



bushfire&natural  
**HAZARDS**CRC

# IMPROVING RESILIENCE TO STORM SURGE HAZARDS

ASSESSING RISK THROUGH WAVE SIMULATIONS,  
SHORELINE MODELLING AND FIELD OBSERVATIONS

**Uriah Gravois**

School of Civil Engineering,  
University of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD

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Australian Government  
Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science

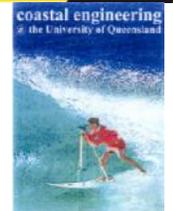
**Business**  
Cooperative Research  
Centres Programme



Australian Government  
Geoscience Australia



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA



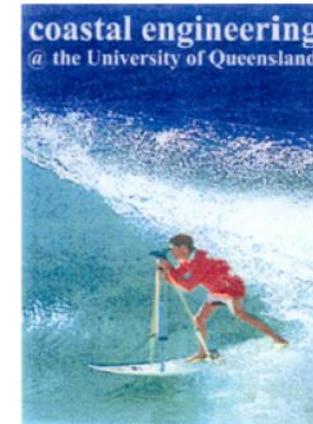
# Project Team

## 1) University of Queensland

- a) David Callaghan
- b) Tom Baldock

## 2) Geoscience Australia

- a) Gareth Davies
- b) Wenping Jiang
- c) Duncan Moore
- d) Scott Nichol



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

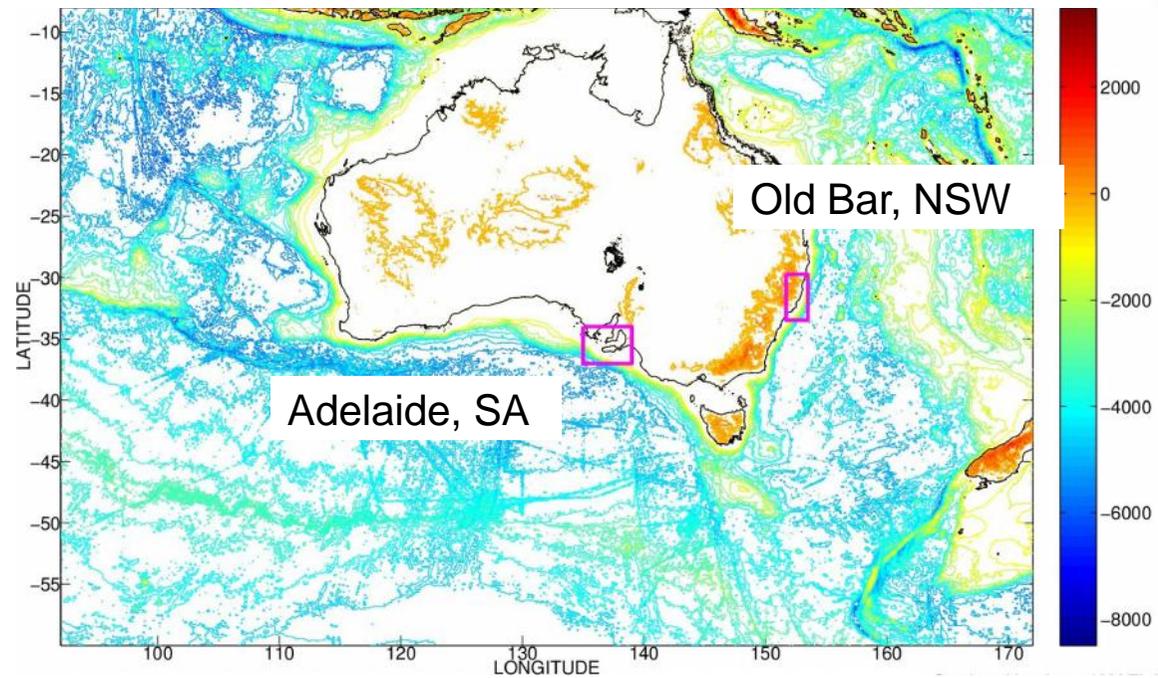
## Cooperation:

Throughout this project, all data requests and inquiries to external parties were promptly answered with an keen intent to help and assist.

Credit this to BNHCRC fulfilling their mission, broader community view these projects as preferred and trusted source of research and knowledge in bushfire and natural hazards.

