



**EBC Fifth Annual
New England Climate Change and Resiliency Summit**

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Hybrid: Foley Hoag LLP | Boston, MA & Zoom

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Thomas Burack, Esq., Shareholder, Sheehan Phinney Bass & Green, PA
Diane Mas, PhD, REHS/RS, Vice President, Chief Resilience Officer, Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.
H. Curtis Spalding, Senior Consultant, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.

AGENDA

9:00 a.m. Registration & Networking

9:30 a.m. Welcome: Ann Gisinger, Executive Director & President
Environmental Business Council of New England (EBC)

Welcome from our Host:

- Kathleen Brill, Partner, Foley Hoag LLP; Member, EBC Board of Directors

Program Introduction and Overview:

- Diane Mas, PhD, REHS/RS, Summit Co-Chair
Vice President, Chief Resilience Officer, Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.

9:45 a.m. What is the science telling us...

Moderator: Diane Mas, Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.

Panelists:

- Ellen Mecray, Regional Climate Services Director, Eastern Region
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Mary Stampone, Associate Professor, Earth Sciences Affiliate Faculty
University of New Hampshire; New Hampshire State Climatologist

10:45 a.m. Region One Roundtable

Moderator: Curt Spalding, Summit Co-Chair
Senior Consultant, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.

Panelists:

- Eva Birk, Environmental Protection Specialist
Sustainable Transportation and Resilience Team
Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
- Martha Curran, Regional Environmental Officer, Region One Boston
Office of Environment & Energy
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Cynthia Greene, Deputy Director, Air and Radiation Division, Climate Lead
Region One, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Kayla Henderson, Grants Management Specialist, Mitigation Division
Region One, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Ellen Mecray, Regional Climate Services Director, Eastern Region
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

12:00 p.m. Lunch

12:45 p.m. New England State Leadership Roundtable

Moderator: David Mears, Executive Director of Audubon Vermont
Vice President, National Audubon Society

Panelists:

- William Coster, Director of Planning, Agency of Natural Resources
State of Vermont
- Rebecca French, Director of the Office of Climate Planning – *virtual speaker*
Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, State of Connecticut
- Melissa Hoffer, Climate Chief, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Michael Fitzgerald, Assistant Director, Air Resources Division
Department of Environmental Services, State of New Hampshire
- Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
State of Maine
- Terrence Gray, Director, Department of Environmental Management
State of Rhode Island

**2:15 p.m. Resiliency Projects in New England – Funding, Environmental Justice, and
Technical Assistance**

Moderator: Thomas Burack, Summit Co-Chair
Esq., Shareholder, Sheehan Bass & Green, PA

Panelists:

- Kayla Henderson, Grants Management Specialist, Mitigation Division
Region One, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Phaeng Southisombath, Senior Policy Associate / Project Manager
New England Environmental Finance Center – *virtual speaker*

3:00 p.m. Adjourn

SUMMIT CO-CHAIRS

Thomas Burack, Esq., Shareholder
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As Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services from 2006-2016, Tom led the Granite State's efforts to address climate change. Tom helped orchestrate New Hampshire's entry into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), was a founding member of the Board of Directors of RGGI, Inc., and chaired a 29-member Governor's commission that developed the New Hampshire Climate Action Plan (2009).

Tom also envisioned and led NHDES's efforts to incorporate climate change considerations into all of its programs and activities, and he played a central role in focusing all of the state's agencies on the challenges of climate change, including extreme weather events and implementing climate-related mitigation, adaptation and resiliency strategies.

At the start of 2017, Tom returned to Sheehan Phinney where he practices environmental, energy, and nonprofit organizations law, consults on a range of environmental issues, and facilitates the development of scenario-based living strategic plans for governmental and nonprofit organizations. A Fellow of the American College of Environmental Lawyers, Tom was a founding co-chair of the ACOEL Education Committee, and at a national conference in April 2019 spoke on state efforts to include climate resiliency considerations in their disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts. Tom also serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of Clean Energy New Hampshire, a nonprofit organization helping to lead the clean energy transition in the Granite State.

Tom has served as an executive advisor and consultant to the Environmental Council of States (ECOS), the nonprofit, non-partisan association of state and territorial environmental agency leaders, on E-Enterprise for the Environment, a shared governance approach among the US Environmental Protection Agency, states and tribal governments to modernize and streamline the business of environmental protection and regulation in the United States. Tom is a Harry S. Truman Scholar, and served as Law Clerk to the Honorable David H. Souter on the Supreme Court of New Hampshire, and as Legislative Assistant for Environmental Matters to U.S. Senator Gordon J. Humphrey (R-NH) in Washington, DC.

