

# Getting to social resilience: first it starts with listening



Photo credit: JD Mathewson, Flickr Creative Commons

Annie Cox, Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, [acox@wellsnerr.org](mailto:acox@wellsnerr.org)

Victoria Boundy, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership

Kristen Grant, Maine Sea Grant and UMaine Cooperative Extension

Maine's isolated geographic setting contributes to its social vulnerability.

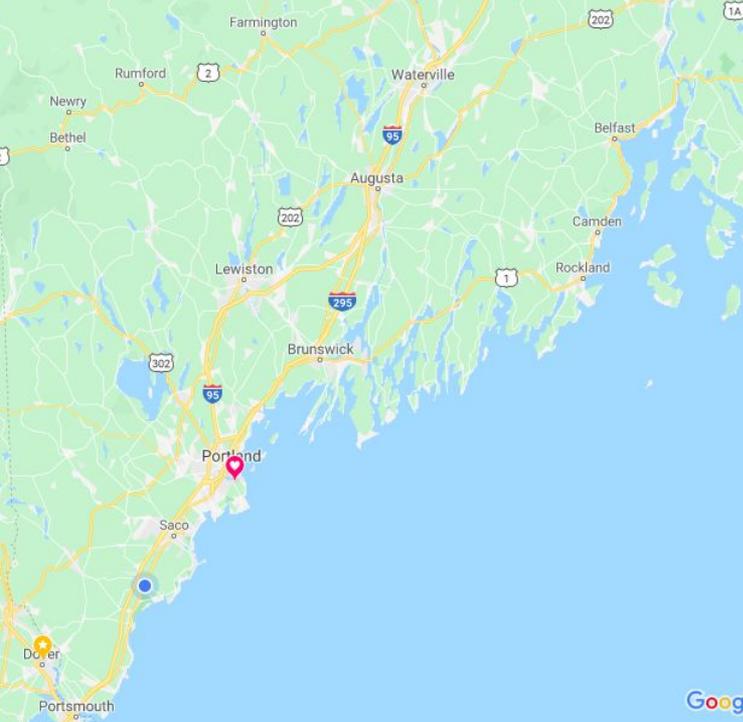
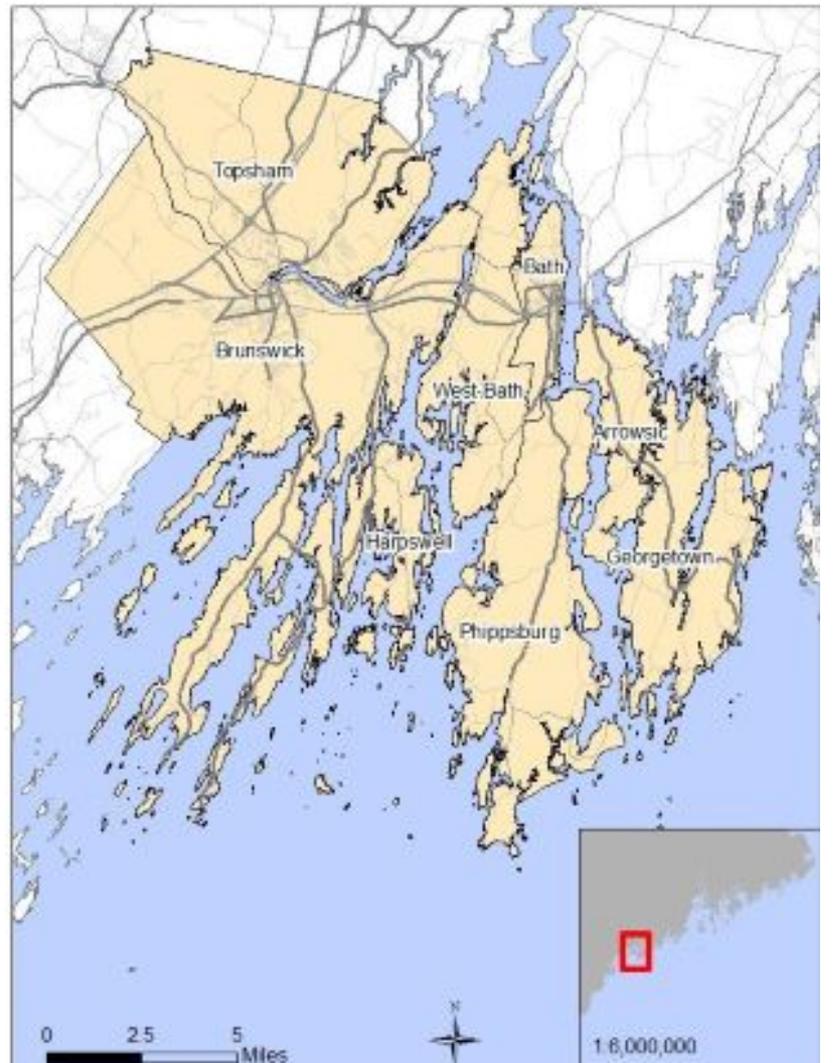