# Talk Outline

- 1) Rationale
- 2) Objectives
- 3) Methodology
- 4) Results
- 5) Conclusions and future work

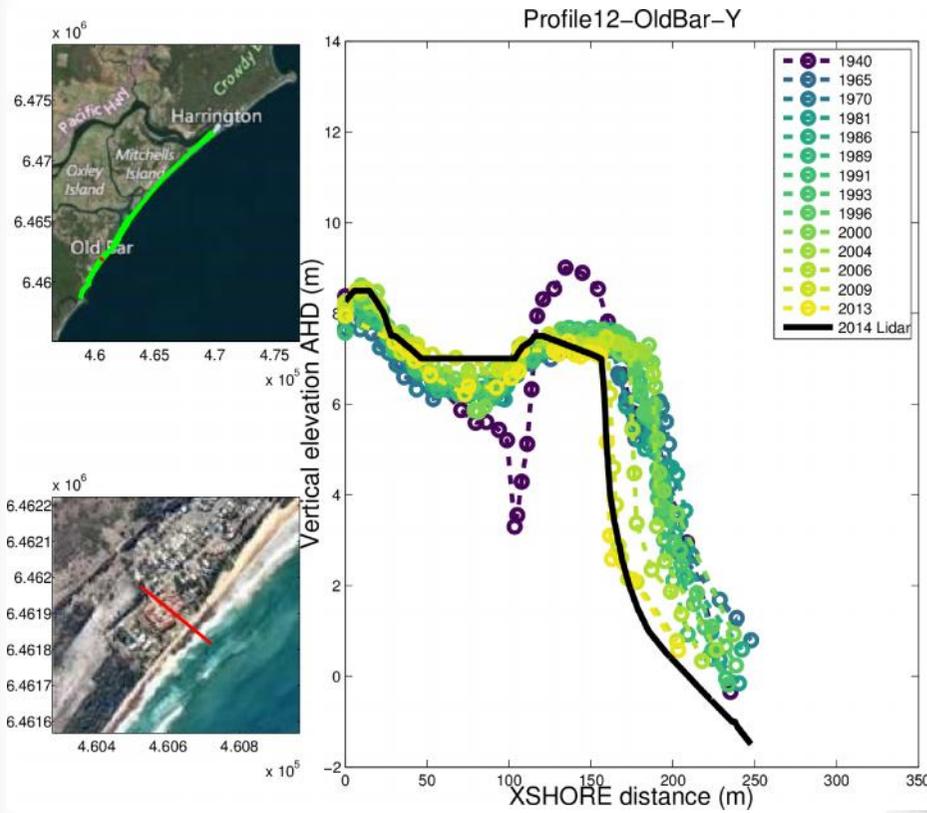


## rationale

- 1) Storm surge and waves are capable of causing severe damage to coastal property and infrastructure.
- 2) Accurate assessment of these erosion and inundation risks are required to inform mitigation strategies.



# rationale



- Old Bar, NSW
- Erosion 'hotspot'
- Infrastructure at risk

## Objectives

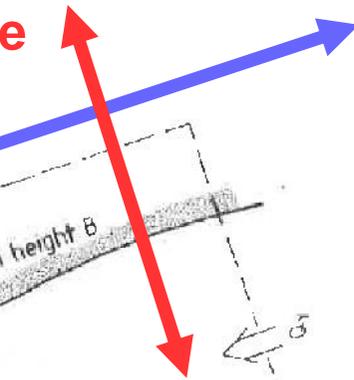
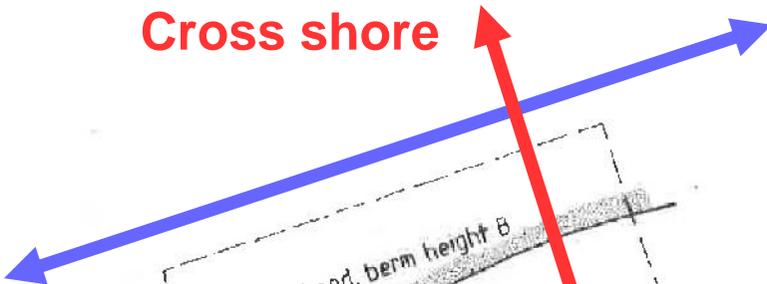
- 1) Develop a methodology to assess coastal erosion hazards within a probabilistic framework.
- 2) Test this methodology at two erosion hotspots:
  - a) Old Bar, NSW. (Completed)
  - b) Adelaide Metropolitan Beaches, SA. (In progress)
- 3) Demonstrate utilization examples in regards to impact on infrastructure for the developed hazard line scenarios.

