Assessing the Stability of New Hampshire Beaches: A Study Involving the University of New Hampshire, NH State Agencies and Citizen Scientists



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New Hampshire Coastal Program DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

# Why Are We Doing This?

- Due to Climate Change Many Coastal Areas Will Be Exposed to Increased Coastal Flooding and Erosion
  - Need to Increase Coastal Resiliency
- Need Scientific Input to Aid Management Decisions and Planning
- Therefore, Need to Understand:
  - How Beaches Change Seasonally
  - How Beaches React to Storm Events
  - Volumetric Changes in the Beaches
- No Long-term Study Has Been Done for New Hampshire!
  - Erosion or Accretion Trends
  - Sediments





## For Example, What To Do With Dredged Sediment. Where To Put It



# Volunteer Beach Profile Program

- Monitor Six of the Major Beaches for a Number of Years (> Five Years)
- Five-Year Plan to Develop, Year Four Starts July 2019
- Expanded to Thirteen Stations in January 2018
- Using Emery Method
- Overwhelming Amount of Data Accumulating Very Quickly
- Next Major Step Is Linking with NHGS for Web Serving



## All Profiles at Wallis Sands State Park: WS01 December 9, 2016 to May 16, 2019 (39 Profiles)







# Wallis Sands State Park (WS01): Impact of Riley

February 27 and March 7, 2018



March 7, 2018



## Building of a Man-Made Berm at Wallis Sands: WS01 May 21(Black), June 18 (Blue), and July 19 (Red), 2018



May 21, 2018



July 18, 2018



# Natural Erosion of Man-Made Berm at Wallis Sands: WS01 July 19 (Black), September 10 (Blue), and November 6 (Red), 2018



November 6, 2018





# A Big Problem Is How Do We Deal with All of This Data in a Meaningful Way







### All Profiles At Mid Wallis Sands: Station WS02.5 January 30, 2018 to June 6, 2019 (19 Profiles)





## Mid Wallis Sands: WS02.5 Post-Riley January 30 (Black) and March 15 (Red), 2018







## Mid Wallis Sands March 15 (Black) and March 27 (Red), 2018









## All Profiles at Jenness Beach: JB01 (Northern Station) January 28, 2018 to May 19, 2019 (18 Profiles)







### Jenness Beach (Northern Station): JB01

#### January 28, 2018 (Black), March 15, 2018 (Red), and April 21, 2018 (Blue)





## All Profiles at Jenness Beach State Park: JB02 December 8, 2016 to June 5, 2019 (36 Profiles)





## Jenness Beach State Park (JB02): Maximum Profile and Riley February 27 (Black), March 6 (Red), and June 18 (Blue), 2018







# March 6, 2018: Post Riley



#### All Profiles at North Hampton State Park: January 27 to May 17, 2019 (19 Profiles)



#### North Hampton (NHB01): February 24 (Black), March 10 (Red), and March 28 (Blue), 2018







## March 28, 2018







## North Beach (NB01): January 27, 2018 to May 16, 2019 (19 Profiles)









#### North Beach (NB01): February 24 (Black), March 10 (Red), and April 21 (Blue), 2018







#### North Beach (NB01): April 21 (Black), July 15 (Red) and September 8 (Blue), 2018











### All Profiles At North Beach (NB02): April 8, 2018 to May 16, 2019 (11 Profiles)







## North Beach (NB02): April 18 (Black) and June 16 (Red), 2018



#### North Beach (NB02): June 16 (Black) and November 4 (Red), 2018 and February 22 (Blue), 2019





## All Profiles at Mid-Hampton Beach : HB02 Dec 9, 2016 to June 4, 2019 (39 Profiles)




# Maximum Summer Accretion and Maximum Erosion at Mid-Hampton Beach: HB02 August 23 (Black), 2017 and March 6, 2018 (Red)



## Recovery form Winter Storm Riley at Mid-Hampton Beach: HB02 March 6 (Red), March 27 (Blue), and June 15 (Black), 2018



## March 27, 2018





## Beach Grooming of Mid-Hampton Profile: HB02

May 3 (Black) and May 31 (Red), 2017







# Beech Grooming at Mid-Hampton Beach: May 3, 2017



# Beach Grooming and Recovery of Mid-Hampton Profile: HB02 May 31 (Red) and June 26 (Blue), 2017





HB02: Total Subaerial Beach Volume between 0 - 140 m (m<sup>3</sup>)

## All Profiles at Seabrook Beach: SB02

January 29, 2018 to May 5, 2019 (19 Profiles)















March 7, 2018



























# Summary

- The Volunteer Beach Profiling Program is Providing a Cost-Effective Approach to Monitoring NH Beaches
- The Database Being Developed Will Help Guide Future Management Decisions Such As:
  - Which Are Our Most Vulnerable Beaches
  - Where Should Dredge Material Be Placed
  - Which Beaches Are the Best Candidates for Beach Nourishment
- The Database Is Growing Extremely Fast and We Have to Determine How Best to Analyze, Archive, and Present the Results
- Next Step is to Complete Analysis and Synthesis of Present Database
- And Link with the NHGS to Develop Web Site
- And Finally, We Should Monitor the Beach Nourishments at Seabrook This Winter



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