Image credit: Google  
Photo credit: smilla4 Flickr Creative Commons



Maine median age = 44.6; US median age = 38

# Maine is still the oldest state in the nation



Ashley L. Conti | BDN

Emma Brickman (left) and 92-year-old Joan Logue look through a photo album at Logue's home in Orono in this BDN file photo.

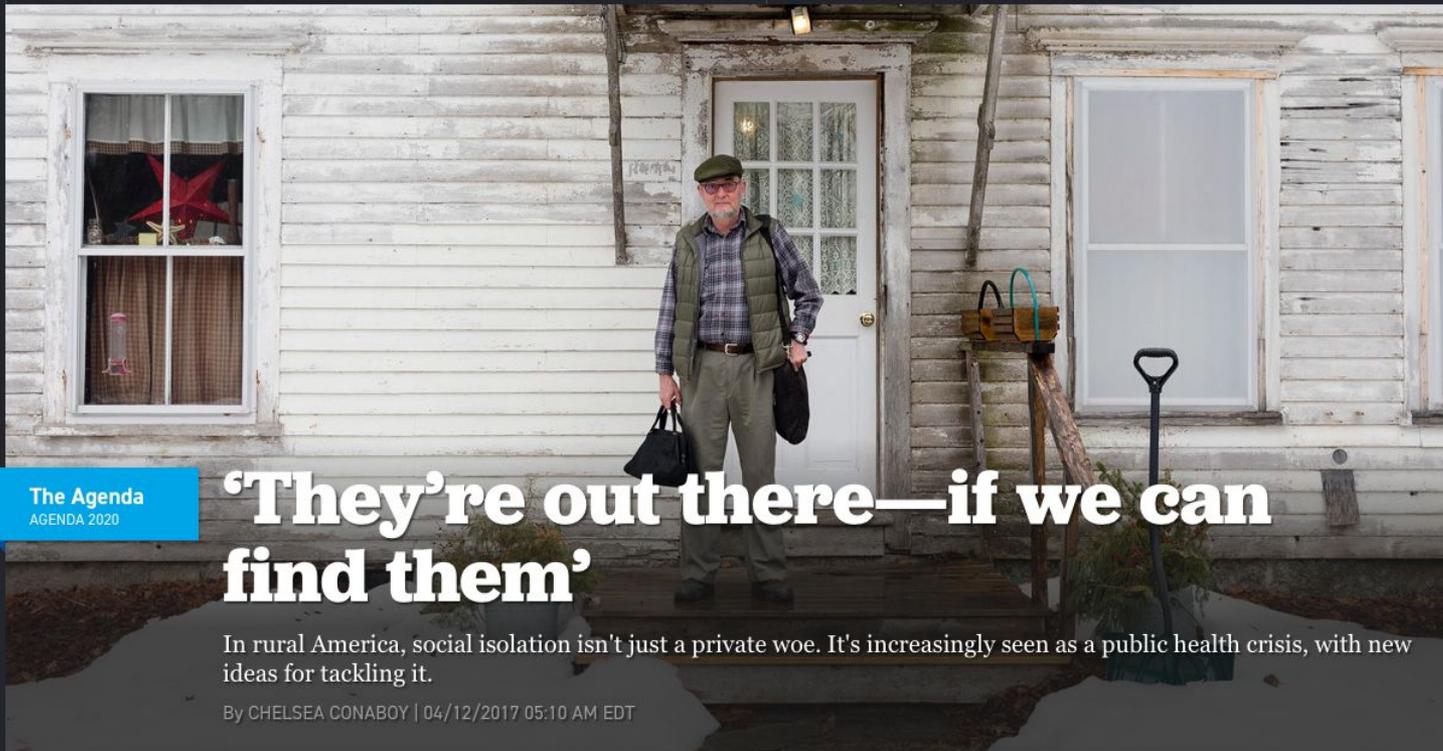


**THEAGENDA**

READING NOW: 'THEY'RE OUT THERE—IF WE CAN FIND THEM'



UP NEXT: ONE SMART UPSTREAM INVESTMENT



The Agenda  
AGENDA 2020

## 'They're out there—if we can find them'

In rural America, social isolation isn't just a private woe. It's increasingly seen as a public health crisis, with new ideas for tackling it.

By CHELSEA CONABOY | 04/12/2017 05:10 AM EDT

Yoon S. Byun for POLITICO

46% of residents 65+ older in Maine live alone

# Unusual 'bomb cyclone' blamed for widespread power outages



Michele McDonald/Portland Press Herald via AP | BDN

A large tree is down on top of a car on Melien Street, in Portland, Maine, Monday, Oct. 30, 2017, after early morning storm with  
tility, said its 391,000 outages surpasses its peak of 345,000 homes and  
.clickTag)



Robert F. Bukaty | AP

A car leaves a trail of light as it passes under power lines weighed down by toppled trees in Freeport, Maine, Tuesday, Oct. 31,