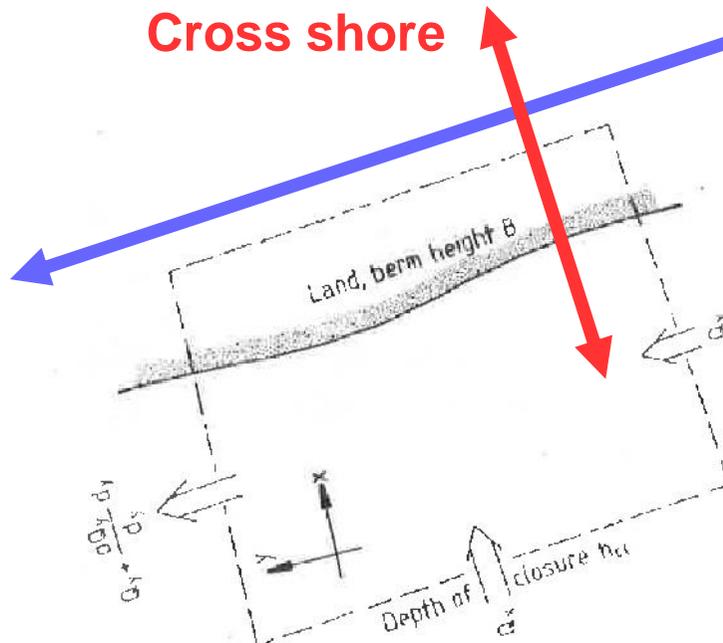
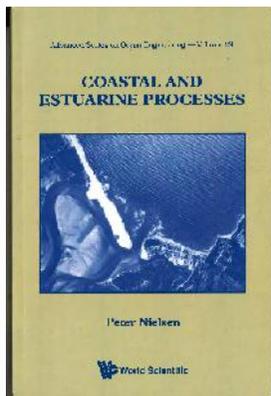
# Methodology

- 1) Choose a suitable shoreline evolution model.
- 2) Development of wave and tide forcing.
  - a) Statistical analysis of historical wave, and tide observations and hindcasts for both project sites.
  - b) Generation of many realizations of synthetic time-series.
- 3) Analysis of field data for site characterization and model initialization.
- 4) Simulating waves nearshore (SWAN) model coastal wave transformation simulations.
- 5) Simulate shoreline evolution for ~ 50 year time horizons to develop storm erosion return periods (RP).

# Methodology DETAILS

Choose a suitable shoreline evolution model.

**Cross shore**  **Longshore** 



Review of beach profile and shoreline models applicable to the statistical modelling of beach erosion and the impacts of storm clustering

Quarter 4, 2014-15 Milestone

This internal project report has been completed as a component of the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC project "Resilience to clustered disaster events on the coast – storm surge"

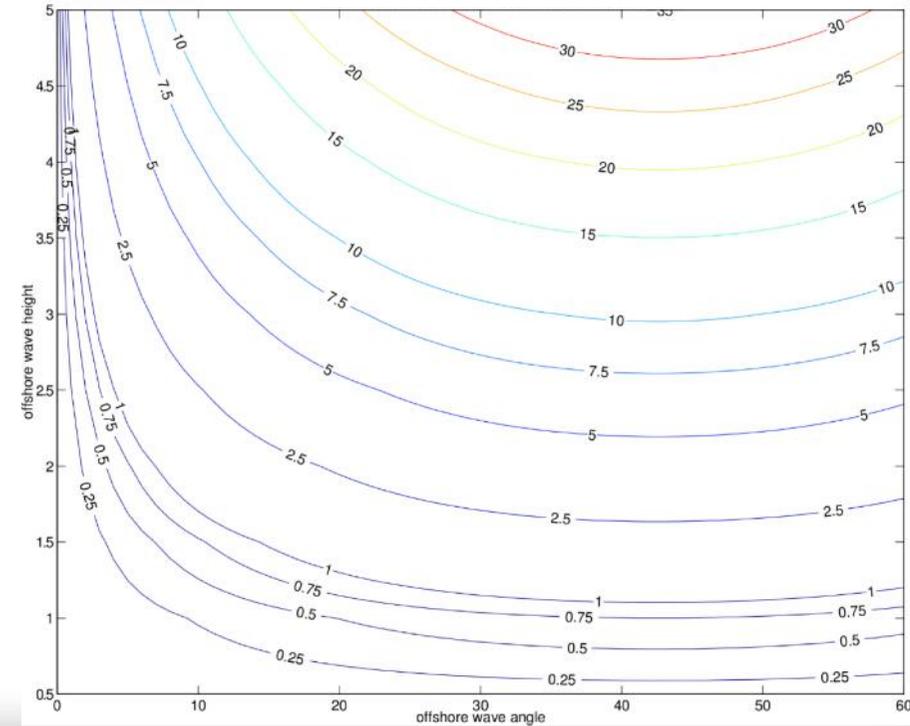
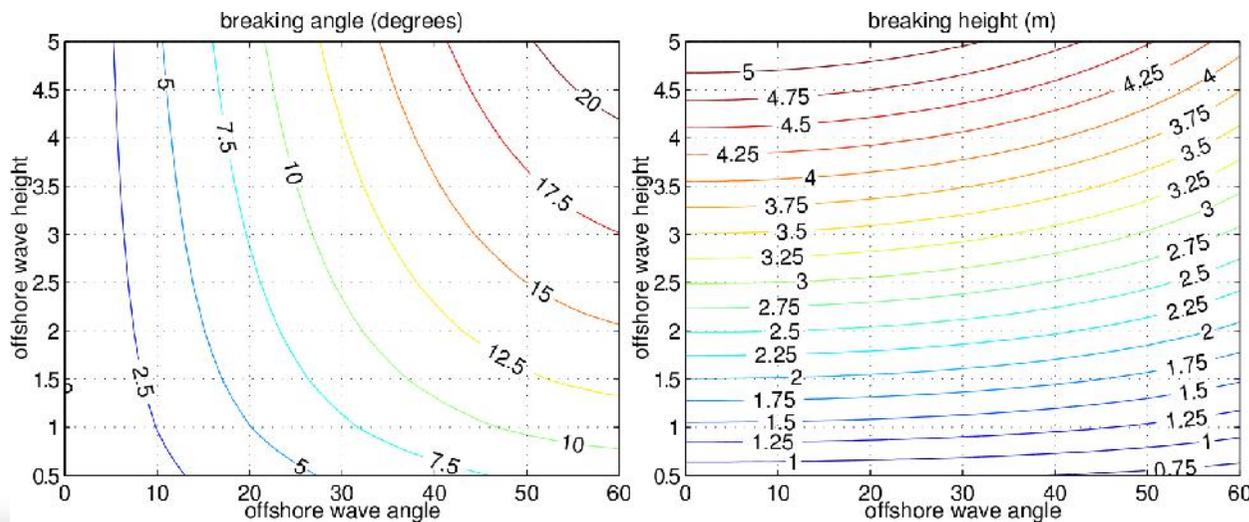
# Methodology DETAILS

