

Envisioning Tillamook County Coastal Futures:

Adapting to climate change impacts on coastal hazards



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College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences

OSU
Oregon State
UNIVERSITY

Recent Northern Oregon Coastal Problems



Coastal engineering problems –
structure failure



Bluff/dune erosion

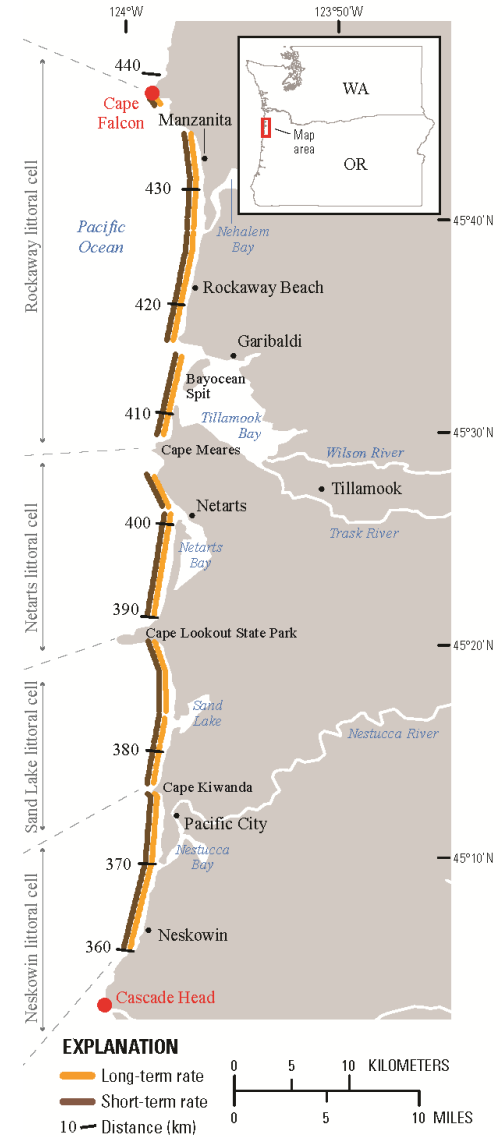
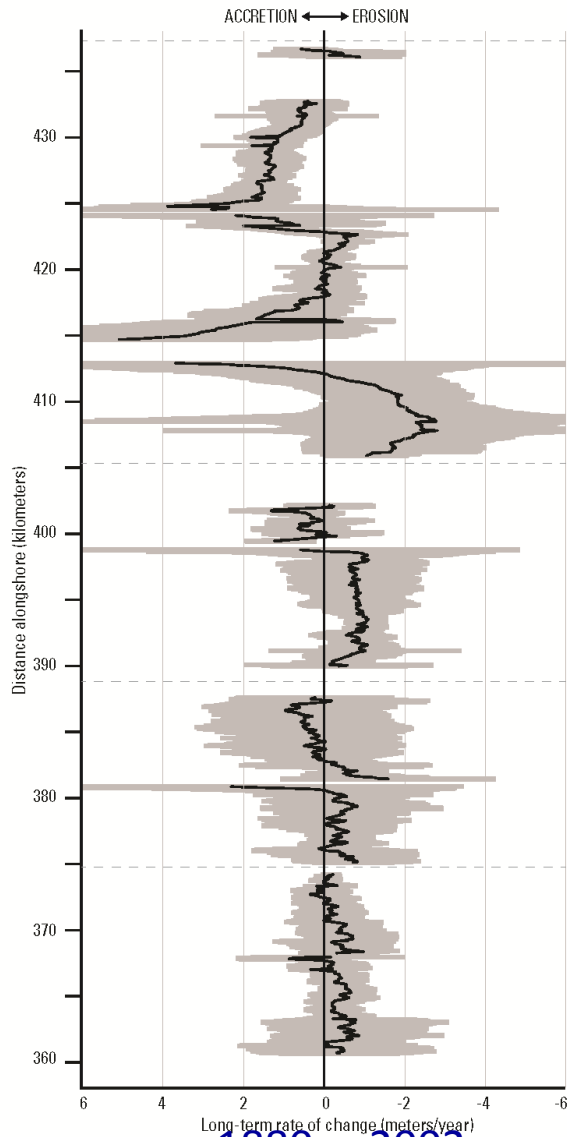
Coastal flooding





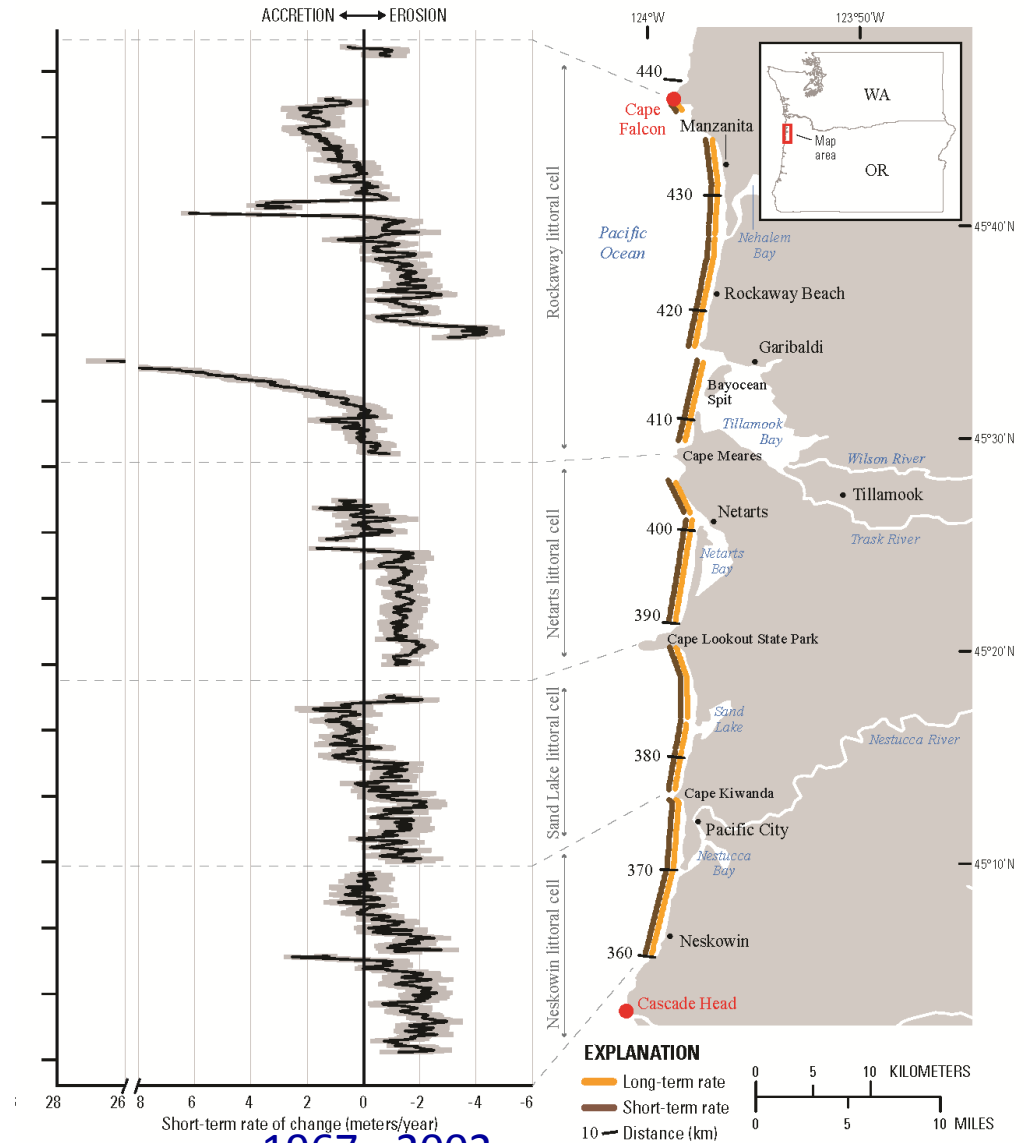
Tillamook County Shoreline Change Study

Long-term shoreline change rate



Tillamook County Shoreline Change Study

Short-term shoreline change rate



Tillamook County Shoreline Change Study

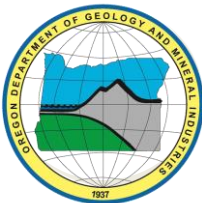
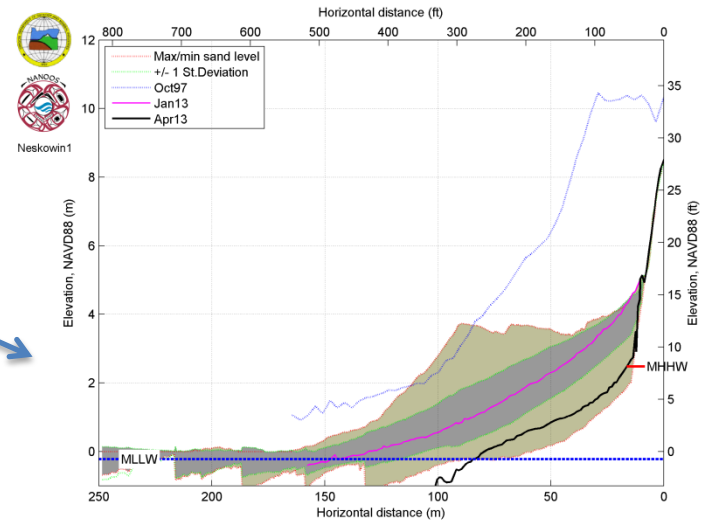
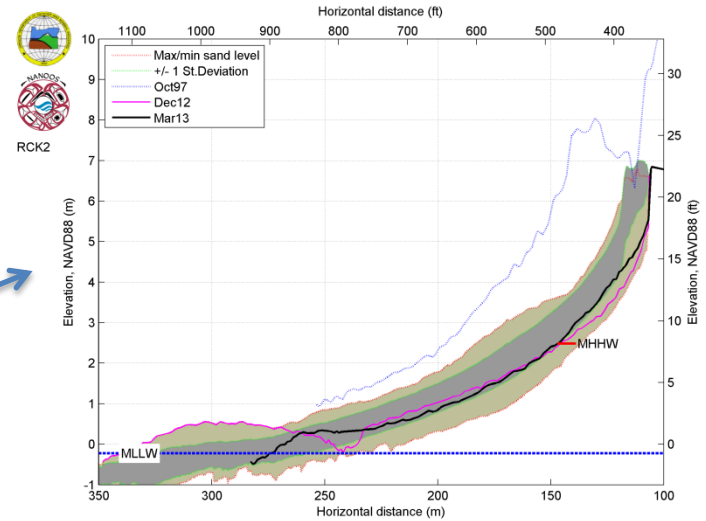
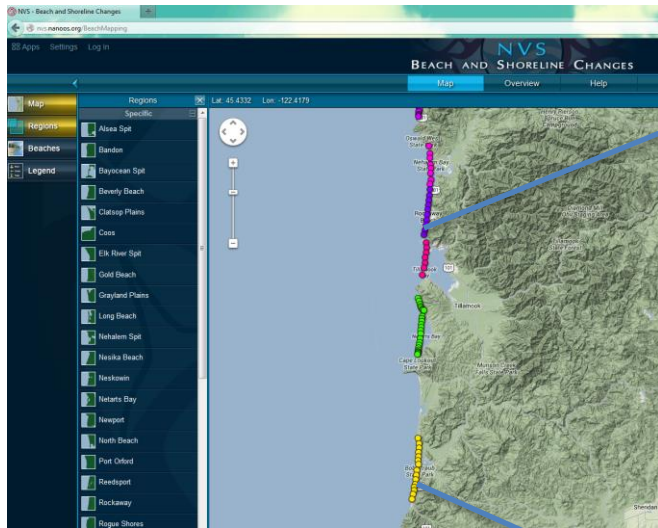
Average decadal-scale (1967—2002) shoreline change rates for the Tillamook County coast.

Littoral Cell	Average of rates (m/yr)	Percent eroding	Percent eroding more than -1 m/yr
Oregon			
Neskowin	-1.1 ± 0.1	86	58
Sand Lake	-0.5 ± 0.1	63	38
Netarts	-1.0 ± 0.1	86	69
Rockaway	0.6 ± 0.1	47	25

[m/yr, meters per year, numbers in red are indicating that the rate is statistically significant]

Tillamook County Beach Monitoring (1997-2013)

Rockaway Profile

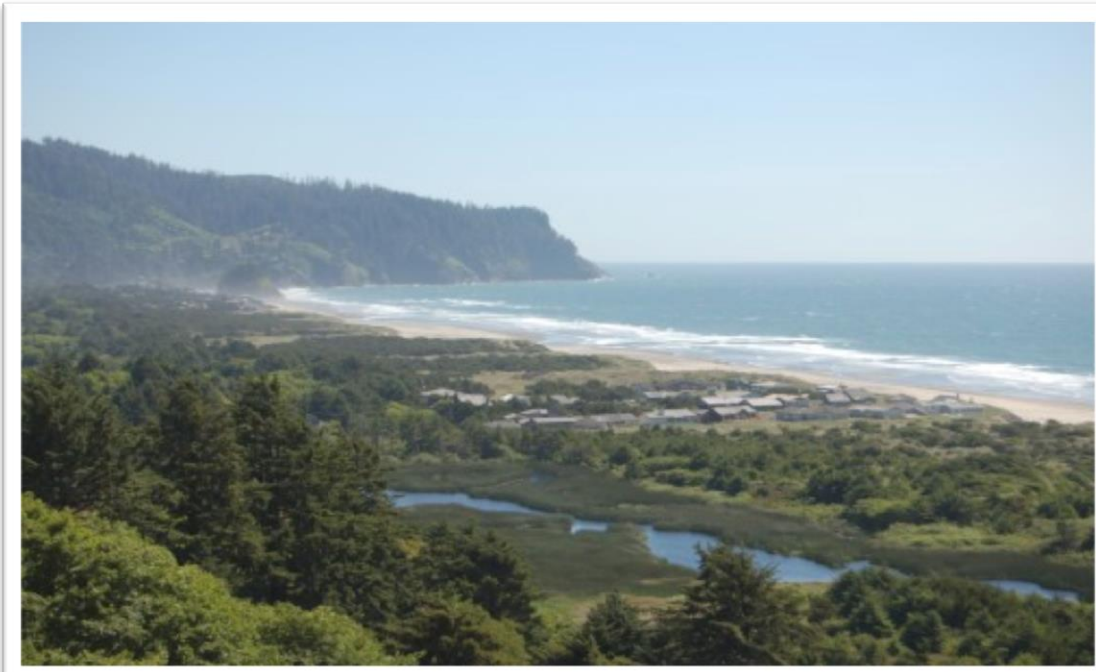


Neskowin Profile

- **Damage from El Niño-La Niña winters of 1997-1999 re-ignited concerns about erosion and flooding. Subsequent episodes of extreme storminess continue to impact the beach**
- **In September 2009, Neskowin area residents and property owners hosted a public forum with three Commissioners to highlight local concerns and enlist County support**



Neskowin Coastal Hazards Committee



- Committee made up of Neskowin residents, local planning staff, state agency and university representatives, County Commissioner Mark Labhart, Chair
- Met monthly from October 2009 to June 2013
- Held community meetings to survey opinions concerning shoreline protection and land-use issues

Neskowin Coastal Hazards Committee: Mission and Objectives



- **Mission:** Investigate strategies (short and long term) for maintaining the beach and protecting the community, make recommendations, and explore ways to plan for and adapt to the potential future changes
- **Objectives:** 1) Become more knowledgeable, 2) Provide information, 3) Investigate options, 4) Publish Committee findings and advocate, and 5) help garner support and resources necessary to implement agreed upon actions.

Neskowin Coastal Hazards Committee: Partners

- **Residents and elected officials:** “How can we best deal with this today and into the future?”
- **OR Dept Geology and Mineral Industries** develops hazard maps: “Where’s the hazard zone?”
- **OR State Parks** has jurisdiction for permitting on beach: “Can I get a rip rap permit?”
- **OR Dept Land Conservation and Development** Statewide Planning Goals: “How can Oregon be more resilient in our development?”
- **OSU CEOAS** and **Oregon Sea Grant** apply university research to local problems. “How can research inform our public choices?”



Neskowin Coastal Hazards Committee: Accomplishments

- Research and analysis of possible options & funding
- Riprap Evaluation and Inventory by State Parks
- Tax lot maps w/goal 18 exemptions
- DLCD support for Adaptation Planning
- Community letters, outreach, networking
- Monthly minutes posted to NCA website
- BASECAMP online file sharing site for findings
- Engaged USACE & OSU dune experts for advice
- Using current (OSU) science in hazard assessments

Tillamook County Coastal Futures Project



Research objectives:

1. Build coastal 'Knowledge to Action Networks' consisting of collaborative teams of stakeholders, researchers, and outreach specialists who will co-produce knowledge to inform climate-resilient strategies in select PNW coastal counties.
2. Develop an integrated methodology for projecting the evolving probability of coastal flooding and erosion, through time along the PNW coast, explicitly accounting for climate controls on the various processes relevant to coastal hazards.
3. Develop the information and tools necessary to enable PNW stakeholders to *envision future scenarios*, assess impacts and associated evolving community and ecosystem vulnerability, and initiate adaptation strategies over the next several decades in the context of SLR and changing storminess...



PIs: Peter Ruggiero (CEOAS), John Bolte (BEE), Pat Corcoran (OSG);
Collaborators: John Stevenson and Denise Lach of CIRC;
GRAs: Alexis Mills (BEE), Katherine Serafin (CEOAS), Eva Lipiec (CEOAS)

Objective 1

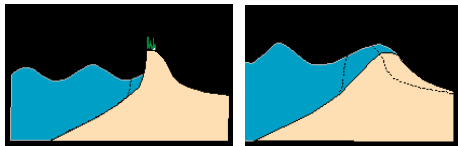
Approach

- Collaborative teams co-producing knowledge for climate-resilient strategies.
- Synthesizing and integrating state-of-the-art science into decision support systems.
- Developing frameworks for interactively envisioning future scenarios.

Objective 2

Projecting the evolving probability of erosion and flooding along the Tillamook County coast

- Created a probabilistic model that captures the variability in extreme Total Water Level events
- Full simulation model gives elevated return level values for TWL when compared to “observational” record
- Model includes **impacts of climate change** and has a variety of uses for coastal management and hazard planning



Chronic or extreme hazards

Katy Serafin and Peter Ruggiero
IH Cantabria Santander, Spain
Ocean Sciences, Honolulu, HI

What is a total water level?

