

Division of Coastal Resources

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
FY2000 WORK PLAN - OFFICE OF COASTAL RESOURCES

Program Name and Description: Division of Coastal Resources

Mission of Program, Office or Division: The mission of the Division of Coastal Resources is to maintain a healthy and sustainable commercial fishery in Galilee and Newport. Also, tourism is a significant factor in Galilee and its impact must be considered in the management plans of the Port. In order to most effectively balance the commercial fishing industry with tourism development it is crucial that the division work closely with the E.D.C. and the Town of Narragansett and that it be particularly sensitive to community plans and priorities.

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: Two 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 through reorganization of existing funds. 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 E.D.C., the Town of Narragansett, the City of Newport, and port tenants, including most particularly, the tenant fishermen.

>The Division, in conjunction with the E.D.C. and the Town of Narragansett, proposes to develop a commercial fisheries incubator for small commercial fisheries related business at the mostly vacant "Stonington" building located in Galilee. >

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

>Coastal Resources, with the assistance of the E.D.C., the Town of Narragansett, and the D.O.T. is initiating an aggressive effort to address the peak period parking shortage in Galilee. Possible solutions might include off site parking or a parking garage with a scenic overlook around the perimeter of the top tier.

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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"> • Build and install a 100’ floating pier providing dockage for 10 work- skiffs at State Pier 9 in Newport. • Begin construction of west bulkhead and Parking lot improvements at Galilee. • Retain engineering consultant to design a new bulkhead in the North Basin. • Replace Piers E, G, and H in Galilee. • Replace broken pilings in Ports in Galilee and Newport. • Design of Pier 9 bulkhead and Other site improvements. 	<p>Construction of pier to start by September 1999, work to be completed in October 1999. Pier to be installed pending CRMC approval(Fall '99)</p> <p>Job is out to bid, work should start 10/99. Completion date 7/'00.</p> <p>Project going out to bid in December '00. Designs complete with permits by 7/00.</p> <p>Project going out to bid in December '99 Construction slated for May '00</p> <p>Project going out to bid in November '99 Construction slated for April '00</p> <p>Design in progress; to be complete with permits by 2000.</p>

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STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE MEASURES
<p>2. Research and Develop alternatives to improve / expand operations</p>	<p>Improve the Division's long-term operational capability. Fill Chief and Pier Superintendent positions on a permanent basis, thereby freeing up vacancies for critically-needed Asst. Superintendent of Piers and Maintenance Supervisor.</p> <p><i>Target date is 6/30/00</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify potential alternative locations on Point Judith Pond for development of commercial fishing piers with particular attention to state-owned land in Jerusalem. • Explore the need for and feasibility of additional berthing space with tenant fishermen and city officials at Pier 9 in Newport. From 8/1/99 to 5/31/00 conduct stakeholder workshops on options, opportunities, and potential problems. <p>Revise the Pier 9 Newport Port Operations Regulations to better address the changes in the commercial fishing operations at the pier. Final draft complete / will be promulgated by 3/31/00.</p> <p>Revise Galilee Port Operations Regulations and Berthing Management System. Final Draft to be Complete by 6/30/00.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 months to complete process. by 11/30/99 <p>September '99 initiate workshop with port tenants, town, and E.D.C. to discuss changes: arrive at final draft by May 1, '00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop written procedural manual and Maintenance schedule Manual to be completed by October 31, '99. 	

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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
<p>1. Involve stakeholders in Port development and operational planning activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and enhance lines of Communication with the Economic Development Corporation and the Town of Narragansett. Initiate monthly meetings of the Galilee Lease Committee with continued participation by the E.D.C. and the Town of Narragansett. (Committee currently only meets on an as needed basis.) September '99 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Galilee Port Advisory Committee representing key stakeholders, to meet monthly and advise the Division and the Director on Port operations and plans. Continue to develop 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. Initiate workshops and meetings with interested parties to recommend changes: Sept.-Dec.'99. Prepare revised Master Plan and adopt plan. Jan.'00- June '00. 	

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STRATEGY	ACTIVITIES	PERFORMANCE MEASURES
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. Invite new committee to participate in Port's future development, formalize the group's functions, and commence monthly meetings, 9/1/99 through 12/31/99 • Attend related meetings and recommend: Proper development of the plan. Schedule dictated by the town. Anticipated adoption by 12/31/99. 	
2. Develop consensus in a long-term strategy for resolving the Port's chronic seasonal parking shortages.	<p>Step 1: Convene meetings with Narragansett Officials, EDC, DOT, D.E.M., Interstate Navigation Company, and other stakeholders to discuss the scope of the problem and possible solutions using work already completed for EDC as a baseline.</p> <p>Step 2. Based on initial meetings, schedule Public workshops to solicit input of members of public and other stakeholders on options identified by process above.</p> <p>Step 3.Prepare implementation recommendations, budget, and proposed implementation schedule for consideration by implementing authorities.</p> <p>Time Frame: Step 1 9/1/99- 1/31/00 Step 2 2/1/00-5/1/00 Step 3 5/1/00-6/30/00</p>	

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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
<p>1. Identify alternative locations on Point Judith Pond that may be suitable for development of commercial fishing piers with particular attention to state owned land in Jerusalem.</p> <p>2. Explore the need for and possibility of additional berthing space with tenant fishermen and city officials at Pier 9 in Newport.</p>	<p>8/1/99- 5/31/00 Conduct stakeholder workshops regarding options, opportunities, and potential problems.</p> <p>6/1/00- 9/15/00 Develop implementation</p>	<p>8/1/99- 5/31/00 Conduct stakeholder workshops regarding options, opportunities, and potential problems.</p> <p>6/1/00- 9/15/00 Develop implementation schedule and strategy.</p>

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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"> • Construct a secondary containment wall around the waste oil collection tank at Pier 9 in Newport. • Fence in the garbage dumpsters in Newport and Galilee to improve aesthetics and minimize the wind blown spread of litter. • Install new storm water treatment system at Galilee Facility. • Install new storm water treatment system at Newport Facility. 	<p>P.O. currently being written/work to be Completed by Nov. 30, 1999.</p> <p>To be completed by Nov. 30, 1999.</p> <p>Delaware Project scheduled to be completed by 6/30/00</p> <p>Delaware Project consisting of two or three phases; first phase (\$ 500,000) scheduled to be initiated by 6/'00.</p>