



Rhode Island House of Representatives

*Special Legislative Commission To Study And
Provide Recommendations On The Issues Relating To
Lateral Access Along The Rhode Island Shoreline*

Final Report

March 31, 2022

**Report Submitted to the
Rhode Island House of Representatives**

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Commission Members

- Representative Terri Cortvriend, Chairwoman
- Representative Blake A. Filippi, Vice-Chairman
- Michael Rubin, resident of a coastal community
- Jeffrey Willis, Executive Director, CRMC
- David Splaine, representative of the Rhode Island Realtors Association
- Dennis Nixon, Professor Emeritus of Marine Affairs, URI
- Jonathan Stone, Executive Director, Save the Bay
- Mark P. McKenney, Land Use Attorney
- Mark Boyer, Professional Land Surveyor
- Judge Francis X. Flaherty, retired Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice
- Alison Hoffman, Special Assistant Attorney General, Environmental Unit
- Julia Wyman, Director, Marine Affairs Institute, RWU Law/ Director, Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program

Executive Summary from Chairwoman Terri Cortvriend

Dear Speaker Shekarchi,

I am pleased to provide you with this report by the Special Legislative Commission to Study and Provide Recommendations on the Issues Relating to Lateral Access along the Rhode Island Shoreline.

Pursuant to its enabling legislation, the purpose of the Commission is to make a comprehensive study and provide recommendations on the issues relating to lateral access along the Rhode Island shoreline.

Twelve (12) individuals representing various backgrounds and professional affiliations were appointed to the Commission. These professionals included a retired Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice, the Executive Director of the Coastal Resources Management Council, the Executive Director of Save the Bay, a Professor Emeritus of Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island, an Adjunct Professor of Law and the Director of the Marine Affairs Institute from Roger Williams University, a representative of the Rhode Island Realtors Association, a resident of a coastal community, a Land Use Attorney, a Professional Land Surveyor, and a representative from the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office with experience in shoreline access issues.

The Commission first met on August 26, 2021 and elected Representative Terri Cortvriend as its Chairwoman and Representative Blake A. Filippi Vice as its Vice-Chairman. Over the course of eight (8) months, the Commission met a total of ten (10) times and heard testimony from thirty-nine (39) witnesses, including twenty-nine (29) members of the general public.

This report contains the Commission's findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives based on information presented by the above referenced witnesses who testified before the Commission, voluminous written testimony, and presentations made to the Commission. All written testimony and Capitol TV videos of each hearing have been posted on the General Assembly website in the House Commissions section.

On March 25, 2022, House Bill 8055 was introduced by Chairwoman Cortvriend and Vice-Chairman Filippi and was referred to the House Judiciary Committee, but no hearing has been scheduled as of the date of this report. The bill provides a definition of the recognizable high tide line for the public's rights and privileges of the shore.

I would like to express my gratitude to all members of the Commission for their willingness to take part in this worthy initiative, and we appreciate the investment of the time and talent that they graciously provided.

Sincerely,

Representative Terri Cortvriend
Chairwoman

Background Information and Commentary

In Rhode Island, one of the most important and historic responsibilities of the General Assembly is to protect the rights of the public “to enjoy and freely exercise all the rights of fishery, and the privileges of the shore, to which they have been heretofore entitled under the charter and usages of this state, including but not limited to fishing from the shore, the gathering of seaweed, leaving the shore to swim in the sea and passage along the shore” (Constitution of the State of Rhode Island, Article 1, Section 17).

Article 1, Section 16 entitled in part “Regulation of fishery rights and shore privileges not public taking” of the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island provides that “private property shall not be taken for public uses, without just compensation.” But, this section also provides that “the powers of the state and of its municipalities to regulate and control the use of land and waters...in furtherance of the protection of the rights of the people to enjoy and freely exercise the rights of fishery and the privileges of the shore... shall be an exercise of the police powers of the state, shall be liberally construed, and shall not be deemed to be a public use of private property.”

The Rhode Island Supreme Court in 1982 based its *State v. Ibbison* decision on common law principles in the absence of a statutory definition of “shore”. In *Ibbison*, the court held that “the common law governs the rights and obligations of the people of the state unless that law has been modified by our General Assembly.”

The Legislature, by clarifying and defining the shore as an area that includes a ten foot area landward of the “Recognizable High Tide Line” (seaweed line), would presumably preempt the court’s definition. The public trust doctrine is widely recognized as a baseline of state property law that insulates its exercise from takings liability. In other words, the public’s rights and privileges of the shore are already established by Article 1, Sections 16 and 17 of the Rhode Island Constitution.

Despite a long history of public use of an area above the high-water mark, a recognizable feature along the coast today commonly known as the “Seaweed Line”, “Swash Line”, “Wrack Line”, Last Throw of the Seaweed”, “High Water Line”, or “High Tide Mark”, the Rhode Island Supreme Court settled on using the Mean High Water (MHW) boundary in *Ibbison*. That test involved an analysis of lunar cycles and tidal datum that does not relate to any recognizable feature along the shore and is impossible to determine by an ordinary person trying to exercise their constitutional right to the privileges of the shore guaranteed in Article 1, Section 17 of the Rhode Island Constitution. Although it could be determined by scientists and surveyors at some degree of difficulty and expense, MHW clearly has not worked in Rhode Island as a practical boundary between public and private rights.

In fact, the *Ibbison* court was very mindful of going too far in either direction, and held that “we feel that our decision best balances the interests between littoral owners and all the people of the state. Setting the boundary at the point where the spring tides reach would unfairly take from littoral owners land that is dry for most of the month. Similarly, setting the boundary below the mean-high-tide line at the line of the mean low tide would so restrict the size of the shore as to render it practically nonexistent.”

