

# Maine Climate Council Meeting

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**Council Co-Chairs:**  
Commissioner Melanie Loyzim &  
Director Hannah Pingree

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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
Policy Innovation  
and the Future



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF  
Environmental Protection

September 29, 2023



# Governor Janet T. Mills





# Governors, Biden Administration Push to Quadruple Efficient Heating, AC Units by 2030

# Maine Climate Council created by LD 1679

Governor's Bill sponsored by Senator David Woodsome  
overwhelming bipartisan support, signed June 2019





# Maine Climate Council Members

## Co-Chairs:

Hannah Pingree, Director of the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection

## Members of the State Legislature:

Representative Christopher Kessler (D)

Representative Nathan Carlow (R)

Senator Stacy Brenner (D)

Senator Matt Harrington (R)

## Representative of Maine's Tribes:

Ambassador Maulian Bryant, Penobscot Nation

## Members of the Executive Branch, or their designees:

Amanda Beal, Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Dan Burgess, Director of the Governor's Energy Office

Judy Camuso, Commissioner of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Major General Doug Farnham, Commissioner of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management

Kirsten Figueroa, Commissioner of the Department Administrative and Financial Services

Laura Fortman, Commissioner of the Department of Labor

Heather Johnson, Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development

Patrick Keliher, Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources

Pender Makin, Commissioner of the Department of Education

Bruce Van Note, Commissioner of the Department of Transportation

Jeanne Lambrew, Commissioner of Department of Health and Human Services



# Maine Climate Council Members

## **Members of Quasi-Government Agencies:**

Dan Brennan, Executive Director of the Maine State Housing Authority

Michael Stoddard, Executive Director of Efficiency Maine Trust

## **Members Representing Environmental Nonprofit Organizations or Foundations:**

Alexander Buck, President, Horizon Foundation

Kate Dempsey, Maine State Director for The Nature Conservancy

## **Members with Expertise in Climate Change Science**

Susie Arnold, Marine Scientist, Island Institute

Ivan Fernandez, Distinguished Professor at the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute & School of Forest Resources

## **Members with Expertise in Resilience, Climate Change Adaptation, Emergency Management, or Disaster Risk Reduction**

Amy Landry, Executive Director of the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments

Jay Kamm, Senior Planner, Northern Maine Development Commission





# Maine Climate Council Members

## Other Members

Noël Bonam, AARP Maine

Jessie Perkins, Executive Director of the Bethel Chamber of Commerce

Expert on State's Energy Sector: Ken Colburn

Representative of Municipal Government:  
Gary Lamb, City Manager, City of Hallowell

Representative of Small Business: Daniel Kleban, Owner of Maine Beer Company

Representative of Agriculture: Melissa Law, Owner of Bumbleroot Organic Farm in Windham

Representative of Building and Construction Trades: Matt Marks, Associated General Contractors of Maine

Representative of Manufacturing Industry: Jim Brooks, Environmental Manager for Sappi North America

Representative of Marine Fisheries: Bob Baines, Board Member, Maine Lobsterman's Association

Representative of Large Business: Todd Bullen, Vice President of Retail Operations, Hannaford Supermarkets

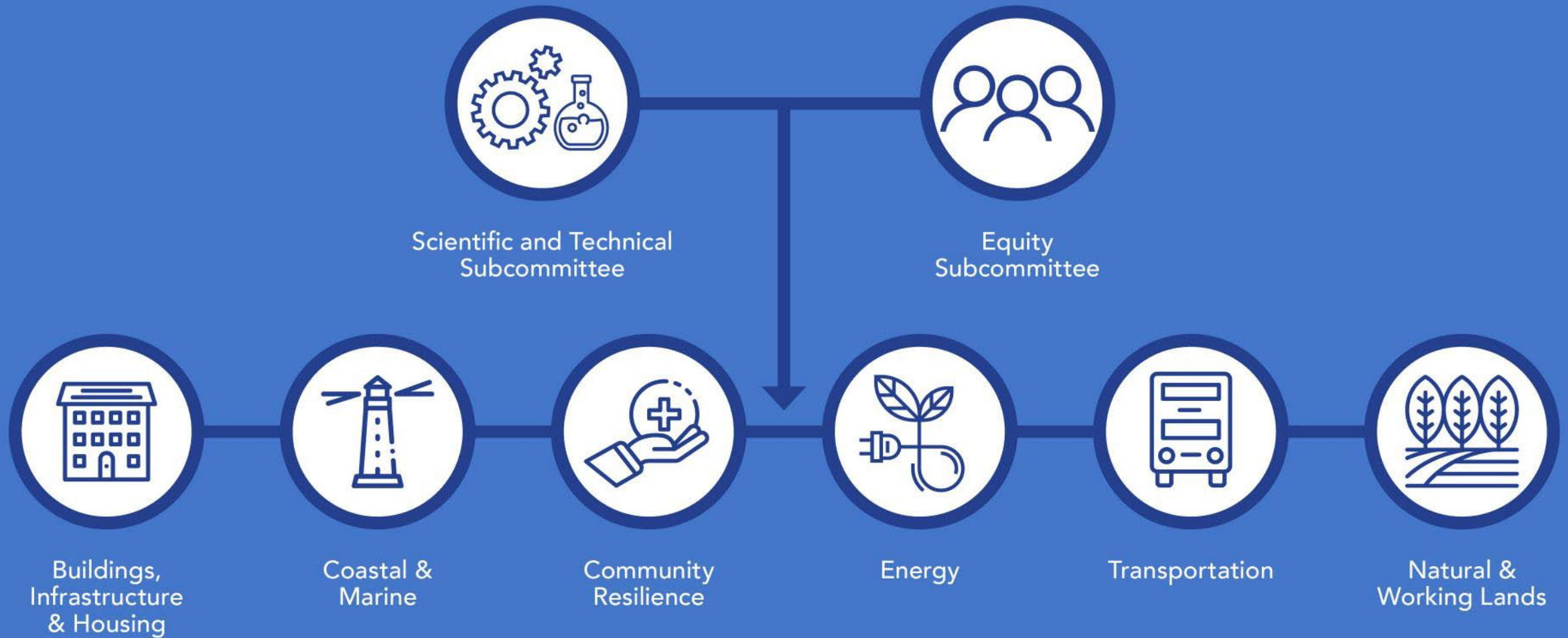
Representative of Labor: Francis Eanes, Executive Director of the Maine Climate Labor Council

Representative of Forest Industry: Patrick Strauch, Executive Director of the Maine Forest Products Council

Representative of Maine Youth: Amara Ifeji, Maine Environmental Education Association



# Maine Climate Council





## MEETING AGENDA

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### 9:10 a.m.

Welcome & Overview of  
Maine Won't Wait and Kick-Off of  
the next Maine Climate Council  
Planning Process

### 9:30 a.m.

State of the Climate in Maine:  
Presentation by the Scientific and  
Technical Subcommittee Co-chairs

### 10:10 a.m.

When Climate Comes Home: The  
Importance of Engaging Youth  
About Climate Impacts in Their  
Communities

## 10:30 a.m. BREAK

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### 10:45 a.m.

How Climate Solutions are  
Creating Economic and Workforce  
Opportunities in Maine

### 11:00 a.m.

Panel: Mainers on the  
Frontlines of Climate Action

### 11:40 a.m.

Communities Leading on Climate:  
Community Resilience Partnership  
Overview and Future Steps

## 12:00 p.m. LUNCH

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### 1:00 p.m.

Overview of the Upcoming  
Climate Action Planning Process

### 1:20 p.m.

Working Group Presentations

### 2:25 p.m.

Next Steps and Adjournment

### 2:30 p.m.

Optional: Working Group  
Introductory Meet-and-Greet  
Sessions

### 3:00 p.m.

End





# CLIMATE COUNCIL GOALS



**12.01.24**

Updated Climate  
Action Plan Due



Achieve State  
Carbon Neutrality by

**2045**

Reduce Maine's Greenhouse Gas Emissions  
by Targets Outlined in State Law

**45%**

BELOW 1990  
LEVELS BY 2030

**80%**

BELOW 1990  
LEVELS BY 2050



ENSURE MAINE PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES, AND COMMUNITIES ARE  
RESILIENT TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.





49%



21%



12%



12%



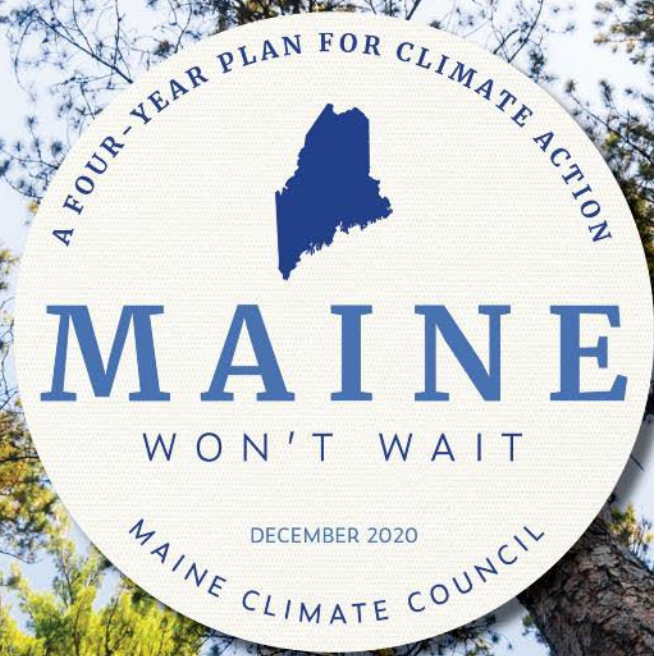
5%

TRANSPORTATION • RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL • ELECTRIC POWER

Data source: Maine Department of Environmental Protection 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report.  
International bunker fuels (1%) are not depicted in the graphic above.

**In Maine, most carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion come from transportation, followed by residential, commercial and industrial sources.**





A FOUR-YEAR PLAN FOR CLIMATE ACTION



MAINE

WON'T WAIT

DECEMBER 2020

MAINE CLIMATE COUNCIL





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***“Maine Won’t Wait demonstrates the importance of planning in ensuring programming and policy decisions move the needle toward a more resilient future.”***

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# Maine's 4 Climate Action Plan Goals



1. Reduce Maine's greenhouse gas emissions
2. Make Maine more resilient to the impacts of climate change
3. Foster economic opportunity and prosperity
4. Advance equity through Maine's response

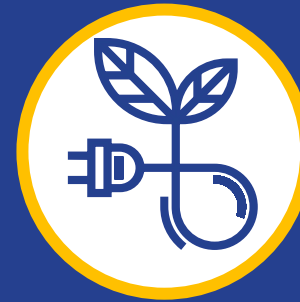
# Maine's 8 Climate Action Strategies



**Embrace the Future  
of Transportation  
in Maine**



**Modernize Maine's  
Buildings**



**Reduce Carbon Emissions in the  
Energy and Industrial Sectors through  
Clean Energy Innovation**



**Grow Maine's Clean  
Energy Economy and  
Good Jobs**



**Protect Maine's Environment and  
Working Lands and Waters, Increase  
Carbon Sequestration**



**Build Healthy and  
Resilient  
Communities**



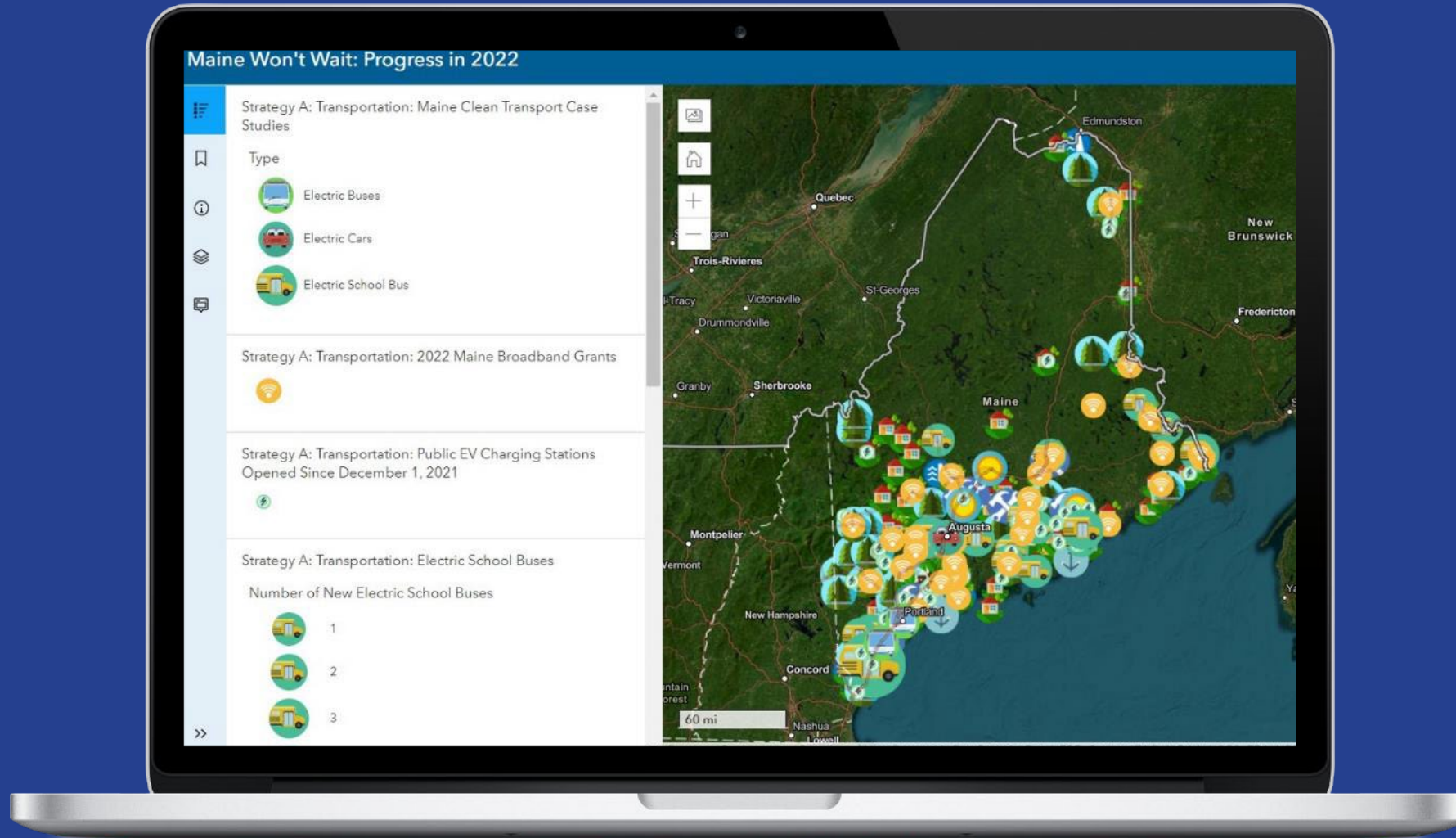
**Invest in Climate-Ready Infrastructure**



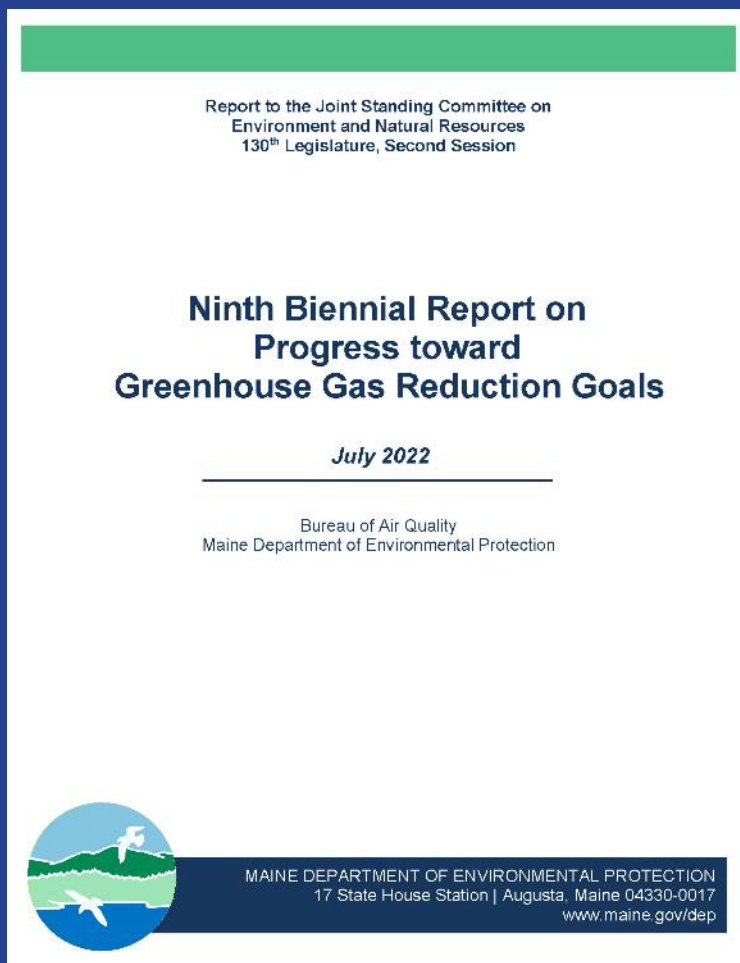
**Engage People and  
Communities in Climate Impacts  
and Program Opportunities**



# Maine Won't Wait Dashboard



# Maine DEP Emissions Report



- As of 2019, gross greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Maine were 25 percent lower than 1990 levels
- With continued progress in reducing gross GHG emissions, Maine is well-positioned to meet its goal of carbon neutrality by 2045





# Inspiring Climate Action for Maine

[MaineWontWait.org](https://MaineWontWait.org)

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# 2024 Plan Timeline

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**DEC 1, 2020**

Maine Won't Wait Climate  
Action Plan Delivered to  
Legislature



**MAY 2023**

Governor Announces  
New and Returning  
Appointments to  
Climate Council



**SEPT 2023 - JUNE 2024**

Working Groups &  
Subcommittees Meet to Update  
Mitigation and Adaptation  
Strategies



**SEPT 2024**

Climate Council  
Meets to Consider and  
Adopt Strategies



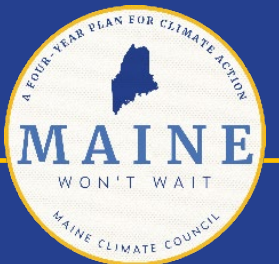
**DEC 1, 2024**

Updated Climate  
Action Plan Delivered  
to Legislature



# Maine Climate Council Meeting Poll

It's December next year, we've completed the revision, and you're really pleased with it. What are 3 words that describe it?



# State of the Climate in Maine: Presentation by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee Co-chairs

1. Ivan Fernandez, University of Maine
2. Stephen Dickson, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
3. Susie Arnold, Island Institute

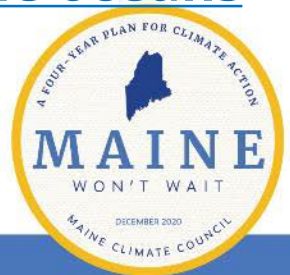




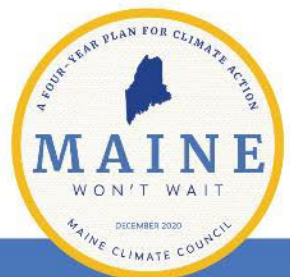


# Maine Climate Council Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

In 2019, Public Law Chapter 476 established the Maine Climate Council and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STS) within the Council **“to identify, monitor, study and report out to the council and to the working groups...findings and recommendations related to climate change in the State and its effects on the State’s climate, species, marine and coastal environments and natural landscape and on the oceans and other bodies of water.”**

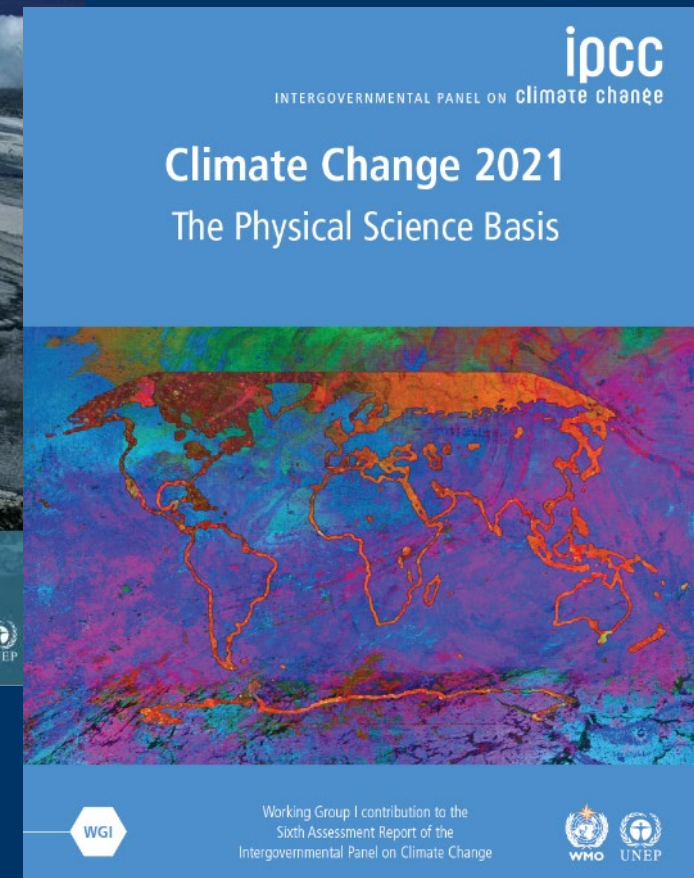
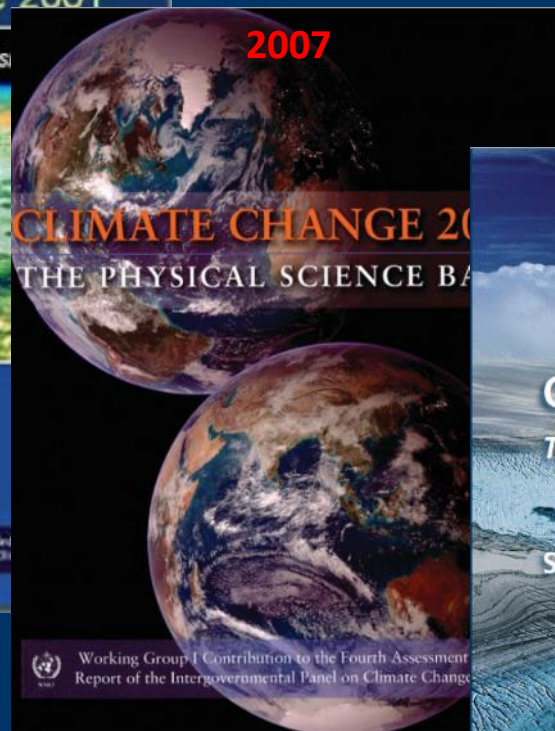
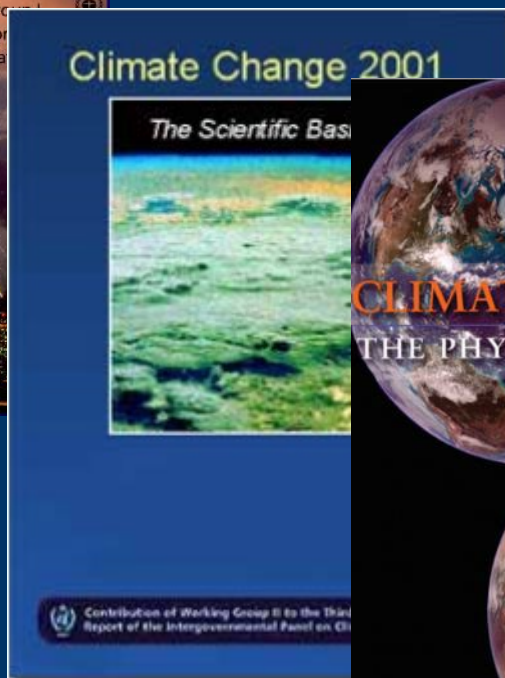
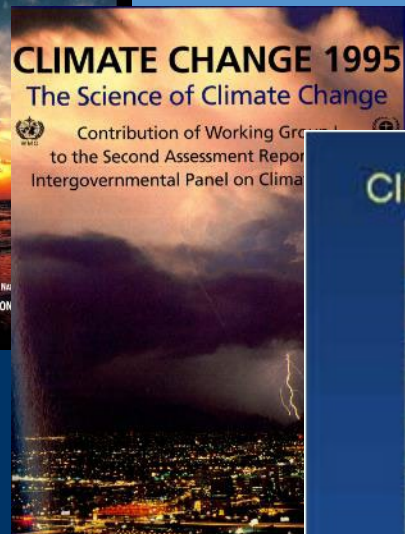


# The science of climate change in 2023?





1990  
**CLIMATE CHANGE**  
*The IPCC Scientific Assessment*





# The State of Knowledge about Climate Change



WGI

WGII

AR6 Synthesis Report

AR6 Climate Change 2023  
The Physical Science Basis

AR6 Synthesis Report  
Climate Change 2023

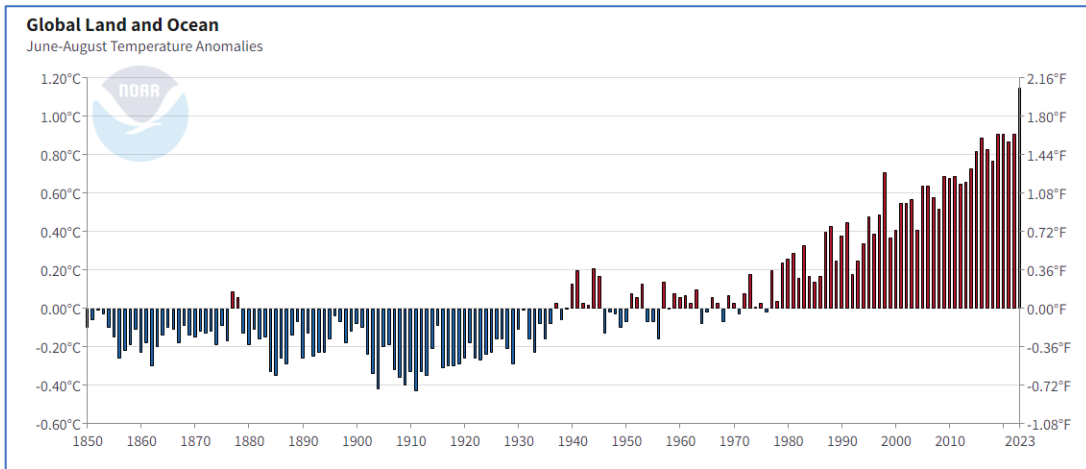
Cryosphere in a  
Changing Climate

Climate Change and Land

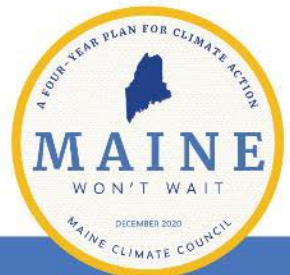
Global Warming of 1.5 °C

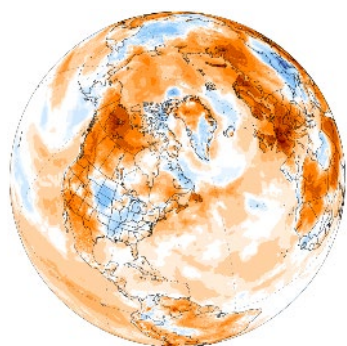


# Global Land and Ocean Temperatures



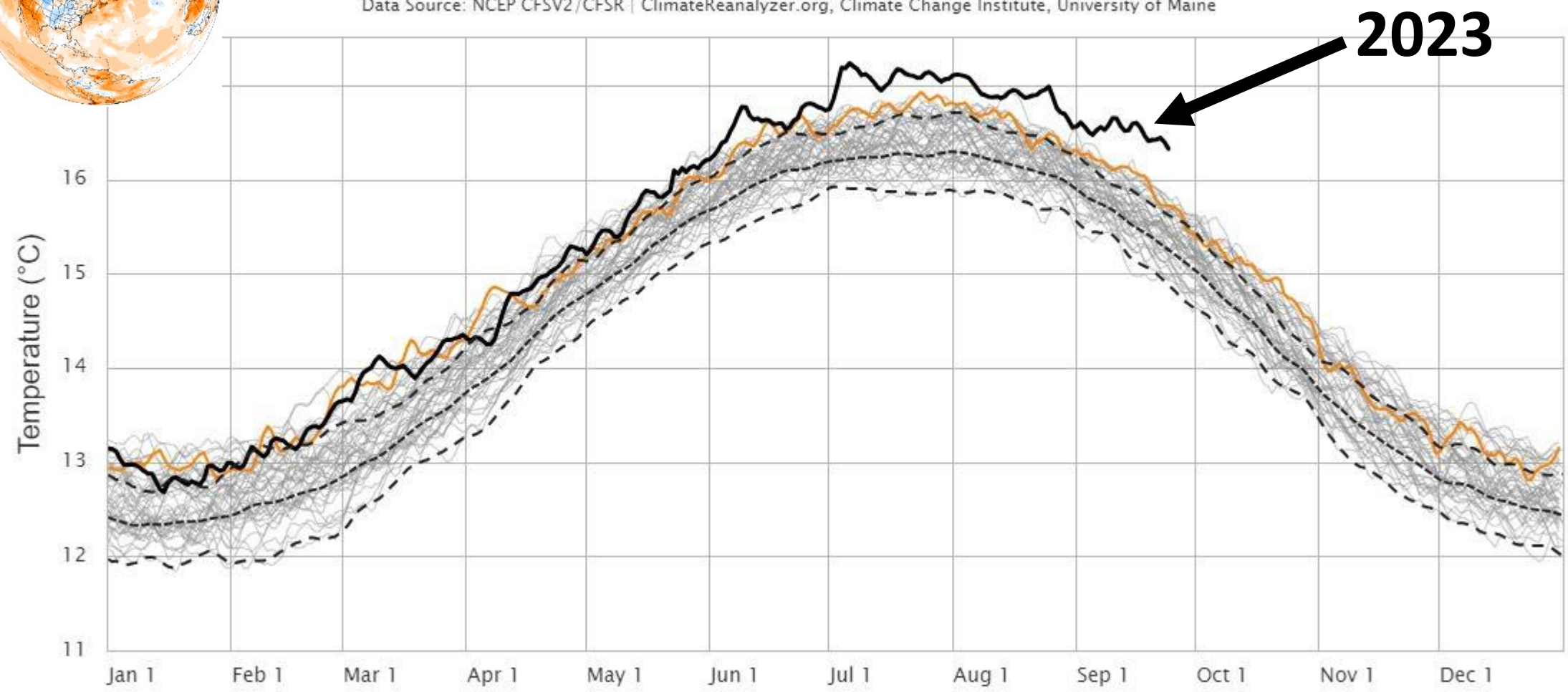
- ✓ The past 9 years were the hottest 9 years on the planet in a 174 year record of measurement.
- ✓ August 2023 was the warmest August on record, and warmer than all other months except July 2023.
- ✓ Summer 2023 (JJA) was the hottest summer on record for the planet.
- ✓ Global sea surface temperatures hit record highs for 5 months running in August
- ✓ Global sea ice reached record lows.





