



Maine Ocean and Coastal Acidification Partnership Steering Committee



Ivy Frignoca, Coordinator, MOCA Steering Committee 2016-present: Ivy is Casco Baykeeper for Friends of Casco Bay. Ivy holds a BA in environmental studies, with an emphasis on finding solutions to water quality issues through collaboration, and a law degree. Ivy's professional experience spans work as an environmental educator, an advocate for Vermont's public lands and Lake Champlain, and as a Senior Attorney with the Conservation Law Foundation. Her previous experience on oceans, clean water, and clean air issues provides her with in-depth knowledge of the causes and consequences of ocean climate change. Ivy has engaged in Maine's efforts to address ocean acidification since the inception of the 2014 Maine Ocean Acidification Commission.



Esperanza Stancioff, Assistant Coordinator, MOCA Steering Committee 2016-present: As an Extension Professor with UMaine Extension and ME Sea Grant, her work focuses on climate change adaptation research, education, and outreach. She works with coastal communities; assists in the development and implementation of statewide and regional networks including the Climate Change Adaptation Providers (CCAP) Network and the Northeast Coastal Acidification Network (NECAN). Her citizen science work includes Signs of the Seasons: A New England Phenology Program (SOS) and an Ocean and Coastal Acidification citizen science program.



Rep. Lydia Blume, MOCA Steering Committee 2017-present: Lydia is in her third term as a legislator and serves on the Joint Standing Committees on Marine Resources and Environment and Natural Resources. Lydia studied geography at Boston University, traveled around the world, and worked in the environmental field with scientists and engineers throughout the Northeast. She is currently self-employed as a sales and marketing professional.



Don Witherill, MOCA Steering Committee 2018-present: Don is the Director for the Division of Environmental Assessment in the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). His division has the responsibility of monitoring and assessing the quality of Maine's surface waters, including its rivers, streams, lakes and marine waters. Don has worked at the DEP for 40 years and has been in his current position since 2012.



Dr. Meredith White, MOCA Steering Committee 2018-present: Meredith's academic research has focused on biological impacts of ocean acidification, including impacts on larval bivalves, phytoplankton, and zooplankton. While a postdoctoral researcher at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, she served on the 2014 Maine Ocean Acidification Commission. In 2016, Meredith transitioned to the role of Director of Research and Development at Mook Sea Farm, an oyster hatchery and farm in Walpole. In that role, she has continued to be engaged in regional efforts for research, education, and action regarding ocean acidification and ocean climate change.



Richard Nelson, MOCA Steering Committee 2018-present: Richard recently retired from 35 years of commercial lobster fishing out of Friendship, Maine. He has extensive working knowledge of Maine's marine waters and the impacts of ocean climate change. He served on Maine's Ocean Acidification Commission, Maine's Ocean Planning Advisory Group, and on the board of Medomak Valley Land Trust. He occasionally writes, speaks, and consults on climate and ocean matters from his perspective as a fisherman.



Parker Gassett, MOCA Steering Committee 2018-present: Parker is a PhD student at the University of Maine studying municipal approaches to ocean climate change. He has worked with the Northeast Coastal Acidification Network and the Ocean Acidification Information Exchange to expand regional monitoring opportunities.