However, an unintended consequence of using the MHW as the boundary has been a *de facto* taking from the public. As the expert testimony has shown, the public can't safely and legally use the shore under the *Ibbison* decision for most of the day without being subject to the wetness and push of the surf. Members of the public are forced to choose between a soaking, on one hand, and harassment and arrest, on the other. Balance has been skewed to the property owners, and the shore has often become nearly nonexistent for the public.

The Commission has heard from private property owners who have threatened to sue, contending that any change would be a taking and subject to compensation. What the *Ibbison* court couldn't have known at the time, and what the URI Coastal Institute scientists have shown, is that Mean High Water is underwater for most of the day on Rhode Island's south-facing shores. This results in the inability of the public to exercise its right to pass and repass on the shoreline.

Annual beach confrontations, with beachgoers arrested after heated disputes with shorefront property owners, have become all too frequent.

Research by scientists at the Coastal Institute of URI's Graduate School of Oceanography demonstrated that the MHW mark is a completely inappropriate measure for the migrating, high-energy beaches found on our south, ocean-facing coast. The scientific data shows the public can access the dry shore below MHW, at most, for a few hours around the time of low tide each day. The data also reveals that, more often than not, if one is accessing the shore on dry sand, he or she is likely above the *Ibbison* line (MHW) and possibly subject to arrest for trespassing. The scientists' analysis has revealed that the continued use of the MHW standard, particularly in light of rapidly increasing sea level rise, amounts to a denial of the public's constitutional rights to use the shore. It simply renders Rhode Islander's rights and privileges of the shore illusory.

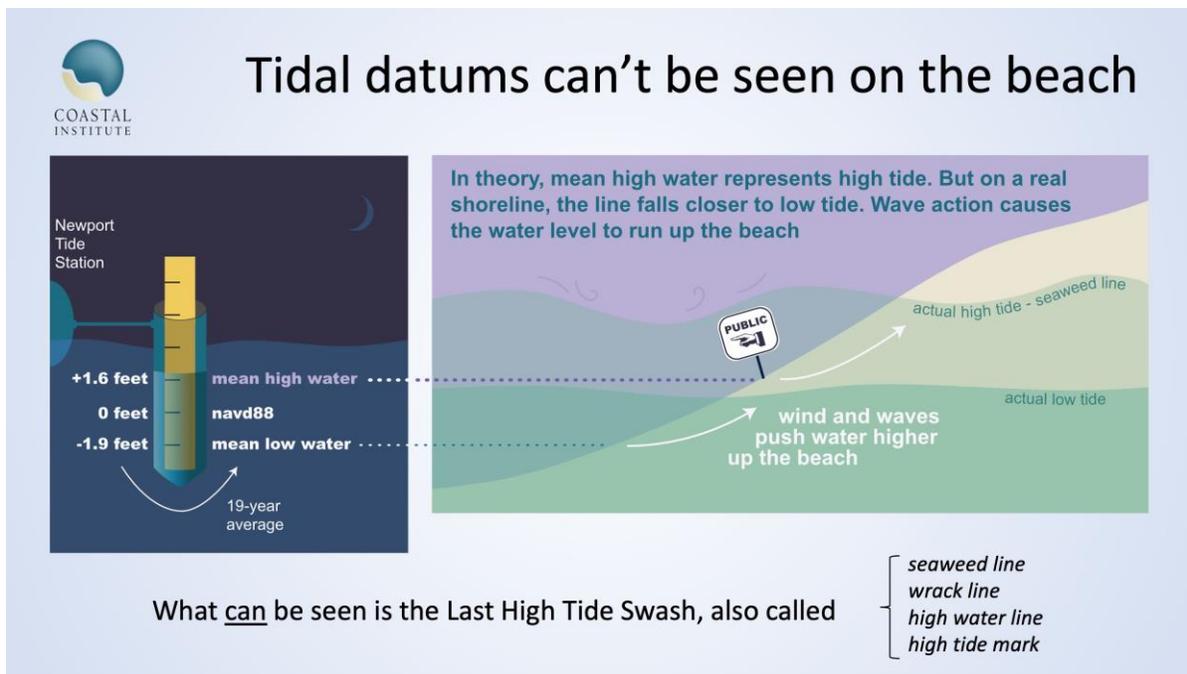
In addition, the same scientists have documented that the shore profile changes daily, compounding the problems alluded to above (the problem that the MHW test does not relate to any recognizable feature along the shore) in determining the location of the boundary. Testimony has shown that law enforcement is currently hampered because it cannot be known where the boundary is located on any given day. Law enforcement would welcome a visual shore boundary so that alleged trespass situations can be fairly resolved.

Excerpted from the March 1, 2022 written testimony of Nathan Vinhateiro, PhD. and Janet Freedman, MS of the URI Coastal Institute:

1. The mean high water (MHW) line cannot be seen on the beach. It is an elevation, like a contour line. In order to find the MHW line, you must use surveying tools.
2. The MHW line is not where most people think it is. In fact, the MHW line is routinely confused with the seaweed line on the beach, but our data coupled with long-term beach profiles collected by other URI scientists show that the MHW line is usually 40-60 feet seaward of this feature.
3. Even when the MHW line can be found through precise surveying, as we have done, its position changes constantly as wind and waves rearrange

sand on the beach. The same URI data show that the location of the MHW line on the beach can change by more than 100 feet from normal cycles of erosion and accretion.

