

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road; Suite 3, Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

In accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the "Administrative Procedures Act" (Section 42-35-3 of the General Laws of Rhode Island) and the Rule and Regulations of the Coastal Resources Management Council, notice is hereby given of the intention of the Coastal Resources Management Council to change the management plans, policies, procedures and regulations of the agency regarding planning and management of the coastal resources of the State relative to Chapter 46-23 of the State of Rhode Island.

The following changes are proposed:

Section 200 - Ecology of the Ocean SAMP Region

The purpose of the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP Ecology Chapter is to provide a broad overview of SAMP area ecosystem: its geology, wind patterns, air and water temperatures, salinity, water currents and circulation, chemical oceanography, phytoplankton, zooplankton, ichthyoplankton, the benthos, fish, megafauna (whales, seals, turtles) and avifauna (birds). With the Ocean SAMP region being a busy maritime entryway to both Narragansett Bay and Long Island Sound, it is critical that the complex ecological and biological dynamics of this transitional sea area be increasingly studied and understood for appropriate resources management.

Section 300 - Global Climate Change

The purpose of the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP Global Climate Change Chapter is to observe past climate trends across global and local scales, consider climate change projections in the future as suggested by existing scientific studies and models, and examine what these climate change trends mean for the marine ecosystem of the Ocean SAMP area and human activities related to the Ocean SAMP.

Section 1000 - Existing Statutes, Regulations and Policies

The purpose of the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP Existing Statutes Chapter is to provide a broad overview of those state and federal regulations which are most relevant to the governance of uses within the Ocean SAMP area, as this area encompasses both state and federal waters. These key statutes, regulations, and policies have associated regulatory provisions that provide policy direction for, and regulation and management of, these ocean resources and uses.

Please go to the following websites to download the entire chapter for review. Also see the Ocean SAMP websites at www.crmc.ri.gov/samp_ocean.html and <http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp/> for detailed information regarding the SAMP's development.

The Council has complied with the requirements of R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-35-3 by considering alternative approaches to the proposed regulation(s) and has determined that there is/are no alternative approach(es) that would be as effective and less burdensome. The Council has also determined that the proposed regulation(s) do(es) not overlap or duplicate any other state regulation. The Council has complied with the requirements of R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-35-3.3 by submitting copies of the proposed regulation(s) to the Governor's Office and the Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

Parties interested in or concerned with the above proposed changes are invited to **submit written comments by Friday, May 28, 2010**. All such comments should be directed to Grover J. Fugate, Executive Director, at the above address.

A public workshop on the above mentioned matter has been scheduled for Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the URI Bay Campus, Corless Auditorium, South Ferry Road, Narragansett, RI to afford all interested persons the opportunity to submit comments, either orally or in writing.

A public hearing has been scheduled for these proposed changes to be held in on Tuesday, June 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room A, Administration Building, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

Copies of the proposed regulations are also available from the Coastal Resources Management Council offices and its website – www.crmc.ri.gov.

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Council office at 783-3370, 72 hours in advance of the hearing date.

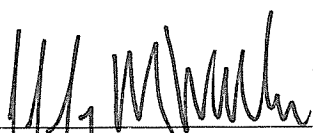
Further information may be obtained by contacting the Coastal Resources Management Council offices at 783-3370.

NOTICE

These changes are considered to be routine program changes to the federally approved Coastal Resources Management Program of Rhode Island. The CRMC will be requesting that the federal Office of Ocean and Coastal Resources Management concur with this determination when it seeks inclusion of such in the federally approved program. Persons who disagree that these are routine modifications to the federally approved program may submit such written comments within three weeks of the date of the issuance of this notice to:

Allison Castellan
Coastal Management Specialist
NOAA/NOS/OCRM
Coastal Programs Division
1305 East-West Highway, SSMC4
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Signed this 28th day of April, 2010.



Jeffrey M. Willis, Deputy Director
Coastal Resources Management Council