

March 29, 2011

Richard Fuka
Rhode Island Fishermen's Alliance
P.O. Box 337
East Greenwich, RI 02818

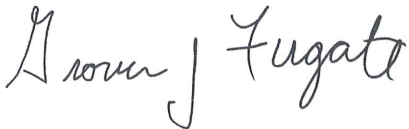
Dear Richard:

Please accept our deepest thanks for all your effort and dedication to helping ensure the successful passage of the Rhode Island Ocean Special Area Management Plan (SAMP). Because of your valuable input and attention to making the SAMP as effective and efficient as possible, the SAMP is now considered in the vanguard of the nation's leading marine spatial planning initiatives.


Having been approved unanimously by the CRMC on October 19, 2010, we have been able to celebrate SAMP passage with the many partners and stakeholders who collaborated with us on this effort. We hope we may continue to call on you for assistance, as our partnerships are truly the basis for the hard work ahead as the SAMP is implemented, tailored, and assessed in the days and years ahead. We will need your continued input as these processes as we move ahead, and I am excited about the extended opportunity to work with you.

Again, you have our heartfelt thanks – the Ocean SAMP has received a successful and propitious launch due to the consideration and support of a wide network of individuals which includes yourself. As we move forward, please do not hesitate to contact us at (401) 783-3370 or gfugate@crmc.ri.gov, or at (401) 874-6127 or mccann@crc.uri.edu if you have any questions or concerns. With the SAMP underway, we thank you once more for your commitment to this initiative, and we are very much looking forward to our future collaboration.

Sincerely,



Grover Fugate, Executive Director
Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council



Jennifer McCann, Director of U.S. Coastal Programs
University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center and the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program