



Shore and Harbor Planning Grants

Town of Jonesport

Henry Point Commercial Working Waterfront (Fiscal Year 2020, project awarded 2019)

"The Covid-19 pandemic made the planning process very challenging and created delays. Once the planning process was rejuvenated, the community pulled together with support for our vital fishing and harvesting businesses. Building the Henry Point Working Waterfront, and improving the century-old Jonesport Campground, will help preserve a way of life that makes Downeast Maine unique." – Kathy Killian, Jonesport Grants Manager

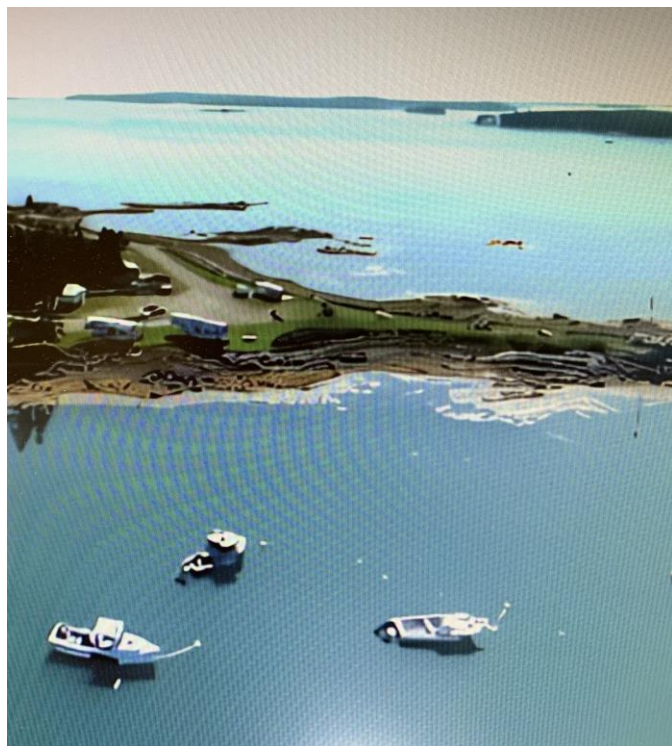
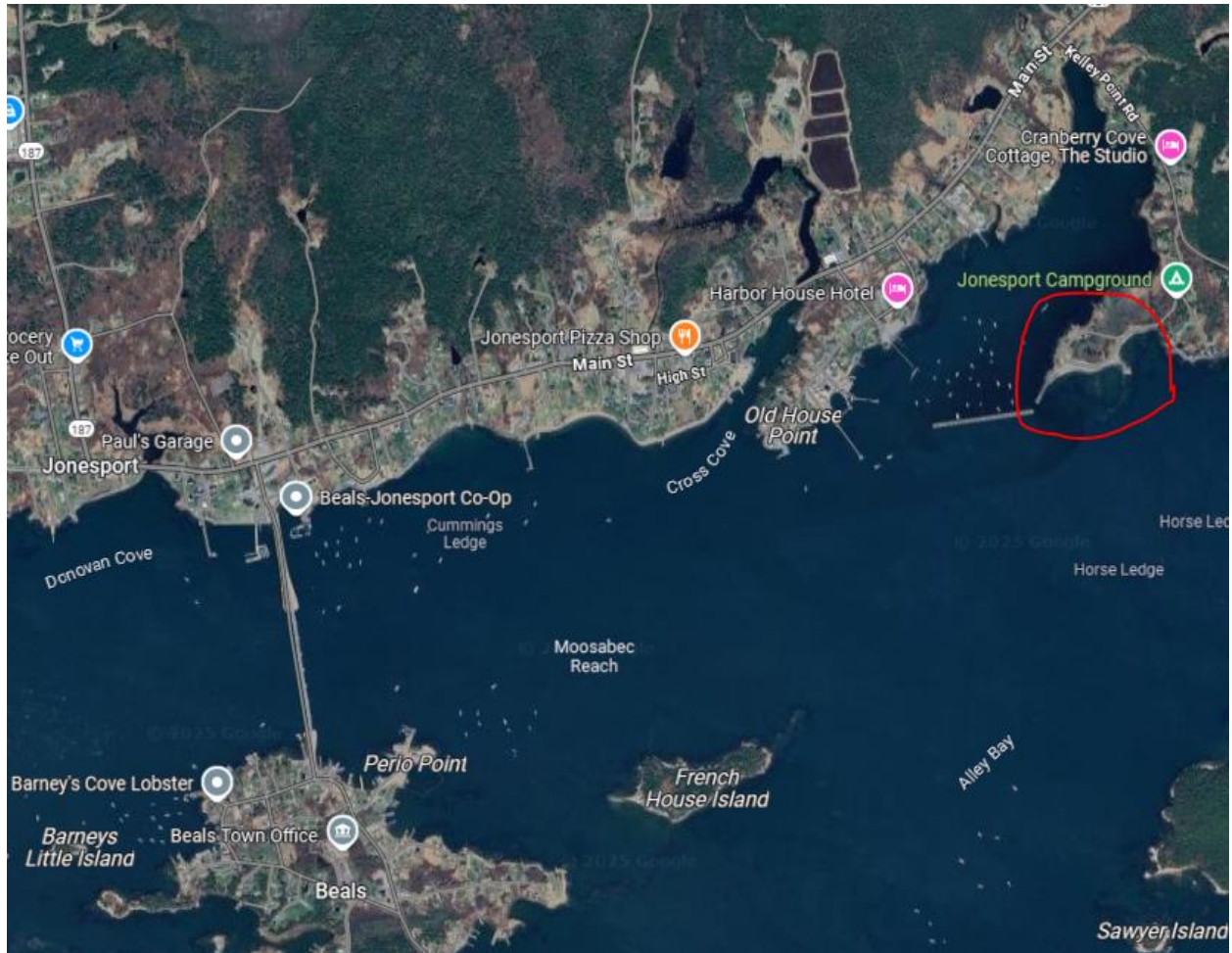


