



Coastal Flooding, Regional Impacts

With a changing climate and rising seas, coastal flooding will become more severe in Metro Boston. Effects will not only be coastal: storm events could damage inland facilities and effects may be felt across the region.

For example, the New England Produce Center and Boston Market Terminal sit directly in one of the most vulnerable flood zones in the region, an area of Everett and Chelsea that is projected to experience frequent flooding by mid-century. Combined, these facilities are the largest privately held produce wholesale market in the country. They supply fruit and vegetables to the region, and anchor a cluster of food wholesalers that support close to 11,000 jobs and generate nearly \$2.3 billion in economic output within Metro Boston.

Another example is the series of dams along the Charles and Mystic rivers, a critical infrastructure network protecting several dense, urban areas from flooding. The potential for future flooding in municipalities along the Mystic and Charles can be greatly reduced by increasing

the capacity of these dams to handle projected sea level rise. Making the necessary improvements and maintaining them in good working condition will require cooperation among public agencies such as the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance, and affected municipalities.