

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 of the adopted changes to the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program (CRMP) in 650-RICR-10-00-1.2(B) Meetings and Members and to review the 2025 legislative amendments in R.I. General Law § 46-23 - Coastal Resources Management Council.

R.I. General Law § 46-23-2 Coastal Resources Management Council created – Appointment of Members, § 46-23-2.1 - Members -Term of office- Vacancies, and § 46-23—4 Officers of the Council- Quorum and Vote Required for Action was recently amended by the General Assembly in 2025 (see Senate Bill 0998 Substitute A and House Bill 6126 Substitute A). The amendments reduce the number of Coastal Resources Management Council members from ten (10) to seven (7). The amendment at 46-23.4 also reduces the number of members required for a quorum from six (6) to four (4). To implement this legislation, Section 1.2(B) Meetings and Members of the Management Procedures (650-RICR-10.00.1) has been amended to reduce the quorum requirements of the Council from six (6) members to four (4) members pursuant to § 46-23-4.

The CRMC's concurrence request of NOAA is to approve the above referenced amendments to R.I General Law and associated amendments to 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-2025-1) 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.

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 **December 17, 2025** 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@crmc.ri.gov, Telephone: (401)783-3370.