

2015 University of Rhode Island Combined Research and Extension Plan of Work

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I. Plan Overview

1. Brief Summary about Plan Of Work

In this plan we describe the activities, and expected outputs and impacts of programs associated with the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station (RI AES or Station) and Rhode Island Cooperative Extension (RICE or Extension); collectively referred to as the Land Grant programs. RIAES and RICE are collaborative elements within the College of the Environment and Life Sciences (CELS) at the University of Rhode Island (URI). Day to day administrative oversight of RIAES and RICE is provided by the Associate Director-Research and Associate Director-Cooperative Extension, respectively. Fiscal management of the Land Grant programs is provided by a business manager and specialist in Land Grant Programs. The Associate Directors and business manager report directly to the Dean of the College of the Environment and Life Sciences, URI and the Director of RIAES and RICE.

The programs and projects supported within our Land Grant portfolio span a wide range of disciplines, from the natural sciences to the social sciences. Equally important, the solutions that we share with stakeholders are based upon solid university research; research that depends on appropriate, modern infrastructure; the cutting edge tools of science; and multidisciplinary, multistate, problem-based approaches. This year we aligned our Land Grant programs with the institutes of NIFA. The realignment provides breadth to our programming as well as administrative and operational efficiency. The programs in our 2015-2109 Combined Research and Extension Plan of Work (Plan of Work) include:

1. Food Safety and Nutrition (includes programming formerly in Food Safety, Nutrition, Health and Obesity, and Global Food Security and Hunger)
2. Sustainable Energy, Climate Change and the Environment (includes programming formerly in Vector Borne Diseases and Human Health; Climate Change; and The Environment and Adaptive Agro-ecosystems and Sustainable Energy)
3. Food Production and Sustainability (includes programming formerly in Aquaculture and Fisheries; Community Gardening and Outreach; Health and Well-being of Livestock; and Horticulture and the Reduction of Pests and Disease Outbreaks in Plants; and Natural and Environmental Economics, Markets and Policy)
4. Youth, Family and Community (includes programming formerly in Children, 4-H and Families and Sustainable Communities)
5. International Programs
- 6) College of the Environment and Life Sciences (CELS) Community Access to Research and Extension Services (CARES)

The Station and Extension are integral components of the missions of the College and University. The collaborative relationship with our federal partner, NIFA, has enabled our scientists, staff and students to leverage additional resources that provide cutting edge knowledge, essential services and innovative programming for all Rhode Islanders.

Estimated Number of Professional FTEs/SYs total in the State.

Year	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
2015	20.0	0.0	36.0	0.0
2016	20.0	0.0	36.0	0.0
2017	20.0	0.0	36.0	0.0
2018	20.0	0.0	36.0	0.0
2019	20.0	0.0	36.0	0.0

II. Merit Review Process

1. The Merit Review Process that will be Employed during the 5-Year POW Cycle

- Internal University Panel
- External University Panel
- External Non-University Panel
- Combined External and Internal University Panel
- Expert Peer Review

2. Brief Explanation

Local stakeholder input, URI expertise, and regional and national needs help lead to the establishment of RIAES and RICE priority planned programs, as outlined herein.

The following processes are used to select the proposed projects to be supported by the Station or Extension. The Director uses a RIAES/RICE Program Leader Team to establish annual funding priorities for projects. The Land Grant Programs @ URI issue an annual request for proposals, stating funding limits and current program priorities. Station projects (and, where relevant, Extension projects) are screened to establish relevancy to current program objectives. Projects are also assessed for merit. Project merit depends on goodness of fit to program priorities and on peer review. General criteria for project merit include:

- Is the project an appropriate match to strengths of our faculty, staff, and facilities?
- Is the project's level of sophistication consistent with the quality of work expected of a major university?
- Is the project best conducted by the University (i.e., RIAES or RI CE), or is another agent of the government or the private sector more suitable?

Projects judged to merit support are also weighed against the record of the project author in previous efforts ("what were the outcomes?") and in efforts to secure additional external funds

through established granting agencies (e.g., government or private foundations.) Were the RIAES/RICE funds used effectively to leverage new funds to support the project? Priority is given to proposals that enhance research or outreach capacity or to proposals that provide continuity for Station or Extension projects largely supported by competitive funding.

Projects that are multi-state (where the reasons for multi-state collaboration are sound), integrated (research-based with clear relation to public good outcomes appropriate for outreach), and team oriented (multi-disciplinary, as appropriate) are also given priority.

All projects that are approved under the above merit review are informed that they have passed the merit review. Those that are rejected on the basis of a lack of merit are given a written explanation from the Director, with (when appropriate) suggestions for modification for resubmission.

Last, the Director has the option of providing support for capacity-building projects (i.e., preliminary research studies of limited duration) intended to explore potential new program directions.

RIAES has in place a process that employs "Peer and Merit Reviews." That is, we employ both internal and external reviewers (assigned by the Director) to evaluate the scientific and technical soundness of proposed research. Specifically, we ask a minimum of three reviewers to assess each proposed project and to respond to six questions:

- Does the proposal hold promise of making a significant contribution to science, technology, or human well-being sufficient to warrant the proposed investment of time and effort?
- Does the proposal demonstrate adequate familiarity with the work of previous and contemporary investigators working in closely related areas?
- Are the objectives clear?
- Is the approach to the investigation, outlined in methods, clear and appropriate to meet the objectives?
- Is (are) the principal investigator(s) and specified members of the research team qualified to conduct the research?
- Are the facilities and equipment (existing or proposed, as described in the proposal) of the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station adequate for the PI to perform the proposed research?

Reviewer's comments are made available to the proposal principal investigator except in unusual circumstances. Reviewers are also asked for any additional comments that they deem relevant.

III. Evaluation of Multis & Joint Activities

1. How will the planned programs address the critical issues of strategic importance, including those identified by the stakeholders?

All multistate and joint activities **will** address critical issues of strategic importance (e.g., economic impact; public good; unique geographical opportunities) including those identified by the stakeholders. Regional stakeholder input is an important driver of the direction of planned programs. Likewise, the rigors of our merit review process and the rigors of the merit review process associated with prior approval of ongoing multi-state projects that are part of this Plan of Work.

2. How will the planned programs address the needs of under-served and under-represented populations of the State(s)?

When appropriate, multi-state and joint projects will focus on under-served, vulnerable and minority populations. These groups are identified in the audiences described in the planned programs herein.

3. How will the planned programs describe the expected outcomes and impacts?

The long-term impacts of these multi-state projects are to address salient and emerging issues of direct relevance to the quality of life of all Rhode Islanders. The priority programs in this plan are expected to improve personal health, improve the quality of fresh and marine waters, improve food access, promote sustainable communities, promote leadership and healthful lifestyles for youth, improve the health and well-being of agricultural important livestock, reduce the incidence of vector borne diseases, promote economic vitality, preserve the land and adopt sustainable agricultural practices.

The outcomes of the planned programs will be described in the three dimensions of the Plan of Work template. That is, will the impact result in a change of knowledge (short term outcome), a change in action (mid-term outcome) or a change in condition (long term outcome)?

4. How will the planned programs result in improved program effectiveness and/or

All of the multi-state and joint-programs are fundamentally collaborative both within and outside of the University of Rhode Island. Rather than competing for resources, the programs embrace a philosophy of shared abundance and exploit the synergies of the intellectual and physical resources of all research and outreach partners.

IV. Stakeholder Input

1. Actions taken to seek stakeholder input that encourages their participation

- Use of media to announce public meetings and listening sessions
- Targeted invitation to traditional stakeholder groups
- Targeted invitation to non-traditional stakeholder groups
- Targeted invitation to traditional stakeholder individuals
- Targeted invitation to non-traditional stakeholder individuals
- Targeted invitation to selected individuals from general public
- Survey of traditional stakeholder groups
- Survey of traditional stakeholder individuals
- Survey of the general public
- Survey specifically with non-traditional groups
- Survey specifically with non-traditional individuals
- Survey of selected individuals from the general public

Brief explanation.

The projects (including research, extension, integrated, multi-state and joint) described in each of the planned programs use a variety of participatory research techniques to assess, prioritize and connect target audiences with our initiatives, programs, research, and outreach.

2(A). A brief statement of the process that will be used by the recipient institution to identify individuals and groups stakeholders and to collect input from them

1. Method to identify individuals and groups

- Use Advisory Committees
- Use Internal Focus Groups
- Use External Focus Groups
- Open Listening Sessions
- Needs Assessments
- Use Surveys

Brief explanation.

The planned program areas use different methods to secure stakeholder input. Collectively, the list above represents the range of methods used to secure suggestions from external audiences.

2(B). A brief statement of the process that will be used by the recipient institution to identify individuals and groups who are stakeholders and to collect input from them

1. Methods for collecting Stakeholder Input

- Meeting with traditional Stakeholder groups
- Survey of traditional Stakeholder groups
- Meeting with traditional Stakeholder individuals
- Survey of traditional Stakeholder individuals
- Meeting with the general public (open meeting advertised to all)
- Survey of the general public
- Meeting specifically with non-traditional groups
- Survey specifically with non-traditional groups
- Meeting specifically with non-traditional individuals
- Survey specifically with non-traditional individuals
- Meeting with invited selected individuals from the general public
- Survey of selected individuals from the general public

Brief explanation.

The planned program areas use different methods to secure stakeholder input. Collectively, the list above represents the range of methods used to secure suggestions from external audiences.

3. A statement of how the input will be considered

- In the Budget Process
- To Identify Emerging Issues
- Redirect Extension Programs
- Redirect Research Programs
- In the Staff Hiring Process
- In the Action Plans
- To Set Priorities

Brief explanation.

Input is collected from external audiences and assessed. Emerging issues as well as continuing needs serves to drive priority setting, action plans, budgeting and resource allocation.

V. Planned Program Table of Content

S. No.	PROGRAM NAME
1	Food Safety and Nutrition
2	Sustainable Energy, Climate Change and the Environment
3	Food Production and Sustainability
4	Youth, Family and Communities
5	International Programs
6	CELS CARES

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

Program # 1

1. Name of the Planned Program

Food Safety and Nutrition

2. Brief summary about Planned Program

This program has three primary areas: food safety, nutrition and food security.

Food Safety: A secure food system is one that prevents contamination of food by any source, as well as facilitates a predictable and steady supply of high quality and safe foods. There is a need for food safety information throughout the diverse Rhode Island community of educators, consumers, food service workers, food industry personnel and processors, and commercial fruit and vegetable growers. Federal and state regulations mandate specific training that promotes compliance in the RI food industry. Program expertise will continue to provide regional support for a variety of educational activities. Significant funding has been secured to continue to support food safety initiatives across the state. This includes research (both applied and basic), training and outreach relevant to the public and industry.

Nutrition: We investigate lipoprotein metabolism and metabolic syndrome in young adults. Additionally, we evaluate eating behaviors in order to understand means to maintain body weight. The University of Rhode Island is working with City of Providence and the City of Central Falls Public School systems to develop curriculum for students (to be institutionalized within the school system) and provide teacher training related to obesity prevention.

Food Security: Vulnerable populations across the state of Rhode Island will be reached through the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program and the Rhode Island/URI Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program. This population will be reached through face to face nutrition education in the community (workshops, demonstrations), distance information transfer (newsletters, newspaper, home mailings, radio and other mass media), and through state-wide social marketing campaigns in nutrition.

3. Program existence : Mature (More than five years)

4. Program duration : Long-Term (More than five years)

5. Expending formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

6. Expending other than formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
702	Requirements and Function of Nutrients and Other Food Components	17%		25%	
703	Nutrition Education and Behavior	33%		25%	
704	Nutrition and Hunger in the Population	17%		0%	
711	Ensure Food Products Free of Harmful Chemicals, Including Residues from Agricultural and Other Sources	5%		25%	
712	Protect Food from Contamination by Pathogenic Microorganisms, Parasites, and Naturally Occurring Toxins	28%		25%	
	Total	100%		100%	

V(C). Planned Program (Situation and Scope)

1. Situation and priorities

Food Safety: The Food Safety priorities for the State of Rhode Island will be to continue to implement HACCP training for Rhode Island School Food Service operations and residential childcare facilities, to provide HACCP and sanitation education to seafood, juice/cider and meat/poultry processors, to present an annual food safety conference for public and private stakeholders, maintain a Good Agricultural Practices Program for commercial growers of fruits and vegetables, to provide GAP for homeowners using the Master Gardener Program as a method of delivery, and to maintain the RI Food Safety Certification and Recertification courses targeting food service establishments. Additionally, food safety education will be on-going for K-12 teachers, healthcare professionals and consumers. We have added a new dimension to our food safety program, the addition of a molecular biologist who will be working with the genomics of food borne pathogens.

Nutrition: Obesity is an enormous public health issue for Americans of all ages. Like the nation, Rhode Island has experienced substantial increases in overweight and obesity among all groups of residents. Such increases have profound effects on our state's health care system, since obesity is strongly associated with several chronic diseases including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and asthma. According to NHANES data, 64% of U.S. adults exceed the "normal" range for BMI. In RI, 33% of adults are overweight and 17% of adults are considered obese; 25% of the state's children and adolescents are either overweight or obese, with minorities disproportionately affected. Additionally, adolescents from lower income families have an even greater prevalence of being overweight when compared with white adolescents from higher income families. Improved eating habits and food related behaviors would have a significant impact on overweight and obesity. For example, only about ¼ of the state's adult population consumes the minimum of five daily servings of fruits and vegetables. Likewise, within meal behaviors also affect food intake and weight status.

