

KNOX COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

KICK-OFF MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2024



KNOX COUNTY, MAINE
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
2024 UPDATE



Prepared By:

Knox County, Maine
Emergency Management Agency

AGENDA

- Introductions
- What is hazard mitigation?
- Overview of the 2019 Knox County Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Municipal and Public participation in the process
- Probable timeline
- Q & A

INTRODUCTIONS

- Knox County EMA Director Candice Richards
 - Administrative Programs Coordinator Tim McFarland
 - Geospatial Database Manager Leticia vanVuuren
- Rich Rothe of Rothe & Associates (Consultant)

WHO ARE THE STAKEHOLDERS?

- Knox County
- Municipalities (18 organized communities and Unorganized Territory)
- Community members (residents, businesses, non-profits, and all other non-governmental organizations, etc.) “Whole Community”

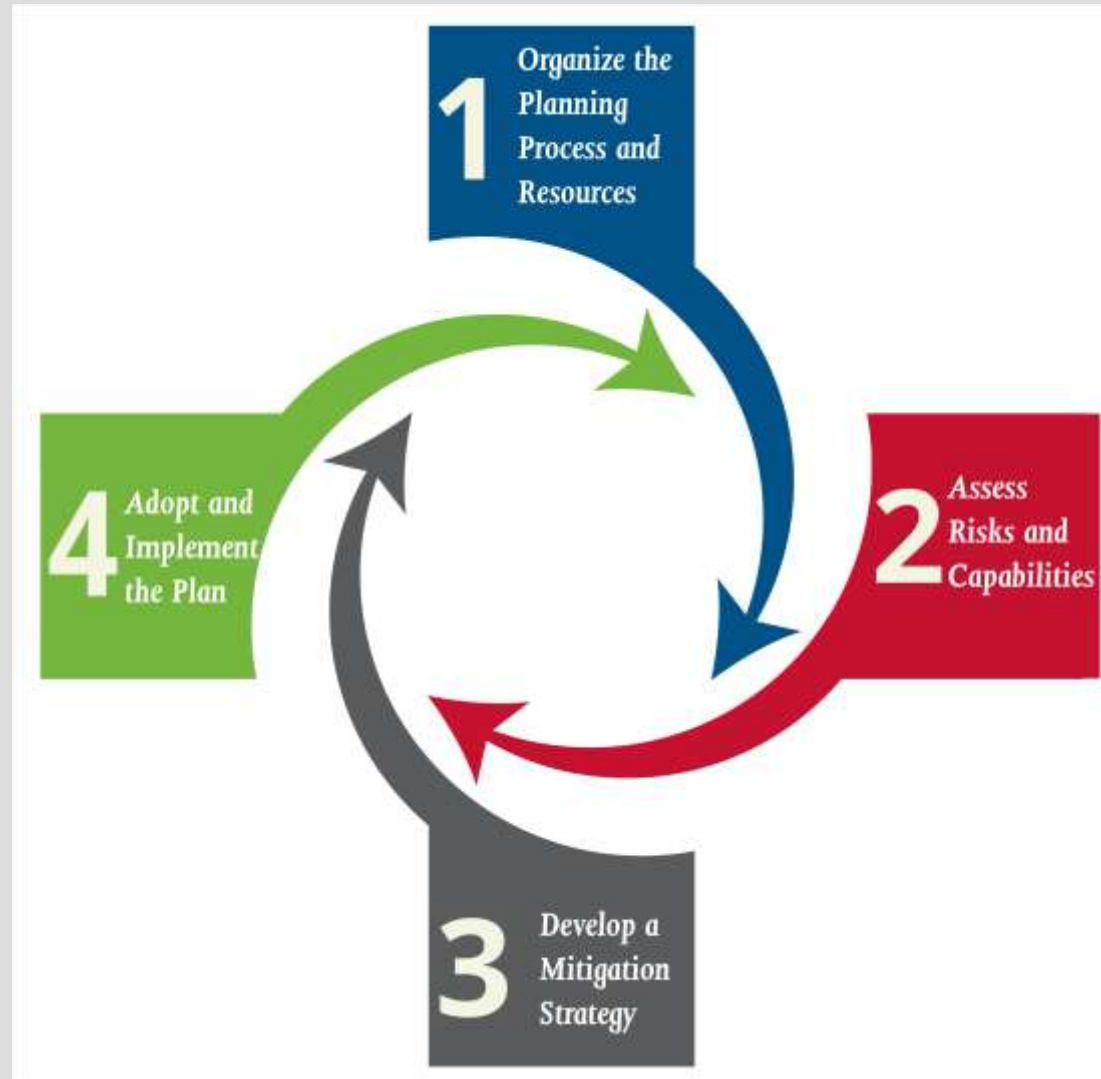
PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES

- Appleton
- Camden
- Cushing
- Friendship
- Hope
- Isle au Haut
- Matinicus Isle Plantation
- North Haven
- Owls Head
- Rockland
- Rockport
- St. George
- South Thomaston
- Thomaston
- Union
- Unorganized Territories
- Vinalhaven
- Warren
- Washington

WHAT IS MITIGATION?

Mitigation is the effort to reduce or eliminate loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters.

Put simply, the goal of mitigation is to make our communities safer, stronger, and more able to bounce back after an event.



WHY DO WE NEED A HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN?

- *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000* was enacted as an amendment to the *Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act*.

**ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT**

[Public Law 93–288; Approved May 22, 1974]

[As Amended Through P.L. 117–328, Enacted December 29, 2022]

- Once approved, the HMP is effective for 5 years
- Provides guidance for a hazard-resistant county that vigilantly assesses, plans for and mitigates any natural hazard.
- Particular emphasis is placed on those natural hazards which pose the greatest threat to Knox County.
- Required for certain categories of mitigation grants and can help with disaster declarations.

2019 HMP

- 119 pages

- Sections:

1. Overview
2. Plan Adoption
3. Planning Process
4. Risk Assessment
5. Mitigation Strategies
6. Plan Maintenance

APPENDICES:

- Maps
- Municipal Surveys
- Defensible Space
- King Tide Comparison
- Participation
- Outreach

2024 HMP

- Sections:

Overview

1. Planning Process
2. Risk Assessment
3. Mitigation Strategy
4. Plan Maintenance
5. Plan Update
6. Plan Adoption
7. High Hazard Potential Dams

APPENDICES:

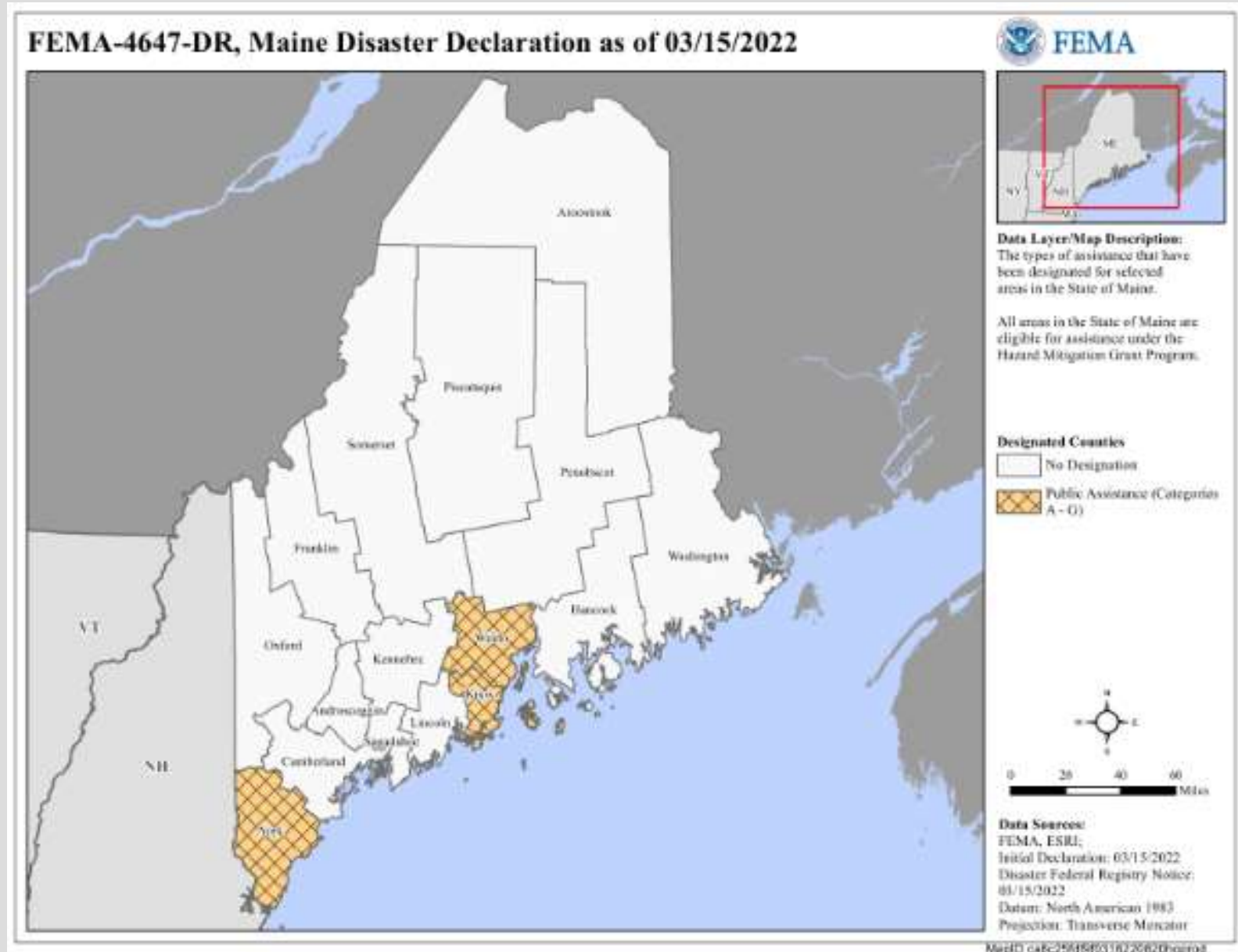
- Maps
- Municipal Surveys
- Defensible Space
- King Tide Comparison
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THINGS TO CONSIDER

- What has changed in the area since the 2019 plan was finalized? (Sea level rise, above average rainfall, new construction obstructing water flow, etc.)
- Is the property affected public or private property?
- Are there photos and/or video that shows the before and after (or even during!) a significant weather event? Who has a copy of the photos, videos, narratives of damage, etc.?

**DISASTER
DECLARATIONS SINCE
2019 HMP UPDATE**

FEMA-4647-DR
Maine Disaster Declaration
Severe Storm and Flooding
October 30-31, 2021
(Declared on 3/15/22)



FEMA-4696-DR, Maine Disaster Declaration as of 03/22/2023



Data Layer/Map Description:
The types of assistance that have been designated for selected areas in the State of Maine.

All areas in the State of Maine are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Additional designations may be made at a later date if requested by the state and warranted by the results of further damage assessments.

