



# NATURE-BASED COASTAL RESILIENCE IN URBAN SETTINGS

2025 Conference Schedule at a Glance

Day 1   Wednesday April 16	
8:30 AM	Registration Opens
9:00 AM	Networking & Refreshments
10:00 AM	<b>Land Acknowledgement, Welcome &amp; Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Joe Christo   Co-Director, Stone Living Lab Chief Resilience Officer, Boston Harbor Now</li><li>Marcelo Suarez-Orozco   Chancellor, UMass Boston</li></ul>
10:30 AM	<b>Keynote</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Katherine Dafforn   Co-Director, Stone Living Lab Distinguished Professor of Climate Resilience, UMass Boston</li></ul>
11:15 AM	<b>Keynote</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Atyia Martin   CEO &amp; Founder, All Aces, Inc.</li></ul>
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	<b>Breakout Session 1</b> <i>Attend one of the following breakout discussions</i>
	What We Know: Best Practices & Future Funding
	Avenues for Promoting Nature-Based Approaches
	Foundational Marine Data for Coastal Resilience
2:30 PM	Break
2:45 PM	<b>Breakout Session 2</b> <i>Attend one of the following breakout discussions</i>
	From the Ground Up: Social Resilience is Climate Resilience
	Weighing the Options with Strategies & Collaborations
	Design & Implementation Case Studies
4:15 PM	Break
4:30 PM	<b>Closing Keynote</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Brian Swett   Chief Climate Officer, City of Boston</li></ul>
5:00 PM	Reception & Poster Session
6:30 PM	End of Conference Day 1



# WEDNESDAY APRIL 16

## BREAKOUT SESSION 1 | 1:00 - 2:30 PM

Attend 1 of the following 3 breakout sessions discussions

### What We Know: Best Practices & Future Funding

Panel Discussions | Project Design & Assessment of Success | Ballroom

#### Best Practices for Nature-Based Shore Protection in Massachusetts

- Tricia Bowie | Coastal Resiliency Specialist, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management
- Rebecca Haney | Coastal Geologist, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management
- Julia Knisel | Coastal Shoreline & Floodplain Manager, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management
- Kathleen Mason | Coastal Habitat & Water Quality Specialist, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management
- Sarah White | Director - Climate Resilience, MA Department of Conservation & Recreation

#### The Shifting Tides of Nature-Based Solutions & Climate Resilience Funding

- David Burgy | Senior Resilience Planner, Stantec
- Jennifer Hamann | Landscape Architect, Stantec
- Rachelle McKnight | Senior Environmental Scientist, Stantec
- Heidi Peper | Senior Funding Leader, Stantec

### Avenues for Promoting Nature-Based Approaches

Oral Presentations | Permitting, Policy & Finance | Room 3540

#### Living Shorelines: Fostering Widespread Acceptance

- Kelly Knee | Executive Director - Ocean Science, Tetra Tech

#### Critical Policy & Regulatory Changes Aimed at Climate Adaptation and Mitigation

- Julie Conroy | Principal/Owner, Conroy Environmental

#### 2024 Great Boston Harbor Island Adventure Cleanup

- Marc Albert | Science & Stewardship Partnerships Program Director, National Parks of Boston
- Jorge Ayub | Senior Ecologist, MA Department of Conservation & Recreation
- Laura Ludwig | Program Director - Marine Debris & Plastics, Center for Coastal Studies
- Belle Procaccini | Director of Operations - Boston Harbor Islands, MA Department of Conservation & Recreation

#### Evidence on Effectiveness & Cost-Effectiveness of Nature-Based Solutions

- Marta Vicarelli | Assistant Professor - Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

### Foundational Marine Data for Coastal Resilience

Oral Presentations | Urban Ecology, Shoreline Change, & Engineering | Room 3545

#### Evaluating the Wave Attenuation Capacity of Rhizophora Mangle for Coastal Protection: A Nature-Based Approach Across Growth Stages

- Claudia Deveaux Garrido | PhD Candidate - Civil & Architectural Engineering, University of Miami

#### Stone Living Lab Monitoring in Action: Boston Harbor Real-Time Metocean Monitoring Program

- Kirk Bosma | Vice President of Innovation, Woods Hole Group
- Katie Lavallee | Team Lead - Coastal Measurements & Sediments, Woods Hole Group