Priorities in these knowledge areas will be to clarify the physiological role of lipoproteins in human health and to develop, test and refine culturally sensitive weight management interventions and materials for young adults.

Food Security: The poverty rate in RI is 12.0% for adults and 16.9% for children and Providence is the 3rd poorest city in the U.S. Six percent of working families had incomes below the federal poverty level, giving RI the second highest rate of poverty in New England. Not surprisingly, the number of food stamp recipients has increased to over 100,000. The need for nutrition education targeting economically disadvantaged families and older adults is greater than ever. It is the priority of the URI-RI Food Stamp Nutrition Education Initiative to assist households with limited resources in enhancing overall health through improved diet quality, resource management practices, shopping/budgeting skills and food safety practices. Intake of fruit and vegetables is markedly lower than Dietary Guideline recommendations and intakes are particularly low in the economically disadvantaged, those who live in urban areas and older adults (65+ years of age). Poor families have many disadvantages that lead to sub-optimal food choices and limited access to physical activity. RI EFNEP data suggest that only 2.8% of targeted populations consume a diet consistent with the Dietary Guidelines. The plan for EFNEP in the new Plan of Work is to reconfigure nutrition education delivery systems by introducing a vertical team model which includes traditional community para-professionals paired with graduate students from the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, and EFNEP Community Nutrition professionals and faculty. To support this part of the plan, we have recently hired a Community Nutritionist.

2. Scope of the Program

- In-State Extension
- In-State Research
- Multistate Research
- Multistate Extension
- Integrated Research and Extension

V(D). Planned Program (Assumptions and Goals)

1. Assumptions made for the Program

Food Safety:

The State of Rhode Island Department of Health will continue to partner with the College of the Environment and Life Sciences at the University on these efforts. Food safety specialists will serve as catalysts for systems changes in schools, on farms and in industry around standards for food safety.

Nutrition:

Funding will be secured throughout the course of the projects.
People are open to learning about developing a healthy lifestyle.
Program participation will help clients maintain body weight.
Participants will change behaviors in order to achieve a healthy body weight and improve related health parameters.
Providence health and physical education teachers will use new curriculum

Food Security:

Funding for Food Stamp and EFNEP Nutrition Education will continue.
People will be motivated to learn and change.
Staff can be recruited and hired who possess the necessary skills and abilities.
Nutrition information leads to desired behavior change.
Community partnerships will be strengthened and expanded.

2. Ultimate goal(s) of this Program

Food Safety:

To reduce food borne illness and control food hazards within public and private sectors.

Nutrition:

To reduce the risk of overweight/obesity and the incidence of related diseases in ethnic and low-income populations.

To clarify the role of lipoprotein metabolism and metabolic syndrome in human health.

Food Security:

To improve the diet quality, food security, food resource management and food safety practices of low-income Rhode Islanders and decrease health risk vulnerability.

V(E). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Estimated Number of professional FTE/SYs to be budgeted for this Program

Year	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
2015	1.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
2016	1.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
2017	1.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
2018	1.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
2019	1.5	0.0	2.5	0.0

V(F). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Activity for the Program

Food Safety:

- Continue to implement HACCP training for RI school food service operations
- Provide HACCP and sanitation education programs to a variety of food processors
- Host an annual Food Safety Conference for public and private stakeholders
- Maintain a Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Program for commercial growers of fruit and vegetables
- Maintain RI Food Safety Manager courses
- Develop internet-based training on Food Safety issues
- Develop Food Safety Curriculum materials for Special Needs students (ages 16-21)
- Evaluate the molecular biology of food borne pathogens.
 - Outreach on non-thermal technology to shellfish and produce producers
 - Update and maintain website and listserve
 - Develop and implement food preservation classes for consumers
- Outreach education to farmer market managers

Nutrition:

- Data collection
- Fitness testing and body composition analysis
- Survey and questionnaire completion
- Blood analysis and dietary intake calculations

- Facilitate partnership with diverse communities
- Refine curriculum and teacher training programs
- Test interventional modalities for health maintenance and obesity prevention
- Analyze data and evaluate outcomes

Food Security:

- Assess the diet quality of targeted low-income, vulnerable populations.

- Assess the food security status of targeted low-income, vulnerable populations.
- Assess the food resource management and food safety practices of the target audience.
- Develop and implement assessment tools, curriculum, print materials and social marketing campaigns.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of interventions and materials related to behavior change.
- Facilitate and strengthen community partnerships.
- Seek external funds to support program goals.

2. Type(s) of methods to be used to reach direct and indirect contacts

Extension

Direct Methods	Indirect Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Class • Workshop • Group Discussion • One-on-One Intervention • Demonstrations • Other 1 (Volunteer training) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Service Announcement • Billboards • Newsletters • TV Media Programs • eXtension web sites • Web sites other than eXtension • Other 1 (Newsletters, bulletins)

3. Description of targeted audience

Food Safety:

Food industry and food service workers and managers, food processors, consumers, agricultural producers, home gardeners, school administrators, school-aged children and their caregivers, special needs students, teachers, community volunteers, Master Gardener volunteers.

Nutrition:

Lean and obese adults; ethnic men and women; low-income school age children and families

Food Security:

Low-income, Food Stamp eligible and participating families, children and older adults.

V(G). Planned Program (Outputs)

NIFA no longer requires you to report target numbers for standard output measures in the Plan of Work. However, all institutions will report actual numbers for standard output measures in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results. The standard outputs for which you must continue to collect data are:

- Number of contacts
 - Direct Adult Contacts
 - Indirect Adult Contacts
 - Direct Youth Contacts
 - Indirect Youth Contact
 - Number of patents submitted
 - Number of peer reviewed publications
- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(H). State Defined Outputs

1. Output Measure

- Peer reviewed publications
 - Abstracts
 - Professional training sessions
 - Volunteer training
 - Conferences hosted
 - School based training sessions
 - Website development and refinement
 - Student training
 - Intervention studies
 - Workshops
 - Scientific/professional presentations
 - Thesis/dissertation
 - Public service announcements
 - Social marketing
 - Fact sheets, bulletins and newsletters
 - Video productions
- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(I). State Defined Outcome

O. No	Outcome Name
1	Develop, implement and evaluate new health and food safety training and resource materials for targeted audiences such as consumers, educators, food industry personnel and health care providers.
2	Commercial growers of fruit and vegetables, food industry producers, processors, and school personnel foodservice will participate in appropriately directed food safety.
3	Increase understanding of motivators and barriers of making healthy food choices and the impact these food choices have on lipoprotein metabolism and metabolic syndrome in young adults.
4	Increase understanding and behavior change with regard to decreasing dietary intakes and increasing physical activity level, and the impact of these changes on body fat mass, physical function, and coronary heart disease risk factors in older women.
5	EFNEP and FSNE Families and Older Adults will improve dietary practices from baseline in one or more domains (diet quality, food security, food resource management, or food safety) thus reducing future risk of disease and improving health and quality of life.
6	Revise, as necessary, and implement food safety education for consumers, school educators, students and volunteers in Rhode Island and within the US.
7	Assess and address individual and environmental factors that influence eating behavior of young adults.

Outcome # 1

1. Outcome Target

Develop, implement and evaluate new health and food safety training and resource materials for targeted audiences such as consumers, educators, food industry personnel and health care providers.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 711 - Ensure Food Products Free of Harmful Chemicals, Including Residues from Agricultural and Other Sources
- 712 - Protect Food from Contamination by Pathogenic Microorganisms, Parasites, and Naturally Occurring Toxins

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 2

1. Outcome Target

Commercial growers of fruit and vegetables, food industry producers, processors, and school personnel foodservice will participate in appropriately directed food safety.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 711 - Ensure Food Products Free of Harmful Chemicals, Including Residues from Agricultural and Other Sources
- 712 - Protect Food from Contamination by Pathogenic Microorganisms, Parasites, and Naturally Occurring Toxins

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 3

1. Outcome Target

Increase understanding of motivators and barriers of making healthy food choices and the impact these food choices have on lipoprotein metabolism and metabolic syndrome in young adults.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 702 - Requirements and Function of Nutrients and Other Food Components
- 703 - Nutrition Education and Behavior

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 4

1. Outcome Target

Increase understanding and behavior change with regard to decreasing dietary intakes and increasing physical activity level, and the impact of these changes on body fat mass, physical function, and coronary heart disease risk factors in older women.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 703 - Nutrition Education and Behavior

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 5

1. Outcome Target

EFNEP and FSNE Families and Older Adults will improve dietary practices from baseline in one or more domains (diet quality, food security, food resource management, or food safety) thus reducing future risk of disease and improving health and quality of life.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 704 - Nutrition and Hunger in the Population

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension

Outcome # 6

1. Outcome Target

Revise, as necessary, and implement food safety education for consumers, school educators, students and volunteers in Rhode Island and within the US.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 711 - Ensure Food Products Free of Harmful Chemicals, Including Residues from Agricultural and Other Sources
- 712 - Protect Food from Contamination by Pathogenic Microorganisms, Parasites, and Naturally Occurring Toxins

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 7

1. Outcome Target

Assess and address individual and environmental factors that influence eating behavior of young adults.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 702 - Requirements and Function of Nutrients and Other Food Components
- 703 - Nutrition Education and Behavior

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

V(J). Planned Program (External Factors)

1. External Factors which may affect Outcomes

- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations

- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)

Description

We exist in turbulent times nationally, regionally, locally, and institutionally. Appropriations budgets are being cut dramatically on many fronts, resulting in fewer resources for increasing need areas. As finances and personnel change, it is likely our programs and outcomes will have to shift to accommodate them.

V(K). Planned Program - Planned Evaluation Studies

Description of Planned Evaluation Studies

Assessment and evaluation of projects within this program area occurs at a variety of levels. For instance, evaluation of projects takes place at the project, departmental, college and program levels. For projects within the program, formative assessments are used to revise and improve efforts, projects, and outcomes within the program. Likewise, summative assessment is used to evaluate outcome achievement and project and program value. Nested within both the formative and summative assessment is an evaluation of the processes that lead to (or prevent) achieving activities, outputs and outcomes.

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

Program # 2

1. Name of the Planned Program

Sustainable Energy, Climate Change and the Environment

2. Brief summary about Planned Program

This program has four primary areas: vector borne diseases, climate change, the environment and adaptive agro-ecosystems, and sustainable energy.

Vector Borne Diseases

This thrust uses a multi-pronged strategy to try to understand the biology and distribution of deer ticks and to reduce the transmission of diseases, especially Lyme disease, from deer ticks to humans. URI researchers continue to study the environmental factors, particularly humidity, that affect deer tick distribution and are developing a web-based information system so that the public can properly understand the risks associated with deer ticks and strategies that humans can take to avoid contact with them. Knowledge areas include 721 (20%) and 722 (80%). In KA 721, we are elucidating transmission dynamics of pathogens among tick vectors and vertebrate hosts, as well as improving methods of pest control through the use of 4-posters to apply pesticides to deer and evaluation of natural enemies of ticks. In KA 722, we are developing methods to prevent disease transmission from ticks to humans, by educating the public about ways to avoid deer ticks, by developing novel vaccination strategies, and by developing biomolecular assays for tick-borne pathogens. Stakeholders in this program literally include the entire U.S. population, who could contract Lyme disease either at home or on vacation, but most stakeholders are in the Northeast U.S., the hotbed of this problem. We assume that this program will continue to be funded primarily by extramural sources (e.g., USDA, NIH) and that the leader of the program will be able to continue to attract a multidisciplinary cadre of talented people to the program. The ultimate goal of the program is to provide the public with enough information and products that the incidence of Lyme disease will be significantly reduced. Outputs from the program include peer-reviewed publications, fact sheets, a web site, and on-site demonstrations of materials and techniques. Outcomes include changes in behavior of the public, so that they reduce the risk of contact with ticks, and a reduction in the incidence of Lyme disease.

Climate Change

Climate change in the Northeast U.S. is expected to influence hydrology and water resources through a host of drivers, including: increases in temperature; greater severity of drought; wetter dormant seasons; more severe storms and rising sea levels. These changes present great challenges for stakeholders who rely on the functions and values of the water resources within the Region. The Executive Summary of the 2008 IPCC Report: Technical Paper IV: Climate Change and Water (<http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/tp-climate-change-water.htm>) states, "Current water management practices may not be robust enough to cope with the impacts of Climate Change on water supply, reliability, flood risk, health, agriculture, energy and aquatic ecosystems." URI will address these challenges. Rhode Island relies on its rural lands to provide safe drinking water and sustain the water quality of estuaries and freshwater systems that provide valuable opportunities for recreation and commercial use (e.g., fishing). But, the compressed geography, population density and lack of county government present major challenges for water quality protection. In addition, the historic approaches to private well development, unsewered wastewater treatment practices and agricultural waste management generate high risks for ground and surface water contamination. Research will focus on watershed patterns and processes that affect the fate of nonpoint contaminants and approaches to assess the effects

contaminants and disturbance on surface water ecosystems and groundwater. Research methods include lab and field studies as well as inventories, remote sensing studies and GIS. Extension programs, in cooperation with stakeholders and partner agencies, identify needs and build upon successful local programs to create and disseminate new materials, tools and curricula for use throughout New England.

We seek to deliver an integrated water quality program that educates, empowers, and engages agricultural producers, residents and communities throughout New England to become effective stewards of their local water resources.

