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The Hip-Boot Tour

www.hipboottour.info

*A coastal community roundtable series on global warming
and sea-level rise –*

*Portland, Maine to Tampa-St. Pete, Florida
October 21 - 29, 2009*

Over the last two years, scientists researching climate change in the Earth's polar regions have encountered a startling reality: the ice sheets of Greenland and Antarctica are transferring ice to the ocean at a rapidly accelerating rate. This fact has troubling implications for coastal communities around the world, including for our East and Gulf Coasts here in the United States.

Instead of the 40 centimeters of sea-level rise assumed by the IPCC, the science community is now predicting up to a meter – and possibly more – by the end of this century. The detailed flooding maps that we brought with us on the tour tell the story we're all about to see – the loss of our barrier islands, damage to our coastal infrastructure, saltwater intrusion in coastal aquifers, and on and on.

The Hip-Boot Tour - bringing climate scientists with the latest maps (www.arcticwarming.net/coastal_maps) and data to U.S. coastal cities vulnerable to inundation with ocean water - is our effort to tell this story loud and clear, and also to tell people what they can do about it: support strong legislation to reduce the emissions that lead to global warming, reduce short-term pollutants like black carbon and methane so as to slow the rate of warming, and start planning now to make our coastal communities more resilient to the impacts we know are on the horizon. (www.arcticwarming.net/solutions).

The tour will culminate in Washington, D.C., November 18-20, where scientists will brief the press at the Old Ebbitt Grill, attend a briefing for Congress, and meet with senators from the states the Tour has visited

October 20, Philadelphia, PA:

Featuring scientists Asa Rennermalm and Gordon Hamilton and Andy Maguire representing CA-CP, the Hip Boot symposium was hosted by the Wagner Free Institute of Science, as well as by the Clean Air Council of Philadelphia. The session attracted 20+ attendees, including individuals from universities and nonprofits and achieved great success by getting representatives from Senator Arlen Specter's and Senator Robert Casey's offices to attend. Our Philadelphia roundtable, followed by our media event at the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, NJ, resulted in stories in the Philadelphia *Inquirer* and the Gloucester County *Times*.

October 21, Portland, ME:

Featuring scientists Gordon Hamilton and Mark Fahnestock and Rafe Pomerance representing CA-CP. Held at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute and hosted in partnership with the Natural Resources Council of Maine and the Greater Portland Council on Governments. 30+ individuals attended, including

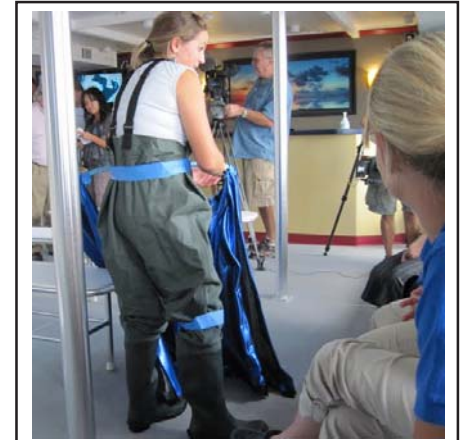


Rafe Pomerance and Mark Fahnestock, seated, and Dylan Vorhees, NRCM; CA-CP organizer Katrina Stanislaw, Steve Linnell from Greater Portland Council of Governments, and Gordon Hamilton in Portland.

representatives from Congresswoman Pingree's office and for Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins. Our Portland audience also included prominent Maine businesses, Hannaford Supermarkets and L.L. Bean. Our media event outside Becky's Diner earned Clean Air- Cool Planet TV coverage on WGME and WCSH as well as radio coverage on MPBN and two stories in Maine's largest daily newspaper, the *Portland Press Herald*.

