



# Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System

# PORTS®



## NARRAGANSETT BAY



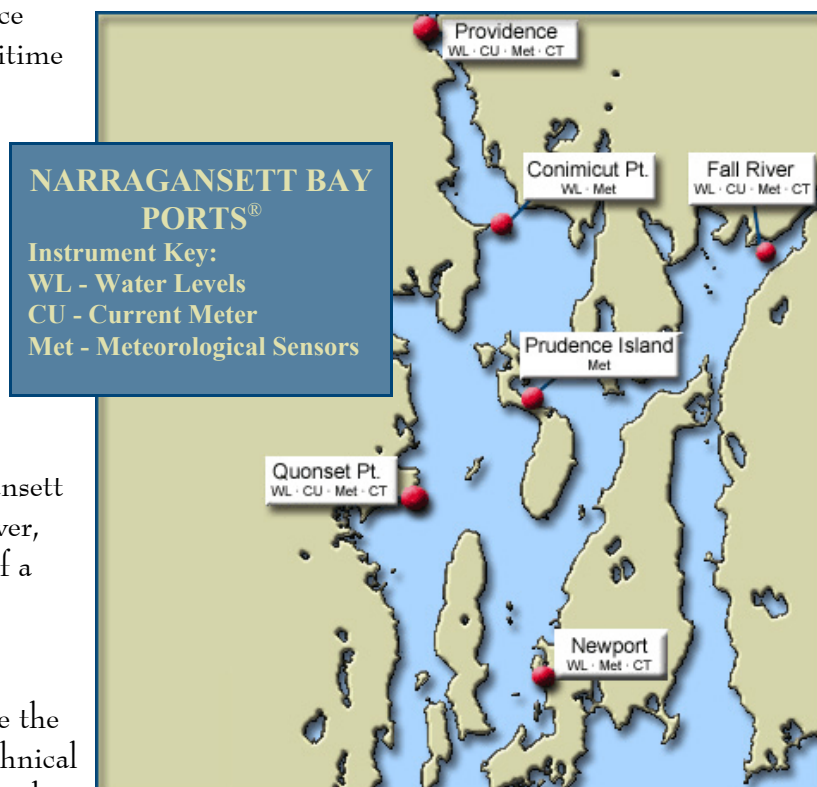
**Internet:** <http://co-ops.nos.noaa.gov> (select PORTS)

**Voice Data Response:** 866-75-PORTS

The Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service partnership program designed to provide the maritime community with high quality, real-time oceanographic and meteorological data. PORTS® is a decision support tool which improves the safety and efficiency of maritime commerce, assists coastal resource management, and aids recreational boaters.

The State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management provided NOAA with \$750,000 for the installation and first year's operation and maintenance of the Narragansett Bay PORTS®. In addition, the City of Fall River, MA provided NOAA funds for the installation of a water level station at Fall River which has been incorporated into the PORTS®.

NOAA's contributions to the partnership include the development of national PORTS® standards, technical support and oversight of the design, installation and operation of PORTS® and, data quality control. In addition, NOAA continues to develop, test, and evaluate new sensors, data collection, and data telemetry systems that enhance real-time measurement capabilities.



**For Further Information Contact:**  
Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services  
NOAA/National Ocean Service  
[ports@mail.nos.noaa.gov](mailto:ports@mail.nos.noaa.gov)  
301-713-2981

NOAA completed the installation of the Narragansett Bay PORTS® in the spring of 2000 and the system was declared operational on June 22, 2000. The system includes five water level measurement systems, three bottom-mounted current profilers, and two stand-alone meteorological measurement systems. Information is collected from each sensor every six minutes by a centralized data acquisition system located at the Northeast Marine Pilots office in Newport. NOAA's Continuous Operational Real-Time Monitoring System (CORMS), located in Silver Spring, MD, provides 24 hours/day, 7 days/week quality control of the data to ensure that only accurate, reliable information is disseminated to users. The real-time information is provided to users via local graphics displays, Internet, and through a telephone voice data response system.

The Narragansett Bay PORTS® is an invaluable tool that supports a wide range of needs, including marine navigation, coastal resource protection, and recreational activities. The NOAA Narragansett Bay PORTS® Internet site receives over 50,000 visits per month.