Photo: Henry Point

Project Description

The economy of the Town of Jonesport remains heavily reliant on fishing, marine harvesting, and maritime related businesses. The only public boat access and launch ramp in Jonesport is the State-owned recreational boating facility constructed by the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands in the 1980s. There is insufficient space for commercial parking and no infrastructure to support the 250 fishers, harvesters, and crew members that harvest lobster, periwinkles, quahogs, scallops, sea worms, clams, and seaweed, all of which are vital to the local, regional, and state economy. There is a need in the region to have safe, efficient, and climate-resilient working waterfront

access that will serve for generations. To address this, the town purchased a campground on Henry Point with the intention of building a new, municipal boat launch. The campground will be moved slightly, but maintained as a public campground because it is popular and important to the community. This new municipal boat launch will greatly reduce congestion at the existing State-owned facility and ensure that Jonesport's fishing and harvesting businesses have secure access for the future.



Jonesport, Maine. Henry Point is circled on the right. The State-owned boat launch is near the Harbor House Hotel in the picture. *Photo: Google Maps.*

Project Results

The town has developed a three-phased plan to improve Jonesport's working waterfront. Phase One of the project will widen and elevate the public road that provides access to the commercial working waterfront at Henry Point and the Jonesport Campground. The improved road and boat access will provide safe and reliable access to the waterfront for fishers and harvesters and improve access to the Jonesport Campground which has existed for over 100 years. Phase Two will focus on construction of a climate resilient parking area at the waterfront and improvement of vehicle circulation at the point. Phase Three will improve water access by locating a raised concrete and steel pier with attached floats and slips at the existing stone breakwater.