#### Integrating Nature-Based Solutions into Engineering Designs in the U.S. Northeast

- Emily Chapman | Coastal Engineering Specialist, Stantec

#### Enhancing Coastal Resilience Using Hyperlocal Water Level Sensor Networks & AI

- Brian Glazer | CEO, Hohonu





# WEDNESDAY APRIL 16

## BREAKOUT SESSION 2 | 2:45 - 4:15 PM

*Attend 1 of the following 3 breakout session discussions*

### From the Ground Up: Social Resilience is Climate Resilience

Panel Discussions | Community Engagement, Social Equity & Workforce Development | Ballroom

#### Building Climate Resilience While Addressing the Root Causes of Social Vulnerability

- Jon Belber | Education Director, Friends of Holly Hill Farm
- Peyton Siler Jones | Founder, Siler Climate Consulting
- Quinn Etchie Noon | Cohasset Food Pantry
- Beverly-Love Rock | Cohasset MVP 2.0 Core Team
- Cassandra Thayer | Town Planner, Town of Cohasset

#### Regeneration: Transforming the CSIOBS Campus to Prioritize Climate Resilience

- Harry Flamm | Senior Sustainability Consultant, Stantec
- Shauna Gilles-Smith | Principal, Ground Inc.
- Sylvia Watts McKinney | CEO & President, Cathleen Stone Island Outward Bound School
- Kara Slocum | Senior Civil & Resilience Engineer, Arup
- Douglas Stapleton | Vice President of Asset Management, Cathleen Stone Island Outward Bound School

### Weighing the Options with Strategies & Collaborations

Oral Presentations | Project Design & Assessment of Success | Room 3540

#### Practitioners' Needs for Addressing Challenges of Sea-Level Rise: A Qualitative Assessment

- Daniella Hirschfeld | Assistant Professor - Climate Adaptation Planning, Utah State University

#### Washington Street Resilience Framework: Enhancing Coastal Ecosystems, Public Access & Resilience on Nantucket

- Kirk Bosma | Vice President of Innovation, Woods Hole Group
- Rachael Freeman | Executive Director, Nantucket Islands Land Bank
- Leah Hill | Coastal Resilience Coordinator, Town of Nantucket
- Laura Marett | Principal, SCAPE

#### A 20-Year Systematic Review of Wave Dissipation by Soft and Hybrid Nature-Based Solutions

- Amy Bredes | PhD Candidate - Coastal Engineering, Stevens Institute of Technology

#### Coastal Resilience Partnership: Boston & Revere's Joint Work on the Resilient Bennington Street & Fredericks Park Project

- Elle Baker | Open Space & Environmental Planner, City of Revere
- Alex Boutin | Water Resources Designer, VHB
- Mark Costa | Senior Water Resources Engineer, VHB
- Catherine McCandless | Senior Climate Resilience Project Manager, City of Boston

### Design & Implementation Case Studies

Oral Presentations | Urban Ecology, Shoreline Change, & Engineering | Room 3545

#### Greening the Grey: Designing Multifunctional Urban Shorelines

- Louise Firth | Senior Lecturer - Environmental Sustainability, University College Cork

#### Cadish Ave Beach Shoreline Stabilization Project - Hull, MA

- Conor Ofsthun | Coastal Scientist, Woods Hole Group

#### The Importance of Embedding Resiliency in the Study of Design: Case Studies From Boston Architectural College Studio Arc 3308

- Andrew Leonard | Principal, Urban Horticulture Design

#### Tracks to Tides: A Railway Case Study Shaping Our Approach to Coastal Flooding & Advanced Monitoring Solutions

- Andrew Menton | Director of Ocean Science, Tetra Tech



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2025 Conference Schedule at a Glance



