providence Historical Society, and East Providence Historic District



Site of the graveyard at Bold Point (click for larger view)

Commission and others to preserve and bring awareness to the site off Bold Point, called Green Jacket Shoal, and one of the most unique ship graveyards in the country, with Robinson's help.

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