



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

October 15, 2021

Margaret Allen
Senior Coastal Management Specialist
Coastal Management and Digital Coast Fellowship Coordinator
Contractor in support of NOAA Office for Coastal Management
2234 South Hobson Ave.
Charleston, SC 29405

Re: 2022-2024 New Hampshire Coastal Management Fellowship Proposal

Dear Ms. Allen:

I am pleased to submit New Hampshire's proposal for a 2022-2024 NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship project, entitled: *"The Resilient Collaborative Project: Advancing the New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup."*

The Resilient Collaborative project will provide much-needed capacity and creative direction to help the NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (NHCAW) and its partner organizations increase resilience in NH's coastal communities by operationalizing the network's emerging priorities, empowering local champions and practitioners, and enhancing engagement with stakeholder audiences. The fellow will work collaboratively with NHCAW leadership, including the NH Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program, NH Sea Grant, the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership, and the Outreach Subcommittee to accomplish the following tasks: 1) design and implement Fellow work plan to advance emerging NHCAW priorities; 2) organize NHCAW Climate Summit conference; 3) coordinate CAW Talks municipal discussion group; 4) convene NHCAW and Maine Climate Change Adaptation Providers Network peer-to-peer exchange; 5) manage NHCAW Rising Tides Photo Contest; and 6) produce fresh and engaging social media and web content for NHCAW. This project offers an exciting opportunity for a fellow to work closely with NH's leading coastal resilience organizations and practitioners to propel NHCAW to new heights.

We are excited about our proposal, its connections to NH and NOAA priorities, our strong partnership network, and the opportunity it will provide for a fellow.

Please let me know if you have any questions and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Steve Couture
Administrator
New Hampshire Coastal Program

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The Resilient Collaborative Project

Advancing the New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup

Executive Summary

The 2022-2024 New Hampshire NOAA Coastal Management Fellow project will provide much-needed capacity and creative direction to help the NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (NHCAW) and its partner organizations increase resilience in NH's coastal communities by operationalizing the network's emerging priorities, empowering local champions and practitioners, and enhancing engagement with stakeholder audiences. The fellow will work collaboratively with NHCAW leadership, including the NH Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program, NH Sea Grant, the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership, and the Outreach Subcommittee to accomplish the following tasks: 1) design and implement Fellow work plan to advance emerging NHCAW priorities; 2) organize NHCAW Climate Summit conference; 3) coordinate CAW Talks municipal discussion group; 4) convene NHCAW and Maine Climate Change Adaptation Providers Network peer-to-peer exchange; 5) manage NHCAW Rising Tides Photo Contest; and 6) produce fresh and engaging social media and web content for NHCAW. This project offers an exciting opportunity for a fellow to work closely with NH's leading coastal resilience organizations and practitioners to propel NHCAW to new heights.

1. Background and Introduction

The New Hampshire (NH) coast is a vibrant place to live, work, and play. The 17 coastal zone communities (see Appendix B) are home to 11 percent of the state's population, several popular beaches, two nationally-recognized estuaries, and a diverse economy that supports over 100,000 jobs (NHCRHC 2016). However, the area is also subject to significant and increasing coastal flood risks leading to vulnerable natural resources, built infrastructure, and social well-being. In 2006 and 2007, the Mother's Day and Patriot's Day floods led to severe and pervasive flooding in coastal NH communities. More recently, in March 2018, two Nor'easters caused major flooding and damage in coastal NH communities, resulting in a Presidential Disaster Declaration and public assistance request of \$3.3 million (FEMA 2018). On sunnier days, the town of Hampton worries about weekly high tide flooding on neighborhood streets (Chin & Howard, in process) and regional guidance now directs coastal NH communities to plan for between 2.9 and 6.2 feet of sea level rise by 2100 (NHCFR STAP 2020). With targeted assistance and coordination, the relatively small and capacity-limited coastal NH communities have taken steps to increase understanding about present-day and future flood risks, plan ahead, and increase their community resilience, however, there is much more work to be done.