October 2017

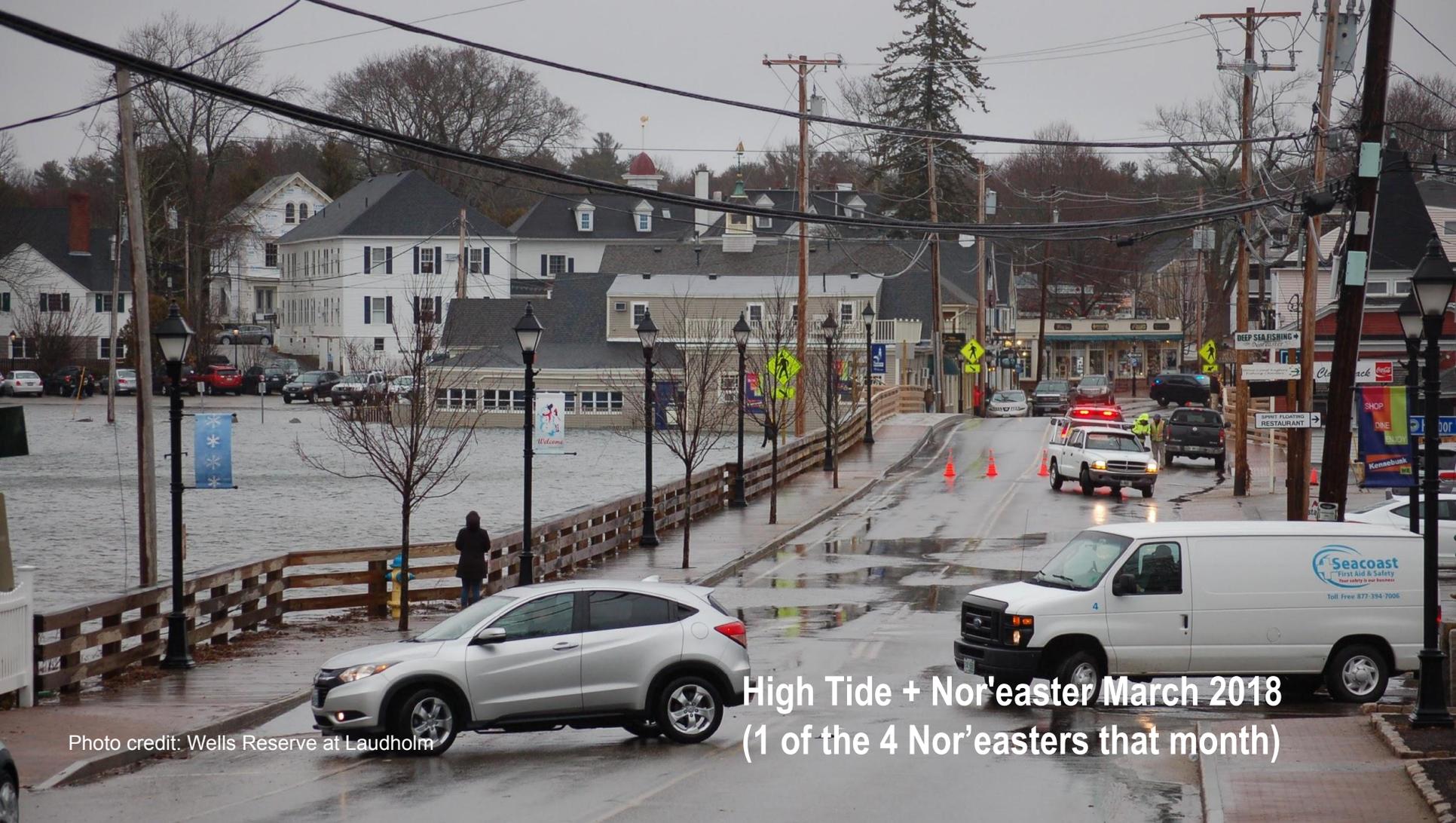


Photo credit: Wells Reserve at Laudholm

High Tide + Nor'easter March 2018  
(1 of the 4 Nor'easters that month)

# Resilience plans, data, and tools for the region abound



Sagadahoc Region, Maine  
Climate Change Adaptation Plan



Climate Change Adaptation Report:  
Georgetown, Maine



Georgetown Conservation Commission 2016

## CASCO BAY CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY REPORT



CascoBayEstuary.org

Prepared by:



NaturalChoices.com

Sagadahoc County Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2016 Update

Click Section Links to Review Plan:



[SECTION 1 - Intro - 2016](#)

[SECTION 2 - Prerequisites\\_Adoptions - 2016](#)

[SECTION 3 - Planning - 2016](#)

[SECTION 4 - Risk \(revised\) - 2016](#)

[SECTION 5 - Strategy \(revised\) - 2016](#)

[SECTION 6 - Maintenance - Sept16](#)

[Municipality Resolution Adoption Page - 2016](#)

[www.naturalchoices.com](http://www.naturalchoices.com)