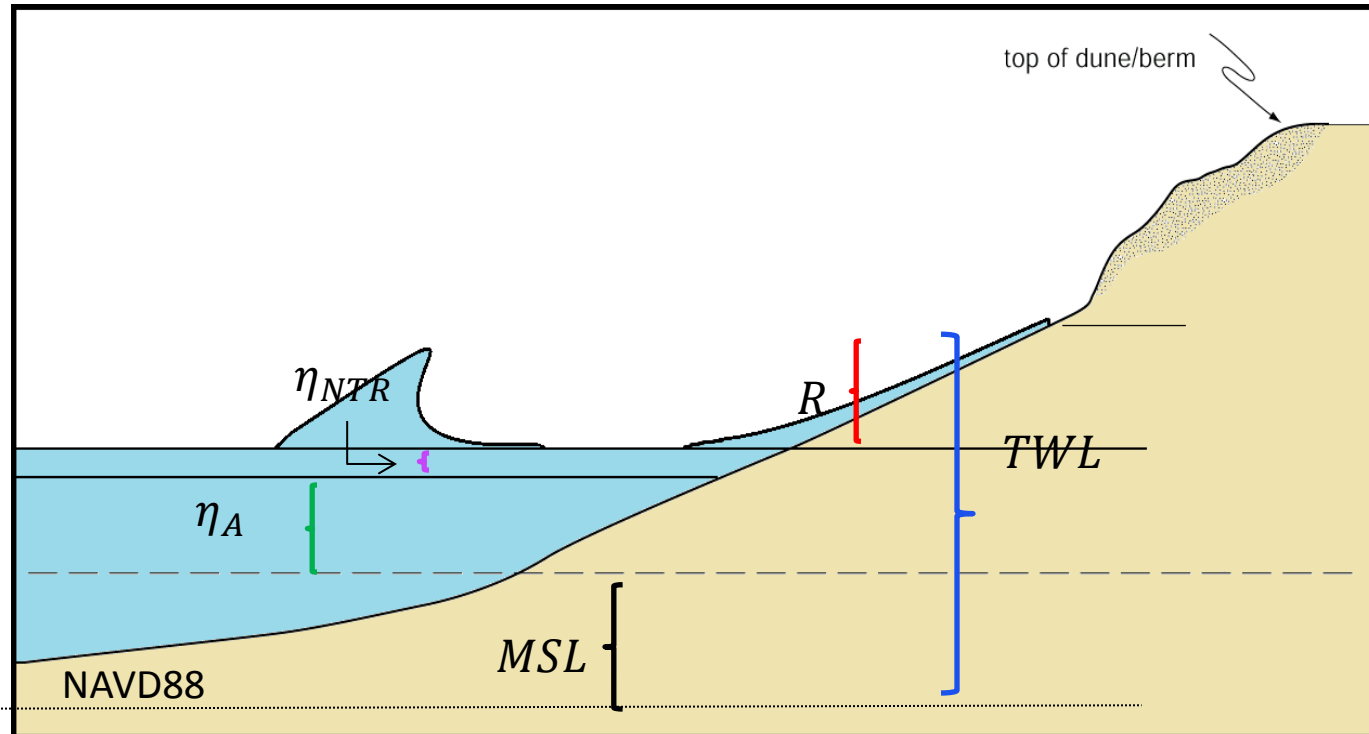
$$TWL = MSL + \eta_A + \eta_{NTR} + R$$

MSL = mean sea level

η_A = astronomical tide

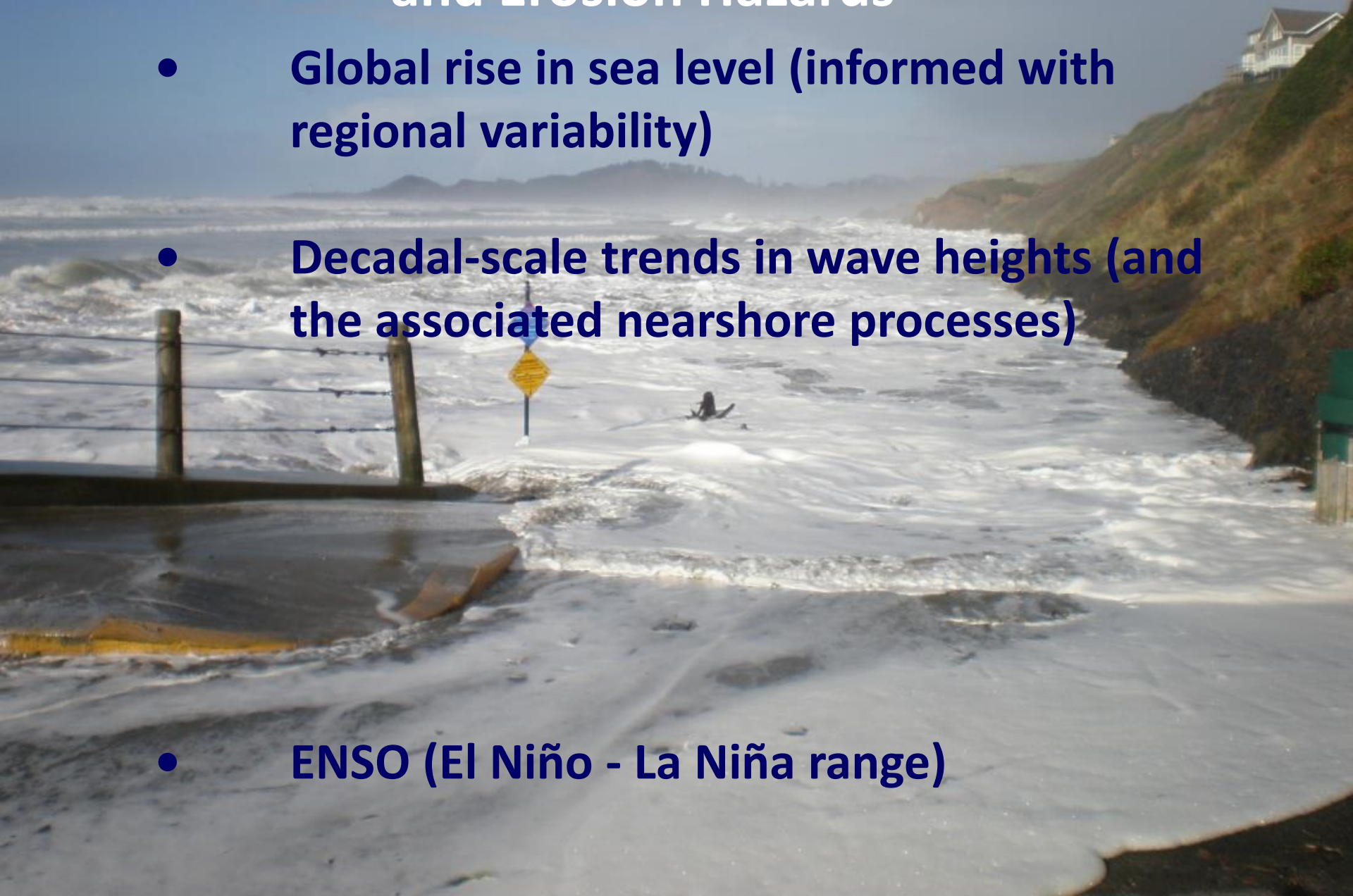
η_{NTR} = non-tidal residual

R = runup, (a function of beach slope, wave height, and wave length)

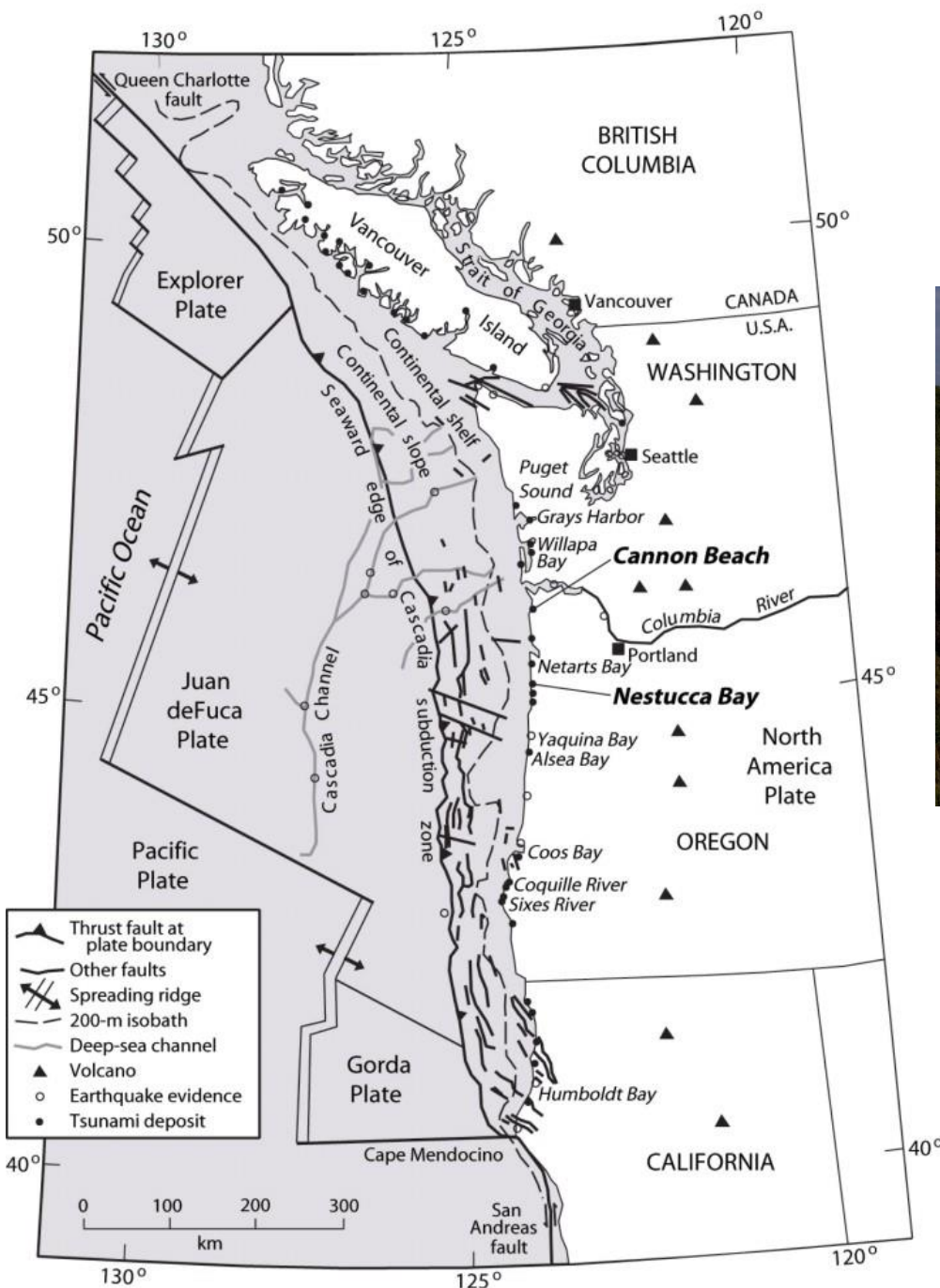


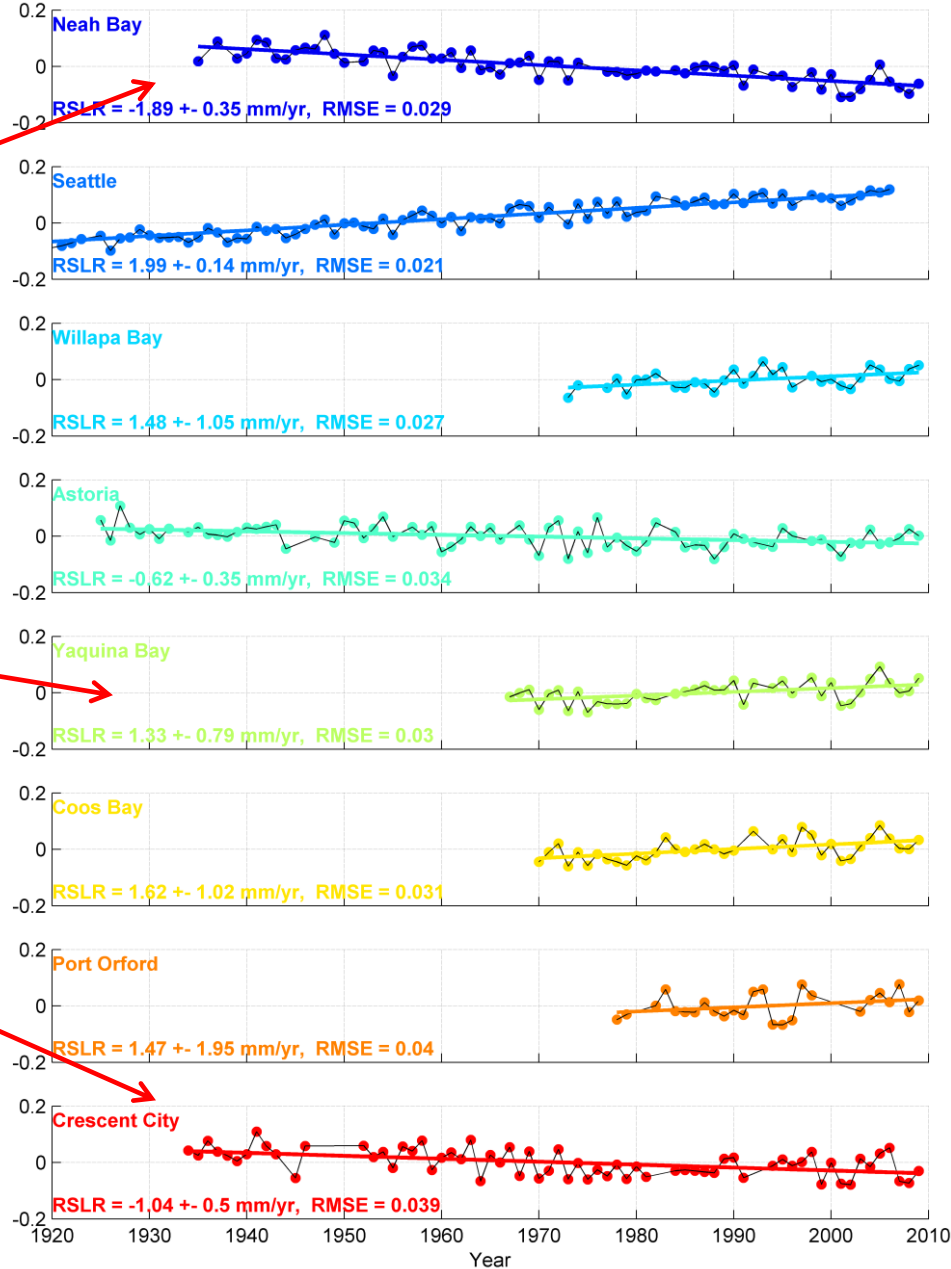
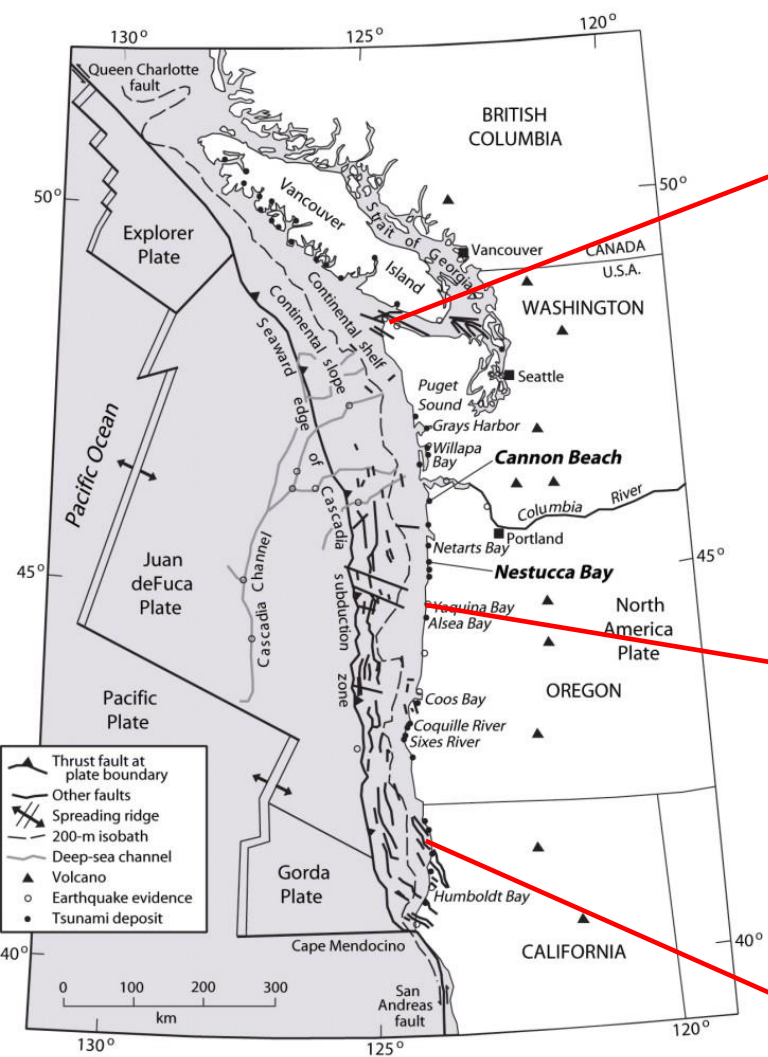
Climate Controls on TWLs and Coastal Flood and Erosion Hazards

- Global rise in sea level (informed with regional variability)
- Decadal-scale trends in wave heights (and the associated nearshore processes)
- ENSO (El Niño - La Niña range)