In 2009, precipitated by the fallout of the Mother's Day and Patriot's Day storms and enabled by a relatively small geographic scope and strong connections among coastal resilience and adaptation practitioners, the [New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup](#) (NHCAW) was formed. NHCAW is an [award-winning collaborative](#) that has grown to over 30 organizations and municipalities working to assist NH's coastal watershed communities to prepare for the impacts of extreme weather and long-term climate change. NHCAW focuses on meeting specific community needs, as identified and defined by the communities themselves. Recognizing that the communities within the region are small, governed mostly by volunteers, and facing many competing priorities, NHCAW has provided important capacity on a consistent, coordinated, regional scale that has enabled these small towns and cities to begin tackling the longer term need to prepare for climate change. Over the years, NHCAW members have [assisted communities](#) to understand relevant climate science, evaluate their risks and plan for change, complete assessments, plans, outreach campaigns, and adopt regulations that enhance their resilience to coastal hazards. After a few years of work, NHCAW members realized the group had an

equally important role to play in empowering [community climate champions](#) to lead and sustain this work in their own communities and to join NHCAW (Philip 2014). As climate change collaboratives and networks have emerged around the country and world, the NHCAW model has proven to be an effective and sustainable approach for addressing the challenges posed by climate change at local and regional scales (ISC 2019).

As momentum on coastal resilience issues has intensified, with more communities engaged and new funding opportunities available, NHCAW recognizes that its capacity as a network has reached a ceiling, and is looking to a Coastal Management Fellow to propel the network to new heights. NHCAW is currently co-chaired by staff from the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) and the [Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership](#) (PREP) with additional core support provided by the [NHDES Coastal Program](#) (NHCP), [New Hampshire Sea Grant](#) (NHSG), [University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension](#) (UNHCE), [Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve](#) (GBNERR), and [Rockingham](#) and [Strafford](#) Regional Planning Commissions (RPC and SRPC). Support is provided by these entities in the form of in-kind staff time as well as pass-through grant funds from NHCP to enable partner attendance at bi-monthly membership meetings, monthly Outreach Committee meetings, and participation on subcommittees to plan special [events and initiatives](#), such as the [NH Coastal Climate Summit](#), [Rising Tides Photo Contest](#), and [educational workshops](#) for practitioners and community members. Over the decade since NHCAW's inception, partners have collaborated to bring in over \$7 million in external grant funds to execute more than 100 [NHCAW-related projects](#), including projects funded by the National League of Cities, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and the Climigration Network, among others. Despite its success, NHCAW has always operated as an informal network with no dedicated staff, no long-term strategic plan, and very limited funding.

As important lessons and priorities have emerged from NHCAW's work, such as the need for a more intentional approach to centering diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ) in NH coastal resilience initiatives, NHCAW members have struggled to find the resources and capacity to adequately address these priorities. In an effort to establish partner consensus around new and emerging priorities, NHCAW members will hold a strategic planning retreat in fall 2021 and follow-on conversations with membership in spring 2022. Preliminary discussions and survey work to prepare for the retreat suggest that priorities may include topics such as DEIJ, community-led relocation and retreat, climate migration to northern New England, and expanding NHCAW's focus to new communities in the coastal watershed. In order to fully capitalize on the outcomes of the retreat, the Coastal Fellow will be charged with operationalizing the NHCAW priorities into a work plan and assisting the collaborative to overcome its capacity limitations through a variety of initiatives and a culminating recommendations report. The Coastal Fellow will provide much-needed capacity and creative direction to help NHCAW and its partner organizations continue to increase resilience in NH's coastal communities by operationalizing the emerging priorities, empowering local champions and practitioners, and enhancing engagement with stakeholder audiences. This fellowship project proposal was developed collaboratively with and is enthusiastically supported by NHCAW leadership, including NHCP, NHSG, PREP, and the Outreach Subcommittee.

2. Goals and Objectives

The goal of the Resilient Collaborative Project is to build the capacity of NHCAW to evolve and address new, emerging priorities. To accomplish this goal, the fellow will:

- 1) **Advance Emerging NHCAW Priorities:** Design and implement a work plan that supports NHCAW's ongoing initiatives and advances the collaborative's goals and emerging priorities as identified during the October 2021 NHCAW Strategic Planning Retreat;

- 2) **Empower Local Climate Adaptation Champions and Practitioners:** Facilitate peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing on coastal resilience topics among municipal staff and community leaders, state agencies, regional planning commissions, academic institutions, private-sector consultants, and other stakeholders through NHCAW workshops and workgroups; and
- 3) **Enhance Engagement Opportunities:** Lead NHCAW efforts to enhance opportunities for all members of the public to better understand and participate in NH coastal resilience initiatives.

3. Milestones and Outcomes

The table below presents the anticipated project milestones and outcomes for each project objective.

