



NOAA Research in Rhode Island



RI-1 and 2 (Based in Narragansett - serves entire Rhode Island coastal zone)

National Sea Grant College Program Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program

The Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program, part of the National Sea Grant College Program, is a statewide program of research, extension, communications, and education services dedicated to the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources. Located at the University of Rhode Island's (URI) Graduate School of Oceanography, Rhode Island Sea Grant conducts research in commercial and recreational fisheries, seafood safety, marine aquaculture, habitat restoration, estuarine water quality, watershed management, sustainable coastal communities, estuarine ecology, and natural hazard mitigation. Rhode Island Sea Grant provides unbiased scientific and technical information and facilitation services to citizens, industry and policy makers with regard marine and coastal resources management. URI's Graduate School of Oceanography is also the home of the National Sea Grant Library, a national archive housing the only complete collection of Sea Grant-funded publications. In FY 2001, Rhode Island Sea Grant received funding of approximately \$2.45 million from the National Sea Grant College Program. For more information please visit <http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu>

RI-1 and 2 (coastal waters)

National Undersea Research Program National Undersea Research Center for the Northeastern United States and Great Lakes

The NOAA National Undersea Research Program (NURP) funds research in waters off Rhode Island through the National Undersea Research Center for the Northeastern United States and Great Lakes located at the University of Connecticut, Avery Point in Groton, Connecticut. The center provides science and operational support (occupied submersibles, remotely operated vehicles and mixed gas diving technologies) and funding for reviewed projects within the North Atlantic and the Great Lakes region. Research activities that have application to the Rhode Island waters are the habitat characteristics controlling the recruitment and population dynamics of recreational and commercial species of fish, including "pest" species. The Center received \$1.36 million in NURP funds in FY 2001. For more information please visit <http://www.nurc.uconn.edu>

RI-2 (Kingston)

Climate Observations and Services Initiative Climate Reference Network

The U.S. Climate Reference Network (CRN) is a network of new climate stations now being developed by the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) as part of NOAA's Climate Observations and Services Initiative. NOAA's Air Resources Laboratory Atmospheric Turbulence and Diffusion

Division in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is heavily involved with the development, deployment, and maintenance of the network. The primary goal of the CRN is to provide long-term high-quality climate observations and records of surface air temperature and precipitation with minimal time-dependent biases affecting the interpretation of decadal to centennial climate variability and change. The CRN will provide the Nation with a first-class long-term (50-100 years) observing network that will serve as the nation's benchmark Climate Reference Network. The CRN will also provide the United States with a network that meets the requirements of the international Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). Data from the CRN will be used in climate monitoring activities and for placing current anomalies into historical perspective. Data will also be used to provide the best possible information about long-term changes in surface air temperature and precipitation, including means and extremes. These data will be distributed hourly to National Weather Service sites via NOAAPort and posted online for no-cost access by anyone worldwide. CRN sites are currently deployed in Kingston, as well as in North Carolina, Nebraska, Montana, Oklahoma, New Hampshire, Illinois, and Tennessee. Within the next five years there will be a total of 250 stations spread throughout the United States. For more information please visit <http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/research/crn/crnmain.html>

For further information about these and other NOAA programs, please contact NOAA's Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 482-4981.

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