Diane Mas, PhD, REHS/RS, Vice President, Chief Resilience Officer
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Dr. Mas is the Chief Resilience Officer at Fuss & O'Neill, Inc. and focuses on bringing a climate resilience framework to all aspects of Fuss & O'Neill's multi-discipline work across the natural and built environment.

She received her A.B. in Geology from Amherst College, M.S.E. from the Water Resources Program at Princeton University, and Ph.D. in civil engineering from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She has spent nearly 25 years working in the areas of water quality modeling, watershed management, and environmental impact assessment in inland and coastal environments. Her current areas of practice focus on climate change resilience and adaptation for water resources, water quality assessment and modeling, watershed management, harmful algal bloom impacts to drinking and recreational waters, and the relationship between water quality and public health.

Dr. Mas serves in the Infrastructure and Land Use Adaptation and Public Health and Safety Working Groups of the Connecticut Governor's Council on Climate Change and is a member of the National Environmental Health Association and the Association of Climate Change Officers.

H. Curtis Spalding, Senior Consultant
GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.
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Curt Spalding is Senior Consultant based in GZA's Providence offices.

With an accomplished record in environmental protection as an advocate, policy analyst, and administrator, Spalding served the Obama Administration as USEPA New England Region 1 Administrator. Spalding, who also served for 18 years as Executive Director of the Providence-based environmental advocacy organization Save the Bay and as a Professor of the Practice at the Institute at Brown University for Environment and Society (IBES), is part of GZA's consulting engineering services team, supporting environmental protection, resiliency, and sustainability.

During his years at the EPA, Spalding oversaw the development of long-term holistic restoration plans for some of New England's most iconic waters including Lake Champlain, Long Island Sound, the waters of Cape Cod, and Narragansett Bay and supported the advance green infrastructure through next generation of federal storm water general permits for Massachusetts and New Hampshire. As the Owner and principal consultant for a private consulting firm since 2017, Spalding also served as founding organizer of the Brown-based Providence Resilience Partnership.

Spalding earned his BA in political science from Hobart College and Master of Public Administration from the University at Albany, SUNY - Rockefeller College.

PANEL MODERATOR

David Mears, Executive Director of Audubon Vermont
Vice President of the National Audubon Society
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David (he/him) joined Audubon in the fall of 2018. He directs Audubon Vermont and in this role, supports the educational and outreach programs based out of the Green Mountain Audubon Center in Huntington. David also coordinates policy work for Audubon Vermont focused on bird species protection in the areas of climate, working lands, water, and bird-friendly communities. Prior to joining Audubon Vermont, he served as the Associate Dean of Environmental Programs at Vermont Law School. In addition to serving as a professor and administrator at Vermont Law School, David has held a number of positions in state and federal government including serving as Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation from 2011 to 2015. He has also served in Texas state government, the U.S. Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division, and the Washington Office of the Attorney General in the Ecology Division. David has a degree in environmental engineering technology from Cornell University, and a Juris Doctor and Masters of Environmental Law and Policy degrees from Vermont Law School. He lives in Montpelier with his wife Nancy and spends his free time in the garden or roaming the hills, rivers and lakes in the region.

SPEAKERS

Eva Birk, Environmental Protection Specialist
Sustainable Transportation and Resilience Team
Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation
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Eva Birk is a member of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Resilience Team. This team provides technical assistance on climate and resilience topics and administrates the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program. Prior to FHWA, Eva worked for over a decade in environmental policy representing both private industry and State and Local governments. Eva has a Bachelors of Science degree in Environmental Studies from Tufts University and a Masters in Regional Planning from Cornell University.

William Coster, Director of Planning
Agency of Natural Resources
State of Vermont
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Billy Coster is the Director of Planning and Policy at the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources where he directs the Agency's work in land use, energy and climate change policy, regulation, and legislative matters. Billy is co-chair of the Vermont Climate Council's Agriculture and Ecosystem subcommittee, one of four subcommittees responsible for developing recommended actions for Vermont's Climate Action Plan.

