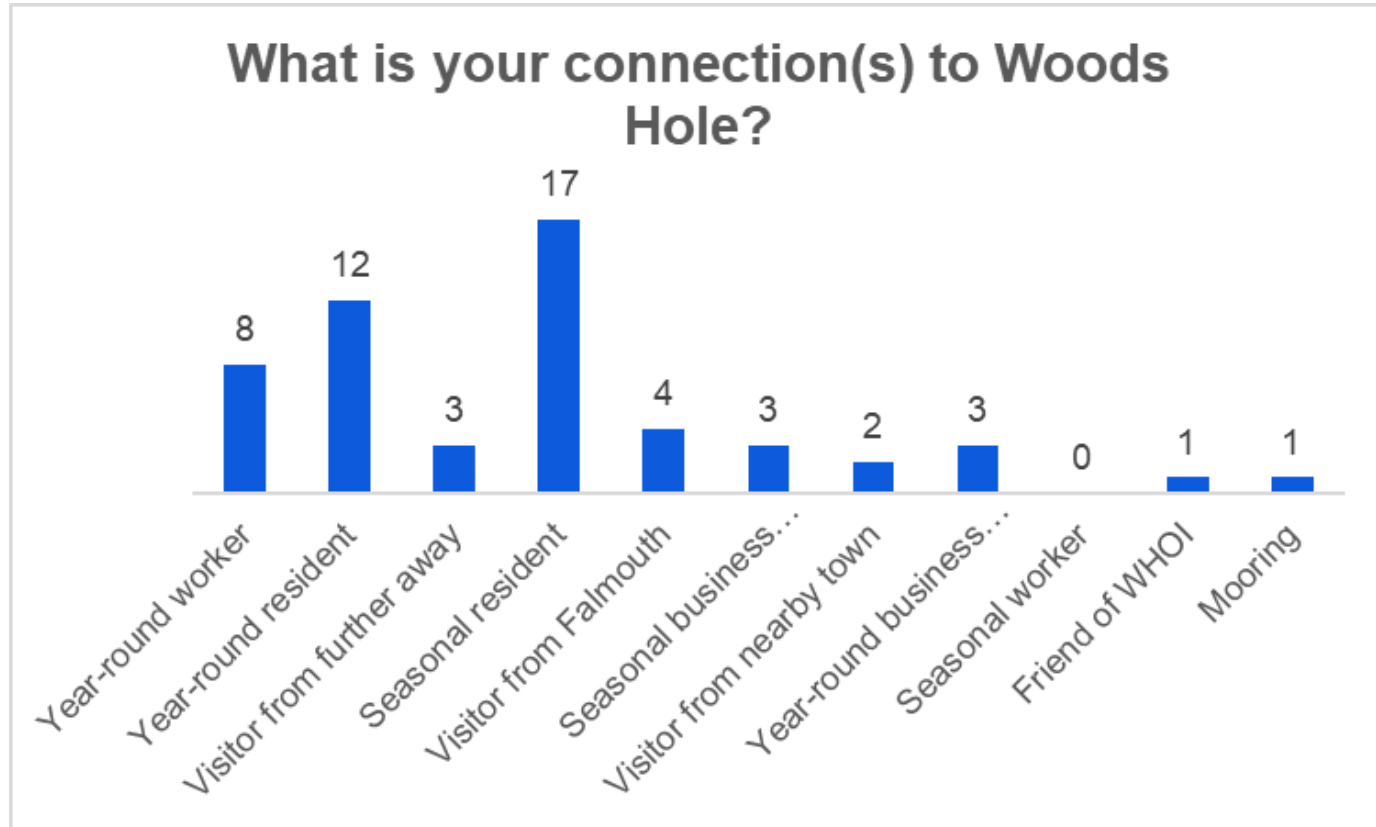




# Stakeholder Survey Results

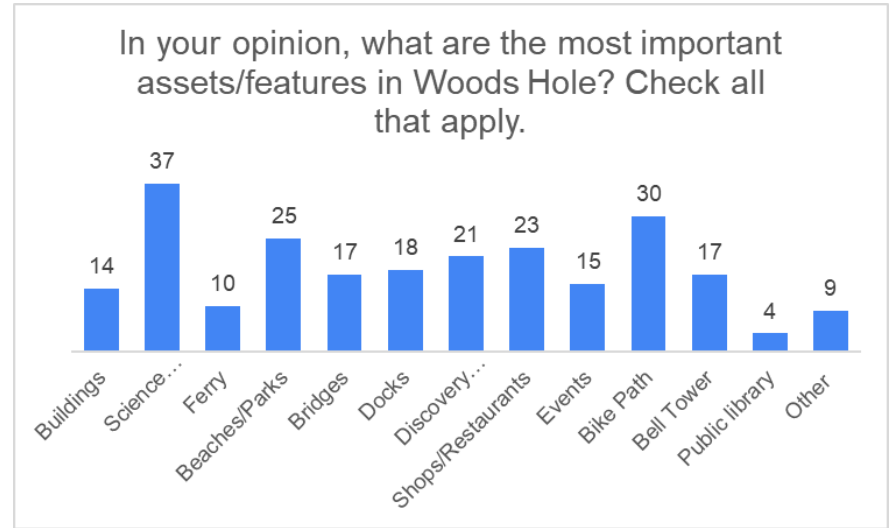
Feb. 9, 2022 – March 13, 2022

# Survey Respondents



# Most important assets/features in Woods Hole

- **Other Responses (two are combined):**
- All assets are important, but some have irreplaceable historical value, such as Woods Hole Library, Woods Hole Community Hall, Children's School of Science, Woods Hole Historical Museum, Waterfront Park and sculptures, NPR building.
- Community, yacht club, Community Hall, Library, Museum, Post Office, Nobska
- Daily life, friends, MBL, cemetery and related church activities. might want to add science education/science school to your list
- Historical, education and physical nature
- The harbors Great Harbor and Eel Pond
- Museum
- Harbor
- Baseball field



# What are some particular reasons that you value Woods Hole?

## Overall Themes:

- Scientific Community (intellectual diversity)
- Community/Nostalgia/Deep Ties to the Village/Energy
- History
- Natural Environment

Woods Hole is a special community in which year-round and summer residents have been there for 3 or more generations. This allows for deep ties to each other and to the community. This also promotes a vibrant, engaged community that sponsors and supports events (talks, music, film series) that are almost unparalleled in a community of this size.

