

PLANNING ESTUARINE ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION IN THE NARROW RIVER

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in partnership with the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council is studying the feasibility of restoring estuarine habitats within the Narrow River in Narragansett and South Kingstown, Rhode Island. Shoaling and erosion in the lower Narrow River along with high nutrient concentrations are contributing to a decline in salt marsh, eelgrass, and shellfish habitats in the estuary. This study is considering various alternatives to restore habitats by deepening areas to create conditions for the growth of eelgrass and using dredged sediments to recreate salt marsh. The study is also considering dredging shoals at the mouth of the estuary to increase flushing and reduce nutrient concentrations.

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