

State of Rhode Island
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Federal requirements of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) at 16 USC § 1455(e) and 15 C.F.R. Part 923, Subpart H, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) has submitted to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management (OCM) proposed changes to the Federally-approved Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program (CRMP). The CRMC is requesting concurrence of OCM as a Program Change to the CRMP the incorporation of the CRMC's existing **Ocean Special Area Management Plan** (Ocean SAMP) regulations (Parts 2 through 8) that have been previously approved by NOAA (RI-2011-1), but have since been formatted into the uniform Rhode Island Code of Regulations (RICR) as follows:

- 650-RICR-20-05-2 (Chapter 2 - Ecology)
- 650-RICR-20-05-3 (Chapter 3 - Global Climate Change)
- 650-RICR-20-05-4 (Chapter 4 - Cultural and Historic Resources)
- 650-RICR-20-05-5 (Chapter 5 - Commercial and Recreational Fisheries)
- 650-RICR-20-05-6 (Chapter 6 - Recreation and Tourism)
- 650-RICR-20-05-7 (Chapter 7 - Marine Transportation, Navigation and Infrastructure)
- 650-RICR-20-05-8 (Chapter 8 - Renewable Energy and Other Offshore Development)

There are no proposed changes to the regulations listed above. The formatting changes are non-substantive for compliance with Rhode Island state law and the RICR. The CRMC's concurrence request of NOAA is simply to approve the incorporation of the existing RICR-formatted Ocean SAMP Parts 2 through 8 listed above into the CRMP.

The NOAA OCM is reviewing this request for concurrence in the determination that the CRMC's proposed change is a Program Change consistent with the CZMA and does not require analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act. The CRMC's filing (RI-2022-2) is available for viewing online at the OCM Program Change web portal: <https://coast.noaa.gov/czmprogramchange/#/public/home>. Public comments may be submitted online at the OCM link above or written comments may be submitted directly to NOAA OCM at the following address:

Joelle Gore, Chief
Stewardship Division
Office of Coastal Management

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1305 East-West Highway, SSMC4 N/OCM6
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Comments regarding whether the incorporation of the CRMC's requested change into the CRMP qualifies as a Program Change pursuant to 15 C.F.R. § 923.84 will be accepted by OCM for three weeks (21 days) following the date of publication of this notice on **June 17, 2022**. The detailed Program Change request to NOAA OCM is also available on the CRMC web site: www.crmc.ri.gov

Any questions regarding this public notice should be directed to Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director, Coastal Resources Management Council, email: jwillis@crm.ri.gov, Telephone: (401)783-3370.