

**VOLUME IV: PUBLIC SAFETY,  
NATURAL RESOURCES, AND  
TRANSPORTATION**

**COASTAL RESOURCES  
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

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## **Agency Summary**

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### **Coastal Resources Management Council**

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#### **Agency Mission**

To preserve, protect, develop and, where possible, restore the coastal resources of the State. Maintain a balance between conservation and development and between conflicting private and public interests that will provide the greatest long-term benefits. To protect and preserve valuable natural and cultural features such as historic sites, barrier beaches, coastal ponds, wetlands, and fishing grounds that are subject to development and misuse. To protect and promote public access to the shore and provide high quality recreational opportunities to all who come to the Rhode Island shore. Provide suitable waterfront sites for industries and businesses needing direct coastal access. To direct new development away from sensitive areas and into already developed areas. To establish a working partnership among the public and local, state, and federal governments.

#### **Agency Description**

Rhode Island law mandates the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) to preserve, protect, develop and, where possible, restore the coastal resources of the State. The council is administered by 7 appointed representatives from the public and state and local governments and is staffed by professional engineers, biologists, environmental scientists, and marine resource specialists. The public is given regular opportunities at public hearings to comment on the management of state coastal resources. The council carries out its permitting, enforcement and planning functions primarily through its management programs. Coastal Resources Management Plans are considered to be the environmental management “blueprint” for coastal zone management in the State and are drafted to meet federal mandates. Special Area Management Plans address specific issues associated with designated management areas. Municipal Harbor Management Plans address issues at the municipal level regarding the management of activities occurring in, or on, the waters of a town. The Coastal Resources Management Council is closely involved with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce in a series of initiatives to improve the management of the State’s coastal resources. In 1996, legislation authorized the CRMC as the lead agency (including permitting and planning activities) for dredging and aquaculture, as well as transferring certain freshwater wetlands and permitting responsibility from the Department of Environmental Management to the Council. The CRMC oversees the Coastal Habitat Restoration Program to include and is charged with developing a Marine Resources Development Plan and an Ocean Special Area Management plan. CRMC is also the lead agency on siting of off-shore windfarms, the first of which in the United States was built off the coast of New Shoreham.

#### **Statutory History**

R.I. General Laws § 46-23 establishes the duties and functions of the council. Federally, 16 U.S.C. 1451 (Coastal Zone Management Act) establishes the authority to develop management programs.

# Budget

## Coastal Resources Management Council

	2024 Actuals	2025 Actuals	2026 Enacted Budget	2026 Revised Budget	2027 Recommended
<b>Expenditures by Program</b>					
Central Management	5,228,623	5,676,227	14,860,746	14,668,481	19,191,896
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>5,228,623</b>	<b>5,676,227</b>	<b>14,860,746</b>	<b>14,668,481</b>	<b>19,191,896</b>
<b>Expenditures by Object</b>					
Salary and Benefits	4,244,995	4,933,892	5,098,362	5,107,407	5,241,447
Contract Professional Services	228,915	226,331	382,770	7,246,959	246,959
Operating Supplies and Expenses	321,992	500,284	583,884	521,510	580,885
Assistance and Grants	292,848	76,076	1,727,730	1,674,605	1,674,605
<b>Subtotal: Operating</b>	<b>5,088,750</b>	<b>5,736,583</b>	<b>7,792,746</b>	<b>14,550,481</b>	<b>7,743,896</b>
Capital Purchases and Equipment	113,473	(60,356)	7,068,000	118,000	11,448,000
Operating Transfers	26,400	0	0	0	0
<b>Subtotal: Other</b>	<b>139,873</b>	<b>(60,356)</b>	<b>7,068,000</b>	<b>118,000</b>	<b>11,448,000</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>5,228,623</b>	<b>5,676,227</b>	<b>14,860,746</b>	<b>14,668,481</b>	<b>19,191,896</b>
<b>Expenditures by Source of Funds</b>					
General Revenue	3,331,462	3,929,471	3,904,812	4,174,013	4,324,771
Federal Funds	1,672,161	1,671,853	3,331,166	3,108,657	3,151,314
Restricted Receipts	225,000	76,076	624,768	335,811	335,811
Operating Transfers From Other Funds	0	(1,173)	7,000,000	7,050,000	11,380,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>5,228,623</b>	<b>5,676,227</b>	<b>14,860,746</b>	<b>14,668,481</b>	<b>19,191,896</b>
<b>FTE Authorization</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>32.0</b>

# Personnel Agency Summary

## Coastal Resources Management Council

	FY 2026		FY 2027	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified	27.0	2,588,096	27.0	2,681,243
Unclassified	5.0	637,331	5.0	587,639
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>3,225,427</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>3,268,882</b>
Overtime		17,640		17,640
Turnover		(116,294)		(60,781)
<b>Total Salaries</b>		<b>3,126,773</b>		<b>3,225,741</b>
<b>Benefits</b>				
FICA		236,040		243,919
Health Benefits		548,131		586,475
Payroll Accrual		18,096		18,483
Retiree Health		101,047		98,810
Retirement		987,156		971,775
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>1,890,470</b>		<b>1,919,462</b>
<b>Total Salaries and Benefits</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>5,017,243</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>5,145,203</b>
<b>Cost Per FTE Position</b>		<b>156,789</b>		<b>160,788</b>
Statewide Benefit Assessment		90,164		96,244
<b>Payroll Costs</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>5,107,407</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>5,241,447</b>
<b>Purchased Services</b>				
Clerical and Temporary Services		15,000		15,000
Design and Engineering Services		7,002,000		2,000
Legal Services		216,189		216,189
Other Contracts		4,770		4,770
Training and Educational Services		9,000		9,000
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>7,246,959</b>		<b>246,959</b>
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>12,354,366</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>5,488,406</b>
<b>Distribution by Source of Funds</b>				
General Revenue	22.0	3,754,762	22.0	3,846,145
Federal Funds	10.0	1,599,604	10.0	1,642,261
Operating Transfers from Other Funds	0.0	7,000,000	0.0	0
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>12,354,366</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>5,488,406</b>