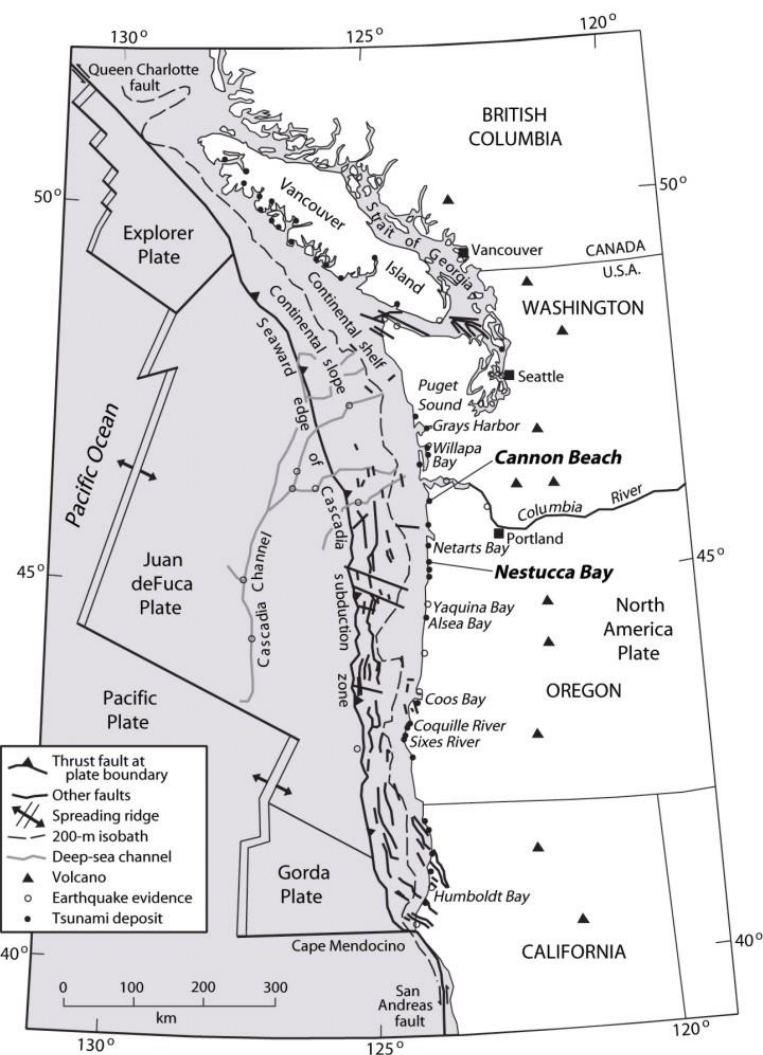
Regional Tectonics



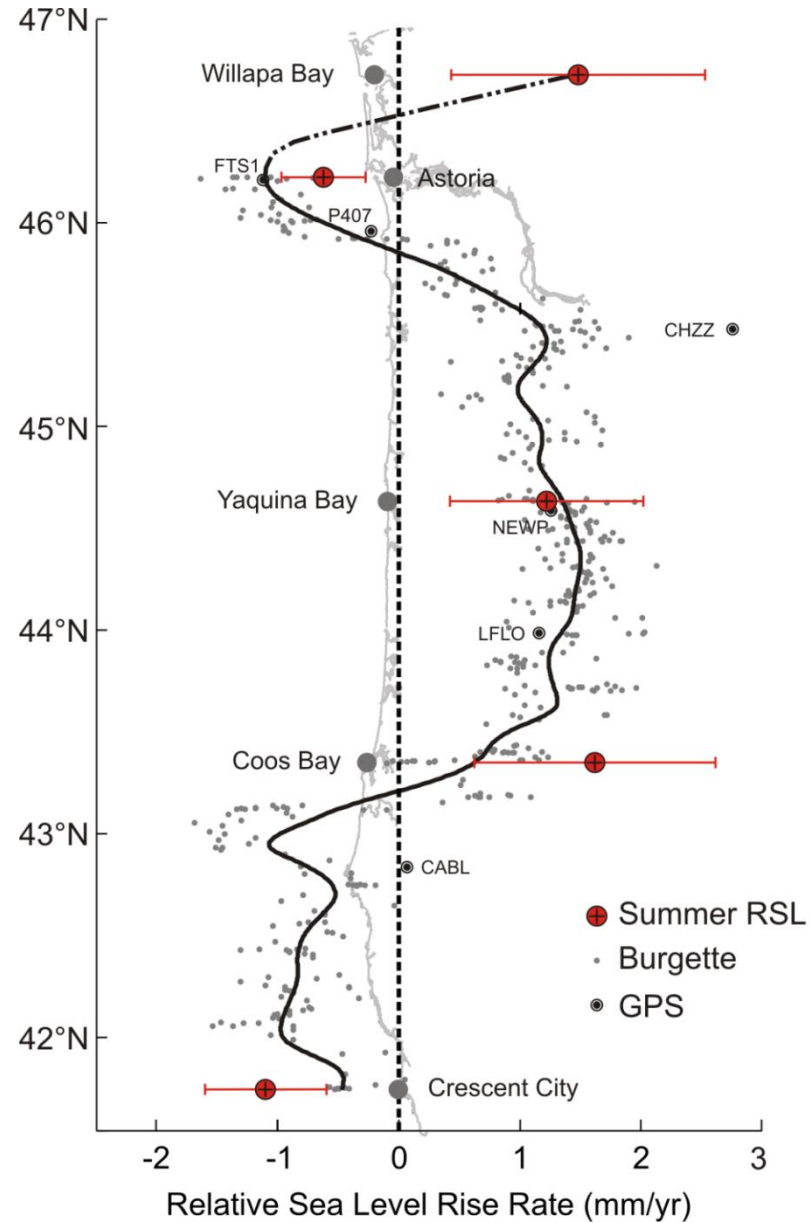


Geological and Hydrodynamic Setting of the PNW

Vertical land motions alter impacts of SLR

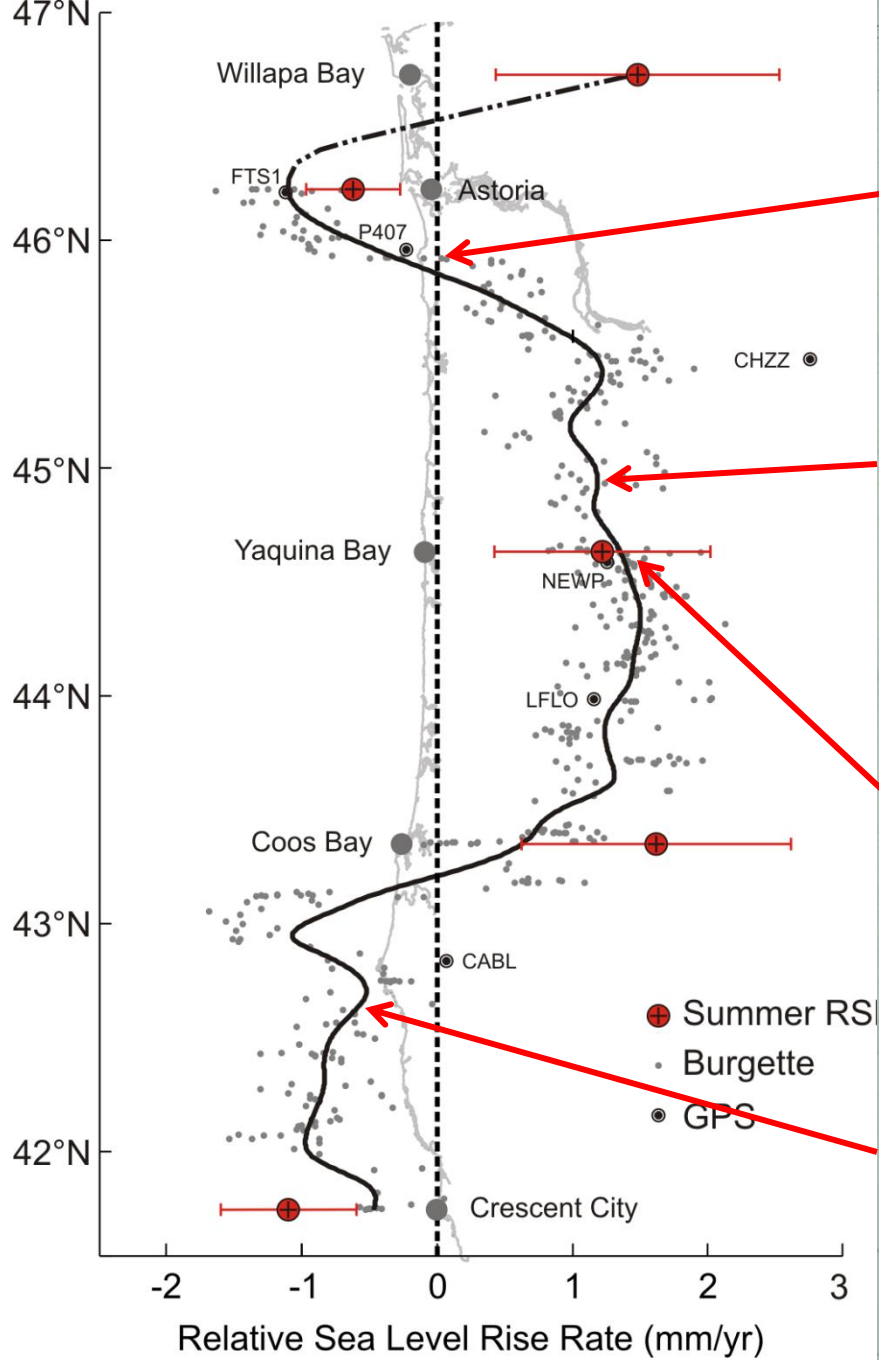


Geological and Hydrodynamic Setting of the PNW



Varying rates of uplift are reflected in RSLR

Komar, Allan, and Ruggiero, 2011.
after Burgette et al. 2009



A. Arch Cape (Cannon Beach Cell)



B. Lincoln City



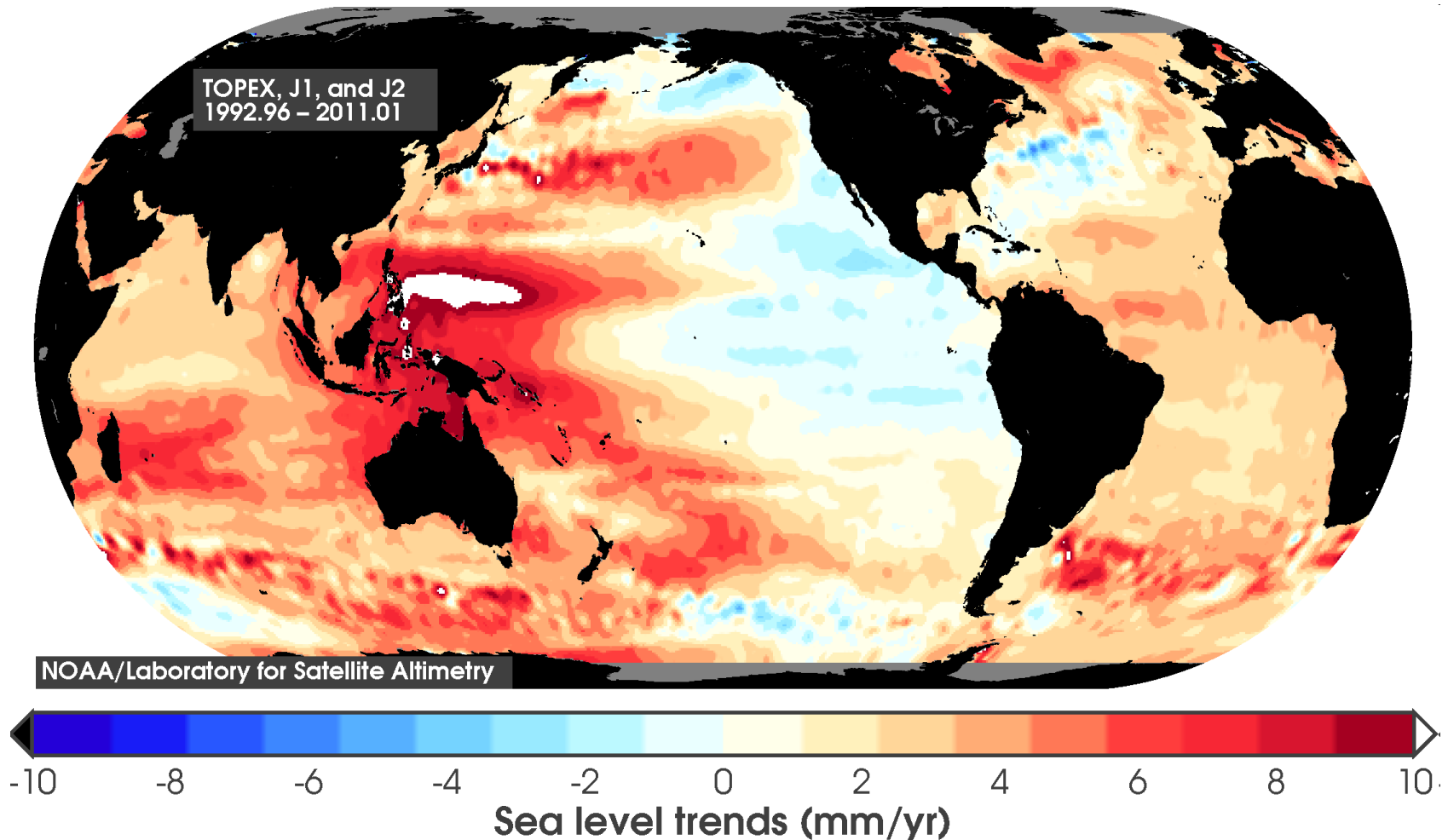
C. Beverly Beach Cell



D. Bandon

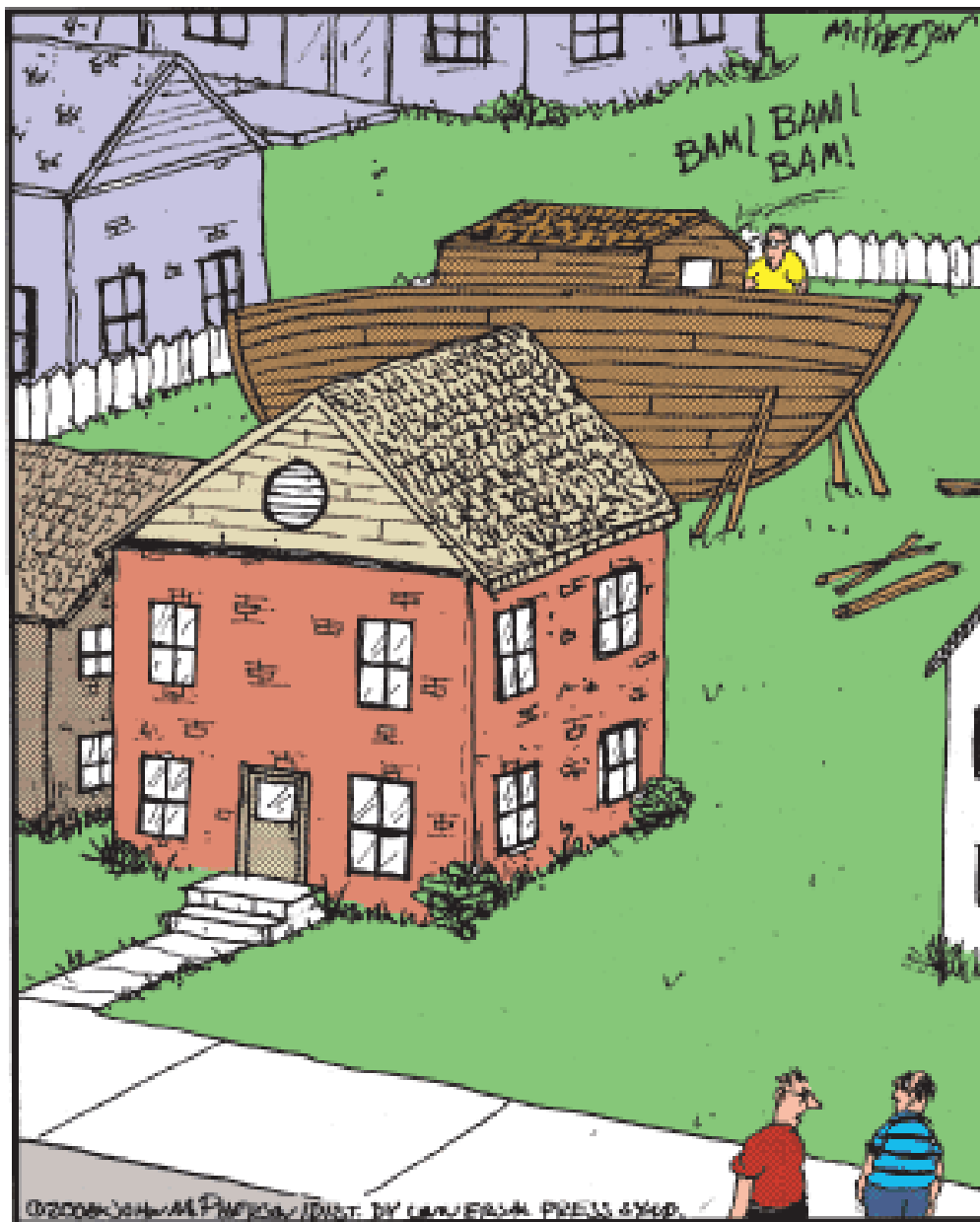


Sea-level Rise: Regional variability



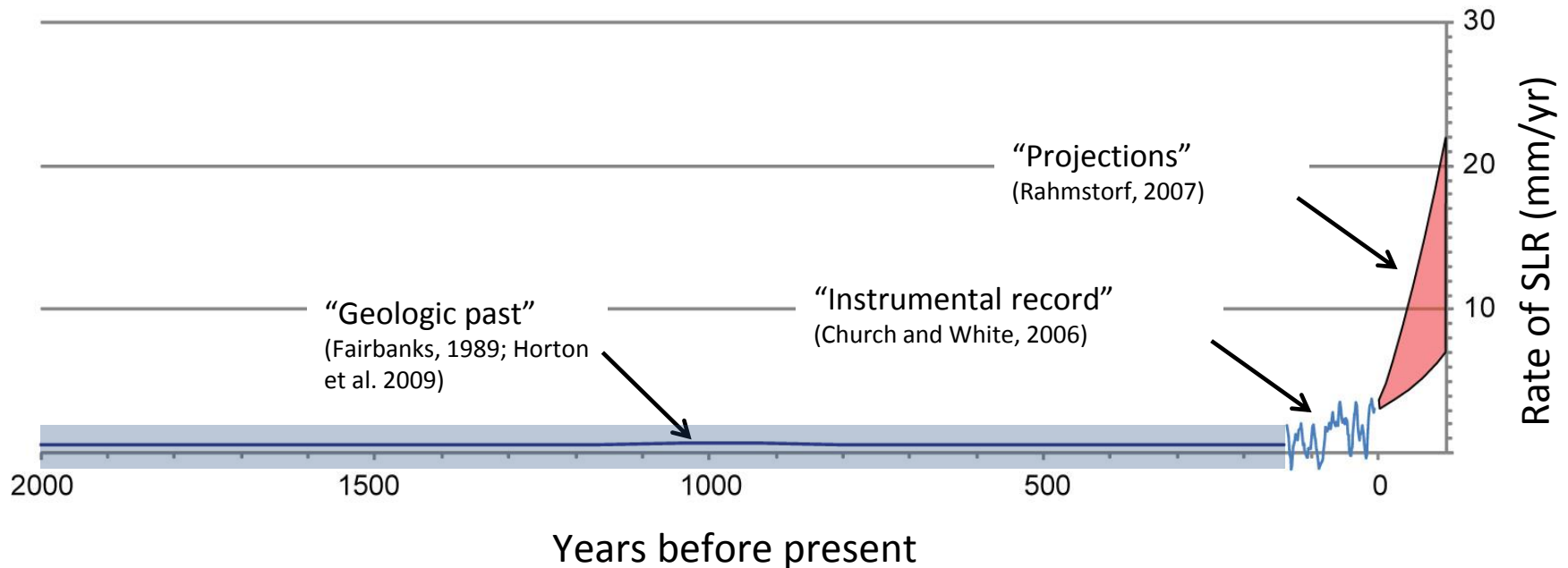
NOAA Laboratory for Satellite Altimetry/ Sea-level rise

Since the PDO regime shift in the late 1970s, the predominant wind stress patterns along in the North Pacific have served to attenuate the rising trend in sea levels seen globally, for the most part suppressing regional ocean levels. (Bromirski et al., 2011)



"I'd chalk it up to just another crazy backyard hobby, except that he's the world's leading authority on global warming."

Past, present, and potential future rates of sea-level rise



Uncertainty is increasing!

