RI Ocean Special Area Management Plan

Overview of the Ocean SAMP Recreation and Tourism Chapter

Michelle Armsby and Tiffany Smythe
URI Coastal Resources Center/RI Sea Grant
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Presentation Overview

• Chapter context
• Chapter overview
• Methodology
• Some key findings
• Policy issues
• Next steps
Ocean SAMP Document

- Introduction
- Ecology of the SAMP Area
- Cultural and Historic Resources
- Fisheries Resources and Uses
  - **Recreation and Tourism**
  - Marine Transportation, Navigation and Infrastructure
  - Global Climate Change
  - Renewable Energy
  - Other Future Uses
  - Existing Policies, Procedures, Zoning and Regulations
Chapter Overview

600.......Introduction
610.......History of Recreation and Tourism
620.......Marine Recreation
630.......Shore-Based Recreational Activities
640.......Cruise Ship Tourism
650.......Economic and Non-Market Value of Recreation and Tourism
660.......Recreation and Tourism Policies
670.......Works Cited

Recreational Fisheries

- Key use of SAMP area
- Extensive section in fisheries chapter
- Recreational and commercial fishermen target many of the same species
- Not easy to distinguish between recreational and commercial fisheries
**Methodology**

1. **What information to include?**
   - Past SAMPs
   - EIS documents, Mass Ocean Plan, MMS regulations

2. **Who should we talk to?**

3. **What information and datasets already exist?**

4. **What information and datasets can we create?**

**Findings: Recreational Boating**

- Fishing
- Sailboat racing
- Cruising
- Offshore diving
- Offshore wildlife viewing

Photo: Allen Clark/PhotoBoat, 2009
Cruise Ship Tourism

- Pass through SAMP area
- One of the main offshore tourism uses of SAMP area
- Rely on scenic quality of SAMP area and environs
- Currently:
  - 11 cruise line companies
  - 50+ scheduled visits for 2009
  - 68,000+ cruise passengers visited Newport in 2008
Findings:
Shore-based recreation

- Shore-based activities
  - Swimming, surfing, beach-going...
  - Beaches, parks, and open space

- Recreational infrastructure
  - Marinas and boat ramps
  - Recreational ports and harbors
Examples of the Economic Value of Marine Recreation and Coastal Tourism

- **Tourism and hospitality** (Global Insight 2008)
  - RI’s 4th largest industry based on employment
  - Coastal tourism adjacent to the SAMP area
    - 5.7 million visitors in 2007 = $1.8 billion in spending

- **Recreational Boaters**
  - Estimated spending in 2006 = $182 million
    (Ninigret Partners & RI Econ. Mon. Collab. 2008)

- **Sailing Events:**
  - Estimated 2010 America’s Cup = $886 million
    (Allianz Global Investors 2007)

- **Cruise ship passengers**
  - Estimated $8.6 million in economic impact 2008

Recreation and Tourism Policy Issues

- Value of marine recreation and tourism
- High-intensity boating usage areas
- Important offshore features (dive sites)
- Navigation safety and boating access
- Offshore marine construction
Recreation and Tourism and Offshore Renewable Energy

- Research on effects and mitigation measures: addressed in Renewable Energy Chapter
- Navigation safety and boating access: addressed in Marine Transportation Chapter

Thank you!

Please read the chapter online at: seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp/ and send in your comments!

Michelle Armsby: 874-6493 or michelle_armsby@mail.uri.edu
Tiffany Smythe: 874-6197 or tsmythe@crc.uri.edu
## Recreation and Tourism

### The Public Review Process

<table>
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<th>Action</th>
<th>Step</th>
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<td>10/15</td>
<td>Management Team approves draft chapter (DC) for TAC review</td>
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<td>10/26</td>
<td>TAC submits comments to Ocean SAMP team</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/30</td>
<td>DC on line for public comment/review</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/04</td>
<td>DC presented at stakeholder meeting</td>
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<td>11/09</td>
<td>Public comment period ends</td>
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<td>11/17</td>
<td>DC submitted to OS Subcommittee</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/19</td>
<td>Public comments/responses presented at Subcommittee meeting</td>
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<td>* Subcommittee approves DC to advance to full council</td>
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* Contingent on Council’s scheduled meetings and decisions.

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>* Full Council votes to commence rulemaking</td>
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<td>* 30-day comment period begins</td>
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<td>* Public workshop held</td>
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<td>* Public comment period closes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>* Public comments/responses reviewed by CRMC and Ocean SAMP team</td>
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<td>* Public hearing for DC</td>
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<td>* DC approved by Full Council</td>
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<tr>
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<td>* Public hearing on complete document</td>
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<td>* Document approved by full council</td>
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<td>* Document submitted to Secretary of State and NOAA</td>
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* Contingent on Council’s scheduled meetings and decisions.
Recreation and Tourism TAC

Newport Convention and Visitor’s Bureau
RI Marine Trades Association
RI Party and Charter Boat Association
RI State Yachting Committee
RI Statewide Planning Program
RI Department of Environmental Management
RI Economic Development Corporation
Cruising Club of America
US. Coast Guard

State and Federal Agencies

Federal:
- US Minerals Management Service
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Narragansett Indian Tribe
- US National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Coast Guard
- US Navy

State:
- RI Department of Environmental Management
- RI Economic Development Corporation
- RI Statewide Planning
- RI Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission
  (State Historic Preservation Office)