Designated Counties

- No Designation
- Public Assistance (Categories A - G)



Data Sources:
FEMA, ESRI;
Initial Declaration: 03/22/2023
Disaster Federal Registry Notice:
03/22/2023
Datum: North American 1983
Projection: Transverse Mercator



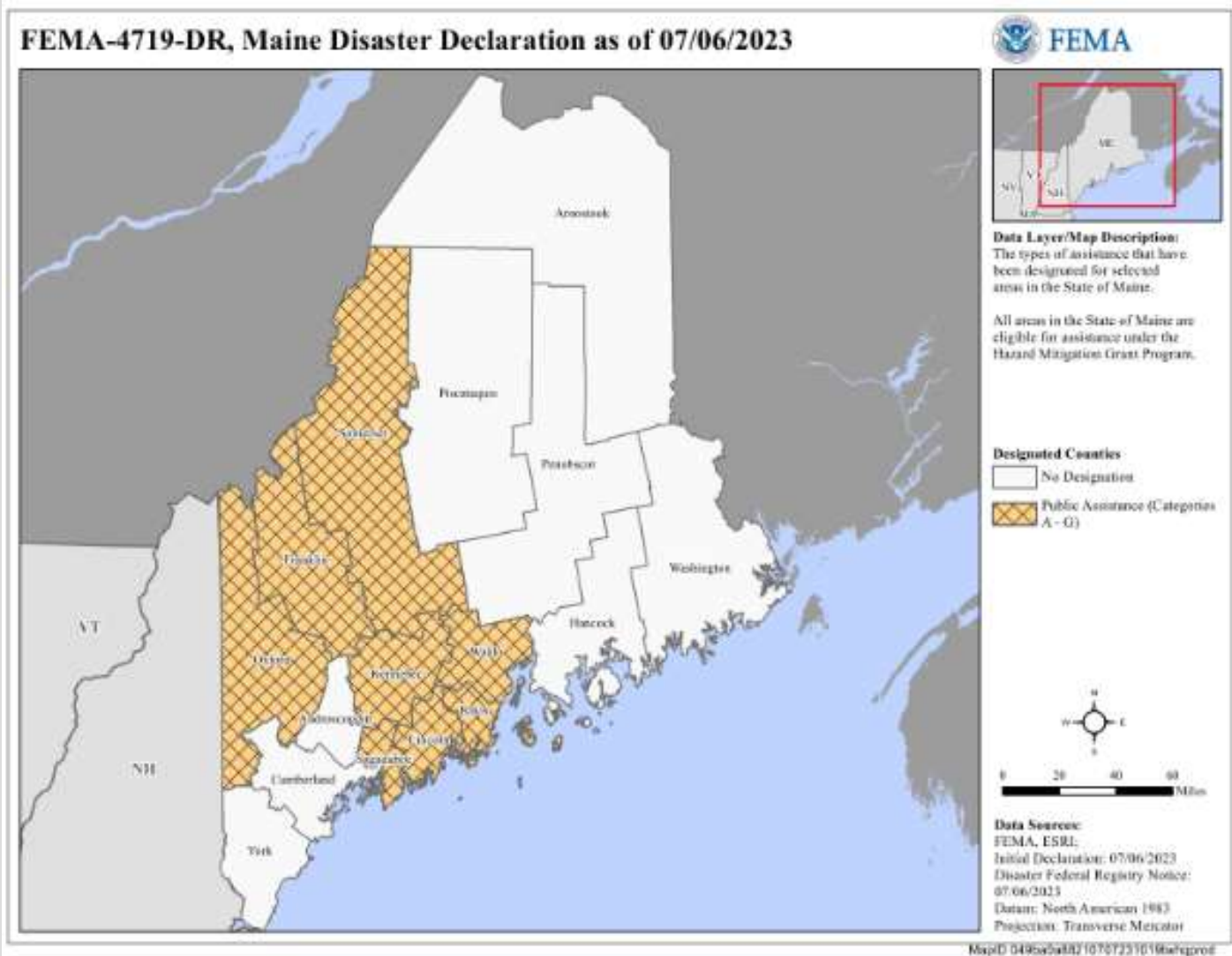
FEMA-4696-DR
Storm Elliott
Maine Disaster Declaration
Severe Storm and Flooding
December 23-24, 2022
(Declared on 3/22/23)

DR-4719-ME

Maine Severe Storm and Flooding

April 30 – May 1, 2023

(Declared on 7/6/23)



FEMA-3598-EM

Hurricane Lee

September 15-17, 2023

(Declared on 9/14/23)

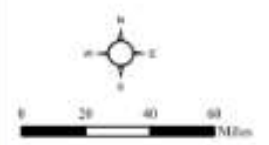
FEMA-3598-EM, Maine Disaster Declaration as of 09/14/2023



Data Layer/Map Description:
The types of assistance that have been designated for selected areas in the State of Maine.

