A private-public initiative to ensure that the vibrant and productive village of Woods Hole prospers well into the future with the advent of major climate impacts.

Led by:
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Marine Biological Laboratory
NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center

In collaboration with:
Town of Falmouth
RWH Steering Committee

Paul Speer, PhD
Chief Operating Officer, Marine Biological Laboratory
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Marine Biological Laboratory
NOAA NMFS NEFSC
US Coast Guard
Steamship Authority
US Geological Survey
Woods Hole Business Association
Woodwell Climate Research Center
Town of Falmouth – Acting Town Manager, Conservation Agent, Town Planner, Wastewater Department
Community Liaison (3)
Woods Hole Community Association
MA Office of Coastal Zone Management
Sea Education Association
Barnstable County Floodplain Manager/WHOI Sea Grant
At Risk: the Woods Hole Working Waterfront
At-risk: campus infrastructure

The MBL Collection Support Facility (right) and its predecessor during the 1938 hurricane
At-risk: village neighborhoods
Sea Level Rise: historic and projections
GETTING BEYOND ADMIRING THE PROBLEM....
Phase one example:
What does risk look like on the MBL campus in 2050
Phase 2 – Business/Residential/Lifelines CCVA
Phase 2 – Flood Pathways Analysis

Resilient Woods Hole - Flood Pathways
Phase 3: potential adaptations

Maintain Character

Nature-based Focus

Protect/Connect

Adaptive Realignment
Community Involvement and Outreach

- Public Symposium (Sept. ‘20)
- Presented to the Falmouth Select Board (Dec. ‘20)
- Steering Committee Mtgs (10/21, 12/21, 4/14, 4/29)
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Public Symposium 2.0 (Nov ’21)
- Public Workshops (2/22, 5/22)
- Online Interactive Data Portal
- Focus Groups + Survey
- CZM Grant 2 award (Sept 22)
- Presented to Falmouth Select Board (Oct 22)
- RWH tours (summer/fall 22)

Interactive Maps and Stakeholder Survey
What’s Next … Demonstrating Action

Provide a model for the Commonwealth and Country

Grant #2 – MA Coastal Resiliency Grant
$499,981 with $124,995 match, October 2022 – December 2023

Phase 4 - Demonstrating the Power of a Private-Public Blue Economy Village Partnership in Implementing Community Climate Resiliency Solutions
Demonstration Projects (Short-Term)

Design and construct no-regrets scientific facility adaptation demonstrations at WHOI, MBL and NOAA (short-term)
Stoney Beach (Medium-Term)

Conduct a study and performance modeling on Stoney Beach to assess feasibility of cutting off a significant flood pathway through nature-based improvements.
Outreach and Engagement (Long-Term)

Management Area Working Groups to provide in-depth input to localized resiliency opportunities

Utilize social technology to reach and franchise underserved and diverse residents and businesses

Develop and deliver climate and climate resiliency podcasts to educate and engage stakeholders

Produce an accessible Woods Hole Climate Walking Tour for all visitor types to physically connect with the urgent climate resilience needs and opportunities