# 2m Air Temperature World (90°S–90°N, 0–360°E)

Data Source: NCEP CFSV2/CFSR | ClimateReanalyzer.org, Climate Change Institute, University of Maine





# SIXTH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Working Group I – The Physical Science Basis



## Extreme heat

More frequent

More intense



## Heavy rainfall

More frequent

More intense



## Drought

Increase in some  
regions



## Fire weather

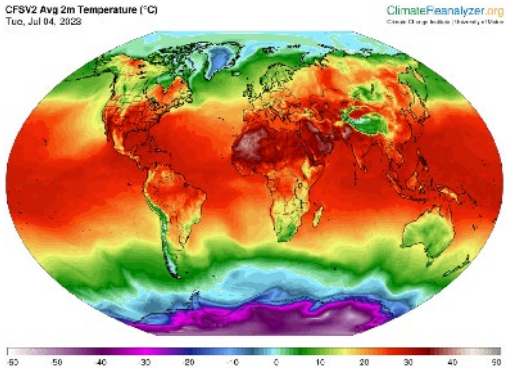
More frequent



## Ocean

Warming  
Acidifying  
Losing  
Oxygen

# Maine – Summer 2023



## Extreme Heat

Sept 8, 2023

Schools Close Due  
to Extreme Heat

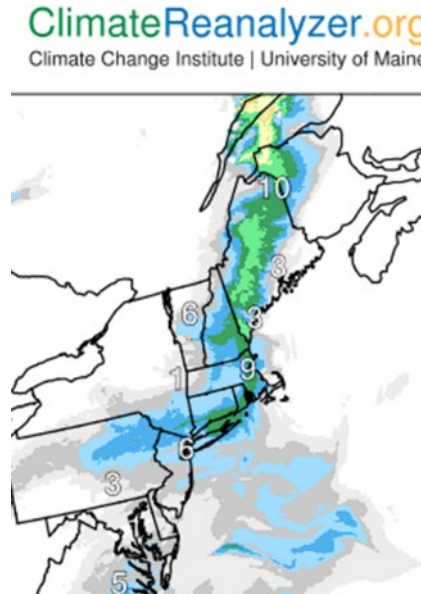


## Heavy rainfall

June 29, 2023

Flooding and  
Road Washouts

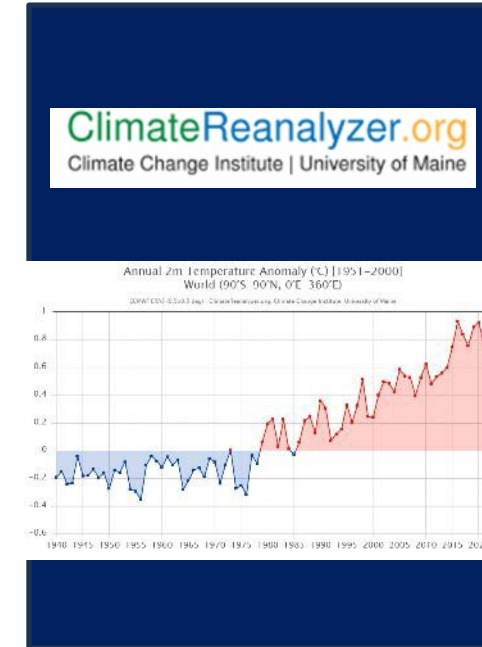
*2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Wettest  
Summer on Record*



## Fire weather

July 19, 2023

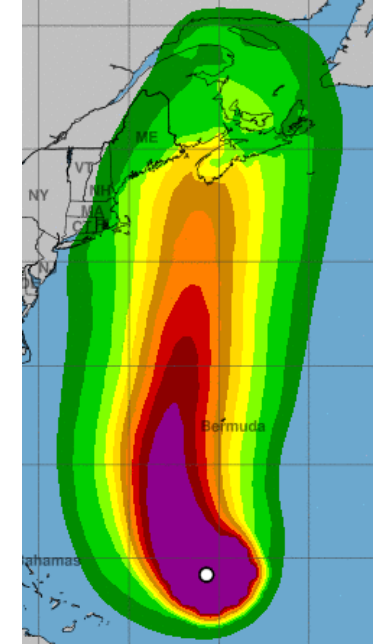
Western Smoke  
in Maine



## Warming Gulf of Maine

2023

*Record high  
temperatures in  
the North Atlantic*



## Tropical Storms

Sept 16, 2023


Hurricane Lee




# Climate change...in the news?








Forest Fire Evacuations in Chile



Heat Waves Across US,  
Europe, and Asia




Wildfires Across  
Western Canada




Tropical Storms  
Japan, Guam, the  
Philippines, and Taiwan



Hurricane Idalia  
Florida



Flooding in Libya




Wildfire  
Lahaina, Hawaii



Drought  
California



Monsoon Flooding in India



Wildfires in  
Nova Scotia, Canada



Record Flooding in Vermont





# world weather attribution

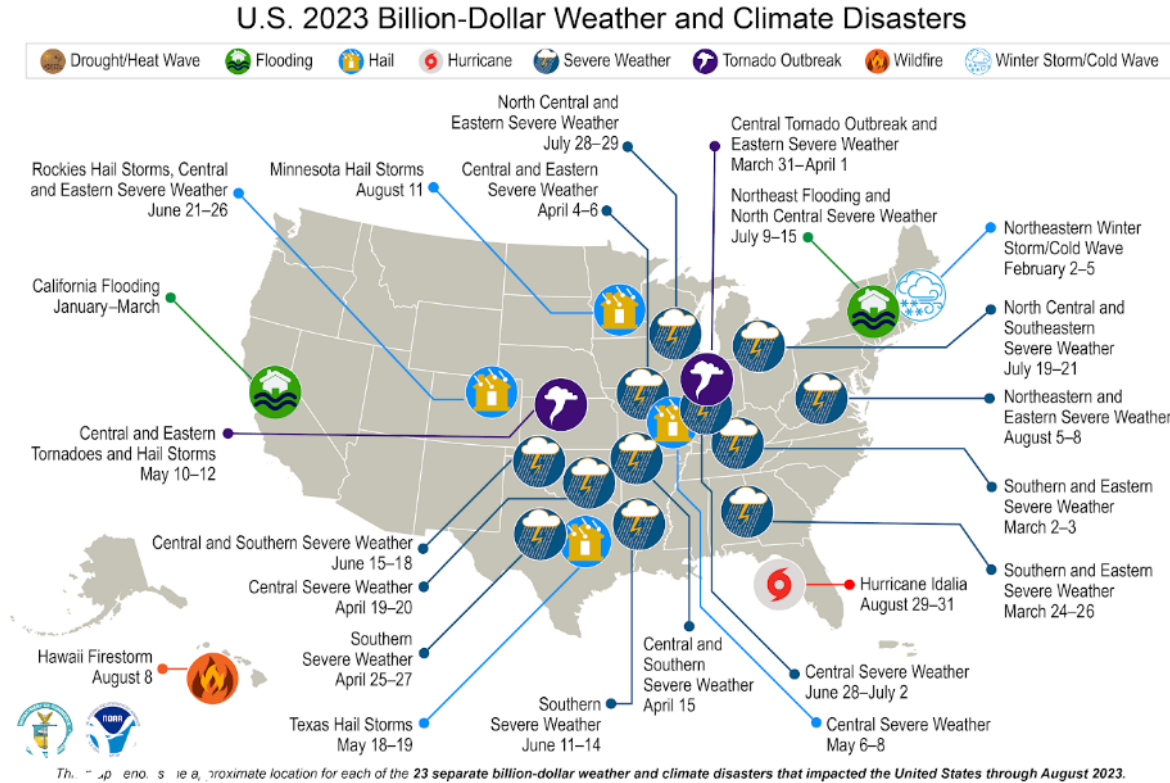


- the cumulative severity of Québec's 2023 fire season to the end of July around 50% more intense
- Seasons of this severity at least 7X more likely to occur.
- Peak fire weather at least twice as likely and 20% more intense due to human-induced climate change

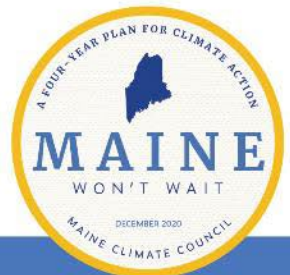


Heat waves like that of summer 2023:

	w/o climate	now
US/MEXICO REGION	Virtually impossible	1 in 15 years
SOUTHERN EUROPE	Virtually impossible	1 in 10 years
CHINA	1 in 250 years	1 in 5 years

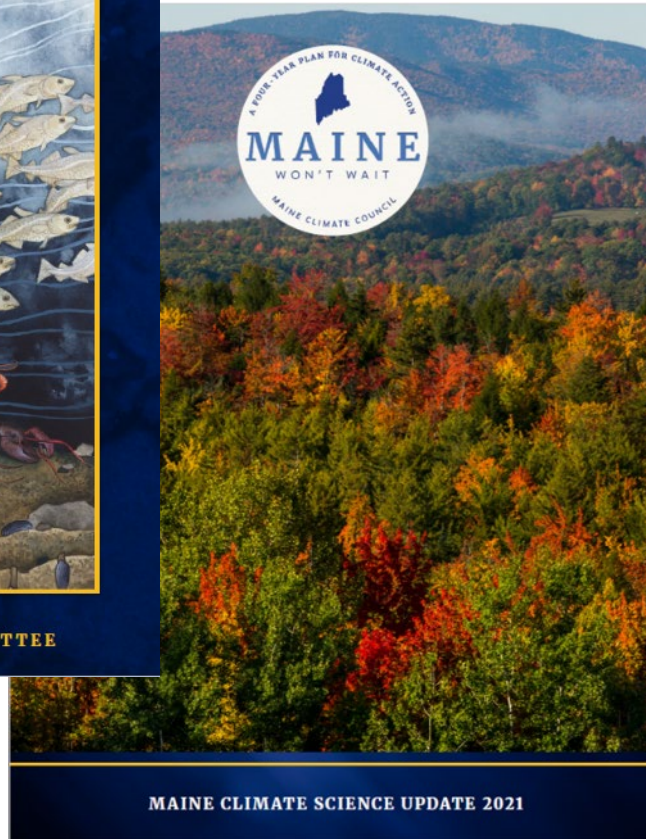
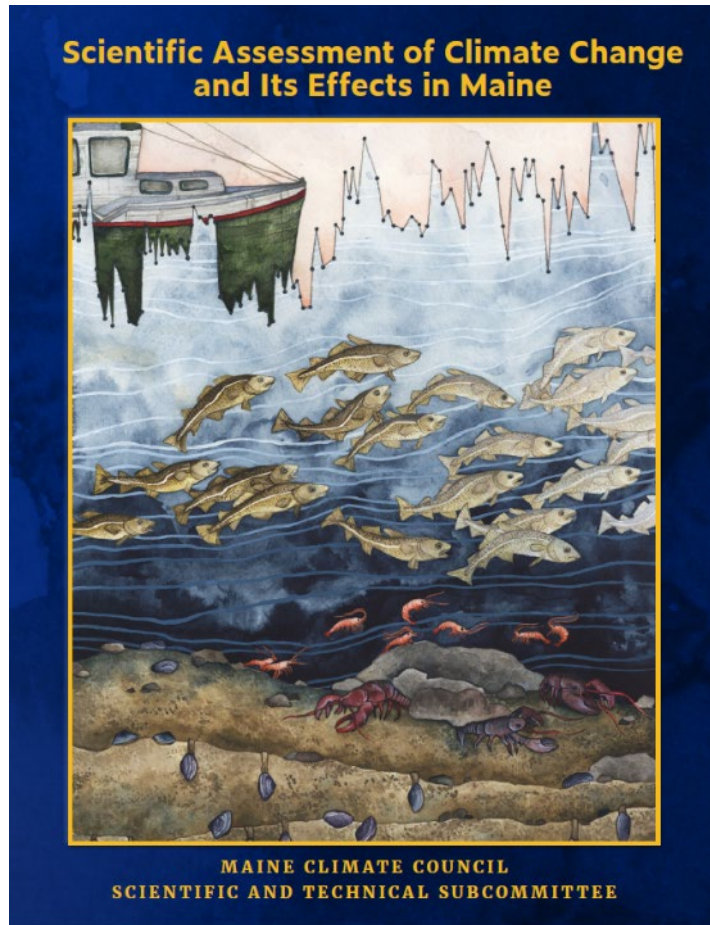


**From January to September of 2023, the nation experienced 23 separate billion-dollar disasters, the largest number of billion-dollar disasters since records have been kept.**



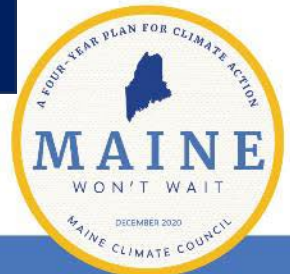


# Maine Climate Science Assessment



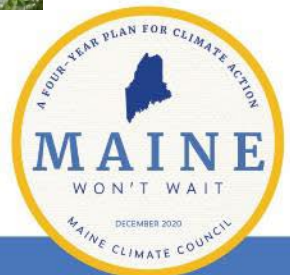
## Scientific Assessment of Climate Change and Its Effects in Maine

2024



# 2023 Scientific Assessment Work

- **River Flooding**
- **Droughts**
- **Groundwater**
- **Saltwater Intrusion**



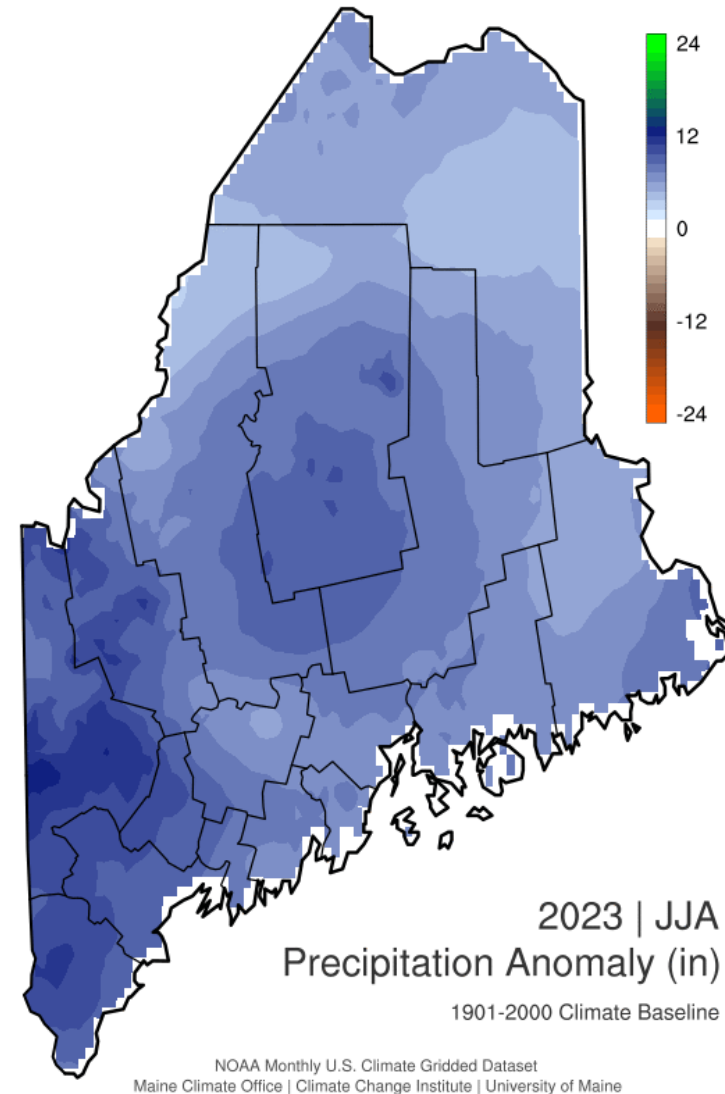


# Precipitation Extremes

- Rainfall Trends
- Flash Floods
- Flash Droughts



June 29, 2023 Macomber Hill Road, Jay, Maine

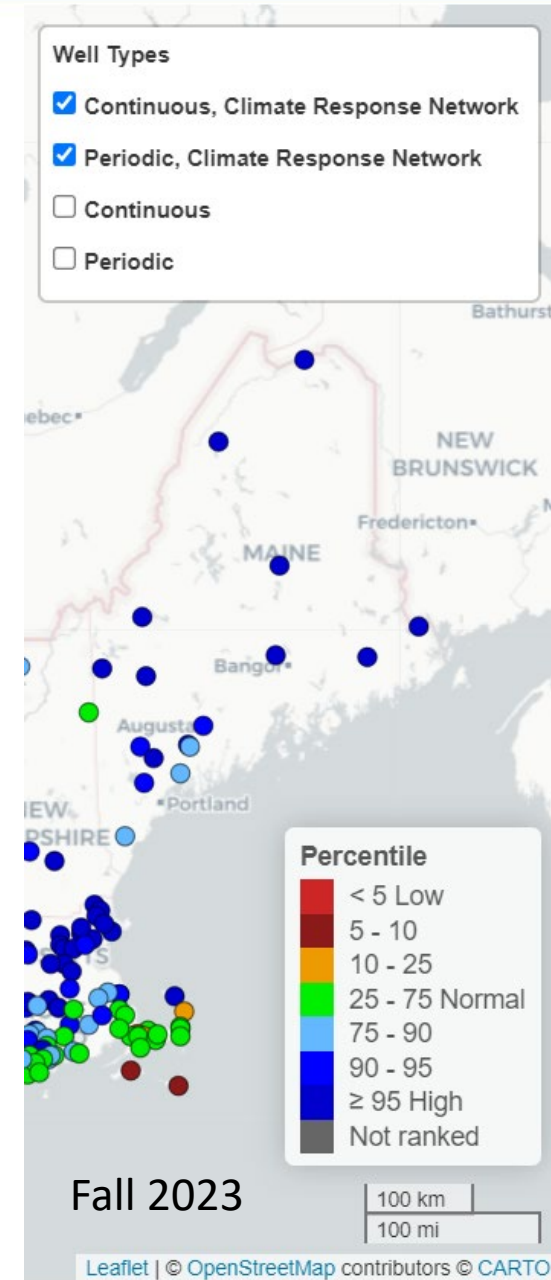


# Groundwater Trends

- Monitoring Aquifers
- Droughts
- Dry Wells
- Saltwater Intrusion



National Groundwater  
Monitoring Network,  
USGS and MGS





# 2023 Scientific Assessment Work

- **New Coastal Elevations**
- **Wave Runup Modeling**
- **Sea Level Rise**
- **Storm Surge**



Hurricane Category 1 and 2 Inundation



# Storms, Surge, Surf & Sea Level



March 2, 2018  
Goochs Beach  
Seawall Impact,  
Kennebunk,  
B. Smith photo





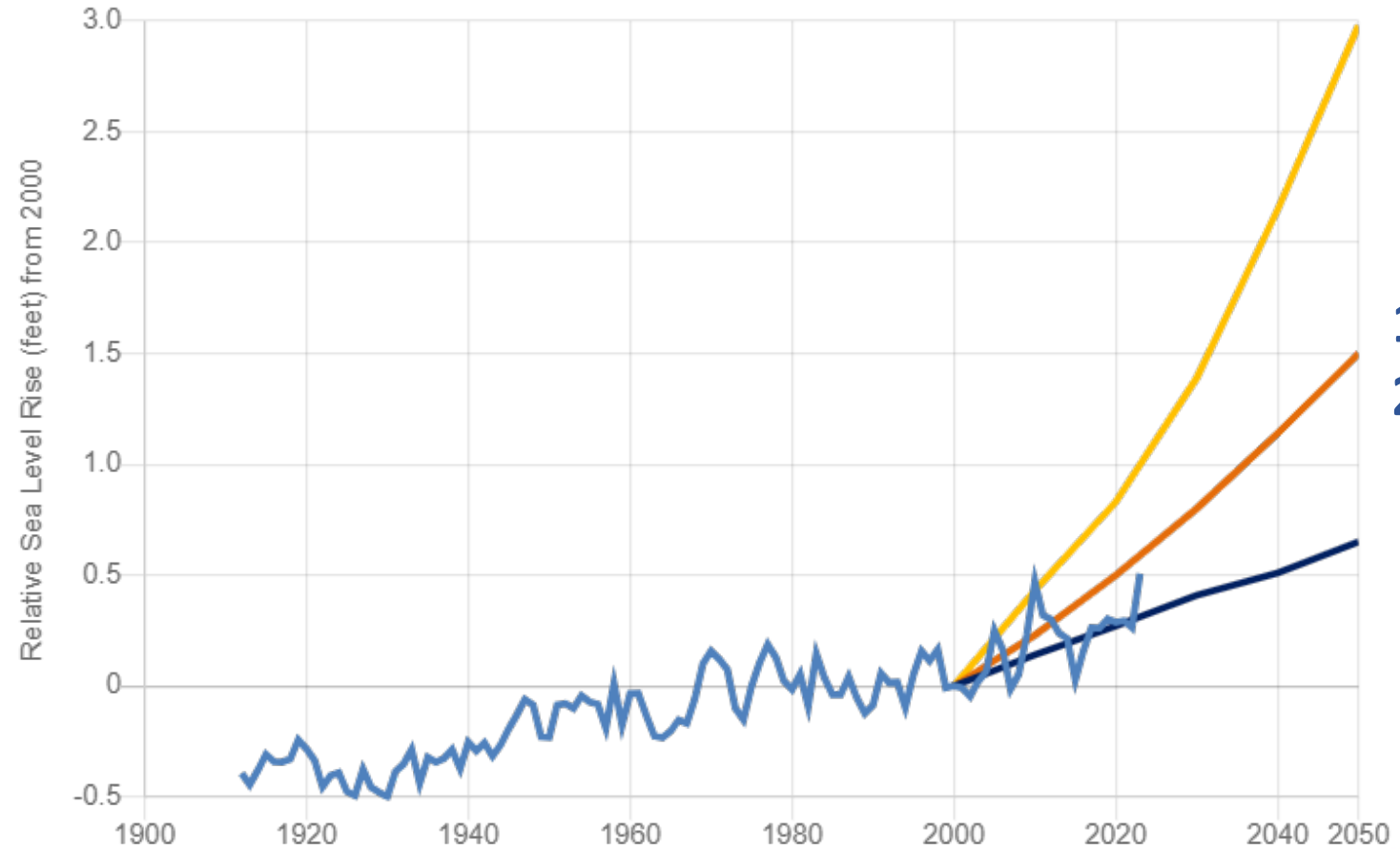
# Trends & Projections

- Sea Level Rise



S. Dickson, MGS

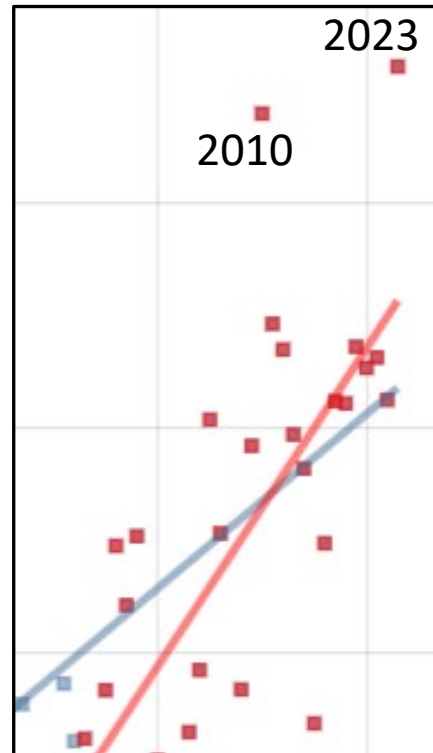
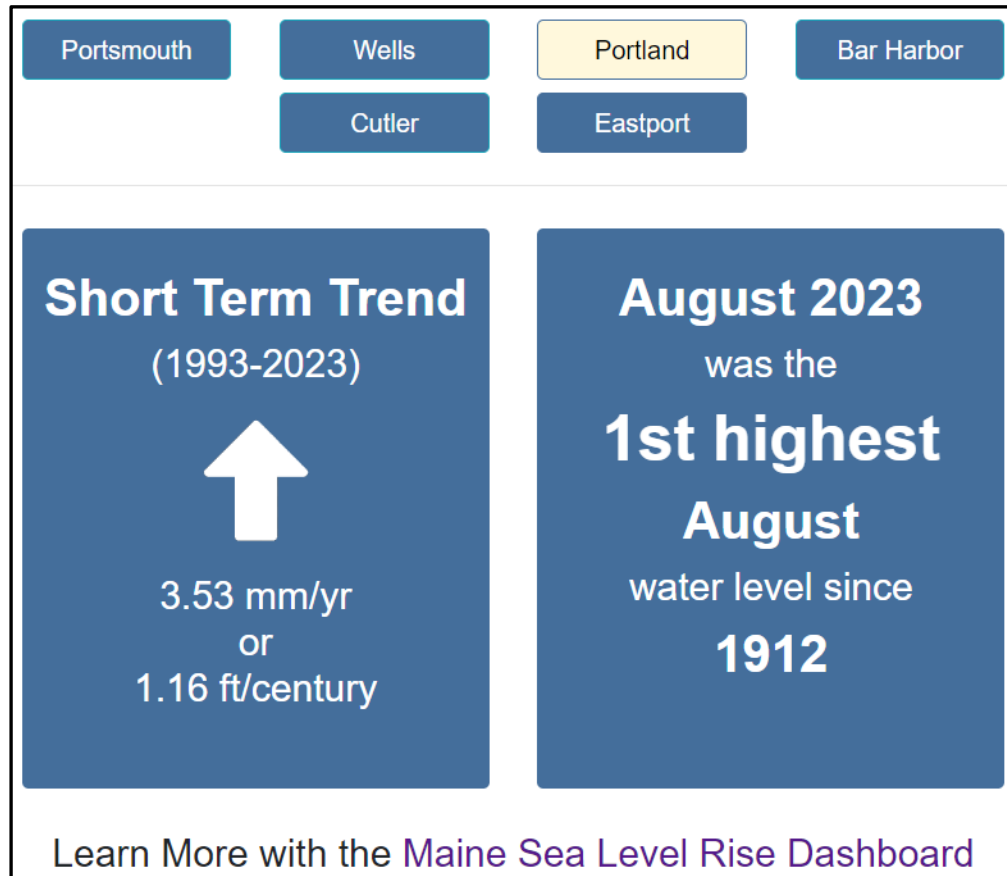
King Tide, Bath, Maine,  
October 28, 2011



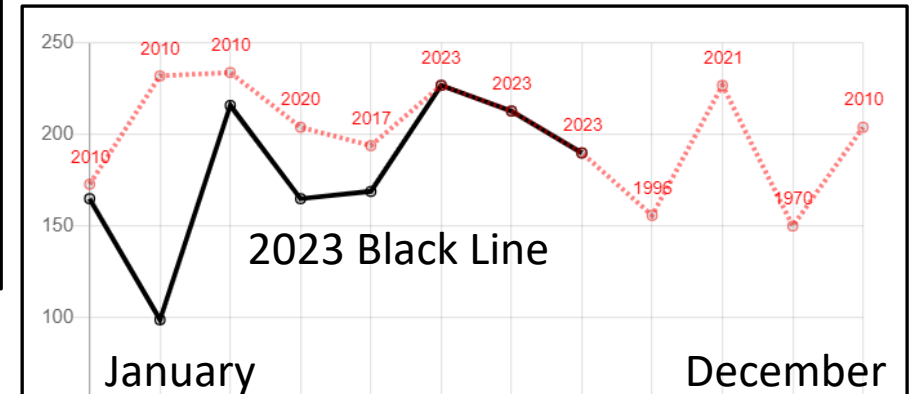
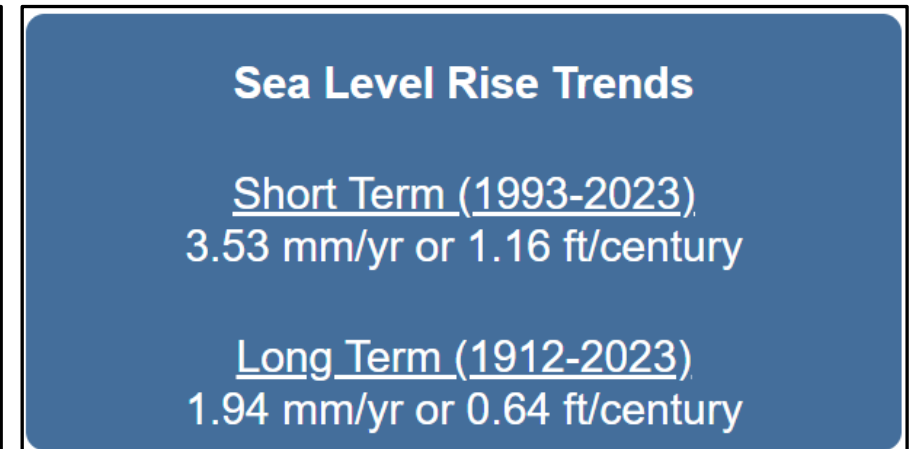
**1.5 feet by  
2050**



# Maine Geological Survey Dashboard

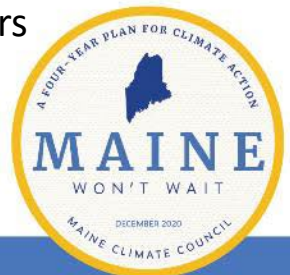


1987 – August 2023



Vertical scale in millimeters

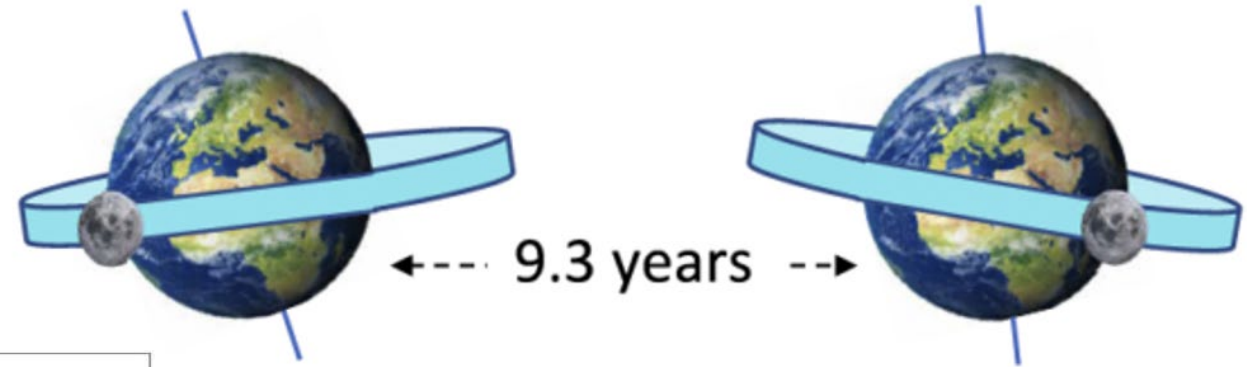
**June 2023 water levels were 9 inches above the 1912-2022 average**



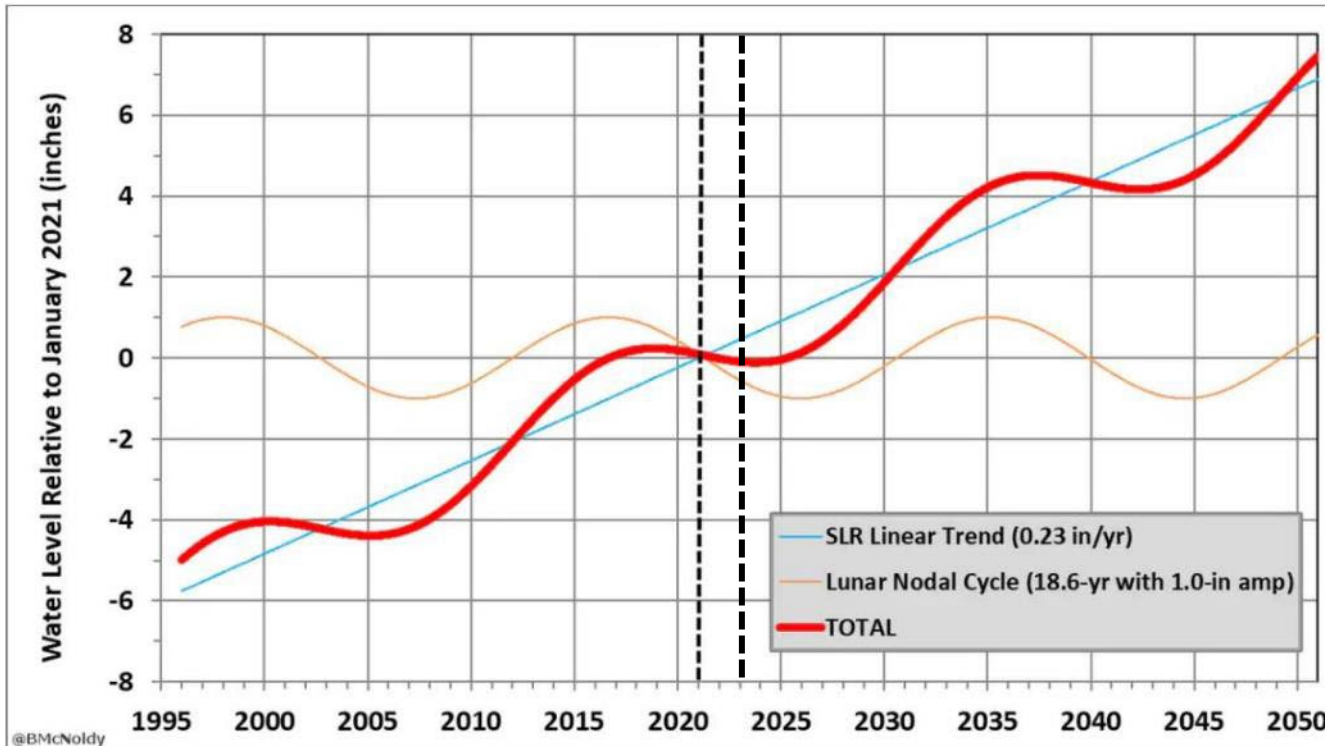


# Tides Vary with the Moon's Orbit

18.6-year **Lunar Nodal Cycle**- a natural cycle of the orbits of the Earth and the moon that exaggerates and mutes tides on Earth, and thus enhances or suppresses the effects of sea level rise



(Saintilan et al., Science Advances, 2022)



By 2030 or sooner, the rate of sea level rise will likely rise significantly for over a decade.

