## Study sites and Methods, 2021 and 2022. Damariscotta River Estuary Community Science Project

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Location: Damariscotta River Estuary, ME, USA within the municipal boundaries of the towns of Damariscotta and Newcastle.
Lead investigator: Graduate student Sarah Risley, working with members of the Leslie Lab @ UMaine Darling Marine Center

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- 3 study sites (map to the right): Days Cove Chadbourne Westview
- 25 m transects in the mid-upper intertidal zone.
- Five 0.25 m<sup>2</sup> PVC quadrats sampled haphazardly along transect.
- Two targeted habitats:

Rocky = >50% rock surface (to target oysters) Mud = <50% rock surface (to target soft-shelled clams and quahogs)

• Survey recorded measurements for multiple shellfish species:

AO = American oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) Q = quahog (*Mercenaria mercenaria*) SS = soft-shell clam (*Mya arenaria*)

• See the <u>community science handbook</u> for full details on the survey method.