

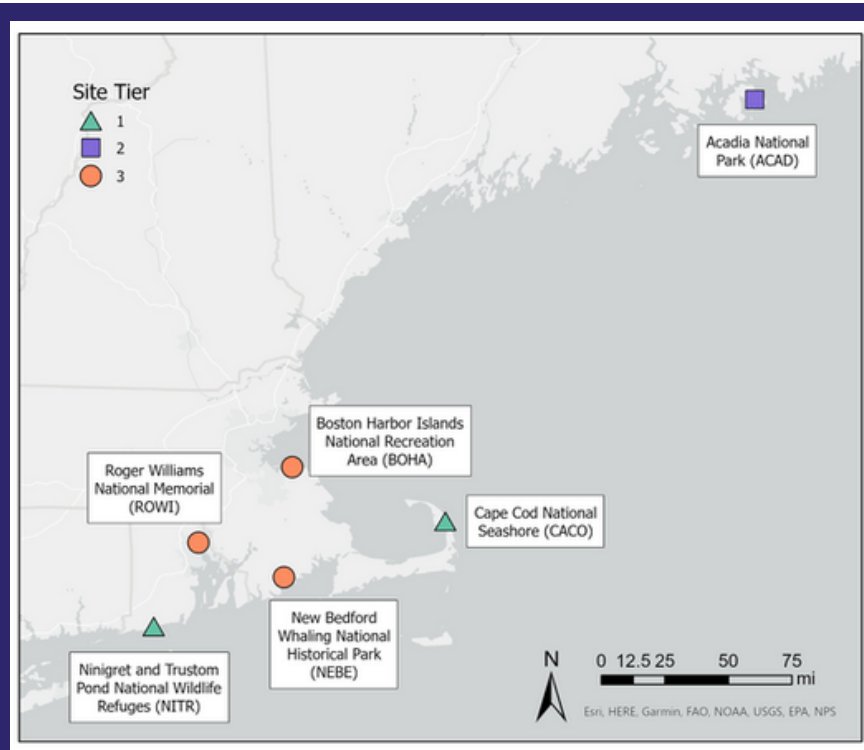
# YEAR 1 PROGRESS REPORT

## Storms & Effects of Sea Level Rise in New England

Coastal communities and critical habitats are at increased risk to impacts from sea level rise (SLR) and storm events due to our changing climate. The overarching goal of this four-year project is to inform management and improve resilience in Northeastern U.S. coastal areas covering five National Park Service units, two National Wildlife Refuge sites, and their adjacent communities. Throughout this project, we are engaging federal parks and refuges, governments (local, state, and Tribal), and non-profits in a collaborative and iterative process to ensure the results support specific management concerns and inform decision-making today and in the future. The first year of work of this multi-year project (2021-2025) has just been completed.

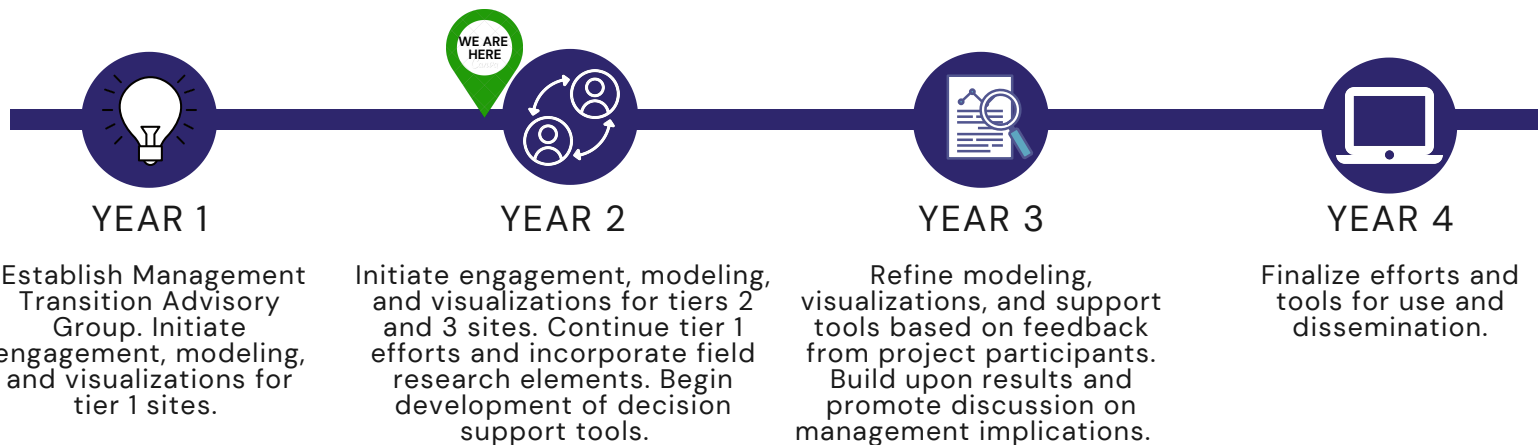
### YEAR 1 MILESTONES

- Compiled and reviewed existing resources including research, models, and planning efforts.
- Held kickoff meetings with the regional Advisory Group and tier 1 sites.
- Conducted field visits to understand local concerns and further inform research and modeling efforts.
- Identified key issues at sites including flooding of low-lying roads and evacuation routes, storm overwash of barriers, coastal erosion, loss of salt marsh, and navigation hazards.
- Set up and validated model framework and enhanced resolution of focal areas.
- Explored shoreline response to mitigation actions, such as offshore reefs and vegetation changes.
- Initiated development of visualizations to illustrate what areas of concern will look like based on modeled results of SLR and storm surge.



THE 4-YEAR COLLABORATION ACROSS THE NORTHEAST AIMS TO ADDRESS ISSUES AND OPTIONS RELATED TO STORMS AND RISING SEAS





NEXT STEPS (SEPT 2022 - MARCH 2023)

**Management Transition Advisory Group (MTAG)**

- Convene MTAG meeting to share progress and get feedback from across the project sites.

**Tier 1 sites (NITR, CACO)**

- Present plan to link priority issues and modeling approach to tier 1 sites.
- Formulate models and visualizations for SLR and storm surge scenarios at sites, based on targeted areas of concern from stakeholder engagement.
- Collect field data at sites to inform models, management, and visualizations.

**Tier 2 sites (ACAD)**

- Hold kickoff meeting and initiate engagement, modeling, and visualization activities for tier 2 site.

**Tier 3 sites (NEBE, BOHA, ROWI)**

- Initiate engagement with tier 3 sites.



VISUALIZING A CHANGING FUTURE HELPS RESOURCE MANAGERS PLAN FOR STORMS & RISING SEAS