# Resilience plans, data, and tools for the region around

Casco Bay RRAP -  
Homeland Security

## Maine Flood Resilience Checklist



A self-assessment tool for Maine's coastal communities to

Impact of Agriculture,  
Forestry and Maine

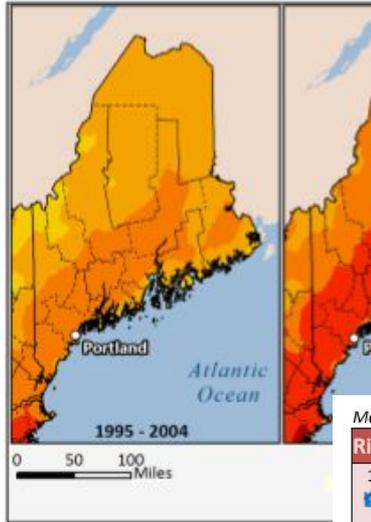
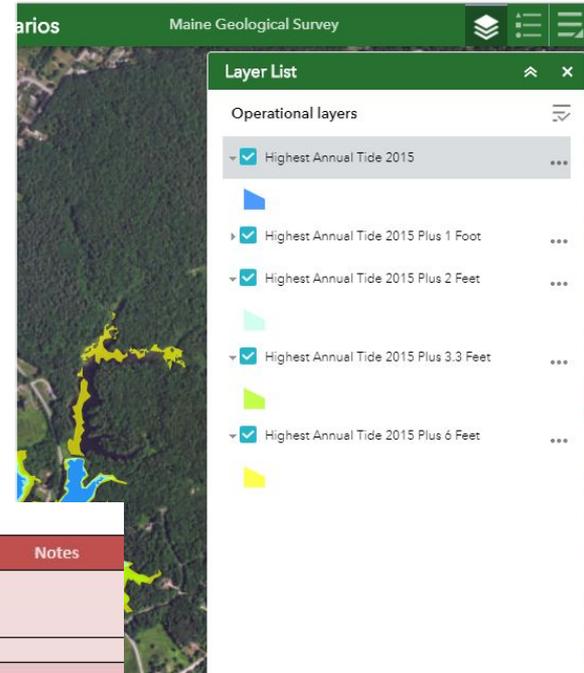


Figure 7 Projected Average



Maine Flood Resilience Checklist

Risk and Vulnerability		Yes		No		N/A	Notes
		a	b	a	b		
1	(a) Has your community identified and documented the historical geographic extent and impacts and (b) considered the potential future extent and impacts of the following coastal hazards?						
	• Coastal and nuisance flooding						
	• Storm surge						
	• Sea level rise						
	• Coastal erosion and/or shoreline change						
2	Are potential sea level rise, hurricane, and storm surge inundation						

# Factors Contributing to Vulnerabilities of Rural Communities

- Isolation of residents
- Aging populations
- Limited access to emergency services
- Limited road infrastructure
- Reliance on natural resource economies

Maine's small-town fire departments struggle to find volunteers, money



# Project Team



**Victoria Boundy**  
Casco Bay National  
Estuary Partnership



**Ruth Indrick**  
Kennebec Estuary Land Trust



**Annie Cox**  
Wells National Estuarine  
Research Reserve



**Dr Eileen Johnson**  
Bowdoin College



**Elizabeth Herz**  
Blue Sky Planning Solutions



**Kristen Grant**  
Maine Sea Grant/  
University of Maine  
Cooperative Extension

## Stakeholders working on resilience shared:

Coordination for emergency planning among towns addressing storm-related impact solutions is lacking;

An opportunity to share best practices from local and regional projects addressing resilience solutions exists;

Island and peninsular communities have different storm-related impact challenges than semi-urban communities;

Barriers to agency and municipal planning include: staff turnover, staff capacity, overcommitted volunteers, and lack of funding.



## **Emergency Management Pilot Meeting Participants:**

Harpswell Conservation Commission; Harpswell EM/Fire Administrator; Georgetown EM (2);Sagadahoc County EMA (2);Red Cross Disaster Management;Maine EMA

# Perspective on resilience planning from EMs

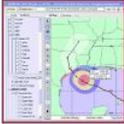
**HURREVAC**  
A Storm Tracking and Decision Support Tool  
for Government Emergency Managers

Register Download

## Welcome

HURREVAC is the decision support tool of the National Hurricane Program, administered by FEMA, the USACE, and the NOAA National Hurricane Center.

This web site provides program access and technical support for eligible users in government emergency management. It is maintained by Sea Island Software, the contractor tasked with development, operation, and maintenance of the HURREVAC program.