OBJECTIVE 1: ADVANCE EMERGING NHCAW PRIORITIES	
Milestones/Outcomes	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Findings from NHCAW Strategic Planning Retreat, member survey, and other needs assessment analyzed and emerging NHCAW priorities identified (Task 1.1) 	Months 1-3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fellow work plan to advance 2-4 emerging NHCAW priorities finalized (Task 1.1) 	Months 3-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of fellow work plan (Task 1.1) 	Months 6-24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final summary report and recommendations presented to NHCAW (Task 1.1) 	Month 24
OBJECTIVE 2: EMPOWER LOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION CHAMPIONS AND PRACTITIONERS	
Milestones/Outcomes	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 & 2024 Climate Summit executed (Task 2.1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning team convened (Month 5 & 16) ○ Themes and objectives identified (Month 7 & 19) ○ Program finalized (Month 9 & 21) ○ Summit executed (Month 11 & 23) ○ Lessons learned summarized and shared (Month 12 & 24) 	2023 Summit: Months 5-12 2024 Summit: Months 16-24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAW Talks municipal champion collaborative advanced (Task 2.2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Future CAW Talks topics identified; additional communities invited (Months 1-6) ○ Bi-monthly CAW Talks meetings held and lessons shared (Months 1-24) 	Months 1-24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 & 2024 NHCAW-CCAP Exchange executed (Task 2.3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steering Committee convened (Month 5 & 17) ○ Goals, objectives, and agenda finalized (Month 7 & 19) ○ Exchange held and lessons learned shared (Months 8-10 & 20-22) 	2023 Exchange: Months 5-10 2024 Exchange: Months 17-22
OBJECTIVE 3: ENHANCE ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES	
Milestones/Outcomes	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 & 2023 Rising Tides Photo Contests implemented and expanded (Task 3.1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning team convened (Month 1 & 12) ○ Rules updated; field trip planned; promotion materials ready (Month 1-3 & 12-14) ○ Culminating outreach event/exhibit held (Month 5 & 16) ○ Lessons learned compiled to inform future planning (Month 1, 5 & 16) ○ ArcGIS Story Map of Rising Tides Photo Contest photos published (Month 24) 	2022 Contest: Months 1-5 2023 Contest: Month 12-16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHCAW social media and website content plan implemented and evaluated (Task 3.2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social media analysis findings reviewed; website audit completed (Months 1-2) ○ 3-year social media and web content plan finalized (Months 3-6) ○ New social media and web content created (Months 1-24) ○ Plan success evaluated; recommendations shared (Months 12 & 24) 	Months 1-24

4. Project Description

The Resilient Collaborative Project offers an exciting opportunity for a fellow to work closely with NH’s leading coastal resilience organizations and practitioners to identify and address emerging priorities

related to coastal hazards and climate change, as well as facilitate the evolution of NHCAW so it can become an even stronger, more effective collaborative. In addition to identifying and addressing new priorities, the Fellow's work plan will include coordinating and collaborating on several cornerstone NHCAW initiatives, including the Climate Summit, CAW Talks Municipal Discussion Group, NHCAW and Maine Climate Change Adaptation Providers Network (CCAP) Peer-to-Peer Exchange, Rising Tides Photo Contest, and social media outreach.

OBJECTIVE 1: ADVANCE EMERGING NHCAW PRIORITIES

Task 1.1. Design and implement Fellow work plan to advance emerging NHCAW priorities

Timeframe: Months 1-24 | *Time Commitment:* 50% | *Supervisor:* Nathalie DiGeronimo, NHCP

NHCAW is about to embark on its first strategic planning retreat in five years. The goal of the retreat, entitled "Moving Forward Together," is to reflect on the collaborative's past growth, strengths and opportunities for improvement, and future direction. The fellow will work with the NHCAW Outreach Committee to analyze and distill findings from a recent member survey and the retreat itself in order to identify emerging NHCAW priorities the fellow could advance throughout the fellowship. The fellow will also have access to additional needs assessments and prioritization work completed by NHCAW partners. The fellow will bring their interests, skills, and expertise to bear in designing a work plan to address 2-4 emerging NHCAW priorities, in addition to supporting several cornerstone NHCAW initiatives in Tasks 2.1-3.2. Preliminary examples of emerging NHCAW priorities the fellow could pursue include, but are not limited to: centering diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ) in NHCAW initiatives (building upon recent foundational work completed by NH's 2019-2021 fellow); community-led relocation and retreat; climate migration to northern New England; and expanding NHCAW outreach and technical assistance efforts to communities beyond NH's coastal zone. The fellow will provide regular updates to and solicit input from the NHCAW Outreach Committee (and the full membership as needed) on work plan activities throughout the fellowship. The fellow will develop and present a final summary report detailing their accomplishments and recommendations for NHCAW to continue building on the fellow's work. NHCP will utilize the fellow's final report to inform future scopes of work for its annual technical assistance grants to several NHCAW members, including NHSG, RPC, and SRPC.

