

COMMUNICATIONS

Malia Schwartz, Director
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- Elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Rhode Island Natural History Survey (<http://www.uri.edu/ce/rinhs/index.htm>)
- Appointed URI Adjunct Professor of Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science. Currently developing proposals for marine turtle research and outreach activities. Future activities may include teaching and student advising.

Monica Allard-Cox, Communicator and Webmaster
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- The Rhode Island Sea Grant website received 50,491 visitors, a new record, in October.

For more information on publications offered by our Communications Office please visit their website at: <http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/bookstore/>

LEGAL PROGRAM

Kristen Fletcher, Director
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- Directed Institute for Graduate Environmental Leaders on September 30 and October 1, 2005
- Presented talk entitled *Kelo v. New London: Implications for Coastal Management* with Paul Ticco, at a NOAA Brown Bag in Washington, DC.
- Presented talk entitled *Regional Ocean Governance: The Role of the Public Trust Doctrine* at Duke University Regional Ocean Governance Symposium on October 21, 2005.
- Presented talk entitled *Evolution of the Public Trust Doctrine: Conservation of Submerged Lands* at the Massachusetts Ocean and Coastal Law Seminar in Boston, MA on October 28, 2005.
- Attended the Sea Grant Association Fall Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina from October 30-November 1, 2005.
- Planned program & marketing for upcoming events: Takings & the Coastal Zone (Nov. 4), and governance events during 2006.

For more information on the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program and the Roger Williams Marine Affairs Institute please visit their website at:
<http://law.rwu.edu/Academics+and+Institutes/Marine+Affairs+Institute/>

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES EXTENSION PROGRAM

Fisheries Management Leadership Training

The first of a series of educational workshops was held on November 21st, 2005. Topics covered included an overview of fishing gear and how it works, fish behavior and gear selectivity, and the impacts of gear on the seafloor. The workshop was attended by commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, managers, academics, and students.

Cooperative Research Working

The second leg of a cooperative research project looking at an experimental net to reduce the catch of cod, flatfish, and other bycatch from targeted haddock fishing trips was completed in November, 2005. The project is a successful cooperative research venture between URI/RISG, the commercial fishing industry, and NMFS/NEFSC. The project was highlighted in the Providence Journal on November 27th, 2005.

Catch from the Experimental Net



Catch from the Current Regulated Net



For more information on the Sea Grant Sustainable Fisheries Program please visit
<http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/fa/index.html>

SUSTAINABLE COASTAL COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAM

Coastal Community Development PLACE-MAKING IN COASTAL RHODE ISLAND

One of Rhode Island Sea Grant's primary Coastal Community Development projects is the reinvention of the 1983 Metro Bay Special Area Management Plan (SAMP). The revised Metro Bay SAMP is a formal policy approach to implementing smart growth principles, intended to improve the economic, social and environmental resources of working waterfronts in Providence, East Providence, Pawtucket and Cranston. The plan is focused on streamlining the permitting process to encourage new investment, as well as providing recreational opportunities and public access to the coast. Given the demographics of these urban core communities, social aspects are integral to the program, providing challenges and great opportunities for redeveloping the Metro Bay waterfront as a national model for waterfront place-making.

Sea Grant is also working with the Aquidneck Island Planning Commission and other local stakeholders to create and implement a smart-growth-based regional master plan for a portion of the island's western coast. The Aquidneck Island West Side Master Plan is a collaborative, voluntary approach designed to strengthen coastal planning, stimulate integrated coastal management, and support community and economic development. The Master Plan project was recently selected in a national EPA competition to receive assistance with the implementation phase of the project – a consulting team will assist the Planning Commission with the development of model regulations based on the existing regulatory framework and the Plan's recommended strategies. Once the Plan has been accepted, each municipality will then be able to amend its regulatory documents to ensure that the Master Plan will be implemented as it was envisioned.

For more information on the Sustainable Coastal Communities and Ecosystems Program, please visit <http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/ecosystems/index.html>