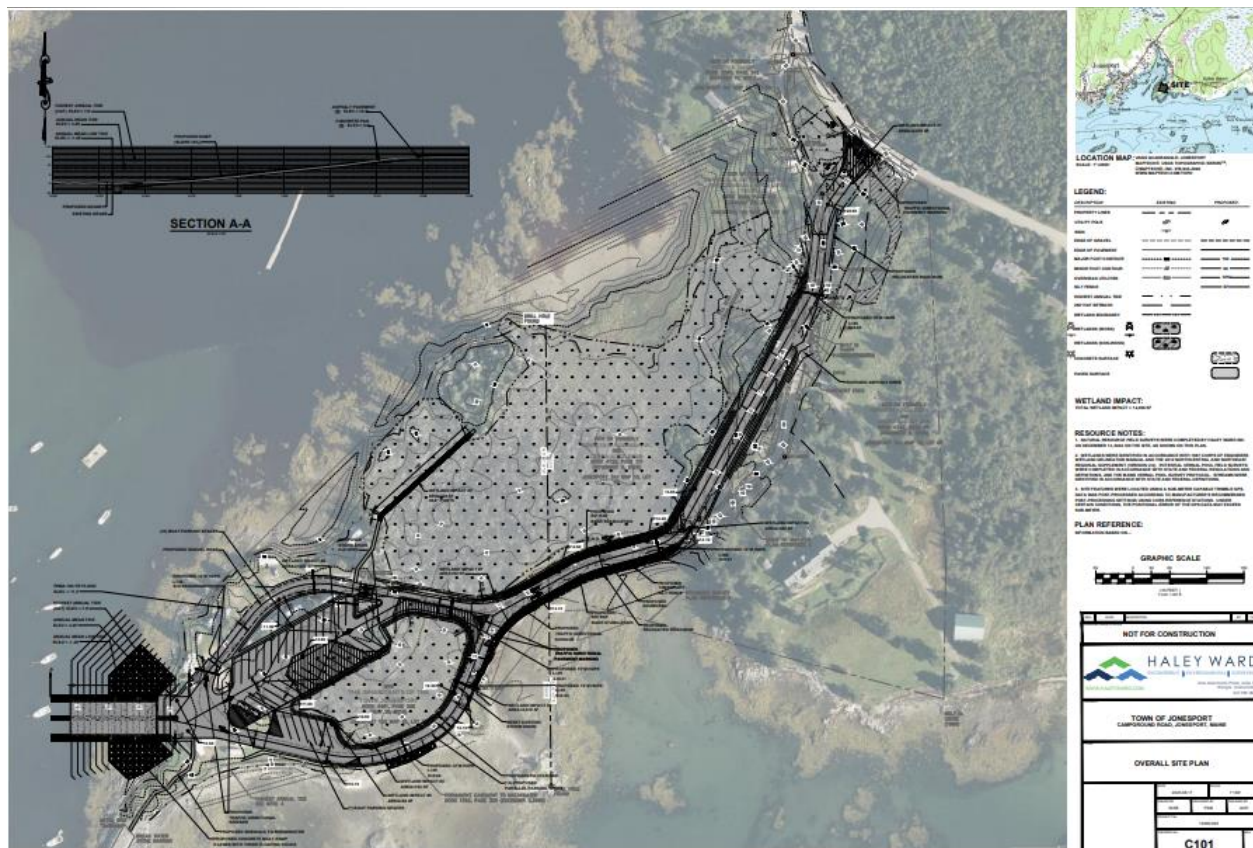


Photo: Concept Drawing with Pier, Haley Ward

Future Plans

The town is actively acquiring permit approvals and preparing engineering plans to begin the road construction and other improvements, including building launch ramps with floats and the parking lot. Ideally, a pier will be built on the breakwater to further improve the use of the site.

Lessons Learned

Community support and participation is critical to success. Forming a committee of community members that will use the working waterfront has been beneficial to the planning process and has served to gather community support. Despite delays and hurdles, the formation of a strong committee working in partnership with the Sunrise County Economic Development Council, Haley Ward staff, and additional temporary office staff has helped move the project forward.

