

# 2026 NH Coastal Climate Summit

*Creating Possibility, Together*

**Thursday, May 21 from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM**

University of New Hampshire, Holloway Commons  
75 Main St., Durham, NH (doors open at 7:45 AM)



**7:45 AM Doors open: Registration and Breakfast**

**8:30 AM Welcome and Program Introduction** – *Lisa Wise (CAW) and Todd Selig (Town of Durham)*

- *Messages from our federal delegation*

**9:00 AM Keynote Address: Elizabeth Rush**, non-fiction writer, Pulitzer Prize Finalist (*The Quickening: Creation and Community at the Ends of the Earth* and *Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore*)

**10:00 AM Break for Networking, Viewing Art Gallery and Tables**

Tables: *Elizabeth Rush book sales & signing, UNH Marine Docents, NH Healthy Climate, NH Environmental Justice Assessment*  
Art: *Emily Cady, Taylor Rose and Becca Katz, Peter Weissbrod, and the Picturing Rising Tides Gallery*

**10:30 AM Session 1 – Plenary**

Introducing the 2025 NH Coastal Flood Risk Science, Model, and A Neighbor's Case Study – *Lisa Wise (NH Sea Grant Extension), Kirsten Howard (NHDES), Kirk Bosma (Woods Hole Group), Alex Maxwell (Fuss & O'Neill), and Jayne Knott (HydroPredictions)*  
The Climate Case for Workforce Housing – *Maeve Nolan (Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast)*  
Grey for Green: The Kings Highway Drainage Infrastructure Improvements – *Jennifer Hale (Town of Hampton)*  
The Power of Participatory Science: Beach Profile Data for Understanding Coastal Change – *Wells Costello (NH Sea Grant Extension) and Suzannah Buzzell (UNH)*

**12:00 PM Lunch**

**1:00 PM Session 2 – Concurrent Presentations**

***Room 1: Resilient Shorelines***

- *Genesis of Shoreline Designs at Wagon Hill Farm and Lessons Learned – Tom Ballestero (UNH Coastal Habitats and Restoration Team)*
- *Resolving Salt Marsh Ownership in Hampton Seabrook Estuary – Aidan Barry (NHDES) and Rob Pruyne (Rockingham Planning Commission)*
- *Designing Resilience: Nature-based Climate Solutions in New England – Jennifer Martel, Amy Bell Segal, and Beth Kirmmse (American Society of Landscape Architects)*

## Room 2: Resilient Structures

- Climate Resilient Stream Crossings: Are We There Yet? – Polly Perkins (NHDES) and Patrick Jackson (Underwood Engineers)
- Evaluating Coastal Pavement Performance and Adaptation under Sea Level Rise in New Hampshire – Wei Sun (UNH)
- Building Resilience can be Fun and Engaging at a Vulnerable Living History Museum – Rodney Rowland (Strawbery Banke Museum)

## Room 3: Resilient People

- Learning from the Great Bay: Practices for Equitable Relationship Building & Resource Sharing – Lucy Perkins (Siler Climate Consulting)
- Filling the Gap: Helping Neighborhoods Be Prepared – Maureen Aylward-Bover (TownGreen)
- Developing a Nature-Based Solutions Workforce in Rhode Island – Stephanie Moniz (Groundwork RI)

### 2:30 PM Break for Networking, Viewing Art Gallery and Tables

### 3:00 PM Participant Pop Up and Community Champions Award

Community Champions Awards: Presented by Jay Diener and Rayann Dionne of the Seabrook-Hamptons Estuary Alliance

Participant Pop-up: Attendees are invited to briefly share recent accomplishments, project updates, new ideas, upcoming opportunities, or pose an emerging question.

### 3:30 PM Session 3 – Live Podcast Conversation

#### Ahead of the Tide: Granite Goodness presents coastal climate visionaries

- Host: Andy DeMeo
- Panelists: Maeve Nolan (Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast), Annie Cox (Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership), Cory Riley (Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve), Brianna Hagan (Town of Hampton)

### 4:20PM Closing Remarks and Adjourn

QR Code to Resource Packet:



QR Code to Evaluation Survey:



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