OBJECTIVE 2: EMPOWER LOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION CHAMPIONS AND PRACTITIONERS

Task 2.1. Organize NHCAW Climate Summit Conference

Timeframe: Months 5-12 & 17-24 | *Time Commitment:* 10% | *Supervisor:* Nathalie DiGeronimo, NHCP

The fellow will lead the NHCAW Outreach Committee in planning its flagship [Climate Summit](#) conference in 2023 and 2024. The Climate Summit features lightning presentations designed to connect over 120 municipal decision makers and community leaders with the latest scientific information and adaptation projects taking place in coastal NH communities. The fellow will convene a Climate Summit planning team and will facilitate the selection of a conference theme and objectives informed by their findings in Task 1, development of the Summit agenda and promotional materials, speaker coordination, and day-of logistics. The fellow will distill lessons learned from each Summit in a blog post or other creative medium to distribute to NHCAW members via the website, social media, and newsletter.

Task 2.2. Coordinate CAW Talks Municipal Discussion Group

Timeframe: Months 1-24 | *Time Commitment:* 10% | *Supervisor:* Lisa Wise, NHSG / UNHCE

CAW Talks is a bi-monthly forum for municipal staff and community leaders to exchange lessons they have learned and best practices they have honed through their involvement in coastal resilience projects in their community. The fellow will use their findings from Task 1 and conversations with

participating communities to develop and begin implementing a work plan of future meeting topics to address throughout the course of the fellowship and beyond. The fellow will also devise a plan for expanding the CAW Talks membership to include additional municipalities and will develop creative ways to share the resources and lessons learned at CAW Talks with communities who lack capacity to participate.

Task 2.3. Convene NHCAW-CCAP Peer-to-Peer Exchange

Timeframe: Months 5-10 & 17-22 | *Time Commitment:* 10% | *Supervisor:* Lisa Wise, NHSG/UNHCE

Each year, NHCAW and its neighbor, the Maine Climate Change Adaptation Providers Network (CCAP) organize a peer-to-peer exchange and professional development training opportunity where climate adaptation practitioners from both states discuss and learn about emerging shared challenges related to coastal resilience and adaptation. Previous CCAP-NHCAW Exchanges have focused on climate migration, legal strategies for climate adaptation in coastal communities, and data products and tools communities can use to adapt to climate change. The Fellow will convene a steering committee comprised of NHCAW and CCAP members to coordinate the 2023 & 2024 CCAP-NHCAW Exchange. The fellow will use their findings from Task 1 and conversations with CCAP members to inform the goals, objectives, and agenda for the exchange and will coordinate day-of logistics. The fellow will distill lessons learned from the CCAP-NHCAW Exchange in a blog post or other creative medium to distribute to CCAP-NHCAW members via the NHCAW and CCAP websites, social media, and/or newsletters.

OBJECTIVE 3: ENHANCE ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Task 3.1. Manage NHCAW Rising Tides Photo Contest

Timeframe: Months 1-5 & 12-24 | *Time Commitment:* 10% | *Supervisor:* Nathalie DiGeronimo, NHCP

Each year, NHCAW invites citizens to photograph extreme high tides during its [Rising Tides Photo Contest](#) in order to raise awareness of New Hampshire's rising sea levels. In 2021, NHCAW has instituted several changes to this longstanding initiative, including a rebranding effort and inclusion of a field trip, out of concern that the contest inadvertently may be glamorizing and normalizing the increasingly chronic issue of coastal flooding. In both Year 1 and Year 2 of the fellowship, the fellow will convene NHCAW's Rising Tides Photo Contest planning team to reflect upon the previous year's contest and identify additional opportunities for improvement to ensure the contest continues to be educational and engages a more diverse audience, including local youth, middle-aged adults, lower income families, and minorities. The fellow will work with the contest planning team to update contest rules, organize an engaging field trip during contest, and develop promotional materials, including key messages, social media schedule and content, contest webpage, newsletter announcements, and press releases. The fellow will manage contest submissions and the public voting process using an online contest management software. At the conclusion of the 2022 and 2023 contests, the fellow will compile lessons learned to inform future contest planning and will create an educational story map of photos that showcases visual trends of high tide flooding over time. The story map will be shared via the NHCAW website, social media, and newsletter and used in future contest promotion. The fellow will also have the opportunity to plan a culminating outreach event that creatively features contest photos and reflections from photographers.