# Personnel

## Coastal Resources Management Council

### Central Management

		FY 2026		FY 2027	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
<b>Classified</b>					
APPLICATIONS COORDINATOR	0320 A	2.0	129,198	2.0	134,699
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	0321 A	1.0	61,317	1.0	63,156
CHIEF RESOURCE SPECIALIST	0131 A	1.0	90,554	1.0	93,271
COASTAL GEOLOGIST	0332 A	1.0	89,826	1.0	95,517
COASTAL POLICY ANALYST	0132 A	3.0	282,261	3.0	290,727
DEPUTY DIRECTOR- COASTAL RESOURCES MGMT COUNCIL (CRMC)	0140 A	1.0	141,942	1.0	153,434
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER II	0333 A	1.0	96,328	1.0	99,217
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER III	0336 A	1.0	107,233	1.0	110,450
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER IV	0039 A	1.0	144,662	1.0	148,945
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST II	0332 A	5.0	510,398	5.0	525,491
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST III	0334 A	2.0	201,920	2.0	211,194
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST IV	0336 A	1.0	119,775	1.0	123,314
FISCAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER	0B26 A	1.0	86,294	1.0	88,884
INFORMATION AIDE	0315 A	1.0	48,902	1.0	51,278
MARINE RESOURCES SPECIALIST	0327 A	1.0	87,053	1.0	89,587
PRINCIPAL OCEAN ENGINEER	0133 A	2.0	195,742	2.0	201,614
PROGRAMMING SERVICES OFFICER	0131 A	1.0	110,892	1.0	114,152
TECHNICAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST I (DOS/MVS)	0328 A	1.0	83,799	1.0	86,313
<b>Subtotal Classified</b>		<b>27.0</b>	<b>2,588,096</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>2,681,243</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>					
AQUACULTURE COORDINATOR	0829 A	1.0	90,774	1.0	93,497
CHIEF HEARING OFFICER	0711 F	1.0	157,532	1.0	162,258
DIRECTOR	0845 A	1.0	205,219	1.0	211,247
MARINE INFRASTRUCTURE COORDINATOR	0834 A	1.0	93,062	1.0	103,124
PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION COORDINATOR	0828 A	1.0	90,744	1.0	17,513
<b>Subtotal Unclassified</b>		<b>5.0</b>	<b>637,331</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>587,639</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>32.0</b>	<b>3,225,427</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>3,268,882</b>
Longevity Pay			188,039		191,262
Regular Wages			3,037,388		3,077,620
Turnover			(116,294)		(60,781)
<b>Total Salaries</b>			<b>3,126,773</b>		<b>3,225,741</b>

# Personnel

## Coastal Resources Management Council

### Central Management

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# Performance Measures

## Coastal Resources Management Council

### Central Management

#### Coastal Habitat Restoration

The Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) works to protect and restore coastal ecosystems of the state. This goal is accomplished through the Coastal and Estuary Habitat Restoration Program and Trust Fund. With a maximum annual funding allocation of \$225,000, the Trust Fund supports projects that primarily propose on-the-ground restoration work. To maximize impact in restoring ecosystems, CRMC strives to fund projects that demonstrate leveraging other sources of funding, thereby increasing the number of sites and/or acres being restored in the state. The figures below represent the number of acres of coastal habitat restored. [Note: 2023 actuals represent significant acres of physical and fish spawning habitat restored made accessible by opening river habitat. 2024 values adjusted on updated data.]

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
<b>Target</b>	10	10	10	10	10
<b>Actual</b>	429.00	15.20	26.38	--	--

#### Timeliness of Formal Application Processing

Formal applications are those subject to judicial or open meeting legal processes (formal comment periods, hearing schedules, contested cases, etc.) that impact CRMC's ability to control the review period for this subset of applications. CRMC's standard for formal activity application review times is ninety days to six months (90-180 days), and includes those activities for which a 30-day public comment period is required. The figures below represent the average processing time for formal applications in days.

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
<b>Target</b>	180	180	180	180	180
<b>Actual</b>	160	160	216	--	--

#### Timeliness of Administrative Application Processing

CRMC works to efficiently process applications for activities within its jurisdiction. The majority of these applications are categorized as administrative. In an effort to gauge its responsiveness to the public, CRMC tracks the average turnaround time from CRMC's receipt of an application to assent issuance. CRMC's target for administrative activity application review is two weeks to two months (14-60 days), depending on the type of application. The figures below represent the average processing time for administrative applications in days.

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
<b>Target</b>	60	60	60	60	60
<b>Actual</b>	45	57	61	--	--

#### Timeliness of Response to Violation Complaints

CRMC receives anonymous calls with complaints as to activities that might be in violation of the agency's regulatory programs. Upon receipt of a complaint, enforcement staff, often with the assistance of permitting and administrative staff, research jurisdictional issues, permit history, and other relevant information. Information gathered is assessed and a staff investigation is begun, which is followed up on. Most complaints require a site visit. The figures below represent the average time taken for CRMC enforcement staff to conduct site visits and issue a formal agency action. [Note: This performance measure was established in FY 2026 and historical targets and actuals are not available.]

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
<b>Target</b>	--	--	--	14	14
<b>Actual</b>	--	--	--	--	--