

What CAW Has Learned: Municipal Needs

May 23rd 2017, 1:44 pm EDT

Conducted a Survey

PURPOSE: Help CAW identify and fine tune its response to most pressing needs for **relevant information and technical assistance for adapting to severe weather and a changing climate.**

Survey questions based:

- planning documents
- reports
- interactions
- questionnaires

Distributed to 300 municipal staff and board members via Rockingham and Strafford regional planning commissions

Responses received from 25 = ~8%

**THUS, RESULTS ARE NOT
GENERALIZABLE**

6 content questions

Is there SUFFICIENT information for
planning and can you LOCATE IT?
(Yes, No, Don't Know or N/A)

Sea level rise

Storm surge

Extreme precipitation

Freshwater floodplain extent and depth

Coastal floodplain extent and depth

Other

Is Information SUFFICIENT for Planning?

SUFFICIENT: Between 50 and 60% of respondents

- Sea level rise
- Coastal floodplain extent and depth
- Storm surge

INSUFFICIENT: Just over 30%

- Extreme precipitation

DON'T KNOW response counts were equal to or higher than INSUFFICIENT responses for all but Freshwater Floodplains.

Able to Locate Information?

CAN LOCATE: 55 - 65%

- Sea level rise
- Storm surge

Similar % CAN and CAN NOT LOCATE: 35 - 45%

- Extreme precipitation
- Coastal floodplain extent and depth
- Freshwater floodplain extent and depth

How important is it for your community to have results from each of the following types of **vulnerability assessments** in order to take action toward resiliency?

Local and regional economic assets

State infrastructure

Municipal infrastructure

Built areas at risk

Natural areas at risk

Groundwater

Recreational resources

Cultural and historic resources

Social vulnerability

Other

Most IMPORTANT VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS for taking action

VERY IMPORTANT or IMPORTANT: Just below to just above 90%

- **Municipal infrastructure**
- **Groundwater**
- Built areas at risk
- Local or regional economic assets
- State infrastructure

VERY IMPORTANT or IMPORTANT: 65 - 80%

- Natural areas at risk
- Cultural and historic resources
- Recreational resources
- Social vulnerability

DON'T KNOW: 16%

- Social vulnerability

How useful would the following **types of information** be for your community to take some action toward preparing for a changing climate?

Shoreline characteristics

Sites for living shorelines

Capacity of natural resources to respond

Potential changes in impacts to ecological communities

Maps that prioritize habitats

Groundwater assessment

Impacts on vulnerable populations

Legal support for adaptation action

Building public support for action

Case studies

Other

How USEFUL would this information be for taking action?

USEFUL: Close to 90%

- Groundwater assessment (location, quality, quantity)

USEFUL: Between 60% and 70%

- Capacity of natural resources to respond
- Maps to prioritize habitat
- Case studies of towns
- Building public support for action
- Potential changes to ecological communities

USEFUL: Just below 60%

- Impacts on vulnerable populations

Other responses about USEFULNESS of info for taking action

USEFUL, NOT USEFUL, DON'T KNOW: Nearly equal

- Legal support for adaptation actions

DON'T KNOW: Just over 20%

- Potential changes to ecological communities
- Impacts on vulnerable populations

Highest PRIORITY

Capacity Building Needs

HIGH or MED PRIORITY: 92-72% (in descending order)

