



# Southern Maine Coastal Commission

A proposal for Shore and Dredge Management

*October, 2021*

# The Need

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- ❖ Shorelines in southern Maine are facing environmental issues that require a uniform response to utilize shared methodologies
- ❖ A larger support swath. Individual communities facing major issues will have less success if going alone as opposed to part of conglomerate
- ❖ The ability to manage projects such as dredging, sand replenishments and remedial actions such as protective barriers, dunes, etc.

# The Strategy

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- ❖ Step 1: The communities establish a regional shoreline commission by agreement pursuant to 30-a MRS 2201:

It is the purpose of this chapter to permit public agencies of the State or any adjoining state, including but not limited to municipalities, counties and school administrative units, and federal agencies and Indian tribes and their political subdivisions to make the most efficient use of their powers by enabling them to cooperate on a basis of mutual advantage and thereby to provide services and facilities within the State in a manner and pursuant to forms of governmental organization that will accord best with geographic, economic, population and other factors influencing the needs and development of communities.

- ❖ Step 2: Have the commission codified by the State of Maine legislature, similar to river corridor commissions pursuant to 30-A MRS section 4461. Example, the Saco River Corridor Commission: <http://srcc-maine.org>

# Dredge Management

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- ❖ Make up: Harbormasters, citizens, marine geologists and government liaison
- ❖ Storage and maintenance of equipment
  - ❖ Host community: Saco
- ❖ Establish a self-sustaining enterprise management model with towns paying for dredging projects at a minimum 50% below the market rate
- ❖ Establish a panel of experts (Maine Geological, independent marine environmentalists, etc.) to scope and permit dredge projects

# Dredge Management

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- ❖ Annual meeting to determine next projects and hear requests for dredging
- ❖ Scheduling and procurement of equipment and staffing in conjunction with host municipality
- ❖ Maintain staffing to operate equipment in conjunction with manufacturer
- ❖ Work closely with Maine Geological Survey to track changes in sand levels and erosion
- ❖ Issue annual report