Additional designations may be made at a later date if requested by the state and warranted by the results of further evaluation.

Designated Counties
Public Assistance (Category B)



Data Source:
FEMA, ESRI
Initial Declaration: 09/14/2023
Disaster Federal Registry Notice: 09/14/2023
Datum: North American 1983
Projection: Transverse Mercator

MapID: dc3482356d009142322181649690d

UNDECLARED DISASTERS IN MAINE AFFECTING KNOX COUNTY

- December 10-11, 2023 Wind/Rain storm
- December 17-21, 2023 Wind/Rain storm (*declared declaration but not for Knox County*)
- January 10, 2024 Wind/Rain storm
- January 13, 2024 Wind/Rain storm (*may get declared with the January 10th storm as one event*)

MUNICIPAL PARTICIPATION

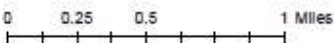
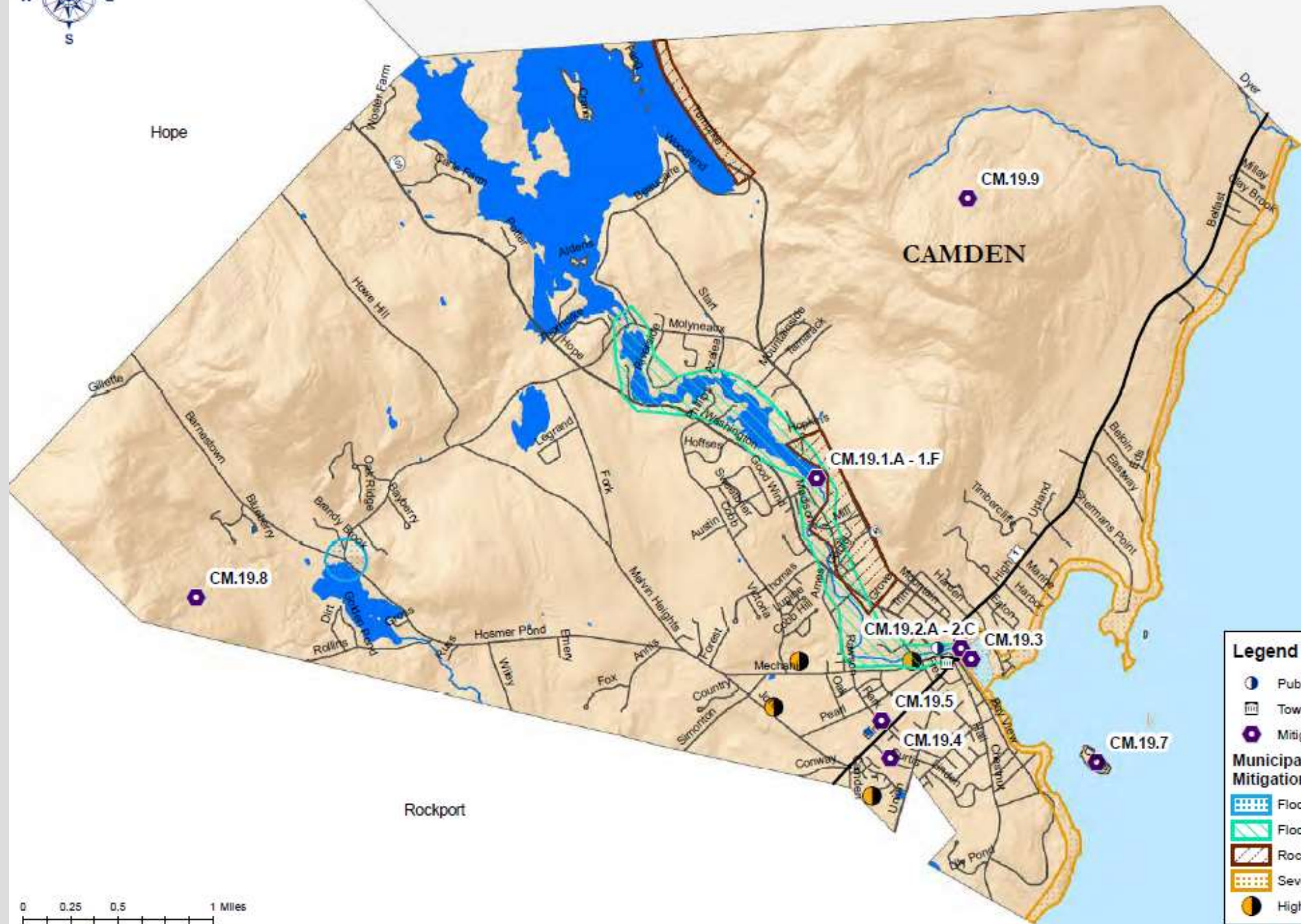
- Survey
- Updating list of projects
- Updated map of project locations and areas of concern