The Environment and Adaptive Agro-ecosystems

Presently, 60% of Rhode Island is forested (80% of this forested land [303,000 acres] is privately owned by roughly 32,000 people). Approximately 80% (over 26,000 people) own forest parcels of less than 10 acres which amounts to roughly 250,000 acres of forestland in RI. This trend is not unique to our small, densely populated state. Cumulatively, they can have a significant impact on the Rhode Island landscape and their management decisions affect biodiversity, wildlife, the character of rural communities and forest health. Local governments also play an important role in forest and wildlife management within RI. Policy makers and professionals need information on which to base their land use decisions, including options for land preservation, identification of sensitive areas, and the management and protection of open space areas. In addition, invasive species threaten the sustainability of our forests and terrestrial ecosystems. Research will include: Assessment of the impacts of urbanization on seasonal woodland ponds along a disturbance gradient, with special emphasis on impacts of groundwater withdrawal on pond hydrology and amphibian habitat suitability; Investigation of use of body composition and blood metabolites of songbirds; and Economic analyses of willingness to pay for land conservation or ecosystem services will generate new knowledge in relationship to people's willingness to support ecosystems and conservation and to assess the potential for green markets.

Extension work will be designed to raise the awareness of forest owners, local decision makers, NGOs and state officials about the value of RI's forest resource and to provide our audience with the tools and educational materials to make informed decisions that protect and enhance the state's forests. We will provide data and training to planners, conservation groups, and land trusts at the municipal level to increase awareness of vital natural resources and critical habitats, including forest resources throughout the State. We will focus on delivering training in GIS technology and provide access to a wealth of spatial data through the URI Environmental Data Center Websites. We will also collaborate with the Rhode Island Natural History Survey to meet both our research and extension goals.

Sustainable Energy

Energy prices in Rhode Island are among the highest in the country. On average, Rhode Islanders pay 28% more per million Btu for than the nation as a whole (RI State Energy Plan, 2009). Moreover, almost of all Rhode Island's energy supply comes from imported fuels; the money Rhode Island spends on energy flows out of the state's economy.

Rhode Island also faces major consequences from carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) that are warming the planet at a rapid rate. Our coastal location puts the state at jeopardy from sea level rise, flooding, saltwater contamination of drinking water and extreme weather events such as hurricanes.

Under a business as usual scenario, energy use and GHG emissions in Rhode Island are projected to increase steadily, with a concurrent increased flow of dollars out of the state and a host of costly environmental problems. To avoid this, Rhode Island has decided to move aggressively in pursuing energy efficiency through 'least cost procurement' and in developing renewable energy through a large offshore wind project.

Through this new program area, we propose to fast track implementation of several energy management strategies. The strategies include energy efficiency initiatives targeting public buildings and facilities, residential efficiency and energy supply and solid waste initiatives (RI Greenhouse Gas Action Plan, 2002). The program area will be managed by the University of Rhode Island (URI) Energy Center. The URI Energy Center includes a cross-disciplinary team of URI researchers, graduate and

undergraduate students and outreach specialists who work in partnership with national, state and local governments, energy providers and the business community.

3. Program existence : Mature (More than five years)

4. Program duration : Long-Term (More than five years)

5. Expending formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

6. Expending other than formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
101	Appraisal of Soil Resources	5%		5%	
112	Watershed Protection and Management	15%		15%	
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources	5%		5%	
131	Alternative Uses of Land	5%		5%	
132	Weather and Climate	10%		10%	
133	Pollution Prevention and Mitigation	10%		10%	
135	Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife	9%		9%	
136	Conservation of Biological Diversity	8%		8%	
605	Natural Resource and Environmental Economics	10%		10%	
608	Community Resource Planning and Development	8%		8%	
721	Insects and Other Pests Affecting Humans	5%		5%	
722	Zoonotic Diseases and Parasites Affecting Humans	5%		5%	
803	Sociological and Technological Change Affecting Individuals, Families, and Communities	5%		5%	
	Total	100%		100%	

V(C). Planned Program (Situation and Scope)

1. Situation and priorities

Vector Borne Diseases

Public awareness of tick-borne diseases is increasing in the coastal Northeast region, but there continues to be poor implementation and compliance with disease prevention strategies, despite the extraordinary prevalence of such diseases in this region, including Rhode Island. The deer tick becomes

infected with and transmits a variety of infections including the Lyme disease bacterium, as well as the agents causing human babesiosis and granulocytic anaplasmosis. Populations of white-tail deer, found increasingly even in semi-urban settings, sustain and have served to increase deer tick populations. URI researchers are attempting to develop a health information delivery and decision support system intended to reduce the incidence of Lyme disease. The first step toward the establishment of a health information system involved identifying and prioritizing risk. Using surveillance data accumulated over a dozen years, URI researchers developed new tools to pinpoint risk, both spatially and seasonally. Using computer models to view disease patterns in Rhode Island, URI scientists determined which landscape patterns presented the greatest risk for encountering a tick bite. This will allow formulation of landscape plans to reduce the chances of encounters between ticks and people. Another aspect of the project involves the creation of a web-based decision support system. Using this system, people can compile a customized risk index and then follow links that will help them devise short- and long-term disease prevention action plans. Also, attempts are being made to reduce tick abundance community-wide by using USDA-designed 4-posters, which are devices that attract deer with corn dispensed in small amounts. The deer must pass through a set of vertically mounted rollers that are treated with pesticide, which should reduce the deer tick population. Finally, URI scientists study the salivary glands of ticks to find compounds from ticks with potential pharmacological value, formulate novel vaccination strategies to prevent tick-transmitted infections, develop biomolecular assays for tick-borne pathogens, elucidate transmission dynamics of pathogens among tick vectors and vertebrate hosts, and discover and evaluate natural enemies of ticks.

Climate Change

The IPCC (2008) predicts that higher water temperatures, increased precipitation intensity, and longer periods of low flows will increase the risks of water pollution from watershed based nonpoint sources. Altered flow regimes can lead to changes in residence time and dilution capacity. Our aquatic ecosystems, both freshwater and estuaries, will be more susceptible to algal blooms, hypoxia and pathogen contamination - with consequences for local water supplies, recreation, biodiversity and human health. The activities of volunteer monitoring through Watershed Watch and watershed modeling through S-1042 - have never been more important. Stakeholders need locally-relevant information to target and manage sensitive aquatic resources and to be able to identify and manage areas likely to be at increased risk of serving as pollution sources in the future. An increase in the length and severity of drought, rising sea level and increased storm intensity pose risks to rural water supplies, warranting information that targets these locations and management practices to protect and maximize existing water supplies.

Advances in siting and design for on-site wastewater systems can mitigate the risks associated with intense weather extremes attributed to climate change. Advanced treatment systems offer the potential for reuse of treated wastewater that can conserve potable water supplies of a rural community, but this requires training of stakeholders in the proper use of these technologies.

The Environment and Adaptive Agro-ecosystems

Presently, 60% of Rhode Island is forested (80% of this forested land [303,000 acres] is privately owned by roughly 32,000 people). Approximately 80% (over 26,000 people) own forest parcels of less than 10 acres which amounts to roughly 250,000 acres of forestland in RI. This trend is not unique to our small, densely populated state. Nationally, there are 150,000 new forest owners each year who acquire between 1 and 10 acre parcels. These forest owners are obtaining some of the most productive forestland. Cumulatively, they can have a significant impact on the Rhode Island landscape and their management decisions affect biodiversity, wildlife, the character of rural communities and forest health. Local governments also play an important role in forest and wildlife management within RI. Policy makers and professionals need information on which to base their land use decisions, including options for land preservation, identification of sensitive areas, and the management and protection of open space areas.

Sustaining wildlife through habitat management is a critical issue for RI. Migrating song birds require suitable food sources to complete their migration and coastal lands have undergone extreme changes in vegetation, potentially imperiling migration success and fecundity for many native species. Ruffed Grouse

are of particular concern in southern New England because they are a native gamebird species that is currently too rare to sustain a hunting season and they serve as a "sentinel species" for the response of many species to the success or failure of management of early successional forests. Although vernal ponds in forested watersheds provide essential habitat for a host of organisms, the fecundity of these organisms is highly linked to forest disturbance and management, requiring a careful understanding of the underlying ecology. Invasive plants threaten the integrity of New England habitats and could affect biodiversity within the state.

Sustainable Energy

Energy prices in Rhode Island are among the highest in the country. On average, Rhode Islanders pay 28% more per million Btu for than the nation as a whole (RI State Energy Plan, 2009). Moreover, almost of all Rhode Island's energy supply comes from imported fuels; the money Rhode Island spends on energy flows out of the state's economy. The State of Rhode Island in collaboration with the Land Grant programs of the University of Rhode Island are committed to reducing energy consumption, exploring bioenergy strategies, and increasing energy efficiency and sustainability.

2. Scope of the Program

- In-State Extension
- In-State Research
- Multistate Research
- Multistate Extension
- Integrated Research and Extension

V(D). Planned Program (Assumptions and Goals)

1. Assumptions made for the Program

Vector Borne Diseases

· This program area will continue to be funded primarily by extramural sources (e.g., USDA, NIH) and that the leader of the program will be able to continue to attract a multidisciplinary cadre of talented people to his outreach and research program.

Climate Change

· Land use characteristics and anticipated changes create conflicts between the developed and undeveloped environment and between land managers and others. This situation is predicted to become exacerbated due to increased land use development patterns over the near term. The development and transmission of relevant information is needed to enable public and private decision makers to best manage this evolving situation.

The Environment and Adaptive Agro-ecosystems

· Funding will be secured throughout the course of the projects.

· Forest managers continue their interest in game birds

· The public and land managers continue their interest in managing invasive plant species

· Local, state, nonprofit decision makers and landowners continue their interest in preserving and managing open space for natural resource values.

· Wetland restoration and preservation to sustain biological diversity continues to be a priority for the public.

· State, local and federal decision makers and the public continue their interest in siting

aquaculture and prioritizing restoration sites.

Sustainable Energy

- The Sustainable Energy Program assumes that energy consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions, can be reduced significantly by providing stakeholders with information and technical assistance regarding energy Best Management Practices. In many cases, cost savings will accrue immediately.

2. Ultimate goal(s) of this Program

Vector Borne Diseases

- The ultimate goal of the program is to provide the public with enough information and products that the incidence of Lyme disease will be significantly reduced. To this end, URI researchers are attempting to develop a comprehensive health information delivery and decision support system addressing risk behaviors and awareness of Lyme disease.

Climate Change

- Our long term goal is to strengthen URI's capacity to deliver an integrated water quality program that educates, empowers, and engages agricultural producers, residents and communities throughout New England to become effective stewards of their local water resources and to address risks posed by land use, climatic variability and climate change.
 - Research will improve the capacity of land managers and community decision makers to understand and manage water quality and hydrologic risks associated with climate variability and climate change on rural and mixed use watersheds

The Environment and Adaptive Agro-ecosystems

Research: Improve Rhode Island's forest habitat and wildlife through:

- Understanding how wildlife habitats, particularly vernal ponds and early successional forests can be maintained or restored to assure sustainable levels of indigenous species in the face of increasing pressures of population growth, urbanization, pollution, and inadequate public understanding
- Improved public understanding of the life history, values and status of Ruffed Grouse
- Increased understanding about the role of coastal habitat for the long term survival of migrating song birds.
- Enhanced understanding of the drivers and risks associated with invasive species on terrestrial and wetland habitats. Increased understand of the public's willingness to pay for ecosystem services.

Improved understanding of the structure and functions of subaqueous soils to promote aquaculture, restoration and carbon sequestration.

Extension:

- Increased use of geospatial information by local decision makers to improve the planning and stewardship of forested lands.

Sustainable Energy

- Achieve on-going greenhouse gas reductions in Rhode Island.
- Reduce energy consumption by RI municipalities; private sector stakeholders and residential consumers.
- Reduce municipal spending / save taxpayer dollars; reduce private sector and residential energy bills.
- Improve local air quality in RI communities.
- Expand model throughout RI and US.
- Achieve on-going greenhouse gas reductions in showcase.

V(E). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Estimated Number of professional FTE/SYs to be budgeted for this Program

Year	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
2015	4.0	0.0	15.0	0.0
2016	4.0	0.0	15.0	0.0
2017	4.0	0.0	15.0	0.0
2018	4.0	0.0	15.0	0.0
2019	4.0	0.0	15.0	0.0

V(F). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Activity for the Program

Vector Borne Diseases

- Use surveillance data accumulated over a dozen years to develop new tools to pinpoint risk, both spatially and seasonally.
- Use computer models to view disease patterns in Rhode Island and to develop models for disease risk.
- Determine landscape patterns that present the greatest risk for encountering a tick bite.
- Formulate landscape plans to reduce the chances of encounters between ticks and people.
- Create a web-based decision support system. Using this system, people will be able to compile a customized risk index and then follow links that will help them devise short- and long-term disease prevention action plans.
- Reduce tick abundance community-wide by using USDA-designed 4-posters, which are devices that attract deer with corn dispensed in small amounts.
- Study the salivary glands of ticks to find compounds from ticks with potential pharmacological value, formulate novel vaccination strategies to prevent tick-transmitted infections, develop biomolecular assays for tick-borne pathogens, elucidate transmission dynamics of pathogens among tick vectors and vertebrate hosts, and discover and evaluate natural enemies of ticks.

