

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** February 14, 2008  
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**CRMC INVITES PUBLIC TO PRESENTATION  
ABOUT SPECIAL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN  
FOR AQUIDNECK ISLAND**  
*Learn about coyotes and trail scenarios too!*

**NARRAGANSETT, RHODE ISLAND:** The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) invites the public to attend a presentation session about the Aquidneck Island Special Area Management Plan (SAMP). The SAMP, once adopted into state and local law, will address water quality, habitat protection, public access, hazard mitigation and economic investment strategies for, initially, the western portion of the island.

The public meeting will take place on Thursday, February 21 at 7 p.m. at Middletown Town Hall, Middletown. Three presentations will be given: 1) An overview of the SAMP project; 2) A presentation by University of Rhode Island landscape architecture students regarding three east-west trail scenarios for the island; and 3) An update by Dr. Numi Mitchell, biologist, about her Aquidneck Island Coyote Management Study.

The Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) is authorized under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to develop and implement Special Area Management Plans (SAMPs) to address specific regional issues. These plans are ecosystem-based management strategies that are consistent with the council's legislative mandate to preserve and restore ecological systems. The CRMC coordinates with local municipalities, as well as government agencies and community organizations, to prepare the SAMPs and implement the management strategies. See other SAMPs at <http://www.crmc.state.ri.us/samp/index.html>.

The Coastal Resources Management Council is a management agency with regulatory functions. Its primary responsibility is for the preservation, protection, development and where possible the restoration of the coastal areas of the state via the issuance of permits for work with the coastal zone of the state.

The Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program is a federal-state-university partnership based at the University of Rhode Island offering research, education, outreach, legal, and communications programs. The URI Coastal Resources Center works the world over to encourage stewardship of coastal ecosystems.

For more information about the meetings, contact (401) 874-6107.