



Our Changing Coast

Casco Bay 2015

State of the Bay Conference

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel • Ballroom Entrance • South Portland, Maine

Casco Bay Estuary Partnership

Casco Bay was designated an “estuary of national significance” in 1990, and included in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Estuary Program. As a result of this designation, the Casco Bay Estuary Partnership (CBEP) was formed—becoming one of 28 National Estuary Programs nationwide.

University of Southern Maine • Portland, ME 04104-9300 • www.cascobayestuary.org • 207-780-4820

7:30 to 8:30 Registration and continental breakfast (LIGHTHOUSE BALLROOM)

Exhibit: Envisioning Change—Sea Level Rise in Casco Bay
 Exhibit: Casco Bay Stories

8:30 to 9:30 Welcome and Keynote Address (LIGHTHOUSE BALLROOM)

WELCOME: **Jacqueline Cohen**, *Chair, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership Management Committee*
 STATE of the BAY 2015: **Curtis Bohlen**, *Director, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership*
 REMARKS: **Travis Kennedy**, *Regional Representative, Office of Senator Angus King*
 KEYNOTE: “How a Changing Economy Will Change Casco Bay, and Vice Versa”
Charles Colgan, *Director, Center for the Blue Economy, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey*

9:30 to 10:30 Our Changing Coastal Economy (Plenary panel discussion) (LIGHTHOUSE BALLROOM)

Casco Bay is a key economic driver for the region’s communities, providing benefits to marine industries and tourism, and contributing to a high quality of life that attracts residents and businesses. Panelists will discuss how changes in Casco Bay may intersect with long-term trends affecting Maine’s coastal economy.

- Curtis Bohlen**, *Director, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership (Moderator)*
- Sean Mahoney**, *Vice President, Conservation Law Foundation*
- Charles Colgan**, *Director, Center for the Blue Economy, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey*
- Bri Warner**, *Economic Development Director, Island Institute*
- Rebecca Schaffner**, *Sustain Southern Maine Director, Greater Portland Council of Governments*
- Jennifer Hutchins**, *Executive Director, Creative Portland*
- Patrick Arnold**, *Director of Operations and Business Development, Maine Port Authority*

10:30 to 10:50 Break with coffee and tea (LIGHTHOUSE BALLROOM)

10:50 to 12:00 Perspectives on Our Changing Coast (Concurrent panel discussions)

Panels consisting of local business leaders, educators, conservationists, and policy experts will discuss how communities are collectively adapting to a changing coast, and explore the roles that these groups can play in contributing to the long-term health and vitality of Casco Bay.

Business/Tourism Perspectives (WHALEBACK ROOM)

- Charlie Poole**, *Waterfront Alliance (Moderator)*
- Mike Chelminski**, *Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Co-moderator)*
- Patrice McCarron**, *Maine Lobsterman’s Association*
- Rauni Kew**, *Inn by the Sea*
- Jen Levin**, *Gulf of Maine Research Institute*

How will a changing Casco Bay affect local businesses? What responses and initiatives could the business community undertake to support a healthy Bay?

Education Perspectives (BREAKWATER ROOM)

- Jan Piribeck**, *University of Southern Maine (Moderator)*
- Deb Debiegun**, *Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District*
- Sarah Plummer**, *Portland Water District*
- Linda Woodard**, *Maine Audubon*
- Leah McDonald**, *Rippleffect*

How can educational programs engage area residents with Casco Bay? What educational initiatives could help citizens and communities understand the extent of change underway?

Conservation Perspectives (SEBAGO ROOM)

- Steve Walker**, *Maine Coast Heritage Trust (Moderator)*
- Jeff Reardon**, *Trout Unlimited*
- Reed Coles**, *Harpswell Heritage Land Trust*
- Bob Shafto**, *Town of Falmouth*
- Mary Ann Nahf**, *Harpswell Conservation Commission*

How might long-term threats to the Bay change conservation priorities? How can conservation efforts best contribute to the Bay’s future health?