Choose a suitable shoreline evolution model.

Longshore

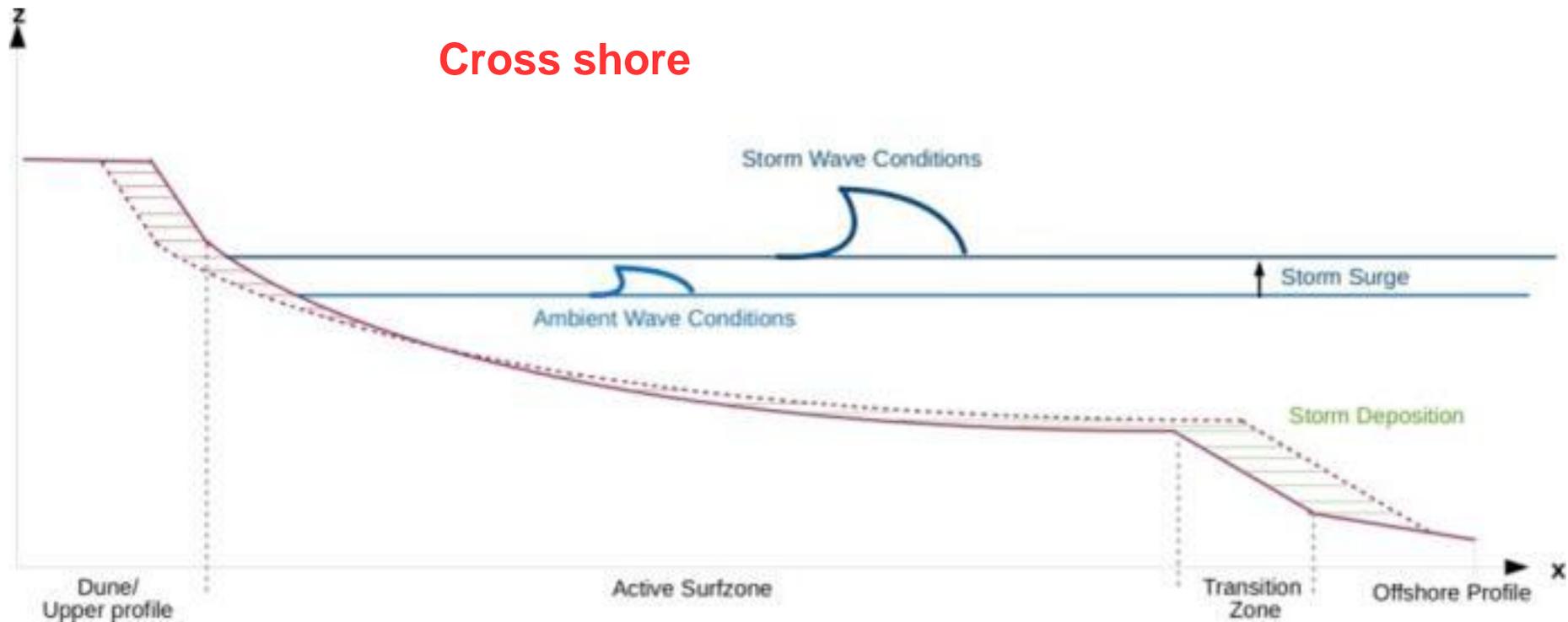
$$Q = \frac{K \sqrt{\frac{g}{\gamma}} H_b^{2.5} \times 2 \sin(\alpha_b)}{16(s - 1)}$$

## Linear Wave Theory



# Methodology DETAILS

Choose a suitable shoreline evolution model.



