Working Group Recommended Climate Strategies,
Actions and Measurable Outcomes

This template is intended to provide clear guidance on the product that each Working Group is expected to present to the Maine Climate Council in early June 2024.

The template has three sections: an introduction, a summary of strategies and actions, and an analysis section that provides important supporting information. Please submit strategies to GOPIF by June 5, 2024, along with a PPT presentation of the information. GOPIF will provide a template PPT closer to that date.

The Working Groups are tasked with updating Maine's existing climate action plan, Maine Won't Wait. The existing plan is, therefore, the starting place for the update, and Working Groups are encouraged to prioritize their time on the issues that most require their attention. Some existing strategies will likely need little or no revision, some might require significant updating, and some might no longer be relevant and can be eliminated. In addition, the Working Group may identify gaps that require entirely new strategies and/or actions.

Thank you in advance to all the Working Group members and co-chairs for the work over the next few months to update the strategies. Thank you also for using this template to provide a consistent output for the Climate Council.

WORKING GROUP DELIVERABLE TEMPLATE

1. INTRODUCTION

Use this Introduction to briefly describe the Working Group's mandate, the issues it focused on, and the Working Group's process. Aim for 1 to 1.5 pages.

2. SUMMARY OF STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

This is a high-level summary of the proposed strategies and actions. The table below lists the current strategies and actions in *Maine Won't Wait* and the [Equity Subcommittee report](#). Use these strategies as an **example of the level of detail** that should be provided in your final deliverable. Edit this table based on the Working Group's deliberations, providing a new summary table. Only include in your summary table strategies that your group proposes to modify, or entirely new strategies. If a strategy is "fine as is" or was not discussed by the Working Group, do not include it in your table.

New and Updated Strategies and Actions (Update this table – this is a placeholder where we can start adding/editing new actions or recommendations for each strategy)

STRATEGY	ACTION
STRATEGY D Recommendation 1 – Take Advantage of New Market Opportunities	●
Chapter D Equity Goal #2 – Help natural resource industries diversify and adapt to climate change through economic and workforce diversification and participation in the clean energy transition	●
STRATEGY E Recommendation 1 – Protect Natural and Working Lands and Waters	● Focus conservation on high biodiversity areas to support land and water connectivity and ecosystem health ●
STRATEGY E Recommendation 2 – Develop New Incentives to Increase Carbon Storage	●
STRATEGY E Recommendation 3 – Expand Outreach to Offer Information and Technical Assistance	● Increase technical service provider capacity by 2024 to deliver data, expert guidance, and support for climate solutions to communities, farmers, loggers, and foresters at the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Forest Service, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Marine Resources, and the University of Maine ● Launch the Coastal and Marine Information Exchange by 2024

STRATEGY E Recommendation 4 – Enhance Monitoring and Data Collection to Guide Decisions Change to: Enhance ongoing monitoring and data collection that provide baseline data to guide informed decision making, and create new monitoring programs to fill data gaps.	- Establish a "coordinating hub" with state and non-state partners for key climate change research and monitoring work to facilitate statewide collaboration by 2024 - Establish or enhance relevant coordinating hubs that provide a sustainable, publicly available platforms for identifying, sharing, reporting, and exchanging data at the scales needed to make management, resilience, and policy decisions to address climate change. - Create framework and begin pilot for a coordinated, comprehensive monitoring system - Incorporate climate research and climate change-related technologies into Maine's research and development priorities such as those developed by the Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board and the Maine Technology Institute - Support ongoing monitoring programs and develop new monitoring programs to provide baseline data to inform decision making. - Support state agencies and non-state partners ongoing and new long-term monitoring efforts and collaborations focused on characterizing changes due to climate change on coastal ecosystems.

