

## Rhode Island Ocean SAMP Field Activities: What's Going on Now

### Buoy-Based Oceanographic and Meteorological Observations: Block Island and Deep Water Sites

Researchers from the Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island will be deploying moored oceanographic sensors and buoys to collect physical and biological oceanographic, as well as meteorological data as part of the ongoing scientific collaboration of the Ocean SAMP project for offshore wind development in Rhode Island. Mariners should be aware of the four research sites where buoys will be set: south and southeast of Block Island, near Cox's ledge, and north of Cox's ledge. *For more information about site locations, deployment dates, and instrument descriptions please refer to the links below.*

*Physical Oceanographic Sampling Sites: Southeast of Block Island and North of Cox's Ledge* [PDF download](#)

*Multidisciplinary Sampling Sites: South of Block Island and near Cox's Ledge* [PDF download](#)



### BOLD & Endeavor Research Cruises

The Environmental Protection Agency's ocean survey vessel [BOLD](#) will be conducting geophysical surveys in the SAMP area from August 31 to September 9, 2005. Researchers aboard the [R/V Endeavor](#) will also be conducting similar geophysical surveys in addition to ground truth studies in the SAMP area from September 16 to September 25.



Both research teams will explore the sediment, benthic habitat, and cultural resources of prospective wind farm sites. Findings will be included as part of the ongoing scientific research part of the Rhode Island Ocean Special Area Management Plan. *For more information please visit [seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp](http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp).*



### Acoustic Noise

To assess potential impacts of underwater noise associated with offshore wind structures, researchers will begin the next field test by deploying the Passive Acoustic Listening Systems (PALS) in the site east of Block Island in federal waters in conjunction with the two GOMOOS meteorological stations being deployed in Block Island Sound in mid-September.

Passive air noise measurements on land, at the Block Island Southeast Light, will be conducted at least once more as will night-time passive noise measurements at the Portsmouth High School wind turbine.

The next field test in the Electromagnetic Field task will be the initial land testing of the towed magnetometer under the high voltage lines in North Kingstown in mid-September, and then at sea testing of the towed magnetometer over the Newport-Jamestown power cable in late September on the R/V Eastern Surveyor. *For more information please visit [seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp](http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp).*