Task 3.2. Produce fresh and engaging social media and web content for NHCAW

Timeframe: Months 1-24 | *Time Commitment:* 10% | *Supervisor:* Lisa Wise, NHSG/UNHCE

Findings from a recent social media analysis completed by NHCAW's graduate student summer intern in 2021 revealed that state agencies and coastal adaptation professionals (many of whom are NHCAW

members) interact with NHCAW's posts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) much more so than local community members. Recognizing the need to improve citizen engagement, the fellow will work closely with NHCAW's Social Media and Web Team to plan, organize, create, and publish fresh social media and web content that fosters a more diverse audience and empowers the next generation of local climate adaptation champions. To start, the fellow will review the social media analysis findings and recommendations developed by NHCAW's graduate student intern and will complete an audit of existing content on the NHCAW website to identify gaps, redundancies, and opportunities for improving readability and accessibility. Based on these assessments and the findings from Task 1, the fellow will bring their creativity to bear in creating a 3-year social media and web content plan for NHCAW that will extend beyond the fellowship. The fellow will produce new social media posts and web copy and will curate and commission additional content from other social media accounts and NHCAW members as appropriate. The fellow will regularly monitor social media engagement and website analytics and will make improvements to the social media and web content plan accordingly.

5. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice

The Resilient Collaborative Project will help NHCAW center the principles of Diversity, Equity, Justice, and Inclusion (DEIJ) in its practices and mission-related programmatic work.

In 2019-2021, NH's Coastal Management Fellow set out to build relationships through introductory conversations between NHCP, PREP, and a small number of organizations that support frontline communities in NH. The primary goal of these conversations was to gain a better understanding of the biggest needs and challenges confronting the organizations and the frontline communities they serve; how the organization thinks about climate change risks in the context of their work, and whether there might be opportunities to support each other's common goals and/or collaborate in the future. Recommended next steps are detailed in a summary report and generally focus on 1) building DEIJ capacity and understanding among coastal adaptation practitioners; 2) maintaining relationships and accountability; 3) exploring new relationships with other community-based organizations; and 4) improving equitable outcomes of climate adaptation and resilience building efforts.

The 2022-2024 Fellow will build upon this foundational work and advance recommended next steps relevant to NHCAW. For example, in operationalizing the emerging NHCAW priorities identified at the October 2021 NHCAW Strategic Planning Retreat, the fellow's work plan may involve improving NHCAW's knowledge and understanding of the frontline communities that exist within the NH coastal watershed, the disproportionate climate impacts those frontline communities face, and their needs related to coastal hazards. The fellow may also help NHCAW design diverse and inclusive engagement practices and develop strategic decision filters intended to help NHCAW prioritize involvement in and support for projects that will advance equitable adaptation outcomes. The fellow may also enhance NHCAW's knowledge and understanding of equitable, just, and community-led approaches to assisted relocation for people experiencing flood risk and displacement, as well as receiving communities in the context of climigration. In organizing the NHCAW Climate Summit, CAW Talks municipal discussion group meetings, and NHCAW-CCAP exchanges, the fellow will evaluate needs and opportunities to include DEIJ professional development training, broaden participation, and ensure equitable access to resources shared and lessons learned. Finally, in managing the annual NHCAW Rising Tides Photo Contest and creating new social media and web content, the fellow will identify and implement approaches that foster diverse citizen engagement that is representative of the demographics in the communities NHCAW currently and intends to serve in the future. The fellow will also implement changes to improve readability and accessibility of NHCAW's social media and web content.

6. Fellow Mentoring

Core NHCAW partner organizations NHCP, NHSG, and PREP will team up to create an engaged co-supervision and mentoring team for the fellow that provides both dedicated staff supervision focused on the fellowship project objectives and independent professional mentoring. This formula has been proven to work exceptionally well for previous fellowship projects and fellow professional development.

Supervision: The fellow will be formally situated at NHCP and will be co-supervised by Nathalie DiGeronimo, NHCP Resilience Project Manager (a former NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship finalist and mentor to NHCP’s 2017-2019 and 2019-2021 fellows) and Lisa Wise, NHSG and UNHCE Climate Adaptation Program Manager and NHCAW Outreach Committee co-chair. Nathalie and Lisa will work closely with the fellow to solidify their workplan and meet project deliverables. Nathalie will also oversee the administrative details of the fellow’s integration into the NHCP, including organizing trainings. The fellow will be fully integrated into the NHCP staff team and will be included in staff meetings as well as other staff-related activities. The fellow will have the option to participate in relevant NHSG and UNHCE staff activities as well.

Professional Mentorship: The fellow will be professionally mentored by Abigail Lyon, PREP Technical Assistance Program Manager and NHCAW co-chair. Abigail will work with the fellow in regular mentoring sessions to strategize about the fellow’s longer-term career objectives and ensure their professional development goals are being met. Other NHCP and NHCAW partners will be available to mentor the fellow as well, including NHCP Coastal Resilience Coordinator, Kirsten Howard (also a former fellow). NHCP, NHSG, and PREP enthusiastically support training opportunities for the fellow. Previous fellows have participated in trainings provided by the University of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Bureau of Education and Training, and the NOAA Office for Coastal Management Digital Coast on facilitation, public speaking, GIS, as well as substantive conferences related to project topics around the United States and in Canada.