Nuisance flooding will increase faster.

(Graphic: Brian McNoldy and PBS NewsHour, 2021)



# King Tides

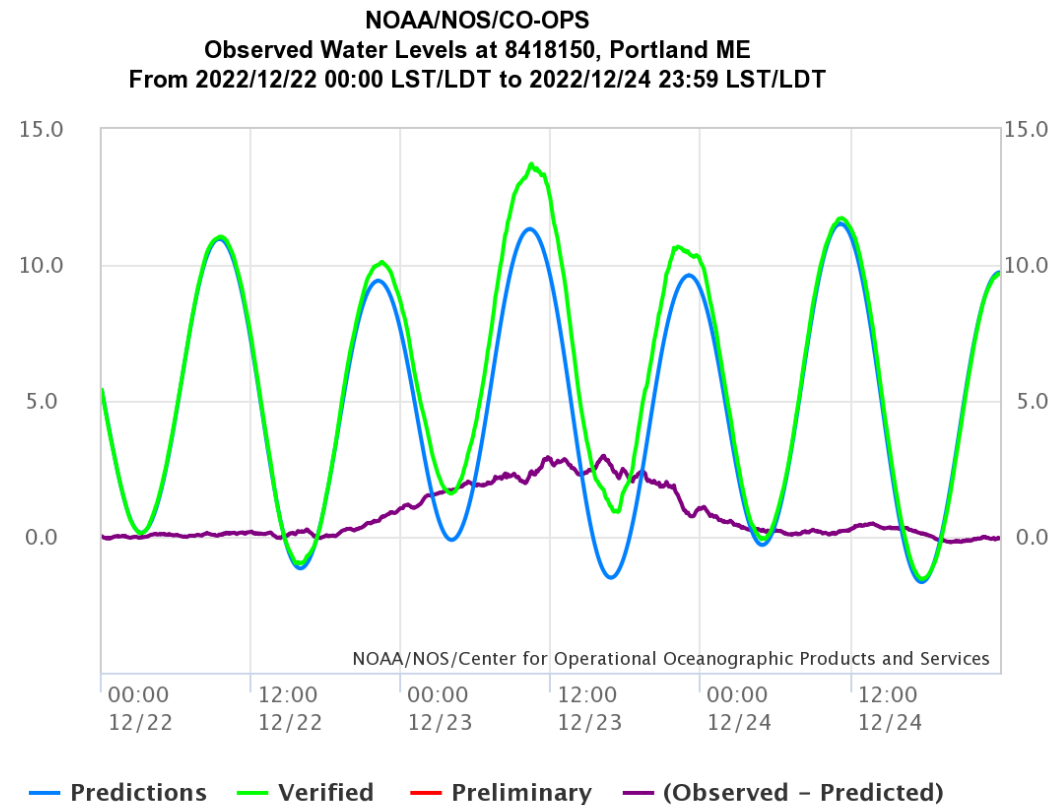
- Nuisance Flooding
- SLR Brings King Tides More Often





# Storm Surge

- December 23, 2022, Winter Storm Elliott – almost the “100-year” event
- Peak 13.7 feet at 10:30 a.m. on an 11.3-ft King Tide with a 2.4-ft surge



# Storm Surge Probability

Portland Storm Surge Statistics  
1912-2018 (at any tide)

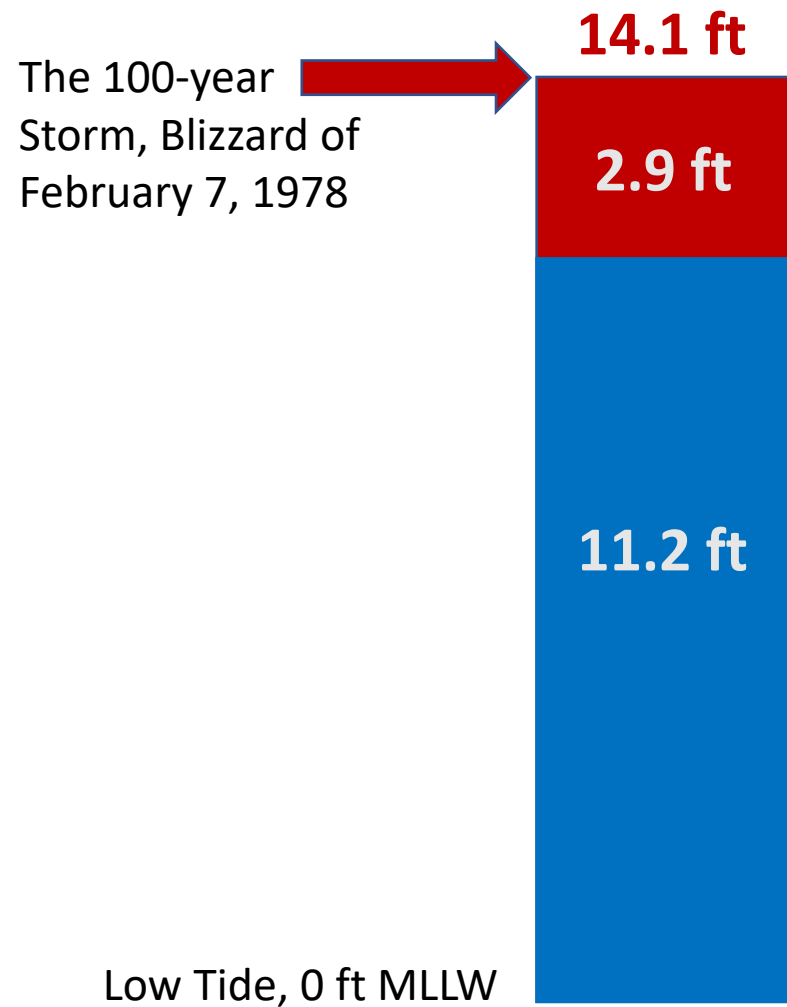
Recurrence Interval	% Annual Chance	Surge (ft)
1	100%	1.9
5	20%	3.0
10	10%	3.4
25	4%	4.0
50	2%	4.4
100	1%	4.8

*Highest annual recorded storm surge was 3/3/1947*

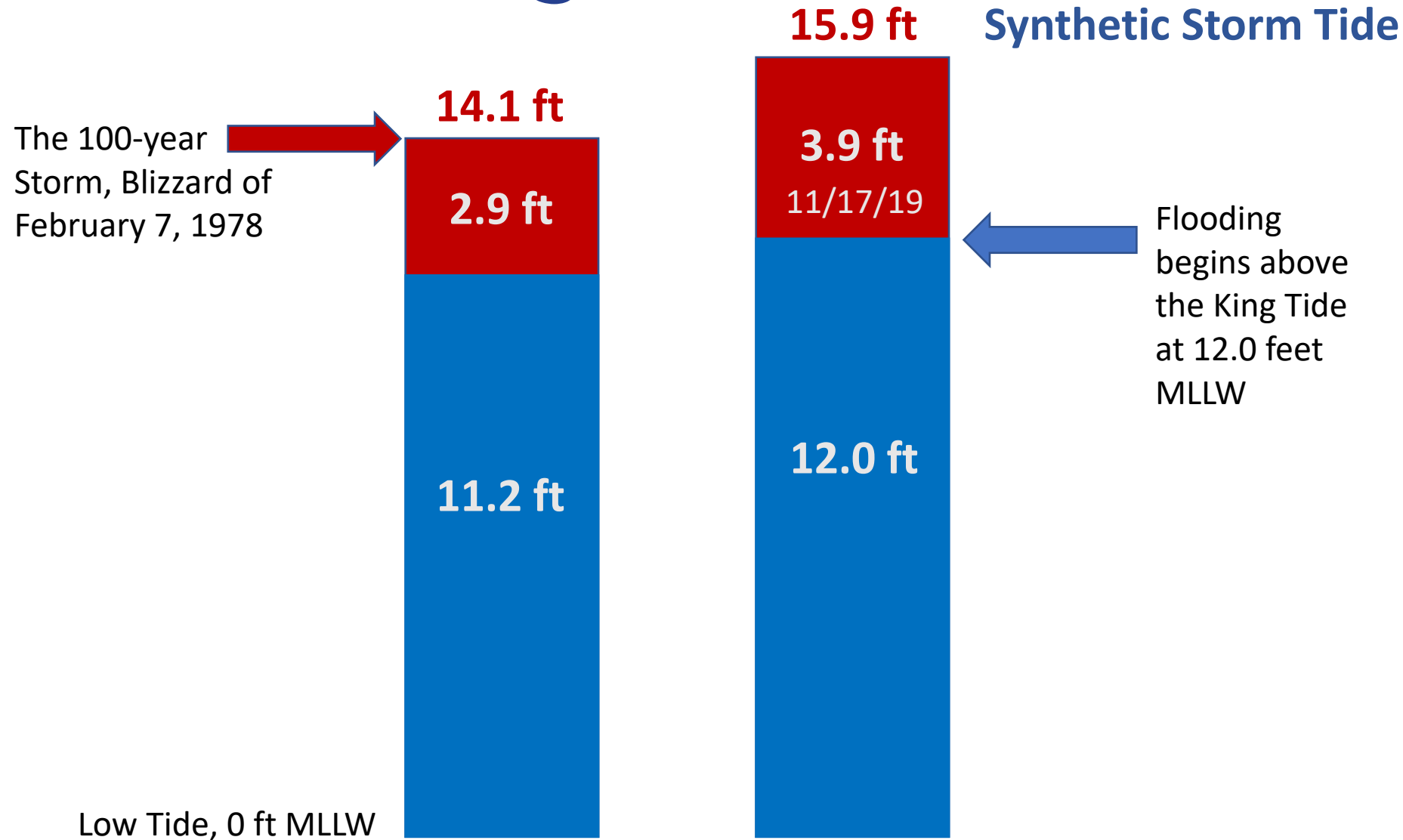




# Storm Surge



# Storm Surge





# Storm Surge

The 100-year  
Storm, Blizzard of  
February 7, 1978



**14.1 ft**

**2.9 ft**

**11.2 ft**

**15.9 ft**

**3.9 ft**

11/17/19

**12.0 ft**

**16.8 ft**

**4.8 ft**

**12.0 ft**

**Superstorm**

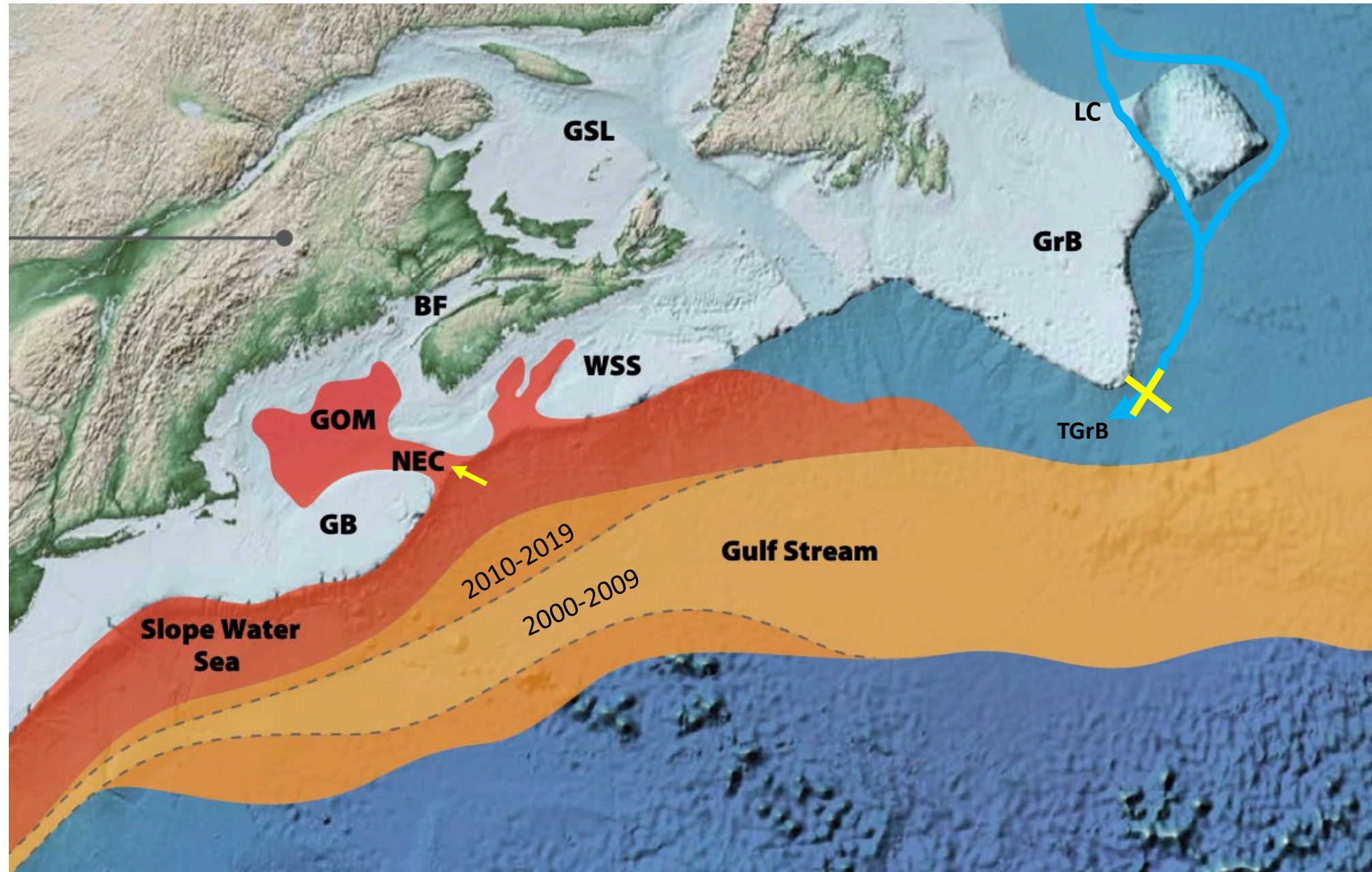


Flooding  
begins above  
the King Tide  
at 12.0 feet  
MLLW

Low Tide, 0 ft MLLW



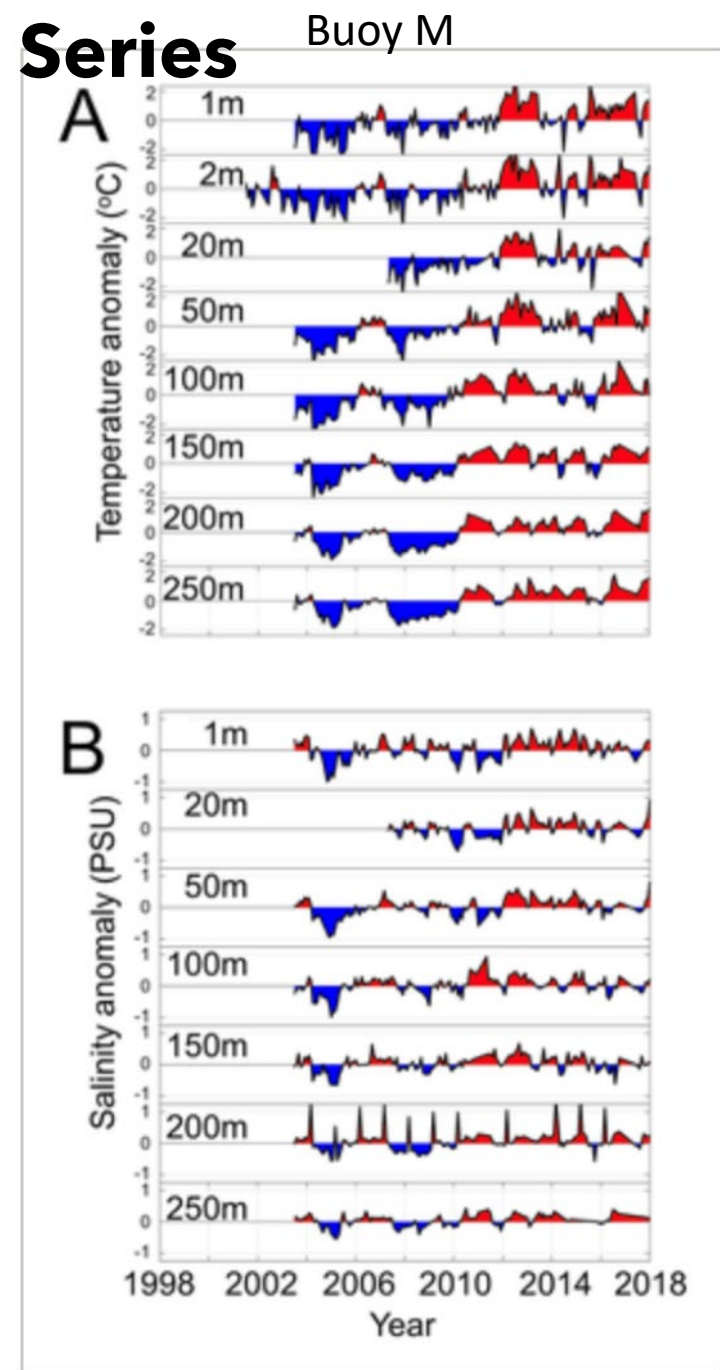
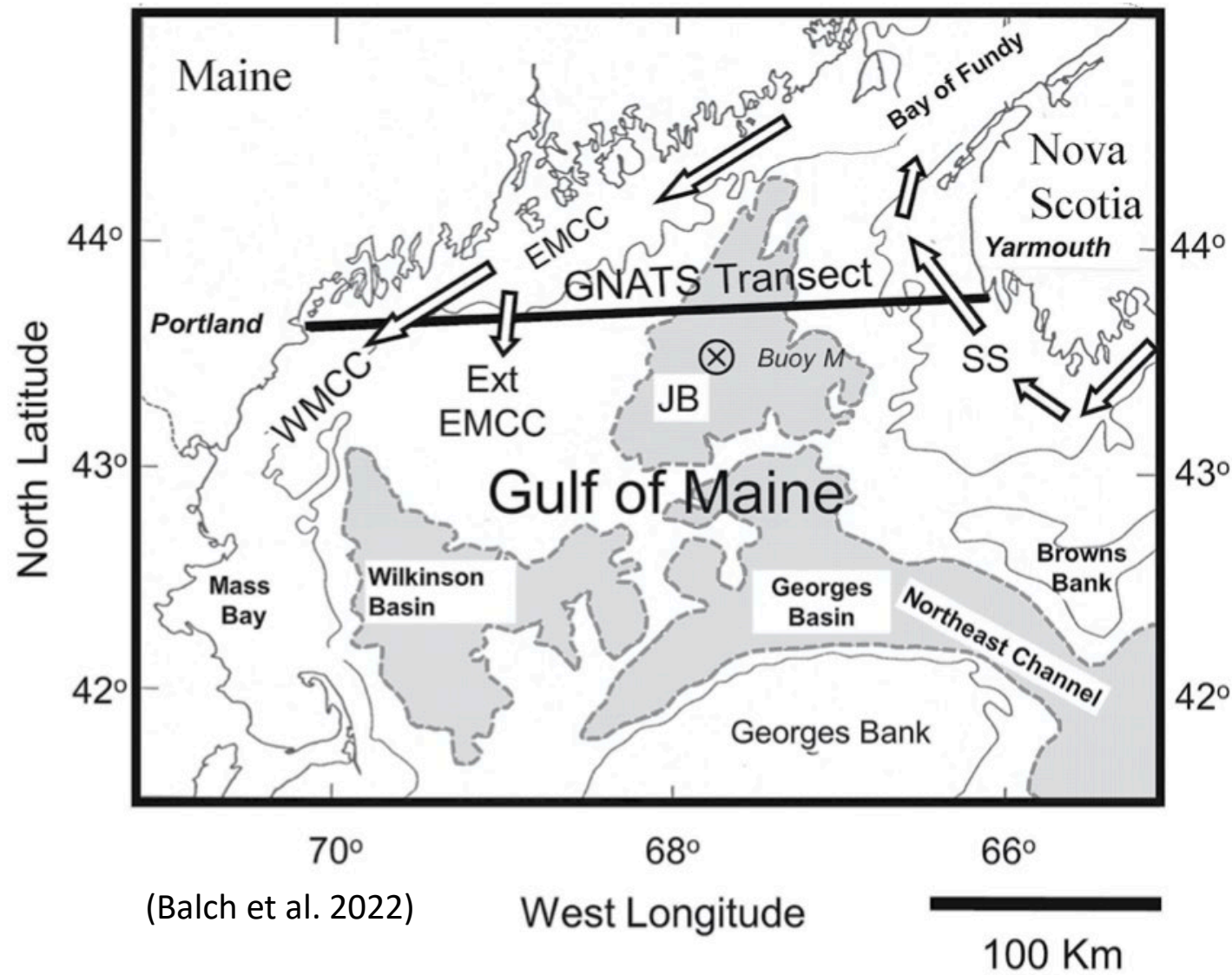
# Changes in Ocean Circulation = warmer water entering the Gulf of Maine



(figure modified from Meyer-Gutbrod et al.



# 20-yr Data Set- Gulf of Maine North Atlantic Time Series



**Also, Townsend et al. 2023- analysis of 19 years of Buoy M data**

- abrupt influxes of warm, salty, low nutrient Gulf Stream Water into the interior of the Gulf
- a new baseline of warmer temperatures and higher salinities became established after 2010
- declining phytoplankton primary production – concerning signs at the base of the marine food web

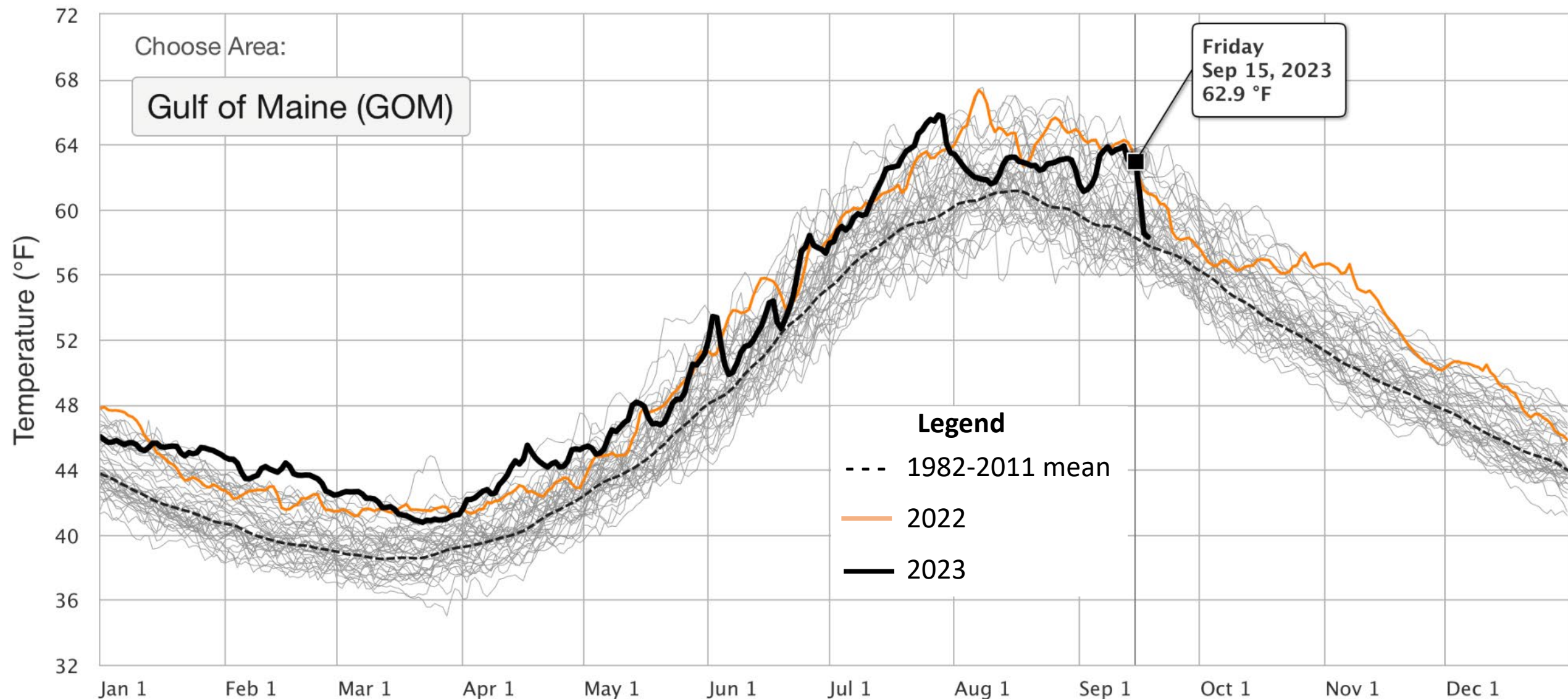
(Balch et al. 2022)

°C/°F

# SST Gulf of Maine (42–45N, 66–71W)

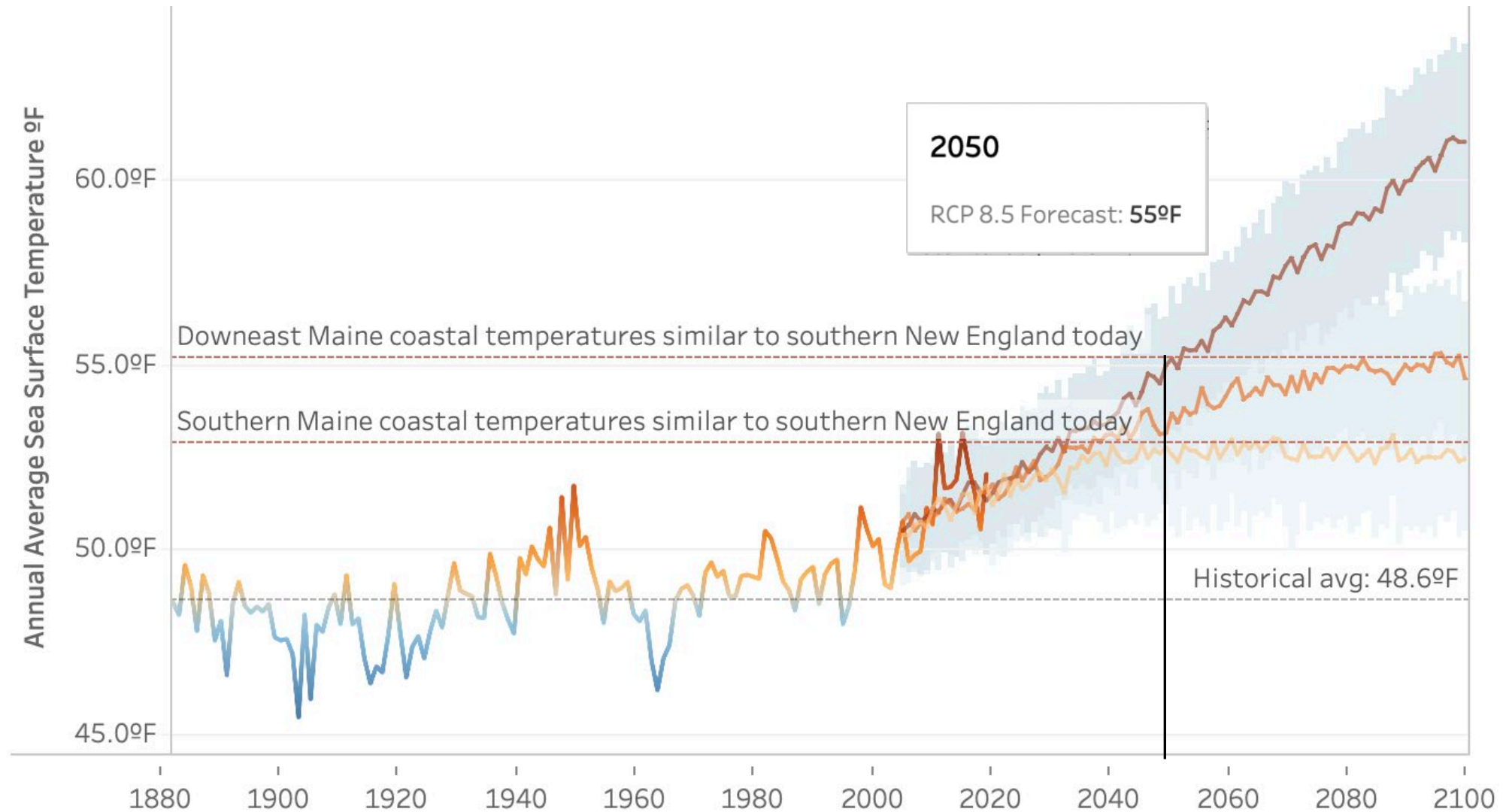
≡ Export Chart

NOAA OISST V2.1 | Maine Climate Office, Climate Change Institute, University of Maine





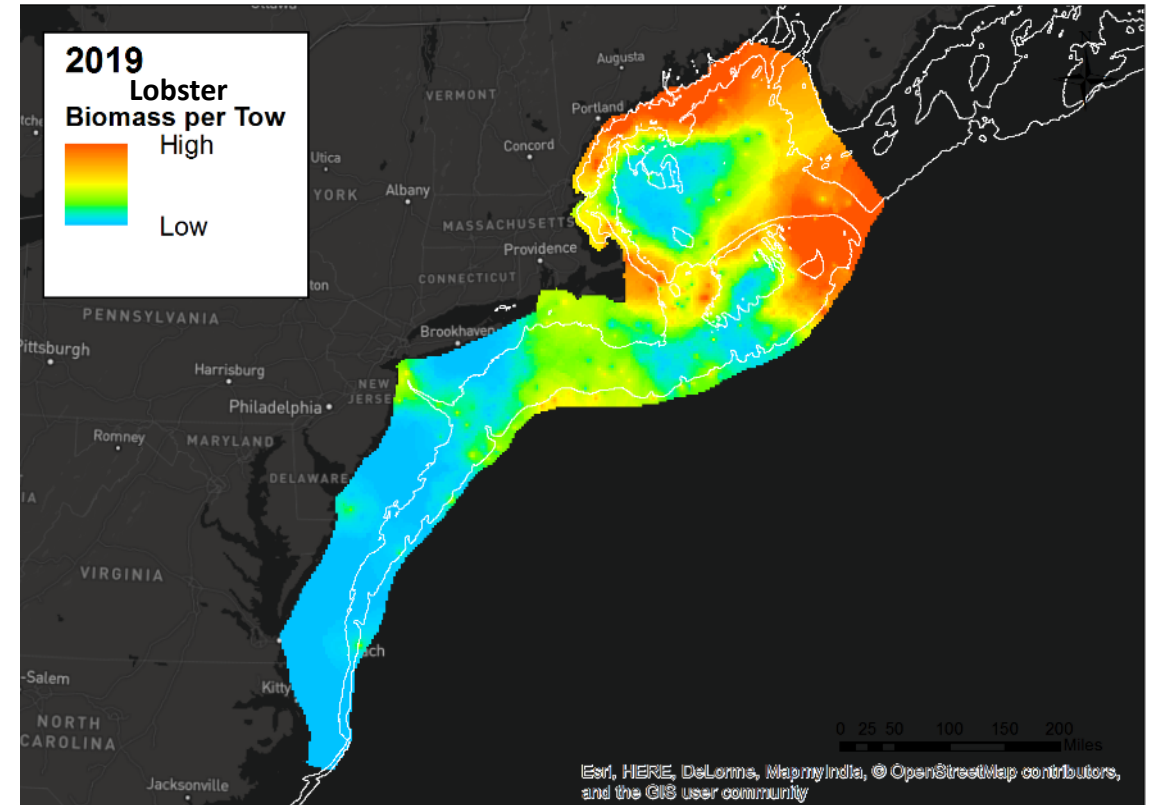
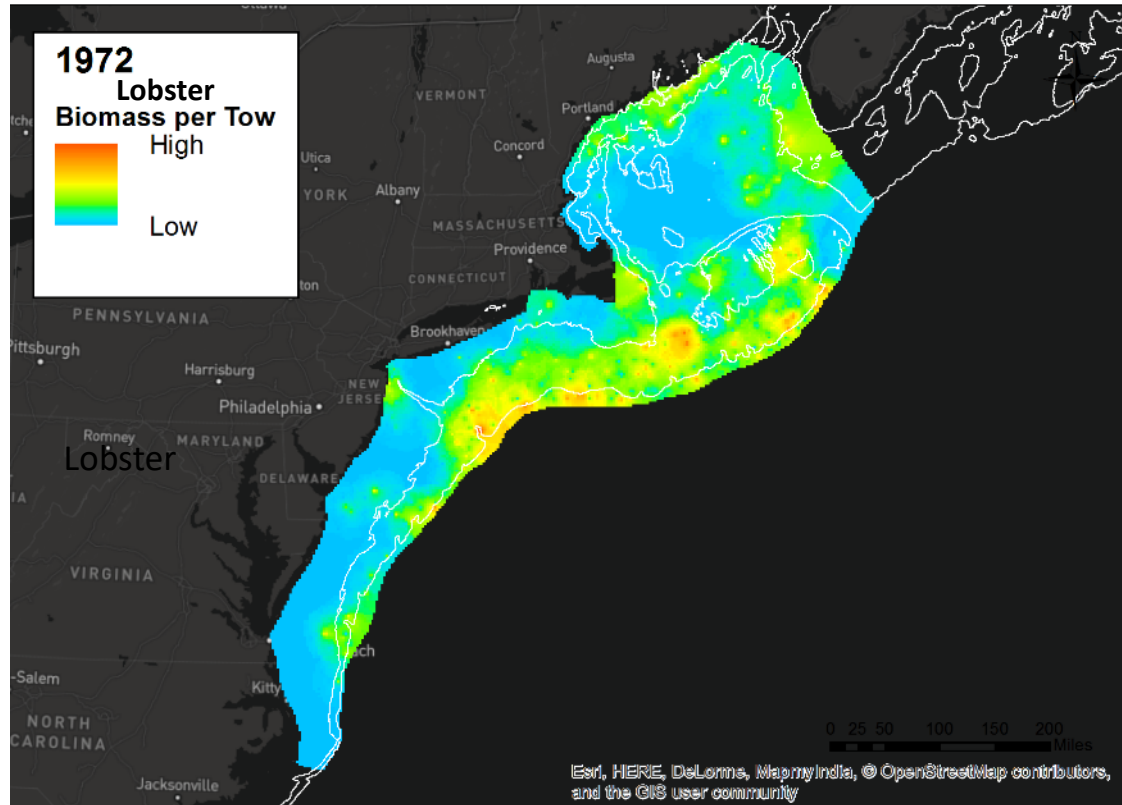
# Ocean Temperature Trend since 1880 and Future Projections



SOURCE: NOAA (sea surface temperatures); Maine State Climate Office (CMIP5 model forecasts).