- Wide range of SLR_{2100} estimates

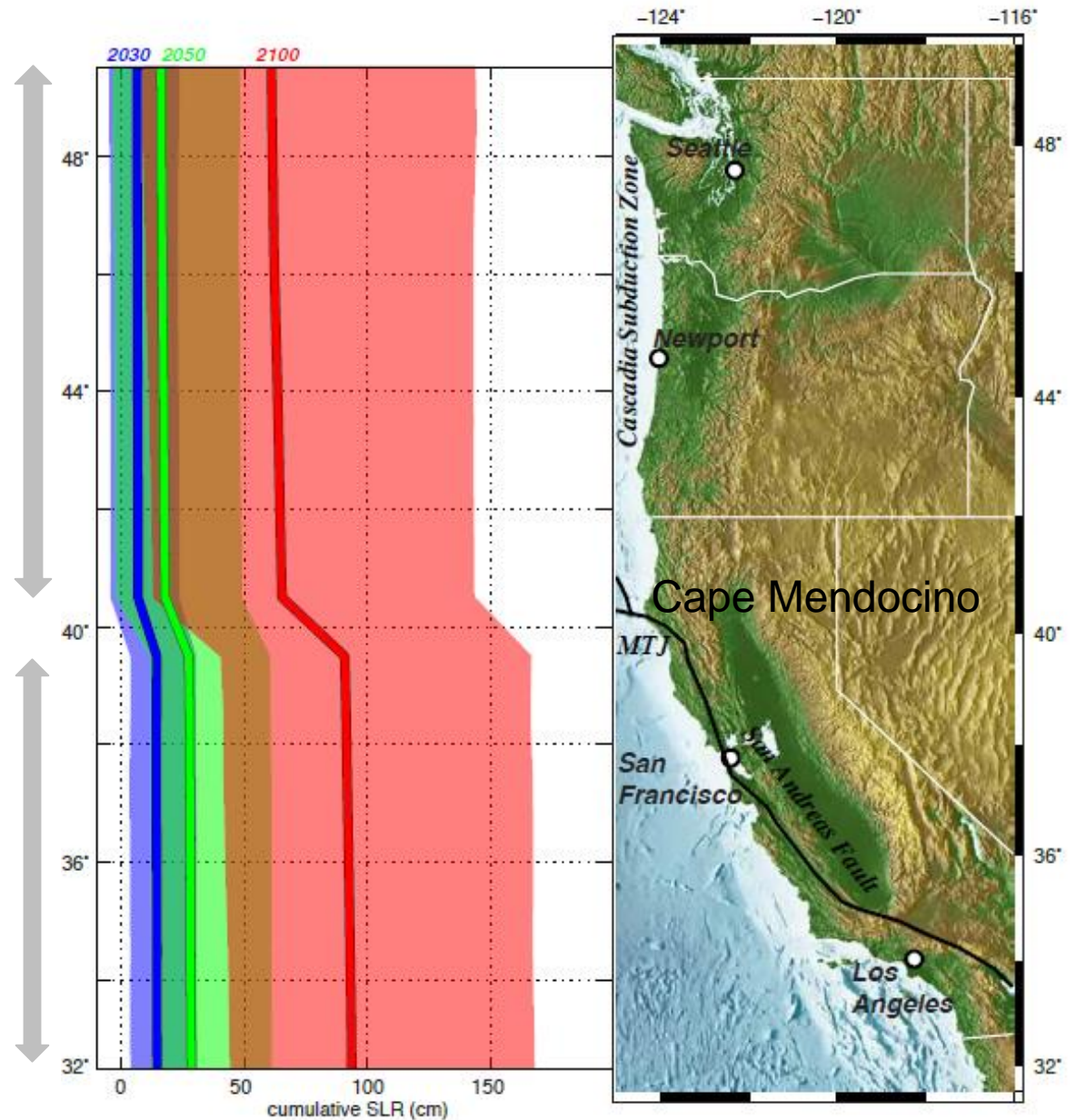
- 0.18-0.59 m (IPCC, 2007)
- Up to 2.0 m (Pfeffer et al., 2008)
- 0.5-1.4 m (Rahmstorf, 2007; 2010)
- 0.2-2.0 m (National Climate Assessment, 2012)
- .2-1.4 m (NRC Committee on SLR, 2012)
- .26-.97 m (IPCC, 2013)

Committee's West Coast Projections

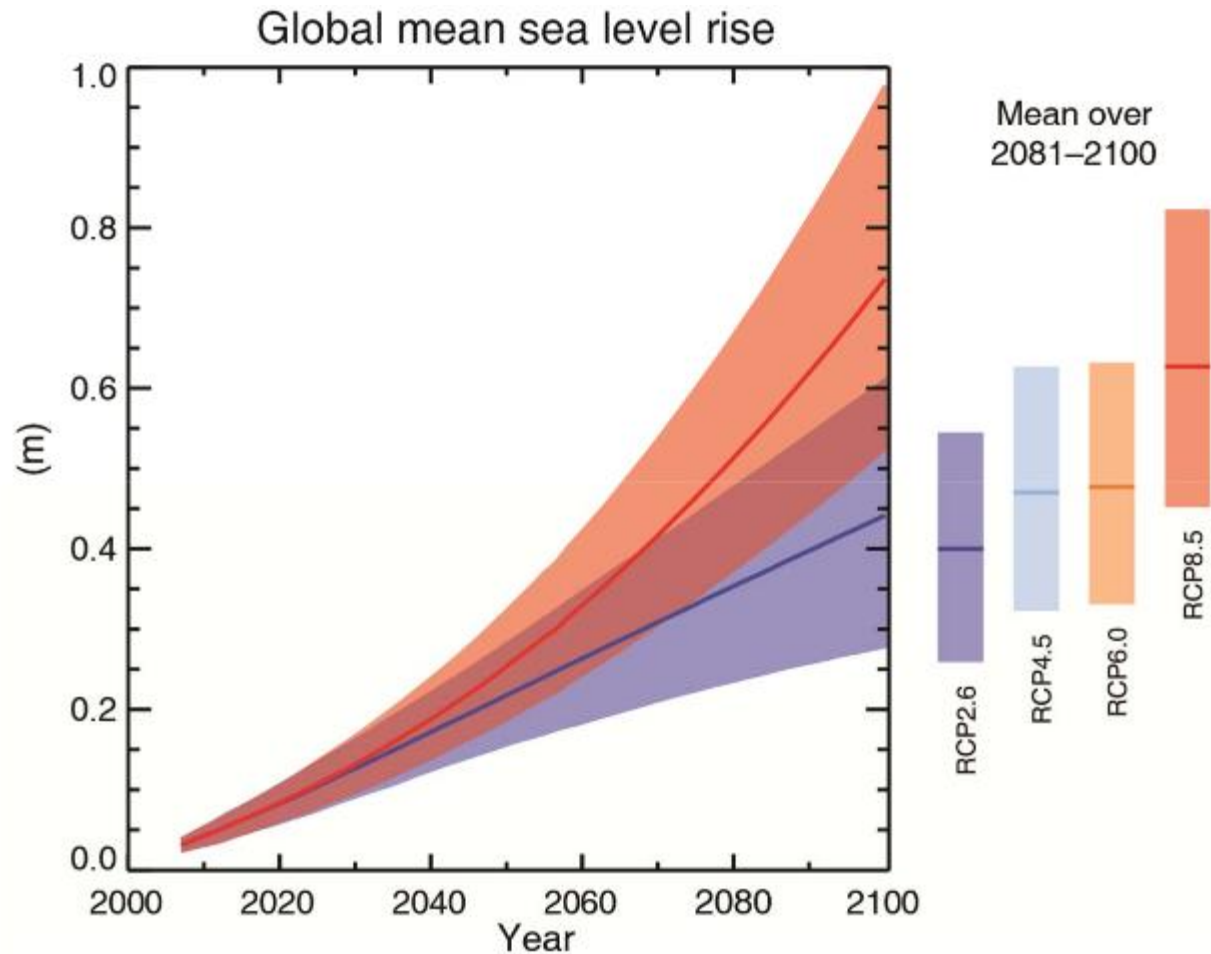
*Land uplift +
fingerprinting*

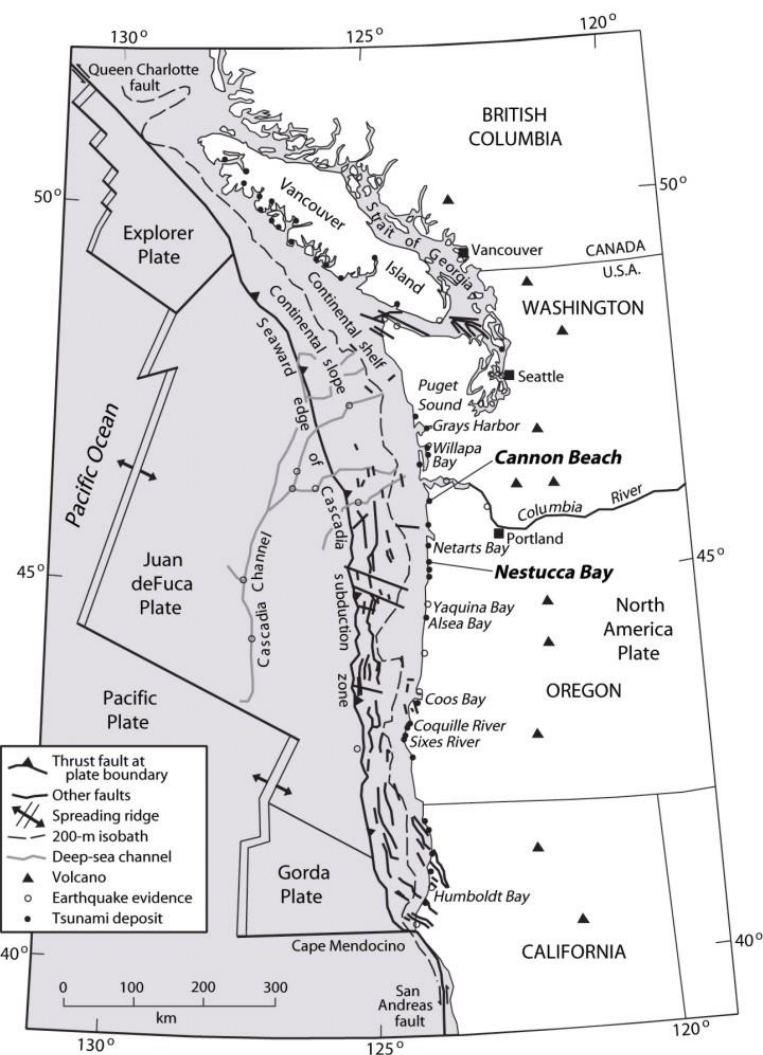
Land subsidence

Blue: 2030
Green: 2050
Red: 2100

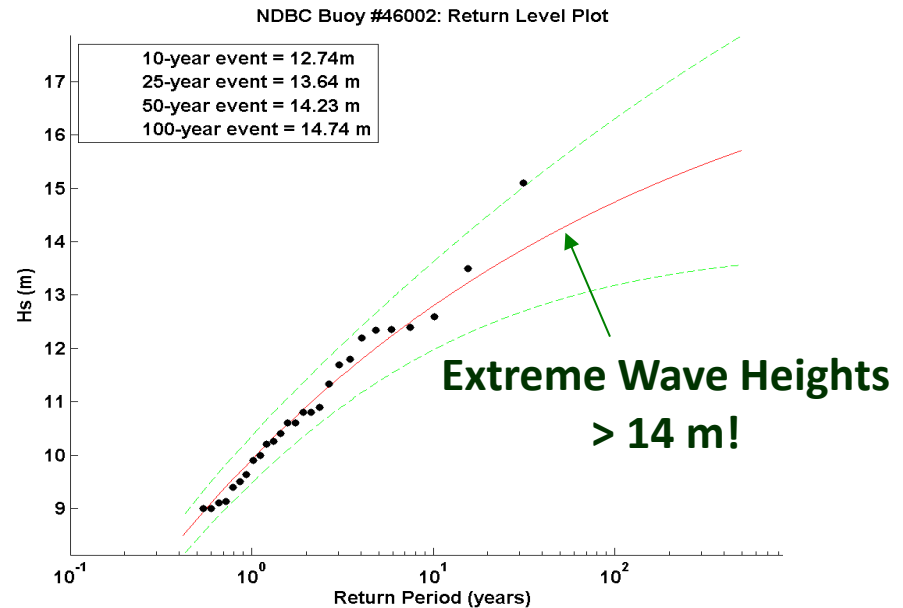


IPCC AR5 Global Mean Sea Level Rise Projections



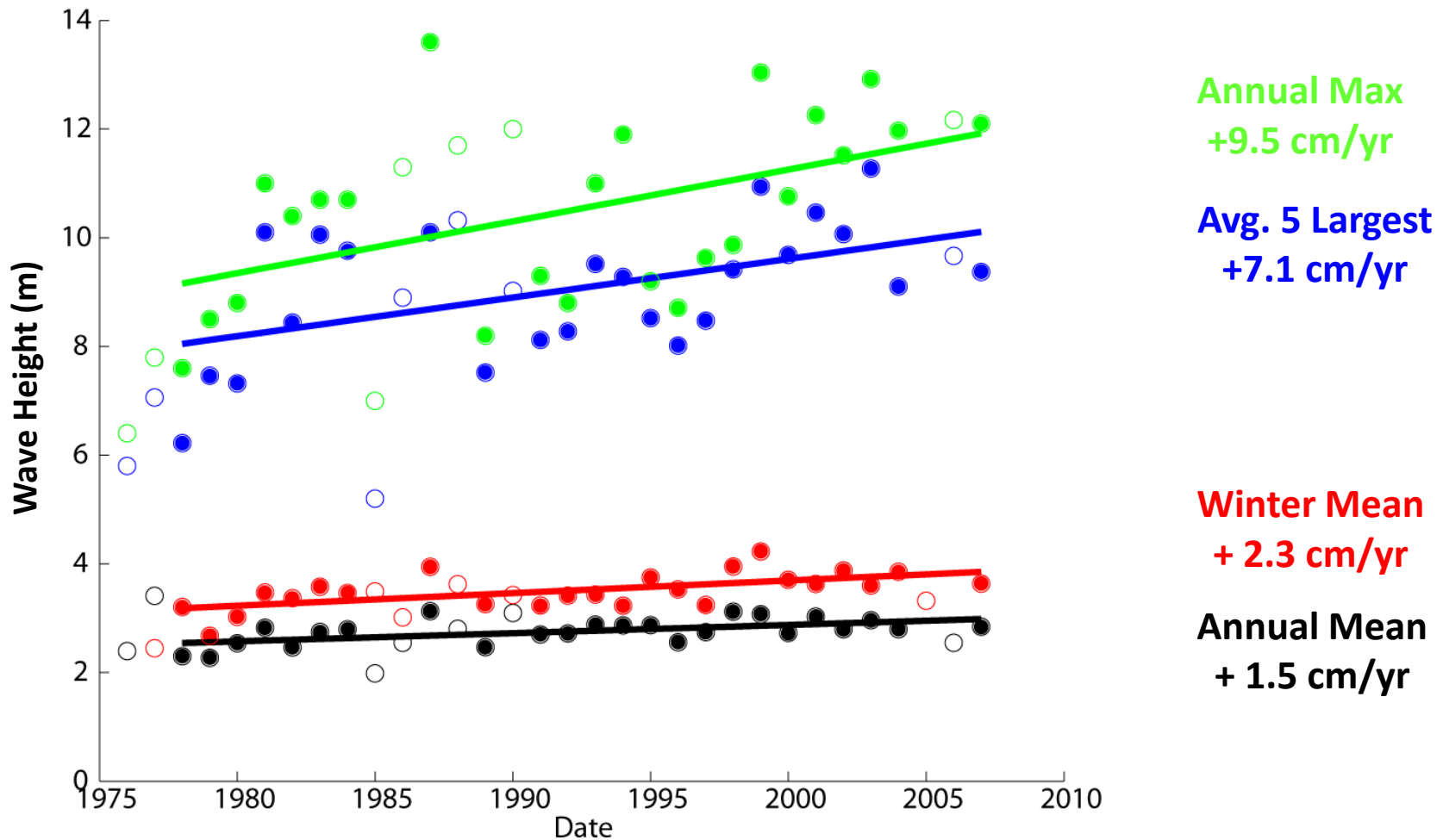


Geological and Hydrodynamic Setting of the PNW

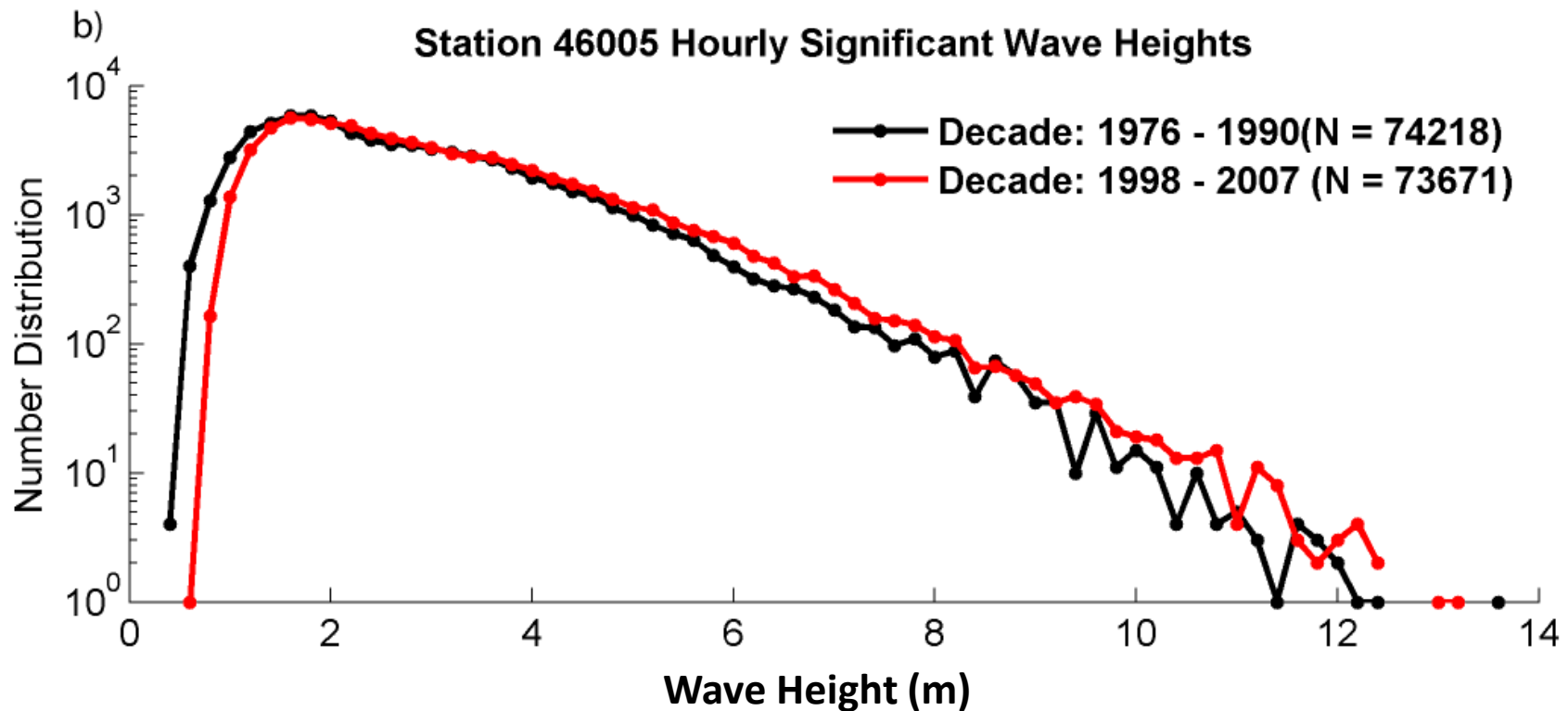


One of the most intense wave climates in the world

Increasing PNW wave heights

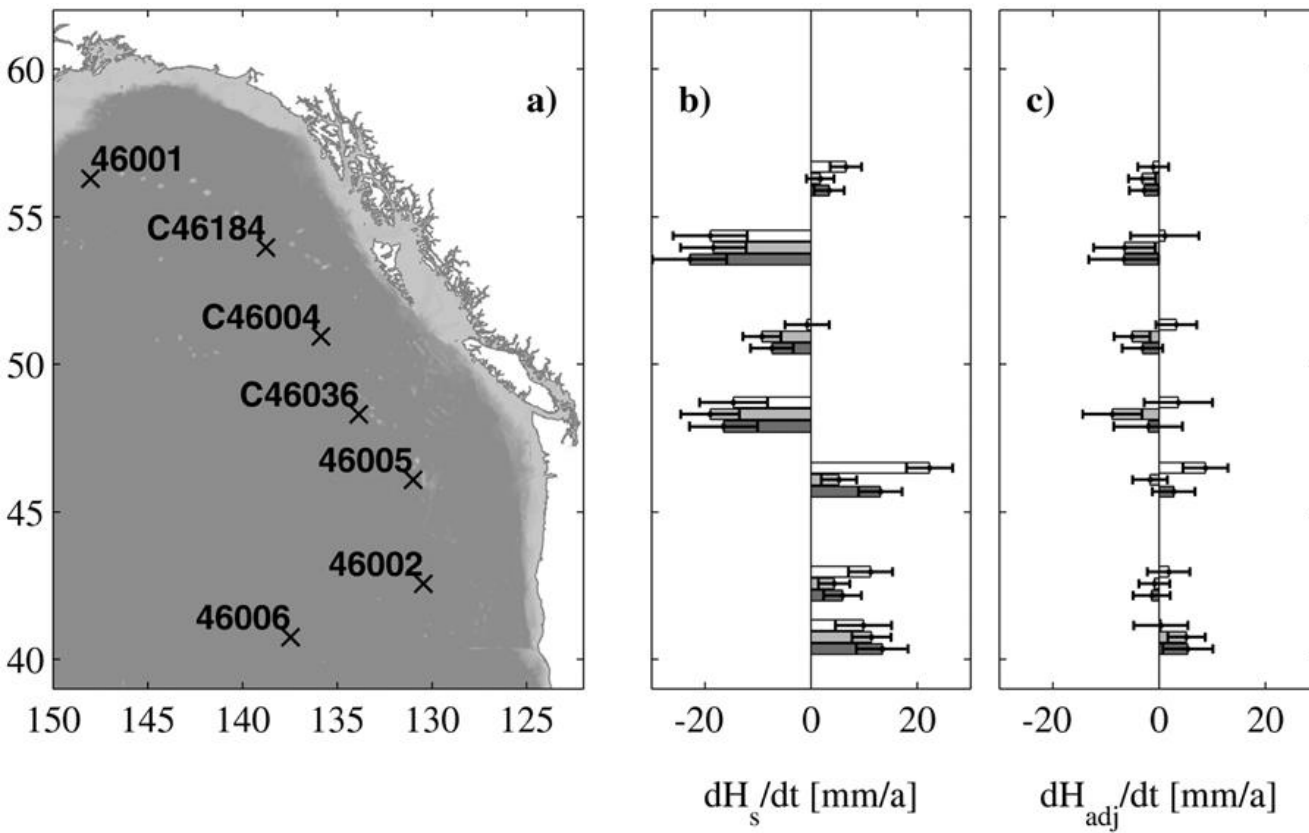


Increasing PNW wave heights



If trends continue they have the potential to increase coastal hazards - but changes have not been attributed to climate change, and...

