

Division of Coastal Resources

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
FY2002 WORK PLAN - OFFICE OF COASTAL RESOURCES

Program Name and Description: Division of Coastal Resources

Mission of Program, Office or Division:

Program highlights:

Function of Division: The main function of the Division of Coastal Resources is the management of the commercial fishing ports in Galilee (Pier 3) and Newport (Pier 9). There are 235 commercial fishing vessels in the Port of Galilee. Eighty of those vessels are larger offshore draggers or offshore lobster boats. There are also 150 inshore commercial, charter, head, and sport boats in the Port. The Newport facility provides berthing for 45 boats, four of which are larger offshore vessels.

Base Line Conditions : Four years ago, the state port facilities in Galilee and Newport were in serious need of baseline improvements. The overall appearance of the facilities had been deteriorating for a number of years, in large part due to budget constraints and staffing shortages. In 1997, in response to pleas from the fishing community, the Governor and the legislature made over eleven million dollars available to refurbish the port facilities.

Initiatives:

> The Division has begun implementation of a 5-year plan to improve the infrastructure of both our commercial ports consisting of new piers, new bulkheads, and improved port facilities. It is vitally important to the ports that the current level of funding continue into the future to enhance the long-term sustainability of the commercial fishing fleets in Galilee and Newport.

>It is also important to improve the Division's operational capability by filling key vacancies. No new funds are being requested.

>In order to promote healthy, vibrant, and sustainable ports it is important the Division develop a more effective relationship with the Town of Narragansett, the City of Newport, and port tenants, including most particularly, the tenant fishermen.

>The Division will expand on measures to reduce pollution at its source. Non-point sources of pollution will be pursued aggressively.

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OBJECTIVE 1: To provide, safe, suitable and reasonably priced docking facilities for Rhode Island's commercial fishing fleet; to provide additional docking facilities as needed.		ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR(S): Enhanced economic activity at Newport and Galilee as a result of expanded and improved facilities.
STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	Performance Measures
1. Continue to make improvements to facilities as outlined in the Delaware Plan and as allowed by annual Division budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace wooden bulkhead in North Basin portion of Port of Galilee. • Design plan to replace the South bulkhead in the Port of Galilee. • Replace Pier E in Galilee. • Design plan to replace piers NN, PP, QQ, RR, and SS. • Replace broken pilings in Ports of Galilee and Newport. ▪ Continue with Newport Pier 9 bulkhead repairs and other site improvements. 	<p>Design phase of plan is complete. Job ready to go out to bid. Work should begin in the Fall of 2001; job is scheduled to be completed in May 2002.</p> <p>Job scheduled to go out to bid in May 2002.</p> <p>Project scheduled to be bid upon approval of the Coastal Resource Management Council. Estimated that work may start in November 2001.</p> <p>Design phase scheduled to go out to bid in July 2001. Work to start in October 2002.</p> <p>Design phase scheduled to go out to bid in October 2001. Actual construction should start in October 2002.</p> <p>Work in progress; scheduled to be complete by June 2002.</p>
2. Research and Develop alternatives to improve / expand operations.	<p>Improve the Division's long-term operational capability. Fill the vacancies within the division allowing the division to operate at full capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify potential locations for development of new commercial fishing piers. <p>Continue lines of communication with the Army Core of Engineers and if survey of channel points out the need for maintenance dredging, find source of funding to implement the work.</p>	<p>Target date is 5/31/02.</p> <p>Work in progress.</p> <p>Work in progress.</p>

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<p>OBJECTIVE 2: To promote balanced development and sustainable growth of the Port of Galilee consistent with a strong commercial fishing fleet and healthy tourist industry guided by a master plan which accommodates the interest of the Town of Narragansett and other port stockholders. At Pier 9 in Newport, to ensure the facility is developed and operated in a manner which promotes and protects the commercial fishing fleet on a sustainable basis and which does so in a manner which remains sensitive to the City of Newport's plans for its waterfront and harbor.</p>		<p>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR(S): Revitalizing, restoring, and better utilizing an already disturbed and developed area and enhancing it's environmental quality.</p>
STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE MEASURES
1. Involve stakeholders in Port development and operational planning activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and enhance lines of communication with the Town of Narragansett. 	Work in progress.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to meet with the Galilee Port Advisory Committee, representing key stakeholders in the port, on a monthly basis. Continue to develop the Master Development Plan proposed by the E.D.C. in a manner acceptable to the Town of Narragansett, port tenants, commercial fishermen, and E.D.C. Continue to meet with the Newport Pier 9 Commercial Fisherman's Committee on a monthly basis. 	<p>Work in progress.</p> <p>Work in progress.</p> <p>Work in progress.</p>
1. (cont.) Involve stakeholders in Port development and operational planning activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist the town in establishing a special zoning district for the Port of Galilee; ensure port development operations remain consistent with the Galilee Master Plan. Attend related meetings and recommend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Proper development of the plan. -Schedule dictated by the town. 	Special District Zoning Plan for Port of Galilee is in Final Draft phase. Final plan will be adopted in very near future.
2. Develop consensus in a long-term strategy for resolving the Port's chronic seasonal parking shortages.	Work with local parking lot owners and managers to arrive at an informed opinion as to how much (if any) additional parking may be necessary to accommodate tourism in the busy season.	Parking lot owners will maintain a log of how many days their respective lots are filled to capacity and make the results available to the DEM at the end of the season. The information will be available in October 2001.

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OBJECTIVE 3: Address the shortage of available berthing space for the Rhode Island Commercial Fishing Fleet.		ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR(S): Restore and maintain water quality, ecological integrity of coastal environment, and protect public health.
STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	Performance Measures
1. Identify locations that may be suitable for development of commercial fishing piers and construct new commercial piers when the opportunity presents itself.	<p>Continue to search for new commercial berthing opportunities in the Point Judith Pond area.</p> <p>Continue using available Delaware Funds to enhance infrastructure of State Ports in Galilee and Newport.</p>	<p>Work in progress.</p> <p>Work in progress.</p>

OBJECTIVE 4: Prevent Pollution		ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR(S): More environmentally sound operations and improved aesthetics
STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE MEASURES
1. Ensure that all aspects of the division operations do not create pollution problems and reduce existing problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install new storm water treatment system at Galilee Facility. • Install new storm water treatment system at Newport Facility. 	<p>Delaware Project scheduled to be completed by July 2001.</p> <p>Delaware Project consisting of two phases; first phase in progress. Drainage system scheduled to be installed and operational by May 2002.</p>