4. While it's true that mean high water can be calculated with great precision, the calculations are backward looking. Today's MHW datum is calculated from historical measurements between 1983-2001. Local sea level has risen approximately 5 inches since that time resulting in a present-day decision being made on an outdated dataset.
5. The MHW line is based on measurements collected inside a tide gauge, an instrument that filters out factors like wind and waves – natural features that push water up the beach. For this reason, the MHW line is underwater on the Rhode Island shoreline most of the day, meaning the public must wade into the ocean to legally walk along the shore at a depth that could range from inches to feet of water.



*Graphic courtesy of Nathan Vinhateiro, PhD. and Janet Freedman, MS of the URI Coastal Institute 03-01-2022

During Colonial days, those rights to the shore extended at least approximately 10 feet landward of the high-water mark, a width based upon the size of the historic ox carts Rhode Island farmers used to gather seaweed which they used for fertilizer. The Commission has also received a photo, courtesy of the Little Compton Historical Society, of a farmer with an ox cart on the beach gathering seaweed in the 1905-1915 year range.

In 1982, our state Supreme Court, acknowledging that it was acting in the absence of guidance from the General Assembly, defined the public's rights to the shore by the Mean High Water (MHW) line, derived from an arithmetic average of high-water heights measured over an 18.6-year metonic cycle. The 1986 Rhode Island Constitutional Convention considered and rejected defining the mean high tide line for purposes of public access by this means and, accordingly, proposed an amendment to the constitution which was overwhelmingly approved by the electorate. This amendment further clarified and guaranteed the public's rights included but were not limited to fishing from the shore, the gathering of seaweed, leaving the shore to swim in the sea and passage along the shore.

Moreover, since 1982, there has also been a greater awareness by the public, judges and lawmakers of the difficulties in using the MHW line as the indicator of public rights to the shore.

The MHW mark the Rhode Island Supreme Court chose in 1982 has led to confusion on both sides because no one can identify a visual boundary. The public doesn't know where they can safely legally walk, and private property owners don't know where they can legally exclude trespassers. This Commission has tried to find a balance, using current scientific data and testimony, which preserves the rights of both the public and private property owners, just as the Rhode Island Supreme Court attempted in 1982.

There was agreement from the Commission members that the current MHW boundary is not working and Rhode Island should recognize the seaweed mark as the basis of its shore boundary. Some members even acknowledged they changed their opinion of this boundary during the course of the hearings after listening to the expert testimony. However, there were differing points of view on the width, if any, of a buffer zone landward of the seaweed line. The following options were thus considered by Commission members at its hearing on March 3, 2022:

1. Seaweed line
2. Seaweed line plus area reasonably adjacent and landward to that line
3. Seaweed line plus 4 feet (width of a typical sidewalk)
4. Seaweed line plus 6 feet
5. Seaweed line plus 10 feet

A consensus from Commission members was reached (with the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office abstaining), on restoring and using the historical seaweed line with a reasonable buffer zone landward of 10 feet. A buffer zone of 10 feet landward uses the historical ox cart width example and also accommodates testimony received of two people walking safely, above the seaweed line, along the shore side by side approaching another two people walking towards them. Passage goes both ways.

This historical seaweed boundary is visible, is easily determined by the public, private property owners, and law enforcement, and it ensures the public can safely exercise their rights and privileges of the shore.

Commission Findings

Based on its study of historical shoreline issues, expert testimony and material presented to it, and discussions by and amongst its members, the Commission has reached the following findings:

1. The public's rights to and privileges related to the shore are set forth in Article 1, Sections 16 and 17 of the Rhode Island Constitution.
2. The Mean High Water (MHW) line:
 - Is not a visible feature that can be seen on the beach like a tide line, seaweed line, or a debris line.
 - Cannot be determined by the naked eye and can only be determined by using special surveying expertise and equipment, thereby making it impossible for the general public to know where the line is.
 - Changes on a daily basis due to the constantly changing profile or shape of the beach caused by waves moving sand onshore, offshore and alongshore.
 - Is based on measurements collected by a tide gauge, which is an instrument that filters out dynamic factors such as wind and waves.
 - Is underwater on the Rhode Island south-facing shoreline most of the day, meaning the public must wade into the ocean to legally walk along the shore as defined by the *Ibbison* decision.
3. The MHW boundary employed by the Rhode Island Supreme Court in the 1982 *Ibbison* case has been rendered obsolete by the 1986 Rhode Island Constitutional Amendments, and results in the public only having meaningful shoreline access at or near the time of low tide, if at all, at some locations.
4. Law Enforcement is currently hampered to resolve alleged trespass situations due to the lack of a visual shore boundary.

