



Photo credit: Will Brown



NEW HAMPSHIRE COASTAL MANAGEMENT

The Coastal Program protects clean water, restores coastal habitats, and helps make communities more resilient to flooding and other natural hazards through staff assistance and funding to 42 coastal towns and cities as well as other local and regional groups.



Photo credit: Mike Barron

State Program in Action

- **Assessed and prioritized all 134 tidal crossings** in N.H. using a first of its kind in the nation culvert assessment protocol. The goal is to improve safety, design and permitting in the future.
- Funded the development and maintenance as well as provided training on the N.H. Coastal Viewer, a publically assessable on-line mapping tool that houses **150 coastal resources and hazards-related data sets** for better decision making at the state and local level.
- Worked with the Department of Environmental Services Wetlands Bureau to **rewrite administrative rules** that incorporate sea-level rise and resilience into a **new tidal chapter of rules slated to be finalized in 2019**. As a result of Coastal Program input, the rules now include a **project vulnerability assessment**.



Looking to the Future

The Coastal Program and NH Sea Grant will partner to develop a technical assistance program to assist and empower coastal landowners. Staff will conduct onsite assessments to help homeowners learn about potential actions that they can take to manage their own properties to mitigate storm and flood impacts. Potential landowner actions will also support dune and salt marsh habitats and the many benefits that they provide.



Photo credit: Town of Durham



Photo credit: Daniel Gobbi

HELPING PREPARE FOR COASTAL HAZARDS

The town of Durham received a Coastal Program “Coastal Resilience Grant” to complete design plans to control erosion problems at Wagon Hill Farm, a popular public recreation spot at the mouth of the tidally influenced Oyster River, through the construction of a living shoreline. The site’s living shoreline, a stabilization technique that uses nature-based elements, will include saltmarsh habitat and provide space for the marsh to move inland as sea levels rise. Thanks, in part to the Coastal Program grant and staff technical assistance, the Wagon Hill Farm living shoreline project was awarded construction funding, which is expected in 2019.

“The NHDES Coastal Program is a tremendous asset to both the Durham community and Seacoast NH as a whole. Whether working with town officials to stabilize and restore eroding shoreline at Durham’s Wagon Hill Farm, or providing resources and expert guidance to the region as we collectively work to ensure coastal communities remain resilient in the face of increased storm surge and flooding, I have found the Coastal Program staff to be highly professional, responsive, and dedicated to finding workable solutions to achieve our common goals,”
said Todd Selig, town of Durham Administrator.

A State-Federal Partnership: Investing in Coastal Communities

Additional federal funding increases the amount of grant funds that can be passed through to communities and partners to support projects that address coastal hazards and resilience. The Coastal Program launched the competitive funding opportunity “Coastal New Hampshire Resilience Grants.” Three rounds of resilience funding have passed through from the NHCP’s annual NOAA grant in 2014, 2016 and 2018, funding 11 projects with more than \$600,000.

FY18 Federal Funds: \$1,139,000
FY18 State & Local Matching Funds: \$1,062,000
FY18 Total: \$2,201,000

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