## Methodology DETAILS

Choose a suitable shoreline evolution model.

- Off the shelf Shoreline **Evo**lution Model developed at WBM BMT engineering consultants.
- Agreed upon releasing as open source code.
- Accounts for curvilinear coasts, coastal structures,
- Efficient run-times suitable for probabilistic framework.

# Methodology

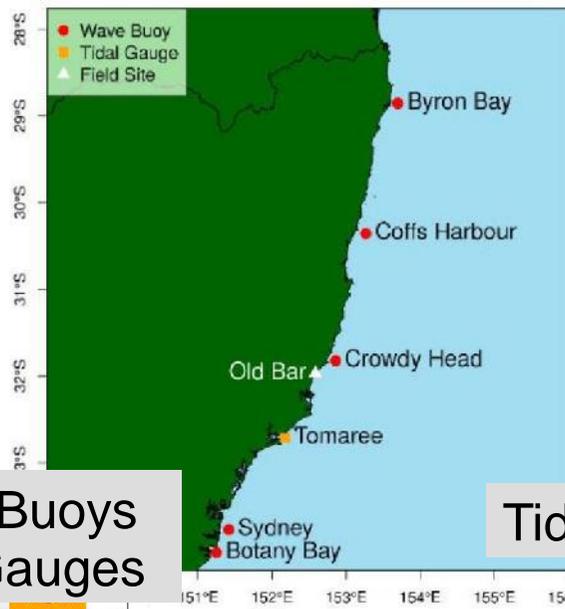
- 1) Choose a suitable shoreline evolution model.
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  - a) Statistical analysis of historical wave, and tide observations and hindcasts for both project sites.
  - b) Generation of many realizations of synthetic time-series.
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# Methodology DETAILS

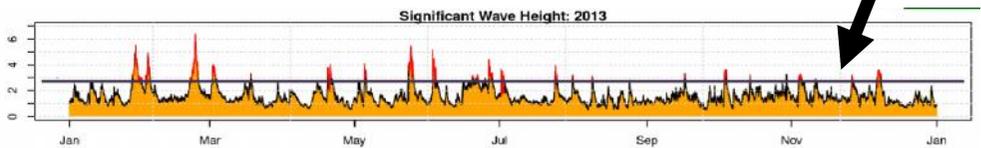
Development of wave and tide forcing.

- Statistical analysis of historical wave, and tide observations and hindcasts for both project sites.
- Generation of many realizations of synthetic time-series.

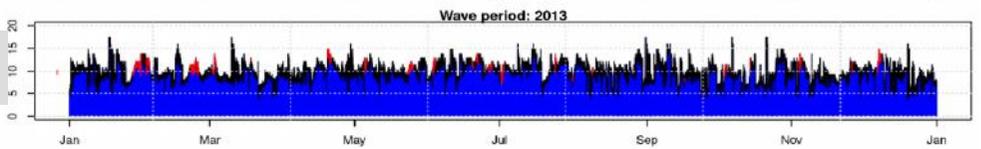
3 m Storm Event Threshold.