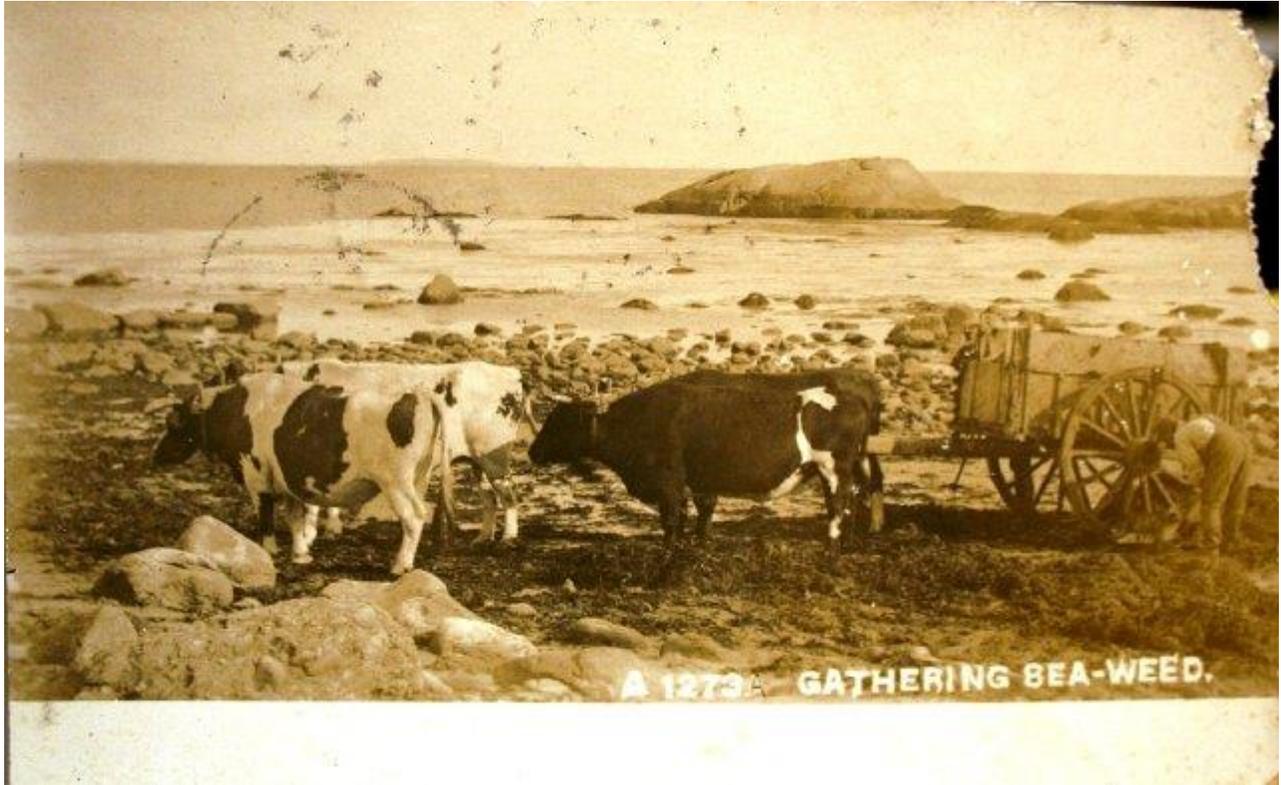
Commission Recommendations

Based on its study of historical shoreline issues, expert testimony and material presented to it, and discussions by and amongst its members, the Commission suggests the following recommendations:

1. The General Assembly, by statutory enactment, should:
 - Secure the public's rights and privileges related to the shore that are set forth in Article 1, Sections 16 and 17 of the Rhode Island Constitution.
 - Restore its historical seaweed line shore boundary, and this boundary should be designated as the “Recognizable High Tide Line.”
2. The public’s rights and privileges related to the shore may be exercised, where shore exists, on wet sand or dry sand or rocky beach, 10 feet landward of the Recognizable High Tide Line; provided, however, that the public’s rights and privileges related to the shore should not be afforded where no passable shore exists, nor on land above the vegetation line, sea walls, or other legally constructed shoreline infrastructure.
3. Any landowner whose property is subject to the exercise of the public's rights and privileges of the shore should be afforded the liability limitations pursuant to § 32-6-5.
4. After the successful implementation of this redefinition of the Rhode Island shore to its historic limits, the Commission recommends that the RI Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), the Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), and the Legislature examine and improve shoreline access with particular regard to the following issues that were brought to our attention during the hearing process:
 - Potential funding to allow CRMC and DEM to support shoreline access, law enforcement, and shoreline education programs for both the public and shoreline property owners.
 - Working with the Rhode Island Attorney General, determining appropriate signage terminology and enforcement of illegal shore signage and barriers.
 - Increasing CRMC’s capacity to designate perpendicular access to the shore in accordance with its enabling statute at RIGL 46-23-6.
 - Identifying State and Municipally-owned parcels that could be used for parking at or near designated Rights-of-Way (ROW), including possibly issuing ROW fishing/parking stickers.
 - Evaluating Rhode Island State Beach parking lot closures at night that limit shoreline access.

Ox Carts

Ox Cart photo on shore gathering seaweed year 1905-1915 range



*Photo courtesy of Little Compton Historical Society

Ox Cart photo on shore Little Compton RI year 1905-1915 range



*Photo courtesy of Little Compton Historical Society

Appendix A-Enabling Legislation 2021 H 5469 Sub A

2021 -- H 5469 SUBSTITUTE A

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LC000676/SUB A/5

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE
ISSUES RELATING TO LATERAL ACCESS ALONG THE RHODE ISLAND SHORELINE

Introduced By: Representatives Cortvriend, Handy, Tanzi, Fogarty, McGaw, McEntee, Carson, and Craven

Date Introduced: February 10, 2021

Referred To: House Judiciary

RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created consisting of twelve (12) members: two (2) of whom shall be members of the House who represent a coastal community, not more than one from the same political party, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be a resident of a coastal community, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of the Coastal Resources Management Council, or designee; one of whom shall be a representative from the Rhode Island Realtors Association or a home owner's association, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be a representative from the Marine Affairs Institute & R.I. Sea Grant Legal program at Roger Williams University, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be from the Department of Marine Affairs at the University of Rhode Island, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of either Clean Ocean Access or Save the Bay, or designee, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be a land use attorney, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be the President of the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors, or designee; one of whom shall be a retired Rhode Island Judge, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and one of whom shall be a representative of the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office with experience in shoreline access issues, to be appointed by the Attorney General.