7. Office Environment

The NHCP office is located at the NHDES Field Office in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The fellow will be provided with a cubicle space; a laptop computer with software, including Microsoft Teams; and associated computer equipment, including a mouse, a keyboard, a monitor, and a headset. NHCP will also provide the fellow a phone in the NHDES Portsmouth, NH office, access to a shared state vehicle, and additional resources available to state employees, as needed. The fellow will be afforded the opportunity to work either full time in the Portsmouth office or in a hybrid work environment, to be negotiated. NHCP staff currently operate in a hybrid work format, and that is expected to continue through the fellowship period. The fellow will also have the opportunity to interact both remotely and in-person with their NHSG co-supervisor, Lisa Wise, who is based on the University of New Hampshire campus. NHSG staff are also currently following a hybrid work schedule, working both remotely and in the office. The fellow will participate in bi-monthly NHCAW member meetings, monthly NHCAW Outreach Subcommittee meetings, bi-monthly CAW Talks meetings, and other event- and project-based subcommittee meetings throughout the fellowship. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, NHCAW meetings were held in person at the Portsmouth Field Office and at the NHSG office in Lee, NH. However, most NHCAW meetings have transitioned to a virtual format for the foreseeable future, though that may shift as pandemic conditions change throughout the fellowship.

8. Project Partners

The NHCAW Outreach Subcommittee will serve in an advisory capacity and provide guidance related to the project throughout the duration of the Fellowship. The table below lists the project partners who

participate in the NHCAW Outreach Subcommittee. Asterisks denote members of the NHCAW Social Media and Web Team, who will provide advisory support for Task 3.2.

NHCAW Outreach Subcommittee	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NHCP: Nathalie DiGeronimo*, Kirsten Howard*, Ben Sweeney*• NHDES: Sherry Godlewski• PREP: Abigail Lyon*• NHSG/UNHCE: Lisa Wise*, Amanda Stone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GBNERR: Lynn Vaccaro• RPC: Maddie Dilonno• SRPC: Kyle Pimental*• Union of Concerned Scientists: Roger Stephenson• University of NH: Cameron Wake

Relevant Ongoing Projects & Initiatives:

Based on their interests, the fellow has the opportunity and flexibility to work closely with the NHCP partner organizations on additional related initiatives. Additional initiatives include, but are not limited to: NHCAW’s Path to Resilience project, NHCAW’s Climate in the Classroom program, NHSG and NHCP Neighborhood Technical Assistance Program, and the NHCP and partner’s FFY21 Flood Smart Seacoast Project of Special Merit. The fellow will be encouraged to participate in relevant regional and national networks of coastal management professionals and climate adaptation practitioners, including but not limited to the [Coastal States Organization Coastal Hazards and Adaptation Workgroup](#) (co-chaired by NHCP), [Northeast Regional Ocean Council Coastal Hazards Resilience Committee](#), [Climigration Network](#), and [American Society for Adaptation Professionals Network of Networks](#), all of which promote knowledge exchange, sharing of lessons learned, professional development, and collaboration. The fellow will have the opportunity to conduct water quality monitoring with the NHDES Shellfish Program and engage in other field work activities conducted by NHCP and the University of New Hampshire, including but not limited to regular beach profiling, Great Bay shoreline clean ups, oyster spat counts, and habitat restoration projects. By participating in these initiatives, the fellow will gain access to a broad network of coastal management professionals in the Northeast and across the country.

9. Cost Share Description

The \$15,000 cost sharing requirement for the 2022-2024 Coastal Management Fellowship will be funded from participating project team members, including NHSG and NHDES. NHSG will contribute \$7,500 from Development Funds as part of the NH Sea Grant Omnibus 2022-23 for Year 1 of the fellowship. NHDES will contribute \$7,500 in state funds from the NHDES Shellfish Program budget for Year 2 of the fellowship. In addition to the professional development and travel funds provided by NOAA, NHCP may be able to support additional travel expenses depending on program budget.