The unique mix of science, natural beauty and culture

A unique blend of history, science, charm and leisure

It's a very **nostalgic place** for me. I love the small town feel, the scientific community, and the practical modesty of Woods Hole - no chain stores, no flashy businesses. I have spent my adult life thinking "maybe some day I can retire in Woods Hole" and the fact that I am now living here and may be able to for the rest of my life is amazing! I know and love every house on the walk between my family's house and Stony Beach, the bell tower, the bridge, going to watch ferries load and unload (I still do this as an adult.) I and my children have attended CSS and visited the Aquarium (still mourning Bumper and LuSeal). It just feels like a community where I want to spend my life.

nostalgic pride

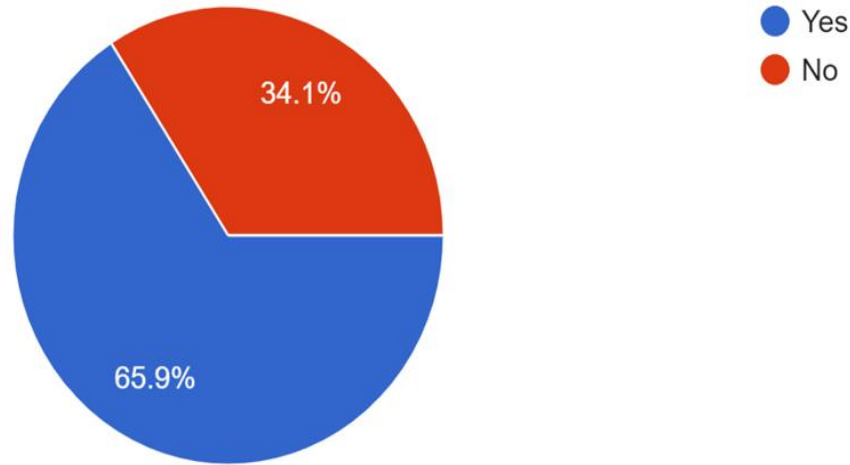
Long family history in the area

long history there,

# Experience of high tide and coastal storm flooding

Have you experienced **high tide flooding** or **coastal storm flooding** in Woods Hole?