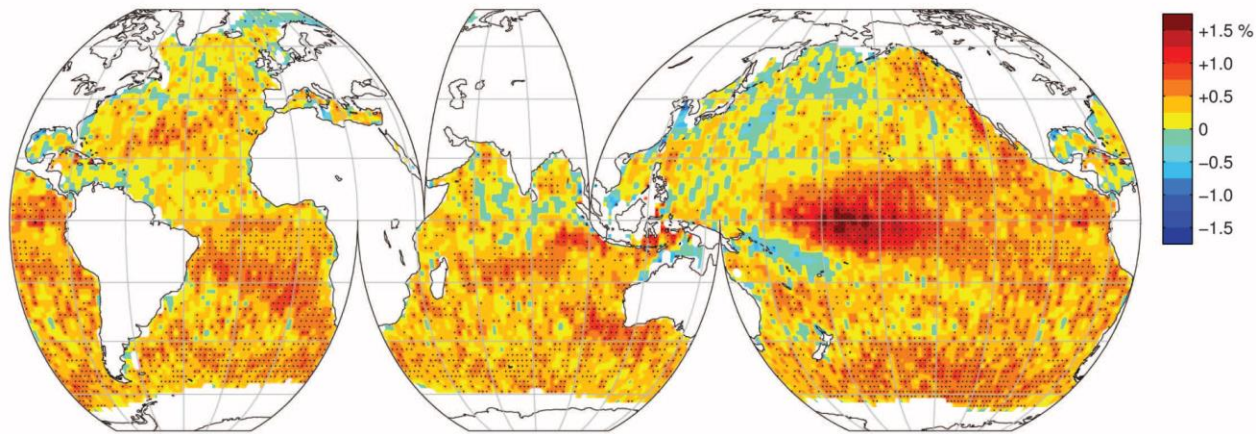
Increasing PNW wave heights



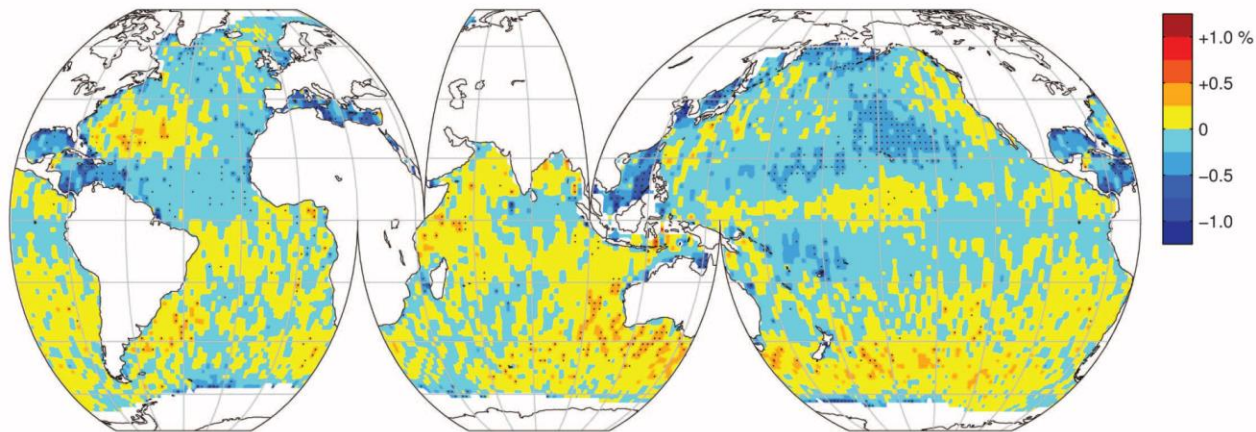
Modifications of buoy hardware and analysis procedures call into question magnitudes of trend analyses due to step changes, however...

Increasing PNW wave heights

mean wind speed (1991–2008)



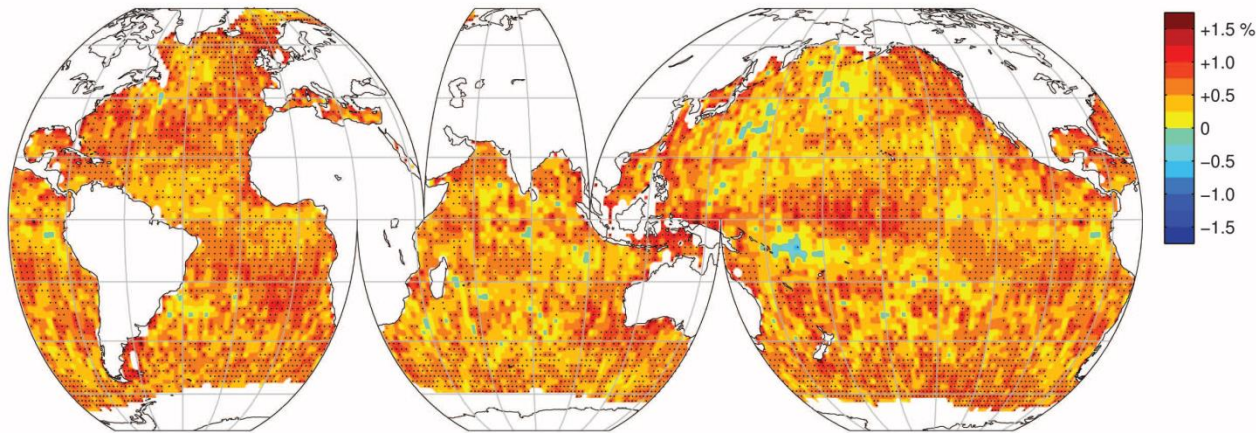
mean significant wave height (1985–2008)



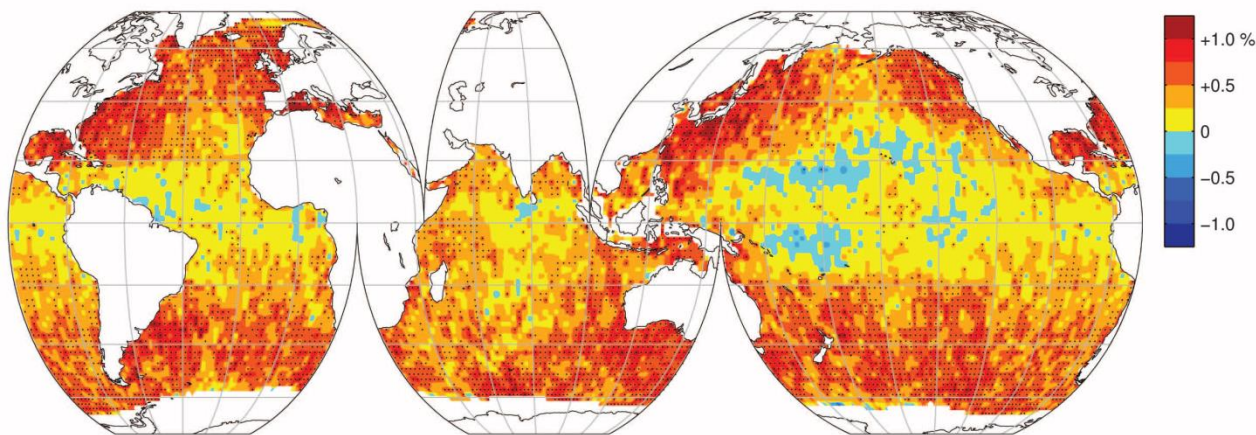
Altimetry measurements (1985–2008) indicate increases in mean global winds.

Increasing PNW wave heights

99th percentile wind speed (1991-2008)



99th percentile significant wave height (1985-2008)



Altimetry measurements (1985-2008) indicate increases in both extreme winds and wave heights.

Impact of Increasing Storminess on 'Design' Conditions: Non-Stationary Extreme Value Analysis

'Stationarity is Dead'

- Milly et al., 2008, Science



** Today's 100-yr
return level wave
height (1% chance
of occurring) has
between a 30 - 60%
chance of occurring
in 2032!!

Coastal Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerabilities



A Technical Input to the 2013
National Climate Assessment



'Stationarity is Dead'

Milly et al., 2008, Science

Variability in the location and time-of-year of storm genesis can influence landfalling storm characteristics, and even small changes can lead to large changes in landfalling location and impact. While there is only low confidence in the sign of projected changes in storm-related hazards along the coast (which depend on a combination of factors, such as frequency, track, intensity, and storm size), any sea-level rise is virtually certain to exacerbate storm-related hazards. (High Confidence)

NCA, 2012.

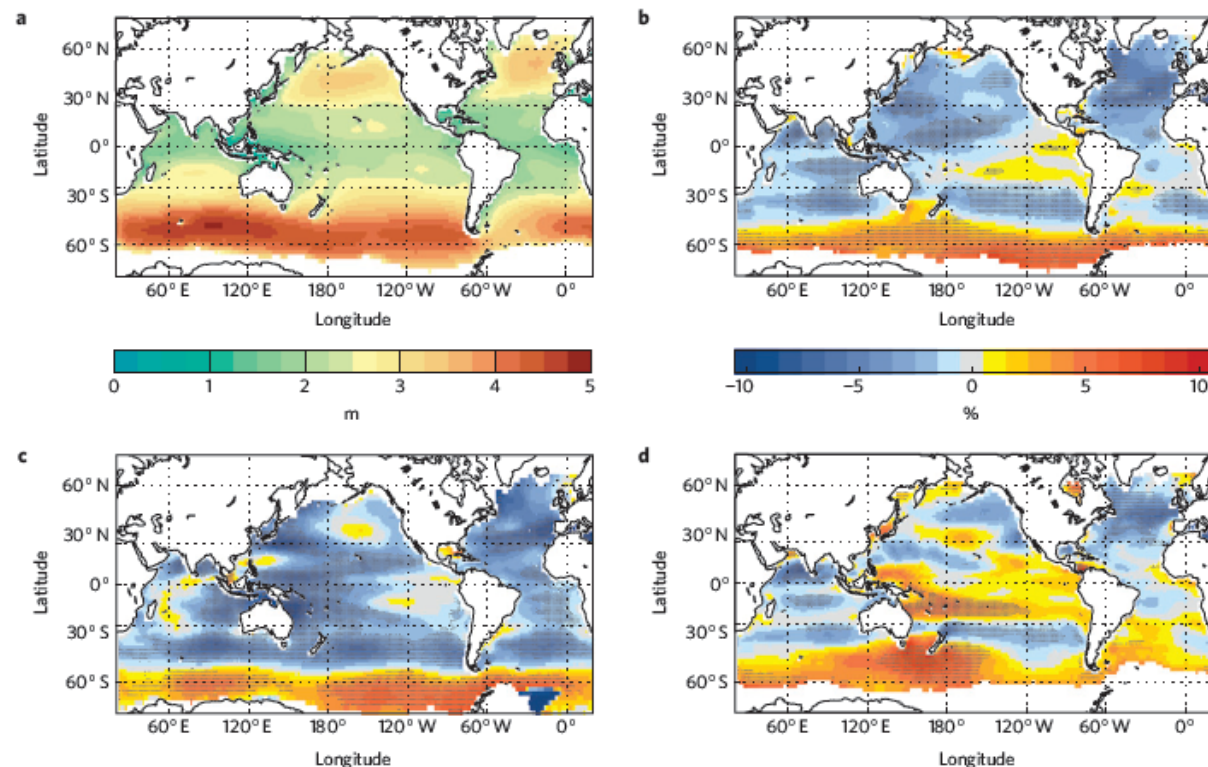


Figure 2 | Projected future changes in multi-model averaged significant wave height. a, Averaged multi-model annual significant wave height (H_S , m) for the time-slice representing present climate (~1979–2009). **b–d**, Averaged multi-model projected changes in annual (**b**), JFM (**c**) and JAS (**d**) mean H_S for the future time-slice (~2070–2100) relative to the present climate time-slice (~1979–2009) (% change). Stippling denotes areas where the magnitude of the multi-model ensemble mean exceeds the inter-model standard deviation. Results for individual models are included in the Supplementary Information.

Table 1 | Percentage area of global ocean where projected increase/decrease is robust within the multi-model ensemble.

	Annual		JFM		JAS	
	Percentage area of robust projected increase	Percentage area of robust projected decrease	Percentage area of robust projected increase	Percentage area of robust projected decrease	Percentage area of robust projected increase	Percentage area of robust projected decrease
H_S	7.1	25.8	4.9	38.5	8.8	8.4
T_M	30.2	19.0	8.7	44.6	33.6	10.7
θ_M	18.4	19.7	8.95	21.4	17.1	12.7

See Methods for definition used for robustness. Increase (decrease) in direction (θ_M) corresponds to clockwise (anti-clockwise) rotation.

Downscaling CMIP5 climate models shows increased tropical cyclone activity over the 21st century

Kerry A. Emanuel – PNAS, 2013

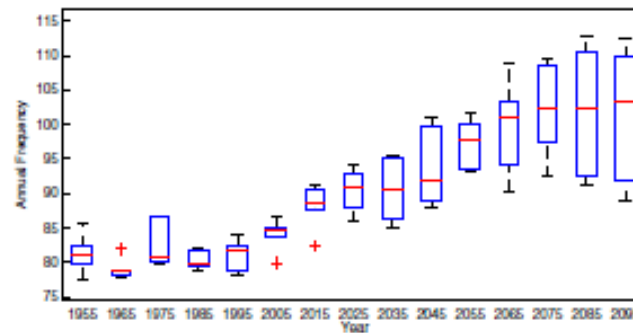


Fig. 1. Global annual frequency of tropical cyclones averaged in 10-y blocks for the period 1950–2100, using historical simulations for the period 1950–2005 and the RCP8.5 scenario for the period 2006–2100. In each box, the red line represents the median among the six models, and the bottom and tops of the boxes represent the 25th and 75th percentiles, respectively. The whiskers extend to the most extreme points not considered outliers, which are represented by the red + signs. Points are considered outliers if they lie more than 1.5 times the box height above or below the box.

Table 2. Comparison between CMIP3 and CMIP5 changes in downscaled tropical cyclone frequency and power dissipation

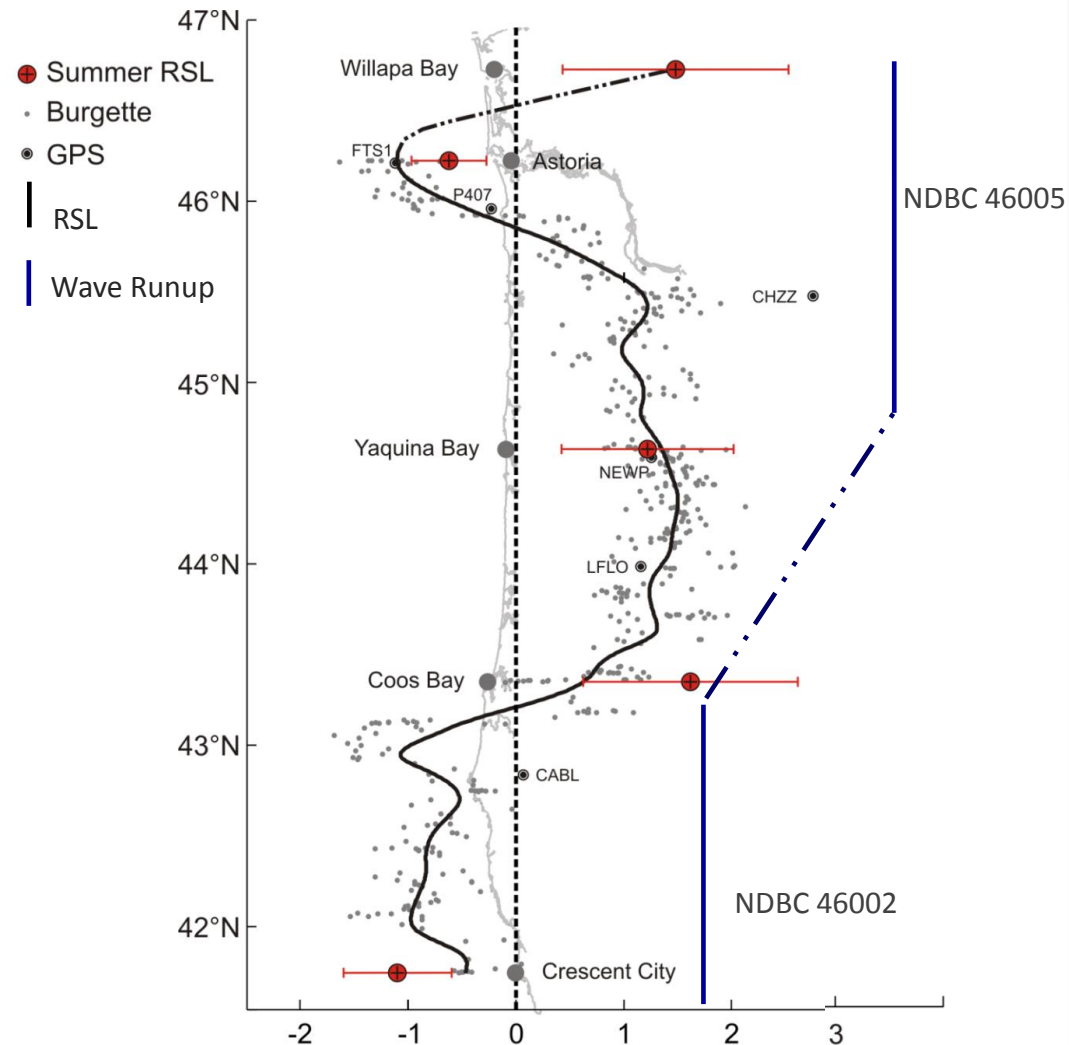
Institute ID	CMIP3 model	CMIP5 model	CMIP3 change in global frequency, %	CMIP5 change in global frequency, %	CMIP3 change in global power dissipation, %	CMIP5 change in global power dissipation, %
NCAR	CCSM3	CCSM4	−3	+11	+5	+8
GFDL	CM2.0	CM3	−13	+41	+2	+72
MOHC		HADGEM2-ES		+22		+31
MPI	ECHAM5	MPI-ESM-MR	−11	+29	+4	+57
MIROC	MIROC3.2	MIROC5	−12	+38	+8	+80
MRI	MRI-CGCM2.3.2a	MRI-CGCM3	+2	+13	+22	+26