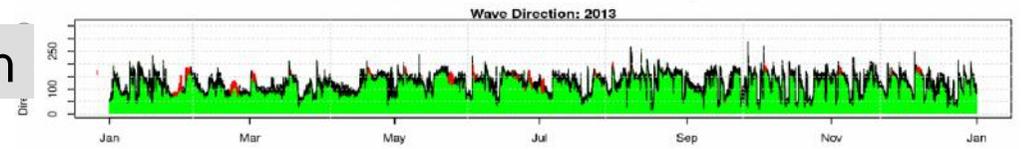
Height



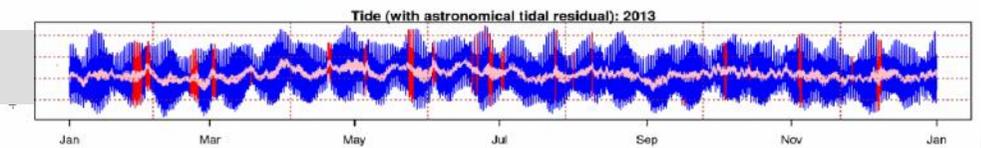
Period



Direction



Tides & Surge

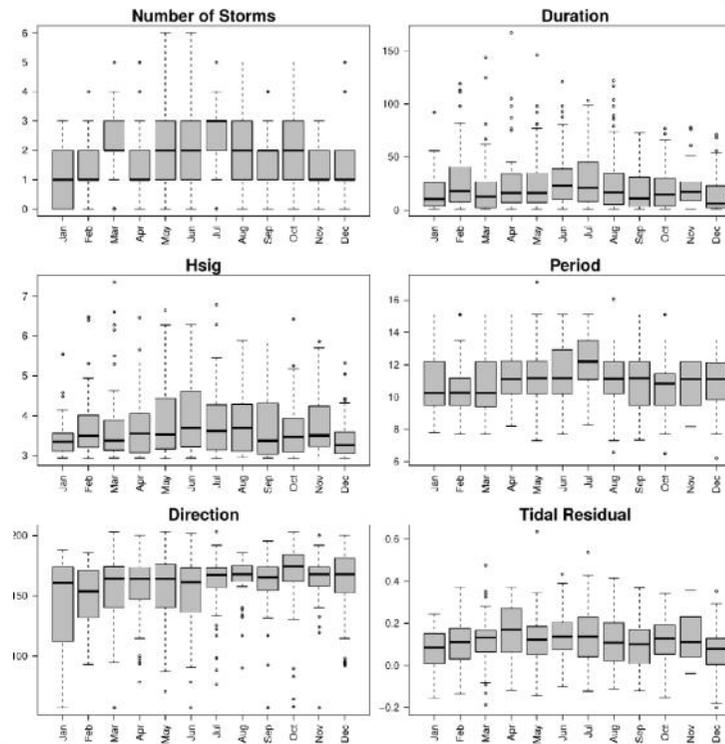
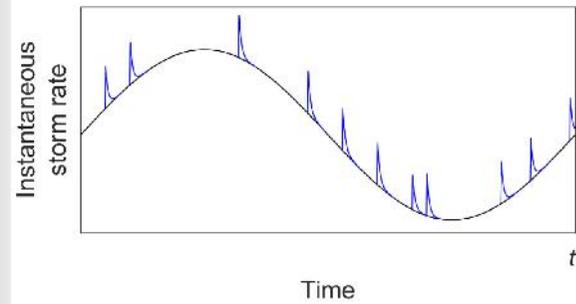


Waverider Buoys  
And Tide Gauges

# Methodology DETAILS

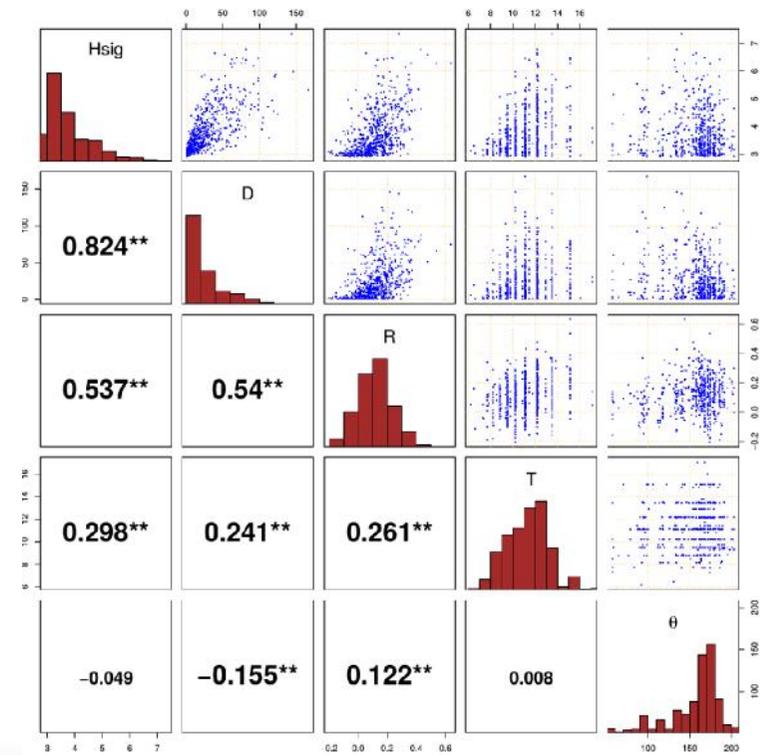
Development of wave and tide forcing.

## Storm Event Timing



## Seasonality

## Joint Distributions



# Methodology DETAILS

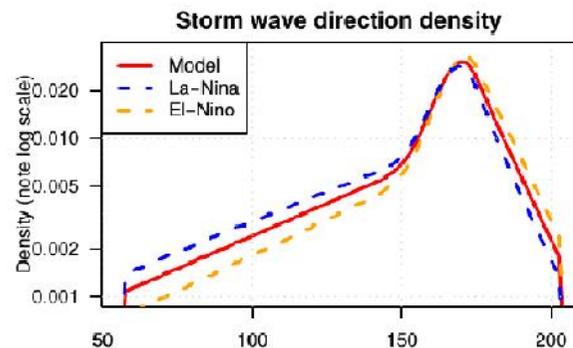
Development of wave and tide forcing.

- Statistical analysis of historical wave, and tide observations and hindcasts for both project sites.
- Generation of many realizations of synthetic time-series.