Climate Change

- Research investigations focus on watershed patterns and processes that affect the fate of nitrogen and environmental flows. Research methods include lab and field studies as well as geospatial analyses.
- Extension programs create locally relevant programs focused on land and community management. In cooperation with stakeholders and partner agencies, we will identify needs and build upon successful local programs to create and disseminate new materials, tools and curricula in RI and New England. Our water quality programs will continue development, delivery, training and application of proven water quality management tools and techniques such as:
 - o Develop of curricula and training on best management practices (BMPs) for conventional and alternative and innovative onsite waste water treatment
 - o Public outreach and training on stormwater management
 - o Development of curricula and training regarding private wells

o Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring

The Environment and Adaptive Agro-ecosystems

- Sustaining wildlife through habitat management is a critical issue for RI. Migrating song birds require suitable food sources to complete their migration and coastal lands have undergone extreme changes in vegetation, potentially imperiling migration success and fecundity for many native species. Ruffed Grouse are of particular concern in southern New England because they are a native gamebird species that is currently too rare to sustain a hunting season and they serve as a "sentinel species" for the response of many species to the success or failure of management of early successional forests.

- Although vernal ponds in forested watersheds provide essential habitat for a host of organisms, the fecundity of these organisms is highly linked to forest disturbance and management, requiring a careful understanding of the underlying ecology.

- Invasive plants threaten the integrity of New England habitats and could affect biodiversity within the state. Research and extension programs are planned to assess invasives and develop strategies for mitigation.

Sustainable Energy

- Energy audit and GHG inventory in selected municipalities/businesses
- Feasibility and implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies
- Municipal energy training:
 - o Training for municipal officials and employees
 - o Climate Showcase Community conferences
 - Residential Energy Education:
 - o Participants pledge 10% energy savings
 - o Trained volunteers conduct locally-based education and outreach
 - Outreach Activities:
 - o Sustainable energy page on local websites
 - o Community workshops
 - Traditional and web media

2. Type(s) of methods to be used to reach direct and indirect contacts

Extension

Direct Methods	Indirect Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Education Class ● Workshop ● Group Discussion ● One-on-One Intervention ● Demonstrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public Service Announcement ● Newsletters ● TV Media Programs ● Web sites other than eXtension

3. Description of targeted audience

Target Audience

Vector Borne Diseases

The target audience will be diverse and will represent all Rhode Islanders, especially those at greatest risk of contracting vector borne diseases. This audience will include: community members, grassroots agencies, municipal and state policy makers, home owners and educational institutions.

Climate Change

Public decision makers; policy makers; NRCS; local, state and federal agencies; municipal planners; private sector firms engaged in watershed management, landscaping, onsite waste water treatment and private wells; NGOs (land trusts, environmental organizations, etc), agricultural producers, the public

The Environment and Adaptive Agro-ecosystems

A mixture of public policy personnel (federal and state agencies as well as town conservation, planning and management officials), local nonprofit groups involved in land management, such as conservancies, interested and involved citizens, and private landowners and high school students through training and participation in the Rhode Island Environthon.

Sustainable Energy

Municipal officials, building and utility managers, financial administrators, mayors/town managers, municipal employees, residential energy consumers, school systems

V(G). Planned Program (Outputs)

NIFA no longer requires you to report target numbers for standard output measures in the Plan of Work. However, all institutions will report actual numbers for standard output measures in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results. The standard outputs for which you must continue to collect data are:

- Number of contacts
 - Direct Adult Contacts
 - Indirect Adult Contacts
 - Direct Youth Contacts
 - Indirect Youth Contact
 - Number of patents submitted
 - Number of peer reviewed publications
- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(H). State Defined Outputs

1. Output Measure

- Peer reviewed publications
 - Books and monographs
 - Abstracts
 - Conference proceedings
 - Fact sheets, bulletins and newsletters
 - Training manuals (includes instructional CD?s)
 - Scientific/professional presentations
 - Workshops (including short courses)
 - Conferences hosted
 - Website development and refinement
 - Public presentations
 - Public service announcements
 - Student training
 - Thesis/dissertation
 - Postdoctoral training
- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(I). State Defined Outcome

O. No	Outcome Name
1	Identify areas of high risk for vector borne diseases in Rhode Island
2	Create tick surveillance database
3	Create web-based decision support system to reduce risk to vector borne diseases.
4	Increase in the proportion of professionals and the public knowledgeable about maintenance, improvement and challenges of climate variability and climate change related to onsite wastewater treatment.
5	Increased development of locally based water resource data for use by communities and the public that can assist in risk assessment and management related to watershed changes, climate variability and climate change.
6	Increase in targeted households and professionals gaining knowledge of testing, treatment and protection of private well water and management options related to land use, climate variability and climate change. Increase in targeted households and professionals gaining research-based knowledge of testing, treatment and protection of private well water.
7	Increase in the proportion of the public and professionals knowledgeable about management of storm water and options for addressing risks related to watershed changes, climate variability and climate.
8	Increased understanding by wildlife biologists and managers through publications and talks of how <u>habitat quality and management practices affect populations of migrating song birds.</u>
9	Increased development of new subaqueous soils interpretive approaches and dissemination of these approaches to other scientists and natural resource managers through publications, workshops or talks.
10	Increased (%) forest and conservation geospatial information resources, and increased usage of these resources by government organizations, NGOs and the public.
11	Increased understanding and acceptance by the nursery industry, the general public, professional groups, and research scientists through patents, publications and talks of the occurrence and value of adelgid-resistant eastern hemlocks.
12	Master Energy Training will be conducted to educate RI residents, small businesses and municipalities so that they can make informed decisions that will reduce their consumption of fossil fuels and their carbon footprint through energy conservation, efficiency and use of clean energy resources.
13	Through the Energy Fellows Program, we will provide URI undergraduate and graduate students with the opportunity to gain invaluable experience addressing real-world energy issues.
14	NIFA energy programs at URI are coordinated with the DOE-funded Ocean State Clean Cities Coalition to provide a broader array of program and services for RI stakeholders concerned about energy issues.
15	Through a partnership with Rhode Island Department of Transportation we will capitalize on the wealth of both experience and funding available at the state and federal levels to accelerate and facilitate reduction of diesel pollution from work performed on projects managed by RIDOT.
16	Through the development of a RI State Energy Plan, conduct research regarding topics of greatest concern to stakeholders and understand ways in which stakeholders want and need to access renewable energy information.
17	Models will be developed for coastal managers that will enable them to assess potential for coastal marsh restoration to enhance C sequestration in those ecosystems.

18	Increased understanding by scientists and decision makers through publications and presentations of the management implications related to how populations may respond to ongoing climate change.
19	Increased understanding by scientists and decision makers through publications and presentations of the management implications related to plant genome size influences competitive ability and susceptibility to herbivory.
20	Advance understanding by scientists and decision makers of demand and supply of ecosystem services (ES) from watersheds in the rural-urban fringe at a policy-relevant scale by integrating information from hydrology, spatial science, and economics
21	Increased understanding of the private and public sector and scientists of economic valuation of air quality and greenhouse gas emissions through publications and presentations
22	Increased understanding by scientists and decision makers through publications and presentations of the management and risks of watershed nitrogen delivery.
23	Increased understanding by scientists and decision-makers through publications and presentations of the management implications of how amphibian and reptile populations respond to the impacts of forest loss and pollution.
24	Increased understanding by scientists, conservationists, and land managers through publications and presentations of the management implications of forest fragmentation and creation of early-successional habitat on turtle populations.

Outcome # 1

1. Outcome Target

Identify areas of high risk for vector borne diseases in Rhode Island

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 721 - Insects and Other Pests Affecting Humans
- 722 - Zoonotic Diseases and Parasites Affecting Humans

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 2

1. Outcome Target

Create tick surveillance database

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 721 - Insects and Other Pests Affecting Humans
- 722 - Zoonotic Diseases and Parasites Affecting Humans

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 3

1. Outcome Target

Create web-based decision support system to reduce risk to vector borne diseases.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 721 - Insects and Other Pests Affecting Humans
- 722 - Zoonotic Diseases and Parasites Affecting Humans

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 4

1. Outcome Target

Increase in the proportion of professionals and the public knowledgeable about maintenance, improvement and challenges of climate variability and climate change related to onsite wastewater treatment.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 101 - Appraisal of Soil Resources
- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 131 - Alternative Uses of Land
- 133 - Pollution Prevention and Mitigation

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 5

1. Outcome Target

Increased development of locally based water resource data for use by communities and the public that can assist in risk assessment and management related to watershed changes, climate variability and climate change.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 131 - Alternative Uses of Land
- 133 - Pollution Prevention and Mitigation

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 6

1. Outcome Target

Increase in targeted households and professionals gaining knowledge of testing, treatment and protection of private well water and management options related to land use, climate variability and climate change. Increase in targeted households and professionals gaining research-based knowledge of testing, treatment and protection of private well water.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 7

1. Outcome Target

Increase in the proportion of the public and professionals knowledgeable about management of storm water and options for addressing risks related to watershed changes, climate variability and climate.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 133 - Pollution Prevention and Mitigation

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension

Outcome # 8

1. Outcome Target

Increased understanding by wildlife biologists and managers through publications and talks of how habitat quality and management practices affect populations of migrating song birds.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 123 - Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
- 135 - Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife
- 136 - Conservation of Biological Diversity

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 9

1. Outcome Target

Increased development of new subaqueous soils interpretive approaches and dissemination of these approaches to other scientists and natural resource managers through publications, workshops or talks.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 101 - Appraisal of Soil Resources
- 135 - Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 10

1. Outcome Target

Increased (%) forest and conservation geospatial information resources, and increased usage of these resources by government organizations, NGOs and the public.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 123 - Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
- 131 - Alternative Uses of Land
- 135 - Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife
- 136 - Conservation of Biological Diversity

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 11

1. Outcome Target

Increased understanding and acceptance by the nursery industry, the general public, professional groups, and research scientists through patents, publications and talks of the occurrence and value of adelgid-resistant eastern hemlocks.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 123 - Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
- 136 - Conservation of Biological Diversity

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 12

1. Outcome Target

Master Energy Training will be conducted to educate RI residents, small businesses and municipalities so that they can make informed decisions that will reduce their consumption of fossil fuels and their carbon footprint through energy conservation, efficiency and use of clean energy resources.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 132 - Weather and Climate
- 133 - Pollution Prevention and Mitigation
- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
- 608 - Community Resource Planning and Development
- 803 - Sociological and Technological Change Affecting Individuals, Families, and Communities

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 13

1. Outcome Target

Through the Energy Fellows Program, we will provide URI undergraduate and graduate students with the opportunity to gain invaluable experience addressing real-world energy issues.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 132 - Weather and Climate
- 133 - Pollution Prevention and Mitigation

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 14

1. Outcome Target

NIFA energy programs at URI are coordinated with the DOE-funded Ocean State Clean Cities Coalition to provide a broader array of program and services for RI stakeholders concerned about energy issues.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 132 - Weather and Climate
- 133 - Pollution Prevention and Mitigation
- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
- 608 - Community Resource Planning and Development

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 15

1. Outcome Target

Through a partnership with Rhode Island Department of Transportation we will capitalize on the wealth of both experience and funding available at the state and federal levels to accelerate and facilitate reduction of diesel pollution from work performed on projects managed by RIDOT.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 132 - Weather and Climate
- 133 - Pollution Prevention and Mitigation
- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
- 608 - Community Resource Planning and Development
- 803 - Sociological and Technological Change Affecting Individuals, Families, and Communities

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 16

1. Outcome Target

Through the development of a RI State Energy Plan, conduct research regarding topics of greatest concern to stakeholders and understand ways in which stakeholders want and need to access renewable energy information.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 132 - Weather and Climate
- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
- 608 - Community Resource Planning and Development
- 803 - Sociological and Technological Change Affecting Individuals, Families, and Communities

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 17

1. Outcome Target

Models will be developed for coastal managers that will enable them to assess potential for coastal marsh restoration to enhance C sequestration in those ecosystems.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 101 - Appraisal of Soil Resources
- 135 - Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife
- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
- 608 - Community Resource Planning and Development

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 18

1. Outcome Target

Increased understanding by scientists and decision makers through publications and presentations of the management implications related to how populations may respond to ongoing climate change.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 132 - Weather and Climate

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 19

1. Outcome Target

Increased understanding by scientists and decision makers through publications and presentations of the management implications related to plant genome size influences competitive ability and susceptibility to herbivory.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 136 - Conservation of Biological Diversity

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 20

1. Outcome Target

Advance understanding by scientists and decision makers of demand and supply of ecosystem services (ES) from watersheds in the rural-urban fringe at a policy-relevant scale by integrating information from hydrology, spatial science, and economics

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 21

1. Outcome Target

Increased understanding of the private and public sector and scientists of economic valuation of air quality and greenhouse gas emissions through publications and presentations

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 132 - Weather and Climate
- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 22

1. Outcome Target

Increased understanding by scientists and decision makers through publications and presentations of the management and risks of watershed nitrogen delivery.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 23

1. Outcome Target

Increased understanding by scientists and decision-makers through publications and presentations of the management implications of how amphibian and reptile populations respond to the impacts of forest loss and pollution.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 135 - Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife
- 136 - Conservation of Biological Diversity

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 24

1. Outcome Target

Increased understanding by scientists, conservationists, and land managers through publications and presentations of the management implications of forest fragmentation and creation of early-successional habitat on turtle populations.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management

- 123 - Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
- 135 - Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

V(J). Planned Program (External Factors)

1. External Factors which may affect Outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)
- Other (human behavior)

Description

Each of the factors above may affect the outcomes of projects in this program area. Specific external factors that might affect outcomes are listed.

Vector Borne Diseases

Weather extremes affect deer tick populations. Further, the appropriation of competitive funding will largely determine the progress that is made in this area. Last, the success of the project will be determined by the degree with which Rhode Islanders change their behavior to reduce risk of the disease.