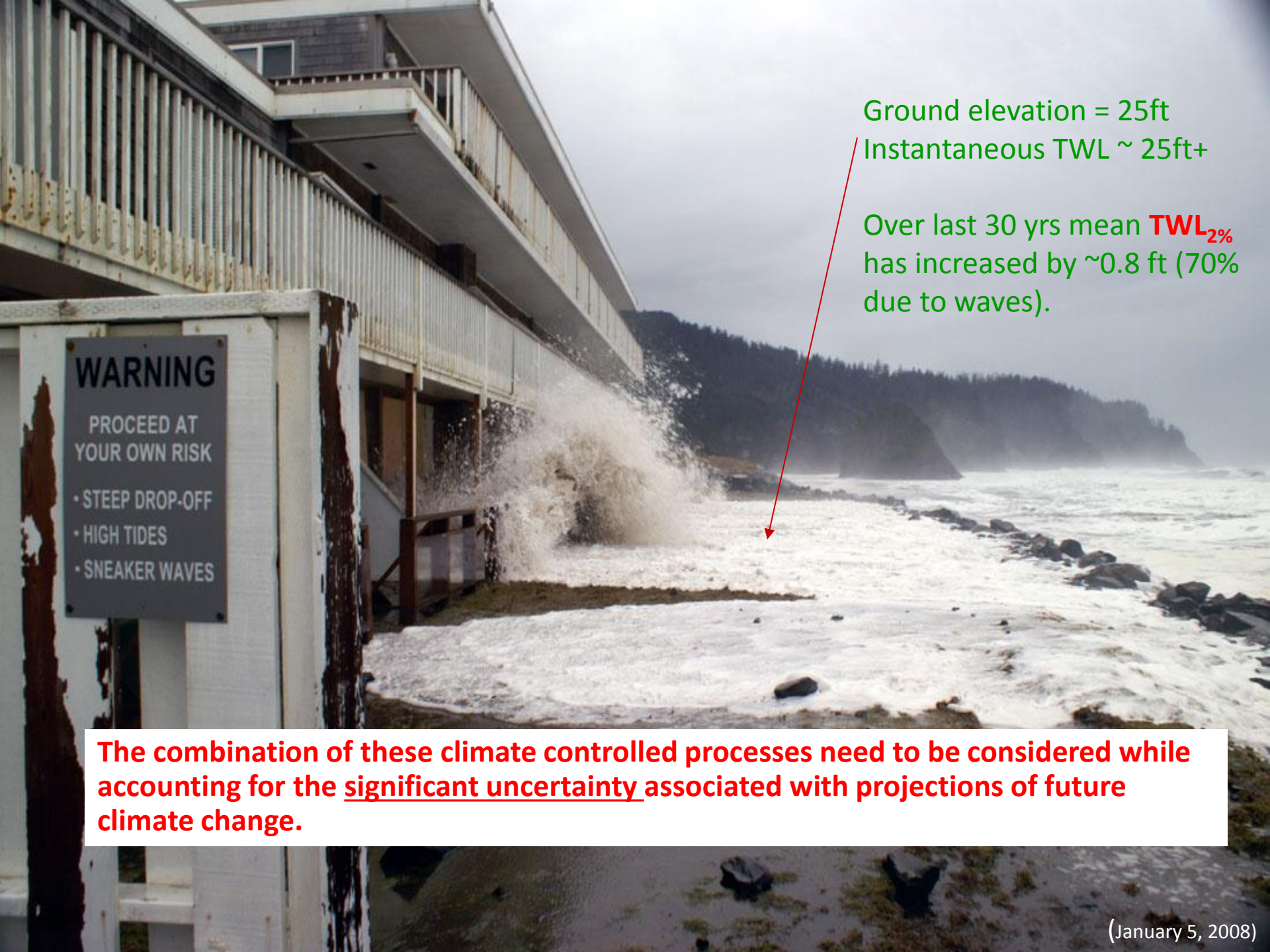
For CMIP3 models, the listed numbers are percentage changes from the 20-y period 1981–2000 to the 20-y period 2181–2200 under emissions scenario A1b. For the CMIP5 models, the listed numbers represent percentage changes from 1981–2000 to 2081–2100 under radiative forcing scenario RCP8.5.

Tillamook County Coastal Futures Project



Over the last 30 years increasing wave heights have been more important than relative sea level rise over much of the PNW coast!

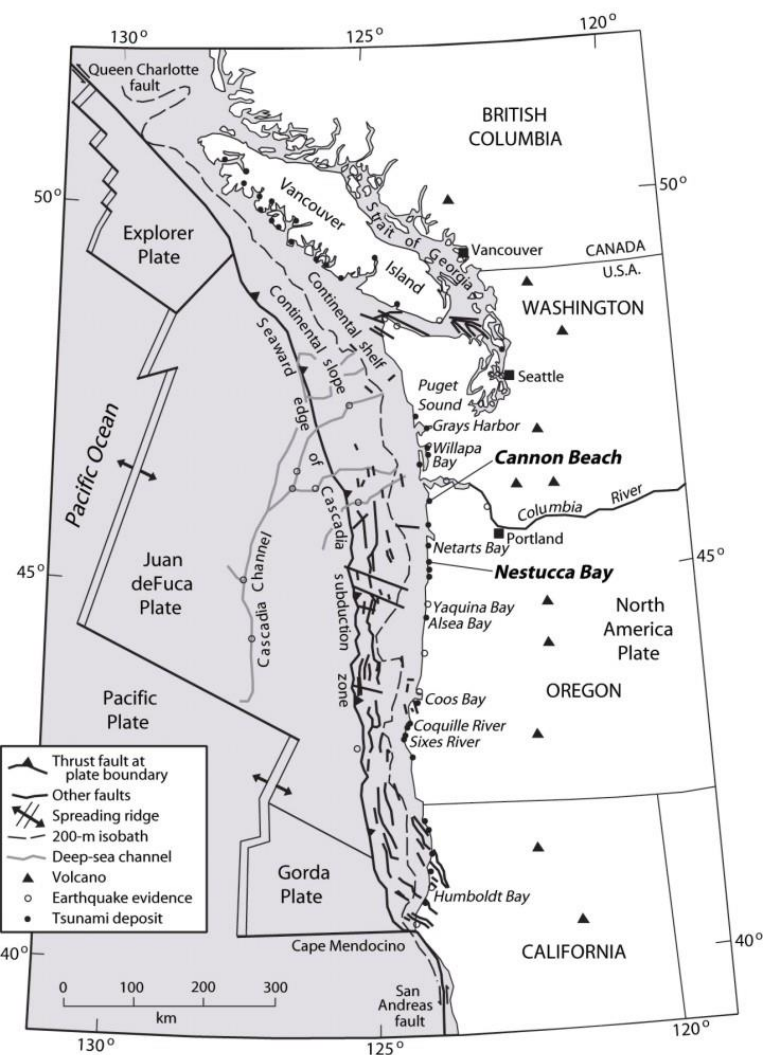




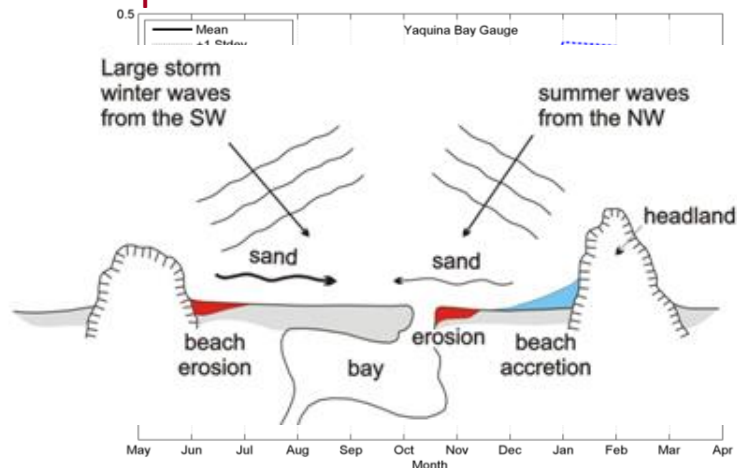
Ground elevation = 25ft
Instantaneous TWL ~ 25ft+

Over last 30 yrs mean **TWL_{2%}**
has increased by ~0.8 ft (70%
due to waves).

The combination of these climate controlled processes need to be considered while accounting for the significant uncertainty associated with projections of future climate change.



- High water levels (10s of cms)
- Larger than typical wave heights
- Anomalous wave approach angles
- Enhanced longshore and cross-shore sediment transport
- Hot-spot erosion



Geological and Hydrodynamic Setting of the PNW

During **El Niños** the PNW effectively experiences decades worth of SLR for months

Future frequency and magnitude of El Niños? More, less, no change from present-day??

nature
climate change

LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 19 JANUARY 2014 | DOI: 10.1038/NCLIMATE2100

Increasing frequency of extreme El Niño events due to greenhouse warming

Wenju Cai^{1,2*}, Simon Borlace¹, Matthieu Lengaigne³, Peter van Rensch¹, Mat Collins⁴,
Gabriel Vecchi⁵, Axel Timmermann⁶, Agus Santoso⁷, Michael J. McPhaden⁸, Lixin Wu²,
Matthew H. England⁷, Guojian Wang^{1,2}, Eric Guilyardi^{3,9} and Fei-Fei Jin¹⁰

**Major ENSO events may double in
frequency!**



Objective 3

Envision

- Scenario modeling and analysis tool for capturing and integrating multiple drivers of landscape change
- Policy-centric: Directly captures policy alternatives related to land management
- Spatially explicit, integrating multiple landscape features influencing landscape change
- Can report multiple landscape performance metrics; visualization of results

Tillamook County Coastal Futures Project



Data Sources

Landscape Data

- Land Use/Land Cover
- Zoning, Population, Structures
- Topography, **Climate**
- Many more...

Policy Sets

Stakeholder Engagement

Landscape Change Models

Population Growth

Development

Total Water Level

ENVISION

Evaluative Models/Metrics

Flooding

Structures, Infrastructure
Impacted,
Economic Value of Structures
Impacted

Erosion

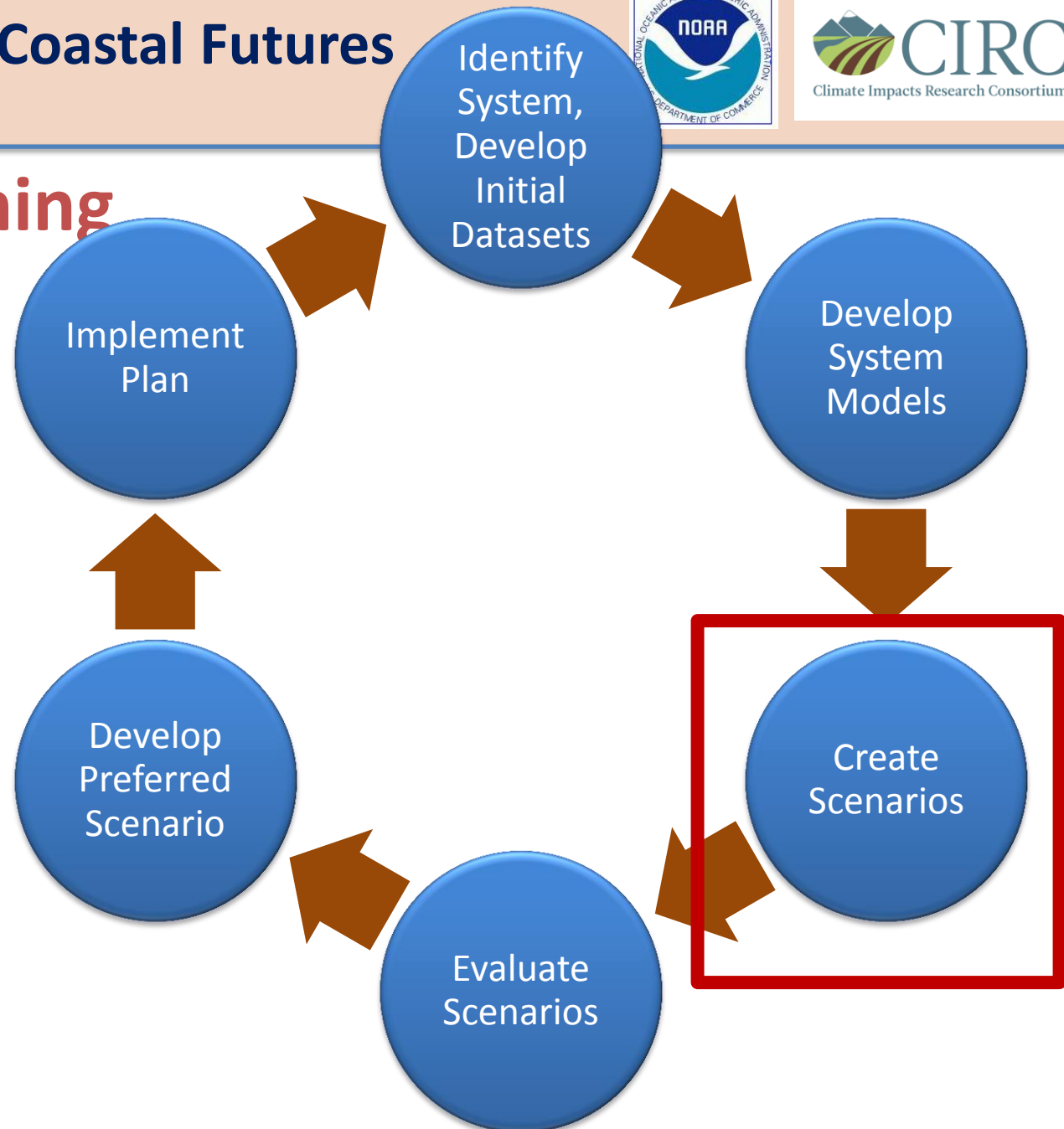
Structures, Infrastructure
Impacted,
Economic Value of Structures
Impacted