Formerly at: <https://climatecouncil.maine.gov/maine-climate-science-dashboard>

# Changing Distribution and Abundance of Species



<https://oceanadapt.rutgers.edu>

PRIMARY RESEARCH ARTICLE

First published: 25 July 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.14778>

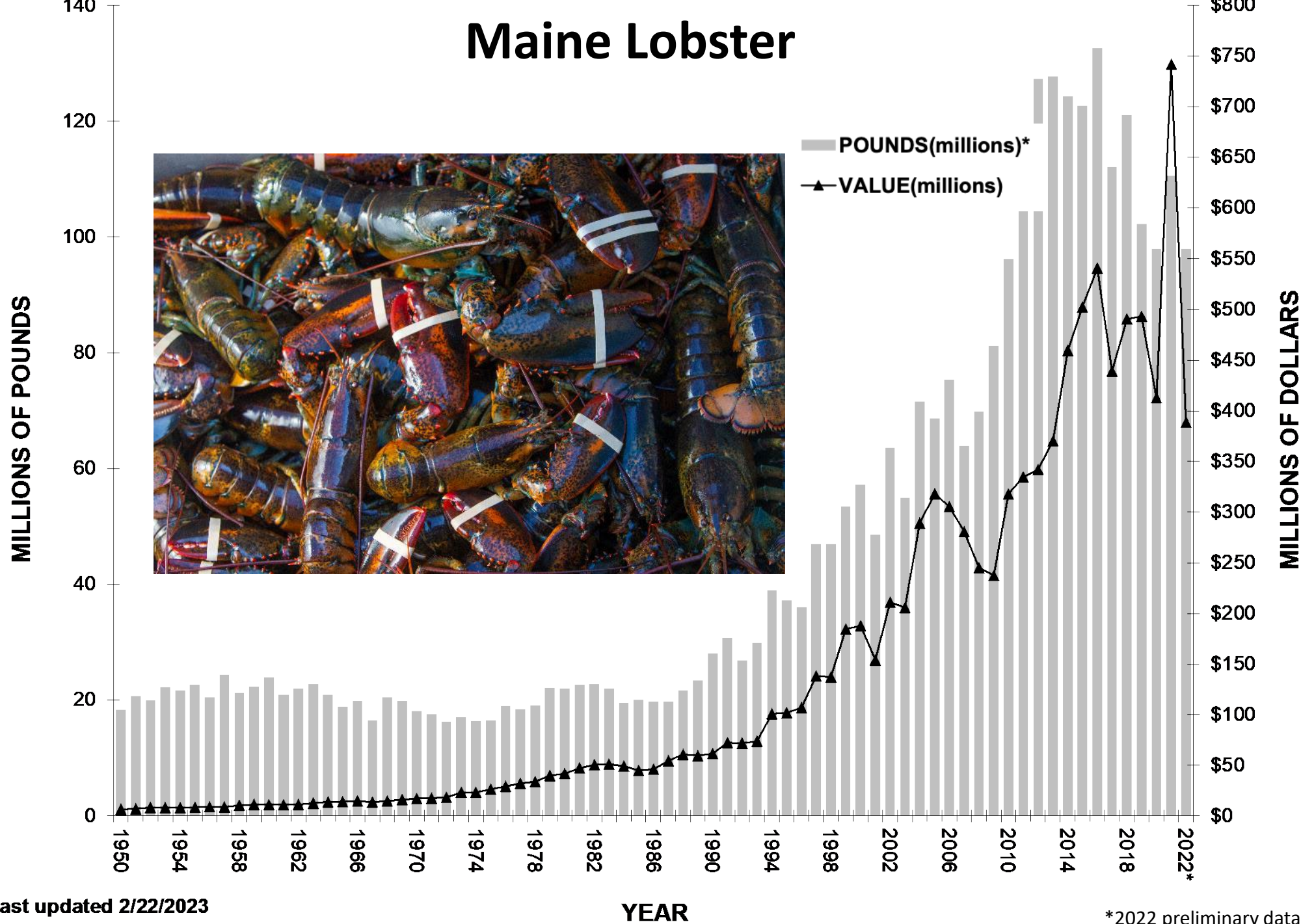
Global Change Biology WILEY

## The brighter side of climate change: How local oceanography amplified a lobster boom in the Gulf of Maine

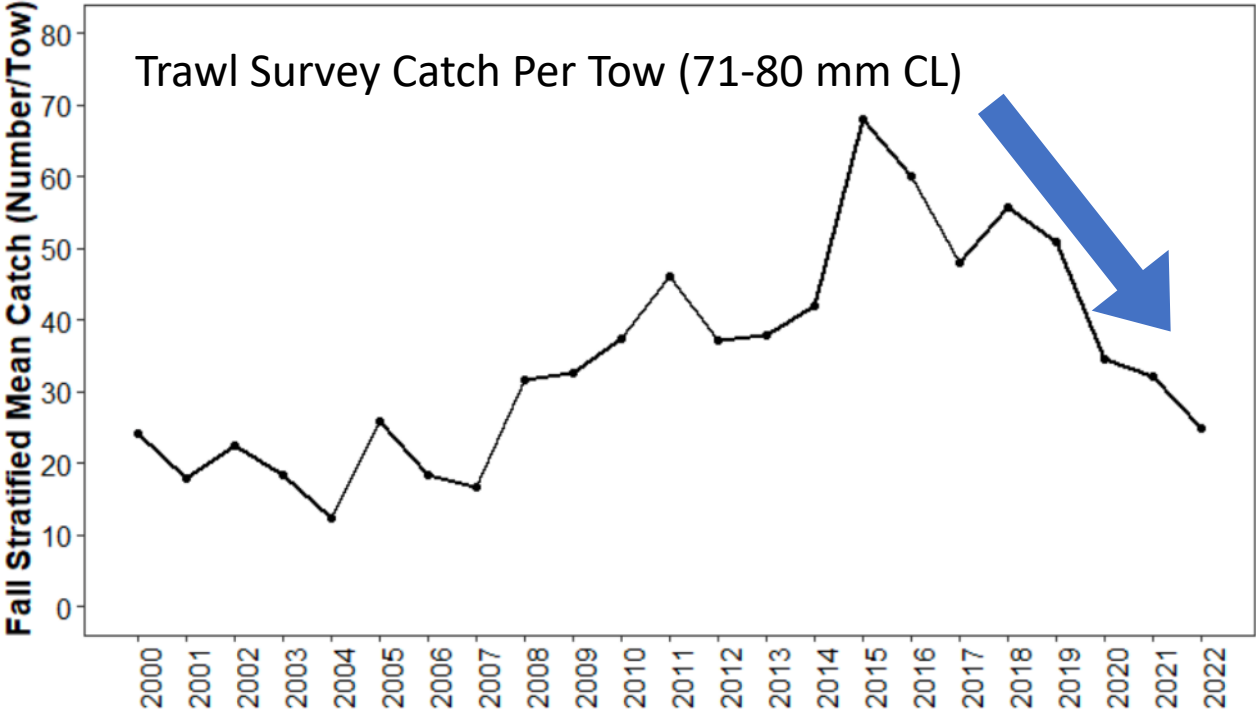
Andrew G. Goode | Damian C. Brady | Robert S. Steneck | Richard A. Wahle



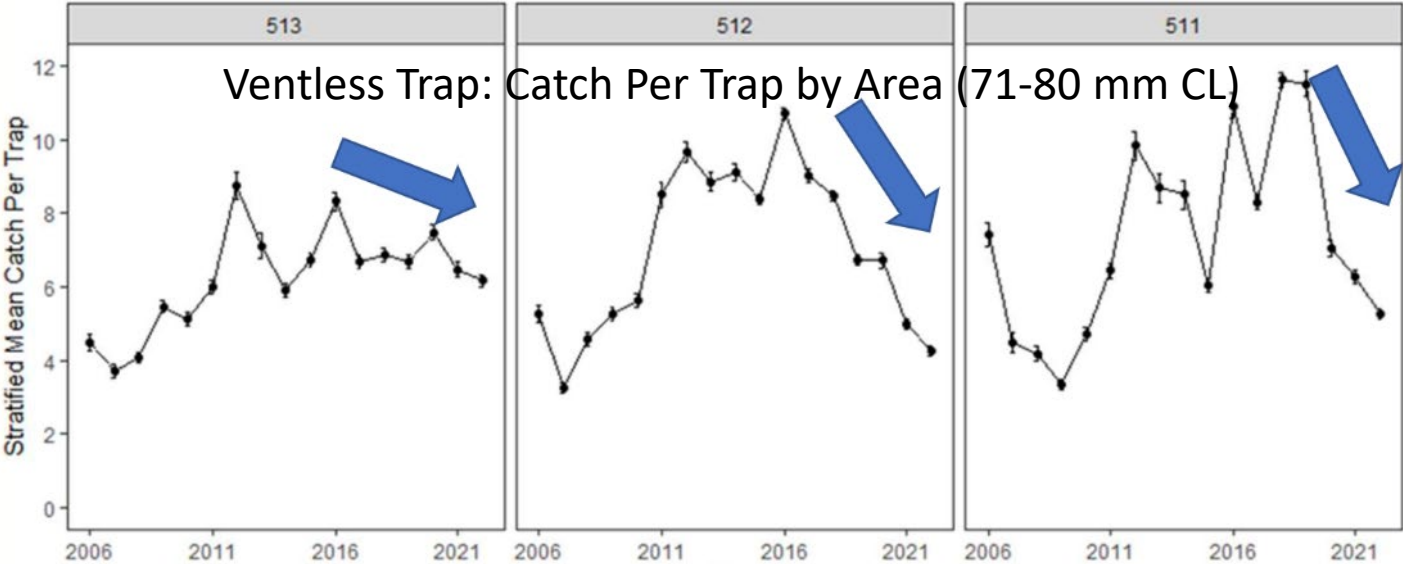
# Maine Lobster



# Sublegal Lobster Survey Results Over Time- Downward Trends

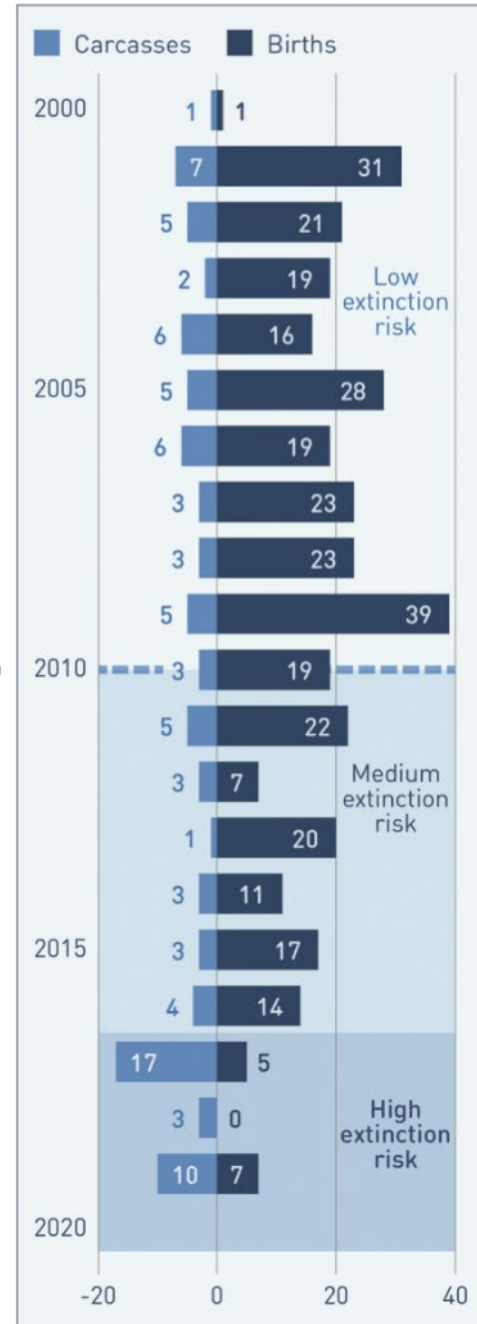
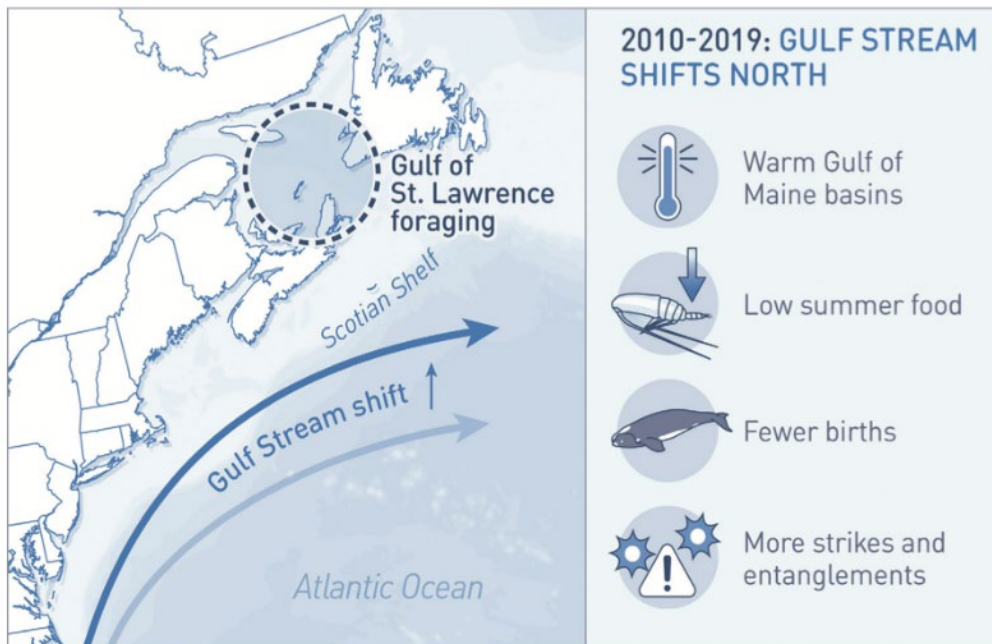
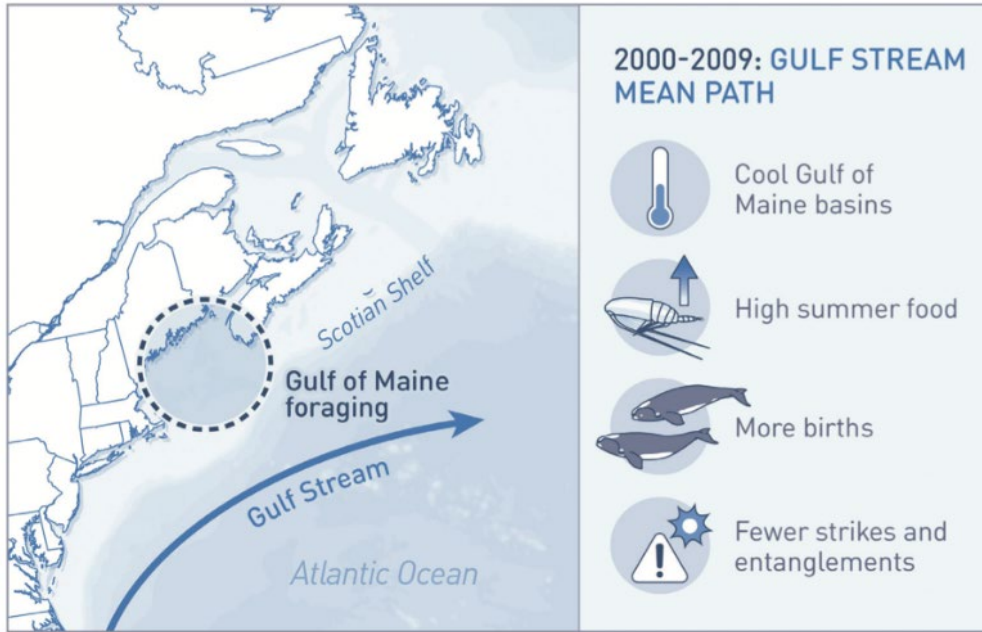


(data from Maine DMR)





# Impacts of Changing Ocean Conditions on the North Atlantic Right Whale

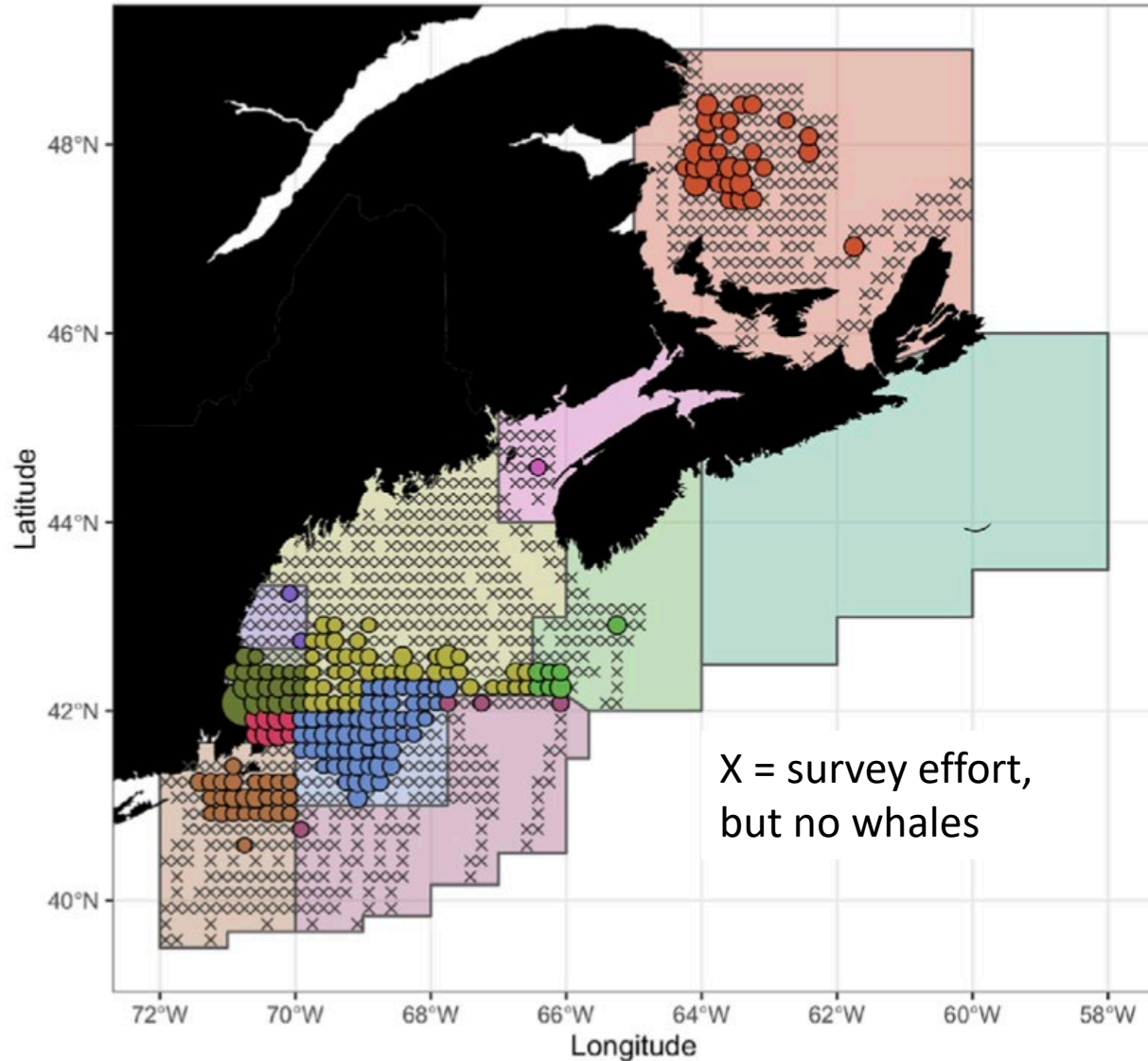


- With reduced prey, right whales began moving beyond traditional feeding grounds in the Gulf of Maine. By 2015, showing up in Gulf of St. Lawrence where there were not protections in place
- 2017 unusual mortality event
- With less food, calving rates decline

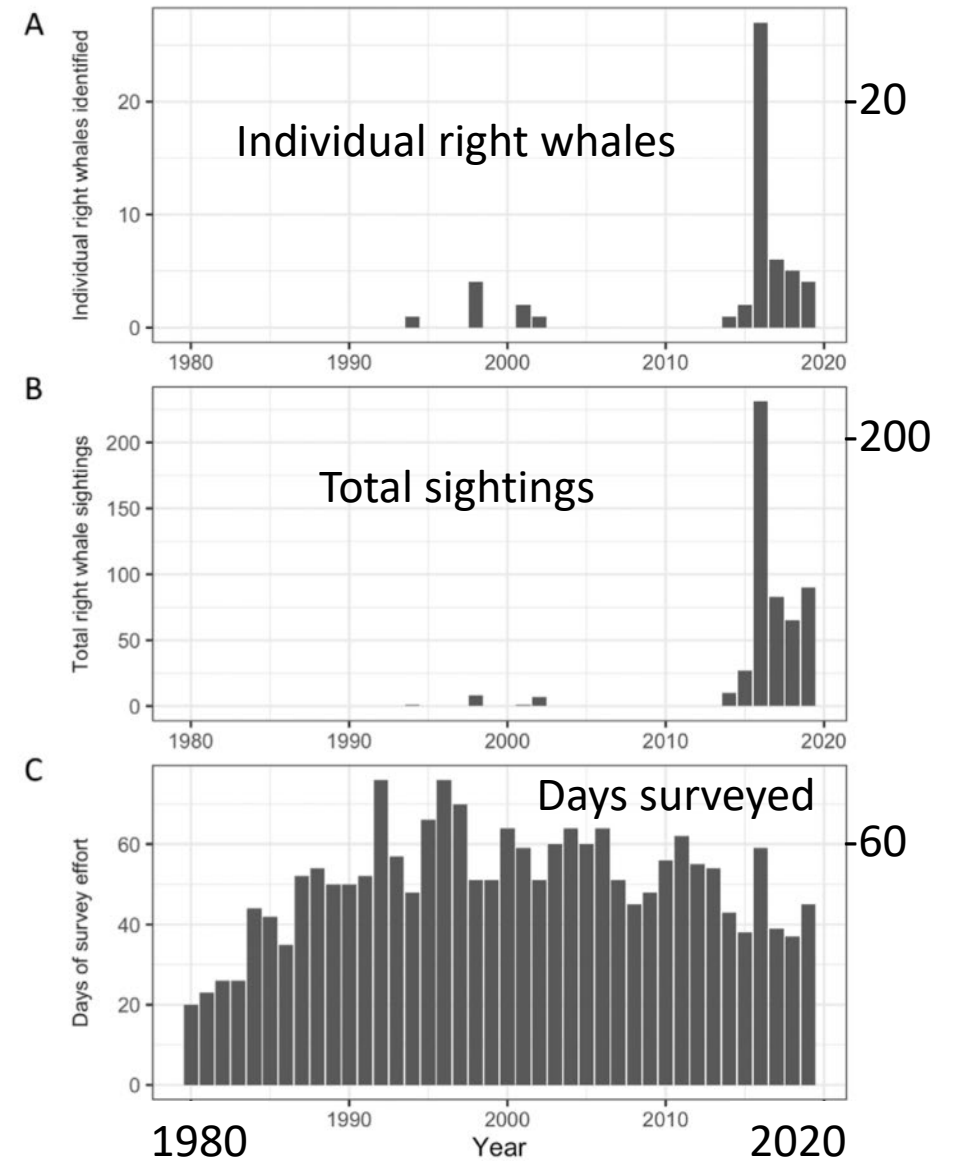
(summary from Meyer-Gutbrod et. al 2021)

# *Right whales are a cautionary tale for management of a protected species in a changing ocean*

Right whale SPUE in quarter 2 from 2010 to 2018



(Meyer-Gutbrod et al. 2022)



**Fig. 5.** Time series of Mingan Island Cetacean Study (A) individual right whale identifications, (B) total right whale sightings, and (C) survey effort from 1980 to 2019 in the Jacques Cartier Passage, Gulf of St. Lawrence.



# Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$82 Million for Endangered North Atlantic Right Whales

*September 18, 2023*

## Monitoring and Modeling: \$35.8 Million

- \$17.2 million will go toward passive acoustic monitoring along the U.S. East Coast
- \$3.5 million will go toward a satellite tagging monitoring program, in addition to \$5.6 million for high resolution satellite artificial intelligence
- \$5.2 million will be used for modeling advancements

## Vessel Strike Reduction efforts: \$20.1 Million

- \$16.7 million will be dedicated to whale detection and avoidance technology development

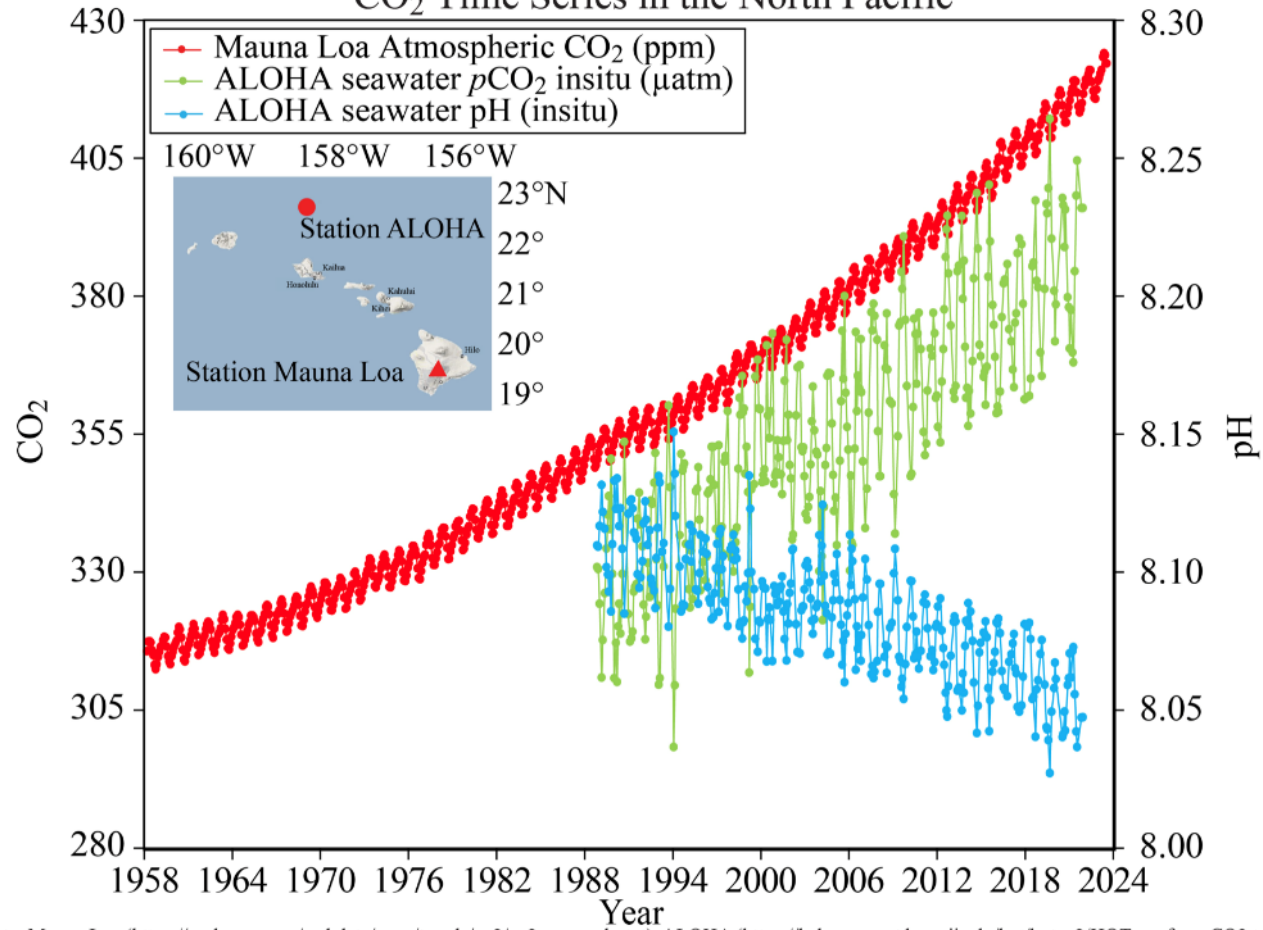
## On-Demand Fishing Gear: \$17.9 Million

- Developing interoperability standards
- Training for use of systems
- Additional support

## Enforcement Efforts: \$5 Million

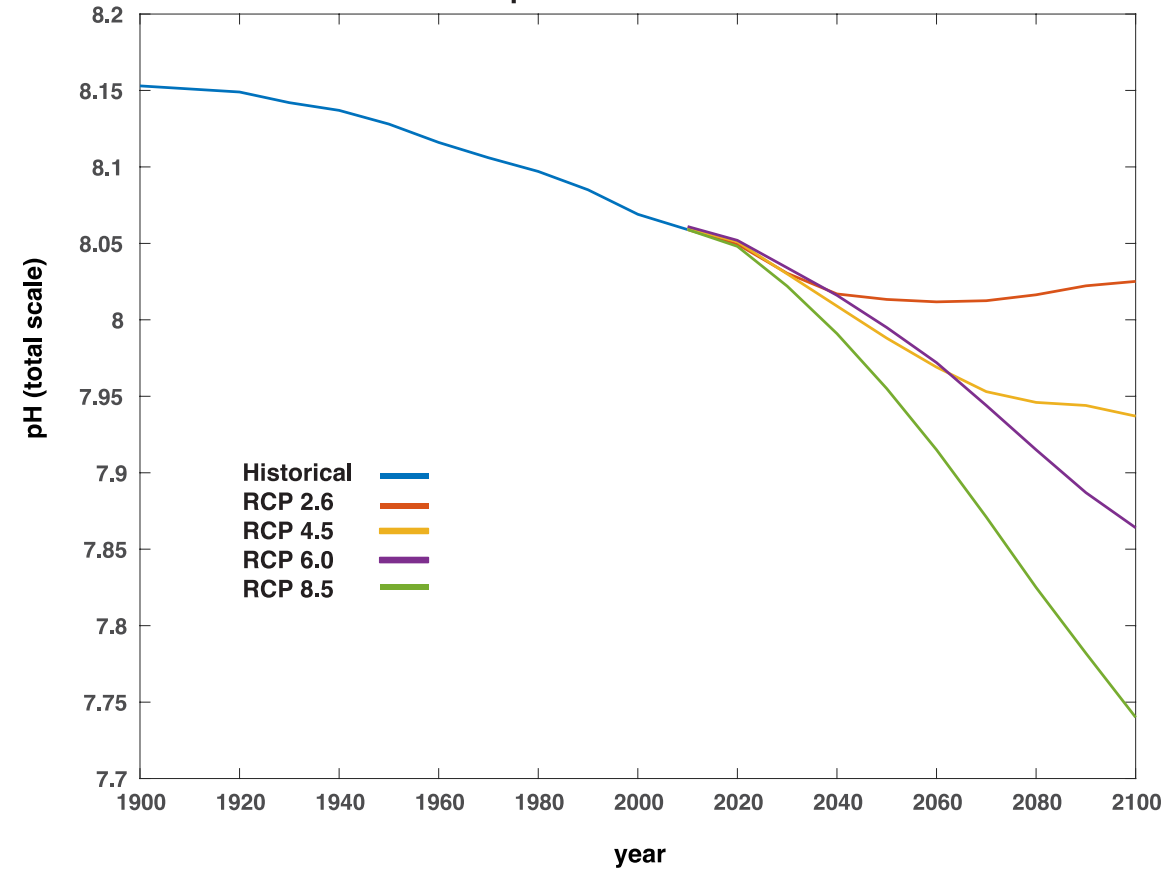
# Changes in Ocean Acidification

CO<sub>2</sub> Time Series in the North Pacific



Data: Mauna Loa ([https://gml.noaa.gov/webdata/ccgg/trends/co2/co2\\_mm\\_mlo.txt](https://gml.noaa.gov/webdata/ccgg/trends/co2/co2_mm_mlo.txt)) ALOHA ([https://hahana.soest.hawaii.edu/hot/hotco2/HOT\\_surface\\_CO2.txt](https://hahana.soest.hawaii.edu/hot/hotco2/HOT_surface_CO2.txt))  
ALOHA pH & *p*CO<sub>2</sub> are calculated at in-situ temperature from DIC & TA (measured from samples collected on Hawaii Ocean Times-series (HOT) cruises) using co2sys (Pelletier, v25b06) with constants: Lueker et al. 2000, KSO4: Dickson, Total boron: Lee et al. 2010, & KF: seacarb

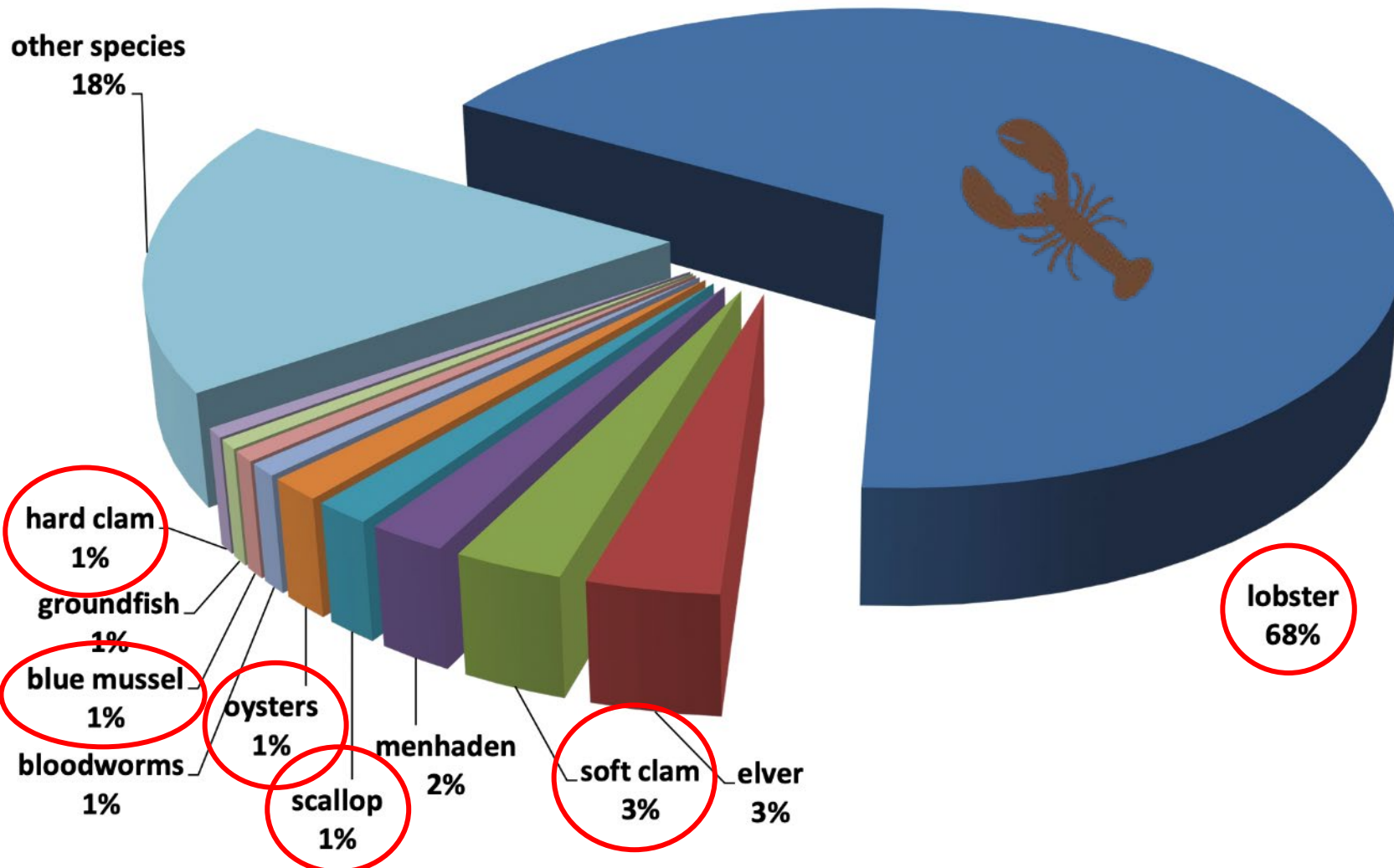
Global surface ocean pH over time with future IPCC scenarios





# Preliminary 2022 Commercial Maine Landings By Ex-vessel Value

Total: \$574,049,682 as of 2/22/2023



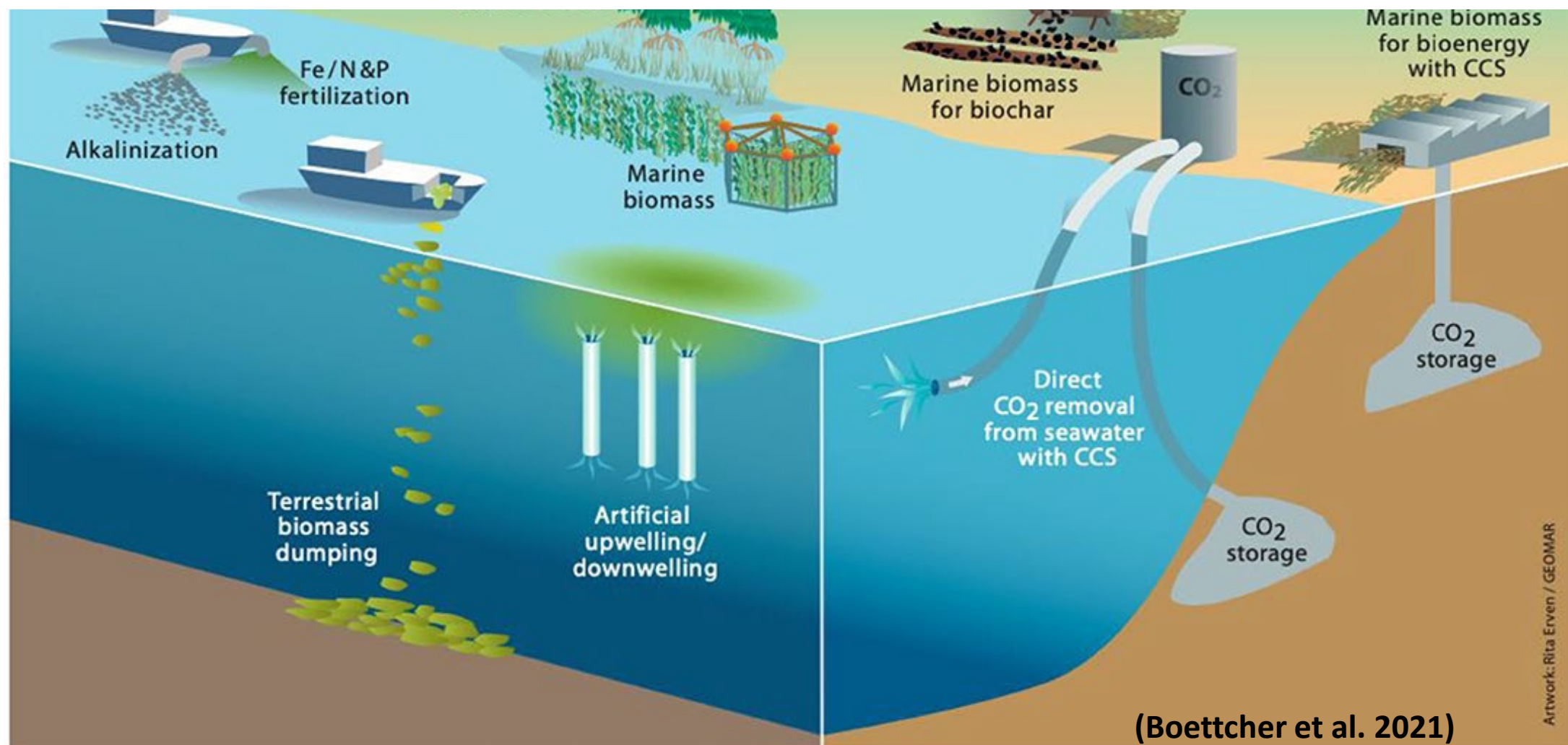
\*Other species include confidential species and other species that make up less than 1% of total catch.

- ~75% of Maine's fisheries (by landings value) are shell producing species, including lobster, clams, scallops, urchins, oysters, and mussels

## FY23 NOPP Marine Carbon Dioxide Removal Awards

Sept. 7, 2023- \$24.3M awarded for mCDR

The FY23 National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) mCDR funding opportunity supports 17 projects that advance mCDR research





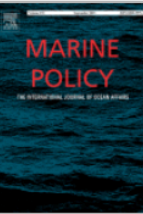
# Kelp connection: Maine studies seaweed's power to slow climate change

While Maine already measures the green carbon storage capacity of its forests, it is one of the first states to consider the potential seaweed has to store carbon when it breaks apart and falls to the ocean floor.





Marine Policy

Volume 155, September 2023, 105747



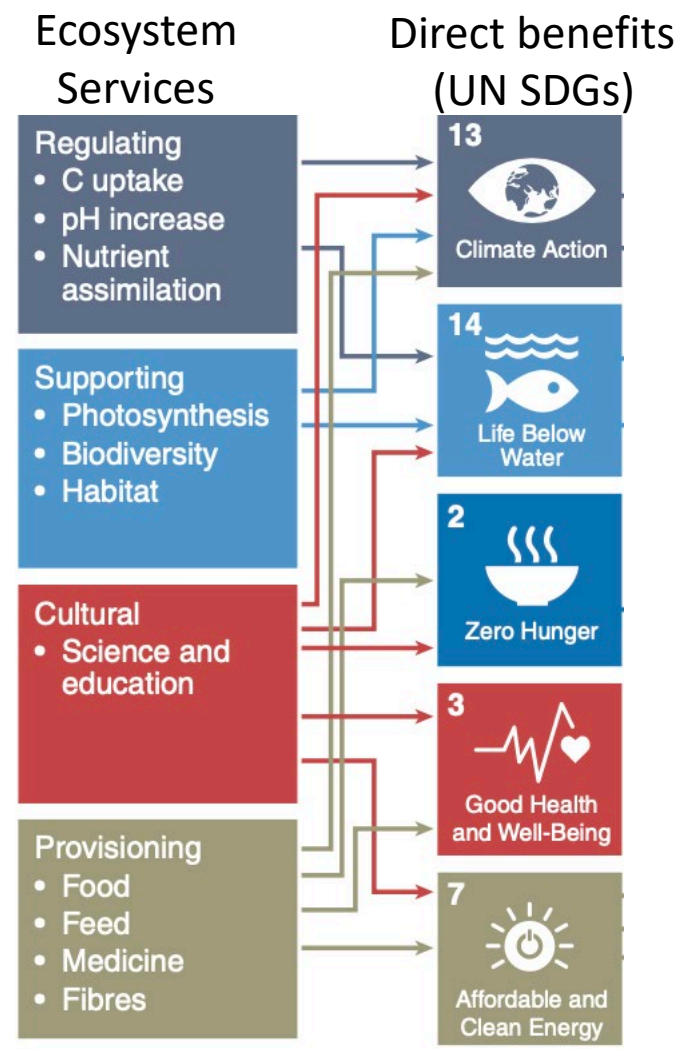
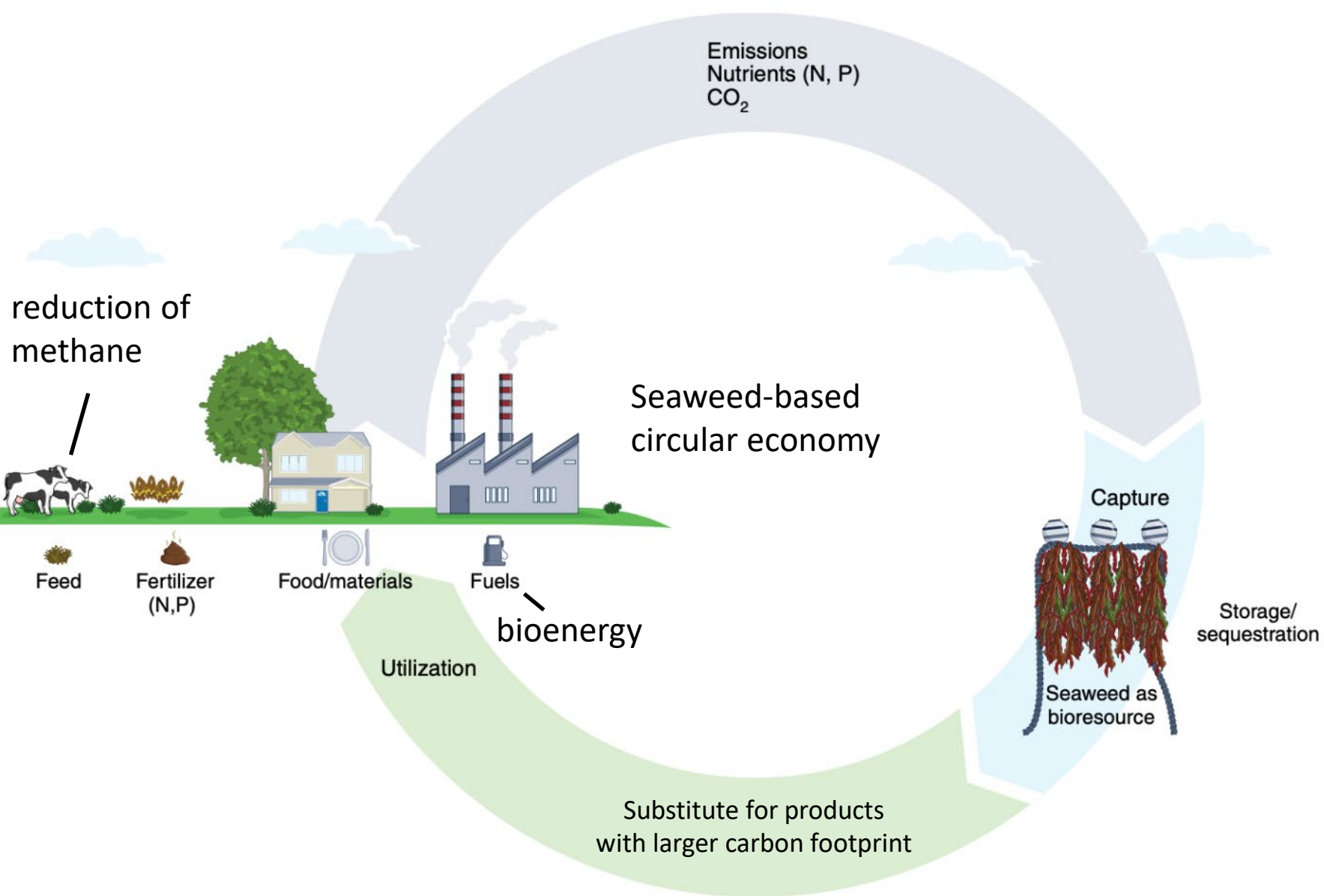
Full length article

## Seaweed blue carbon: Ready? Or Not?

Rod Fujita<sup>a</sup>  , Simona Augyte<sup>b</sup>, Jennifer Bender<sup>c</sup>, Poppy Brittingham<sup>d</sup>, Alejandro H. Buschmann<sup>e</sup>, Max Chalfin<sup>f</sup>, Jamie Collins<sup>a g</sup>, Kristen A. Davis<sup>h</sup>, John Barry Gallagher<sup>i</sup>, Rebecca Gentry<sup>j</sup>, Rebecca L. Gruby<sup>k</sup>, Kristin Kleisner<sup>l</sup>, Monica Moritsch<sup>m</sup>, Nichole Price<sup>n o</sup>, Loretta Roberson<sup>p</sup>, John Taylor<sup>q</sup>, Charles Yarish<sup>r</sup>

# Advances in Climate Services of Farmed Seaweeds

*-potential for climate action in Maine*



(Modified from Duarte et al. 2021)

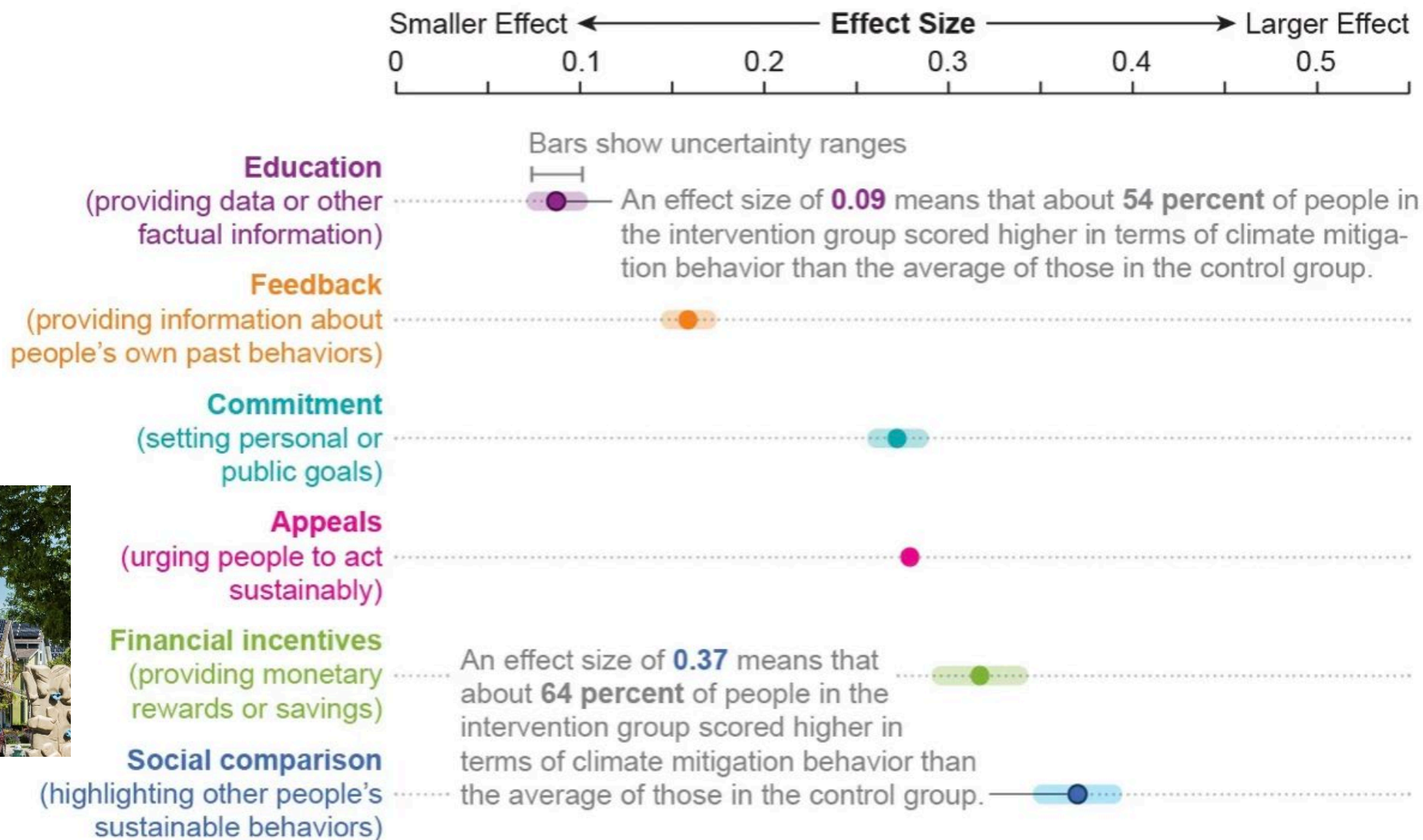


# In Conclusion

- This is not inclusive of all climate science topics STS will address in the next assessment
- Importantly- more social science perspectives



## What Types of Interventions Motivate People to Change Their Behavior?



(Credit: Amanda Montañez; Source: Bergquist et al. 2023)



Thank you!





# Questions?





# **When Climate Comes Home: The Importance of Engaging Youth About Climate Impacts In Their Communities**

**Amara Ifeji**  
**Youth Representative**  
**for the Maine Climate Council**



# Youth Representatives of Working Groups & Subcommittees

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**Amara Ifeji**, Maine Climate Council & Equity Subcommittee

**Alyssa Soucy**, Science and Technical Subcommittee

**Audrey Hufnagel**, Energy Working Group

**Ainsley Morrison**, Community Resilience Working Group

**Kaethe Rice**, Natural & Working Lands Working Group

**Jasmine Lamb**, Buildings, Infrastructure & Housing Working Group

**Deb Paredes**, Buildings, Infrastructure & Housing Working Group

**Natalie Johnson**, Coastal & Marine Working Group



# Video: When Climate Change Comes Home





***Panel:***

# **When Climate Comes Home: The Importance of Engaging Youth About Climate Impacts In Their Communities**



**Rob Taylor & Ken Baker,**  
Science Teachers & Envirothon  
Advisors

**Leah Burgess & Brenden Veilleux,**  
Spruce Mountain High School

**Dan Wilson & Owen Schwab,**  
University of Maine Orono





# Break until 10:45



# How Climate Solutions are Creating Economic and Workforce Opportunities in Maine



**Heather Johnson, Commissioner  
Department of Economic and  
Community Development  
Maine Climate Council**



# WISCASSET OLD GENERAL STORE

MORE  
PARKING  
REAR  
STORE









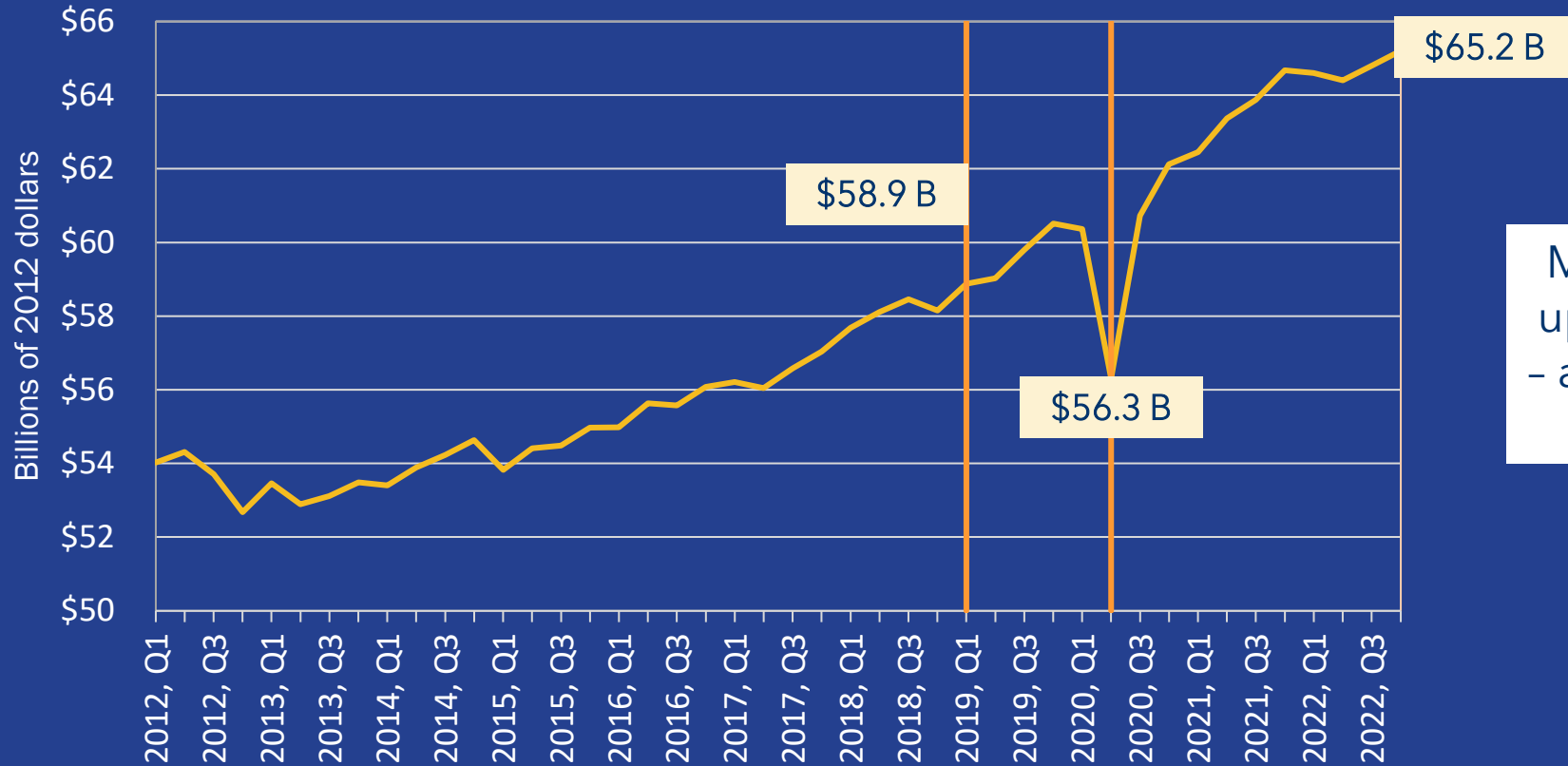








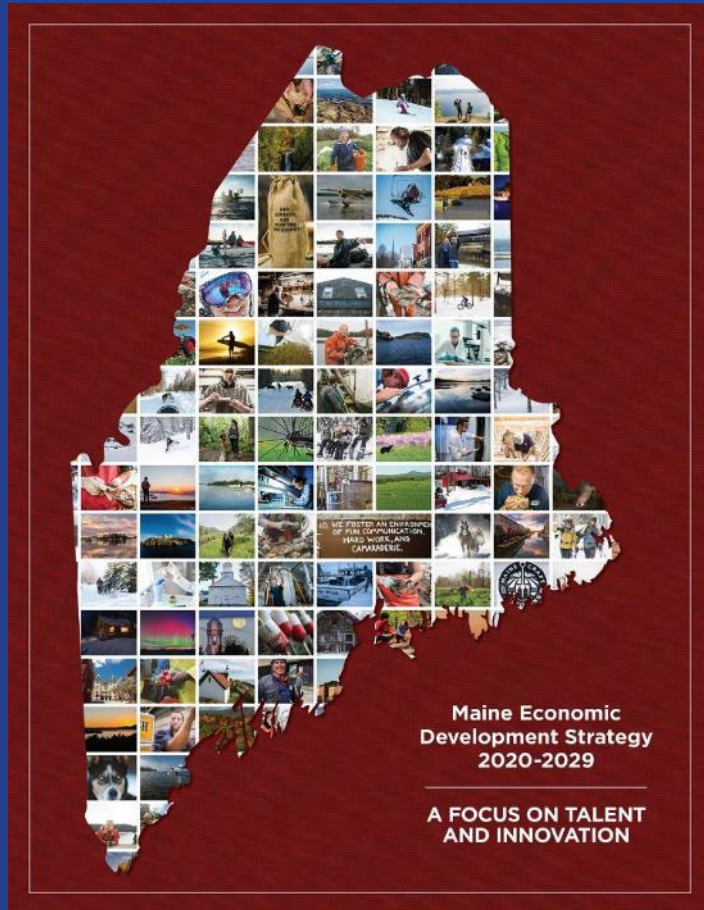
# Maine's Economic Output



Maine's real economic output is up 11% since beginning of 2019 - and up 16% from pandemic low in mid-2020



# Maine's 10-year Economic Strategy

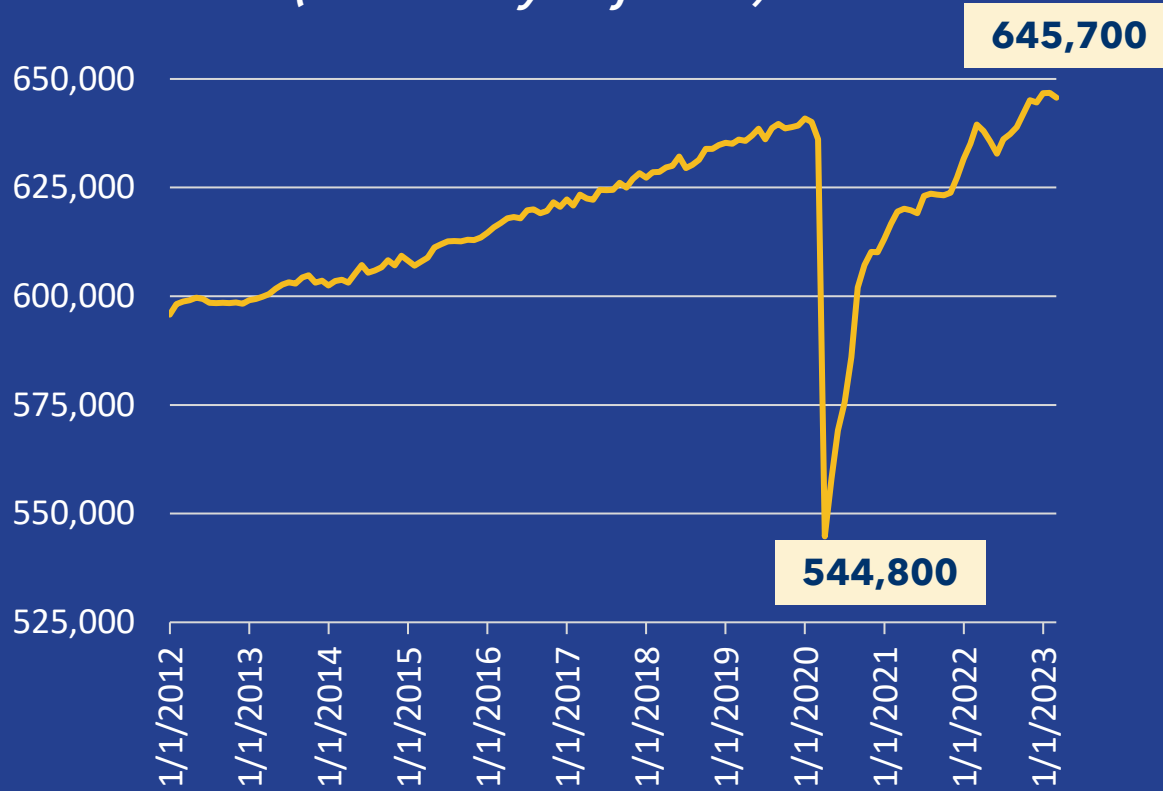


"While a changing climate offers enormous challenges for our economy, there is also **opportunity to create solutions** that will position Maine as an economic leader in innovative technologies.