Climate Change

Use and management of various inputs to the working landscape will be impacted by various weather events. Also, reduced funding for Extension programs will reduce the ability to conduct educational programs, establish and showcase demonstration sites, and provide outreach opportunities to identified stakeholders.

The Environment and Adaptive Agro-ecosystems

Economic conditions may negatively affect land owners' willingness to implement stewardship plans or towns to implement urban forestry programs. Likewise, competing public priorities may affect outcomes in this area.

Sustainable Energy

Competing programmatic challenges may affect the outcomes in this area.

V(K). Planned Program - Planned Evaluation Studies

Description of Planned Evaluation Studies

Assessment and evaluation of projects within this program area occurs at a variety of levels. For instance, evaluation of projects takes place at the project, departmental, college and program levels. For projects within the program, formative assessments are used to revise and improve efforts, projects, and outcomes within the program. Likewise, summative assessment is used to evaluate outcome achievement and project and program value. Nested within both the formative and summative assessment is an evaluation of the processes that lead to (or prevent) achieving activities, outputs and outcomes.

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

Program # 3

1. Name of the Planned Program

Food Production and Sustainability

2. Brief summary about Planned Program

The program in Food Production and Sustainability includes the areas of aquaculture and fisheries, health and well-being of livestock, community gardening, horticulture, and economics, markets and policy. Each area is described below.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

Aquaculture is the technology of raising freshwater and marine organisms, including integrated farming with terrestrial agriculture, as well as the use of molecular methods to improve production. We work at both a local scale (to improve small-scale aquaculture) and at national and international scales (conducting research that can result in commercial products for worldwide use. Knowledge areas related to this work include 302, 304, 307 and 311.

In KA 302, utilization of plant proteins as substitutes for fish meal in diets for carnivorous fish is being investigated to reduce production costs and the harvest of forage fish from the ocean. In KA 304, genetic factors regulating muscle growth in rainbow trout are being researched to enhance growth rates and therefore reduce production costs. In KA 307, we work toward the optimization of shellfish aquaculture systems in Rhode Island, as well as assess the environmental impacts of shellfish aquaculture. More recently, industry-driven research has focused on understanding the effects of low oxygen conditions on the susceptibility of oysters to diseases. Likewise in KA 311, the causes of diseases of shellfish and the performance of disease-resistant strains are being investigated to improve profitability of local shellfish farms.

RIAES and RICE scientists also work with the Northeast Regional Aquaculture Center Regional Extension project to provide key stakeholders with relevant, University-based research findings.

Our Fisheries program is focused on gear technology transfer, fisheries management (including finfish and shellfish), and the quality and safety of seafood. The efforts in fisheries are integrated and have provided local key stakeholders, the fishing community, with the knowledge and skill to ensure a sustainable future. Last, our extension efforts in fisheries stretch beyond the boundaries of Rhode Island as we implement a global fishing extension program. (Elements of this are discussed in International Programs.)

Health and Well-being of Livestock

This program seeks to improve animal production through research on the relationship between nutrition and immune function, as well as through research on bovine and porcine male reproductive physiology. In KA 301, we investigate a) development of a model of spermatogenesis that will facilitate investigation of the regulation of gene expression, including transcription factors, during male germ cell development, and identify factors that contribute to male infertility, and b) sperm cellular functions that contribute to in vivo fertility in livestock species, especially the correlation between transcription factors and select mRNAs of sperm and male fertility. In KA 302, we investigate the composition and biological availability of nutrients in feed as they relate to immune function of the organism.

Community Gardening

Gardening is the number 1 hobby in the United States. The URI CELS Cooperative Extension Education Center (CEEC) uses this passion for gardening as an avenue for communicating a wealth of information on environmental issues directly tied to behaviors at home. The URI CEEC delivers a range of

research-based horticulture and environmental programs for the general public, youth, the Green Industry and governmental agencies. At the Center we work closely with RIAES and RICE programs in agricultural systems management. These programs emphasize the green industries (turfgrass and environmental horticulture) of the state because of their relative importance to the economy here in Rhode Island. We also are working closely with RICE staff involved with sustainable agriculture as part of an effort to revitalize and strengthen outreach programs to the more traditional agricultural sector. Rhode Island. Our focus is to maintain an economically viable industry with environmentally benign practices.

Horticulture

RIAES research on integrated agro-ecosystem management promotes economically profitable and technologically progressive local agriculture that is 1) environmentally benign and 2) sensitive to the balance of scarce resources allocated among competing uses important to society. Rhode Island contains both agricultural production, predominantly of ornamental plants and sod, and extensive areas of managed urban and suburban landscapes. The sustainability of Rhode Island farms and managed landscapes is critical to the future of our green industry. Our research efforts seek to identify turf grasses and ornamental plant taxa which can tolerate the environmental stresses present in the landscape, both natural and man-made. As well we are selecting and breeding amenity plants for management with reduced inputs, and native grass populations suited for use in low traffic/minimally managed areas and roadsides. Our horticulture and integrated pest management (IPM) programs, for example, seek to minimize the need for pesticides through promotion of resistant plant varieties, biological controls, and cultural alternatives to pesticides. We are actively engaged in developing successful biocontrol strategies against major plant-pest complexes and invasive plants species. Toward this goal we maintain a USDA-approved plant pest quarantine and biocontrol facility.

Similarly, through the URI Biotechnology Initiative, we seek to develop state-of-the-art strategies for plant improvement for a range of agricultural products. Approaches include modern genomic analysis for gene identification and functional characterization and transgenics for genetic modification and enhancement of a range of plant materials.

Our research efforts often target the green industries of Rhode Island (turf grasses and ornamental horticulture) because of their relative importance to the local economy (wholesale nurseries and turf grass production accounts for two-thirds of Rhode Island's 11,000 acres in agricultural production), but also encompass other important agricultural crops appropriate to RI agriculture. These farms face a wide array of pest problems and significant pressure for land development. Technological and market innovations are essential for this industry to remain regionally and nationally competitive in the new economy. Efforts to address the needs of farmers growing food are listed under the Sustainable Communities Program.

RICE reaches out to both green industry professionals, who develop and manage landscapes, and the gardening public (described in our Community and Gardening Program). We include them here because we are attempting to influence what is produced locally and how it is produced. While emphasizing ornamental horticulture, we also maintain a capability to respond to emerging problems in insect and disease management on the wide variety of crops grown in RI. We seek to better understand the market potential of products that result from identifiably more benign forms of agriculture.

Economics, Markets and Policy

An understanding of the economics of natural and environmental resources is key to effective management. RIAES expects to continue its work in this area with a thrust toward management of fisheries, aquaculture and agricultural resources.

3. Program existence : Mature (More than five years)

4. Program duration : Long-Term (More than five years)

5. Expending formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

6. Expending other than formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
112	Watershed Protection and Management	9%		0%	
135	Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife	0%		3%	
205	Plant Management Systems	24%		39%	
211	Insects, Mites, and Other Arthropods Affecting Plants	3%		0%	
212	Pathogens and Nematodes Affecting Plants	6%		19%	
215	Biological Control of Pests Affecting Plants	6%		3%	
216	Integrated Pest Management Systems	13%		10%	
301	Reproductive Performance of Animals	0%		3%	
302	Nutrient Utilization in Animals	3%		3%	
304	Animal Genome	6%		0%	
305	Animal Physiological Processes	3%		0%	
307	Animal Management Systems	6%		10%	
311	Animal Diseases	9%		10%	
605	Natural Resource and Environmental Economics	3%		0%	
606	International Trade and Development	3%		0%	
609	Economic Theory and Methods	3%		0%	
610	Domestic Policy Analysis	3%		0%	
	Total	100%		100%	

V(C). Planned Program (Situation and Scope)

1. Situation and priorities

The situations and priorities are described for the areas in the Food Production and Sustainability

program.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

The Rhode Island aquaculture industry is focused on oyster culture at present, but the industry could be expanded with the culture of new candidate species if the production costs for those species could be lowered. Locally in Rhode Island, priorities articulated by the aquaculture industry include: 1) Environmental impacts of aquaculture; 2) Disease management and quarantine issues; 3) Commercialization of non-traditional species; 4) Business management issues; 5) Permitting and multiple-use conflict issues in the public trust; and 6) water quality issues in the urban coastal zones. Projects in this plan address a number of these priorities. For instance, we are investigating species that might be suitable for culture in the state. Further, research toward the production of commercial products (e.g., improved genetic stocks, vaccines) that could be sold to aquaculture producers worldwide is being conducted. Finally, the success of aquaculture is integrally linked to seafood and commercial fishing and opportunities to exploit this relationship are being examined.

In fisheries, we focus on managing resources to ensure a sustainable future. The elimination or reduction of unwanted bycatch continues to be a driving force in fisheries management, and fishermen and gear specialists are modifying equipment to reduce bycatch, increase profit, and reduce their carbon footprint. While research has shown the extraordinary health benefits of seafood, those health benefits mean nothing if seafood is not properly handled; improperly handled seafood can produce serious food-borne illnesses. In 1997, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) program went into effect and require both domestic and foreign seafood processors selling fish in the US to follow the food safety system. The HACCP Program is dynamic as the seafood hazards and the ways of controlling or eliminating those hazards are always evolving. Fisheries Cooperative Extension, working jointly with the Rhode Island Sea Grant program, is helping to ensure that all target audiences including general consumers, health care providers, and industry receive accurate information to make informed decisions. Those involved in fisheries are looking at alternative management solutions, including sector allocation, which is allocation of a fisheries quota to a group of fishermen to be fished in accordance with an approved plan.

Health and Well-being of Livestock

Research in health and well-being of livestock at URI includes work on nutrition and disease as well as on reproductive physiology. Ensuring and improving the health of the world's livestock and subsequently the populations that they nourish has always been a priority for the world's scientists. The diseases that afflict livestock are many and varied but they all have one thing in common; immune compromised animals are more susceptible to succumbing to disease. Research in health and well-being of livestock at URI includes work on nutrition and disease as well as on reproductive physiology.

The nutritional status of an animal is becoming increasingly recognized as a contributing factor to an animal's susceptibility to disease. We are currently engaged in projects that evaluate immunological, biochemical and molecular factors that are important in assessing nutritional and health status of domestic livestock.

Reproduction, especially through artificial insemination, is a cornerstone of livestock production. Recent advances in molecular techniques allow us to investigate aspects of reproduction in ways that will lead to improved methods and therefore success. The CREM (cyclic-AMP responsive element modulator) is a major transcription factor during spermatogenesis and is regulated by alternative messenger RNA (mRNA) processing. Full-length mRNA sequences for economically relevant livestock species (boar and bull) during developmental stages of sperm production have not been investigated. The overall objective of this study is to clone and characterize CREM transcription factor expression during several stages of male germ cell development in the boar and bull. A correlation of CREM levels in the transcriptionally-insert sperm populations with in vivo fertility will then be investigated.

Community Gardening

Rhode Island is one of the most densely populated states in the country. Managed landscapes,

including residential and other development in suburban areas, have a significant impact on the quality and quantity of the state's drinking water as well as on the water quality of Narragansett Bay. Other serious environmental problems can be traced to residential and developing landscapes including pollution from storm water runoff, loss of wildlife habitat, management of invasive plants, preservation of green and open space and waste management. Solving these problems entails working with local and state agencies to identify problems, providing research-based information to develop solutions and coordinating programs designed to influence the behavior of individuals. The URI Cooperative Extension Education Center is uniquely positioned to deliver educational programs on pollution prevention to key target audiences in the state by incorporating these programs into our well-established and highly successful outreach efforts.

The Center has developed a successful model for influencing the behavior of individuals in their own backyard. The model's success is based on the fact that gardening is the number one hobby in the United States. We are able to use this passion for gardening as an avenue for communicating a wealth of information on environmental issues directly tied to behaviors at home.

Horticulture

For agriculture to remain competitive in a global economy much is required beyond the ability of the system to produce adequate materials at affordable prices. Agricultural products (food, feed, fiber, other desirable plant and animal goods) must be safe for use and environmentally benign in their production.

Alternative and more efficient uses for agricultural products or by-products should be developed. Agricultural production systems must conserve soil, ground water, fossil fuels and other nonrenewable resources. Farming practices should cause minimal harm to the environment. As global agricultural systems strain to meet ever-greater human needs, they threaten planetary carrying capacities. Agriculture must change to less energy-and-material-dependent plants and animals, and to energy-conservative management practices. This conservation of resources must not significantly raise production costs, which would price US products out of the international market. In addition, our agricultural products must possess attributes that make them attractive to consumers in the global marketplace.

Economics, Markets and Policy

Effective management of our fisheries resources is critical to maintaining the health of our oceans and sustaining our recreational and commercial fishing communities. However, the current system of overlapping federal, state and local bureaucracies is not producing effective policies. In the absence of management reform, many of our fisheries may enter ecological and economic crises. At present, there is little agreement on whether and how to reform fisheries governance institutions.

Further, there exist alternative marketing approaches and approaches to negative publicity regarding seafood. Development of marketing strategies that maximize the value of seafood products will benefit both the consumer and the producer.

