



Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program Law Fellow Project Scope Sheet



Law Fellow Project Number: TBD

Project Title: Shellfish Management Plan for the State of Rhode Island

Law Fellow (Fellow Number): TBD

Supporting Organization: CRC, URI, RI DEM, RI CRMC

Program Oversight: Julia Wyman

Start Term: Dec 2012

Duration of the Project: One semester

The project will consist of one Law Fellow using legal and policy research to assist development of a shellfish management plan (SMP) for the State of Rhode Island. Research will include:

- 1) Compiling and summarizing existing legal information governing shellfisheries (wild harvest and aquaculture) in the State of Rhode Island to establish a legal foundation for the SMP. Legal information refers to any laws, regulations, policies, legislature, statues, or guidelines implemented for the management of shellfish.
- 2) Summarizing the history of shellfisheries management, including descriptions of each legal action and date implemented. This task will provide a context for current management strategies.
- 3) Researching and compiling relevant state and municipal law and cases related to the shellfish industry.
- 4) Addressing relevant legal questions posed by the SMP team throughout the SMP process, as appropriate. This task recognizes there are questions yet to be identified in this early stage of the SMP process.

The products from this effort are expected to take the form of a written document that can facilitate future coordination/discussions among stakeholders (including regulatory agencies, shellfish harvesters, dealers, and consumers, and the public) for the purpose of establishing appropriate shellfisheries management strategies for the State of Rhode Island.