**Renewable energy, energy efficiency and safe and traceable food production** will create business opportunities and good jobs in some of our heritage industries, while also supporting energy and climate goals."



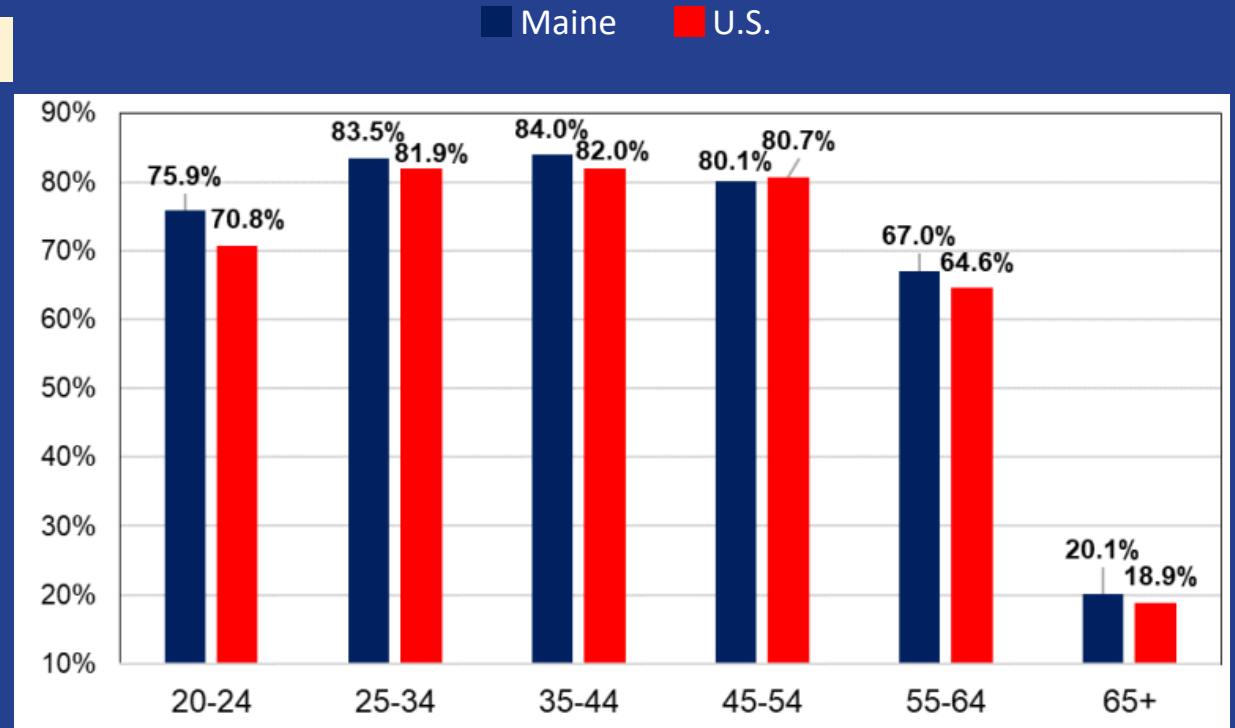
## Total Nonfarm Employment Maine (Seasonally Adjusted)



Jobs have surpassed pre-pandemic high of  
640,900 in January 2020



## Labor Force Participation by Age, 2021




Among core working age population, Maine  
outperforms US




# Maine's 10-year Economic Strategy



Grow wages by 10%

- Baseline (2019), \$45,370
- Actual (2021), \$50,644
- Difference Made  11.6%

Increase productivity by 10%

- Baseline (2017), \$88,804
- Actual (2020), \$97,759
- Difference Made  8%

Attract 75,000 to  
Maine's Talent Pool

- 2019 Projections: 65,000 labor force decline
- Net migration Actual (2022): 21,200
- Difference Made: 700,000 (Goal), 692,000 (2022 Actual)



# Maine's economic opportunities are climate opportunities

## Clean Energy

On and offshore wind power  
Tidal power  
Battery development  
Solar development

**TECHNICAL  
SERVICES**

**MAKING  
MANUFACTURING**

## Bio-based alternatives

Advanced building  
materials  
Bioplastics  
Biofuels

**MAKING  
MANUFACTURING**

**FOREST  
PRODUCTS**

## Safe, climate-responsible food

Finfish veterinary services  
Shellfish vaccines  
Testing for exports  
Sustainable aquaculture innovations

**FOOD SYSTEMS AND  
MARINE RESOURCES**

**MAKING  
MANUFACTURING**

**TECHNICAL  
SERVICES**



# Opportunities

- **Emerging industries**
- **New resources:** Federal funding, Dirigo business incentives, and other opportunities
- **Concurrent planning:** 10-year plan, Maine workforce strategy, *Maine Won't Wait*
- **Workforce**





# Thank you & questions

**Contact our Department:**

**Victoria Foley**

**[Victoria.Foley@Maine.gov](mailto:Victoria.Foley@Maine.gov)**

**207-592-1623**



***Panel:***

## **Mainers On The Frontlines of Climate Action**

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**Moderated by Ambassador Maulian Bryant,  
Maine Climate Council, Equity Subcommittee**

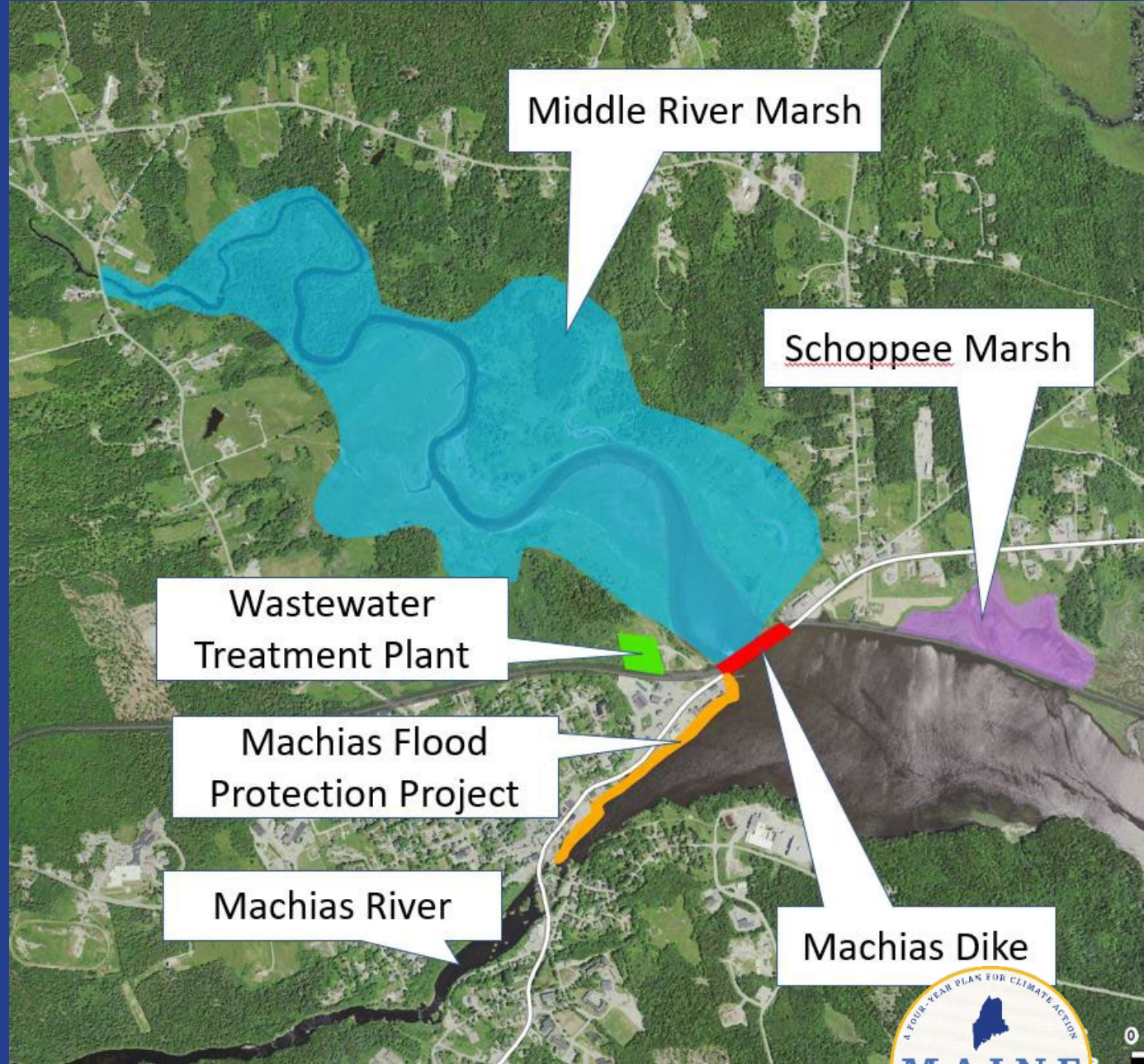
- **Bill Kitchen**, Town Manager, Machias
- **Jasmine Lamb**, Founder, Pleasant Point Resilience Citizens Committee
- **Bob Baines**, Fisherman and kelp farmer
- **Bridget Kahn**, Interim assistant director, Portland Adult Education





# Bill Kitchen

Town Manager, Machias



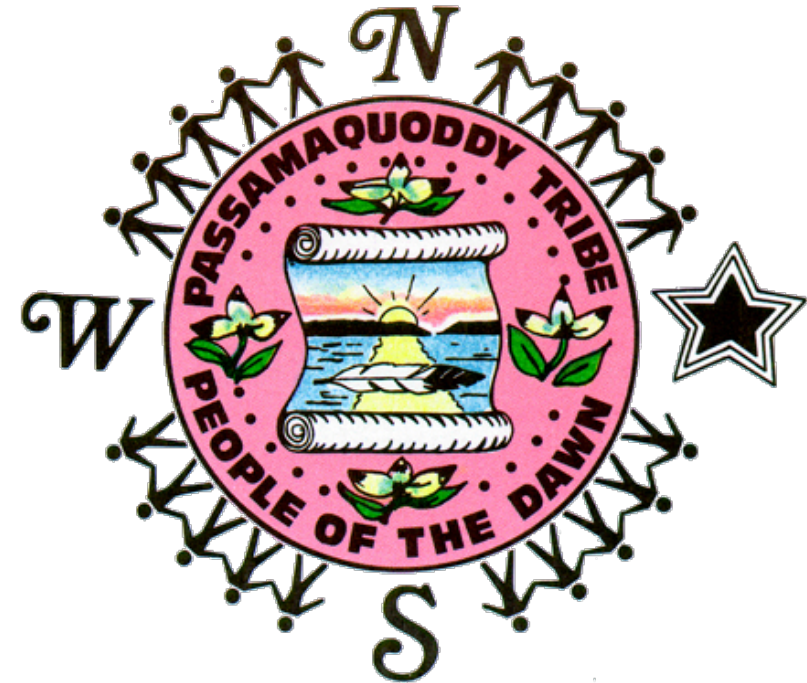


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# Jasmine Lamb

Founder, Pleasant Point Resilience  
Citizens Committee

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# Bob Baines

Fisherman and kelp farmer

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# Bridget Kahn

Interim assistant director, Portland  
Adult Education

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# Video: Communities Leading on Climate

[www.youtube.com/@MaineClimateCouncil](https://www.youtube.com/@MaineClimateCouncil)

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# Community Resilience Partnership



Community Solar project in Limestone, Maine

## Maine Won't Wait Recommendation:

Provide state leadership for robust technical assistance and funding to communities by 2024 to support local and regional climate-resilience initiatives.



# Increased Funding for Communities

**\$3 million per year** in the biennial budget for grants and technical assistance to:

- **reduce carbon emissions,**
- **transition to clean energy,** and
- **become more resilient** to climate change effects such as to extreme weather, flooding, rising sea levels, public health impacts, and more.



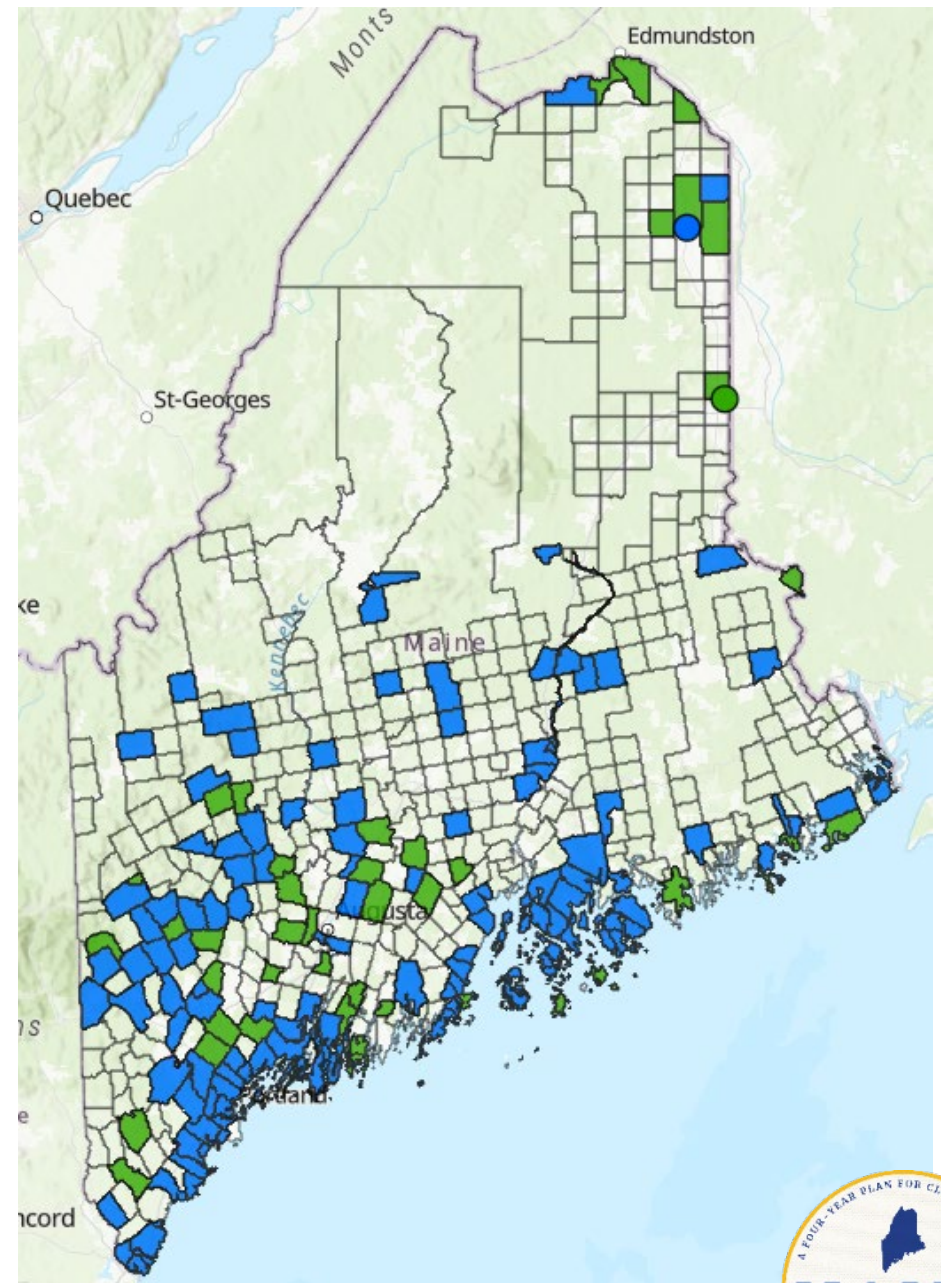
Town and state leaders in Norway, Maine



**174 participating  
communities**

**129** eligible for grants

**45** working toward enrollment



# New Grant Announcements

**53 communities** awarded **\$2.4 million** in grant funds.

Abbot*	Ellsworth*	Mariaville*	Phillips*	Standish*
Bath	Enfield* & Howland*	Mount Desert & Tremont	Phippsburg*	Stonington*
Berwick*	Eustis*	North Haven* & Vinalhaven	Portland	Sumner*
Bowdoinham	Freedom*	Northport*	Rangeley*	Topsham
Bridgton	Fryeburg*	Norway	Rockland	Vassalboro*
Camden	Garland*	Ogunquit*	Sedgwick*	Westport Island
Casco*	Gorham*	Old Orchard Beach*	Skowhegan*	Wilton*
Cranberry Isles*	Hallowell	Otisfield	South Portland	York*
Danforth*	Harpswell	Passamaquoddy Indian	South Thomaston*	
Eliot*	Hartford*	Township* & Pleasant Point	Southwest Harbor*	
	Long Island*	Penobscot Nation*		

\*Denotes first-time applicant



- **Join at anytime**
- **Self-enroll or get help from a Service Provider**

**Ashley Krulik**

Community Resilience Program Manager

[ashley.krulik@maine.gov](mailto:ashley.krulik@maine.gov) | (207) 816-2717

## 5 Steps to Enroll

1. Complete self-evaluation
2. Hold a community workshop
3. Prioritize community actions
4. Adopt municipal resolution
5. Submit completed materials





# Break for Lunch until 1PM





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# Process to Update the Climate Action Plan

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# 2024 Plan Timeline

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**DEC 1, 2020**

Maine Won't Wait Climate  
Action Plan Delivered to  
Legislature



**MAY 2023**

Governor Announces  
New and Returning  
Appointments to  
Climate Council



**SEPT 2023 - JUNE 2024**

Working Groups &  
Subcommittees Meet to Update  
Mitigation and Adaptation  
Strategies



**SEPT 2024**

Climate Council  
Meets to Consider and  
Adopt Strategies

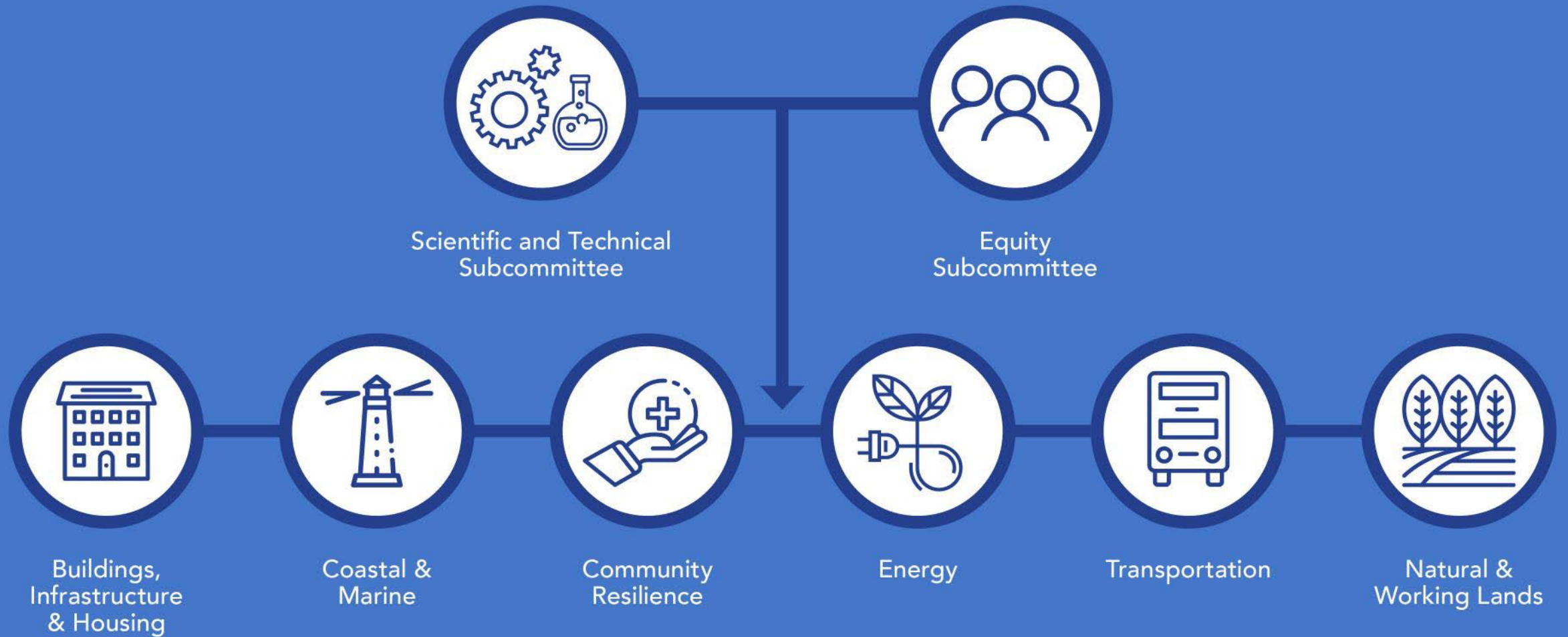


**DEC 1, 2024**

Updated Climate  
Action Plan Delivered  
to Legislature



# Maine Climate Council



# EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program

- **Planning grants: Maine will receive \$3 million for additional analysis to inform climate action planning**
  - Outreach and engagement including disadvantaged communities
  - Emissions modeling and benefits analysis
  - Workforce analysis
  - Sector specific analysis including buildings, medium heavy duty vehicles, fleet electrification, land use, waste
  - Intersections with federal funding
- **Implementation grants: \$4.75 B competitive funds**



# Maine Climate Council Meeting Poll

Which of these outreach and engagement strategies have you found most helpful?





# How the Maine Climate Council will hear from you

## 1. Working Group Meetings

- Diverse membership representing communities, organizations, and industries across Maine
- Meetings with stakeholders relevant to each working group

## 2. Engaging with members of disadvantaged communities

- GOPIF is seeking a disadvantaged community outreach and engagement coordinator through a request for proposals (RFP) – currently open on Maine.gov
- Organizations that work with priority populations can sign up to be listed as outreach partners

## 3. Helping young people participate in the climate planning process

- NEW Youth Climate Engagement Fellow

## 4. Follow the Maine Climate Council

- Subscribe to the Maine Climate Council Newsletter
- Follow us on social media

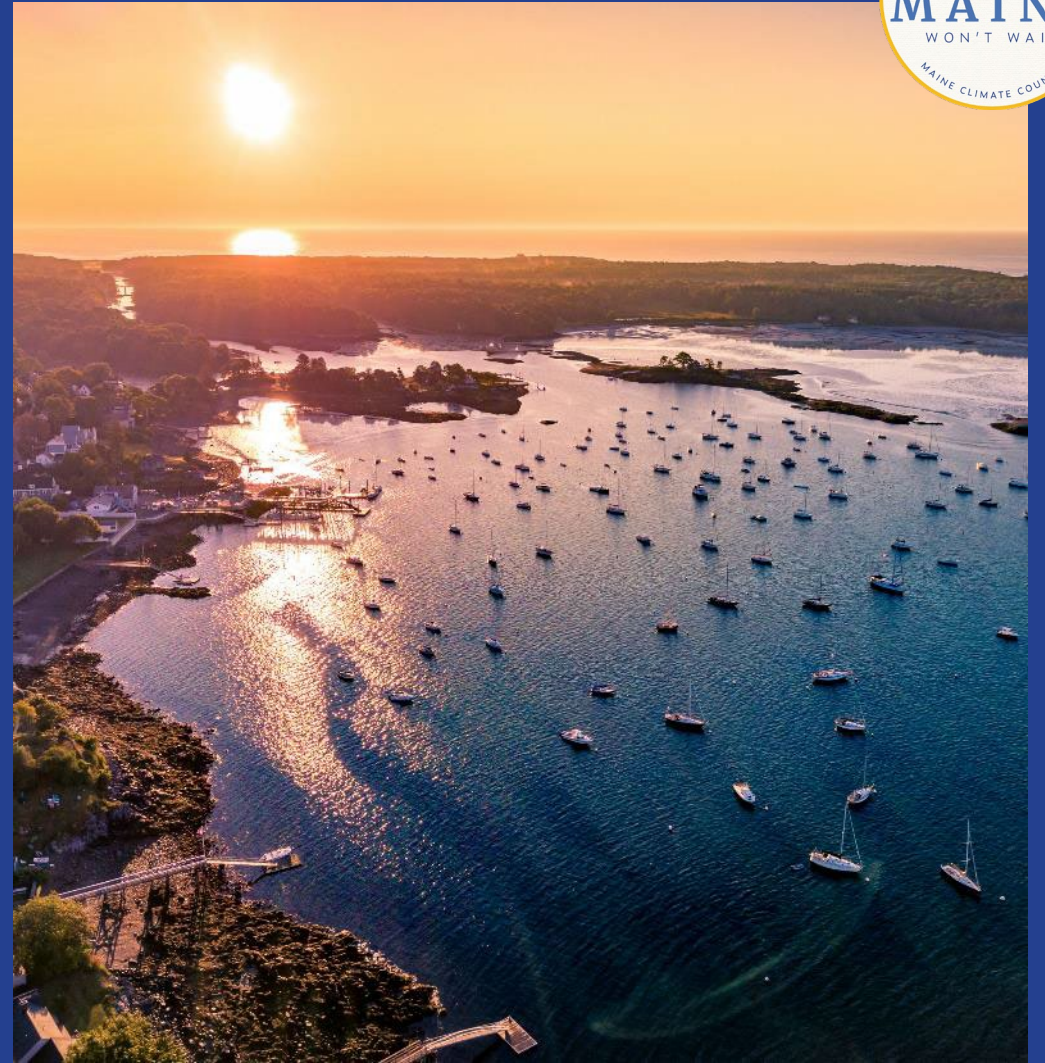
[maine.gov/future/climate/council](https://maine.gov/future/climate/council)

# Questions?



# Working Groups

## Highlights, Challenges and Opportunities





# Transportation Working Group

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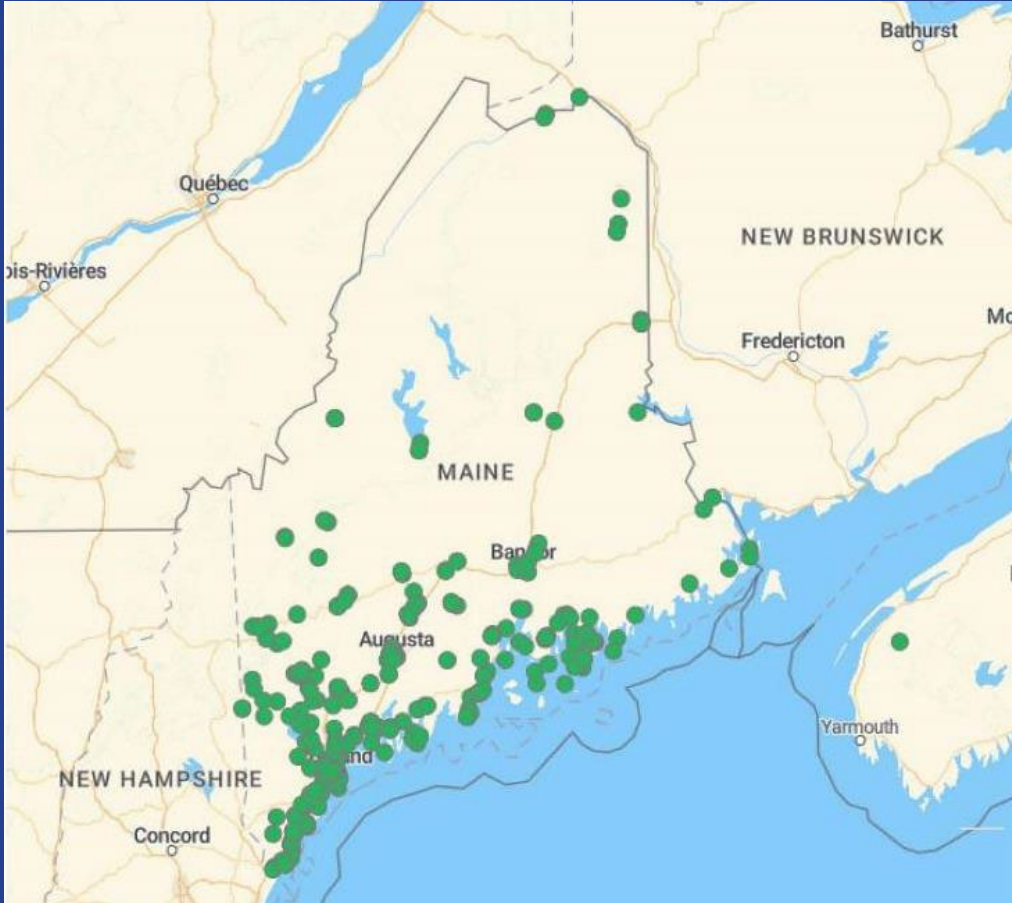
## Co-Chairs:

Joyce Taylor, Maine Department of  
Transportation & Jeff Crawford, Maine  
Department of Environmental Protection

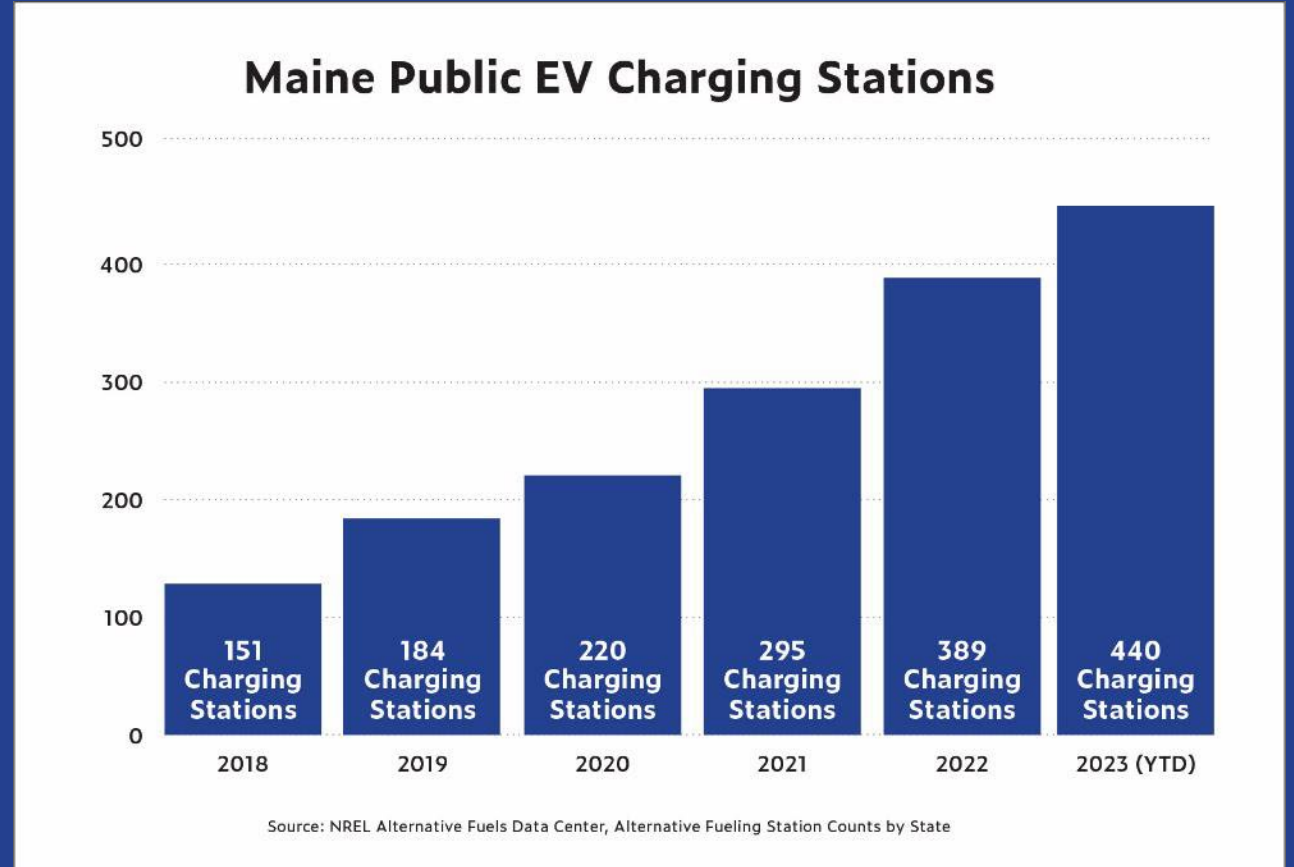
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# Accelerating EV Charging Deployment



Existing Level 2 and DC Fast Chargers, September 2023 (Alternative Fuels Data Center)





# Accelerating EV Charging Deployment

## 2023 EV Charging Plan

- Submitted Plan to Federal Highway Administration outlining the implementation of National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) funds

## Recharge Maine

- The state's initiative to create a convenient, reliable, and accessible EV charging network
- Identifies state-funded chargers, held to strict performance standards, including 97% uptime

## Recent Awards

- 7 new DC fast charging (DCFC) sites funded by NEVI (Bangor, Augusta, Route 1 Downeast)
- 5 new DCFC sites funded by MJRP (northern and eastern Maine)

## Available funding sources:

Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan (MJRP):	\$8M
National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure: (NEVI) program	\$18M
Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) grant program:	Applied for \$15M





# Readying the workforce to repair and service EVs

Southern Maine Community College and Washington County Community College launch EV repair certification courses

EV technician training at Kennebec Valley Community College funded through Clean Energy Partnership at Governor's Energy Office (GEO)

GEO applied for grant to support EV charging and EV workforce development through Department of Energy Ride & Drive Electric program



# Medium and Heavy-Duty Electrification

## Transit Buses

### Fleet transition planning

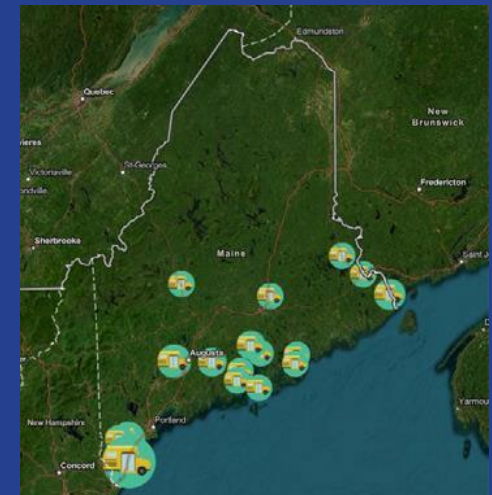
- Best practice summary for transit vehicle electrification
- Individual fleet analyses and plan development for transitioning transit agencies to electric and/or hybrid vehicles (8 plans complete and 4 ongoing)

Maine's transit agencies have 4 electric buses in service and 2 more ordered

Community Connector in the Bangor area awarded funding to upgrade their facility to accommodate future electric bus charging

## School Buses

Maine schools were awarded 34 electric buses through EPA's Clean School Bus Program (*#4 in the country per capita for awards*)



Mount Desert Island High School electric school bus, Maine's first!



# Reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

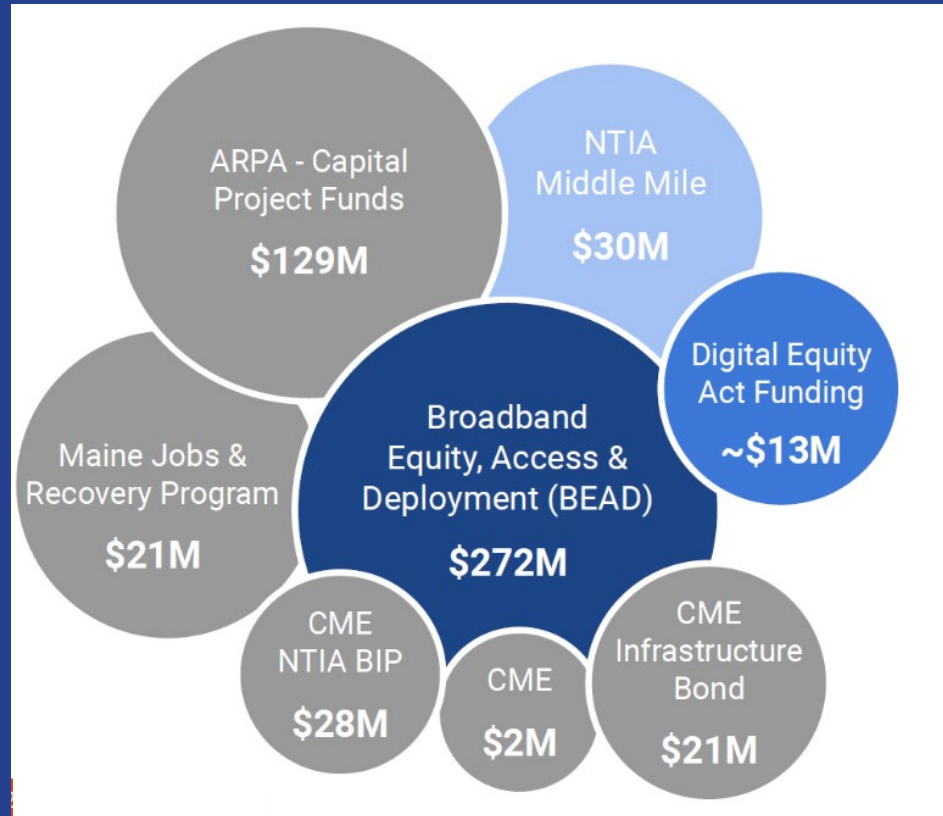
- Statewide Active Transportation Plan
- Promoting active transportation through updates to MaineDOT programs
  - Department reassessing speed limit setting; Village program
  - Gateway treatments; Complete Streets update in spring 2024 to encourage safe and accessible streets and highways
  - E-bike pilots
    - Bikeshare program in Portland; 15 e-bikes for demonstrations at public or corporate events; other initiatives with state agencies around workforce transportation
- **Diversifying commuting options**
  - GOMaine relaunch (eliminated 2M vehicle miles since 2022)
  - Workforce transportation pilots – working with employers to identify innovative options
- **Land Use Planning - encouraging housing density,** especially in community "growth areas" and for affordable housing through the passage and implementation of LD 2003 which includes requirements to allow increases in housing density and creates a new **Housing Opportunity Program and Fund** to support community planning for smarter growth





# Reducing VMT through historic investments in broadband infrastructure

Maine Connectivity Authority: expanding access to reliable, high-speed and affordable internet service statewide

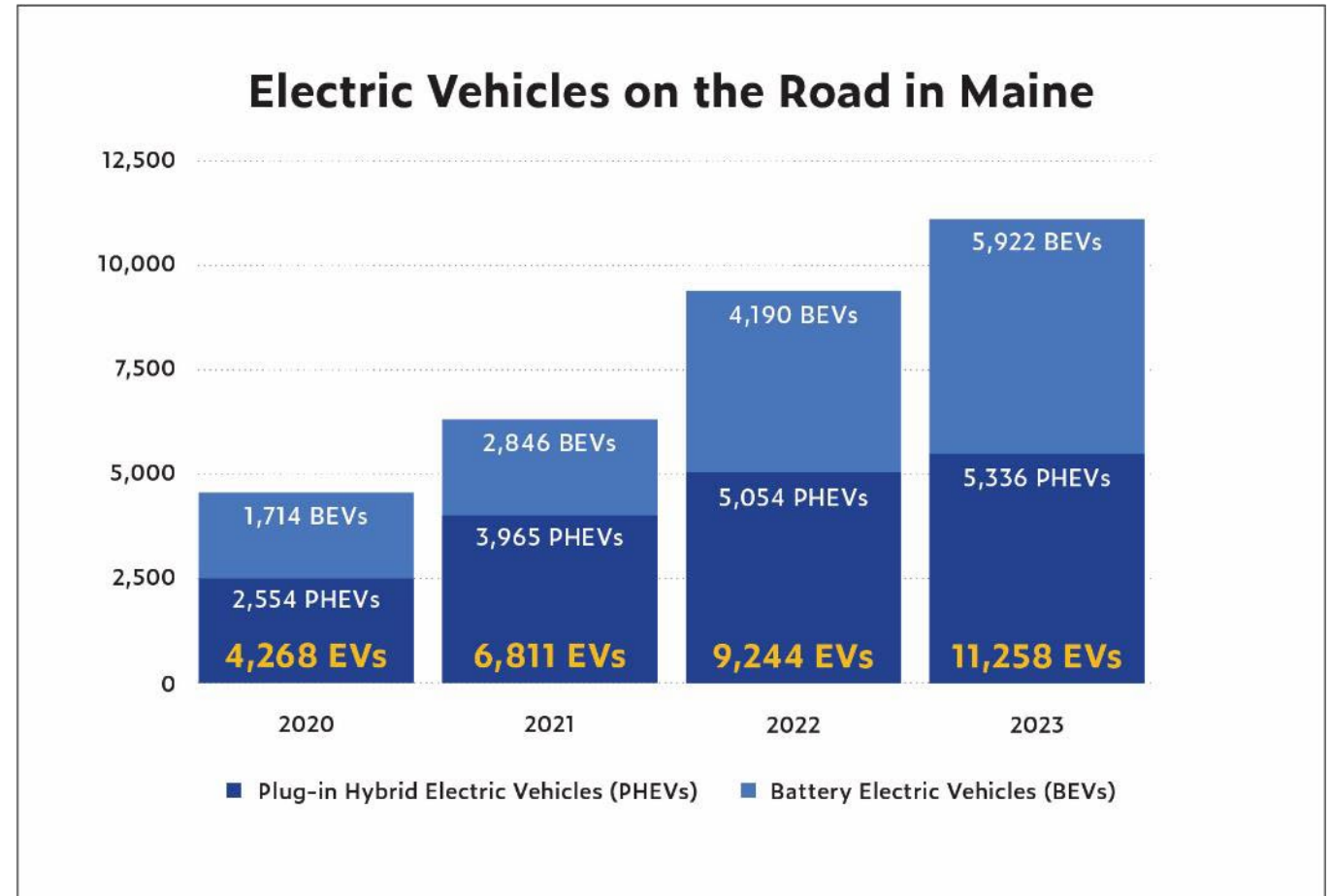


\$315 M awarded to Maine through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, building on nearly \$200M from other federal and state funding sources to deploy high-speed broadband across Maine.

- High-speed, affordable broadband supports telecommuting, remote education, telehealth, and access to online services to reduce travel
- Also supports connected energy systems and devices to increase technology opportunities in rural areas and efficiency

# Challenges and Opportunities

1. Continue to support EV adoption, including increasing support for adoption for low- and moderate-income Mainers
2. Encourage electrification of medium and heavy-duty vehicles
3. Continue to support policies that reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
4. Investigate marine and aviation alternative fuel opportunities



# Maine Climate Council Meeting Poll

What should the Transportation  
Working Group absolutely not  
forget as it starts the update  
process?



# Building, Infrastructure, and Housing Working Group

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## Co-Chairs:

Kathleen Meil, Maine Conservation Voters  
& Michael Stoddard, Efficiency Maine Trust

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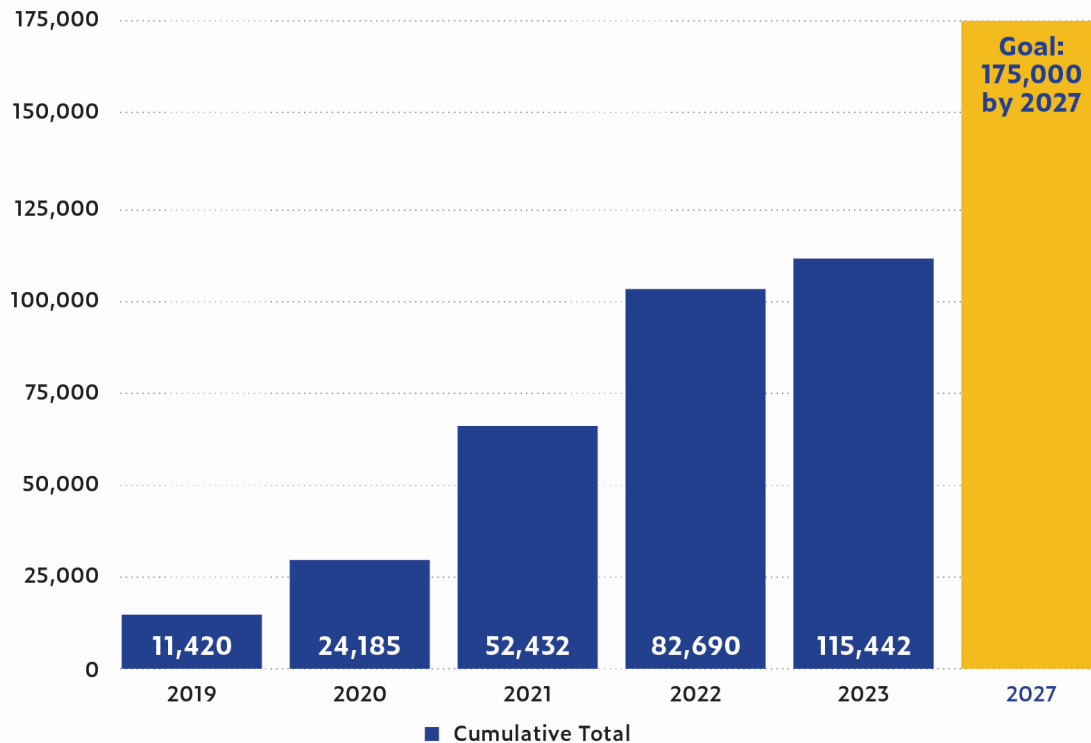
# Maine Leads the Nation in Heat Pump Deployment:



- Governor's 100,000 goal by 2025 met two years early
- New 175,000 additional heat pump goal set for 2027 – doubling the pace of progress (322,000 installed by 2027)
- Maine Community College has trained 1 of 3 installers since 2019, huge growth of small businesses
- Next phase will focus on increasing pace of low income, municipal, and small business installations

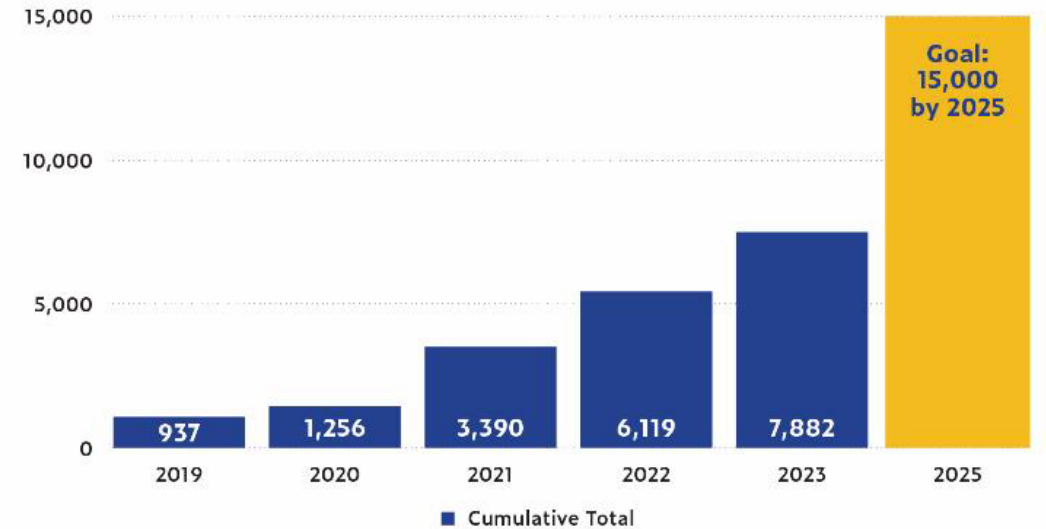
# Heat Pump goal reached and new targets set

## New Heat Pumps



Source: EfficiencyMaine Trust & MaineHousing. Note: EMT's reported numbers are aggregated to their fiscal year which runs from July 1 of the previous year to June 30 of the stated year. MaineHousing's reported numbers are based on a given calendar year.

## New Heat Pumps: Low-Income

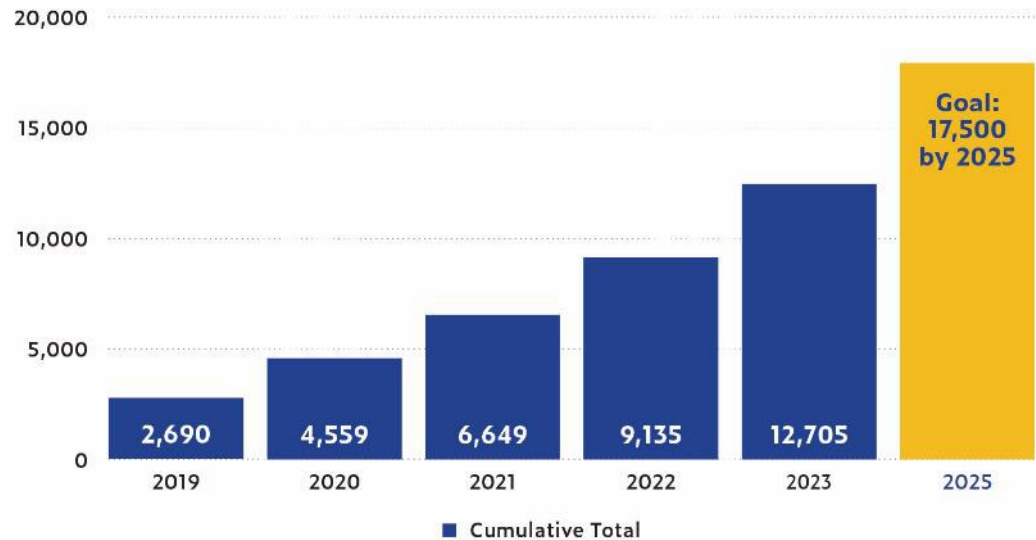


Source: EfficiencyMaine Trust & MaineHousing. Note: EMT's reported numbers are aggregated to their fiscal year which runs from July 1 of the previous year to June 30 of the stated year. MaineHousing's reported numbers are based on a given calendar year.



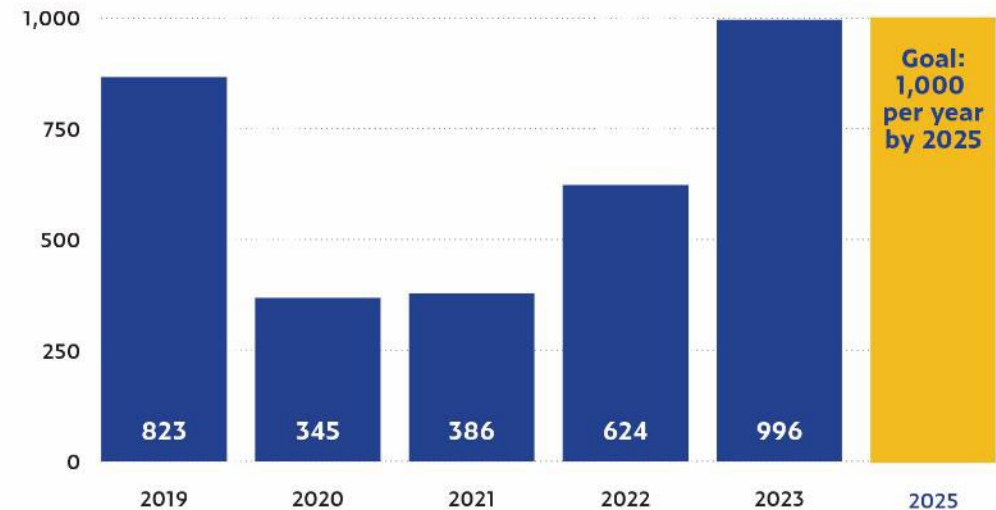
# Homes Weatherized: On pace for 2025 goal

## Homes Weatherized



Source: EfficiencyMaine & MaineHousing

## Homes Weatherized: Low-Income



Source: EfficiencyMaine

# Accelerate Efficiency Improvements to Existing Buildings

## New State and federal investments in energy efficiency

- \$50 million for low-income, hospitality, congregate housing, manufacturing, and municipal/school energy efficiency projects through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan (administered by Efficiency Maine)
- \$31 million for low-income weatherization from the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (administered by MaineHousing)
- \$71 million expected to come to Maine from US Department of Energy for home energy rebates through the Inflation Reduction Act

# New investments in building energy efficient affordable housing

- Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan: \$50 million for new energy efficient affordable homeownership and rental housing
- Additional \$70 million in new investment from the most recent state budget for new energy efficient affordable rental housing
- All projects must be energy efficient, electrified heating, and EV/PV ready



# Advance the design and construction of new buildings

- Maine Technical Building Codes and Standards Board is adopting the **2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)** including an updated stretch code for residential and commercial buildings and the **American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) 90.1-2019** standard into the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC)
- MaineHousing adopted the most recent energy building codes (2021 IECC) for new construction and is required by a new law to achieve passive house standard equivalency in all new construction by 2024

# Helping schools pursue climate action that saves money and improves student outcomes

- 2023-2024 state budget includes:
  - Green Schools Director position at Department of Education to coordinate between climate education, facilities, and transportation teams
  - Also supports technical assistance for building and transportation decarbonization in schools

# Challenges and Opportunities

1. Continue progress in weatherization, heat pumps
2. Advance energy efficient building codes
3. Continue improving energy efficiency in affordable housing, schools, and public buildings
4. Develop more financing options to support energy efficiency and clean energy goals
5. Manage the impact of building loads on the grid



# Maine Climate Council Meeting Poll

What should the Buildings,  
Infrastructure and Housing Working  
Group absolutely not forget as it  
starts the update process?

# Energy Working Group

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## Co-Chairs:

Dan Burgess, Governor's Energy Office  
Ken Colburn, Energy Expert

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## Maine's Climate and Clean Energy Targets:

**REDUCE  
GREENHOUSE  
GAS EMISSIONS**

**45%**

BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
**BY 2030**

**80%**

BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
**BY 2050**

**TRANSITION TO  
CLEAN ENERGY**

**80%**

**RENEWABLE BY 2030**

**100%**

**CLEAN BY 2040**

**ACHIEVE CARBON  
NEUTRALITY**

**2045**

**CREATE CLEAN  
ENERGY JOBS**

**30,000**

**BY 2030**



# Maine Energy Policy Requirements

## • Renewable Portfolio Standard



- 80% of electricity delivered in Maine to be renewable by 2030
- Supports hydroelectric, biomass, tidal, waste-to-energy, wind, and solar
- Targeted support for new and existing resources including solar, wind, biomass, hydro, and wood-fired CHP

## • Offshore Wind



- Goal of 3,000 megawatts from the Gulf of Maine by 2040
- GEO to establish procurement schedule and process with stakeholder input

## • Energy Storage



- Goal of 400 megawatts by 2030
- GEO to develop procurement program for up to 200 megawatts

## • Solar



- Goal of 750 megawatts of distributed generation
- GEO to implement distributed solar and storage program
- Targeted procurement for solar on contaminated lands

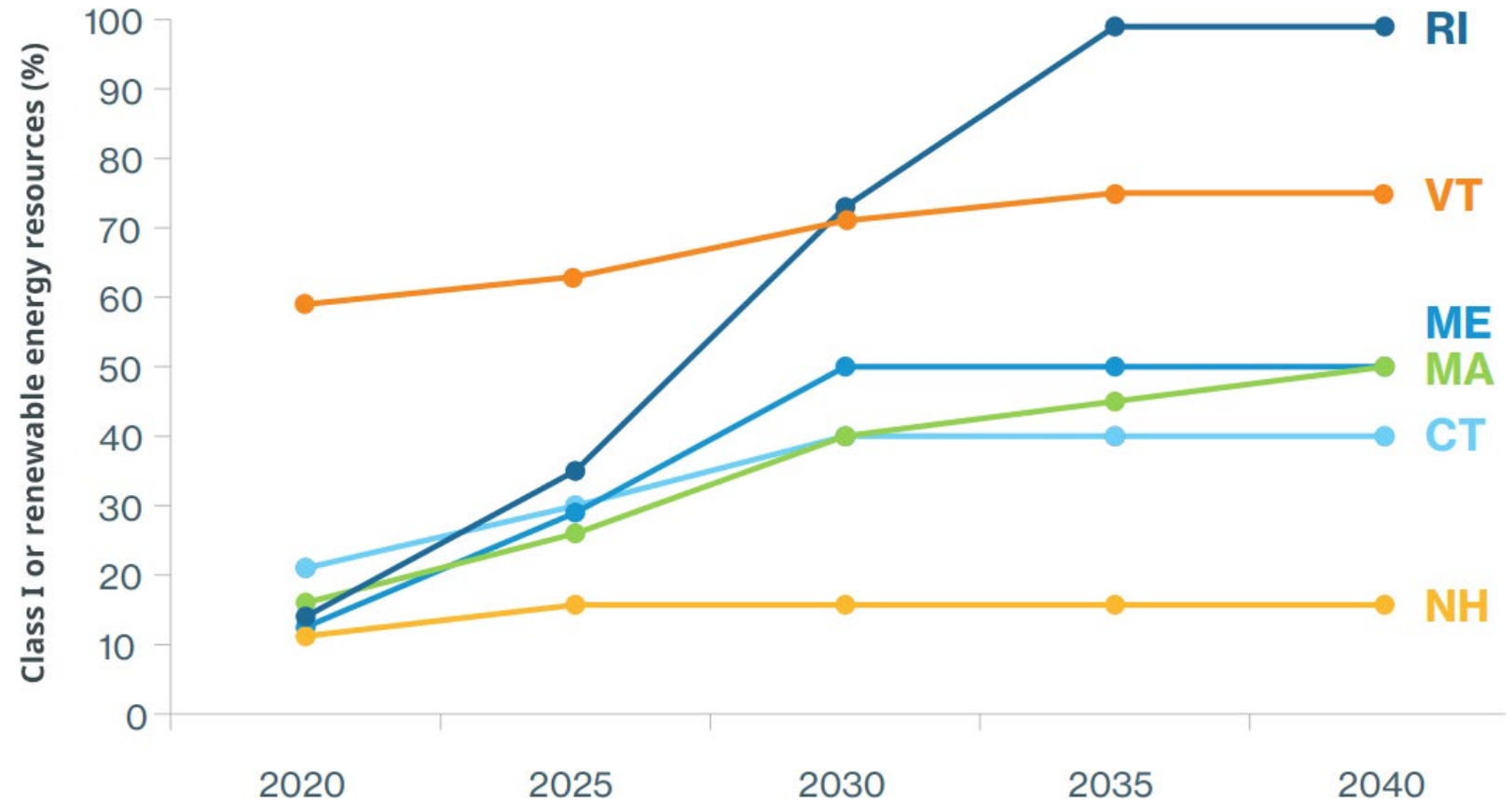
## • Electrification



- Oil dependence reduction
- Electrification of heating and transportation to achieve emissions reduction requirements

Every state in New England has Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requirements that promote renewable energy development.

**2023:**  
Gov. Mills set a new goal of 100% clean energy by 2040

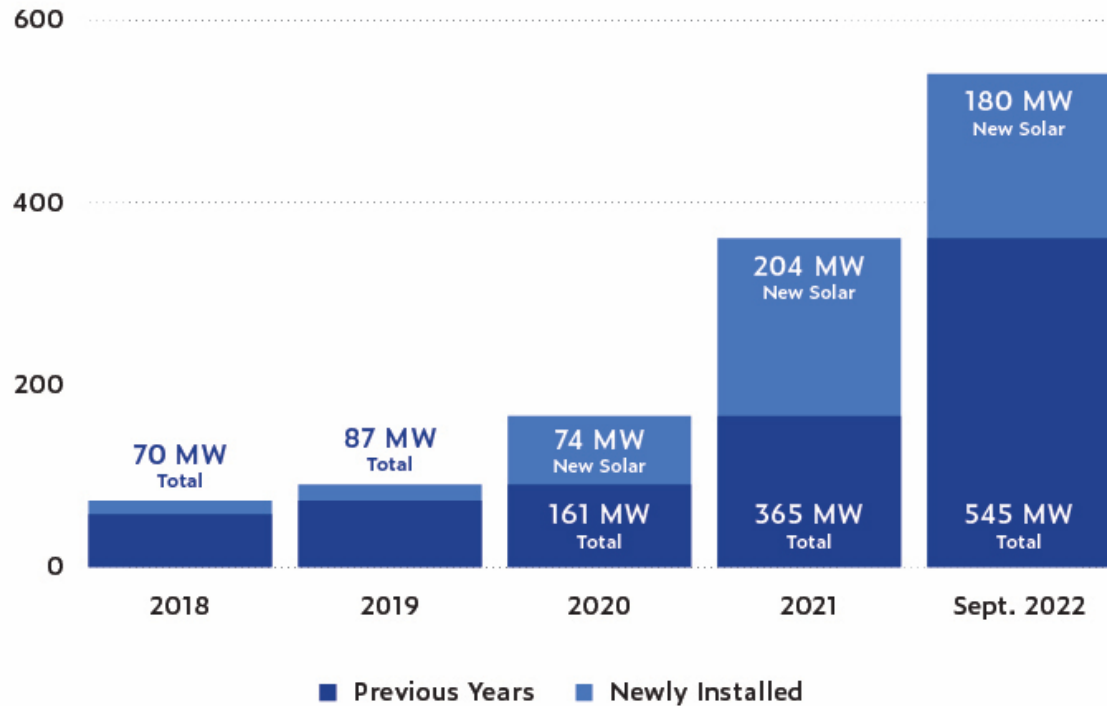


New England states' renewable portfolio standard (RPS) requirements for Class I (new) renewable energy resources.