- **Open source code repository “stormwavecluster”**

- <https://github.com/GeoscienceAustralia/stormwavecluster>

Teleconnections



E

Coastal Engineering 127 (2017) 1–19

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Coastal Engineering

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/coastaleng](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/coastaleng)

ELSEVIER

Improved treatment of non-stationary conditions and uncertainties in probabilistic models of storm wave climate

Gareth Davies<sup>a,\*</sup>, David P. Callaghan<sup>b</sup>, Uriah Gravois<sup>b</sup>, Wenping Jiang<sup>a</sup>, David Hanslow<sup>c</sup>, Scott Nichol<sup>a</sup>, Tom Baldock<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Geoscience Australia, Canberra, Australia  
<sup>b</sup> School of Civil Engineering, University of Queensland, Australia  
<sup>c</sup> Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW, Australia

CrossMark

# Methodology

- 1) Choose a suitable shoreline evolution model.
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  - a) Statistical analysis of historical wave, and tide observations and hindcasts for both project sites.
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# Methodology DETAILS

Analysis of field data for site characterization and model initialization.

## Old Bar, NSW

- a) Ground penetrating radar
- b) LIDAR
- c) Photogrammetry
- d) Historical Aerial Surveillance
- e) Australian Hydrographic Service (AHS) Charts
- f) Hydrographic surveys
- g) Geoscience Australia Bathymetry

## Adelaide, SA

- a) LIDAR
- b) Beach profile surveys**
- c) Nearthmap imagery
- d) Australian Hydrographic Service (AHS) Charts
- e) Geoscience Australia Bathymetry
- f) Historical sand carting and pumping

# Methodology DETAILS

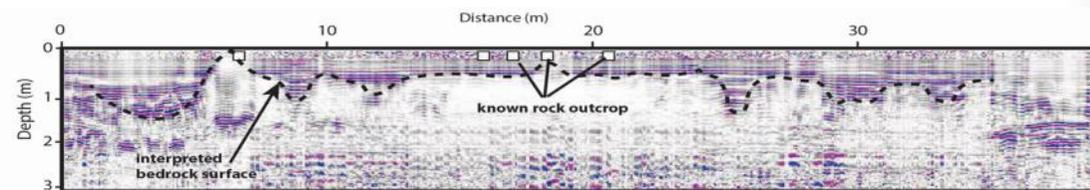
Analysis of field data for site characterization and model initialization.

## Old Bar, NSW

- a) **Ground penetrating radar**
- b) LIDAR
- c) Photogrammetry
- d) Historical Aerial Surveillance
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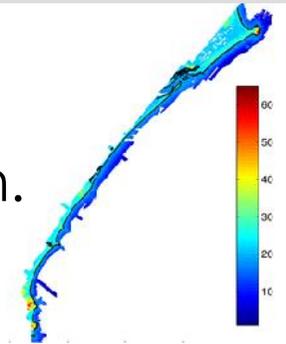


Bedrock and  
Nearshore Reefs



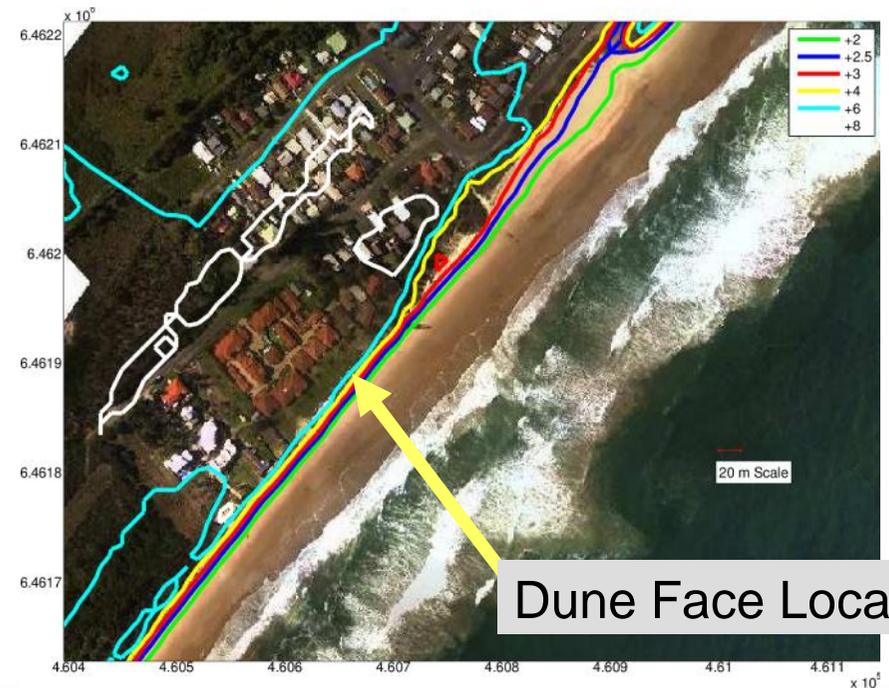
## Methodology DETAILS

Analysis of field data for site characterization and model initialization.