In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which is entitled to the appointment consents to the appointment of the member of the general public.

The purpose of said commission shall be to make a comprehensive study and provide recommendations on the issues relating to lateral access along the Rhode Island shoreline.

Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at the call of the Speaker of the House and shall organize and select a chairperson from among the legislators.

Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information, documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives no later than March 30, 2022, and said commission shall expire on June 30, 2022.

Appendix B-Commission Agendas, Presentations, and Meeting Videos

[Shoreline Commission Website with Documents and Commission Videos](#)

August 26, 2021

[Agenda 08262021](#)

- Election of Chair and Vice Chair
- Review of House Resolution [H5469 Sub A](#)

The members elected Representative Terri Cortvriend as Chairwoman and Representative Blake Filippi as Vice Chairman.

September 23, 2021

[Agenda 09232021](#)

Sean Lyness, Faculty Fellow, New England Law
Presentation: The History of Shoreline Access in RI

[The Rhode Island Public Trust Doctrine 1663-1982](#)

Jeff Willis, Executive Director, CRMC
Discussion regarding Rights-of-Way

Sean Lyness, Faculty Fellow, New England Law provided testimony and written testimony on the history of shoreline access in RI.

Jeff Willis from CRMC provided testimony and written testimony on rights-of-way (ROW).

PowerPoints on the above presentations are located on the Shoreline Commission website.

October 14, 2021

[Agenda 10142021](#)

Nathan Vinhateiro, Assistant Director, URI Coastal Institute
Janet Freedman, Senior Fellow, URI Coastal Institute

- Coastal Dynamics and Implications for Alongshore Access

[Nathan Vinhateiro and Janet Freedman, URI Coastal Institute](#)

[Nathan Vinhateiro and Janet Freedman update March 1 2022](#)

Dennis Nixon, Professor Emeritus of Marine Affairs, URI

- 1986 RI Constitutional Convention discussion

[Dennis Nixon H 5469 Balances Public and Private Rights along RI Shore](#)

[State vs Ibbison \(1982\)](#)

Nathan Vinhateiro and Janet Freedman from URI Coastal Institute provided testimony and written testimony on coastal dynamics affecting the RI shoreline.

Dennis Nixon, Professor Emeritus of Marine Affairs URI, provided testimony and written testimony on the history of the 1986 RI Constitutional Convention in regards to shoreline access.

October 28, 2021

[Agenda 10282021](#)

Jason McNamee, Deputy Director for Natural Resources, RIDEM

- State Beaches, fishing locations, and parking
- Public Testimony

[Jason McNamee DEM 10282021](#)

Jason McNamee of DEM provided testimony and written testimony on RI State Beaches, fishing locations, and parking.

Public testimony was received in person from:

Scott Keeley, Charlestown RI
Regina DeAngelo, Charlestown RI
Tom Grieb, Portsmouth RI
Scott Duncan, East Greenwich RI.
Conrad Ferla, South Kingstown RI
Michael Woods, North Kingstown RI
Nate Merrill, South Kingstown RI
Ken Block, Barrington RI
Shawn Ganglani, Barrington RI

November 4, 2021

[Agenda 11042021](#)

John Boehnert, Esq.-JMB Law Offices

- Property Rights/Coastal Property Ownership

[John Boehnert, Esq. JMB Law 11042021](#)

Richard Hittinger and Peter Jenkins-RI Saltwater Anglers

- Shoreline Access for fishing

PowerPoints on the above presentations are located on the Shoreline Commission website.

John Boehnert, Esq. of JMB Law Offices provided testimony and written testimony on coastal property owner rights.

Richard Hittinger and Peter Jenkins of the RI Saltwater Anglers provided testimony and written testimony on shoreline access for fishing and the economic benefits to the RI economy on recreational saltwater fishing.

November 18, 2021

[Agenda 11182021](#)

Public Testimony at Chariho Middle School-Auditorium
Wood River Junction, RI

The following people presented verbal testimony at Chariho Middle School:

Cynthia Zerquera-Martin, Narragansett RI

Scott Keeley, Charlestown RI

Jen Krekorian, Wakefield RI

Dennis Zambrotta, Newport RI

Jed Thorp, Providence RI

Michael Woods, Saunderstown RI

Richard Langseth, Warwick RI

Caroline Contrata, Westerly RI

Thomas Micele, Westerly RI

Christina Holden-Shea, Charlestown

Ben Weber, Westerly RI

Brian Wagner, Narragansett RI

Stephen Stokes, Charlestown RI

Cliff Vanover, Charlestown RI

Stephen Stokes, Charlestown (*not present but supportive of shoreline rights*)

Jann Campbell, N. Smithfield

Stefan DiPippo, Providence

Alexander Lehmann, Charlestown

Gary Dorfman, Narragansett (*was present but had to leave and submitted written testimony*)

Patricia Curry Almeida, Charlestown

Bella Noka, Narragansett Tribal Nation Elder

Susan Cornacchia, Westerly RI

January 27, 2022

[Agenda 01272022](#)

Professor Michael C. Blumm Esq., Jeffrey Bain Faculty Scholar & Professor of Law, Lewis and Clark Law School-written testimony only to be read

[Professor Michael C. Blumm Northwestern School of Law](#)

Roundtable discussion of previous Commission testimony and documents

Professor Michael C. Blumm Esq., Jeffrey Bain Faculty Scholar & Professor of Law written testimony was read into the record on shoreline access in other states.