Community	Project (in Order of Priority)	Project Lat/Long	Cost estimate in 2018 dollars	Timeline	Responsible Agency	Status of Plan resubmitted 2019
Appleton, Town of	(1) Peabody Rd: Ditch 1,000' and add (1) 18" x 40' HDPE culvert.	44.29391/ -69.22495	\$4,500	Short Term	Road commissioner	In planning phase
	(2) Improve drainage, upsize culvert projects as needed	Various Locations	\$3,000-10,000	Long Term	Road Commissioner	New – deferred pending funding
Camden, Town of	(1.a) Update flood profiles for the Megunticook River drainage basin and determine flow capacity at Various sites prone to flooding	44.223444/ -69.079599	\$50,000 estimate	Short Term	Town Manager (TM) Planning & Dev Director (PDD)	Pending
	(1.b) Determine flood risk impact of Knox Mill Dam, Knowlton Dam, and one additional abandoned barrier		\$50,000	Short Term	TM and PDD	Pending
	(1.c) Evaluate dams for removal		\$200,000	Short Term	TM and PDD	Pending
	(1.d) Assess options for reducing flood hazards associated with privately owned dams on the Megunticook River		\$50,000	Short Term	TM and PDD	Pending



Lincolnton

Hope



Legend

- Public Safety Critical Infrastructure
- Town Office
- Mitigation Projects

Municipally Identified Areas with Mitigation Opportunities

- Flooding
- Flooding/Severe Summer Storms
- Rockslide/Falling Debris
- Severe Summer Storms
- High Density Vulnerable Population

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- **Survey:**

- Online (use link <https://arcg.is/0XGW8a> or QR code)
- Paper copy – either email to kxeoc@knoxcountymaine.gov or mail or deliver to Knox County EMA 301 Park Street Rockland, ME 04841
- Talk to your municipal emergency management director with your ideas/concerns
- Comment period



PROBABLE TIMELINE

- **Feb 21** – Start collecting surveys from the public
- **Feb 22** – Start working with towns on their surveys, projects, maps, etc.
- **May 1 – 15**: Accepting Public comments on plan draft (will also have a Zoom mtg to hear verbal comments May 8 at 5 p.m.)
- **May 16 – 24**: address comments
- **June 1** – Send draft of plan to FEMA for review
- **August** – 2019 Plan Expires

ANY QUESTIONS?



FOR MORE INFO...

- Go to <https://knoxcountymaine.gov>
- You can find the 2019 Plan and other information under the Emergency Management department

(https://www.knoxcountymaine.gov/county_departments/emergency_management_agency/hazard_mitigation_plan_page.php)

- Contact your municipal EMA director