## Getting Started With HURREVAC

Need more information or training on HURREVAC? Start with a [program overview](#) or [training videos](#). If you don't yet have the software, please visit the [registration page](#) to apply for program access.

## » Announcements

Need HURREVAC instruction? Over 5 hours of recorded webinars [are available here for watching](#).

June 3, 2019 – Web-based HURREVAC is now operational at [hvx.hurrevac.com](#).

You are invited to [apply for an HVX-HURREVAC account](#) for the new system if not already signed up from last year's beta period.

The 2019 Season Update of Desktop HURREVAC (Version 1.9.1) is also now available.

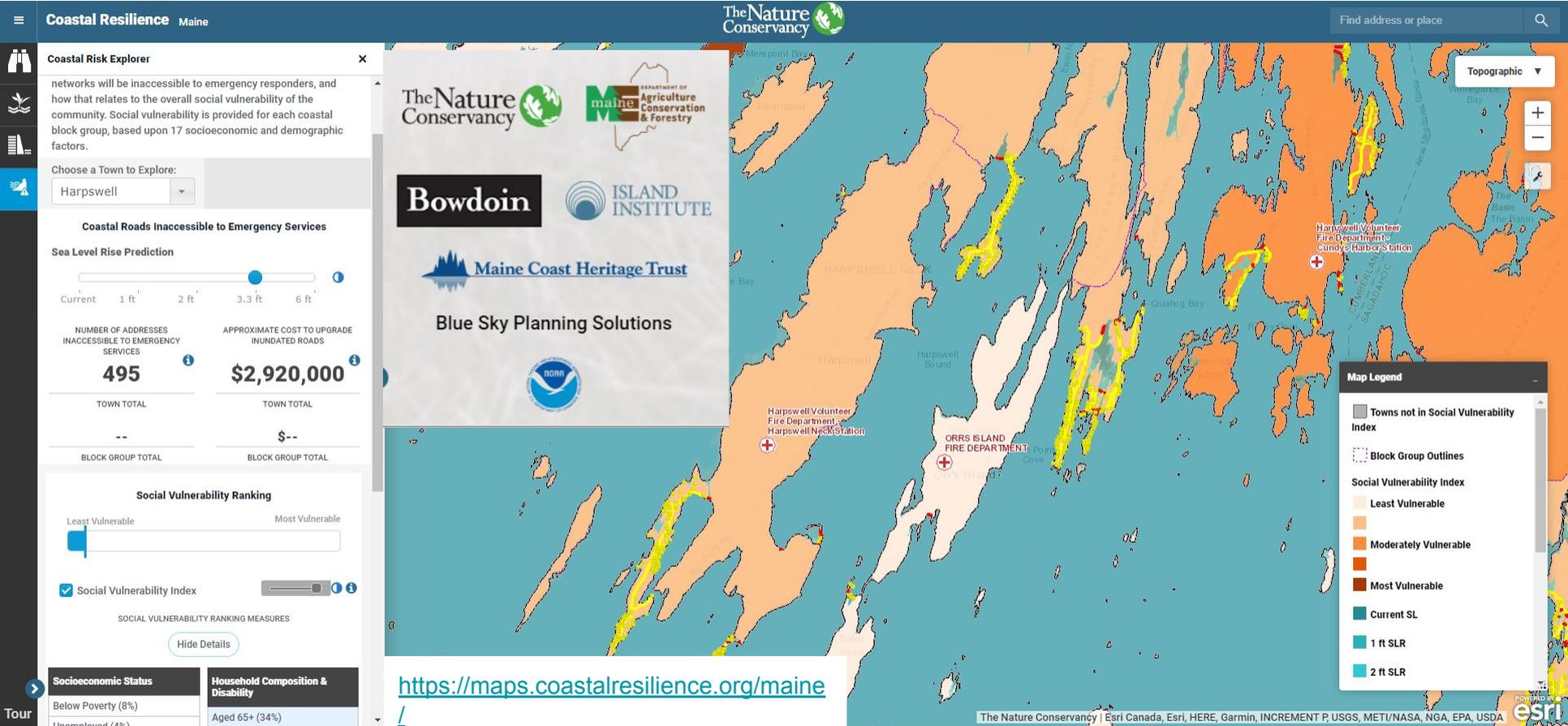


Click this button inside of Hurrevac to download the latest version.