Residential Land Supply

Economic Costs/Returns
Economic Development

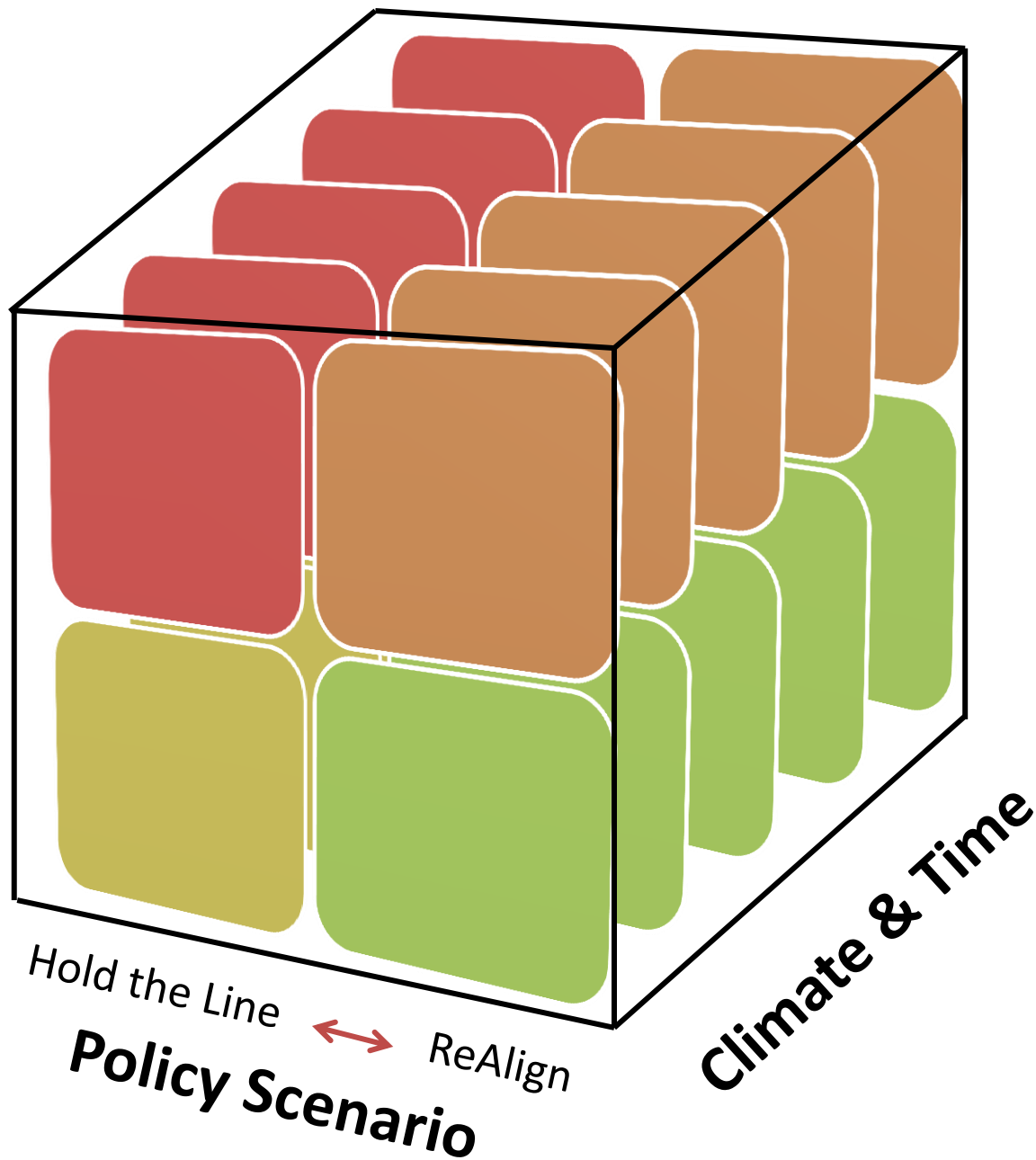
Scenario Planning Process

October 2013
Workshop



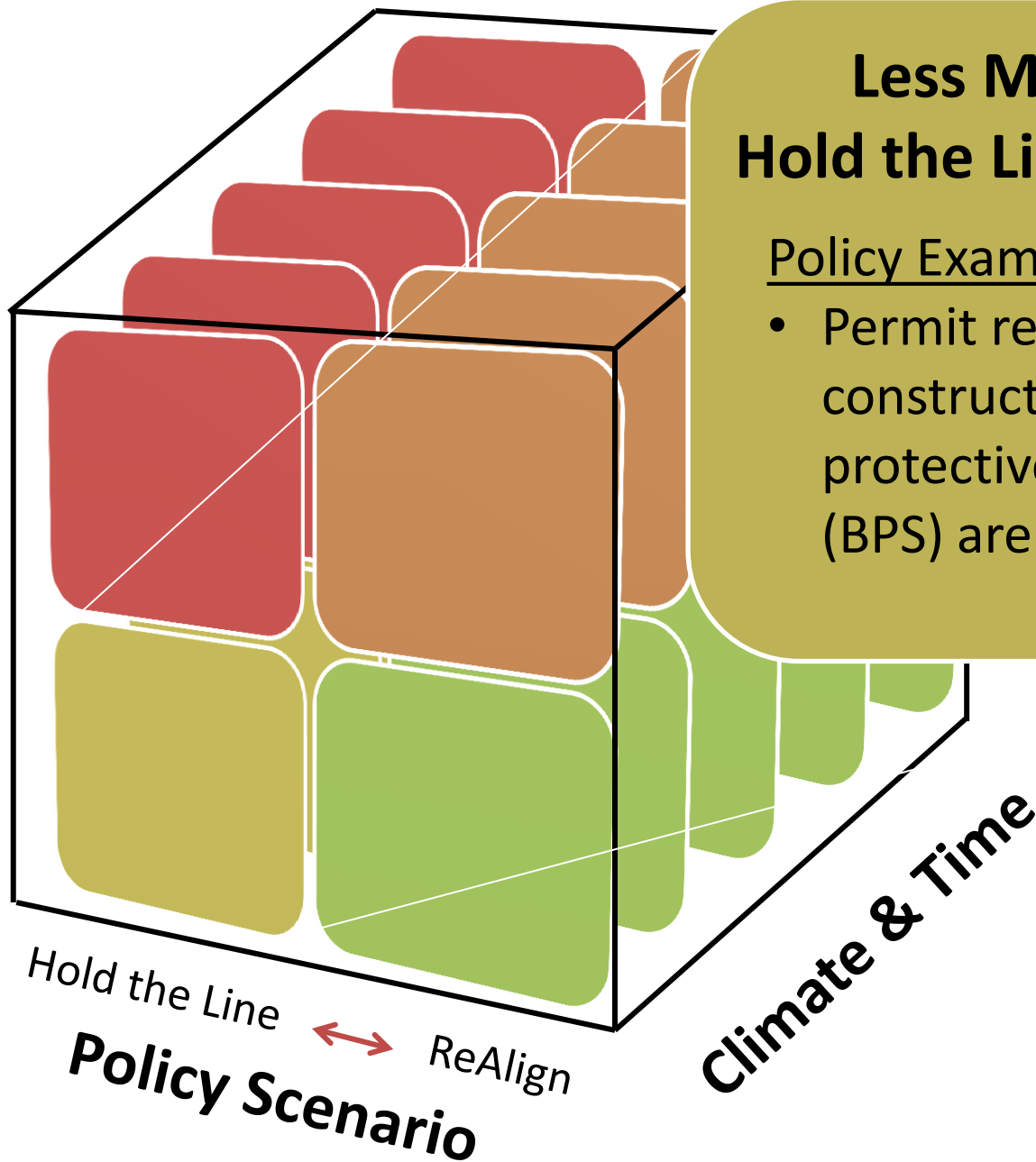
Management Style

Less Managed \longleftrightarrow More Managed



Management Style

Less Managed ↔ More Managed



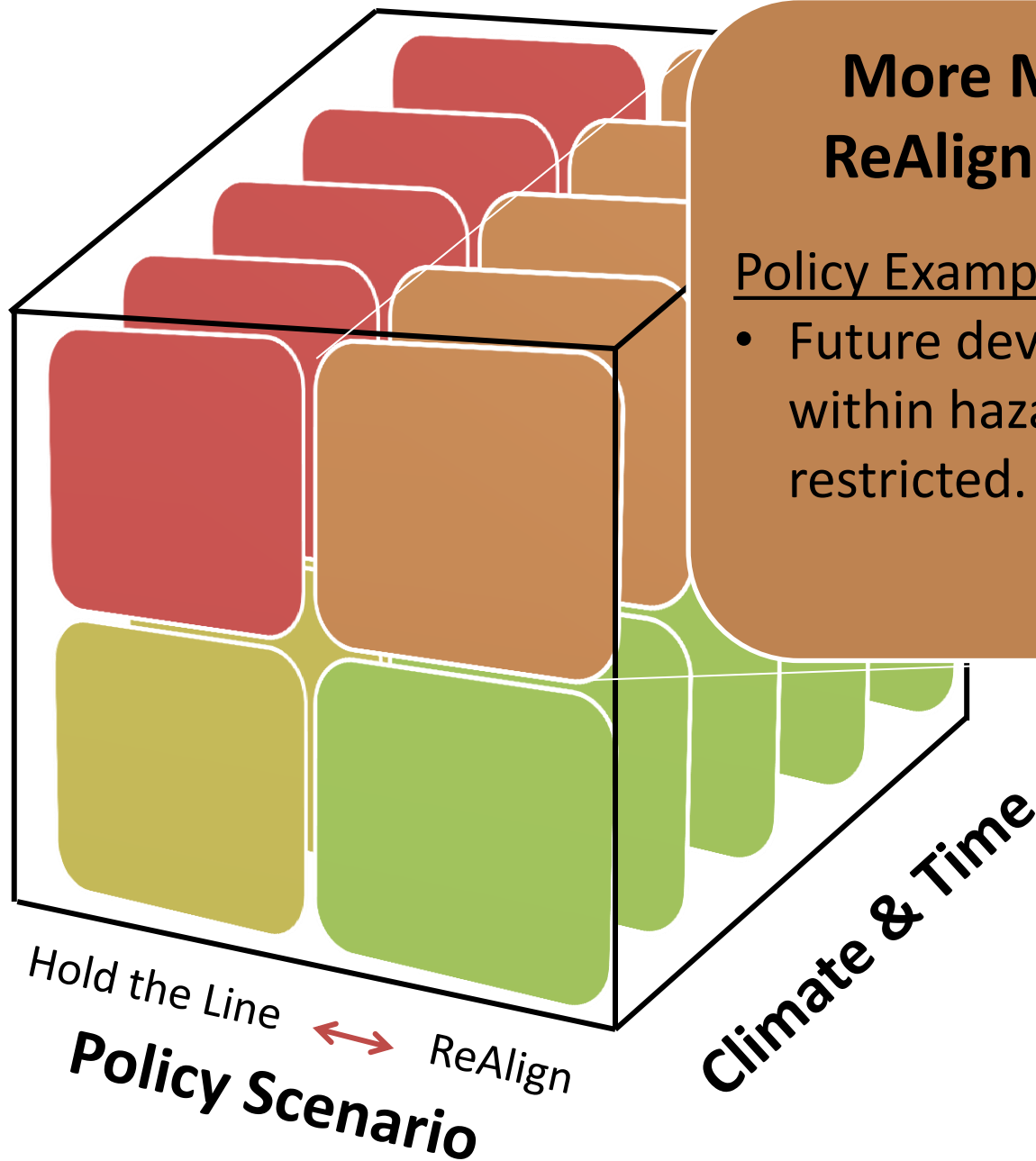
Less Managed Hold the Line Scenario

Policy Example:

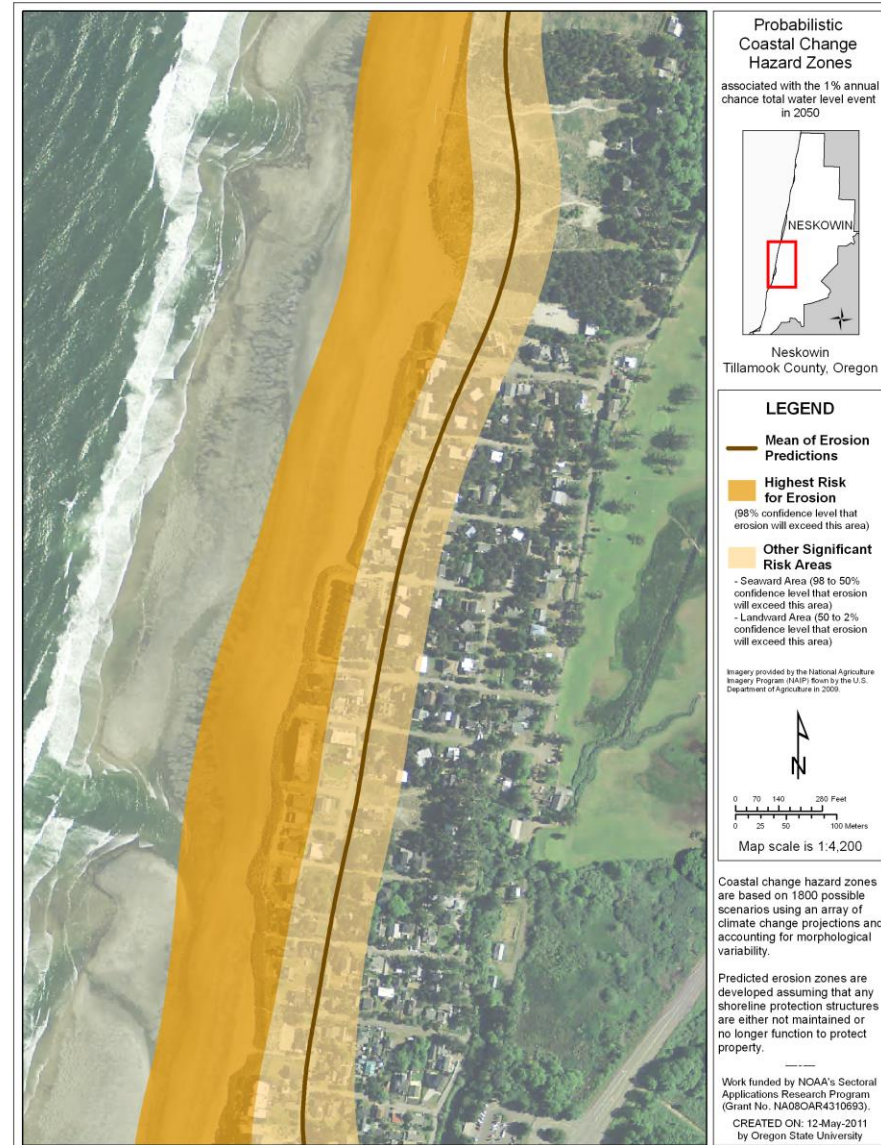
- Permit requirements to construct beach protective structures (BPS) are eliminated.

Management Style

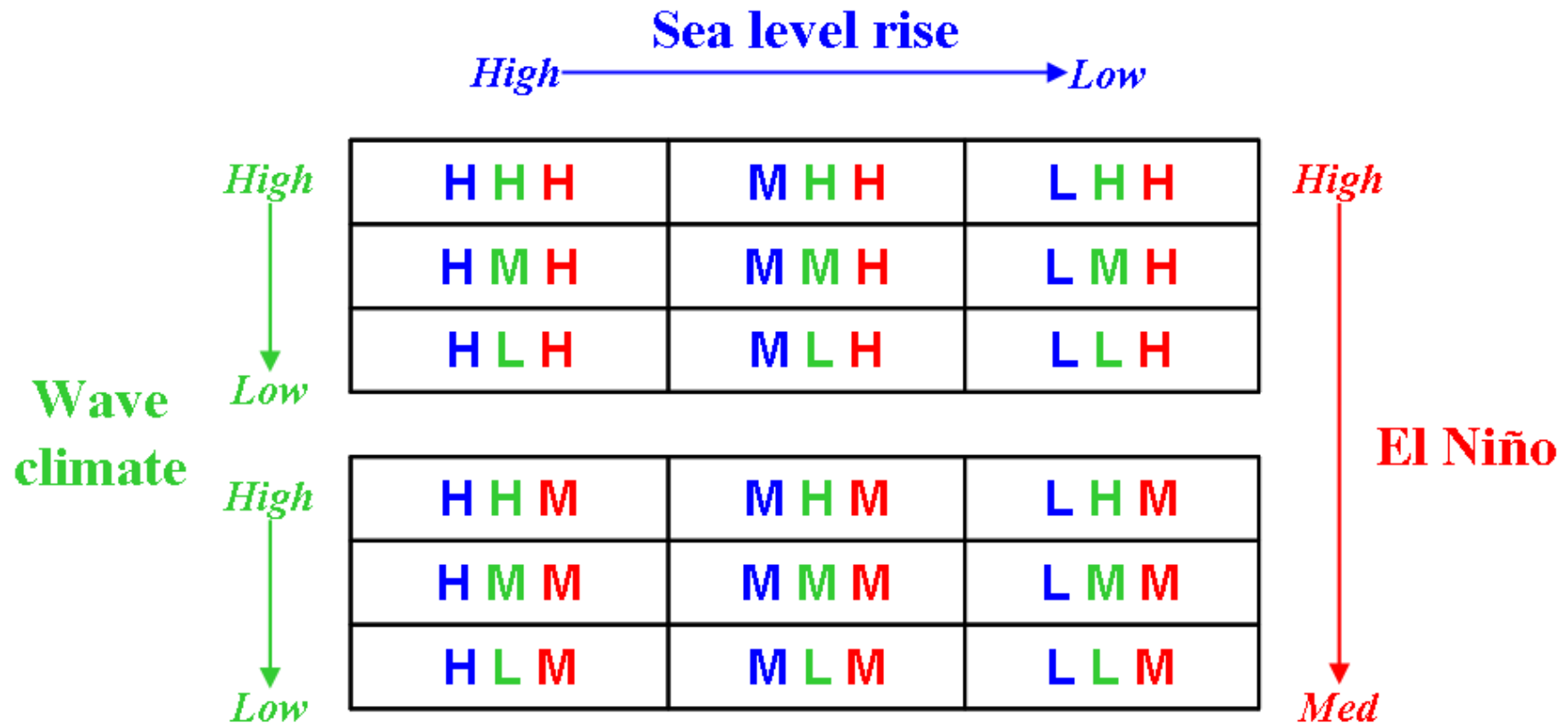
Less Managed \longleftrightarrow More Managed



Probabilistic Coastal Change Hazard Zones



Climate Change Scenario Matrix



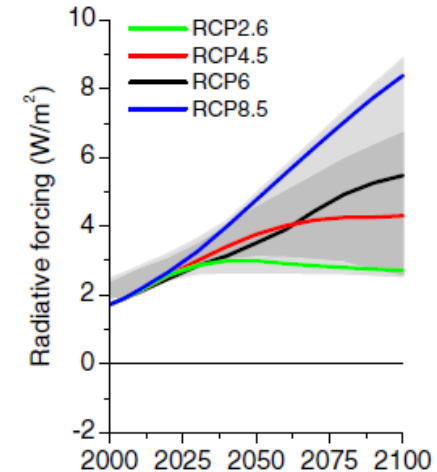
Tillamook County Coastal Futures



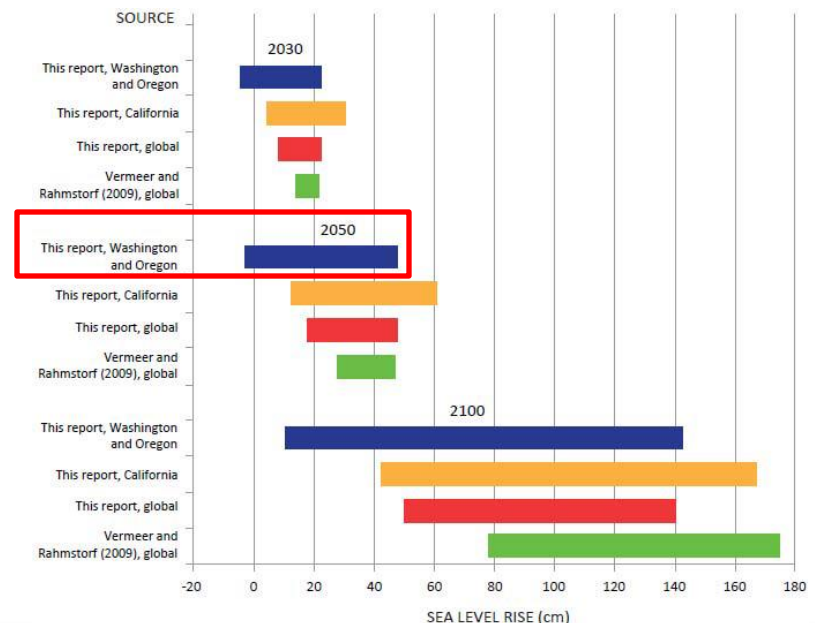
Example Envision Run: Climate Change Scenario

Mid-Century Projection (2010-2045)

- *Waves*
 - Dynamically downscaled from Global Climate Models (GCMs) using a **mid-level emissions scenario (RCP 4.5)**
- *Sea Level*
 - **High sea level rise scenario, 45 cm increase from 2000-2050**

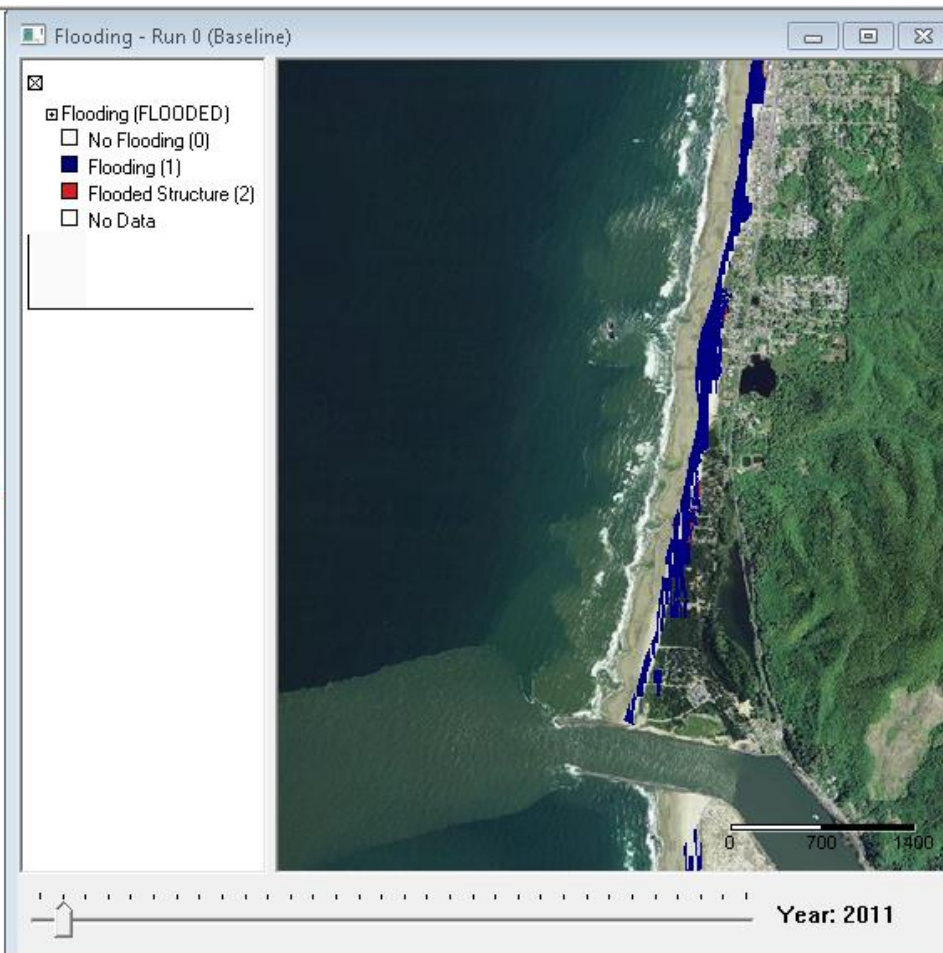
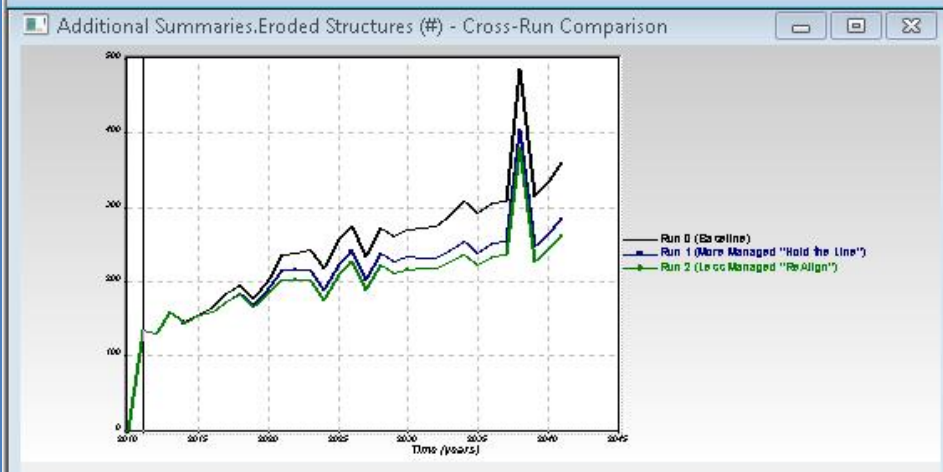
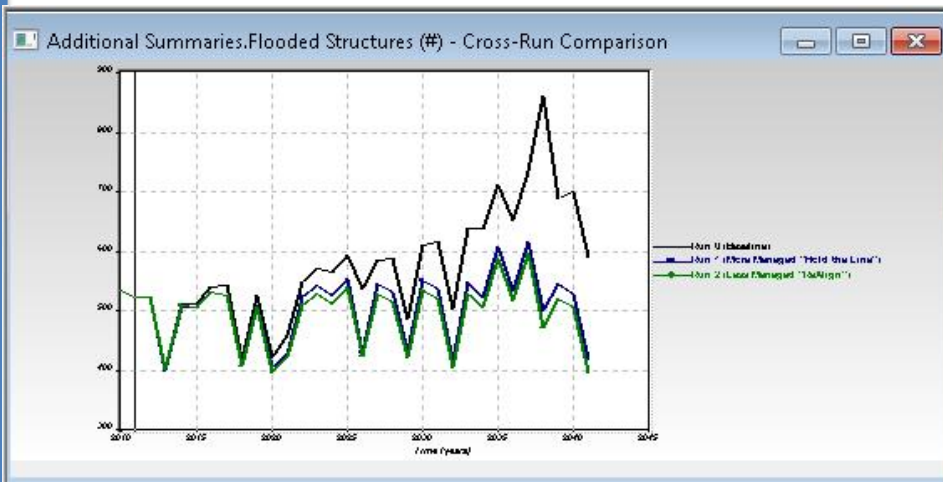