- **Public outreach and ed to build support for action**

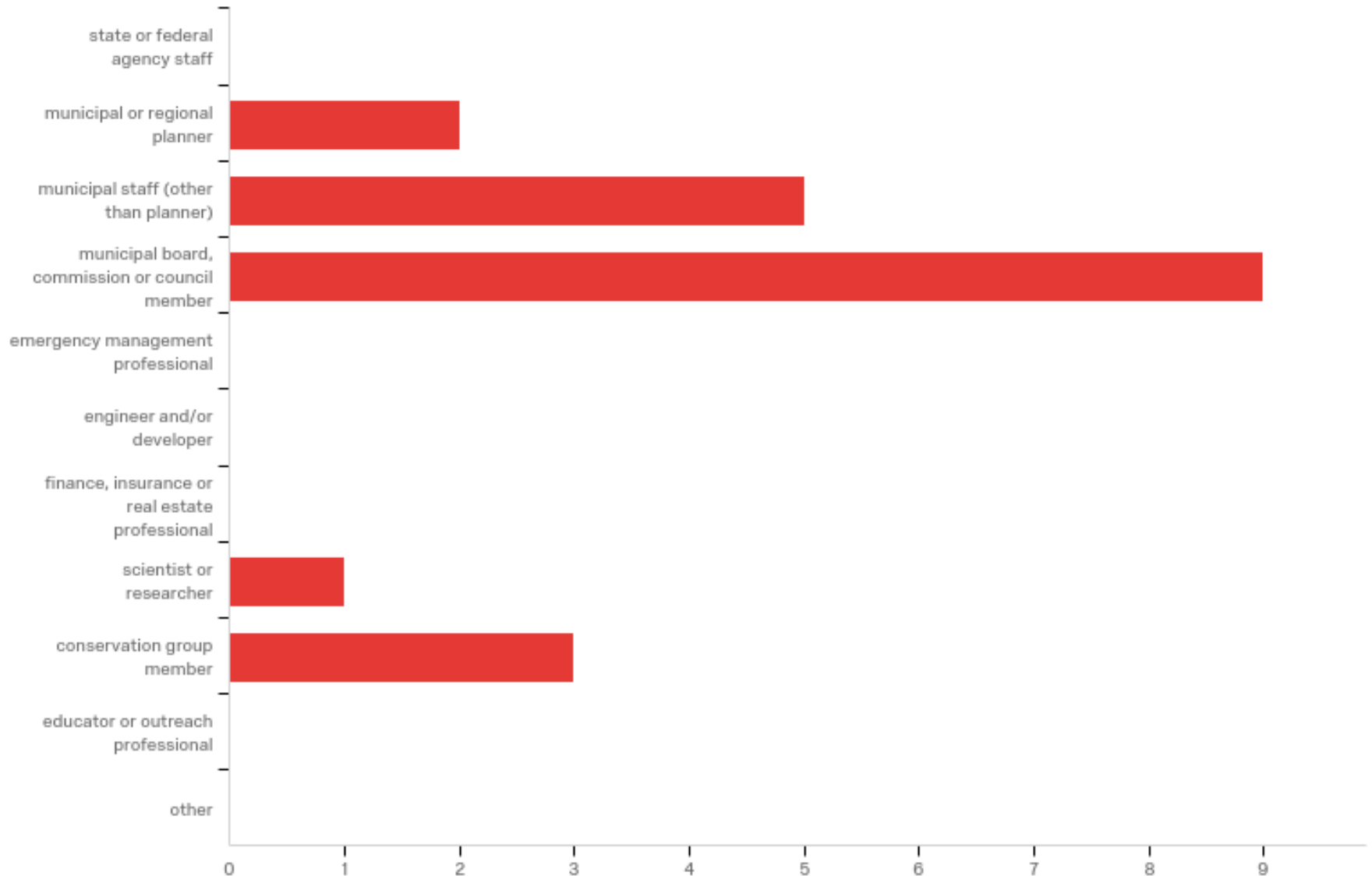
- Better communication and coordination *across region*
- Info about actions communities can take
- Assistance with municipal *planning and regulation*
- **Additional funding** (top HIGH priority, but least respondents)

- Assistance carrying out adaptation projects
- Training to apply technical info to decision making
- Assistance with municipal *management and policy*
- Better communication and coordination across *municipal departments*

Responses received from 17 communities

Hampton Rockingham
Newmarket Rockingham
Strafford Strafford
Stratham Rockingham
Dover Strafford
Durham Strafford
Kingston Rockingham
Lee Strafford
Madbury Strafford
Newfields Rockingham
Nottingham Rockingham
Rochester Strafford
Rollinsford Strafford
Rye Rockingham
Seabrook Rockingham
Somersworth Strafford
Other NH

Q12 - Please identify your primary professional role.



Information Needs

DIG IN!!

- Groundwater
- Municipal infrastructure
- Areas at risk
- Natural resource capacity to respond
- Maps to prioritize habitat
- How to build public support
- Case studies

DIG DEEPER...

- Extreme precipitation
- Social vulnerability
- Legal footing
- Recreational, cultural and historical resources

DIG AROUND?

- Shoreline characteristics and living shoreline sites

Resonate?

Any surprises?

Other community needs
for information?

Technical assistance?