Sea Island Software also produces [HurricaneMapping.com](#), a site for ArcGIS and Google Earth users which is subscription-based and offers easy integration of

- It's difficult keeping up with resilience planning documents
- Tool use: Hurrevac
- EM is the nexus for different disciplines
- EMs think of their work as respond & recover; look to local munis and orgs to plan & mitigate
- Political boundaries make for geographic planning gaps

# a customized **social vulnerability index** for Maine coastal communities and an analysis of impacts of SLR on critical road networks



# Local resilience planning study

## Preparing for Coastal Flooding in Harpswell: A Plan for Basin Point Road and Its Wetlands



Harpswell Conservation  
Commission



Reports and maps at:  
[www.harpswell.me.gov](http://www.harpswell.me.gov) *Environmental*



Case study amplifies need for sharing information within region;  
communication gaps: regional to local; local to local; interlocal.

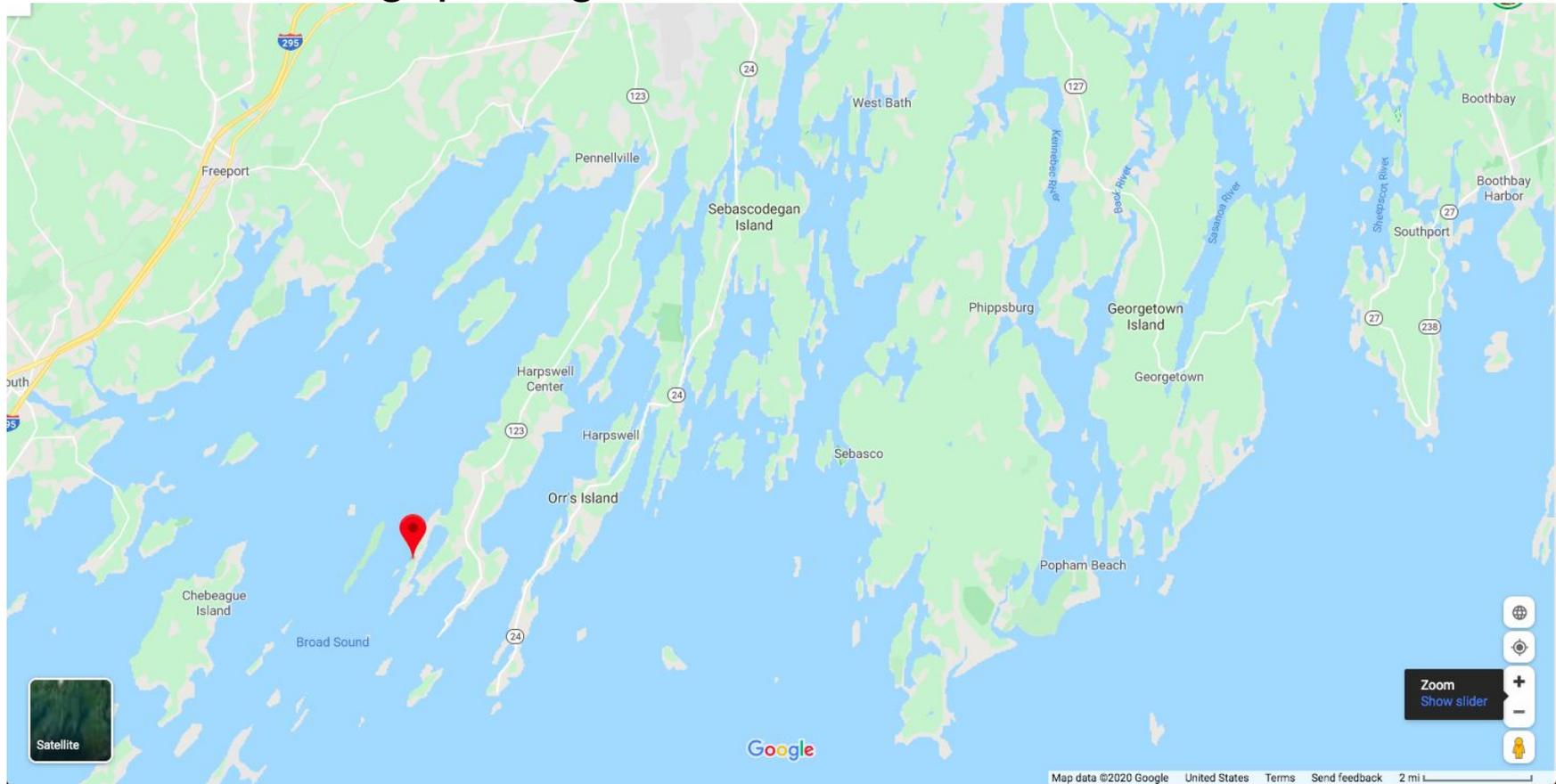




Photo credit: smilla4 Flickr Creative Commons

## **Social Service Agency Pilot Meeting Attendees:**

American Red Cross, Community Senior Center, Regional Intergenerational Community Center, Multi-county aging in place resource center, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Regional Foodbank, Community Aging at Home Group, Midcoast Public Health (in collaboration with Maine CDC), Catholic Charities SEARCH program (connects isolated seniors with community volunteers multi-county)

# Social Service Agencies Are a Network

**Resources:** themselves and volunteers; 211; mobility (going where the need is)

## **Challenges during a storm event (up to 10 days without power):**

Power outages and phone lines being bundled with cable

Shelters location is storm dependent

Most vulnerable can not access resources

People are stubborn and want to stay in place

Easy to get volunteers to drive a bus to bring people to appointments, etc.,  
hard to get people to take the bus

## **Who else should be involved?**

Childcare providers (Family Focus; Head Start, YMCA); Disability integration (e.g. hearing loss); In-home health care providers; Senior developments; Homeless population, esp. youth homeless