2. Scope of the Program

- In-State Extension
- In-State Research
- Multistate Research
- Multistate Extension
- Integrated Research and Extension
- Multistate Integrated Research and Extension

V(D). Planned Program (Assumptions and Goals)

1. Assumptions made for the Program

The assumptions are described for the areas in the Food Production and Sustainability program.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

- Analyses from an array of sources predict that consumption of seafood (both capture and culture) in the US will continue to rise making this an increasingly important area of research and outreach.
- The ability of wild harvest fisheries to supply the growing demand will be hampered by the natural maximum sustainable yield of the wild harvest fisheries.
- We assume that continued Hatch funding will be available for select projects and extramural grants (AFRI, SARE, etc.) for others.
- This area assumes continued use and maintenance of our aquaculture facilities, including the Aquaculture Center at East Farm (freshwater) and Blount Aquaculture Research Lab (marine), continued participation of existing aquaculture and fisheries faculty, and replacement of technical staff who might vacate position.
- The program will continue to collaborate with the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program.
- NRAC will continue as a collaborator in our research and extension endeavors.

Health and Well-being of Livestock

- Internal sources of funding will be available to support basic research and extension endeavors.
- Additional funding from extramural sources (e.g., AFRI, NIH) will be obtained by RIAES and RICE personnel.
- URI farm facilities will be maintained and improved.

Community Gardening

- Protecting water quality and quantity, preserving green and open space, enhancing wildlife habitat and biodiversity will be challenges for southern New England. Research conducted by scientists at the University of Rhode Island and by other scientists within the Land Grant system will help identify the most economically efficient and environmentally effective approaches to addressing the problems.
- University outreach programs can play a critical role in problem-solving by providing research-based information and working with clientele to apply the information.

Horticulture

- The green industry in Rhode Island faces a wide array of pest problems and significant pressure for land development.
- Technological and market innovations are essential for this industry to remain regionally and nationally competitive in the new economy.
- The capacity for RIAES and RICE to significantly impact agriculture and public horticulture in Rhode Island is limited by the availability of federal and state funds supporting research and outreach.

Economics, Markets and Policy

- The efficient management of marine resources relies on developing policies that synthesize the biological structure of the resource with the decision heuristics employed by harvesting agents.
- There is little agreement on whether and how to reform fisheries governance institutions. We believe that the lack of agreement and lack of substantive ideas for reforming our fishery management institutions are rooted in the lack of understanding of how fishery management policies are produced.
- Developing decision support tools to integrate management and marketing and increase the efficiency of fishery governance by developing ideas and knowledge will support transition to market-based fishery management.

2. Ultimate goal(s) of this Program

The primary goals are described for the areas in the Food Production and Sustainability program.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

- Provide research and expertise to expand the aquaculture industry in RI, including both small-scale production of finfish and shellfish, and companies generating products that can be sold on an international market.
- Ensure a sustainable future for fisheries by providing practical information, technologies and policies for managing valuable renewable resources.
- Bring the Rhode Island shellfish aquaculture industry into a more mature state of development with production approaching the estimated ecological carrying capacity for shellfish aquaculture in Rhode Island's coastal waters.

Health and Well-being of Livestock

- Improve production of livestock in the Northeast and nation and to develop products and processes that improve health and reproduction of livestock.

Community Gardening

- Research: Establish a minimum of 3 collaborative research projects by faculty and staff in the College and with other Land Grant universities regarding sustainable landscapes, sustainable agriculture, invasive species, watershed patterns and processes and watershed management, emerging infectious diseases, and Integrated Pest Management.
- Extension: Provide locally-relevant programs focused on individual actions and community management that can enhance community green and open space, protect and restore water quality in surface water ecosystems and in groundwater; conserve water and increase composting of organic materials.

Horticulture

- RIAES research and RICE outreach on integrated agro-ecosystem management promotes economically profitable and technologically progressive local agriculture that is environmentally benign and sensitive to the balance of scarce resources allocated among competing uses important to society.

Economics, Markets and Policy

- We propose to develop a comprehensive model of fisheries policy making and to subject selected hypotheses to extensive testing thus resulting in a new political-economic tool that will provide techniques for improving the design of fishery management institutions.
- We hope to expand and develop seafood markets by developing new marketing ideas, identifying market niches, and developing alternative seafood products.

V(E). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Estimated Number of professional FTE/SYs to be budgeted for this Program

Year	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
2015	8.0	0.0	10.0	0.0
2016	8.0	0.0	10.0	0.0

Year	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
2017	8.0	0.0	10.0	0.0
2018	8.0	0.0	10.0	0.0
2019	8.0	0.0	10.0	0.0

V(F). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Activity for the Program

The activities are described for the areas in the Food Production and Sustainability program.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

- Investigate causes of diseases of shellfish and the mechanisms of innate immunity, particularly matrix metalloproteinases in hemocytes.
- Research genetic factors controlling muscle growth in rainbow trout, a model species for aquaculture.
- Develop approaches for culture of new finfish species.
- Develop technologies to reduce bycatch.
- Provide consumers, health care providers and fishing industry representatives with accurate information on the handling of seafood.
- Develop and share strategies to create sustainable fisheries.
- Conduct training programs for key stakeholder groups.
- Perform applied aquaculture research.

Health and Well-being of Livestock

- Examine the role of nutritional factors on the immune system function in livestock.
- Investigate cellular and molecular regulation of spermatogenesis and how it relates to in vivo male fertility in livestock.

Community Gardening

- Outreach efforts to community decision makers, agricultural, residential and engineering/regulatory community will be conducted.
- Outreach to school children and to the urban population center in the state.
- Demonstration sites will be established for use in such research and Extension programs.
- Development and dissemination of publications, fact sheets, and web sites.

Horticulture

- Identify, select or breed species and cultivars of plants which are better adapted for use in the landscapes and environment of Rhode Island and the Northeastern US.
- Develop and deliver training for green industry professionals and gardeners emphasizing the use of plants that require less water, labor, nutrients, and pesticides.
- Expand markets for resource-conserving products.
- Reduce pest-induced damage to horticultural and forest plants, while maintaining environmental quality by minimizing the use of agrochemicals.
- Develop novel non-chemical methods of controlling invasive plant species.

Economics, Markets and Policy

- Evaluate the impacts of ecolabeling on consumer demand for frozen seafood.
- Determine the impacts of consumer concerns of PCB contamination of farmed salmon on US import demand for farmed salmon.
- Evaluate the impact of farmed shrimp on the US market and how shrimp aquaculture is changing prices.
- Investigate the impact of homogeneous resource modeling in a heterogeneous fishery by synthesizing a stochastic production frontier model with the estimation classification algorithm. Model spatial decisions of fishermen in the Northeast Atlantic herring fleet.
- Run experiments using the game theoretic model.

2. Type(s) of methods to be used to reach direct and indirect contacts

Extension

Direct Methods	Indirect Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Education Class ● Workshop ● Group Discussion ● One-on-One Intervention ● Demonstrations ● Other 1 (Meeting presentations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public Service Announcement ● Newsletters ● TV Media Programs ● Web sites other than eXtension ● Other 1 (Print media, popular press)

3. Description of targeted audience

The target audiences are described for the areas in the Food Production and Sustainability program.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

The RI and New England aquaculture industry, RI State Aquaculture Coordinator, the fishing industry, producers and distributors, scientists and researchers, the RI Department of Environmental Management and Coastal Resource Management Council, and policy makers

Health and Well-being of Livestock

Livestock farmers in the Northeast, the livestock artificial insemination industry and 4-H youth

Community Gardening

Community and public decision makers (local, state and federal agencies); general public; agricultural producers; residential and engineering/regulatory community members; school aged children; urban populations; municipal planners; private sector firms engaged in watershed management, landscaping, onsite wastewater treatment and private wells; various NGOs (land trusts, environmental organizations)

Horticulture

Agricultural producers of turf grass and ornamental plants (administered by a joint advisory committee of the Plant Sciences and Entomology department, the RI Nursery and Landscape Association (RINLA) and the New England Sod Producers Association; local nurseries; the RI Golf Course Superintendents Association; nurserymen, landscapers, tree farms and arborists; the Rhode Island Greenhouse Growers Association; the RI Farm Bureau; the New England Nursery Association and New England Floriculture, Inc; the New England Sod Producers Association (NESPA), and the New England Regional Turfgrass

Foundation (NERTF); and individual golf course superintendents and sod producers throughout Rhode Island.

Economics, Markets and Policy

Fishers, environmental economists, and policy makers

V(G). Planned Program (Outputs)

NIFA no longer requires you to report target numbers for standard output measures in the Plan of Work. However, all institutions will report actual numbers for standard output measures in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results. The standard outputs for which you must continue to collect data are:

- Number of contacts
 - Direct Adult Contacts
 - Indirect Adult Contacts
 - Direct Youth Contacts
 - Indirect Youth Contact
 - Number of patents submitted
 - Number of peer reviewed publications
- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(H). State Defined Outputs

1. Output Measure

- Peer reviewed publications
 - Books and monographs
 - Abstracts
 - Conference proceedings
 - Technical documents, fact sheets, bulletins and newsletters
 - Training manuals (includes instructional CD's)
 - Scientific/professional presentations
 - Workshops (including short courses)
 - Conferences hosted
 - Website development and refinement
 - Public presentations
 - Public service announcements
 - Student training
 - Thesis/dissertation
 - Biological control agent released
 - Germplasm developed
- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(I). State Defined Outcome

O. No	Outcome Name
1	Increased aquaculture production in Rhode Island (both of current species and new species. An increase in technology and understanding of basic mechanisms of immunity and muscle growth that will ultimately enhance production.
2	Growth of Rhode Island's shellfish aquaculture industry (includes number of farms, number of farmers employed and farmgate value of the aquaculture crops)
3	Development of fertility assays for use in AI industry
4	Develop research-based strategies to modify animal feeds that which will improve the immune status and disease resistance of domestic livestock
5	The successful Master Gardener Volunteer Program will be maintained and enhanced to expand the impact of URI Extension and free up Extension staff time by recruiting, training, supporting, managing, recognizing and retaining volunteers
6	Master Gardener volunteers work with URI staff and students to establish and maintain demonstration gardens that serve as teaching centers for Rhode Islanders interested in growing their own food. Produce from the demonstration gardens is donated to local food banks.
7	Through participating in the Learning Landscape and other hands on youth environmental education programs, students in grades K-5 will demonstrate increased knowledge and skills about the environment, horticulture and science. Teachers' trainings offer supplemental environmental science tools for formal and informal educators.
8	URI will continue to enhance the Master Composter training program to extend the educational reach of the University by recruiting, training and managing volunteers to education and encourage Rhode Island citizens to compost. In addition to the core training compost workshops will be added throughout the year for the general public.
9	Through ongoing curricula development, workshop offerings to the general public and provision of certification opportunities for green industry professionals, the integration of native plants, landscape restoration principles, invasive plant management and low impact development practices will be promoted to increase business and consumer demand for ecological sustainable landscape services and general practice.
10	Growers in RI propagate and market native plants. Consumers (state agencies, municipalities and residential landscape managers) seek out native plants for use in landscape
11	Increase the understanding of private and public sector and scientists of economic and market factors in fisheries and aquaculture management through publications and presentations.
12	Increase the understanding of scientists and decision makers through publications and presentations of the outcomes of game theoretical models to identify fisheries where political intervention is likely based on the degree of heterogeneity among harvesters.

Outcome # 1

1. Outcome Target

Increased aquaculture production in Rhode Island (both of current species and new species. An increase in technology and understanding of basic mechanisms of immunity and muscle growth that will ultimately enhance production.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 302 - Nutrient Utilization in Animals
- 304 - Animal Genome
- 307 - Animal Management Systems
- 311 - Animal Diseases

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 2

1. Outcome Target

Growth of Rhode Island's shellfish aquaculture industry (includes number of farms, number of farmers employed and farmgate value of the aquaculture crops)

2. Outcome Type : Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 302 - Nutrient Utilization in Animals
- 305 - Animal Physiological Processes
- 307 - Animal Management Systems
- 311 - Animal Diseases

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 3

1. Outcome Target

Development of fertility assays for use in AI industry

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 301 - Reproductive Performance of Animals
- 305 - Animal Physiological Processes
- 307 - Animal Management Systems

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 4

1. Outcome Target

Develop research-based strategies to modify animal feeds that which will improve the immune status and disease resistance of domestic livestock

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 302 - Nutrient Utilization in Animals
- 305 - Animal Physiological Processes
- 307 - Animal Management Systems
- 311 - Animal Diseases

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 5

1. Outcome Target

The successful Master Gardener Volunteer Program will be maintained and enhanced to expand the impact of URI Extension and free up Extension staff time by recruiting, training, supporting, managing, recognizing and retaining volunteers

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 205 - Plant Management Systems

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 6

1. Outcome Target

Master Gardener volunteers work with URI staff and students to establish and maintain demonstration gardens that serve as teaching centers for Rhode Islanders interested in growing their own food. Produce from the demonstration gardens is donated to local food banks.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 205 - Plant Management Systems

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 7

1. Outcome Target

Through participating in the Learning Landscape and other hands on youth environmental education programs, students in grades K-5 will demonstrate increased knowledge and skills about the environment, horticulture and science. Teachers' trainings offer supplemental environmental science tools for formal and informal educators.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management

- 205 - Plant Management Systems

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 8

1. Outcome Target

URI will continue to enhance the Master Composter training program to extend the educational reach of the University by recruiting, training and managing volunteers to education and encourage Rhode Island citizens to compost. In addition to the core training compost workshops will be added throughout the year for the general public.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 112 - Watershed Protection and Management
- 205 - Plant Management Systems

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 9

1. Outcome Target

Through ongoing curricula development, workshop offerings to the general public and provision of certification opportunities for green industry professionals, the integration of native plants, landscape restoration principles, invasive plant management and low impact development practices will be promoted to increase business and consumer demand for ecological sustainable landscape services and general practice.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 205 - Plant Management Systems
- 216 - Integrated Pest Management Systems

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 10

1. Outcome Target

Growers in RI propagate and market native plants. Consumers (state agencies, municipalities and residential landscape managers) seek out native plants for use in landscape

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 205 - Plant Management Systems
- 215 - Biological Control of Pests Affecting Plants
- 216 - Integrated Pest Management Systems

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 11

1. Outcome Target

Increase the understanding of private and public sector and scientists of economic and market factors in fisheries and aquaculture management through publications and presentations.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
- 606 - International Trade and Development
- 609 - Economic Theory and Methods
- 610 - Domestic Policy Analysis

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 12

1. Outcome Target

Increase the understanding of scientists and decision makers through publications and presentations of the outcomes of game theoretical models to identify fisheries where political intervention is likely based on the degree of heterogeneity among harvesters.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 605 - Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
- 606 - International Trade and Development
- 609 - Economic Theory and Methods
- 610 - Domestic Policy Analysis

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

V(J). Planned Program (External Factors)

1. External Factors which may affect Outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)

Description

Each of the factors above may affect the outcomes of the areas outlined in the Food Production

and Sustainability Program. Specific external factors that may affect an area are included below.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

The state of the economy could impact the number of new entrants into aquaculture and government regulations (e.g., leases) will determine the number and size of new and existing operations seeking to expand. Additionally, changes in funding priorities could affect the amount of funds available to these projects.

