Three Ways Of Tracking Change On Maine’s Beaches
And What They Are Telling Us

Dr. Joseph Kelley
University of Maine
School of Earth and Ocean Sciences
“A beach is a deposit of coastal sand formed by waves”.
Swash deposits are most fundamental part of beach
berm crest

Popham Beach, ME
Sand Beach: Summer/Winter Transition
Rain and lagoon water pass through sand, accumulate over mud and flow downslope to sea. 

The Water Table represents the surface below which all pore spaces in the sand are filled with water.
Spring sapping

Rill marks
Sand Beach: Post-Storm Recovery

April-2007

April-2008

April-2010
Popham Beach State Park

Kelley, 2013
Old Orchard Beach
East Grand

10/11/10

Ca. 1920’s?
1978 Storm Erosional Scarp

Seawall Beach

Sand Beach
Ferry Beach State Park: Eroding badly

10/11/10
Kelley et al., 2013
Napatree, RI
Jasper Beach
Moving landward

Mile Road
Ca. 1910?

Long Sands Beach, York

Ca. 1960?