Chapter E Equity Goal #1 – Ensure equitable access to the bountiful natural resources and places in the state, improving the lives and health of people in Maine, particularly for historically disadvantaged and low-income people	● Identify barriers to access and affordability for low-income families at state owned and funded sites ● Expand access to natural resource grants for priority communities ● Assess the impacts of climate risks on the food supply chain in Maine
Chapter E Equity Goal #2 – Improve climate change-related data collection, practices, and usability in partnership with frontline, disadvantaged, and tribal communities	● Include socioeconomic analysis and impacts in scientific and technical analyses for the state climate action plan ● Improve the usability of climate data for communities (including sociodemographic layers) ● Consult with tribal communities on climate data principles ● Prioritize participatory approaches in climate data collection

3. ANALYSIS AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

For each strategy and its respective set of actions, provide concise analysis using the questions below. Analysis should focus mostly on new strategies and significant revisions to existing strategies.

Key Questions (provide analysis for each strategy and its respective set of actions.)

1. **Impacts** - Describe the recommended strategy and its actions and how they address Maine's four climate goals – *reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience, creating economic opportunity, and achieving equity through Maine's climate response.* **Use the questions in Annex 1 of this document** to guide the analysis of impacts.

2. **Cross-over** - Does the recommended strategy involve other working groups/sectors? *Select all which apply.*

   ☐ Transportation
   ☐ Buildings, Infrastructure, and Housing
   ☐ Energy
   ☐ Community Resilience
   ☐ Coastal and Marine
   ☐ Natural and Working Lands
   ☐ Other (please describe)

   How did the Working Group coordinate with others around these overlaps?

3. **Priority Populations** - Consider the priority populations impacted or affected by this recommended strategy. A list of priority populations is contained in **Annex 2** of this document.
   a. *IMPACTS: Using the Equity Sub-Committee analysis (see Annex 3) from March 2023 as a starting place, consider both potential positive outcomes and any unintended consequences/byproducts. Describe these potential impacts/benefits.*

   b. *SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Describe how you know what groups are impacted/affected. Cite relevant data sources[1] and/or formal conversations*

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[1] Some available data sources include:

(MCC-organized panels, focus groups, etc.) with priority populations. Describe any consultation or engagement with these priority population (either by the Working Group or through GOPIF's community engagement contractor)

c. *IMPLEMENTATION: How might the recommended strategy be implemented in consultation with priority populations? Do priority populations have the resources and capacity necessary to implement or access this recommended strategy? How might you make recommendations to improve equitable access to resources and capacity-building? You might consider planning capacity, financial capacity, programmatic capacity, human capital, and other.*

4. **Timeframe** - What is the timeframe for this strategy and its actions?

	Short-term (2025)	Mid-term (2030)	Long-term (2050+)
To implement			
To realize outcomes			

5. **Implementation Next Steps** - What types of next steps would be required to implement the strategy?

☐ Legislation, rules/regulation, internal program guidance changes
☐ Establishment of a new program or a fund,
☐ Conduct additional research
☐ Provide education or training
☐ Coordinate with other parties/agencies/states
☐ Other (please describe)

Please provide some detail around these steps. If possible, identify **specific actors** who would lead in the implementation of the strategy and actions.

6. **Measuring Outcomes** - How will you know the recommended strategy is effective? *Are outcomes measurable using current monitoring/data collection? Are there benchmarks or short-term indicators of success?*

U.S. Council on Environmental Quality Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) (select by census tract)
U.S. Census Bureau Rural America tool
The Nature Conservancy Coastal Risk Explorer (w/ particular focus on Social Vulnerability Ranking)
Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation Assessment Tool (select by census tract, county, or Tribal land)
Maine Social Vulnerability Tool
U.S. Department of Energy Low-Income Energy Affordability Tool (LEAD)