Health and Well-being of Livestock

The state of the economy and changes in research focus could impact intramural and extramural funding available for conduct of research in this area.

Community Gardening

Use and management of various inputs to the working landscape will be impacted by weather events. Also, reduced funding for Extension programs will reduce the ability to conduct educational programs, demonstration sites and outreach to the community and stakeholders.

Horticulture

Despite the recent economic recession, the Rhode Island agricultural economy is as strong as it has been in recent years. There are 30% more farms than there were 5 years ago. Key limiting factors include changes in AES and CE priorities and federal, state and university funding of faculty, staff and facilities.

Economics, Markets and Policy

The state of the economy and changes in research focus could impact intramural and extramural funding available for conduct of research in this area.

V(K). Planned Program - Planned Evaluation Studies

Description of Planned Evaluation Studies

Assessment and evaluation of projects within this program area occurs at a variety of levels. For instance, evaluation of projects takes place at the project, departmental, college and program levels. For projects within the program, formative assessments are used to revise and improve efforts, projects, and outcomes within the program. Likewise, summative assessment is used to evaluate outcome achievement and project and program value. Nested within both the formative and summative assessment is an evaluation of the processes that lead to (or prevent) achieving activities, outputs and outcomes.

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

Program # 4

1. Name of the Planned Program

Youth, Family and Communities

2. Brief summary about Planned Program

Areas of activity in this program include:

4-H

The Rhode Island 4-H Program will target two primary audiences: Rhode Island youth (primarily but not limited to children 8-18 years of age) and their parents. The RI 4-H youth development component will align its educational efforts with the three national mission mandates: science, engineering and technology, healthy lifestyles and citizenship. Programming partnerships will be forged with other RICE/RIAES program areas to insure that a broad spectrum of researched-based information, curriculums and academic-based learning opportunities are utilized in expanding the opportunities for RI youth "to learn how to think, plan and reason "thus empowering them with the knowledge, skills and abilities to achieve their academic and individual potential. The second educational component focuses on the family unit's well being through programs and researched-based information presented at the community level to 1) address family structures stressed by poverty, creating weakened environments for child rearing; 2) improve parenting skills and parent child relationships and 3) connect community-based organizations serving at risk youth and families with land-grant-based educational resources, training and referrals. By working as a team, this program area will be able to extend its 4-H educational resources and learning opportunities to currently under-represented youth in at risk communities throughout the state while expanding the adult/family training opportunities to include parenting workshops for both volunteers and 4-H parents. In addition, the evaluation skills and measurement tools of the youth and families at-risk specialists will provide the 4-H component with the necessary expertise to develop and implement measures for program outcomes.

Children, Youth and Families at Risk

This project area is dedicated to community-based programs to promote resiliency and protective factors in youth and families. Importantly the CYFAR program collaborates closely with RI 4-H to provide skill building for youth and adults in at-risk environments.

Sustainable Communities

Between 1964 and 1997, USDA estimates that Rhode Island lost approximately half of its farmland. Loss of farms and rural lands often heralds new residential development, traffic, and associated negative impacts of human activity on the environment. High land values can also stifle expansion of existing farms and make purchasing farmland prohibitive for aspiring farmers. Pressures such as zoning and regulatory issues, conflicts between farmers and homeowners, water supply, and estate settlement, have prompted the RI Division of Agriculture to designate "sustaining and providing for viable agriculture" as its foremost priority. This program will work closely with the RI Division of Agriculture to improve local and grassroots decision making related to economic and environmental sustainability, creating a model that will be available to benefit all of Rhode Island's communities, and in addition, will enhance tourism venues within the state.

3. Program existence : Mature (More than five years)

4. Program duration : Long-Term (More than five years)

5. Expending formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

6. Expending other than formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
601	Economics of Agricultural Production and Farm Management	20%		50%	
602	Business Management, Finance, and Taxation	5%		0%	
802	Human Development and Family Well-Being	10%		50%	
806	Youth Development	65%		0%	
	Total	100%		100%	

V(C). Planned Program (Situation and Scope)

1. Situation and priorities

4-H and CYFAR

Programming in 4-H and CYFAR addresses a complex array of issues confronting Rhode Island families. The major challenge is in identifying where best to target limited resources that will have a significant impact on key issues facing today's youth and families and result in measurable outcomes for these target audiences. Key issues impacting today's families include: The number of children in poverty is increasing in all RI cities and towns; Family structures are stressed by poverty and a decreasing community connection creating weakened environments for child rearing. There is limited access to social programs for youth and families, and links between service providers and families are weak. Parents lack skills in teaching their children limits, how to avoid violence, cope with peer pressure and experimentation with destructive behaviors. Given the weak academic preparation provided by many of Rhode Island's inner-city schools, most of which are listed by the state as under-performing, there is a significant population of first-generation students at all levels of academic preparation whose skills will not be strong enough to ensure success in higher education and in a scientific workforce. Youth lack opportunities for involvement in positive outside-of-school social and educational programs that provide them with a safe, supportive environment for developing life skills and interacting with peers and positive adult role models.

The program staff through diverse partnerships within and outside of the land grant system can serve as the catalyst and provide the integration of people and resources needed to address these critical issues facing Rhode Island's youth and families.

Sustainable Communities

Rhode Island's rural and urban fringe communities are undergoing rapid change and face increasingly complex planning and development issues. The impact of residential and commercial development on rural areas has increased costs of municipal services and driven property tax rates higher. Poorly planned growth is also creating sprawl pattern development in rural areas. This trend has resulted

in the loss of farm and open space and has placed increased pressure on soil and water resources. Loss of rural character and diminishing quality of place are concerns voiced by rural residents and municipal leaders with increasing frequency and urgency. Loss of farmland is particularly troubling. Between 1964 and 1997 USDA estimates that Rhode Island lost approximately half of its farmland. Loss of farms and rural lands often heralds new residential development, traffic, and associated negative impacts of human activity on the environment. High land values can also stifle expansion of existing farms and make purchasing farmland prohibitive for aspiring farmers. In its current Plan of Work, Rhode Island's state Division of Agriculture states, "...urban sprawl, and related pressures and problems, continue to threaten the long-term existence of agriculture in Rhode Island. Prime agricultural land continues to be lost to development; farmland values in Rhode Island are the highest in the nation and consequently farmland real estate taxes are higher than in any other state". These and other pressures cited in the plan, such as, zoning and regulatory issues, conflicts between farmers and homeowners, water supply, and estate settlement, have prompted the RI Division of Agriculture to designate "sustaining and providing for viable agriculture" as its foremost priority.

2. Scope of the Program

- In-State Extension
- Multistate Extension

V(D). Planned Program (Assumptions and Goals)

1. Assumptions made for the Program

4-H

4-H and CYFAR

- Youth will gain valuable life skills and develop self-confidence in their ability to engage in the larger community and successfully make the transition into productive, contributing adults through positive life choices.
- Ongoing and caring relationships, both within and outside of the family are essential to positive youth development.
- Through out-of-school learning opportunities in science and healthy lifestyles, youth will develop the knowledge, skills and self-directed ability to improve academic performance, set long-term career goals, refine leadership and decision-making skills and demonstrate the ability to make positive choices.
- By connecting families to the educational resources of their land-grant institution and community-based organizations, parents will be empowered, through knowledge and improved parenting skills, to directly impact the health and well-being of their family members and community.

Sustainable Communities

- Through the addition of new and reassigned staff and the formation of resource partnerships, Extension has been building its capacity to conduct programs in sustainable communities and farm viability.
- Our program will be leveraged by staff and operating resources of our strategic partners: RI Agricultural Partnership and the RI Division of Agriculture as well as other state agencies and key collaborators including USDA/NRCS, and regional Extension systems.
- Multi-year USDA/SARE grant funds have also been secured to support staff and operating costs. We have also established a representative Small-Farms advisory committee.
- Our ability to develop and deliver sustainable tourism programming will be enhanced through collaboration with local, state and national research, education and extension resources.

2. Ultimate goal(s) of this Program

4-H and CYFAR

- Through collaboration and partnership, CFF will serve as the portal for Rhode Island families to connect with the vast research-based resources and educational opportunities of the land-grant institution resulting in improved youth and family health, life skills and emotional and academic well-being.

Sustainable Communities

- Our long term goal to strengthen the capacity of state and local organizations, municipalities, citizens and farmers/agriculturalists to make informed decisions and plan economically and environmentally sustainable communities and farms, and to manage natural resources and community assets wisely. This program will focus on commercial farm viability, stewardship of agricultural lands and sustainable development and management of tourism venues.

V(E). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Estimated Number of professional FTE/SYs to be budgeted for this Program

Year	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
2015	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2016	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2017	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2018	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2019	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

V(F). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Activity for the Program

4-H and CYFAR

- Forge academic connections to strengthen 4-H and CYFAR curriculums, provide undergraduate experiential learning opportunities, increase program research base and utilizes evaluation expertise to measure impacts and improve programs
- Connect target audience to 4-H and CYFAR educational programs through workshops, web-based training and newsletters, 4-H volunteer training and curriculum guides (train the trainer), community-based agency trainings (train the trainer)
- Develop resources and information to connect youth and families to community and land-grant resources (4-H and CYFAR to serve as portals)
- Expansion of the 4-H club system into currently underrepresented, urbanized areas of the state and creation of a state-wide network of 4-H science enrichment after school programs that serve as a catalyst for improve the science based knowledge, skills and academic motivation among urban elementary and middle school students

Sustainable Communities

- Study and promote commercial farm viability

- Promote responsible stewardship of agricultural lands
- Work with municipalities and community members to manage natural and economic resources wisely
- Teach and promote sustainable development techniques and management to communities
- Promote, enhance and expand sustainable tourism in the state of Rhode Island

2. Type(s) of methods to be used to reach direct and indirect contacts

Extension

Direct Methods	Indirect Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Education Class ● Workshop ● Group Discussion ● One-on-One Intervention ● Demonstrations ● Other 1 (4-H Clubs/Groups) ● Other 2 (Displays/Exhibits) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Newsletters ● Web sites other than eXtension ● Other 1 (Fact sheets, bulletins) ● Other 2 (Web-based curriculum)

3. Description of targeted audience

4-H and CYFAR

Youth 5-18 years of age, parents of targeted youth, community-based family-serving agencies and organizations, volunteers

Sustainable Communities

Farmers/ farm organizations, RI Department of Environmental Management (RI DEM) Division of Agriculture, RI Center for Agricultural Promotion and Education, Rhode Island Agricultural Partnership, other agricultural service providers, tourism councils and tourism businesses, land trusts, policy makers and municipal leaders, grassroots and community organizations

V(G). Planned Program (Outputs)

NIFA no longer requires you to report target numbers for standard output measures in the Plan of Work. However, all institutions will report actual numbers for standard output measures in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results. The standard outputs for which you must continue to collect data are:

- Number of contacts
 - Direct Adult Contacts
 - Indirect Adult Contacts
 - Direct Youth Contacts
 - Indirect Youth Contact
- Number of patents submitted
- Number of peer reviewed publications

Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(H). State Defined Outputs

1. Output Measure

- Workshops (including short courses)
- Volunteers trained
- 4-H record books
- Youth reached through programs
- Community/family serving groups reached
- Community service projects
- Activities and programs
- Students trained
- Website development and refinement
- Curriculum development and delivery
- Professional training
- Public presentations

- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(I). State Defined Outcome

O. No	Outcome Name
1	Through project work and science and health enrichment programs, (%) 4-H club members and after school group members will demonstrate increased knowledge and skills that can be incorporated into their academic and personal lives.
2	% of enrolled 4-H youth who will demonstrate a commitment and understanding of their community and a sense of connectivity through increased delivery of community service programs to those in need.
3	Through training programs, club leadership activities and adult mentors, % of 4-H members who will develop leadership skills (e.g., public speaking, project leadership), gain confidence in their ability to lead and make a difference in their schools and communities and to incorporate these life skills into their daily lives.
4	# of parents, volunteers and adults serving youth and their families who will gain knowledge and skills that will foster positive youth development and family health and well-being.
5	# of parents who will learn and adopt more effective methods for parental discipline of children and better use of family time.
6	Pre-post measurement of educational activities, workshops to measure increases in knowledge and skills, focus groups and surveys to assess practice change and adoption, analysis of contact information and demographics to measure expansion of programs to currently underrepresented groups (urban, cultural-diverse communities, minorities, etc.) (Number of assessments per year)
7	Provide information and training to farmers and rural landowners on estate planning strategies and economic development opportunities.
8	Improve viability of agriculture in the state of Rhode Island and southern New England through farmer education/information and consulting concerning sustainable agricultural practices, value-added products and agri-tourism.

