



**RI Coastal Resources Management Council
Marine Resources Development Plan
Workshop**

When: Friday, Jan. 6, 2:30-4 p.m.

Where: Narragansett Bay Commission's conference room; One Service Road, Providence, RI

The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council would like to thank the legislatively mandated partners in the development of the Marine Resources Development Plan (MRDP) for their hard work. As a gesture of gratitude, the CRMC has scheduled a special meeting to highlight some of the changes the Council will be making to the next draft of the MRDP. This meeting is meant to discuss – in advance of the Council's release of the next draft – those changes to the draft with the principle cooperative agencies, partners and commenting parties which have helped us shape this document.

The development and implementation of the CRMC's MRDP was required by legislation enacted in 2004. Starting in late 2004, the CRMC, along with the University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center/Rhode Island Sea Grant, the Economic Policy Council and the RI Senate Policy Office synthesized data, established a working group, and conducted interviews to formulate a draft plan. In the span of one year, the CRMC and those groups have produced a drafted plan which will be presented at this meeting, and then before the full Council on January 10.

The MRDP is intended to be a strategic document, not a regulatory plan, and the first version is a work in progress. This first version will represent tremendous progress for the Council, and will strengthen collaboration among all of the agencies. Instead of planning to plan, the CRMC and these groups need to move on now to the next stage and devise methods of implementing the envisioned intent of the legislation into the Marine Resources Development Plan.