Van Vuren et al., 2011

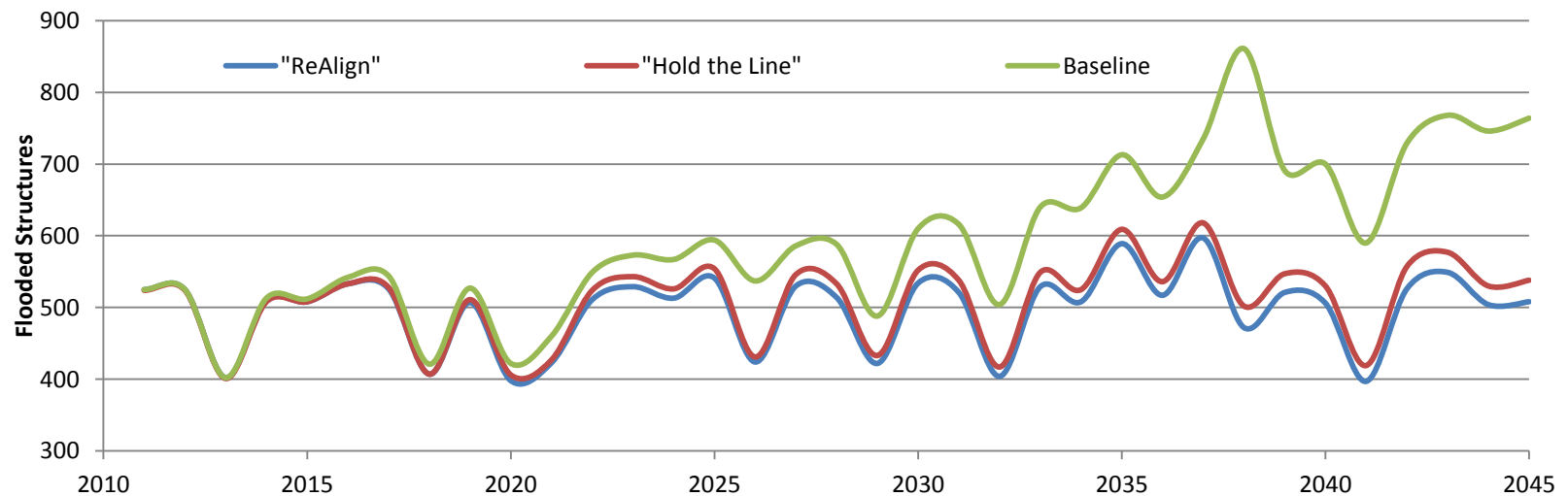
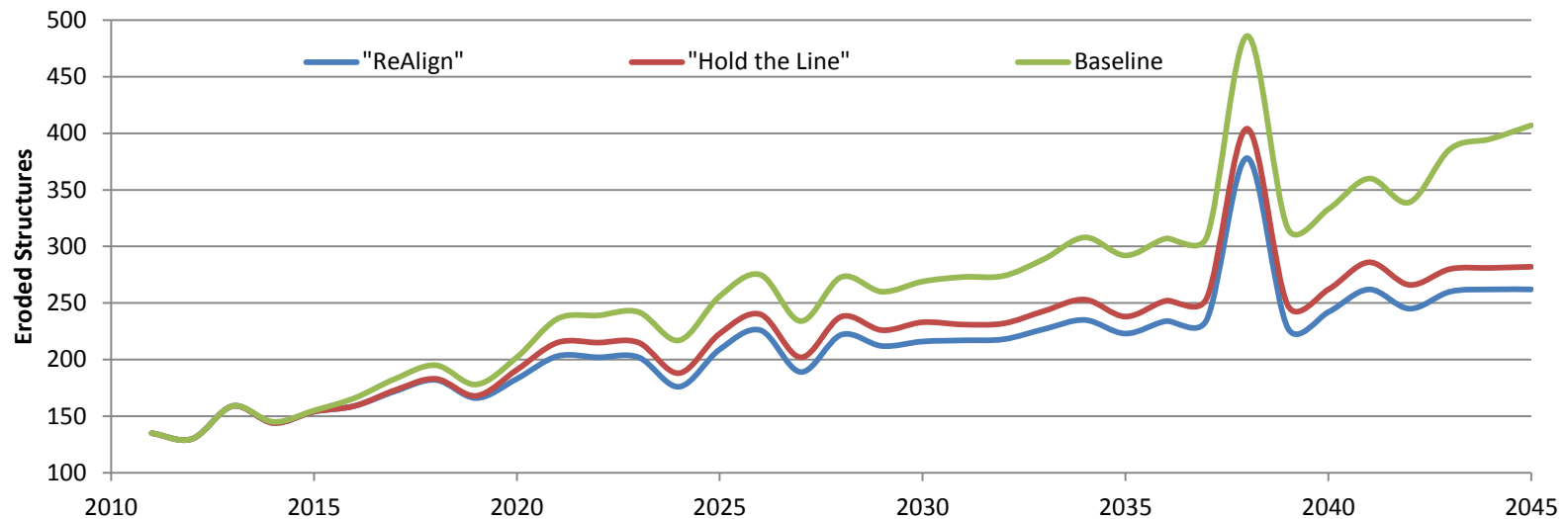


NRC, 2012

Tillamook County Coastal Futures: Flooding and Erosion

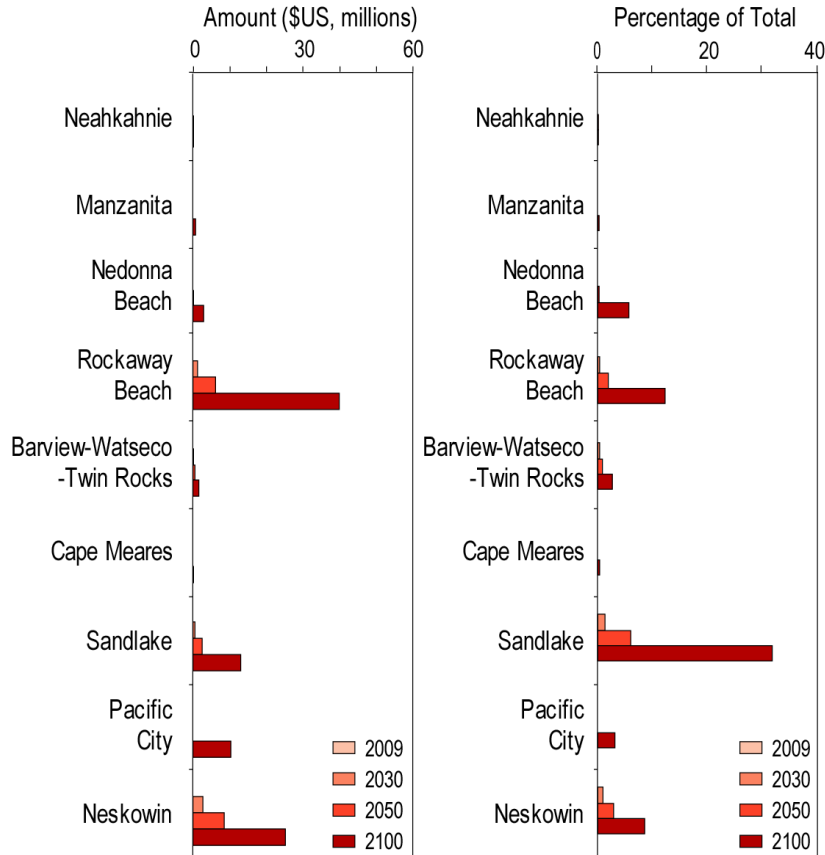


Tillamook County Coastal Futures: Flooding and Erosion

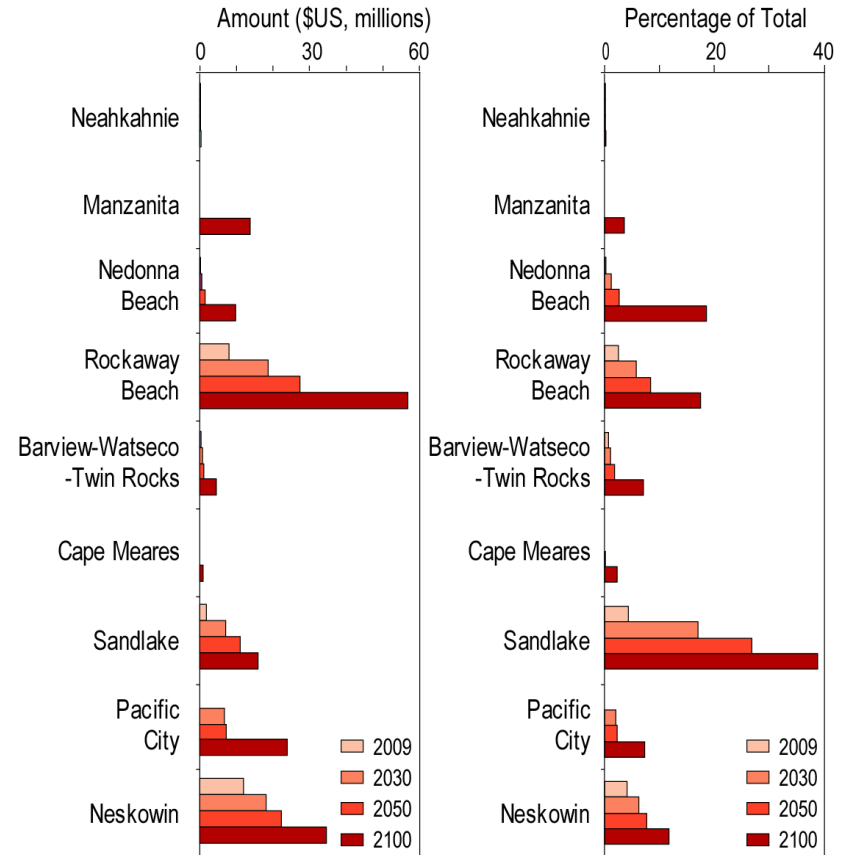


Assessed Property Value in Hazard Zones

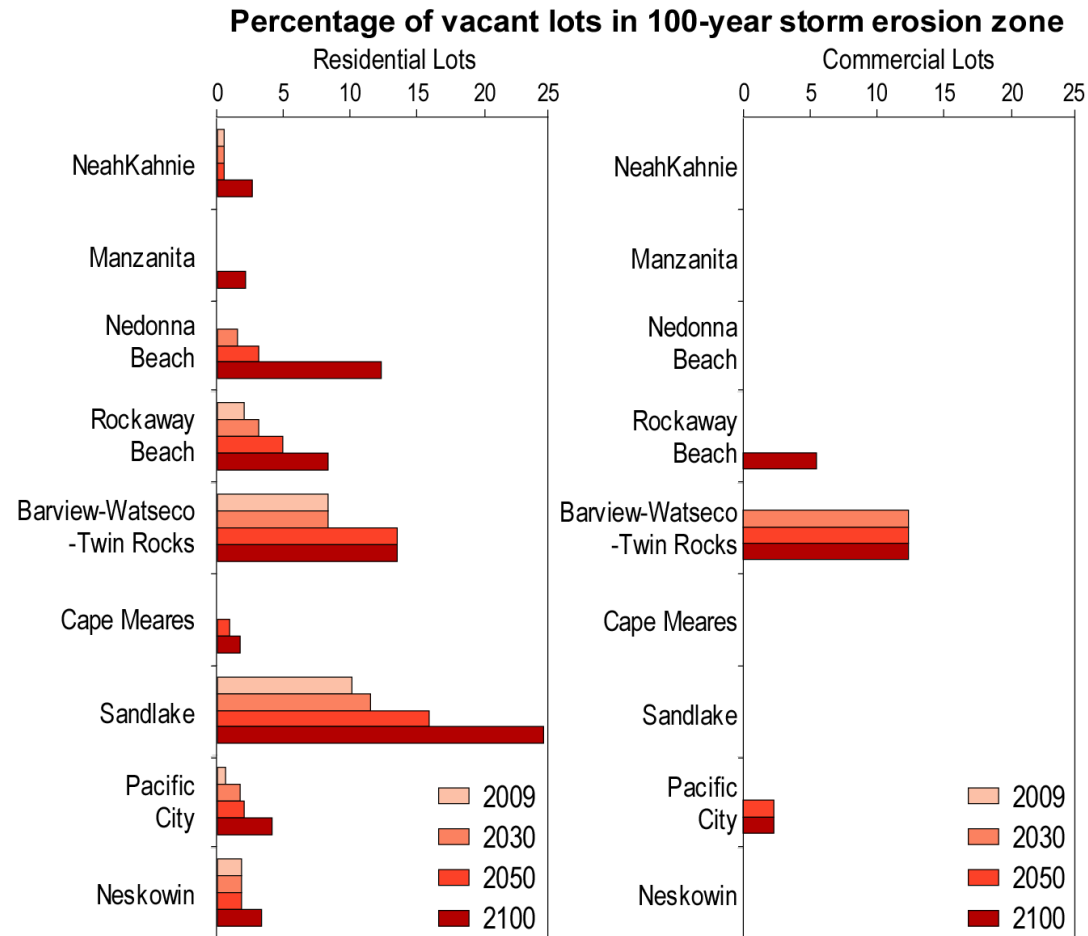
Assessed Property in annual storm erosion zone



Assessed Property in 100-year storm erosion zone

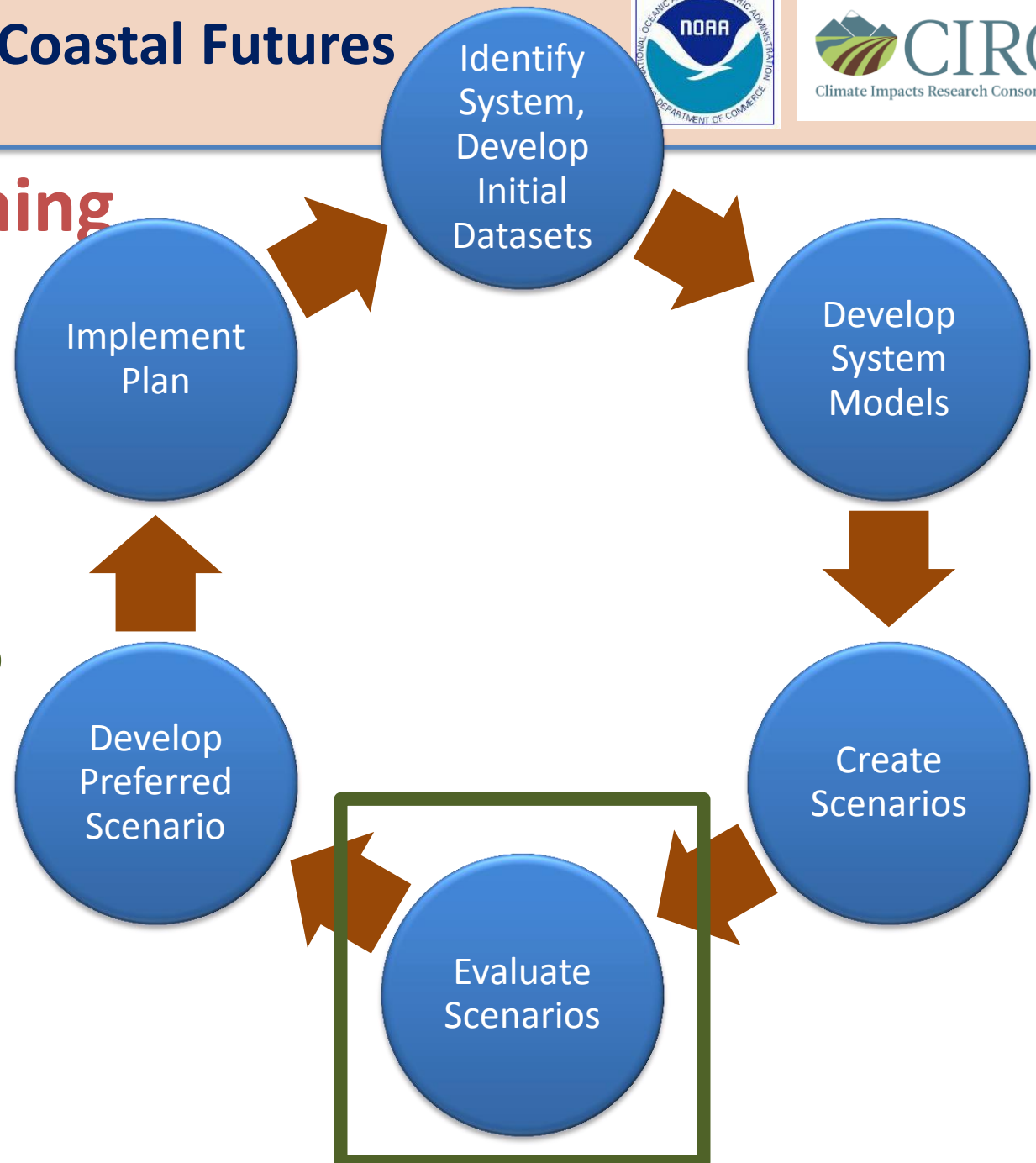


Can Future Development Avoid the Hazard Zones?



Scenario Planning Process

April 2014 Workshop



Neskowin Coastal Hazards Committee: Accomplishments



Adapting to Coastal Erosion Hazards in Tillamook County: **FRAMEWORK PLAN**

Final Draft, June 10, 2011

Development of this plan was supported through financial assistance provided by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, administered by the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, through a grant to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.

- The Neskowin Community Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) with the assistance of Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development planners, proposed specific land use ordinances and revisions to the Tillamook County Comprehensive Plan and the Neskowin Community Plan
- The plan is pending before the Tillamook County Planning Commission
- Specific to Neskowin but part of larger county and statewide planning effort

Thanks very much!