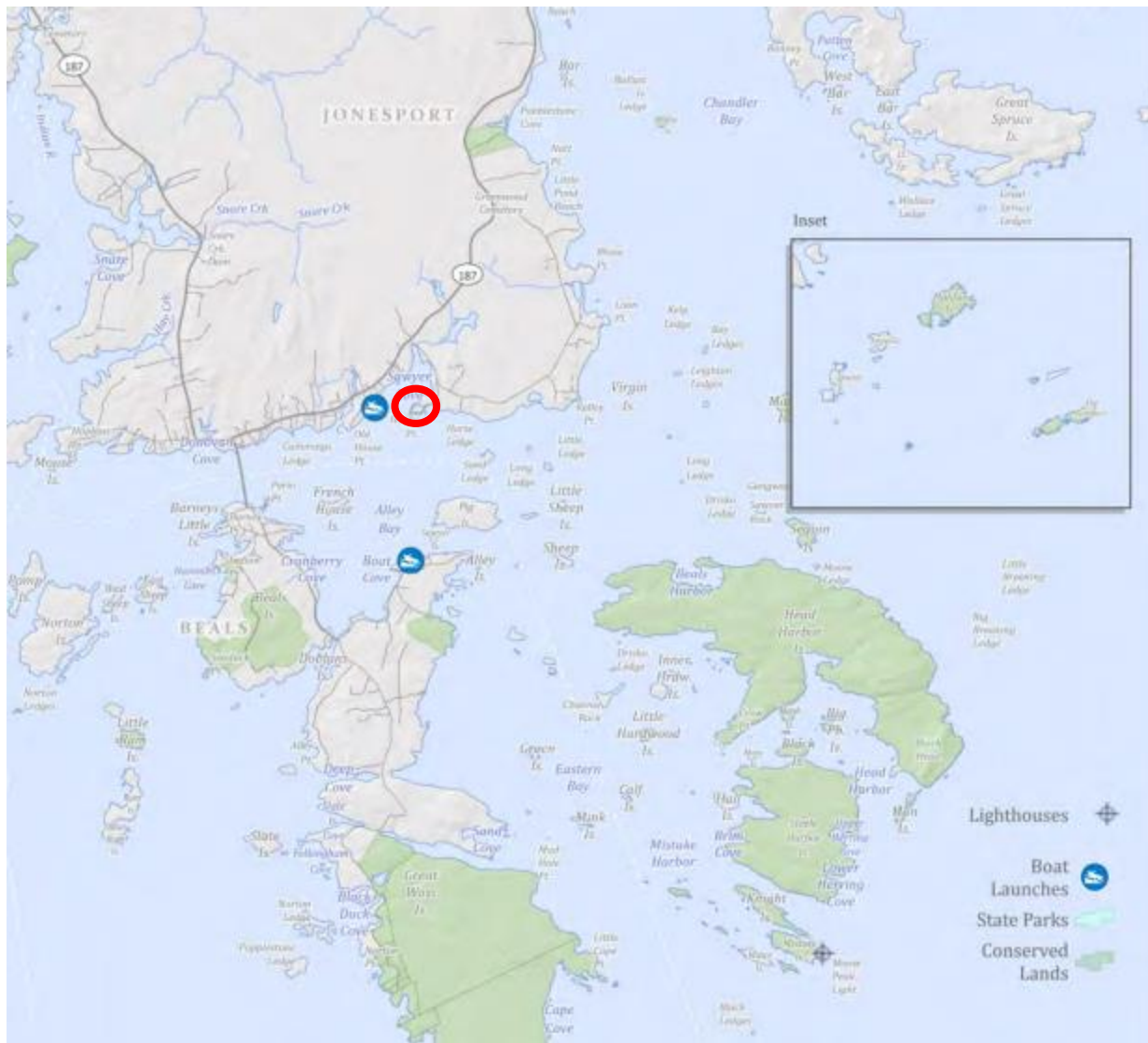


Photo: Location of Henry Point (red circle) from Jonesport Comprehensive Plan

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