
Amplifying Voices: Representing Diverse Perspectives

— Natural and Working Lands
Working Group —

Goal

To ensure the populations in Maine most impacted by climate change are aware of and have the opportunity to influence State climate programs and policies by iteratively and intentionally engaging these “priority populations” in the Maine Climate Council process in ways that are meaningful for each population.

Meet the Team!



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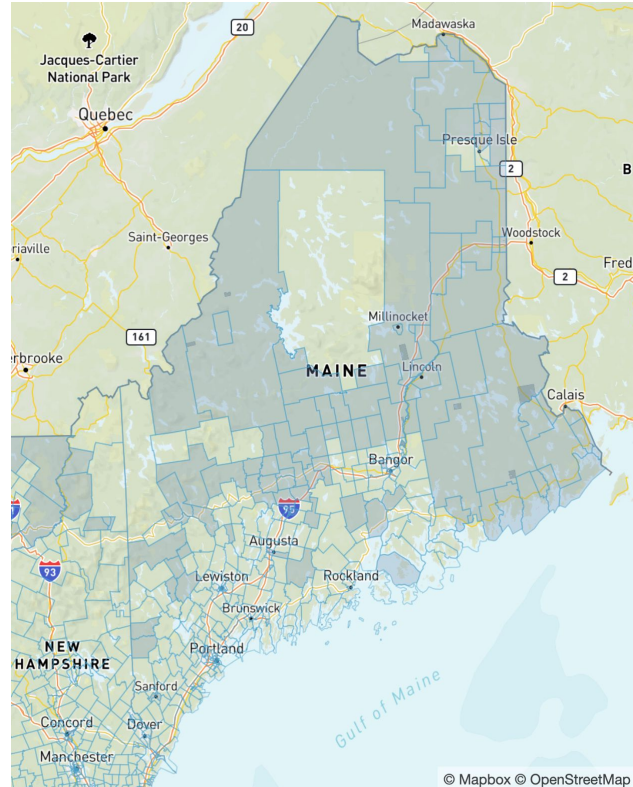
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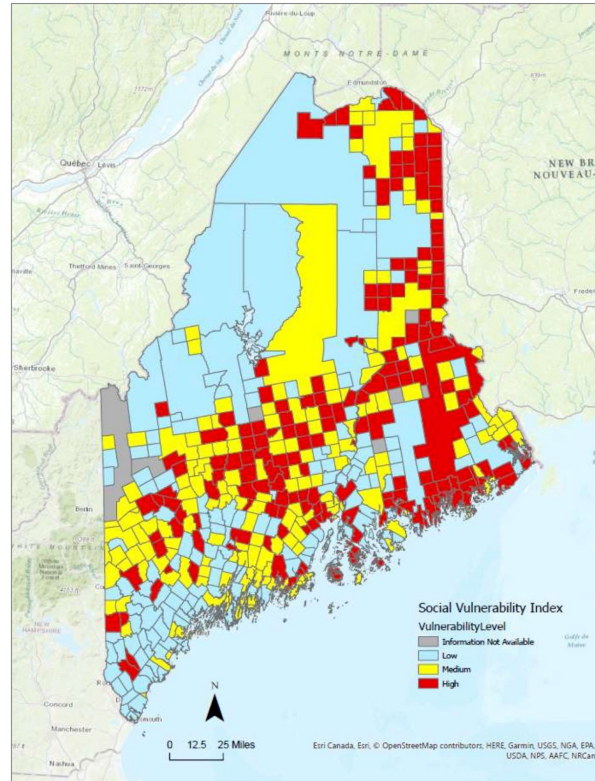
“Priority Populations”

- Low income households, including renters, home owners, and mobile home residents
- Older adults and youth
- Black or POC communities
- Tribal communities
- Low income communities
- Disadvantaged communities
- People with limited English proficiency, including New Mainers
- Recipients of LIHEAP, LIAP, or other energy assistance benefits
- People with mobility challenges
- People without access to reliable transportation
- Migrant farm workers and other outdoor workers
- Businesses in the natural resource industries like agriculture, forestry, and fishing who are operating at the economic margin or suffer disproportionate climate risk
- Un/underemployed people who are also representatives of a priority population or are transitioning from prison or recovery
- Minority, women-owned or veteran owned business enterprises (MWBVEs)
- Rural communities and small towns with limited staff or fiscal capacity
- Climate-frontline communities

Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool



Social Vulnerability Index for Maine Communities



Equity Subcommittee Report March 2023



Final Recommendations of the Equity Subcommittee

March 2023

Existing & Potential Project Partners

A Climate to Thrive (ACTT)

**Center for Ecology-Based Economy
(CEBE)**

**Community & Wabanaki
Sustainable Energy Teams**

Community Organizing Alliance

Island Institute

**Maine Environmental Education
Association**

Maine Housing

**Maine Immigrant Rights
Coalition**

Resilient Communities L3C

**Sunrise County Economic
Council (SCEC)**

WindowDressers

Q1: What are perceptions, barriers, preferences, and possible interventions related to access to and use of green space, natural and working lands and waters, including working and recreational waterfronts?