Policy Perspectives (CUMBERLAND ROOM)

- Susan Farady**, *University of New England (Moderator)*
- Mel Coté**, *Environmental Protection Agency Region 1*
- Nick Bennett**, *Natural Resources Council of Maine*
- Nancy Gallinaro**, *City of Portland*
- Michael Shaughnessy**, *Friends of the Presumpscot River*

How can the economic and ecological challenges facing Casco Bay precipitate creative new policy approaches? What is on the policy horizon related to the Bay?

12:00 to 1:00 *Buffet lunch and awards* (LIGHTHOUSE BALLROOM)

Awardee: **Beverly Bayley-Smith**, *Casco Bay Estuary Partnership, retired*
 Awardee: **Stewart Fefer**, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, retired*
 Awardee: **Joe Payne**, *Friends of Casco Bay, retired*

1:00 to 2:30 *Preparing For the Future of a Changing Casco Bay* (Concurrent sessions)

Representatives of organizations working on behalf of Casco Bay will share recent accomplishments and upcoming initiatives.

Habitat Resilience (CUMBERLAND ROOM)

Hilary Neckles, *U.S. Geological Survey-Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (Moderator)*
Joe Salisbury, *University of New Hampshire*
Jed Wright, *U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*
Landis Hudson, *Maine Rivers*
Pam Morgan, *University of New England*

Monitoring Change in Casco Bay (SEBAGO ROOM)

Mike Doan, *Friends of Casco Bay (Moderator)*
Graham Sherwood, *Gulf of Maine Research Institute*
Neal Pettigrew, *University of Maine*
Karen Wilson, *University of Southern Maine*
Damian Brady, *Darling Marine Center*

Mobilizing Community Support for Casco Bay (WHALEBACK ROOM)

Fred Dillon, *City of South Portland (Moderator)*
Dan Devereaux, *Town of Brunswick*
Kate McDonald, *Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District*
Peter Slovinsky, *Maine Geological Survey*
Doug Roncarati, *City of Portland*

Casco Bay Plan Discussion (BREAKWATER ROOM)

Craig Freshley, *Good Group Decisions (Facilitator)*

2:30 to 2:50 *Break with light snack* (LIGHTHOUSE BALLROOM)

2:50 to 4:00 *Successful Approaches to Change* (Concurrent presentations with panel discussion)

National and local speakers will provide a broad view of change, with lessons learned and insights for the future.

Coastal Habitats (SEBAGO ROOM)

Sue Adamowicz, *U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Moderator)*
Robin Hadlock Seeley, *Cornell University*
Sally Stockwell, *Maine Audubon*
Susie Arnold, *Island Institute*

Water Quality (CUMBERLAND ROOM)

Angela Brewer, *Maine Department of Environmental Protection*
Cathy Ramsdell, *Friends of Casco Bay*
Rachel Rouillard, *Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership*
Ivy Frignoca, *Conservation Law Foundation*

Coastal Communities (WHALEBACK ROOM)

Stanton Hales, *Barneгат Bay Partnership (Moderator)*
Christine Feurt, *Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve*
Samuel Merrill, *GEI Consultants*
Charlie Hebson, *Maine Department of Transportation*

4:00 to 5:30 *Cash bar with light appetizers* (LIGHTHOUSE BALLROOM)



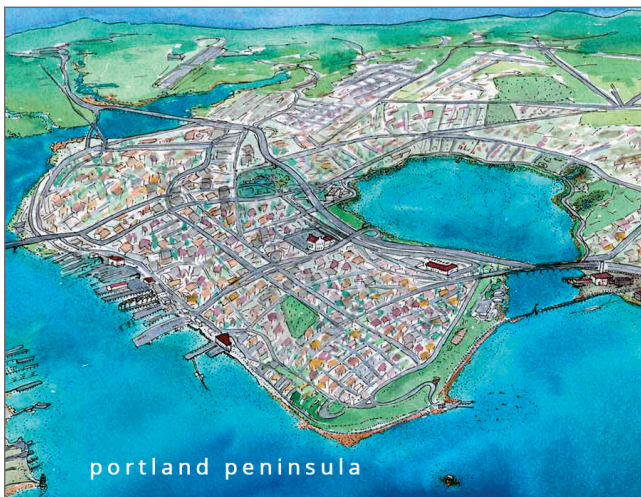
Conference Exhibit: Envisioning Change—Sea Level Rise in Casco Bay

