

Gulf of Maine King Tides



Susan Bickford, Wells, ME

Wading into Citizen Science

GOMC Climate Network

Focusing on King Tides



Jim Lee, Portsmouth, NH

King Tide Events help make climate change impacts evident HERE and NOW—helping motivate communities to tackle the challenge of preparing for inevitable sea-level rise.

Partners across the Gulf: A Regional Effort



- * GOMC Climate Network
- * NERRs and Estuary Partnerships
- * Nonprofit organizations (e.g., Ecology Action Centre in NS and EOS Eco-Energy in NB)
- * University of Southern Maine
- * Maine Community Foundation



Regional Collaboration, Local Organization

In addition to the October 9 Regional Photo Contest that was cooperatively organized and facilitated by the GOMC Climate Network, local groups hosted events:

- * King Tides Celebration at Moon Tide Garden in Portland, Maine
- * “Capture the King” Contest and Awards Night in Seacoast, NH

The King Tides effort was open-ended such that local organizations could participate with varying degrees of effort (publicizing to members all the way to big events like NH and ME)

Climate Engagement through Art



Jeanne Curran Smith, Portland, ME

Portland King Tides celebration, organized by an Artist's collective that is hosting at least two King Tides events each year

Local King Tide events—given their artistic focus—can engage creativity and build community, helping lend a needed sense of hope and possibility to climate preparedness.



Poster from a USM student who is working with the GOMC Climate Network on a semester-long project this fall

Seeing Where the Water Will Come

As part of the GOM King Tides Project, USM students, with help from a state coastal geologist and their art professor, are mapping out a 3-foot rise in locations around Portland. They will make an educational art installation at several settings later this fall.



Jeanne Curran Smith, Portland, ME

Spirit of Collaboration and Resource Sharing: SLR Knowledge and GOM Awareness



Using King Tides Photo Documentation

- * Community Planners could benefit from photo records of sites vulnerable to flooding
- * The International King Tides Network has struggled to find a compatible mapping program
- * Through our efforts, they have linked up with the MDI Biological Laboratory's Anecdota program for mapping citizen science efforts
- * An effective mapping capacity could make King Tides images more useful for community planning and ongoing scientific monitoring

Looking Ahead and Next Steps

- ❖ Announce award winners
- ❖ Maintain the regional site
- ❖ Advance the collaboration with regional mapping to help community preparedness
- ❖ Host annual events!



Liz Bieber, Portland, ME



Jeanne Curran Smith, Portland, ME

Jan Piribeck, a professor at USM, being interviewed at the Portland event. Her hard hat has HAT—for highest annual tide!

Questions about Gulf of Maine King Tides?

E-mail marina@gulfofmaine.org