Strategy: E

Population: Citizens of disadvantaged communities; rural communities; black and POC communities; economically and climate vulnerable businesses; climate frontline communities, tribal communities; un- and under-employed people; people with limited English proficiency, including New Mainers;

Engagement Activities:

- Focus groups
- Surveys
- Group discussion

Potential Community Partners: Resilient Communities L3C; Maine Immigrants Rights Coalition; Maine Environmental Education Association; Community Organizing Alliance; CEBE; ACTT; SCEC; Island Institute; Community & Wabanaki Sustainable Energy Teams

Q2: What could help you and your community to eat more locally produced food? What programs are successful at increasing access to Maine foods? Are there foods that are difficult to find in Maine?

Strategy: E

Population: Rural and low-income communities; youth and older adults; BIPOC communities; Tribal communities; people with limited English proficiency and new Mainers; people without access to reliable transportation

Engagement Activities:

- Focus groups
- Surveys
- Group discussion

Potential Community Partners: Resilient Communities L3C; Maine Immigrants Rights Coalition; Maine Environmental Education Association; Community Organizing Alliance; CEBE; ACTT; SCEC; Island Institute

Q3: What are the barriers to entry, opportunities, and drivers of change to increase diversity and access to natural resource industry careers, including forestry, for priority populations and disadvantaged communities?

Strategy: D

Population: Youth, People with limited English proficiency, Black/POC populations, migrant farm workers and other outdoor workers, climate frontline communities; tribal communities; disadvantaged communities, businesses in the natural resource industries; women-owned or veteran owned business enterprises, Un/underemployed people

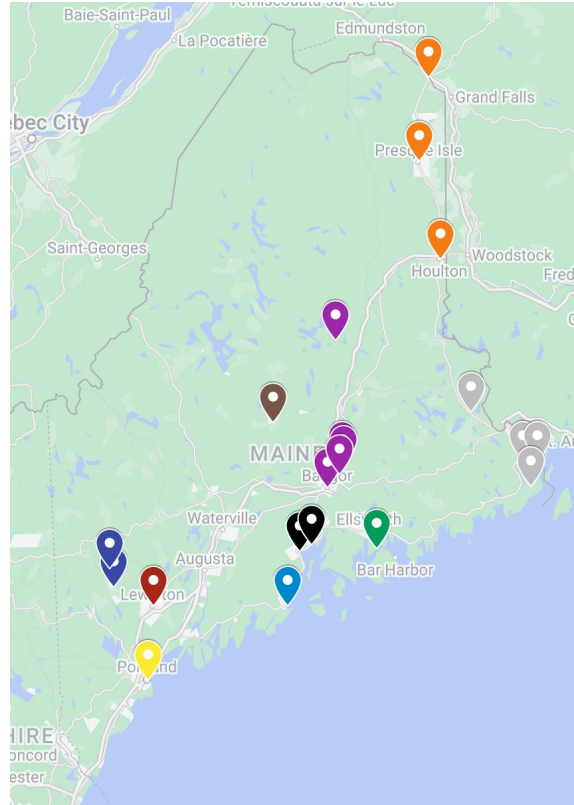
Engagement Activities:

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Specific Populations

Bangor	Orono
Belfast	Pembroke
Dover-Foxcroft	Portland
Houlton	Presque Isle
Indian Island	Rockland
Indian Twp	Searsport
Lewiston	Trescott Twp
Millinocket	Trenton
Norway	Van Buren
Old Town	West Paris



- Androscoggin
- Aroostook
- Cumberland
- Hancock
- Knox
- Oxford
- Penobscot
- Piscataquis
- Waldo
- Washington

AND:
Maine Islands
Low-income landlords
across the state

Timeline from here

1. Detailed engagement plan with Partner Organizations (by 2/9)
2. 1st round of engagement activities (by 4/15)
3. Report to WG about 1st round (by 4/26)
4. 2nd round of engagement activities (by 6/7)
5. Report to MCC about 2nd round (by 6/17)
6. Reflection discussion with WG & MCC members from “priority populations (by 9/30)

We need your help!

1. From your Working Group's read of the **Equity Sub Committee report**, are the questions outlined above appropriate for this working group?
2. When you review the list of **specific populations**, are there
 - any missing that should be included for specific questions?
 - populations that should be extra priority for your working group?
4. Are there additional potential **partner organizations** we should be talking to for specific populations/questions? Especially for **businesses in the natural resource industries, veteran owned business enterprises, and un/underemployed people**

Thank you - and be in touch!

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