



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

- Developed and released new mapping products and data that characterize tidal crossings for use by community officials and road managers to enact strategic repairs and replacement of tidal crossing infrastructure and to identify high priority restoration and conservation opportunities at tidal crossings sites.
- Funded work by the Town of Newmarket for final design, engineering and permitting to replace a dramatically undersized and flood prone culvert at Lubberland Creek to accommodate sea level rise and 100-year storm events, enables marsh migration, improves fish passage and ensures safe passage during storm events.
- 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. 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: David Murray

HELPING PREPARE FOR COASTAL HAZARDS

Faced with increasingly frequent and severe coastal flooding, the Town of Hampton and its residents are working to prevent future flood damages and continue enjoying their beloved oceanfront community for years to come. The NHCP collaborated with the Seabrook-Hamptons Estuary Alliance and Town staff on multiple resilience building initiatives in 2019, including convening and facilitating Hampton’s Coastal Hazards and Adaptation Team to guide long term adaptation planning; providing funding to develop the Vision and Coastal Hazards and Adaptation content for the Town’s Master Plan update; and developing preliminary designs for nature-based strategies to mitigate coastal flooding in low-lying neighborhoods with a National Fish and Wildlife Federation Coastal Resilience grant. Together these projects comprise a creative, and multipronged approach for addressing coastal flooding in Hampton.

“Coming to grips with current and projected flooding in Hampton has required taking on issues that had not previously been explored, and finding ways to address questions, concerns, and fears that have been expressed across the community. The Coastal Program has been a great partner in developing the ‘Building a Flood Smart Workshop’ series for Hampton residents; applying for and securing grant funding from the Consensus Building Institute to introduce the concept of “managed retreat” in Hampton; and helping to develop the ‘Coastal Hazards Adaptation Team,’ which is a unique assembly of municipal officials that meets monthly to explore flooding issues and adaptation strategies in Hampton. Each of those efforts have been much more effective than they would have been without the Coastal Program’s knowledge, guidance, and support.”

– Jay Diener, President, Seabrook-Hamptons Estuary Alliance

FY20 Federal Funds: \$1,172,000
FY20 State & Local Matching Funds: \$1,095,000
FY20 Total: \$2,267,000

Steven Couture,
Coastal Program Administrator
New Hampshire Department of
Environmental Services
Phone: (603) 271-8801
Email: steven.couture@des.nh.gov



Coastal States Organization
50 F St., NW, Suite 570
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 800-0580
www.coastalstates.org

Website: <http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/coastal/>
Twitter: @NHDES; @nhcaw Facebook: @NHEnvironmentalServices, @nhcoastaladaptation
Instagram: @nhcoastaladaptation