Source: ISO New England

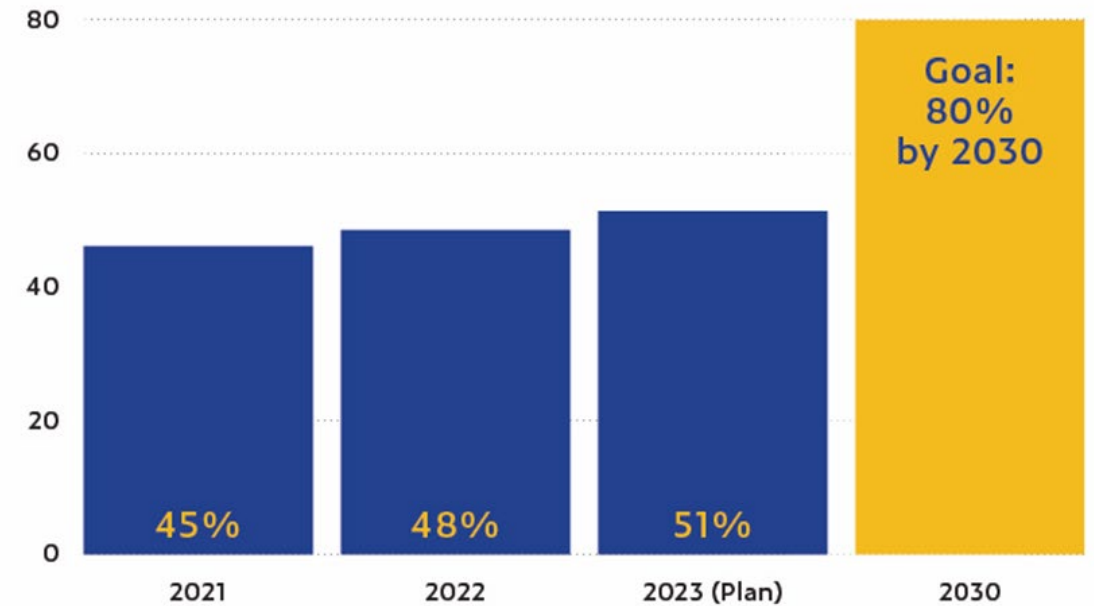
# Accelerating Pace of Clean Energy Deployment

## Solar Capacity Installed in Maine (Megawatts)



Source: Maine Governor's Energy Office: Solar

## Maine Renewable Electricity (Percent of Load)

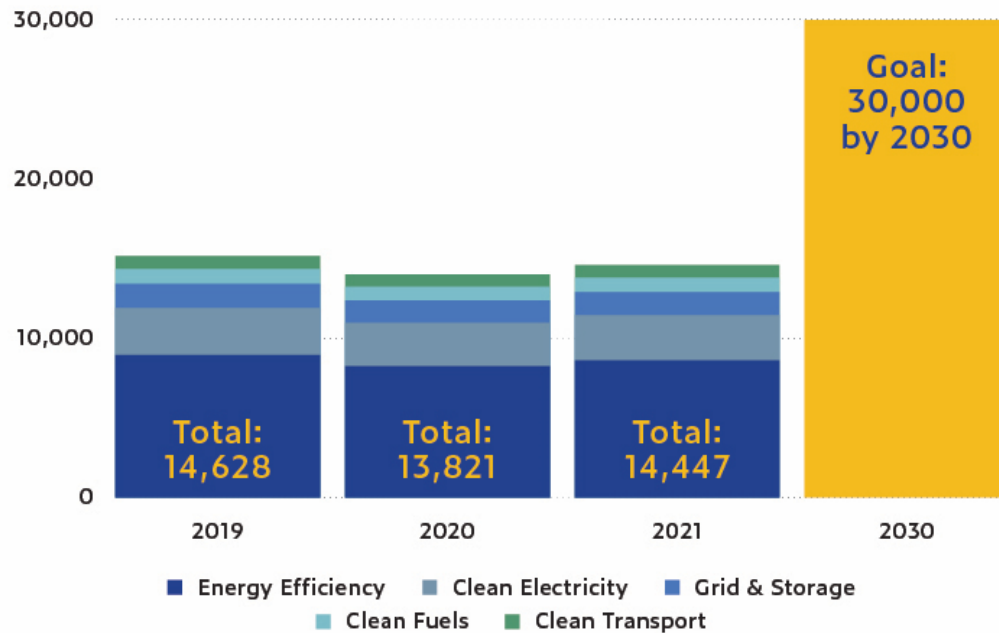


Source: Governor's Energy Office

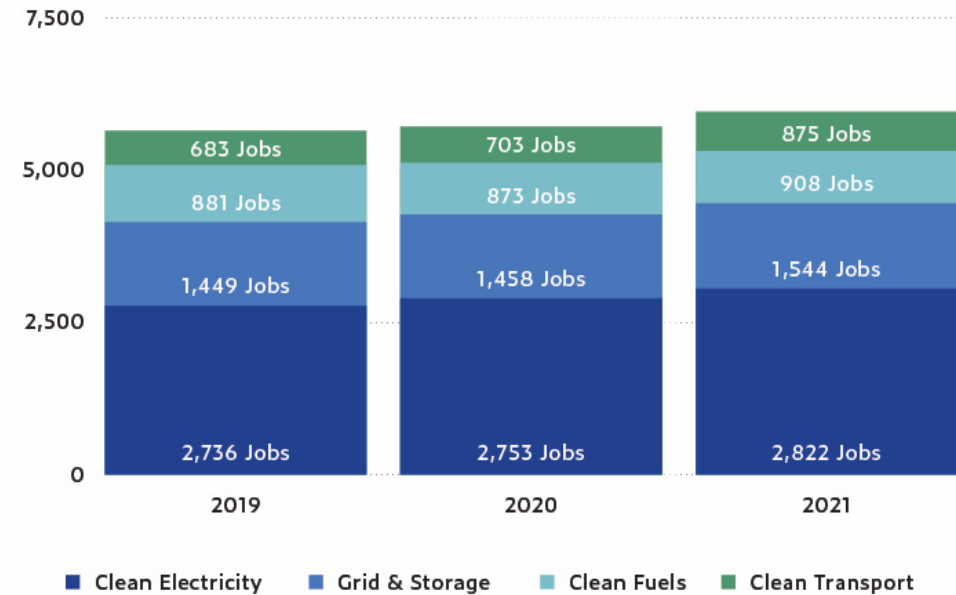


# Clean Energy Jobs (Total and By Sector)

## Maine Clean Energy Jobs



## Maine's Rising Clean Energy Job Sectors



Maine's Clean Energy Partnership has awarded \$2.5 million in grants to nine entities to advance clean energy workforce development.

# Industrial Efficiency

Per recommendations of *Maine Won't Wait*, an **Industrial Task Force** has been formed to provide a venue to further explore collaboration and innovation in this difficult to decarbonize sector.

The 130<sup>th</sup> Legislature established the **Wood-fired Combined Heat and Power Program** directing the Maine Public Utilities Commission to procure renewable energy from highly efficient combined heat and power (CHP) projects.

The 131<sup>st</sup> Legislature modified and expanded the size of the program to bolster Maine's forest products industry and support the heating and energy needs of the state's industrial facilities.

# Challenges and Opportunities

1. New goal: 100% clean energy by 2040 – comprehensive energy planning process underway
2. Ensuring Maine households and businesses have access to clean, affordable, reliable and adequate energy in the coming decades
3. Optimizing the value of grid resources as demand grows through adoption of distributed energy resources, grid planning, and demand management strategies
4. Building the workforce to support a clean energy transition



# Maine Climate Council Meeting Poll

What should the Energy Working Group absolutely not forget as it starts the update process?

# Natural & Working Lands Working Group

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## Co-Chairs:

**Amanda Beal**, Commissioner, Department of  
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

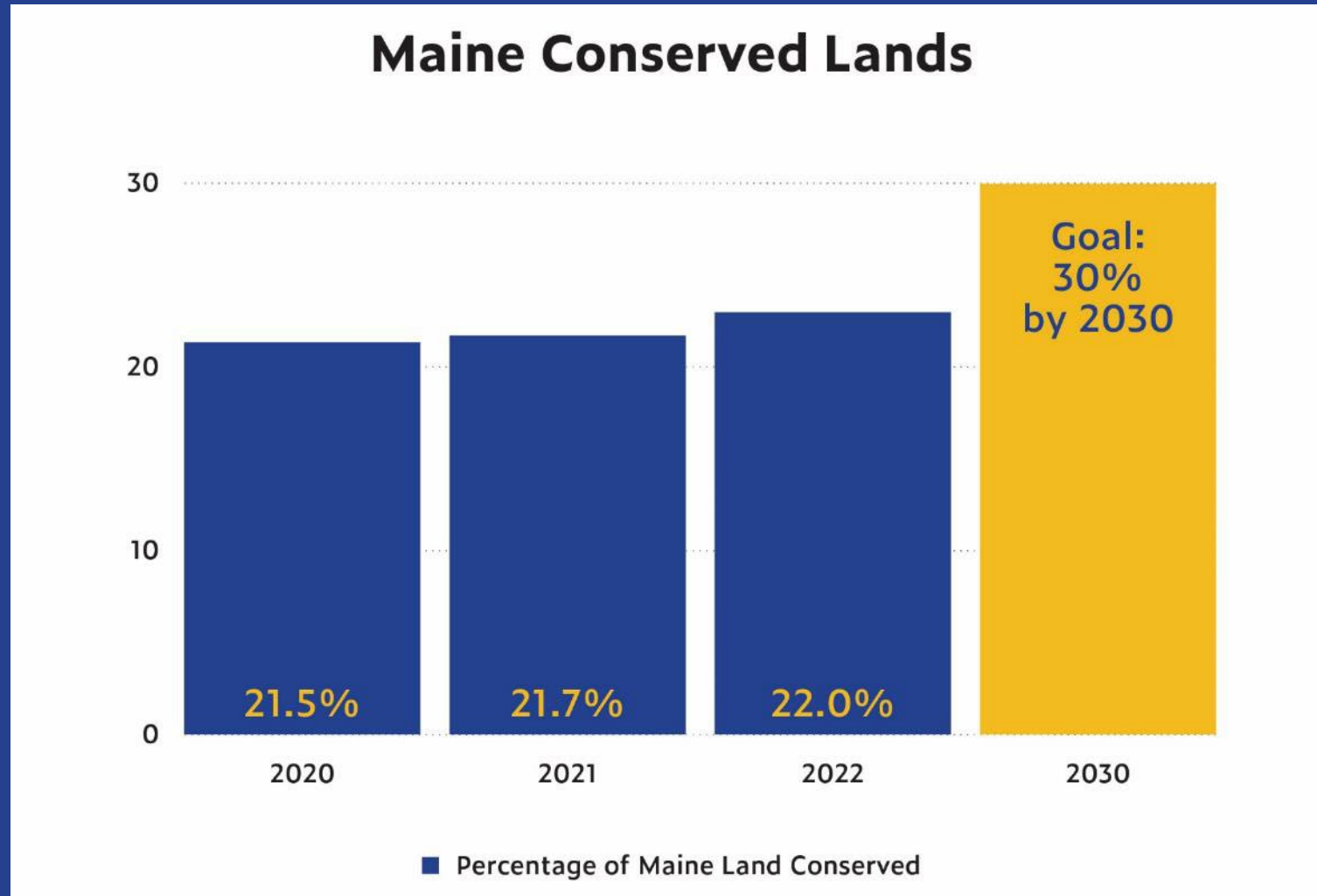
**Tom Abello**, Legislative Director, Office of the  
Governor

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# Target: Conserve 30% of Maine's natural and working lands by 2030





# Maximizing Conservation Funding Opportunities

- Historic investment of \$40 million in Land for Maine's Future program funding
- Increased allocations of federal funding
- Strong collaborations with local and statewide partners



# Target: Increase the amount of food consumed in Maine from state food producers to 30% by 2030

- Harnessing opportunities to invest in Maine's food system
- Increasing access to Maine food through the Emergency Food System
- Institutional commitments to sourcing in-state





# Target: Increased carbon sequestration in natural and working lands

- Forest Carbon Task Force recommendations
- Healthy Soils Program
- Soil Carbon Study (DACF, DIFW, UMaine)
- Invest in carbon friendly forest practices and products





# Challenges and Opportunities

1. Continue progress towards Maine's land conservation goals
2. Increase in-state consumption of Maine-produced food
3. Increase carbon sequestration in natural and working lands

# Maine Climate Council Meeting Poll

What should the Natural and  
Working Lands Working Group  
absolutely not forget as it starts the  
update process?

# Coastal & Marine Working Group

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## Co-Chairs:

Carl Wilson, Department of Marine Resources  
& Curt Brown, Ready Seafood Company

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# Investing in Resilient Culverts

**\$35 M in four federal discretionary grant awards through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) for culvert replacement that will help fish passage and transportation infrastructure in Maine (DMR and DOT)**

- Provides for Atlantic salmon, alewives, and other sea-run fish to return to historic habitat supporting Maine's heritage fishing industries
- Will be resilient to storms and flood events, which ensures residents and emergency services are able to access these communities

# Sharing Climate Science through the Maine Climate Science and Information Exchange (MCSIE) at the University of Maine

- The Maine Climate Science Information Exchange (MCSIE) was established at the University of Maine in 2022 to support coordination between Maine's scientific community and decision-makers
- Online research inventory launching in fall of 2023
- Focuses on agriculture and food systems, forests, forest products, marine resources, and coastal communities

# Investing in Maine's Working Waterfront and Fisheries

- **2022: Maine Seafood Dealer and Processor COVID-19 Response and Resilience Grant Program (SDPP)**
  - Committed nearly \$16 million in federal funds, including \$10 million from the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan; Administered by Maine Technology Institute
  - Helping seafood dealers and processors in Maine recover from the COVID-19 pandemic
- **Seafood Economic Accelerator (SEA Maine) developing a roadmap to create economic growth and resilience in Maine's seafood economy**





# North Atlantic Right Whales and Lobster

- Lack of data and high uncertainty for the Gulf of Maine in risk assessments led to significant proposed management actions that would impact the lobster and gillnet fisheries
- Federal funds will:
  - Document the presence of north Atlantic right whale (NARW) and lobster fishery in the GOM
  - Support development a risk model based on better data on NARW presence and fishing effort
  - Monitor the ecosystem necessary to support NARW
  - Develop strategies and technology to minimize any risk

# Opportunities for Sequestering Carbon

New report from US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates Maine sequesters 22% of New England's "blue carbon"

2022-2023 surveys by Maine DEP show declines in eelgrass area in Casco Bay and Midcoast region in recent years.



DEP marine unit eelgrass work in Casco Bay" (A. Brewer, DEP)



# Challenges and Opportunities

1. Support science and monitoring needed for climate informed decision-making
2. Incorporate climate adaptation into state marine policies
3. Support continued investments to support adaptation and resilience in the marine economy and infrastructure
4. Explore opportunities to encourage blue carbon sequestration and marine co-benefits



# Maine Climate Council Meeting Poll

What should the Coastal and Marine  
Working Group absolutely not  
forget as it starts the update  
process?

# Community Resilience Working Group

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## Co-Chairs:

Judy East, Department of Agriculture,  
Conservation and Forestry  
Rebecca Boulos, Maine Public Health Association  
& Samuel Roy, Maine Emergency Management  
Agency

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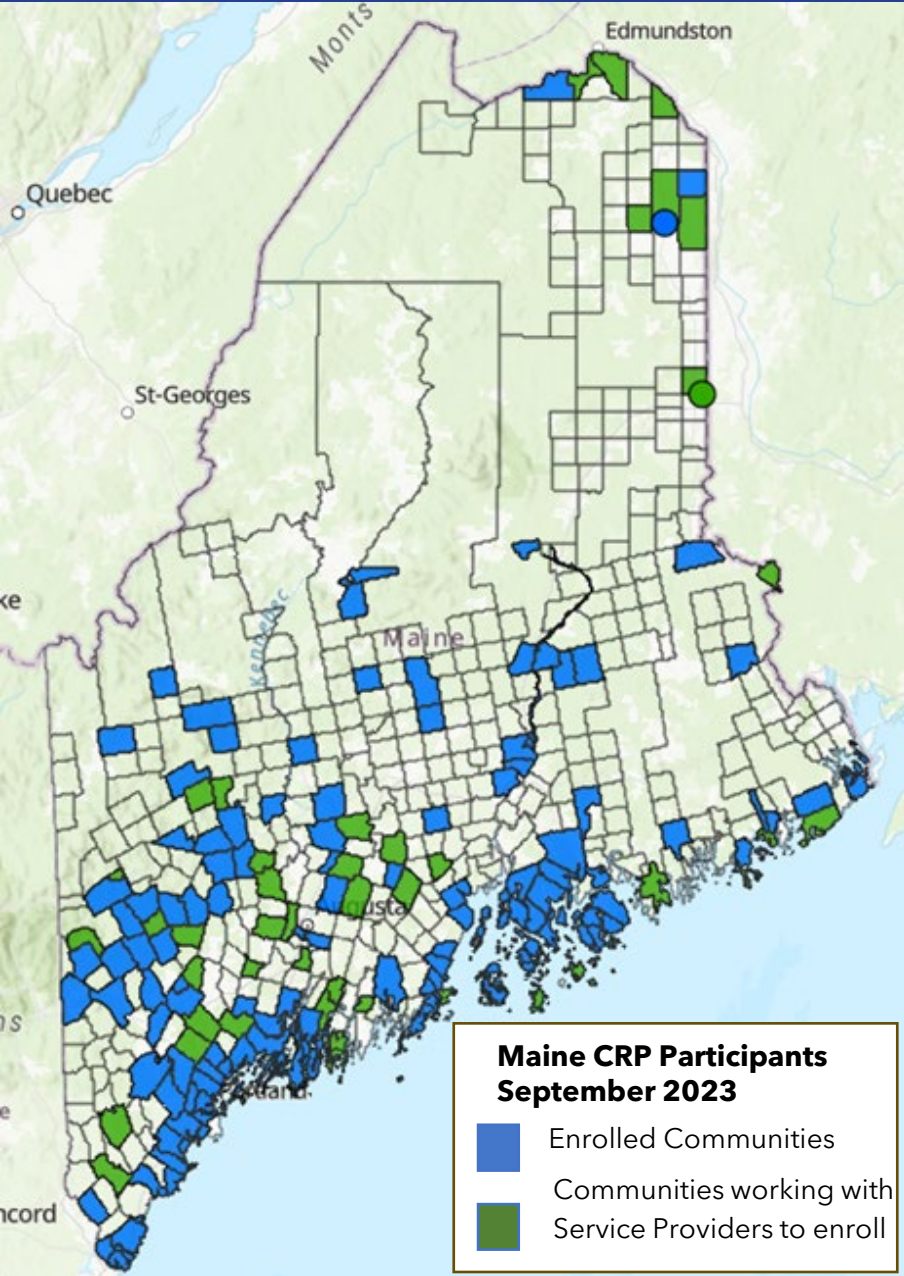




# Preparing for Sea-Level Rise and Inland Flooding

- Statutory and rule changes in multiple agencies to incorporate sea level rise and climate resilience
- MaineDOT is developing a coastal flood risk model for storms and projected sea level rise
  - Preliminary results: 2024
- The state will receive \$1 M from FEMA to conduct a Vulnerability Assessment of state assets to climate impacts

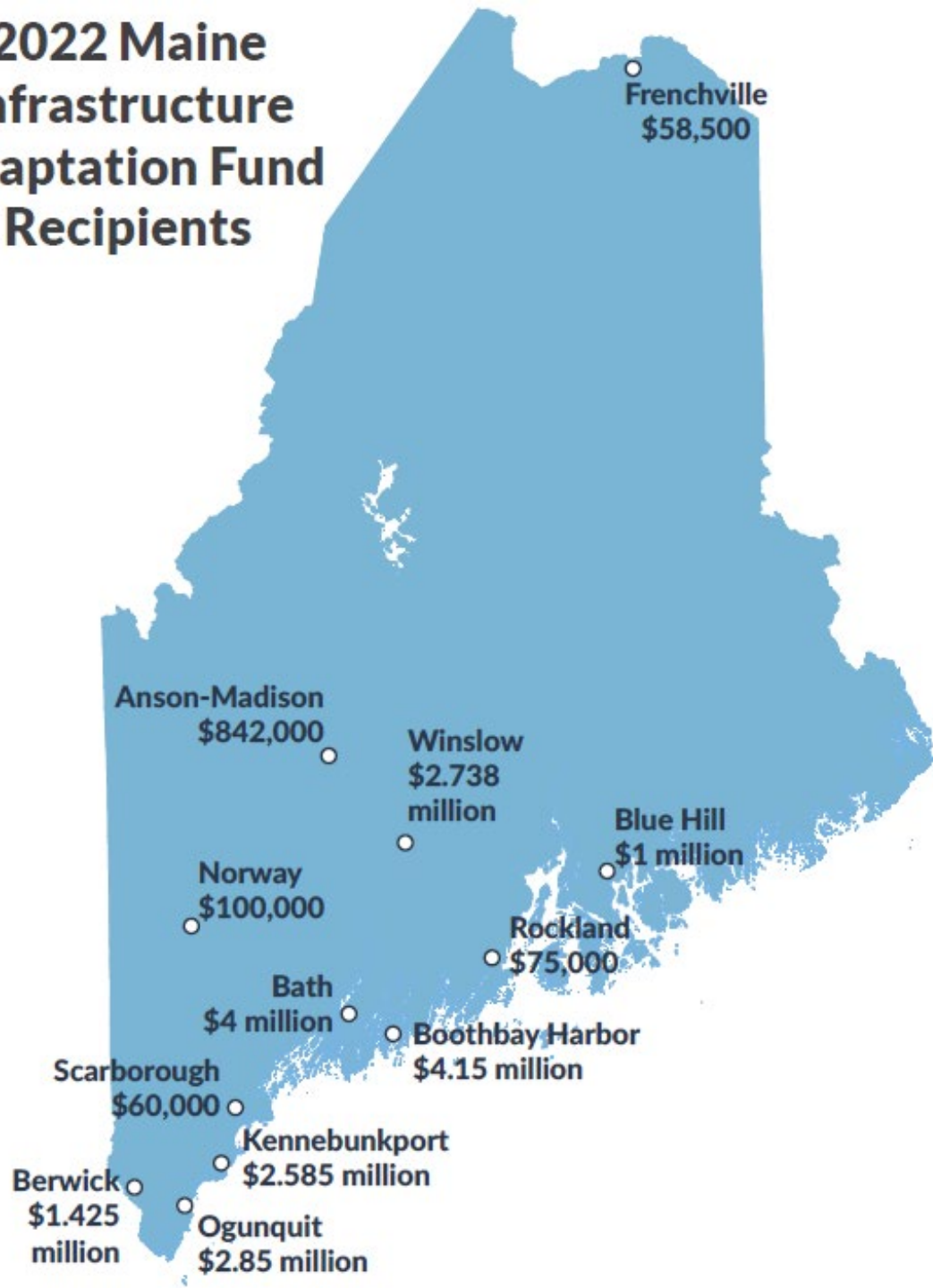
The Maine Climate Council recommends that the state consider committing to manage for 1.5 feet of relative sea-level rise by 2050, relative to the year 2000, and 3.9 feet of sea-level rise by the year 2100.



# Providing technical assistance and funding for local climate action through the Community Resilience Partnership

- 174 participating communities
  - 129 fully enrolled
  - 45 working on enrollment with Service Providers
- Focus on Socially Vulnerable Communities

## 2022 Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund Recipients



# Investing in Climate Ready Infrastructure through the Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund



- In 2022, awarded ~\$20 M to 12 communities to protect vital infrastructure
- 2023-2024 biennial budget: \$7 M for culverts, project development, and cost-share grants
- Significant state and federal investments in infrastructure, including wastewater and drinking water programs



# Helping communities take action on climate change through Maine Climate Corps

Climate Corps programs take action in 8 areas:

- coastal zone
- transportation
- energy
- land and freshwater preservation
- housing
- community resilience
- education
- public health



First Climate Corps Program: Downeast Community Partners (DCP)

- **Counties Served:** Hancock and Washington
- 4 full-time Climate Corps members
- Conduct energy audits and provide energy efficiency education

# Challenges and Opportunities

1. Goals and metrics to track our adaptation progress
2. Long-term adaptation funding and financing
3. Invest in tools and technical assistance for communities
4. Prepare for climate risks
  - Psychological resilience
  - Integrating resilience planning with emergency management
  - Begin the tough conversations around “getting out of harm’s way”

# Maine Climate Council Meeting Poll

What should the Community  
Resilience Working Group  
absolutely not forget as it starts  
the update process?



# Intersecting Issues

1. Workforce and economic opportunity including innovative forest products
2. Waste emissions
3. Land use planning
4. Education

# Questions?

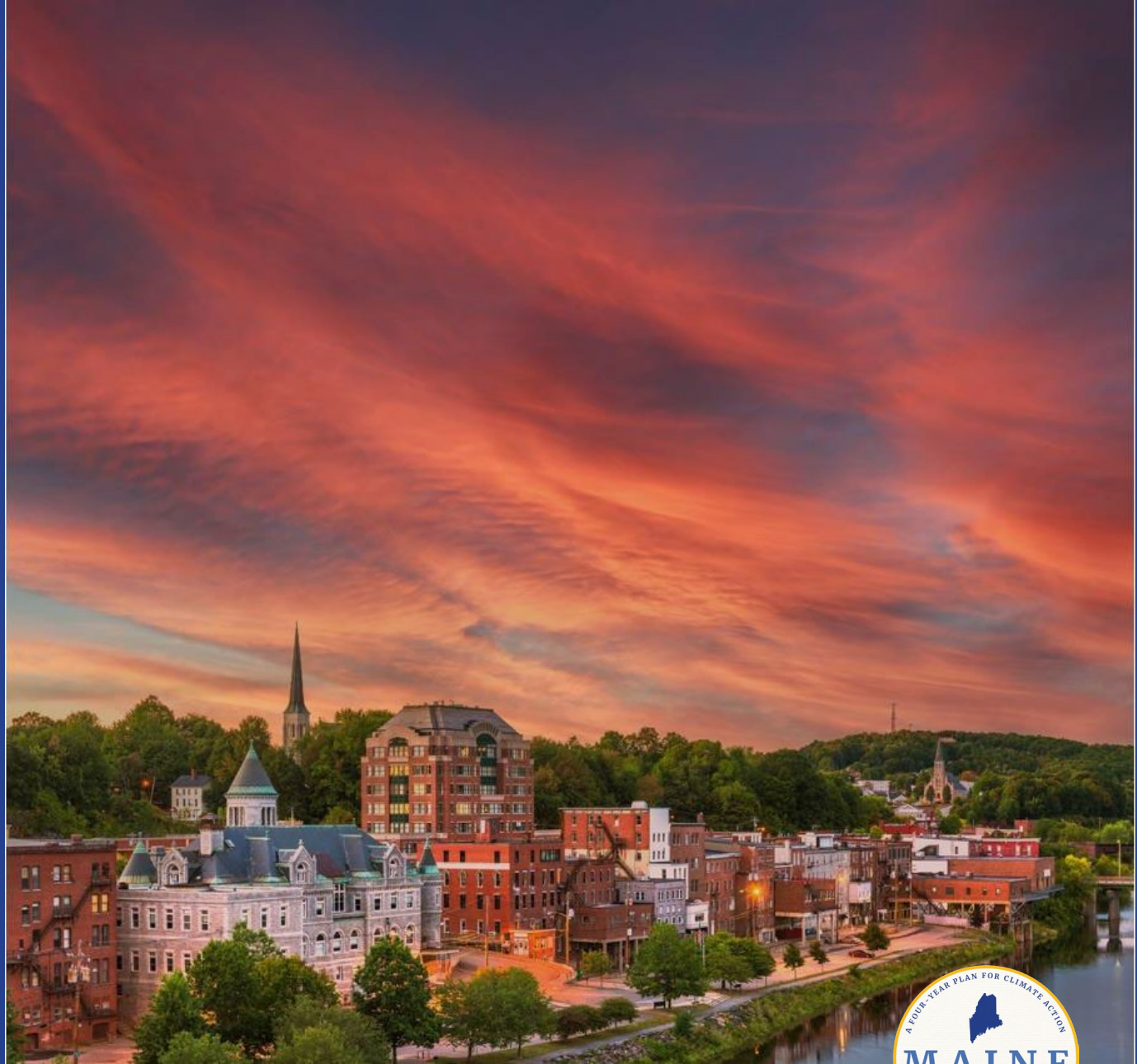


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# Next Steps and Adjournment

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Take our survey!  
[maine.gov/future/climate/council](https://maine.gov/future/climate/council)



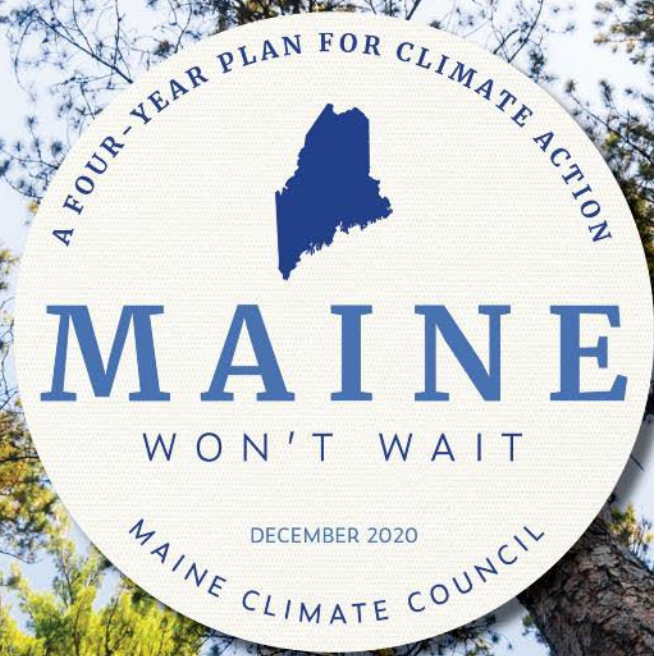


# Optional: Working Group Introductory Meet-and-Greet Sessions

- Transportation Working Group – Washington, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- Buildings, Infrastructure and Housing Working Group – Oxford, 1<sup>st</sup> floor
- Energy Working Group – Waldo, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- Natural and Working Lands Working Group – Somerset, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- Coastal and Marine Working Group – Lincoln, 1<sup>st</sup> floor
- Community Resilience Working Group – Hancock, 1<sup>st</sup> floor







A FOUR-YEAR PLAN FOR CLIMATE ACTION



MAINE

WON'T WAIT

DECEMBER 2020

MAINE CLIMATE COUNCIL