CBEP is pleased to display the work of *Envisioning Change: Sea Level Rise in Casco Bay*, an ongoing project to map and record regional sea-level rise impacts from 1900 through 2100. The posters feature digital renditions of watercolor maps depicting Casco Bay and photos documenting events hosted by the King Tide Artists' Collective.



There are also two slideshows: one features contemporary maps that illustrate changes in the Casco Bay shoreline over time; and the second documents tidal flooding that takes place regularly in Portland's East Bayside neighborhood. Please visit these conference exhibits in the Lighthouse

Ballroom and learn more about Envisioning Change at esealevelchange.org.



The watercolor maps featured in this exhibit were created by MollyMaps for the Envisioning Change Project (esealevelchange.org)

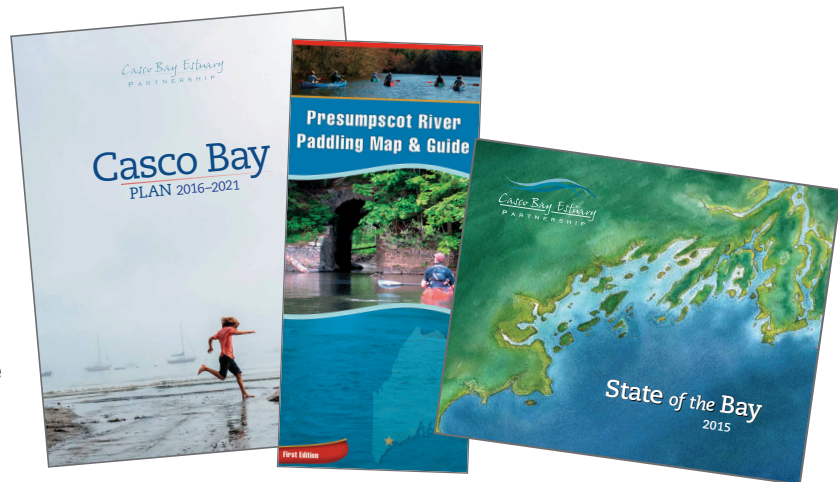
CBEP Releases Three New Publications

This conference marks the official release of three new Partnership publications: the *State of the Bay 2015* report (www.cascobayestuary.org/state-of-the-bay-2015), the draft of the *Casco Bay Plan 2016–2021* (www.cascobayestuary.org/planning-for-the-future), and the *Presumpscot River Paddling Map and Guide* (www.cascobayestuary.org/presumpscot-river-paddling-map-guide).

Every five years, in its State of the Bay report, the Partnership portrays how Casco Bay is faring—what trends are evident, what progress is visible, and what new challenges are emerging. Find more detail on the sixteen indicators of Casco Bay's health in *State of the Bay 2015* online.

The draft *Casco Bay Plan 2016–2021* is the product of a collective effort spanning more than a year and involving more than 200 representatives of regional organizations and agencies.

The *Presumpscot River Paddling Map and Guide*, produced in cooperation with the Presumpscot River Watershed Coalition, offers detailed paddling guidance for this popular river in Maine's largest metropolitan area.



Casco Bay Stories

An ongoing project of CBEP, Casco Bay Stories gathers engaging stories on video, profiling area residents discussing how the Bay and the lakes and rivers in its watershed have shaped their lives and what changes they have perceived.

Casco Bay Stories may be viewed online (www.cascobaystories.org) and in poster format at the conference.

