RISAA Artificial Reef Committee
Mission of the Artificial Reef Committee

To assist in developing an artificial reef program for the State of Rhode Island that provides a recreational benefit for residents and visitors.
Artificial Reefs are made of many types of materials

- Ships
- Reef balls
- Concrete pipe
- Concrete slabs
- Subway cars
- Military tanks
- Towers & Bridge structures
Once placed and encrusted
Artificial Reefs become

- Habitat for juvenile fish
- Feeding stations for game fish
- Resting areas for migrating fish
- Areas of intense biodiversity
- Rich fishing and diving areas
- Cornerstones to economic development
Rhode Island is Making Progress

- Research reefs near Dutch Island
- 4 sites now approved for new reefs
- 2 sites south of Newport have already been started
- Artificial Reef Management Plan for RI is now in development
- Much more area remains in permitted areas
4 RI Sites Approved

• Near piers of old Jamestown Bridge
• Gooseberry Island
• Sheep Point
• Block Island Sound
Concrete Decking used on our reefs
Fluke on New Sheep’s Point Reef 8-10-07
Beware of the Rebar on our new reefs
Early growth on rubble from Jamestown Bridge
Because Artificial Reefs offer such a great increase in biological carrying capacity they enhance all fisheries in the area, including nearby commercial fisheries.
“If we sink it, will the fish come?”

More habitat, more fish, more access, more fishing possibilities is what you want, because you want fish to be around for a long time!

Artificial reefs can be one of the best ways to do this.
Your guests will be happy that you took them to the artificial reef where the big ones are!
How can you help?

• Sign up on our mailing or email list
• Contact RIDEM Director and Division of Fisheries Chief
• Contact your State Senator or Rep.
• Talk it up among other fishermen
Soon Rhode Island may be creating fish habitat from vessels like this!
Ship in the process of sinking for an artificial reef
Thank You!

Join RISAA and help promote recreational fishing