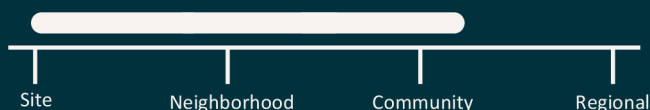


Location

SCALE

# East End Wastewater Treatment Plant, Portland



Aerial image of the East End Wastewater Treatment Facility.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The East End wastewater treatment facility is located on the coast of Portland, adjacent to Portland’s East End Beach, Tukey’s Bridge, and Back Cove. The treatment facility is the largest in Maine, serving 60,000 customers and treating 19.8 million gallons per day.

**TRAVEL CORRIDORS & INFRASTRUCTURE:**

The East End wastewater treatment facility protects the Casco Bay watershed and keeps the water clean and safe. Flooding within the facility can compromise essential functions resulting in major complications.

**SOCIAL DEMOGRAPHIC:**

Upgrades in the facility improve water quality in Back Cove, making East End Beach officially safe for recreational swimming and boating. With the complications of flooding, damage to the facility could result in negative health impacts especially to already vulnerable individuals.

**ECONOMY:**

The facility has been expanded and modified since it first opened in 1979 in order to handle more wastewater and protect Casco Bay. In 2023, the Maine DEP and Maine Municipal Bond Bank approved a \$5 million upgrade to the facility’s secondary clarifier and primary sludge gallery.

**COASTAL HAZARDS**



Erosion



Storm Surge



Sea Level Rise

**VULNERABILITIES**



Travel Corridors



Essential Infrastructure



Habitat



Social Demographic

**STRATEGY TYPE**



Policy/Program



Nature-based



Hardscape

**WHY IS THIS A PRIORITY SITE?**

The East End wastewater treatment facility was chosen as a priority site due to the essential functions the facility provides and vulnerability to flooding based on sea level rise and increased rainfall.

**STRATEGIES:**

- Increase living shoreline investments around the facility
- Implementing greenways to protect floodways, store excess water, reduce erosion, filter pollution, moderate water temperatures, and provide natural habitats.
- Expanded floodplains can allow floodwaters to spread out and temporarily store excess water, reducing flood peaks and velocities along with the potential for erosion

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