10. Strategic Focus Areas

The Resilient Collaborative Project addresses the Resilient Coastal Communities strategic focus area by enhancing NHCAW’s capacity to help coastal watershed communities understand and prepare for sea-level rise and other climate impacts. In operationalizing emerging NHCAW priorities, implementation of the fellow’s work plan will very likely help NHCAW understand how to foster diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion in its practices and programs. Knowledge exchanged and lessons learned at the NHCAW Climate Summit, CAW Talks, and NHCAW-CCAP Exchange will empower local climate adaptation champions and practitioners and build their capacity to enhance community resilience. Successful execution of the Rising Tides Photo Contest and creation of fresh social media and web content will increase public awareness of sea-level rise, foster diversity and inclusion, and enhance meaningful engagement for all.

Appendix A: Sources

Chin, T. and Howard, K. In process. A Summary of Water Level Data Recorded by the Hampton, New Hampshire Tide Gauge: 2013-2020. Prepared for the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program.

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Institute for Sustainable Communities. 2019. Regional Collaboratives for Climate Change – A State of the Art. <https://us.sustain.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Regional-Collaboratives-for-Climate-Change-FINAL.pdf>

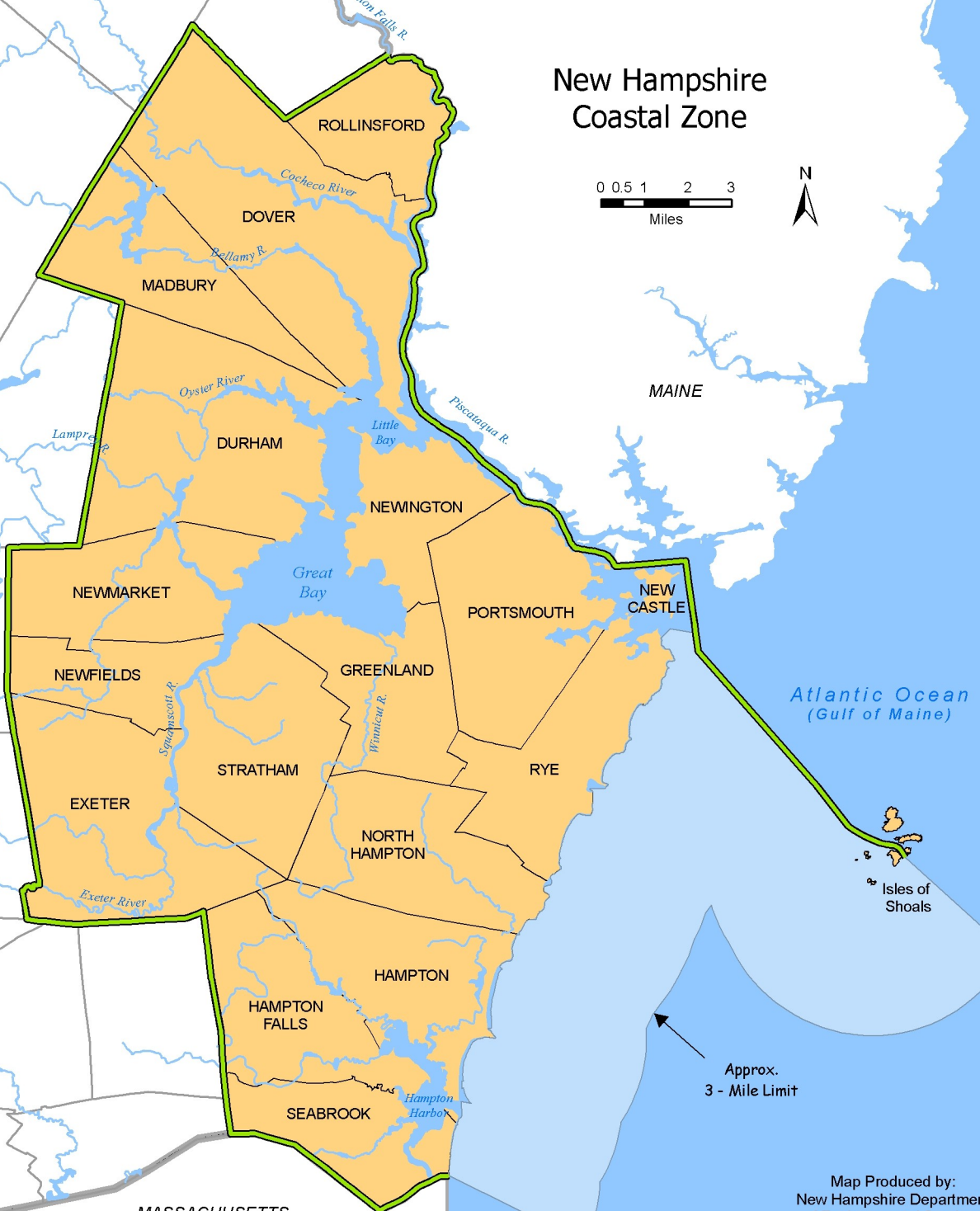
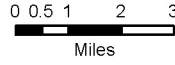
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Philip, Alexandra. 2014. Sustaining Champions of Climate Adaptation in Coastal Communities: A Northern New England Study. https://seagrant.unh.edu/sites/seagrant.unh.edu/files/media/pdfs/extension/climate_champions_2014.pdf

