

North Atlantic Region

A Resource Management Skills Team has been established in the Region, its main goals, to identify critical areas where skills are needed and to develop and conduct training courses to satisfy these needs. Team members have attended a workshop, by the end of which they had identified major topics that will be covered in an introductory course. This course will be offered several times in FY 1987. The Team also will sponsor other courses, including a training course on IPM for Historic Orchards and a session on utilizing the COMMON data base.

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Two major field investigations of nearshore sediment transport problems were undertaken this past year by Dr. James R. Allen, one each at Fire Island NS (FIS) and Gateway NRA (Riis Park unit). A detailed article, with pictures and graphs, will be carried in the Spring issue of *Park Science*. The Fire Island study focused on the dynamics of eroding beach with a hole in the offshore bar and gave some new insights into infragravity waves (so-called "long waves" known for decades by surfers as "surf beat") and how they couple with other waves to drive much of the erosion of beaches during storms. At Riise Park, the study is of sediment transport around a large groin, which appears to have captured and diverted much of the longshore drift around the old Bathhouse and may explain much of the recent erosion in some places and nourishment in others along the beaches. Scientists from Rutgers Cooperative Research Unit have been involved in both studies.