

Marine and Estuarine Aquatic Invasive Species Conference
University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute
August 17, 2012

***Implementing the Rhode Island
Aquatic Invasive Species
Management Plan:
Current Initiatives and Next Steps***

***Kevin R. Cute
Coastal Resources Management Council***

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“In The Beginning”

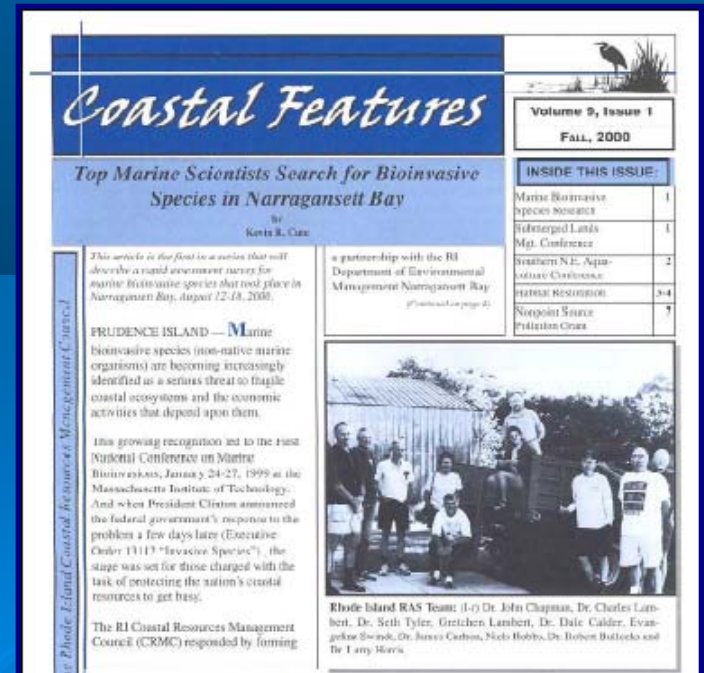
Rapid Assessment Surveys

RI & MA 2000

Northeast 2003

2007

2010



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National Invasive Species Act of 1996



Rhode Island Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan

Approved by the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force
November 7, 2007

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NEANS Panel Member States and Provinces

Connecticut

Maine

Massachusetts

New Hampshire

New York

Rhode Island

Vermont

New Brunswick

Nova Scotia

Quebec

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***Rhode Island Aquatic Invasive Species
Management Plan Working Group***

Coastal Resources Management Council

Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

RI Department of Environmental Management

Rhode Island Natural History Survey

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Task 2A: Monitor the Introduction and Spread of AIS in Coastal Ecosystems

...develop a long-term monitoring program that includes rapid assessment surveys and volunteer monitoring programs to ensure comprehensive coverage of Rhode Island's coastal habitats

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Floating Dock Monitoring Protocols

Site selection: geographic distribution/salinity gradient

Sites sampled monthly May - October

Visual assessment survey

Sample within arm's reach for one hour

Record presence/absence of 23 priority species

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Rhode Island Monitoring Sites 2009 – Present

Save The Bay / Pt. Edgewood Marina

Roger Williams University

Allen Harbor Marina

Fort Adams State Park

Pt. Judith Marina

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Field Sampling



Courtesy Judith Dibello



Courtesy Judith Dibello

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***Task 1G: Develop an Early Detection
Rapid Response Strategy to Control or
Eradicate Aquatic Invasive Species***

***...the Coastal Resources Management Council
shall develop an EDRR network for marine
Aquatic Invasive Species***

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US EPA / CRMC AIS Monitoring Collaboration



Photo provided by US EPA Atlantic Ecology Division

“Exploring the feasibility of utilizing an Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) for the detection of aquatic invasive species”

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USCG / RWU AIS Monitoring Collaboration



Photo credit: International Maritime Organization

***Using Environmental PCR to Monitor Ballast Water
for Aquatic Invasive Species***

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AQUATIC
INVASIVE SPECIES
MONITORING PROJECT



CRM C
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

And the winner is...Karyn Jiminez-Elliott!!!