

North Cape Oil Spill Restoration

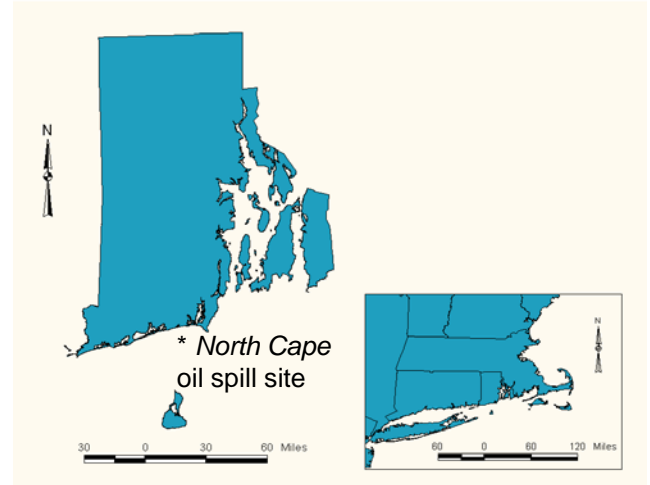


National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management



North Cape Oil Spill

- January 19, 1996 grounded just offshore RI coast
- 828,000 gallons of no. 2 fuel oil spill
- Oil spread throughout Block Island Sound and coastal salt ponds
- Heavy wave action drove oil into sediments and mixed oil into water column



Summary of Injuries Caused by Spill

- 9 million lobsters killed
- 364,000 kg of shellfish
- ~ 1 million kg of benthic macrofauna
- 111,000 kg of fish
- 2,100 seabirds
- 5-10 piping plover chicks
- 3,300 lost party-charter boat trips
- fishing closures



Terms of Settlement with K-Sea Transportation

- Settlement reached in June 2000
- Responsible Party agreed to pay:
 - \$1.6 million for salt pond land acquisition
 - \$1.5 million for a multi-species shellfish restoration project
 - \$3 million to purchase and protect loon nesting habitat
 - \$400,000 to purchase and protect eider nesting habitat
 - \$140,000 to manage and protect piping plover nesting habitat
 - \$160,000 to implement an anadromous fish restoration project
 - \$800,000 to oversee and monitor the lobster restoration project
- In addition, the RP agreed to implement the lobster restoration project

Key Accomplishments to Date

- Completed purchase of a conservation easement and secured permanent protection of 60 acres of land adjacent to Ninigret Pond
- Completed the v-notching and protection of 1.248 million legal-size female lobsters in Rhode Island Sound
- Completed acquisition and protection of 1.5 million acres of land in Maine to protect over 125 loon nesting pair and their habitat
- Completed acquisition and protection of a 42 acre island off the coast of Maine to protect over 600 nesting pair of eider
- Completed the construction of a fish ladder on Indian Lake in South Kingstown opening up 220 acres of spawning habitat for alewife
- Increased the number of piping plover nesting pairs on Rhode Island's South County beaches by 38%
- Increased populations of oysters, bay scallops, and quahogs in numerous locations in Narragansett Bay and the coastal salt ponds.



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