Community Intertidal Data Portal

October 28, 2021

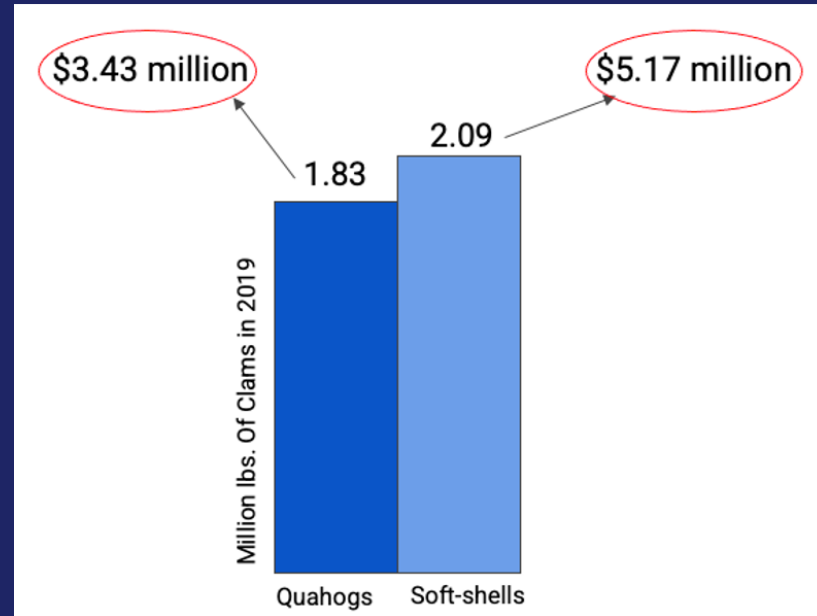# Welcome & Introductions

Agenda

3:00   Welcome/Introductions

3:10   Community Intertidal Data Portal Presentation

3:20   Data Portal Demonstration, Q&A

3:40   Break-Out Room Discussions

4:15   Reconvene, Q&A

4:25   Thank you and Next Steps

Importance of Shellfish in Casco Bay

Shellfish resources in the intertidal are of great importance:

- Ecologically
  - Water purification, protection from erosion, nutrient cycling
- Economically
  - Jobs, multiplier effect, tourism, restaurants
- Culturally
  - Wabanaki shell middens
  - 1640 Colonial shellfish ordinance

Volume and value of clams in Casco Bay. Source: Maine DMR Commercial Fishing Landings Data (2019)

Issues facing the fishery

➔ Gulf of Maine is one of the fastest warming bodies of water
➔ Increased rate of clam predation by milky ribbon worms and green crabs
➔ Ocean acidification
➔ Water quality closures
   ◆ Biotoxin, bacterial, and rainfall
➔ Limited entry fishery
   ◆ Demand for licenses > supply
➔ Limited access to the intertidal
➔ Limited information for decision making, conservation, and monitoring at the municipal level

Casco Bay Regional Shellfish Working Group

Vision:

A healthy intertidal ecosystem that sustains shellfish resources and the jobs that depend on these fisheries.

Mission

Collaboratively address pressing issues facing the wild-harvest shellfish community and to share expertise and best practices for management, conservation, research, and monitoring across towns and stakeholders in Casco Bay, Maine.

Community Intertidal Data Portal

- GPCOG to support municipalities as a regional data clearinghouse

- Understanding the intertidal is key across stakeholder groups for:
  - Management of wild shellfish populations, their habitat, and harvester jobs
  - Climate change adaptation action planning
  - Access, development, and conservation questions that will have long lasting impacts

- When available, intertidal data may not be presented in ways that are understandable or actionable for a non-technical audience
  - Increase accessibility by providing data in centralized, up-to-date, visual format

Purpose

Primary goal: to help inform municipal coastal planning and climate change adaptation, with a focus on the intertidal ecosystem and shellfish conservation.

Secondary goal: is to inform research and monitoring in the intertidal zone, as the data portal will inform research priorities, siting for municipal conservation projects, and long-term monitoring.

Applications

Each tool will center around a specific management or planning question and incorporate data in a way that will facilitate action and decision making
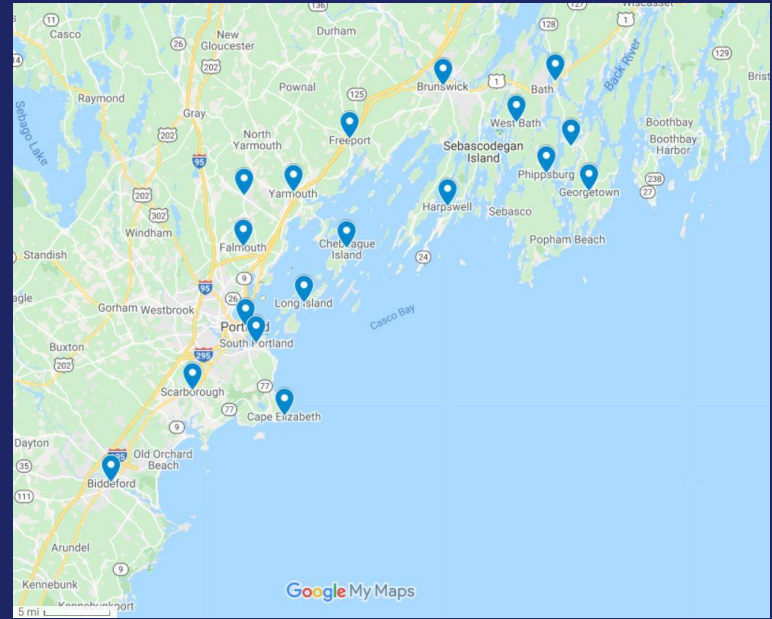
Future data products could focus on informing:

- Shellfish restoration

- Coastal permitting

- Coastal comprehensive planning

- Climate action planning and resilience

- Identifying key conservation areas

Data Portal Outreach

- Scope:
  - Stakeholders: shellfish community and municipal staff/committees involved in coastal planning
  - Geographic: intertidal zone within GPCOG and WG communities
- Surveys of the shellfish community and municipal staff/committees
- Group feedback sessions
  - Like this workshop!

Breakout Rooms

You can choose the room you're interested in!

- Breakout A: Water Quality Dashboard
- Breakout B: Sea Level Rise & Intertidal Story Map
- Breakout C: Septic System Data Collection Tool

If you would like to switch rooms mid-session, return to the main room and you will be able to select another breakout room.

Next Steps

Fall 2021: Gather input from stakeholders via meetings and individual outreach

Late Winter/Early Spring 2022: Develop additional data products

Spring 2022: Beta test data products with stakeholders and refine

Early Summer 2022: Training sessions and outreach with final version

Contact Madeline Tripp at madeline@tidalbayconsulting.com if you'd like to participate!

Thanks to the sponsors of the Community Intertidal Data Portal...

ISLAND INSTITUTE
Tom Glenn Fund Community Impact Fund

The Nature Conservancy

BUILDERS INITIATIVE

Maine Coastal Community Grant Program

Announcements

Thank you!