



# SOS Saco Bay Coastal Update

David Plavin, Vice President  
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# SOS Saco Bay

- Established in 2019
- Non-profit advocacy group committed to the restoration and preservation of our shoreline
- Initially focused on Camp Ellis and the 111 Project to remediate issues caused by the Saco River jetty
- Working with other Saco Bay municipalities to help bring people together to find common ground, share resources and develop solutions

# Mission

- Publicize the issues that are causing the steady erosion of our beaches and move government to act for everyone with a stake in the Saco Bay coastline
- Bring together all levels of government, scientific and academic communities to work with private citizens to bring the plight of Saco Bay to light insuring this issue gets the attention it needs
- Provide a comprehensive digital network where all interested parties can go for information including studies - past and present - and updates on actions designed to restore our beaches

# Partners

- Saco Bay Municipal Governments and Departments
- Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future
- County, State and Federal Government Representatives
- University of New England
- Maine Geological Survey
- Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission
- Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Area non-profits: Friends of Wood Island, Biddeford Coastal Preservation Coalition, Ferry Beach Retreat & Conference Center

# Current Initiatives/Updates

- City of Saco Project Partnership Agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers
  - \$45M from the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022
  - PPA Signed November 2023
  - Work is on schedule to begin construction of a 750-foot spur jetty in 2026
- Wave attenuation study
- York County Dredge Program and sand replenishments
- State, County and Municipal beach management and climate plans



# Goals for 2025

- Keep the Army Corps project on schedule
- Continue involvement in support of municipal action
- Work with York County to further develop the dredge program and beach management initiative
- Help form a Saco Bay working group or committee to share solutions and workgroups
- Expand work and further our relationship with our partners

# Events

- Annual Saco Bay Symposium co-hosted by the City of Saco
  - Brings together government officials at the local, state and federal level, members of the scientific community and environmentalists
- Annual Coastal Conference
  - Speakers, panels and on-site gatherings to learn about erosion, effects of climate change and sea level rise, and potential solutions
- Annual SOS Members Meeting
  - Each summer to bring membership together for updates

# Contact

David Plavin

VP, SOS Saco Bay, Inc.

Email: [info@sossacobay.com](mailto:info@sossacobay.com)

<https://sossacobay.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/SOSSacoBay/>

