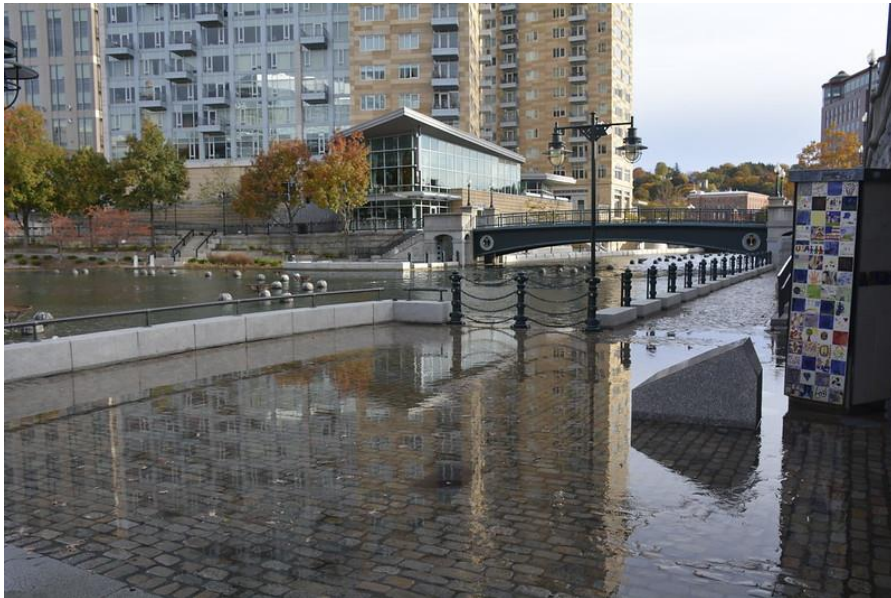




# 2021

## Water, Water Everywhere<sup>1</sup>

### Nuisance Flooding Narragansett Bay Region



## NARRAGANSETT BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM

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<sup>1</sup> From *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

# Science Update: Nuisance Flooding in the Narragansett Bay

Narragansett Bay Estuary Program

NBEP-21-245

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This update stems from the NBEP's 2017 *State of Narragansett Bay and Its Watershed* chapter on sea level. Since publication, more of our partners and neighbors are talking about nuisance flooding and its impacts. We thank our partners, especially Dr. Curtis Bohlen of Casco Bay Estuary Partnership, for their data analysis and insight into nuisance flooding.

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## NARRAGANSETT BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM AND ITS STUDY AREAS

The Narragansett Bay Estuary Program is part of the National Estuary Program, established in 1987 as an amendment to the federal Clean Water Act administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This Program was designed for "estuaries of national significance" and Narragansett Bay was specifically identified to be given priority consideration by the EPA. In creating the National Estuary Program, Congress found that estuaries are of great importance for fish and wildlife resources, recreation, and economic opportunity and that long-term planning and management of the nation's estuaries was needed for their continued productivity. Better coordination among Federal and State programs was also identified to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the national effort to protect, preserve, and restore estuaries.

The NBEP is the only stakeholder-led nonprofit conservation organization working to catalyze scientific inquiry and collective action in the Narragansett Bay region. We offer

independent convening, scientific data analysis, cross-boundary planning, and watershed project funding. We support often under-funded pre-project steps such as workshops, study, design, and assessment. Guided by the best available science and the shared will of the partnership, we pursue consensus-driven efforts to address complex issues and secure the future of clean water, sustainable habitat, and prosperity for all in the region.

Our region includes the areas of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut that channel into Narragansett Bay, Little Narragansett Bay, and the Coastal Salt Ponds through the rivers, creeks, and groundwater. The landscape unites 2 million people across 113 communities in 3 states. It hosts diverse habitats that sustain wildlife and vital economies.

## **PREFACE**

This science update presents an introduction to nuisance flooding in the Narragansett Bay Watershed. The purpose of this update is to stimulate thought and discussion around this pressing issue among our partners and climate change experts.

## **DATA**

The data for this update came from NOAA's Tide and Currents portal (<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/>) for the Providence, RI tide buoy (<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/stationhome.html?id=8454000>).