Maine Climate Hazards & Impacts



Increasing, Variable Temperatures 3°F warmer

Maine's average annual temperature increase since 1895





Medium Emissions

Low Emissions

15-20 x more high heat days at 2050 will cause: increased energy and cooling costs, heat-related illness, more vector-borne diseases

Increased Precipitation and Weather Intensity



15% since 1895

Average annual precipitation has increased 15% since 1895. The occurrences of powerful storms is also increasing

Potential impacts resulting from increased precipitation and weather intensity include: coastal and inland flooding, decline in water quality, infrastructure and property damage, overburdened wastewater system



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Increasing Sea Level Rise

7.5 inches

Sea levels around Portland have risen 7.5" since 1912

•••• High Emissions Scenario

- Intermediate-high Scenario
- Intermediate Scenario
- Intermediate-low Scenario

15 x More Flooding at 2050 leads to : *infrastructure and property damage, coastal flooding, coastal erosion, and groundwater contamination*



Potential Sea Level Rise Scenarios

*The State of Maine asks all coastal municipalities to *commit to manage* for 1.5 feet of relative sea-level rise by 2050, and 3.9 feet by 2100



Ocean Warming and Acidification

2.9°F warmer since 1895

Average Gulf of Maine surface temperature has increased most sharply in recent years

Potential impacts resulting from ocean warming and acidification include: *changing marine ecosystems, decline in shellfish populations, cold-water fisheries moving north*

