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## **Interpreting Water Quality Standards in Light of Ecosystem Change (2015 State of the Bay Presentation)**

Angela Brewer

*Maine Department of Environmental Protection*

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# Interpreting water quality standards in light of ecosystem change

**Angela Brewer**, Division of Environmental Assessment,  
Bureau of Water Quality

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

*Protecting Maine's Air, Land and Water*



- **Water Quality Standards (WQS)** set water quality goals for a waterbody and provide a regulatory basis for pollution controls
- **WQS** = designated uses + water quality criteria + antidegradation policy







MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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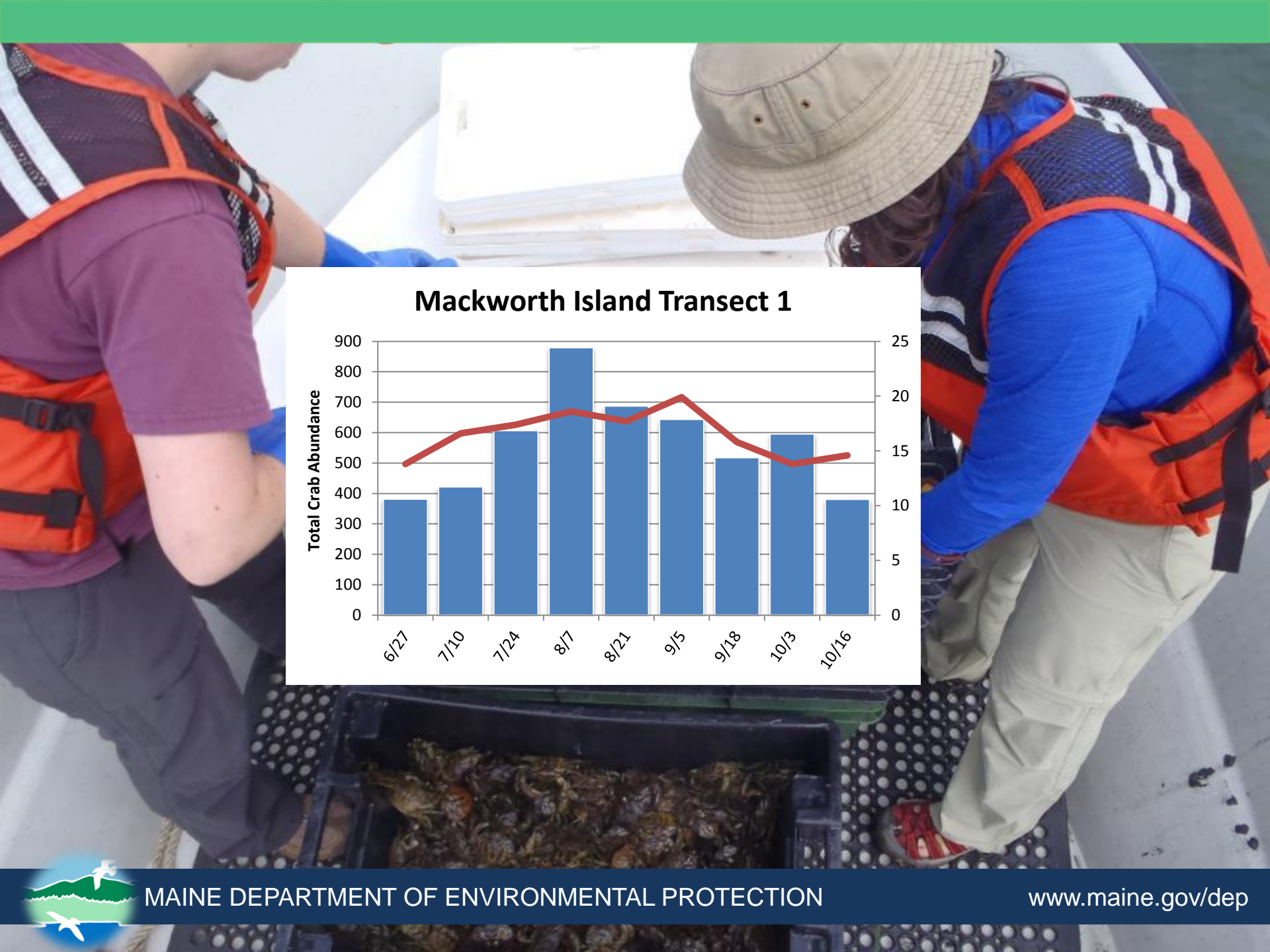
# 2013 vs. 2001/02 coverage

\*58% reduction in area  
from 2001/02 (8,789  
acres) to 2013 (3,651  
acres)









### Mackworth Island Transect 1