Outcome # 1

1. Outcome Target

Through project work and science and health enrichment programs, (%) 4-H club members and after school group members will demonstrate increased knowledge and skills that can be incorporated into their academic and personal lives.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 806 - Youth Development

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension

Outcome # 2

1. Outcome Target

% of enrolled 4-H youth who will demonstrate a commitment and understanding of their community and a sense of connectivity through increased delivery of community service programs to those in need.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 806 - Youth Development

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension

Outcome # 3

1. Outcome Target

Through training programs, club leadership activities and adult mentors, % of 4-H members who will develop leadership skills (e.g., public speaking, project leadership), gain confidence in their ability to lead and make a difference in their schools and communities and to incorporate these life skills into their daily lives.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 806 - Youth Development

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension

Outcome # 4

1. Outcome Target

of parents, volunteers and adults serving youth and their families who will gain knowledge and skills that will foster positive youth development and family health and well-being.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 802 - Human Development and Family Well-Being

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension

Outcome # 5

1. Outcome Target

of parents who will learn and adopt more effective methods for parental discipline of children and better use of family time.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 802 - Human Development and Family Well-Being

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension

Outcome # 6

1. Outcome Target

Pre-post measurement of educational activities, workshops to measure increases in knowledge and skills, focus groups and surveys to assess practice change and adoption, analysis of contact information and demographics to measure expansion of programs to currently underrepresented groups (urban, cultural-diverse communities, minorities, etc.) (Number of assessments per year)

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 802 - Human Development and Family Well-Being
- 806 - Youth Development

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension

Outcome # 7

1. Outcome Target

Provide information and training to farmers and rural landowners on estate planning strategies and economic development opportunities.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Action Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 601 - Economics of Agricultural Production and Farm Management
- 602 - Business Management, Finance, and Taxation

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 8

1. Outcome Target

Improve viability of agriculture in the state of Rhode Island and southern New England through farmer education/information and consulting concerning sustainable agricultural practices, value-added products and agri-tourism.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 601 - Economics of Agricultural Production and Farm Management
- 602 - Business Management, Finance, and Taxation

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

V(J). Planned Program (External Factors)

1. External Factors which may affect Outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)

Description

We exist in turbulent times nationally, regionally, locally, and institutionally. Appropriations budgets are being cut dramatically on many fronts, resulting in fewer resources for increasing need areas. As finances and personnel change, it is likely our programs and outcomes will have to shift to accommodate them.

V(K). Planned Program - Planned Evaluation Studies

Description of Planned Evaluation Studies

Assessment and evaluation of projects within this program area occurs at a variety of levels. For instance, evaluation of projects takes place at the project, departmental, college and program levels. For projects within the program, formative assessments are used to revise and improve efforts, projects, and outcomes within the program. Likewise, summative assessment is used to evaluate outcome achievement and project and program value. Nested within both the formative and summative assessment is an evaluation of the processes that lead to (or prevent) achieving activities, outputs and outcomes.

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

Program # 5

1. Name of the Planned Program

International Programs

2. Brief summary about Planned Program

International Programs are an important segment of the Rhode Island Land Grant portfolio. This area will provide opportunities for RIAES researchers and RICE specialists to extend knowledge, expertise, technologies, intellectual property and other skills to international stakeholders. We are currently engaged in fisheries and aquaculture projects in Africa, South America and Asia. Likewise, we have specialists providing expertise to a soil reclamation project in China and are providing opportunities for training Chinese agricultural scientists here at the University of Rhode Island.

3. Program existence : New (One year or less)

4. Program duration : Long-Term (More than five years)

5. Expending formula funds or state-matching funds :Yes

6. Expending other than formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
606	International Trade and Development	50%		50%	
611	Foreign Policy and Programs	50%		50%	
	Total	100%		100%	

V(C). Planned Program (Situation and Scope)

1. Situation and priorities

Agriculture is a global endeavor. As such, the advancement of agriculture, food production and environmental sustainability is dependent on international partnerships. Addressing critical issues related to food production, agricultural sustainability, natural resource management, food safety, disease prevention are not only national priorities, they are global priorities. Likewise, our communities are becoming progressively diverse. An understanding and appreciation of cultural differences are essential to global cooperation, and successful international trade and development.

2. Scope of the Program

- Multistate Research
- Multistate Extension
- Integrated Research and Extension

V(D). Planned Program (Assumptions and Goals)

1. Assumptions made for the Program

- US farm sector is increasingly dependent on international trade.
- Agricultural sustainability requires international cooperation.
- International partnerships are required to address issue related to food production, agricultural sustainability, natural resource management, food safety, and disease prevention.
- An appreciation of diversity is important for preparing our students, faculty, and community members for the 21st century economy.

2. Ultimate goal(s) of this Program

To assist international partners in the development of strategies for food production, agricultural sustainability and global trade cooperation.

V(E). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Estimated Number of professional FTE/SYs to be budgeted for this Program

Year	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
2015	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0
2016	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0
2017	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0
2018	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0
2019	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0

V(F). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Activity for the Program

- Develop a demonstration nursery and associated practices for production and maintenance of saline tolerant landscape and food crop plants in Tianjin China and associated ecotone regions.
- Collaborate with Chinese colleagues in the water and wastewater management responsibilities in Tianjin on the potential development of agricultural grade compost from collected biosolids.
- Plan and implement programs for expanded phytoremediation applications to other disturbed soils and regions where foundry or manufacturing have added complex heavy metal and salinity environmental compromises.
- Develop and promulgate a shellfish sanitation program in African countries.

- Develop and promulgate a sustainable fisheries programs in the Gambia and Senegal.
- Assist international fishers; increase value of fishing products in domestic foreign markets.
- Create scientist and student exchange programs with foreign institutions, countries, agencies and companies.
- Assist partners in international projects.

2. Type(s) of methods to be used to reach direct and indirect contacts

Extension	
Direct Methods	Indirect Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Education Class ● Workshop ● One-on-One Intervention ● Demonstrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public Service Announcement ● Newsletters ● Web sites other than eXtension ● Other 1 (Print media)

3. Description of targeted audience

Foreign universities, governments, government officials, policy makers; international business collaborators and producers; international students; RIAES scientists; RICE extension agents; URI students

V(G). Planned Program (Outputs)

NIFA no longer requires you to report target numbers for standard output measures in the Plan of Work. However, all institutions will report actual numbers for standard output measures in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results. The standard outputs for which you must continue to collect data are:

- Number of contacts
 - Direct Adult Contacts
 - Indirect Adult Contacts
 - Direct Youth Contacts
 - Indirect Youth Contact
 - Number of patents submitted
 - Number of peer reviewed publications
- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(H). State Defined Outputs

1. Output Measure

- Technical documents, fact sheets, bulletins and newsletters
 - Training manuals (includes instructional CD?s)
 - Scientific/professional presentations
 - Workshops (including short courses)
 - Conferences hosted
 - Website development and refinement
 - Public presentations
 - Student training
 - Thesis/dissertation
 - Postdoctoral training
 - Volunteer training
 - Intervention studies
 - Social marketing
 - Video productions
- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(I). State Defined Outcome

O. No	Outcome Name
1	Provide onsite knowledge and technology to an international collaborator to improve local food production, agricultural sustainability and environmental conditions.
2	Artisanal fisheries ecosystems in the Gambia and selected stocks shared with Senegal are being managed more sustainably

Outcome # 1

1. Outcome Target

Provide onsite knowledge and technology to an international collaborator to improve local food production, agricultural sustainability and environmental conditions.

2. Outcome Type : Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 606 - International Trade and Development
- 611 - Foreign Policy and Programs

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 2

1. Outcome Target

Artisanal fisheries ecosystems in the Gambia and selected stocks shared with Senegal are being managed more sustainably

2. Outcome Type : Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 606 - International Trade and Development
- 611 - Foreign Policy and Programs

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

V(J). Planned Program (External Factors)

1. External Factors which may affect Outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes

- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)
- Other (International travel)

Description

Each of the factors above has the potential to affect the outcomes of international programs. The most important limiting factor will be funding for international travel.

V(K). Planned Program - Planned Evaluation Studies

Description of Planned Evaluation Studies

Assessment and evaluation of projects within this program area occurs at a variety of levels. For instance, evaluation of projects takes place at the project, departmental, college and program levels. For projects within the program, formative assessments are used to revise and improve efforts, projects, and outcomes within the program. Likewise, summative assessment is used to evaluate outcome achievement and project and program value. Nested within both the formative and summative assessment is an evaluation of the processes that lead to (or prevent) achieving activities, outputs and outcomes.

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

Program # 6

1. Name of the Planned Program

CELS CARES

2. Brief summary about Planned Program

CELS CARES (College of the Environment and Life Sciences Community Access to Research and Extension Services) is a program that enables the academic community to respond to community needs. As the acronym indicates, this program provides a means for stakeholders to access the resources of RIAES and RICE. The program fosters integration of research and extension and the development of infrastructure critical to the Station's research mission and Extension's outreach endeavors.

3. Program existence : Intermediate (One to five years)

4. Program duration : Medium Term (One to five years)

5. Expending formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

6. Expending other than formula funds or state-matching funds : Yes

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
902	Administration of Projects and Programs	100%		100%	
	Total	100%		100%	

V(C). Planned Program (Situation and Scope)

1. Situation and priorities

RIAES and RICE require a systematic process to respond the needs, problems and challenges of key stakeholders. This program area provides the administrative support to respond to need and provide resources in key areas through both competitive and non-competitive processes.

2. Scope of the Program

- In-State Extension
- In-State Research
- Multistate Research
- Multistate Extension

- Integrated Research and Extension
- Multistate Integrated Research and Extension

V(D). Planned Program (Assumptions and Goals)

1. Assumptions made for the Program

- Formula funding for the experiment station and extension will continue.
- Integration of station and extension activities is valued.
- Multi-state activities are valued.
- Identification of the needs of stakeholders is important for determining the direction of RIAES and RICE activities.
- There is need for the strategic and systematic distribution of Land Grant resources.

2. Ultimate goal(s) of this Program

- Provide a means for stakeholders to access the experiment station and extension.
- Provide the administrative support to respond to need and provide resources in key areas through both competitive and non-competitive processes.

V(E). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Estimated Number of professional FTE/SYs to be budgeted for this Program

Year	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
2015	3.0	0.0	8.0	0.0
2016	3.0	0.0	8.0	0.0
2017	3.0	0.0	8.0	0.0
2018	3.0	0.0	8.0	0.0
2019	3.0	0.0	8.0	0.0

V(F). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Activity for the Program

- RIAES and RICE developed a request for application (RFA) process that encourages innovative, integrated proposals that meet the needs of state stakeholders.
- RIAES and RICE also request proposals from new faculty that encourages innovative, integrated proposals that meet the needs of state stakeholders.
- Proposals are evaluated by internal university teams and external peers.
- Resources are distributed using a merit based system.
- Infrastructure needs are also addressed by this program.

2. Type(s) of methods to be used to reach direct and indirect contacts

Extension

Direct Methods	Indirect Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Education Class ● Workshop ● Group Discussion ● One-on-One Intervention ● Demonstrations ● Other 1 (email blast) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Newsletters ● Web sites other than eXtension

3. Description of targeted audience

Academic faculty, university staff, graduate students, undergraduate students, university administrators, RIAES scientists, RICE personnel

V(G). Planned Program (Outputs)

NIFA no longer requires you to report target numbers for standard output measures in the Plan of Work. However, all institutions will report actual numbers for standard output measures in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results. The standard outputs for which you must continue to collect data are:

- Number of contacts
 - Direct Adult Contacts
 - Indirect Adult Contacts
 - Direct Youth Contacts
 - Indirect Youth Contact
- Number of patents submitted
- Number of peer reviewed publications

Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(H). State Defined Outputs

1. Output Measure

- Proposal submissions
- Proposals funded

- Clicking this box affirms you will continue to collect data on these items and report the data in the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results.

V(I). State Defined Outcome

O. No	Outcome Name
1	New knowledge generated
2	Research and extension infrastructure built and adequately supported
3	Number of integrated research and extension projects increase

Outcome # 1

1. Outcome Target

New knowledge generated

2. Outcome Type : Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 902 - Administration of Projects and Programs

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 2

1. Outcome Target

Research and extension infrastructure built and adequately supported

2. Outcome Type : Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 902 - Administration of Projects and Programs

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

Outcome # 3

1. Outcome Target

Number of integrated research and extension projects increase

2. Outcome Type : Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3. Associated Knowledge Area(s)

- 902 - Administration of Projects and Programs

4. Associated Institute Type(s)

- 1862 Extension
- 1862 Research

V(J). Planned Program (External Factors)

1. External Factors which may affect Outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)

Description

Of the external factors that could most adversely affect this program, funding is the most important.

V(K). Planned Program - Planned Evaluation Studies

Description of Planned Evaluation Studies

Summative assessment is used to evaluate outcome achievement and project and program value.