41 responses



# What impacts have you seen from high tide and coastal storm flooding in Woods Hole?

## **Impacts:**

- My property is right on the water and high tide flooding eats away at the sand bank
- Localized street flooding
- Covered our dock
- Unable to drive through shoreline roads and parts of village
- On the docks.
- Eroded shoreline, killed vegetation

# Where have you seen **high tide flooding** and **coastal storm flooding** occur and what impact did it have?

## ***Common Responses:***

### **High Tide**

- Woods Hole Yacht Club and its docks
- Beaches (spec. Vinyard Sound and Stoney beach)
- Eel Pond

### **Coastal Storm**

- Woods Hole Yacht Club and its docks
- Gardner Rd
- Millfield Street
- Mill Pond and marsh

## ***Specific Responses:***

### **High Tide**

- Great harbor woods hole coast
- Buzzards bay
- Gosnold Rd
- Little Gansette

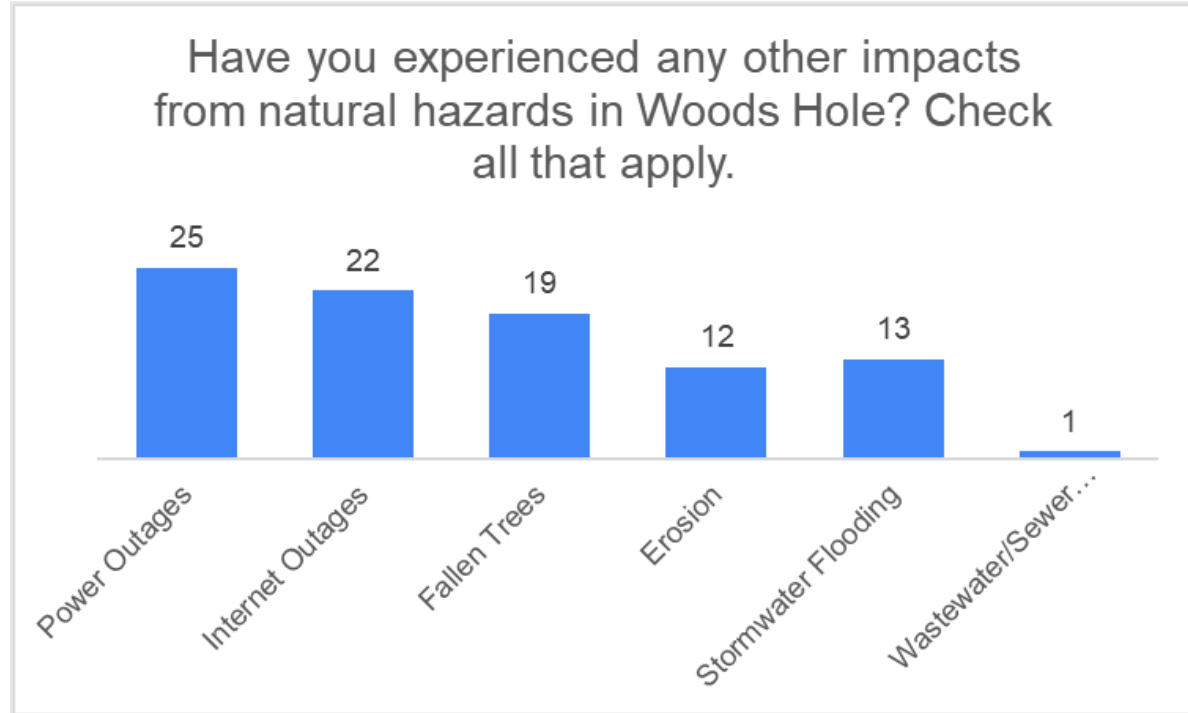
### **Coastal Storm**

- Great harbor woods hole coast
- Gosnold Rd
- Stony Rd
- Part St
- Coast Guard Station
- Bar Neck Rd
- Beaches and marshes

# Other Impacts from Natural Hazards

## Other Responses:

- “The water level in Mill Pond has risen steadily over the past 2 decades. The part of our property that can be classified as wetlands has increased over that time period. 20 years ago our backyard was dry; now it is always waterlogged.”
- “After heavy rains the water level in the freshwater pond on our property raises the ground water level high enough to flood our basement”