Day 2   Thursday April 17	
8:30 AM	Registration Opens
9:00 AM	Networking & Refreshments
10:00 AM	<b>Land Acknowledgement, Welcome &amp; Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Katherine Dafforn   Co-Director, Stone Living Lab</li><li>Kathy Abbot   President &amp; CEO, Boston Harbor Now</li><li>Carol Thornber   Dean - School for the Environment, UMass Boston</li></ul>
10:30 AM	<b>Keynote Panel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scott Edwards   Professor &amp; Curator, Harvard University</li><li>Catherine Machalaba   Planetary Health Scientist, The Nature Conservancy</li><li>Paige Warren   Department Head - Environmental Conservation, UMass Amherst</li></ul> <p>Moderated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>David Sittenfeld   Director - Center for the Environment, Museum of Science</li></ul>
11:30 AM	<b>Keynote Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>"Rising Waters, Rising Voices"<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Maggie Finnegan   Soprano, Boston Lyric Opera</li><li>Brendon Shapiro   Pianist, Boston Lyric Opera</li><li>Roxanna Myhrum   Director of Programs &amp; Events, Boston Lyric Opera</li></ul></li></ul>
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	<b>Breakout Session 1</b> <i>Attend one of the following breakout discussions</i>
	Preparing Communities & Looking Ahead
	Learning & Implementing with Communities
	Comparing & Measuring Success
2:30 PM	Break
2:45 PM	<b>Breakout Session 2</b> <i>Attend one of the following breakout discussions</i>
	Reimagining What's Possible
	Rising Tides Lift All Boats: Climate Resilience & Community Collaboration
	Innovation in the Face of Rapid Change
4:15 PM	Break
4:30 PM	<b>Closing Keynote</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kim Driscoll   Lieutenant Governor, Commonwealth of Massachusetts</li></ul>
5:00 PM	End of Conference Day 2
6:00 PM	Blunders & Bloopers Reception & Open Mic Night   Boston Winery





# THURSDAY APRIL 17

## BREAKOUT SESSION 1 | 1:00 - 2:30 PM

Attend 1 of the following 3 breakout session discussions

### Preparing Communities & Looking Ahead

Panel Discussions | Project Design & Assessment of Success | Ballroom

#### Proactive Coastal Relocation for Community & Ecosystem Resilience

- Emma Gildesgame | Climate Adaptation Scientist, The Nature Conservancy
- Kim Starbuck | Senior Research Associate, Urban Harbors Institute - University of Massachusetts Boston
- Jes Szetela | Climate Program Associate, University of Massachusetts Amherst

#### Navigating Landscape Scale Nature-Based Salt Marsh Restoration in Massachusetts: from Design to Implementation

- Russ Hopping | Ecology Program Director, The Trustees of Reservations
- Nancy Pau | Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Mary Rimmer | Principal & Senior Wetland Scientist, Rimmer Environmental Consulting

### Learning & Implementing with Communities

Oral Presentations | Community Engagement, Social Equity & Workforce Development | Room 3540

#### Charles River Conservancy STEAM Kits in Action: Learning Through Floating Wetlands

- Kata Gilbertson | Project & Event Assistant, Charles River Conservancy
- Taylor Leonard | Program Manager - Community Partnerships, Charles River Conservancy

#### Strengthening Community Resilience through Nature: Constructed Stormwater Wetlands in the Mystic River Watershed

- Jennifer Relstab | Senior Water Resources Engineer, Horsley Witten Group

#### Empowering Micro-Neighborhoods: A Place-Based Approach to Resilience and Preservation

- Regina Binder | Founder & Executive Director, Micro Neighborhood Alliance

#### Exploring the Intersection of Nature-based Solutions and Risk Financing

- Charlie Sidoti | Executive Director, InnSure Corporation

### Comparing & Measuring Success

Oral Presentations | Project Design & Assessment of Success | Room 3545

#### Science-Based Inquiry vs. Traditional Pre and Post Installation Monitoring for Nature-Based Approaches: A Case Study at Camp Harbor View

- Mark Borrelli | Director - Coastal Processes and Ecosystems (CAPE) Lab, University of Massachusetts Boston

#### 3D Beach Profiles: A High-Resolution Approach to Coastal Monitoring & Resilience Planning

- Kalinda Roberts | Coastal Resilience Planner, BSC Group

#### Nature-Based Coastal Protection: Assessing Ecological Impacts of Cobble Berms in New England

- Curtis Morris | PhD Candidate - Marine Science & Technology, University of Massachusetts Boston

#### Building Resilient Communities Through Nature Based Solutions: Coastal Wins with Federal Funding Support

- Danielle Boudreau | National Reserve System Training Lead, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Anna Kaczmarek | Resilience Specialist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



