PREP
Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership

“PREPAring” for Climate Change

Piscataqua Region Environmental Planning Assessment (PREPA)
Abigail Gronberg, Project Assistant

Coastal Climate Summit
June 19, 2015
- First PREPA in 2010
- Update initiated in early 2014
- Assessment forms developed with partners
- Sent out to 52 towns with RPC help
- Interview town officials & data input
## Piscataqua Region Environmental Planning Assessment (PREPA) Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality Name: Berwick, ME</th>
<th>Regional Planning Commission for municipality: SMPDC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of person completing form: Dave Carpenter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinances, regulations, reports reviewed as part of assessment (provide a reference number for each document, and write this number in the &quot;Doc. Ref #&quot; column to cite the source of information used to answer each applicable question):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Ordinance 01-001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Plan 01-002</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subdivision Regulations 01-003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name(s) of municipal contacts (i.e. code enforcement officer, Cons. Com. Chair, Planning Board Chair, etc.) interviewed: Planner: John Stoll</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name(s) of municipal staff (if any) that help the municipality with environmental planning issues. Please note the percent (%) of time that their position allows them to work specifically on environmental planning. Planner: John Stoll @ 20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directions:** Fill out one data form per municipality. Fill out the form electronically - no handwritten forms please. For yes or no questions, please check one answer. For blanks without a yes or no, write in the appropriate date, distance, checkmark, or narrative description as prompted by the question. Most questions apply to municipalities in both Maine (ME) and New Hampshire (NH). Questions that only apply to one state are flagged with a (ME) or (NH). Each grey box corresponds to an area that can be checked or can have a narrative answer typed into it.

### Conservation Fundamentals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Check One (yes or no)</th>
<th>Doc. Ref. #</th>
<th>Document URL or Additional Comments:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the municipality have a Conservation Commission?</td>
<td>yes ☑️ no ☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the municipality have a Code Enforcement Officer?</td>
<td>yes ☑️ no ☑️</td>
<td>01-001 <a href="http://www.berwickmaine.org">www.berwickmaine.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the municipality have a completed Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) as part of its Comprehensive or Master Plan?</td>
<td>yes ☑️ no ☑️</td>
<td>01-002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Adopted:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Chapter in Master Plan (NH)?</td>
<td>yes ☑️ no ☑️</td>
<td>Year Adopted:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Plan locally approved (ME)?</td>
<td>yes ☑️ no ☑️</td>
<td>01-002 Year Approved: 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Plan has state consistency approval (ME)?</td>
<td>yes ☑️ no ☑️</td>
<td>Year Approved: 1999</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Three Sections

Threats

Findings

Actions
Non-Point Sources

www.prepestuaries.org/prepa
THREATS: IMPERVIOUS COVER

IMPERVIOUS SURFACE (4%)
CONSERVED LAND (14%)

Balance is key. PREP recommends no more than 10% impervious cover and no less than 20% conservation land in a watershed.
**Threats: Climate Change**

Climate change impacts are likely to contribute additional stress to coastal habitats that we are working to conserve and restore.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Predicted Impacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Precipitation (Frequency and Intensity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmelt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow accumulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal flooding (frequency and intensity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Level Rise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Report cards calculated based on the responses to the assessment questions regarding the 4 topics and what percentage attain the minimum protective standards suggested by NHDES or PREP.
Watershed Findings

- Freshwater Wetlands
- Shoreland Protection
- Stormwater Management
- Climate Change
Climate Change

1. Has the municipality completed some form of climate change vulnerability assessment?

1. Has the municipality completed some form of climate change adaptation planning effort?

1. Has the municipality adopted regulatory changes intended to reduce the municipality’s vulnerability to potential climate change impacts?
Watershed Actions

- Increase naturally vegetated buffers
- Increase setback requirements
- Adopt regulations for fertilizer application
- Adopt model stormwater regulations
- Conduct a climate vulnerability assessment
- Increase land conservation efforts

### Stratham

1. Increase buffers to 100’ for tidal wetlands
2. Increase septic and structure setbacks to 100’ for freshwater wetlands
3. Adopt fertilizer application setbacks for all water bodies
4. Adopt model stormwater management regulations
KEY RESOURCES FOR ACTION

- Southeast Watershed Alliance’s Model Stormwater Ordinance
- Land Conservation Plans for New Hampshire and Maine
- New Hampshire Climate Adaptation Workgroup Resources
2015 PREPA LOCAL GRANTS PROGRAM

- Berwick, ME
- Exeter, NH
- Greenland, NH
- Hampton, NH
- Kittery, ME
- New Castle, NH
- North Hampton, NH
- Rollinsford, NH
- Rye, NH
- Somersworth, NH
- Stratham, NH