



Name	Climate Change and Its Effects on Humans
Description	<p>Accelerated climate change is anticipated to have wide-ranging effects on the future sustainability of the Earth due to adverse ecological, social and economic impacts (Stern 2006; McMullen and Jabbour 2009). The driving force is an increase in the Earth's temperature as a result of human activities (e.g., release of greenhouse gases and changes in landscape characteristics).</p> <p>The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projects a global mean temperature increase of 1.1°C to 6.4°C by 2100, which is likely to affect storms and floods, and lead to a rise in sea level due to the thermal expansion of the oceans and the melting of ice sheets and glaciers (IPCC 2007a). Recent research reports estimate a global sea level rise of between 50 cm and 190 cm from 1990 to 2100 (see Vermeer and Rahmstorf 2009). There are several parts of the Gulf of Maine coast line that are classified as highly sensitive to the impacts of sea level rise because of risks associated with storm events. The physical extent of climate-related impacts will vary depending on regional and local situations (Burtis 2006).</p> <p>Coastal communities in the Gulf of Maine will be impacted in numerous ways, including: health and well-being of communities (e.g., injury, mortality, migration, crime and security); access to services; design and placement of structures (e.g., buildings, bridges, and utilities); cost of living; loss of livelihoods, and the cumulative magnitude of climate change impacts (see Figure 1). Climate change mitigation and adaptation are becoming increasingly important to community management and there are numerous ongoing federal, provincial/state, county,</p>
Type	

Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Health and Safety - Infrastructure - Managed Ecosystems - Natural Ecosystems - Biota - Social and Cultural Resources - Economic Resources - Recreation and Tourism - Cross Disciplinary
Focus Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainability of Marine Ecosystems - Coasts and Climate Resilience (including sea-level rise) - Changes in Extremes of Weather and Climate - Conservation/ Restoration of Sensitive Species and Habitats
Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International - Regional Or State -- New England
Lead Agencies	Gulf of Maine Council