Appendix B: Map

New Hampshire Coastal Zone



Atlantic Ocean
(Gulf of Maine)

Isles of Shoals

Approx.
3 - Mile Limit

MASSACHUSETTS

Appendix C: Letters of Collaboration



October 11, 2021

Margaret Allen
TBG at NOAA's Office for Coastal Management
2234 South Hobson Avenue
Charleston, SC 29405

Subject: Letter of collaboration for the New Hampshire Coastal Program project proposal to the 2022 NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship Program

Dear Ms. Margaret Allen,

On behalf of the New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (NHCAW), we are pleased to express our support for the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program (NHCP) Coastal Management Fellowship project proposal to support and strengthen NHCAW. Formed in 2009, NHCAW includes representatives from over 30 organizations working to support municipalities in becoming resourceful, ready, and resilient to the impacts of extreme weather and long-term climate change. Over the last 12 years, NHCAW has grown considerably in response to the ever-increasing need to support our communities as they prepare for and adapt to a changing climate. We have reached a point where our time and capacity are the limiting resources for advancing NHCAW's goals and priorities. This fellowship project, which seeks to build the capacity of NHCAW in order to unlock the collaborative's full potential as it continues to evolve and address emerging priorities, will bring much needed support, creativity, and capacity to think strategically about how we can best serve our communities and to build resilience overall.

Working with NHCAW provides a fellow with the unique opportunity to not only work with the state's coastal program but will also grant them access to a range of partners across multiple disciplines. They will receive first-hand experience working as part of a nationally recognized collaborative. NHCAW is committed to mentoring the fellow over the project period. Fostering coastal management professionals and offering them an opportunity to work directly with partners and our communities ultimately benefits not just the fellow but our region. We will be better prepared to address and respond to climate impacts with a more robust, and creative workforce who build their professional careers working on these problems.

Should this project be selected, NHCAW is committed to supporting the fellow and work on the project with partners over the course of 2+ years, including any preparatory work leading up to the fellowship in spring and summer 2022.

NHCAW and our membership enthusiastically support this proposal and look forward to the opportunity to bring additional capacity to help advance our mission and support our communities. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Abigail Lyon – NHCAW Co-Chair
Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership
Abigail.Lyon@unh.edu

Sherry Godlewski – NHCAW Co-Chair
NH Department of Environmental Services
Sherry.M.Godlewski@des.nh.gov

New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup partners include over 30 organizations representing federal and state agencies, regional planning commissions, municipalities, academic institutions, non-profits and private consultants.

For a complete list of partners visit: <https://www.nhcaw.org/who/>



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October 13, 2021

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Subject: Letter of collaboration for the New Hampshire Coastal Program project proposal to the 2022 NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship Program

Dear Ms. Margaret Allen,

On behalf of NH Sea Grant, I am writing to express our commitment to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program (NHCP) Coastal Management Fellowship project proposal to support and strengthen the New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (NHCAW). As a founding member of NHCAW, NH Sea Grant has seen the collaborative evolve and coastal NH communities' adaptation needs grow over the past 10+ years. That success has contributed to even more work on coastal resilience and adaptation, which has stretched our capacity and resources to advance NHCAW's goals. This fellowship project, which seeks to build the capacity of NHCAW in order to unlock the collaborative's full potential as it continues to evolve and address new priorities, will enable us to more effectively serve coastal NH communities as they face growing challenges from coastal hazards.

NH Sea Grant has directly benefited from collaborations with Coastal Management Fellows in past years, and we look forward to supporting this fellow to grow professionally and expand their network, should this proposal get selected. The project would be a great opportunity for a Fellow to gain exposure to the 30+ organizations and entities represented in NHCAW.

If this project is selected, NH Sea Grant commits to support the fellow and collaborate with partners on the project for the duration of the fellowship, including any preparatory work required in spring/summer 2022 through August 2024. If the project team secures a successful match, NH Sea Grant commits to pay \$7,500 from Development Funds as part of the NH Sea Grant Omnibus 2022-2023 which support our program through February 1, 2024.

We are very enthusiastic about the potential to partner with NH Coastal Program to support this fellowship project. I am happy to discuss any questions if needed.

Sincerely,

Erik Chapman, Director
NH Sea Grant