February 10, 2022

- Roundtable discussion of previous Commission testimony and documents.

March 3, 2022

[Agenda 03032022](#)

Roundtable discussion of previous Commission testimony and documents

[Nathan Vinhateiro and Janet Freedman 03012022 update](#)

- Consensus reached on Seaweed Line plus 10 feet Buffer Zone

March 31, 2022

- Draft Final Report discussion with findings and recommendations
- Discussion of 2022 H 8055 by Chairwoman Cortvriend and Vice Chair Blake Filippi

Appendix C- Written Testimony, Presentations, and Articles

[The following information will provide direction to the corresponding links that may be found on the General Assembly Shoreline Access Commission website under “Commission Documents”](#)

1. Agenda RI Shoreline Access Commission 03-31-2022
2. Lawmakers Introduce long awaited bill ProJo March 28 2022
3. Nathan Vinhateiro Janet Freedman URI Coastal Institute Letter to Shoreline Commission 03012022
4. Property owners won't take changes to R.I. shore The Boston Globe March 9 2022
5. Craig Marr, Charlestown RI, Economic Improvement Commission 02032022
6. RI General Assembly House approves bill to study shoreline access 06232021
7. Advocates 'geared up,' anticipating legislation on shoreline The Public's Radio 03042022
8. Shoreline Access Panel Settles on 10 ft Buffer Zone Prov. Journal 03042022
9. Inching closer to shoreline rights bill, R.I. experts settle on 10 ft Boston Globe 03032022
10. Old Sturbridge Village Ox Cart picture late 18th early 19th c. width 95 inches 03032022
11. Warwick City Park Beach 3.3.22 at 8.22am
12. Susan Jones 03032022
13. Phil Moreschi Charlestown RI 03022022
14. Ellen Kane Westerly RI 03022022
15. Jeffrey Devine 03022022
16. Gayle L. Gifford Providence RI 03022022
17. Bob Goulet Lincoln RI 03022022
18. Sebastian Wagner Berlin 03022022
19. Rick Chace Bristol RI 03012022
20. Tiffany Doran South Kingstown RI 03012022
21. Agenda RI Shoreline Access Commission March 3 2022
22. Nathan Vinhateiro Janet Freedman URI Coastal Institute Letter to Commission 03012022
23. Nicole Cambio RI 02232022
24. Theresa Lynch-Benoit Wakefield RI 02232022
25. Meridith Ashworth Narragansett RI 02232022
26. Ann Rossman Newport RI 02242022
27. Jake Kahn Wakefield RI 02232022
28. Mary Kahn Wakefield RI 02232022
29. Richard Soderberg Wakefield RI 0223022
30. Linda Soderberg Wakefield RI 02232022
31. James McMonigle Narragansett RI 02232022
32. John Turcotte Saunderstown RI 02232022
33. Diane Grinnell Hewitt Narragansett RI 02882
34. Cynthia Zerquera-Martin Saunderstown RI 02232022
35. Mathew Glander Charlestown RI 02232022
36. Jane Glander Charlestown RI 02232022
37. M. Sullivan Charlestown RI 02232022
38. Patricia Cawley Saunderstown RI 02232022
39. James Roehm 4 North Kingstown RI 02232022
40. James Roehm 3 North Kingstown RI 02232022
41. James Roehm 2 North Kingstown RI 02232022

42. James Roehm North Kingstown RI 02232022
43. Janne Roehm North Kingstown RI 02232022
44. Kimberly Rose Cranston RI 02232022
45. Susan Carter Morgan 03012022
46. Erin McGinn Warwick RI 02282022
47. Francesca Bedell 02252022
48. Phyllis Donnelly RI 02262022
49. Stacey and Mike Lecours Charlestown RI 02262022
50. Susan McVicar North Kingstown RI Concerns and Remedies 02262022
51. Nancy Maree Charlestown RI 02272022
52. Julius Dover Providence RI 02282022
53. B. Plante 02252022
54. Richard Langseth Warwick RI 02252022
55. Dana Holmgren Cranston RI 02252022
56. Narragansett Times Surfers Article Ox Cart on beach May 26, 1966
57. Thomas Micele Westerly RI 02252022
58. Tim Peterson Charlestown RI 02252022
59. Nancy St. Jean RI 02252022
60. Brian Clark RI 02252022
61. Rochette Family Wakefield RI 02242022
62. Laura Edmonds, MD Saunderstown, RI 02242022
63. Richard Blaine South Kingstown RI 02242022
64. Charlene Ingham Charlestown RI 02192022
65. Benjamin J. Vadnais, Jr. and Sandra E. Vadnais Charlestown RI 02242022
66. Jim Bedell RISAC 02212022
67. Jane Donnelly Charlestown RI 02202022
68. Charlene Ingham Charlestown RI 02202022
69. Joe Geary Charlestown RI 02202022
70. Jim Roehm N. Kingstown RI 02202022
71. Laureen Gozaydin Hope Valley RI 02202022
72. Mike and Lauren Classey Charlestown RI 02192022
73. Monica Keeley 02182022
74. Caroline Contrata pic children stopped on shore 02202022
75. Laura Kelly South Kingstown RI 02182022
76. Laura Carpenter Providence RI 02162022
77. Griffith H. Trow February 18 2022
78. Mark Keeley February 18 2022
79. Matthew Page February 17 2022
80. Regina DeAngelo Charlestown RI 02162022
81. Melissa Barrett 02172022
82. R.I. shore access commission has some ideas. Boston Globe 02172022
83. Ox Cart Old Harbor Block Island 1905
84. Ox Cart Postcard Block Island 1915
85. RI shoreline access commission gets closer to consensus Projo 02112022
86. Nathan Vinhateiro Info Rack card 01272022
87. Nathan Vinhateiro Update on MHW monitoring 01262022
88. Conrad Ferla Vegetation Line email 02012022