October 22, Tampa/St. Petersburg, FL:

Featuring scientist Gordon Hamilton and CACP representative Brooks Yeager who, in cooperation with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, both made presentations and facilitated conversation with a group of 90+ resource managers and technical staff from regional estuarine and planning associations. Additionally, Gordon was included as an opening speaker to a group of 200+ at the Florida Audubon's Dialogue on Climate Change and Coastal Conservation. Brooks was invited to facilitate a discussion about national policy during the same conference. At a press conference co-hosted by the Florida Aquarium, we attracted a host of media interest. Both Brooks and Gordon were interviewed on camera for stories on the local ABC, CBS, FOX, and NBC TV stations. Stories also resulted in both the *St. Pete Times* and the *Tampa Tribune*.



CA-CP's organizer Emily Rocheleau dons hip boots in Tampa to demonstrate for the TV cameras the difference between the "old" science (2008) SLR of one-half meter and the new one-meter projections.

October 27, Wilmington, NC:

Featuring scientist Bob Bindschadler and CACP representative Brooks Yeager, this stop was hosted by Audubon of North Carolina and UNC Wilmington, and attracted 25+ participants, including elected officials, representatives from local government, regional planning associations, and the business community. The following media event at Wrightsville Beach resulted in TV stories on WECT6 and WWAY3 as well as a print story by the *Wilmington Star News*.



Some of the 40-plus local opinion leaders who attended the VA event and the 3x5 hi-res maps showing the impacts on their community of a meter or more of SLR.

October 28, Norfolk, VA:

Featuring scientists Bob Bindschadler and Jim White as well as CACP representative Brooks Yeager and hosted by Wetlands Watch and Old Dominion University, the Norfolk Hip-Boot Roundtable attracted 40+ participants, including representatives from local government, regional planning associations, and University researchers.

The round-table and following press event resulted in stories from the *Norfolk Daily Press* and WVEC Channel 13.

October 29, Hampton, NH:

Featuring scientists Gordon Hamilton and Mark Fahnestock and Rafe Pomerance representing CA-CP. Co-hosted by the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, our Hampton event was packed with more than 45 important local stakeholders from business, nonprofit and local governments

sectors in attendance. These included a representative from Senator Jeanne Shaheen's office as well three State Representatives and an executive from Unitil, an energy company. Our media event took place on Hampton Beach and resulted in stories in the Seacoast region's leading dailies, The *Portsmouth Herald* (which also ran a column the following Saturday) and *Foster's Daily Democrat*, as well as an NHPR interview with Rafe Pomerance.



CA-CP Communications Manager Bill Burtis uses the Hula Hoop to show a meter of SLR at the high-tide line on windy Hampton Beach.

November 18-20, Washington, D.C.

The Phase One Hip-Boot Tour's last stop was Washington, D.C., November 18-20, where scientists briefed the press at the Old Ebbitt Grill, attended a briefing for Congress, and met with senators from the states the Tour has visited.

The Hip-Boot Tour is made possible in part by generous support from the ClimateWorks Foundation, the Flora Family Foundation, the Oak Foundation, the Rockefeller Family Fund, and the Wallace Global Fund.

Who is on the Hip-Boot Tour?

Scientists

Robert Bindschadler, Ph.D., Chief Scientist NASA Dr. Bindschadler has been an active Antarctic field researcher for the past 25 years, leading field expeditions to Antarctica and participating in many other trips to glaciers and ice caps around the world. He maintains active research into the dynamics of glaciers and ice sheets, investigating how remote sensing can improve understanding of the role of ice in the Earth's climate.

Mark Fahnestock, Ph.D., Research Associate Professor at The University of New Hampshire Dr. Fahnestock's research covers many aspects of the role of land-based ice in the Earth system, including measuring ice discharge in Greenland, and participated in multiple Antarctic and Greenland field excursions. His recent focus is on the controls underlying rapid ice flow and on atmospheric interactions that determine surface conditions on the large ice sheets.



Mark Fahnestock makes a point in Hampton.

Gordon Hamilton, Ph.D., Research Associate Professor at The University of Maine Dr. Hamilton directs a research program to understand the interaction between ice sheets, climate and sea level. He has conducted numerous field campaigns in the polar regions, including twelve field seasons in Antarctica and ten seasons in Greenland. He is a principal investigator on a number of other multidisciplinary and international projects.



Gordon Hamilton in front of the Hampton 2-meter map.

