

Appendix F

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STATE OF THE BAY REPORT
PENOBSCOT BAY - STATUS AND TRENDS
A Report on the Economic and Environmental Health of the
Penobscot Bay Region

BACKGROUND

For the past two years The Island Institute has been a member of the Penobscot Bay Steering Committee which has organized two Penobscot Bay Conferences. These conferences which were well attended (200 citizens, conservationists, businesses, municipal officials) began a discussion of how traditional industries and emerging economic interests can utilize natural resources of the region in an environmentally responsible manner.

Several charges were made to the Steering Committee as a result of the conferences to encourage a regional identity for Penobscot Bay. Specifically suggestions were made to distribute more educational materials on the region, especially a State of the Bay Report and a Scientific Bibliography. The Island Institute, seeing this as part of our ongoing mission to act as a clearinghouse of information relevant to the islands and waters surrounding them, offered to lead these specific projects in Penobscot Bay. The projects are well suited to our organizational goals and strengths because we are very much interested in the connection between the islands and waters of Maine, and have prided ourselves in our publications background, including the annual *Island Journal* and our bi-monthly newspapers, the *Working Waterfront* and the *Inter-Island News*. Penobscot Bay is Maine's largest bay and it contains more islands than any other bay along the coast.

STATE OF THE BAY REPORT

Mission Statement:

The purpose of the State of Penobscot Bay Report is to generate public awareness of the bay and to advance the concept of an interconnected watershed by identifying broadly-defined cultural, economic and ecological trends. The State of the Bay Report will identify gaps in knowledge and highlight trends which have the potential to bring about change on a regional scale.

Assumptions:

1. that the Penobscot River watershed is the second largest in the Gulf of Maine (after the Saint John) and it is therefore of major ecological importance, and
2. that the trends selected are important because they indicate forces of change at work in the region.

Audiences:

The book is intended to be easily accessible to the following: municipal officials, including planning board members, managers and selectmen; land trust and conservation community; high school and college educators; legislators; civic groups; business community; scientists; and interested citizens.

REPORT STRATEGY

The State of the Bay Report will be organized around three primary areas, including trend indicators, risk factors and specific case studies. In the Report we will develop a series of practical, measurable indicators that are reliable for long-term analysis of change. For example, one of the major economic enterprises in the region is Champion International, a pulp and paper company in Bucksport near the mouth of the Penobscot River. Penobscot Bay is also the center of Maine's prime lobster grounds and supports the highest landings of lobsters than any other bay on the coast of Maine. What are the trends of these two industries?

The Report will identify known risks and their significance to the health of the bay. What is the stability of the resources on which major economic and ecological resources depend? What factors affect that stability, locally and globally? What are the known risks and how serious are they?

As a strategy to show the impacts of the significant trends, the Report will look at 4-6 communities that are on different paths and discuss the implications of certain choices these communities have made.

PROPOSED TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. MISSION
- II. ASSUMPTIONS
- III. INTRODUCTION
- IV. TREND INDICATORS

Each section will look separately at these two factors:

- Historical Status (will look back over last 50 years)
- Current Status

A. Ecological Trends

1. The River and its watershed
2. Marine Resources (including water quality)
3. Wetlands
4. Land Cover
5. Wildlife Biodiversity
6. Air Quality

B. Social and Cultural Trends

1. History
2. Demographics (in migration and out migration)
 - a. young people
 - b. unemployed
 - c. retired
 - d. summer visitors
3. Transportation patterns
4. Land Use changes

5. Recreation
6. Stewardship (water quality monitoring, land trusts...)
7. Institutions: Educational, Cultural, Scientific (How have their missions changed over time?)

C. Economic Trends

1. Fishing
2. Transportation
3. Tourism
4. Energy
5. Forest Products
6. Boat building
7. Agriculture
8. Aquaculture
9. Manufacturing
10. Creative Industries: artists, craftsmen...

V. RISK FACTORS

- A. Industrial/Municipal Discharges
- B. Non-point source pollution
- C. Marine Environment
- D. Transportation
 - 1.. Passenger: rail and highways
 2. Commercial: rail, marinas and cargo port
- E. Tourism

VI. COMMUNITY PROFILES

These profiles of communities in transition within the watershed will illustrate important trends. The watershed can be divided into four general areas represented by the following:

- A. River Towns
- B. West Bay
- C. East Bay
- D. Islands

VII. OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Gaps in available research, significant trends....

VIII. SUMMARY

Toward a regional identity

IX. APPENDICES

Scientific Bibliography
Jurisdictional Agencies

REPORT LAYOUT

length: 140 pages
format: 10 x 10, with one color signature
market: bookstores, close to *Island Journal* quality
copies: 2,000

TIME LINE

October thru December - gather data
April 30 - circulate draft of report
June - in production
September 1995 - publication date