**Natural Resource Providers Pilot Meeting Attendees:**

Local Land Trust, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Conservation Commission members from 4 towns, City Councilor/Tree Committee, City Planner.

# Natural resource & social vulnerability intersection



Photo credit: smilla4 Flickr Creative Commons

- **Community education:** storm impacts, local food systems, carbon capture, as well, Conservation Commissions bring issues up to town leaders (marsh migration, senior transportation)
- **Stewardship & monitoring** projects: tree and brush cutting along roads to deter blow downs, culvert replacement, picture post of rds
- **Local food system work** – Work with farmers, food pantries, municipalities and Bowdoin College.
- **Opioid crisis:** what are the stressors that lead to substance abuse problems and how does it relate to land use.

# Next steps: develop communication lines for sharing information and resources amongst stakeholders

*and, good news . . .*

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Maine Climate Council
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Energy Working Group
Transportation Working Group
Buildings, Infrastructure and Housing Working Group
Coastal and Marine Working Group

## Maine Climate Council

Welcome to the Maine Climate Council homepage. Information about the Council and its working groups is given below. Please visit the individual web pages of working groups on the left hand side of this page for information about upcoming meetings, agendas and meeting materials, and minutes from past meetings.

### Goals of the Maine Climate Council

**Bold emissions reductions:** The Maine Climate Council is charged with developing a plan to meet state greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets that are now in law, including a gross 45% greenhouse gas emissions reduction below 1990 levels by 2030 and at least 80% by 2050

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Maine Climate Council Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

**Date:** February 5, 2020

**Time:** 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**Location:** Conference call (call-in details in agenda)

#### Maine Climate Council Community Resilience, Public