

Rhode Island Shellfish Restoration and Enhancement Plan (SREP)

Kickoff Event

Online Information Session: Thursday March 2, 2023 from 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Zoom meeting link:

<https://northeastern.zoom.us/j/94689038494?pwd=aTJCT2RHalc5UjN1WUhjUWISSmhhQT09>

Meeting ID: 946 8903 8494

Passcode: 028228

One tap mobile: +13092053325,,94689038494# US

Shellfish provide ecosystem services that support the health and well-being of Rhode Island's estuarine systems and local communities. In recognition of this importance, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM), Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is creating a Shellfish Restoration and Enhancement Plan (SREP). **We are hosting an online information session on Thursday, March 2, 2023, from 6:00-7:00pm to announce the kickoff of the SREP Planning Process.**

The information session will describe the participatory planning process used to develop the SREP. The public, stakeholder-driven, science-based approach will seek to align restoration and enhancement priorities with the needs of stakeholders, local communities, and managers by:

- engaging stakeholders and partners to co-develop restoration and enhancement priorities and goals;
- providing meaningful opportunities for input;
- recognizing and incorporating the complex social, ecological, and economic factors that comprise Rhode Island's shellfish resources;
- leveraging partnerships, collaborations, and technical expertise; and
- developing an outreach plan to maintain stakeholder support and to provide opportunities for participation.

The information session will be recorded and available on the SREP website: risrep.org

Also, please **Save the Date** for upcoming in-person workshops aimed at identifying and prioritizing restoration and enhancement goals*.

- March 13, 2023 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM at the Coastal Institute, URI GSO, in Narragansett focusing on Little Narragansett Bay, the coastal ponds, and the Narrow River
- March 14, 2023 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM (venue to be announced) focusing on the East Passage of Narragansett Bay and the Sakonnet River
- March 15, 2023 from 4:30-6:30 (venue to be announced) focusing on the West Passage of Narragansett Bay and the Providence River

*Further details will be provided during the online information session on March 2, 2023.

For more information about the SREP planning process, partners, or how to support this initiative please visit risrep.org or contact Eric Schneider at eric.schneider@dem.ri.gov.