89. RI shoreline commission plans new beach access legislation ProJo 01282022
90. Would R.I. lose lawsuits if it expanded shore access Boston Globe 01272022
91. Nathan Vinhateiro Janet Freedman SK Town Beach Coastal Survey update 01262022
92. URI Coastal Institute Shoreline Access Factsheet 01262022
93. US Supreme Court Cedar Point v Hassid June 232021
94. Daniel Procaccini Lines in the Sand January 102022
95. Chris Boyle Cedar Point Memo January 102022
96. Professor Michael C. Blumm written testimony January 272022
97. RI beach access CRMC discusses Portsmouth, Narragansett, Weekapaug ProJo 01252022
98. Mark Dingley Warwick RI Rip Rap Sea Wall 01262022
99. Agenda Shoreline Access Commission January 27 2022
100. Susan McVicar North Kingstown RI 01252022
101. Public Trust Document in 45 States March 2014 Michael C Blumm
102. January 13th meeting canceled and rescheduled to January 27th 2PM
103. Nick Del Greco Portsmouth RI 010622022
104. Caroline Contrata Westerly Sun Letter 12052021
105. 1986 Constitutional Convention Plenary Session Question 9 video links
106. Charlestown Town Council Resolution supporting 2021 H 5469 01032022
107. Ashley Pincins Warwick RI 12102021
108. Lucia Pesce Charlestown RI 12102021
109. Political Scene Shoreline Access candidates weigh in ProJo 12272021
110. Regina DeAngelo Charlestown RI 12022021
111. How much of RI Shoreline public entitled to ProJo 12092021
112. December meeting cxld, next meeting Jan 13 2022 2PM RI State House
113. John Hacunda Charlestown RI 12062021
114. Barrington Shoreline Access Parking ProJo 12022021
115. Alan Keeley Charlestown RI 11252021
116. Scott Keeley Charlestown RI 11252021
117. Gary S. Dorfman Narragansett RI 11222021
118. Study commission hears from R.I.'ers shoreline rights Boston Globe 11182021
119. RI has a ways to go on shoreline access The Public's Radio 11182021
120. Public Testimony Witness Sheets 11182021
121. Cynthia Zerquere-Martin Narragansett RI 11182021
122. Dennis Zambrotta Newport RI 11182021
123. Richard Langseth Warwick RI 11182021
124. Michael Woods NE Backcountry Hunters and Anglers 11182021
125. Scott Keeley Charlestown RI 11182021
126. Joe Loberti Saunderstown RI 11192021
127. Steven Frazier Wakefield RI 11182021
128. Joan Morin RI 11172021
129. Susan McVicar North Kingstown RI 11172021
130. Kenneth Wollenberg Hopkinton RI 11172021
131. Kathleen Squillante Saunderstown RI 11172021
132. Haley Benoit South Kingstown RI 11172021
133. Teo Wickland Providence RI 11172021
134. Sarah Schwartz Providence RI 17172021
135. Rosemary Finnegan Wakefield 1172021

136. Rochelle Lee Providence RI 11172021
137. Amanda Lee Shannock RI 11172021
138. Scott Blakney Coventry RI 11172021
139. Yvette Wollenberg Hopkinton RI 11172021
140. Janet Antonelli Wakefield RI 11172021
141. David Antonelli Wakefield RI 11172021
142. Jean Roland Charlestown RI 11172021
143. Chris Dumas Charlestown RI 11172021
144. Tim Connelly Charlestown RI 11172021
145. Deborah Lantz Wakefield RI 11172021
146. Chastity Machado Wakefield RI 11172021
147. Kathleen Hunt Wakefield RI 11172021
148. Mark London North Smithfield RI 11172021
149. James Quirk Charlestown RI 11172021
150. Susan McVicar North Kingstown 11172021
151. Thomas Micele Westerly RI 11172021
152. Sara Michaud Charlestown RI 11172021
153. Theresa Benoit Wakefield RI 11172021
154. Gretchen Duggan Wakefield RI 11172021
155. Lynn O'Malley Cranston RI 11172021
156. Barbara Reynolds Charlestown RI 11172021
157. Dorothy Lebeau West Greenwich RI 11172021
158. Patricia Sullivan North Kingstown RI 11172021
159. Colleen Molt Charlestown RI 11172021
160. Jason McNamee DEM Ltr to Shoreline Access Commission 11122021
161. Agenda Shoreline Access Commission 11182021
162. The right to exclude property owners' side BostonGlobe11042021
163. In RI, some fire districts are under fire over beach accessBostonGlobe08262021
164. Peter Jenkins Saltwater Edge 11042021
165. Testimony of John M. Boehnert with Exhibits 11042021
166. Rich Hittinger RISAA Public Access 11-4-2021
167. Agenda RI Shoreline Access Commission 11-4-2021
168. ACLU represent Pawtucket woman BostonGlobe11022021
169. Catalina Martinez Saunderstown RI 10282021
170. Ronald DuVall Newport, RI 11022021
171. Sarah Atchley Portsmouth RI 10312021
172. Beth Levow Providence RI 10312021
173. Jill Kotch South Kingstown RI 10282021
174. Cate Brown North Kingstown RI 10282021
175. Ronald Archambault West Greenwich RI 10282021
176. Stefan DiPippo Providence RI 10282021
177. Chris Lewis Richmond RI 10282021
178. Eleftherios Pavlides Providence RI 10282021
179. Bhavik Patel Chepachet RI 10282021
180. John Greichen Newport RI 10282021
181. Peter Gummo Saunderstown RI 10282021
182. Chris Mello Bristol RI 10282021