7. **Other** - Additional Rationale/Background Information

**Please footnote substantive disagreements among the Working Group members

Annex 1: Key questions for analyzing impacts

Mitigation Reducing greenhouse gas emissions	A. Does the recommended strategy reduce air pollution (ozone, VOC, NOx, etc)? B. What is the estimated CO2e savings or sequestration (metric tons) by 2030, 2050? C. What is the cost effectiveness of those reductions (cost per ton of CO2e reduced) and the total cost? D. Does the cost or impact change if the recommended strategy is designed to prioritize priority populations? E. Does the recommended strategy create a healthier living environment and improved quality of life for Mainers, particularly Maine's priority populations?
Adaptation and resilience Decreasing vulnerability to, and increasing the ability to recover from, climate hazards	A. Does the recommended strategy decrease the *likelihood* of climate hazards (i.e. wildfires, flooding) occurring? B. Does the recommended strategy decrease the *risk* from climate hazards for individuals, communities, or sectors, and particularly priority populations? C. Does the recommended strategy increase any climate risks or burdens for any Maine people? D. Does the recommended strategy expand access to essential services (transportation, healthcare, etc.) in underserved or priority communities? E. Does the recommended strategy help build community capacity through funding, educational opportunities, and/or other resources? F. Are there any natural environment co-benefits (i.e. habitat creation, connectivity improvements, etc) associated with this recommendation?
Workforce + Economic Opportunity Creating jobs and fostering innovation	A. Will the recommended strategy create new jobs, prevent job loss, or cost the state jobs? B. Does the recommended strategy attract new workers and families to Maine, and/or employ un/underemployed people who already reside in Maine? C. Does the recommended strategy grow the economy and foster innovation in a way consistent with the state's climate goals?

	D. Does the recommended strategy protect or strengthen Maine's most climate-vulnerable economies, including natural heritage industries? E. Does the recommended strategy address any potential displacement of residents or small businesses?
Achieving Equity Increasing resources to priority populations and those most impacted by climate change	A. Does the recommended strategy offer options that are affordable to low-income residents? Fixed-income residents? B. How might the recommended strategy address any barriers to access for priority populations? *For this question, please document any potential barriers and address how this recommendation removes/lessens them.* C. Does the recommended strategy acknowledge/respect the culture, historic assets, and traditions of low income and communities of color, especially tribal communities?
Additional Costs	A. What are the estimated fiscal costs and other costs to carry out this recommended strategy? To the state? To municipalities? B. What resources do you anticipate needing to inform Mainers about the strategy and the opportunity/costs of the strategy? C. Where would financing likely come from?
Proven Strategy & Feasibility	A. Has this strategy been implemented successfully elsewhere? B. Is it feasible with today's technology? C. What barriers to implementation exist (e.g., financial, structural, workforce capacity, public/market acceptability)?
Other Criteria (Optional)	A. Are there other co-benefits of your recommendation not covered above? B. Are there any other criteria important to this working group not covered above?

Annex 2: Priority Populations

Individuals and Households	Geographic Areas and Communities	Businesses/Economic Sectors
☐ Low-income individuals ☐ Cost-burdened renter or owner households ☐ Mobile home residents ☐ Unhoused individuals and families ☐ Older adults (65+) ☐ Youth/Students ☐ LGBTQIA+ populations ☐ People with health vulnerabilities (i.e. asthma) ☐ People with physical mobility challenges ☐ People with limited access to transportation ☐ Members of tribal nations ☐ Non-White Mainers (Black, Indigenous, Asian, and Hispanic populations) ☐ Non-native English speakers or people with limited English proficiency ☐ New Mainers (immigrant and refugee populations) ☐ Migrant workers ☐ Undocumented individuals ☐ Other (please describe)	☐ Low-income communities ☐ Rural communities ☐ Small towns with limited municipal capacity ☐ Climate-frontline communities ("first and worst impacted by climate change") ☐ Tribal and Indigenous communities ☐ Disadvantaged communities (please describe) ☐ Other (please describe)	☐ Natural resource industries (e.g., agriculture, forestry, and fishing) ☐ Clean energy industries ☐ Small businesses ☐ Minority- or women-owned businesses ☐ Other (please describe)

Annex 3: Information from the Equity Sub-Committee Report.
[tailored content to be inserted for each WG, along with a link to the full report]