Martha A. Curran, Regional Environmental Officer, Region 1 Boston
Office of Environment & Energy
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
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As Regional Environmental Officer for HUD Region 1, Martha Curran is responsible for environmental compliance for HUD-funded projects for all program areas (Community Planning and Development, Housing, and Public and Indian Housing) in the six New England states. In that role, she and her team work with HUD staff, grantees, and developers and consultants to ensure they understand HUD's regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and the related laws and authorities. Martha has been with HUD for twelve years. Prior to HUD, she held a number of environmental management and compliance positions in both the public and private sector, including an environmental technology start-up company, a large consulting firm, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Michael Fitzgerald, Assistant Director, Air Resources Division
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
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Michael Fitzgerald is the Assistant Director of the Air Resources Division at DES. He is responsible for daily operations and administration of the Division's five bureaus and coordinates legislative policy for the Division. He serves as the co-chair of the New England Governor's and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) Climate Change Steering Committee. He was previously the Administrator of the ARD Technical

Services Bureau, with responsibility for mobile sources, climate, energy, and air monitoring programs. He has also previously served as chair of the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) Mobile Sources Committee, chair of the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) Conformity Workgroup, and has participated on the Northeast States Clean Air Foundation (NESCAF) Truckstop Electrification study advisory workgroup and the EPA's Clean Air Act Advisory Committee (CAAAC) national OBD Policy Workgroup.

Mr. Fitzgerald has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of New Hampshire and has been previously employed in the electronics industry, hazardous waste management and remediation services, and for a national environmental consulting/engineering firm.

Rebecca French, Director of the Office of Climate Planning
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As the director of the Office of Climate Planning at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Dr. French advises the DEEP Commissioner on mitigation, adaptation and resilience plans across all divisions of the agency, including administering the Governor's Council on Climate Change and implementing its recommendations.

Previously, Dr. French served as the Director of Resilience for the CT Department of Housing, overseeing the \$64.3M grant awarded to the State of Connecticut through the US HUD National Disaster Resilience Competition as well as the Rebuild by Design pilot project in Bridgeport, CT.

She was the Director of Community Engagement for the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA), a partnership between the University of Connecticut and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. She translated science and engineering to help communities, state and local government, private industry, and academic partners implement solutions to adapt to a changing climate and extreme weather while strengthening resilience through economic development, policies and social cohesion.

Prior to her positions in Connecticut, she was a AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow with the U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development and an American Geophysical Union Congressional Science Fellow in the United States Senate.

Dr. French is an alumni fellow of the Center for the Environmental Implications of Nanotechnology (CEINT). Her research on the characterization of engineered and naturally-occurring nanomaterials helped build the scientific basis for policy decisions regarding nanotechnology. She is the recipient of two NSF Interdisciplinary Graduate Education and Research Traineeships (NSF IGERT). She holds an M.S from Cornell University in soil chemistry and a Ph.D. from Virginia Tech in geosciences. She received her B.A. from Oberlin College in chemistry and environmental studies. She grew up in northeast Connecticut.

Terrence (Terry) Gray, Director for Environmental Protection
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A lifelong Rhode Islander who grew up on the shores of Narragansett Bay in the Gaspee Plateau neighborhood of Warwick, Terrence Gray became the Acting Director of the Rhode Island Department of

Environmental Management (DEM) on June 21. Governor Dan McKee announced Terry's appointment June 8, 2022.

Terry has worked at DEM for the whole of his 34-year career. He entered State service in 1987 as a hazardous waste program engineer and rose through the agency's ranks becoming Chief of the Division of Site Remediation in 1993, Chief of the Office of Waste Management in 1996, Assistant Director for Air, Waste, and Compliance in 1999, Associate Director for Environmental Protection in 2012, and Deputy Director for Environmental Protection in 2018.

Along with his agency-wide responsibilities, Terry continues to oversee all major environmental regulatory programs in DEM and directs the implementation of the compliance, technical assistance, permitting, remediation, and enforcement programs.

Career highlights include helping to develop the highly successful RI Brownfields program to clean up and redevelop contaminated sites, and, since 2019, serving as the primary point person on the interagency team for the Transportation and Climate Initiative, which would substantially cut greenhouse gases in the transportation sector. Terry is an avid hiker and has explored many of the trails throughout DEM's parks and management areas.

Terry participated in the Leadership Rhode Island program and is a proud member of the Phi class of 2001. In 2016, he participated in the Harvard JFK School of Government Executive Education program on Strategic Management of Regulatory and Enforcement Agencies. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Lehigh University, a Master of Science degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Northeastern University, and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Rhode Island. Gray is a registered professional engineer in Rhode Island.

