Reducing Flood Risk with Nature-Based Infrastructure

November 28, 2017

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Photo Credit: J. T. Kelley, MGS
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Living Shorelines in New England: State of the Practice

Prepared For:
The Nature Conservancy

Prepared By:
Woods Hole Group, Inc.

July 2017
The NOAA definition: “A living shoreline is made up mostly of native material. It incorporates natural vegetation or other living, natural soft elements alone or in combination with some type of harder shoreline structure, like oyster reefs, rock sills, or anchored large wood for added stability. Living shorelines connect the land and water to stabilize the shoreline, reduce erosion, and provide ecosystem services, like valuable habitat, that enhances coastal resilience.”
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- Living shorelines – important tool
  - Erosion Control
  - Co-benefits

- Co-benefits – valuable
  - ecosystem services, habitat, water quality/quantity, carbon sequestration, maintenance of coastal processes sediment transport, visual

- Siting – critically important
  - Success possible when design type aligns with conditions
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Photo Credit: David Burdick, University of New Hampshire
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Select Sites

Install Pilot Sites

Develop Treatments

Monitor

Develop Guidance and Policy Recommendations

Outreach and Education
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Maine Geological Survey
Maine Coastal Program
Casco Bay Estuary Partnership
Town of Brunswick
Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust
Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Maine Department of Marine Resources
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Maine Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Lands
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