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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Woodard & Curran Foundation Announces 2019 Impact Grant Recipient

The Foundation awards its fourth 3-year \$100,000 Impact Grant – for an innovative project focused on addressing water issues – to Friends of Casco Bay

PORTLAND, Maine (October 22, 2019) – [Woodard & Curran Foundation](#) announces its 2019 Impact Grant (\$100,000 over three years) recipient. The Foundation's Giving Committee selected Portland, ME-based Friends of Casco Bay from a competitive pool of close to 60 grant applicants. "It has been widely documented since 2004 that the Gulf of Maine is warming faster than anywhere on the globe," said Barry Sheff, President of the Foundation. "The work Friends is doing to monitor the impact of climate change in Casco Bay is incredibly productive in driving education and policy-making within Maine and beyond. This is the first Impact Grant we've made in Maine and on behalf of all of our donors, we are happy to support Friends of Casco Bay with this Impact Grant."

This is the fourth year of the Foundation's Impact Grant program (previous awardees are the [University of Rhode Island \[RI\]](#), [Literacy for Environmental Justice \[CA\]](#), and [Change is Simple \[MA\]](#)). "This year we will issue over \$125,000 in grant money to organizations across the country doing important, inspirational environmental work," continued Sheff. "Woodard & Curran Foundation is proud to simultaneously fund these major multi-year projects (and 15 smaller one-year grants) as a demonstration of our commitment to support such worthy – and essential – environmental programs."

As the Woodard & Curran Foundation looks ahead to its 10th anniversary in 2020, Friends of Casco Bay is celebrating its 30th year improving and protecting the environmental health of Casco Bay through science, community engagement, and advocating for improvements in water quality.

Friends of Casco Bay (www.cascobay.org) - Maine
Climate Change and Casco Bay: Technology, Monitoring, and Community Engagement
\$100,000 | 3 YEARS

As the 2019 Impact Grant recipient, Friends of Casco Bay will use the \$100,000 over three years to:

- collect hourly data year-round throughout the bay by deploying three high-tech continuous monitoring stations in an estuarine, near-shore environment,
- communicate to the community about the changing conditions of the bay, and
- engage the community in their work to advance policy and behavioral changes to address the impacts of climate change.

Using this science-based community engagement effort, Friends of Casco Bay hopes to inspire residents, decision-makers, resource harvesters, and businesses to champion policies and behaviors that support clean marine water, reduce pollution, and improve the health of Casco Bay. Their efforts will include plentiful opportunities for Woodard & Curran Foundation supporter, and [Woodard & Curran, Inc.](#) staff, family, and friends to volunteer on this worthy project.

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Woodard & Curran Foundation supports environmental nonprofits working to protect our water and environment.

For more information or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.woodardcurranfoundation.org.
Contact: Elizabeth Leuthner, Foundation Administrator; eleuthner@woodardcurranfoundation.org.

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