183. Kris Waxman Greene RI 10282021
184. Ken Block 10282021
185. Linda Perri Providence RI 10282021
186. Kevin Regan Warwick RI 10282021
187. Amy Herlihy Barrington RI 10282021
188. Jeremy Marcantonio Wakefield RI 10282021
189. Timo DiPilato Providence RI 10282021
190. Rita Lavoie Cranston RI 10282021
191. Janice Fifer Wood River Junction RI 10282021
192. Patricia Cook Jamestown RI 10282021
193. Elizabeth Gordon Narragansett RI 10282021
194. Nathaniel Merrill Wakefield RI 10282021
195. Marc Cohen East Providence RI 10272021
196. Everett Aubin Cranston RI 10272021
197. Kelby Maher Providence RI 10272021
198. Jean Williams Kingston RI 10272021
199. Andrew Lohmeier Cranston RI 10272021
200. Paul Knowles Warwick RI 10272021
201. Angela Muhuri Cranston RI 10272021
202. Lynn O'Malley Cranston RI 10272021
203. Judy Knowles Middletown RI 10272021
204. Steve Clemens Barrington RI 10272021
205. Michael Mello Portsmouth RI 10272021
206. Cheri Metallo Agawam MA 10272021
207. Sarah Anderson Providence RI 10272021
208. Joel Gates North Scituate RI 10272021
209. Regina Noponen North Kingstown RI 10272021
210. Cynthia Clark Warren RI 10272021
211. Robert Hart Barrington RI 10272021
212. Laurel Murphy Wakefield RI 10272021
213. Karin Lucier Warwick RI 10272021
214. Michael Staebler Wakefield RI 10272021
215. Deborah Linnell North Kingstown RI 10272021
216. Nick DelGreco Portsmouth RI 10272021
217. Jeanne Pascone East Providence RI 10272021
218. Tom Martino Jamestown RI 10272021
219. Michelle Vitale Cranston RI 10272021
220. Daniel Force Newport RI 10272021
221. Patrick Druken Newport RI 10272021
222. Piper LaBarre Harrisville RI 10272021
223. Jillian O'Connor Hopkinton RI 10272021
224. Paul Marshall Newport RI 10272021
225. Jane Robbins North Kingstown RI 10272021
226. Julie Tilley Coventry RI 10272021
227. Susan McVicar North Kingstown 10272021
228. Caroline Contrata Westerly RI 10262021
229. Tom Grieb Portsmouth RI 10282021

230. Scott Duncan East Greenwich RI 10282021
231. Colin T Hynes Narragansett RI Coastal Shoreline Use
232. Cynthia Zerquera-Martin Saunderstown RI 10282021
233. Benjamin Weber Westerly RI 10282021
234. 2021 H5469A Sub A Shoreline Access Commission
235. 2021-H5469 Trespass Bill
236. Jason McNamee PPT RIDEM Shoreline Access 10282021
237. Jason McNamee RIDEM PDF Shoreline Access10282021
238. Designing Public Coastal Access RI Division of Planning February 1988
239. Agenda RI Shoreline Access Commission 10-28-21
240. Who has access to Lloyd's Beach in Little Compton, RI_ ProJo 10212021
241. Are Beach Boundaries Enforceable Washington Law Review 10-1-2018
242. Public Being Shortchanged by R.I. Supreme Court ecoRI News 10152021
243. H 5469 Balances Public and Private Rights Along RI Shore Dennis Nixon 2021
244. RI Bar Journal 1984 Harborlines Lots and Coastal Development Dennis Nixon
245. Shoreline Access RI Case Study of Black Point Michael Rubin Dennis Nixon 1990
246. CI_Coastal-Dynamics_14Oct2021_handout
247. Emerging Issue Coastal and Marine Planning Beach 2012 Robert Thompson URI
248. Evolution of Public Private Rights Shore Dennis Nixon 1990 Suffolk Univ Law
249. CI_Coastal-Dynamics_14Oct2021 PowerPoint
250. Public Access to the Shoreline The RI Example-Dennis Nixon 1978
251. Boston Globe 10142021 Drawing a line
252. Boston Globe 9232021 Expert suggests Rhode Islanders might need to rethink
253. Agenda 10142021 Shoreline Access Commission
254. ProJo Oct 5 2021 Barrington beach access_ Council resists adding public parking
255. ProJo Oct 3 2021 Westerly beach access fight
256. Lateral Shoreline Access in RI House Final Report March 1980
257. Jeff Willis-House Lateral Access Commission 92321 - CRMC presentation FINAL
258. Lyness-The Rhode Island Public Trust Doctrine 1663 - 1982 PDF
259. Lyness Presentation 9 23 2
260. RI Shoreline Access Commission Agenda 9-23-21
261. Warwick to remove unenforceable 'no parking' signs near beach access
262. SCAN Restrictive Beach Laws
263. Shoreline Fire Districts
264. Why Narragansett Town Beach can charge a \$12 entry fee just to walk on
265. Cavanaugh v. Town of Narragansett, 91-0496 (1997)
266. State v. Ibbison RI Supreme Court
267. Boston Globe Article 08252021 Beach Access Lawsuit
268. RI Shoreline August-26-2021 Meeting Agenda