Acadia National Park

Managing Coastal and Marine Resources
Acadia National Park

• ~37,500 acres in size
• Majority of park fee lands located on 19 islands
• 19 towns located within park boundary
• 10,000 year-round and 40,000 summer residents
• 2.7 million visitors to the park in 2015
• 65 miles of marine shoreline
• 206 easements – 12,500 acres, including 122 islands

Figure 1: Acadia National Park
Acadia National Park
Acadia National Park

Jurisdiction
Acadia National Park

Conservation Easements

- Protect scenic, ecological, and cultural resources
- Preserve open, natural, or traditional appearance of shorefront
- Limit year-round and seasonal residential and commercial development consistent with island’s natural qualities and traditional land uses
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Issues for management:

• Increased use of the intertidal zone
• Commercial harvesting – rockweed, clams, worms
• Commercial aquaculture leases - adjacent to easements
• Climate change
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Climate Change

- Warming temperatures
- Sea level rise
- More intense storms and more frequent heavy rainfall events
- Changes in species ranges
- Ocean acidification
- Invasive species
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Islands
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History and Ethnography
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National parks as premier places for science
Facilitate and promote use of science to make management decisions
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Improve science literacy - include science into park visitor and staff experiences
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