Cynthia Greene, Deputy Director, Air and Radiation Division, Climate Lead
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region One
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Cynthia has served as the ARD Deputy since 2019, having previously managed ARD's Energy and Climate Branch. She started her career in air working on ozone control and served as the Regional ozone expert. Her background also includes coordinating the Region's climate efforts and work in municipal solid waste and Brownfields. In her over 40 years of experience she has championed the greening of EPA's operations having cofounded Region 1's Green Team and assisted in the design of the EPA's office space at 5 Post Office Square in Boston.

Kayla Henderson, Grants Management Specialist
Mitigation Division, Region One
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Kayla Henderson is a Grants Management Specialist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in Region 1. Kayla works under the Mitigation Division and specifically works on Non-Disaster mitigation with the Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC) program. Kayla joined FEMA after working at New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management in various roles such as working with Emergency Management Performance Grants, Field Services, and Hazard Mitigation Plans.

Kayla also acts as the Resource Unit Leader in Federal response needs when the Regional Response Coordination Center is activated.

Melissa Hoffer, Climate Chief
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Melissa Hoffer is Massachusetts' first ever Climate Chief. She joined the Biden Administration as a Day 1 political appointee, serving as the Acting General Counsel and Principal Deputy General Counsel of the Environmental Protection Agency. She led the EPA's Office of General Counsel through the transition until November 2021, and continued to serve as Principal Deputy General Counsel. Prior to that, she worked in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office as Chief of the Environmental Protection Division beginning in 2012 and was named Chief of AG Healey's newly formed Energy and Environment Bureau in 2015. Hoffer oversaw the work of the Bureau's attorneys on matters including prosecuting civil and criminal enforcement of environmental laws, proceedings before the DPU, energy policy, and defensive cases. She led the Office's litigation against ExxonMobil for deceiving Massachusetts investors and consumers about the risk climate change poses to Exxon's business and global financial markets, and the impacts of its fossil fuel products on climate change. Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office, Hoffer held senior roles at the Conservation Law Foundation and practiced for many years as a litigator and environmental lawyer at WilmerHale. She also served as a law clerk for the Honorable Magistrate Judge Joyce London Alexander, Boston Federal District Court. She received a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law, Certificate in Environmental Management from Tufts University, M.Ed. from the University of Massachusetts, and B.A. from Hampshire College. In her spare time, she raises a small herd of Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats at her farm in Barre, Massachusetts.

Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner
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Melanie Loyzim is the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Maine DEP). She has been with the agency since 2006, and has served in a variety of roles including underground tank inspector, air toxics and emissions inventory program manager, director of Bureau of Air Quality and the Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management and most recently as deputy commissioner. Prior to her tenure at Maine DEP, she worked for Colorado's Department of Public Health and Environment in their emissions inventory program and as a rule writer. She also has experience as an Environmental, Health and Safety Consultant, a Site Health and Safety Officer, and 40-hour HAZWOPER trainer.

Ellen Mecray, Regional Climate Services Director, Eastern Region
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Ellen is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Regional Climate Services Director for the Eastern Region. She focuses on the delivery and interpretation of information using networks across several critical economic sectors including health, fisheries, transportation, agriculture, and energy. In addition to providing climate expertise for her 16-state region, she also served as the Coordinating Chapter Author for the Northeast regional chapter of the U.S. Global Change Research Program's fourth National Climate Assessment, and is a leader for several federal interagency partnerships. Recently, Ellen

has applied her interdisciplinary systems-level science to a oneNOAA effort describing User Engagement and its role in product and service delivery.

Phaeng Southisombath, Senior Policy Associate/Project Manager
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Phaeng manages the Southeast New England Program (SNEP) Network and coordinates 16 technical assistance partners to provide capacity building and access to funding and financing. Phaeng has a background in project management and planning, with expertise in tracking output/outcome metrics, data management and visualizations, and developing processes for collaborative structures.

Mary Stampone, New Hampshire State Climatologist
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Mary Stampone is the New Hampshire State Climatologist and an Associate Professor of Geography at the University of New Hampshire. She teaches undergraduate courses in environmental geography including courses on weather, climate, and natural hazards.

Her research interests include climate system monitoring and applied climate science with a focus on regional climate variability and change. As the New Hampshire State Climatologist, she provides New Hampshire citizens, educators, and agencies with weather and climate information in support of environmental management and planning activities.