# THURSDAY APRIL 17

## BREAKOUT SESSION 2 | 2:45 - 4:15 PM

*Attend 1 of the following 3 breakout session discussions*

### Reimagining What's Possible

Panel Discussions | Project Design & Assessment of Success | Ballroom

#### The Boston Living Seawalls: Implementation of a Nature-Based Solution

- Kirk Bosma | Vice President of Innovation, Woods Hole Group
- Jarrett Byrnes | Associate Professor - Biology, University of Massachusetts Boston
- Joe Christo | Co-Director, Stone Living Lab
- Daniel Lopez | PhD Candidate - Environmental Biology, University of Massachusetts Boston
- Melba Torres Sosa | PhD Candidate - Integrated Biosciences, University of Massachusetts Boston

#### How Long-Term Planning Might Change the Goals of Nature-Based Strategies

- Bob Chen | Professor - School for the Environment, University of Massachusetts Boston
- Elizabeth Solomon | Massachusett Tribe at Ponkapoag
- Kristin Uiterwyk | Director, Urban Harbors Institute

### Rising Tides Lift All Boats: Climate Resilience & Community Collaboration

Oral Presentations | Community Engagement, Social Equity & Workforce Development | Room 3540

#### Resilience is in Us: Practices for Nature Based Storytelling & Community Care

- Diana Lempel | Independent Researcher, Sibylline Studio

#### Seawall Simulations: Enabling Community Engagement in the Evaluation of Coastal Infrastructure Decision Making

- Indrit Alushani | Research Associate - School of Architecture, University of Miami

#### Advancing Justice and Resilience: Implementing Coastal Nature-Based Solutions through Participatory Convergence

- Laura Castro-Diaz | Assistant Professor, University of Massachusetts Boston

#### Your Car is Floating and You Can't Get into Your House: Multi-Criteria Decision-Making for Bottom-Up Nature-Based Resilience

- Bobuchi Ken-Opurum | Research Director, Building Electrification Institute

### Innovation in the Face of Rapid Change

Oral Presentations | Urban Ecology, Shoreline Change, & Engineering | Room 3545

#### Addressing Cliff Collapse with Nature-Based Solutions: Lessons from the Levant

- Michelle Portman | Professor - MarCoast Lab, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

#### Reimagining Coastal Restoration: Understanding and Reviving a Salt Marsh

- Francesco Peri | Research Engineer, University of Massachusetts Boston

#### Coastal Resiliency and Outreach Focus Group: Cobble Berm Case Study

- Brittany Hoffnagle | Climate Resiliency Specialist, Woods Hole Group
- Rebecca Shoer | Senior Program Manager, Education and Engagement, Stone Living Lab





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2025 Conference Schedule at a Glance



Day 3   Friday April 18	
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<p><b>Resilient Boston Harbor Cruise</b></p> <p>Join the Stone Living Lab and partners for a tour of Boston Harbor aboard the Columbia Point! The cruise will begin in the inner harbor to view and discuss coastal adaptation efforts underway along the shoreline, and then journey out amongst the Boston Harbor Islands, where we will discuss harbor history, Indigenous knowledge, changing climate conditions, and ongoing resilience initiatives aimed at creating a future where people work with nature to make coastal regions more resilient and adaptive to climate change. Lunch will be provided.</p> <p><i>Cruise Meeting Point: <a href="#">Simons Theater at the New England Aquarium</a></i></p>
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	<p><b>Coastal Resilience in East Boston</b></p> <p>This walking tour will start in Downtown Boston, with a visit to the Stone Living Lab’s Hohonu overland flood sensor on Long Wharf for a discussion on monitoring changing climate conditions. Participants will take public transportation across the Harbor to East Boston to visit the living shoreline at Clippership Wharf and the new section of Piers Park, for a discussion on waterfront access and coastal climate adaptation.</p> <p><i>Walking Tour Meeting Point: <a href="#">Chart House</a></i></p>
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	<p><b>Living Seawalls in the Seaport</b></p> <p>The Stone Living Lab installed the first “Living Seawalls” panels in North America last year, and this walking tour will visit the project site in the Seaport. Along the way, participants will stop at Martin’s Park to discuss coastal climate adaptation and the importance of educational programming with partners. At the Living Seawalls site, learn how the project can mitigate the environmental impacts of existing seawalls by increasing biodiversity and the abundance of ocean life, and potentially improve soften wave impact.</p> <p><i>Walking Tour Meeting Point: <a href="#">Simons Theater at the New England Aquarium</a></i></p>