



**EBC Climate Change Program Series: Part Two
Resilience and Adaptation Priorities – Implications for Coastal New England**

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Foley Hoag LLP | Boston, Massachusetts

AGENDA

- 8:00 a.m. **Welcome**
- Ruth Silman, Chair, EBC Climate and Air Committee
Partner, Nixon Peabody LLP
 - Seth Jaffe, Partner, Foley Hoag LLP
- Introduction to Program**
- Paul Hall, Program Co-Chair, Senior Project Manager, RPS ASA
 - Joseph Famely, Program Co-Chair, Project Manager, Woods Hole Group
- 8:10 a.m. **Flexible Adaptation Planning/Flexible Adaptation Pathways**
- Paul Kirshen, Professor of Climate Adaptation, UMass Boston
- 8:40 a.m. **Role of Observations in Narrowing Uncertainty**
- Kelly Knee, Director of Coastal Hazard Services, RPS ASA
- 9:00 a.m. **Networking Break**
- 9:30 a.m. **Project Highlights from the Coastal Resilience Grant Program**
- Julia Knisel, StormSmart Coasts Manager
Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM)
- 10:00 a.m. **Developing Local and Regional Climate Resiliency Plans**
- Julie Conroy, AICP, Senior Environmental Planner
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)
- 10:30 a.m. **Panel Discussion**
- Panel Moderator:** Paul Hall, RPS ASA
- Panel Members:**
- Paul Kirshen, UMass Boston
 - Kelly Knee, RPS ASA
 - Julia Knisel, CZM
 - Julie Conroy, MAPC
- 11:00 a.m. **Adjourn – Closing Remarks – Ruth Silman**

PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

Joseph Famely, Project Manager, Applied Ecology & Sustainability
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Joe Famely is a Project Manager and Environmental Scientist in the Applied Ecology & Sustainability division of Woods Hole Group. With over 15 years' experience, he develops sea level rise and storm surge vulnerability assessments, greenhouse gas inventories, environmental impact statements, shoreline change analyses, and ecological risk assessments for clients in the government, business and NGO sectors. He has also contributed to master plans, harbor plans, dredged material management plans, conservation land acquisition plans, and materials flow analyses. Joe earned his B.A. in Environmental Studies and Psychology from Bowdoin College, and his M.E.M. in Urban Ecology and Environmental Design from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

Paul Hall, Senior Project Manager
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Paul Hall is a Senior Project Manager and Oceanographer at RPS ASA where he works on projects related to coastal resiliency, water quality, and environmental data management. He has over a decade of experience developing numerical models of complex environmental and geological processes, ranging from pollutant transport in coastal oceans to the generation and migration of magma in the Earth. He has also designed and implemented numerous field programs to characterize hydrography, waves, currents, and water quality in near-shore settings. Paul earned a B.A. in Physics from The College of Wooster and a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island.

SPEAKERS

Julie Conroy, AICP, Senior Environmental Planner
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Julie Conroy is a Senior Environmental Planner at the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC); licensed with the American Institute of Certified Planners. Julie has over fifteen years of experience as an environmental planner and analyst. She began her career as a Boston Harbor Regional Coordinator, and later an Environmental Analyst for the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management where she managed the state's Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution grant programs. Julie then became an Environmental Planner with the Horsley Witten Group where she managed National Safe Drinking Water Peer Reviews and National Contaminated List Safe Drinking Water peer reviews for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. During this time she also prepared modules for the Massachusetts Smart Growth-Smart Energy Toolkit. Currently, Julie develops policy documentation and regulations for natural resource protection in MAPC municipalities, focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation, groundwater and wetlands protection, and stormwater management. She serves as project manager on large scale regional projects such as the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and the Stormwater Utility Toolkit. Julie holds a Master of Arts in Urban Affairs and Environmental Planning, and a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Analysis and Policy from Boston University and is a Boston University Urban Affairs Board Member.

Paul Kirshen, Ph.D., Professor, School for the Environment
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Dr. Kirshen has 30 years of experience in the management of complex, interdisciplinary research related to water resources, and climate variability and change. He has carried out local and global projects and research related to managing climate impacts in collaboration with government, industrial and citizen stakeholders for decades. Most recently he helped lead the development of consensus climate change projections for Climate Ready Boston. He is also a key technical and planning expert on the Neighborhood of Affordable Housing study team for their present Kresge Foundation Implementation grant for East Boston. He is a Lead Author of Chapter 26, North America, of the Working Group II contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), 2014 and the 2013 US National Climate Assessment (coastal chapter).

Kelly Knee, Director of Coastal Hazard Services
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Ms. Knee is a water resources engineer and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) specialist with RPS ASA. Since joining RPS ASA in 2004, she has conducted sea level rise and storm surge impact assessments for many locations around the world to support both education initiatives and engineering analyses. Her interactive, 3-D simulations of sea level rise are currently on display at the Wood's Hole Oceanographic Institute, SciWorks North Carolina, and the See Science Center in New Hampshire. Her 3D visualization of inundation at critical facilities in Hull, MA helped gain support for an increase in freeboard requirements. Ms. Knee has performed a series of coastal risk assessments for coastal industrial facilities and is currently in the process of evaluating the potential benefits of using natural systems to mitigate storm surge impacts. Prior to joining RPS ASA in 2004, she conducted an economic assessment of the impacts of sea level rise and storm surge flooding in metro Boston and used a Fulbright Fellowship to study the impacts of sea level rise and storm surge flooding in the country of Mauritius.

Julia Knisel, StormSmart Coasts Manager
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Julia Knisel manages the StormSmart Coasts program for the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management. For over ten years at CZM, she has assisted communities with coastal erosion and flooding issues coordinating with state and federal agencies, regional planning agencies, and NGOs to build partnerships and implement adaptation strategies to reduce vulnerability along the coast. She represents CZM on regional organizations including the Climate Change Work Group of the Coastal States Organization and the Northeast Regional Ocean Council's Coastal Hazards Resilience Committee, which she co-chairs. Julia previously worked for the U.S. Geological Survey's Coastal and Marine Geology Program in Woods Hole and was a NOAA Coastal Management Fellow with the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management. Julia has a B.S. in Biology and Marine Science and an M.S. in Marine Policy and Coastal Zone Management.