Asa Rennermalm, Ph.D., Assistant Professor at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey Dr. Rennermalm's study is based on field research in Greenland focusing on hydroclimatology, particularly of the Arctic region, analyzing changes in land-surface hydrology, how these changes interact with the ecosystem and ocean dynamics, and may moderate or enhance changes in global climate.

Jim White, Ph.D., Professor at The University of Colorado at Boulder Dr. White's specialties include global change, paleoclimate dynamics and biogeochemistry. As a member of the directorate of the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR) at The University of Colorado at Boulder, he is involved in research, education, and outreach related to Earth System Science and Global Change in high-latitude, alpine, and other environments.

Policymakers

Andrew Maguire, Ph. D., Cap and Trade Campaign Coordinator, Clean Air-Cool Planet. As an elected member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Dr. Maguire took leadership roles on energy, environment, health, and foreign policy legislation. Since leaving Congress he has worked on sustainable development, environment, and energy transition agendas, including testifying at the first U.S. Senate hearings on global warming when he was Vice President of the World Resources Institute.

Rafe Pomerance, founder of the Climate Policy Center and President of CA-CP. From 1993-1999, Mr. Pomerance served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Environment and Development. Prior to joining the State Department, he spent eight years as a Senior Associate at the World Resources Institute. From 1975 to 1984, Mr. Pomerance was on the staff of Friends of the Earth, including four years as President. He began his work on climate change in 1978 while at Friends of the Earth.



Rafe Pomerance outside Becky's Diner, Portland, ME

Brooks Yeager, Executive Vice President for Policy, Clean Air-Cool Planet Brooks Yeager held a number of senior environmental policy positions in the Clinton Administration, including leading global negotiations as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment and Development at the State Department from 1999 – 2000, and coordinating natural resource policy as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs under Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. From 2001 until 2005, Mr. Yeager was the Vice President of the Global Threats Program at World Wildlife Fund-U.S. Prior to his government service, he directed the Washington D.C. Office of the Audubon Society and led energy and wilderness conservation campaigns for the Sierra Club.

Who's been hearing about the Hip-Boot Tour?

Philadelphia

- Green Right Now (syndicated to ABC affiliates): [Sea level rises would flood Philly... and NYC and DC and Miami](#)
- United Press International, Science News: [Scientists warn of sea level rise](#)

Portland

- The *Press Herald*: [Forecast Grows More Dire](#)
- MPBN (includes radio story): [Maine Coast Could Soon Be Inundated by Rising Seas, Scientists Warn](#)

Tampa/St. Petersburg, Florida

- Star News Online, Green Blogs: [Two for Tuesday — A couple of area events](#)
- St. Petersburg *Times* (includes animations): [Rising seas could threaten Gulf Coast, scientific group says](#)



The media get the point: That's a meter, as Brooks Yeager and Emily Rocheleau demonstrate in Wilmington, NC.

- WUSF (includes radio story): [Tampa Under Water?](#)

- Tampa *Tribune*: [Global warming activists speak of Bay-area effects](#)

Wilmington, North Carolina

- WWAY-TV: [Scientists concerned about rise of sea level](#)
- Star News Online: [Group calls global warming a local issue: Scientists push individual, regional strategies to ease impact of sea-level rise](#)
- Lumina News: [Sea level on accelerated rise](#)
- WECT-TV: [Experts report sea levels are on the rise](#)

Norfolk, Virginia

- The Newport News *Daily Press*: [Sea levels to rise faster than expected, scientists say](#)
- WVEC-TV, Channel 13: [Experts warn of rising water in Hampton Roads](#)
- The Norfolk *Daily Press*: [Gondolas in downtown Hampton?](#)

Hampton, New Hampshire

- Seacoast Online: [Scientists: Melting ice a growing concern](#)
- The Portsmouth *Herald*: [Experts: Climate puts coast in danger](#)



The way things look in Philadelphia. Our maps are the highest resolutions available, and are much in demand.

Brooks Yeager looks on as Dr. Larry Cahoon of the University of North Carolina, points out the problem in Wilmington, NC