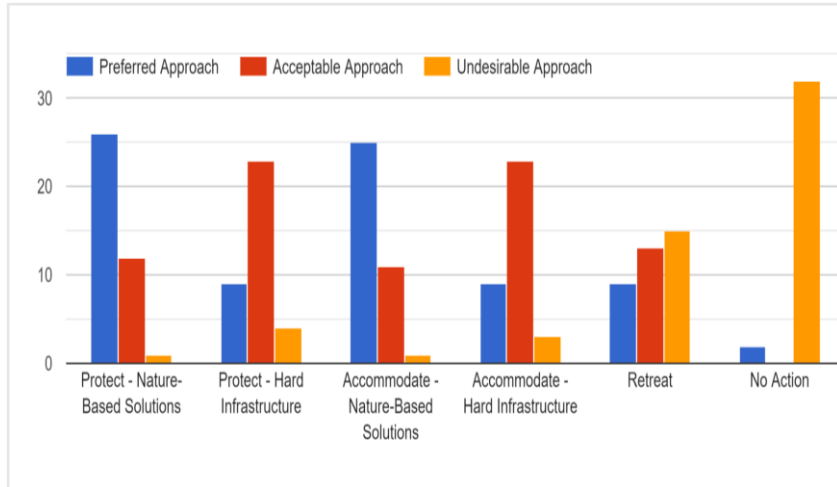




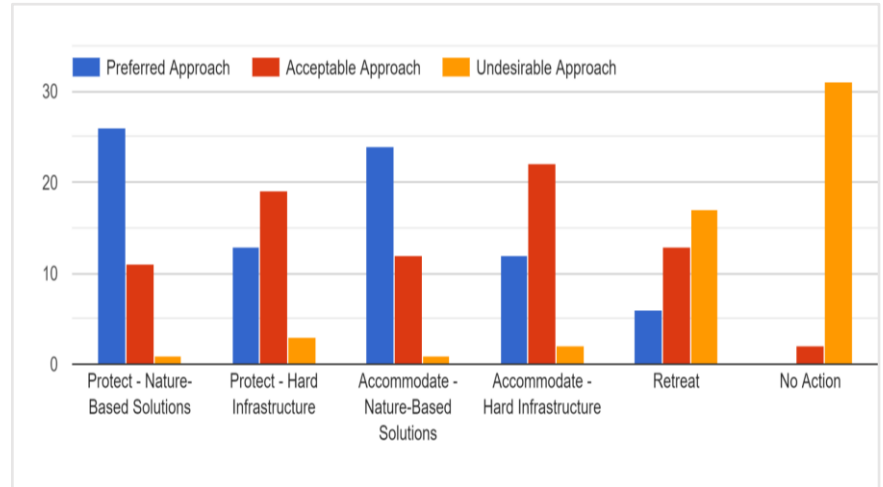
**RESILIENT** WOODS HOLE

# Adaptation Strategies

# Adaptation Strategies Supported by Stakeholders:



Considering sea level rise and high tide flooding as depicted in Chart 1, what types of strategies would you support as a response for Woods Hole?



Considering coastal storm flooding as depicted in Chart 2, what types of strategies would you support as a response for Woods Hole?

# Reasoning for Adaptation Strategies Choice

## For Both Questions - Common Themes:

- Nature-based solutions for short-term
- Retreat for long-term
- Case-by-case solutions

Nature-based solutions would build on the reasons that people come to Woods Hole in the first place – they would increase populations of fish, shellfish, shorebirds, etc. and perhaps create new areas for visitors and residents to explore and enjoy nature. Hardening the shoreline may be necessary in spots but would make it less, rather than more, pleasant for people and useless for wildlife. Doing nothing is not an option because Woods Hole as we know it would disappear.

Hard infrastructure approaches to protection are short-term and expensive. Retreat is inevitable, just a matter of when.

It will likely take all aspects to remain resilient to the negative effects from sea level rise and I think fortify existing costly infrastructure as we plan a phased retreat

# What features you believe can or should remain in place (remain vulnerable or protected) and other features that are acceptable to re-locate or can cease to exist?

## Common Themes:

- Science Institutions need to be protected
- Utilities that help the village run protected
- Golf Course protected
- Tourism-based shops, events, etc should be relocated
- Non-useful infrastructure should cease to exist (playground, fields)

Science centers should stay in place to maintain the history of Woods Hole.

Tourism-only shops may be able to be moved back from at-risk areas with little impact to their business if traffic could be directed inland.

Infrastructure such as water mains, sewer lines and pump stations, power lines, roads are required for the village to survive. The research institutes which provide much of the reason for the village to be, also seem critical. Features like the [ball park](#) and playground are not as unique or important to me and could be allowed to flood. I enjoy Stoney Beach but realize that it may be difficult to maintain with rising sea levels.

Science institutions. Coastal home, beaches, historical buildings, etc. can be found many places, but the scientific institutions of Woods Hole are unique and similar concentrations of oceanographic research organizations only exist at a few locations on Earth.

## Are there any other features that don't exist now that you would like to see in the community that could be complementary to the adaptation strategies?

Bury all the utilities as part of the overall plan. Get that stuff out of the trees.

All overhead utilities should be buried and waterproofed. There must always be 2 ways to reach a location, especially for emergency services. eg: the ballpark has only one road access.[which of course will be underwater.]

Elevate boardwalks, pathways, handicapped access to raised areas.

Real time forecasting of likely flooding by incoming hurricanes and nor'easters. That is, for a storm that is forecast to hit WH in the "next few days", what's likely to flood?

Fix sewer, electricity and internet problems