The town of Gouldsboro has received funding under an award to the Maine Coastal Program from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to involve residents in information sharing, data collection, and planning to address challenges related to sea level rise, storm events, and disappearing shore access.

Gouldsboro’s Shore and Storm project involves Gouldsboro residents in sharing what they have observed and working with hydrologists and other experts to identify issues and locations where they need to know more. The intern that Gouldsboro will hire in the summer of 2021 will facilitate this communication process, attending both to the detailed, place-based information that residents bring and the information about processes and broader patterns that the experts can offer.

The project could use and build on the skills, talents, and interests of interns with a variety of backgrounds. For example, an intern with skills in capturing residents’ thinking on video would have much to offer, but so would interns who are skilled at working with GIS data, facilitating conversations among residents, or listening to residents and experts and then reporting on that in writing. Cutting across these differences in skills and approach, we are looking for an intern interested in how communities use science in decision-making. The intern will gain first-hand experience with the real-world challenges of making that process work.

The intern will be supported financially and intellectually. Gouldsboro will pay for the intern’s time and provide support for housing at the Schoodic Institute, where the intern will live with other interns working on other projects. The intern will work with a team from Gouldsboro who bring different backgrounds while working together closely. Mike Pinkham, the town’s shellfish warden and a former Maine Marine Patrol officer, brings a lifetime of knowledge about coastal communities as well as a passion for ensuring that the coast is a place where people can make a good living. Jim McLean, the town’s Supervisor of Town Infrastructure and former local contractor, has deep knowledge of this place and its built environment. Bill Zoellick is a retired educator, statistician, and program evaluator who has spent years connecting communities with science and data as they confront change.

For more information, email Bill Zoellick, the project manager at bill@zoellick.com. Applicants should send Bill a resume and a letter describing their background and interest in the project.

The Town of Gouldsboro is an Equal Opportunity Employer.