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## Greenwich Bay Special Area Management Plan Framework for Management Chapter Summary

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Federal, state, and municipal authorities all play a role in protecting and managing Greenwich Bay's resources. In addition to the residents of the Greenwich Bay watershed, these government authorities are central to achieving a healthy Greenwich Bay capable of supporting all uses for current and future generations. This chapter provides a brief outline of the different management authorities and explains the role of the Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) in integrating their efforts.

### **What are the key findings?**

- The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) has direct authority over Greenwich Bay, its shoreline, and associated coastal resources. Under state statute, the CRMC promulgates and administers land and water use regulations as necessary to protect natural resources and provide for reasonable coastal-dependent economic growth.
- The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) has primary authority statewide over water quality, fish and wildlife, wetlands, and boating.
- Other state and federal agencies are also involved with managing resources in the Greenwich Bay watershed (See Table).
- The City of Warwick and Town of East Greenwich are the two coastal municipalities in the Greenwich Bay watershed. They have the authority to regulate resource use and development through a variety of means, including comprehensive plans, harbor management plans, and zoning.
- Development review under the Land Development and Subdivision Review Enabling Act provides some coordination between the municipalities and state agencies.
- There is a long history of coastal management in Greenwich Bay, including the Greenwich Bay Initiative. The Greenwich Bay Initiative identified research gaps, recommended passage of the municipal bond for sewer tie-ins, and laid the groundwork for the SAMP.

### **What are the issues?**

Management authorities at various government levels do not always coordinate efforts efficiently to manage resources in the Greenwich Bay watershed.

### **What are the SAMP's goals?**

- Provide an integrated vision and clear policy to guide management authorities.
- Establish a coordinated system between management authorities for reviewing and commenting on permit applications and other actions requiring approval.

### **What are the recommended actions in the SAMP?**

Recommendations throughout the SAMP address regulatory and management coordination of the CRMC with other management authorities, particularly the DEM and the municipalities.

### **How does this chapter relate to other issues in the SAMP?**

This chapter outlines the current authority and general efforts of various federal, state, and municipal agencies to address critical issues affecting Greenwich Bay and described throughout the SAMP.

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## Primary Management Authorities for Activities in the Greenwich Bay Watershed

	Residential Development	Commercial Development	Water Quality	Fish and Wildlife	Natural Hazards	Public Access	Wetlands	Habitat Restoration	Boating
<b>STATE AUTHORITIES</b>									
Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Department of Environmental Management (DEM)			X	X		X	X	X	X
Department of Health (HEALTH)			X						
Department of Transportation (DOT)	X	X							
Economic Development Corporation (EDC)	X	X							
Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA)	X	X			X				
<b>FEDERAL AUTHORITIES</b>									
Army Corps of Engineers	X	X			X		X		
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)			X				X		
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	X	X			X			X	
Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)				X				X	
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)				X					
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)								X	
NOAA – National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)				X					
<b>MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES</b>									
City of Warwick	X	X			X	X			X
Town of East Greenwich	X	X			X	X			X
Warwick Sewer Authority			X						