### Old Bar, NSW

- a) Ground penetrating radar
- b) LIDAR**
- c) Photogrammetry
- d) Historical Aerial Surveillance
- e) Australian Hydrographic Service (AHS) Charts
- f) Hydrographic surveys
- g) Geoscience Australia Bathymetry



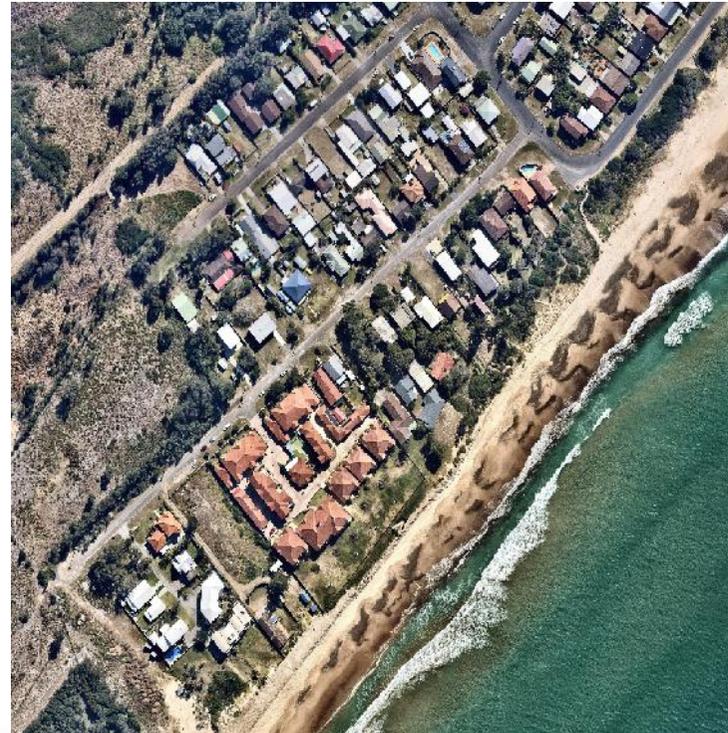
Dune Face Location

# Methodology DETAILS

Analysis of field data for site characterization and model initialization.

## Old Bar, NSW

- a) Ground penetrating radar
- b) LIDAR
- c) Photogrammetry
- d) Historical Aerial Surveillance (OEH aerial surveillance and **Nearmap**)
- e) Australian Hydrographic Service (AHS) Charts
- f) Hydrographic surveys
- g) Geoscience Australia Bathymetry



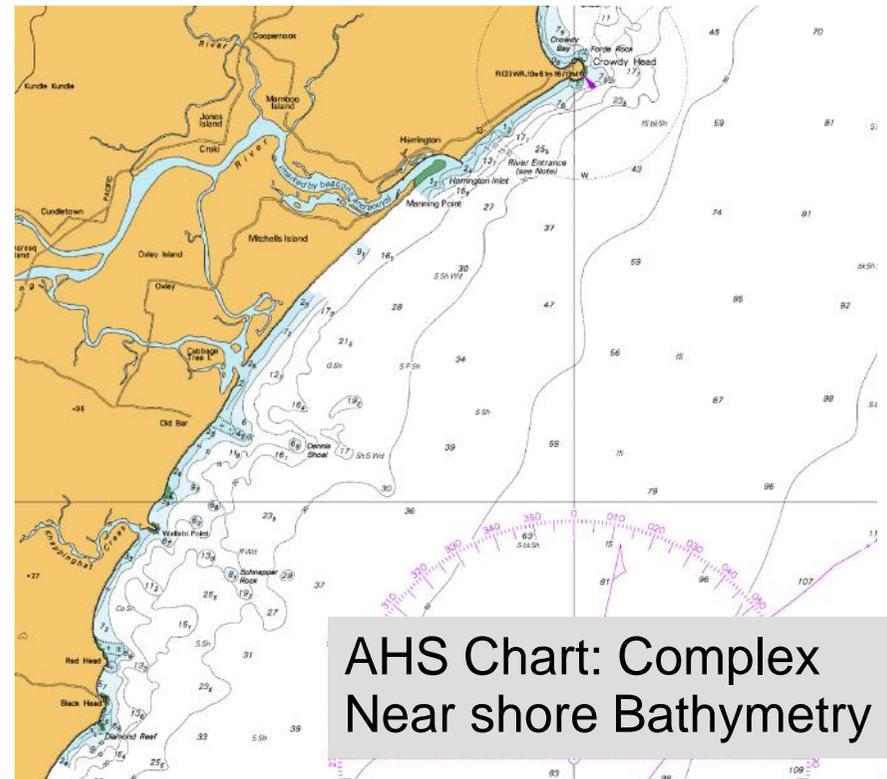
Recent Nearmap Imagery

# Methodology DETAILS

Analysis of field data for site characterization and model initialization.

## Old Bar, NSW

- a) Ground penetrating radar
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- c) Photogrammetry
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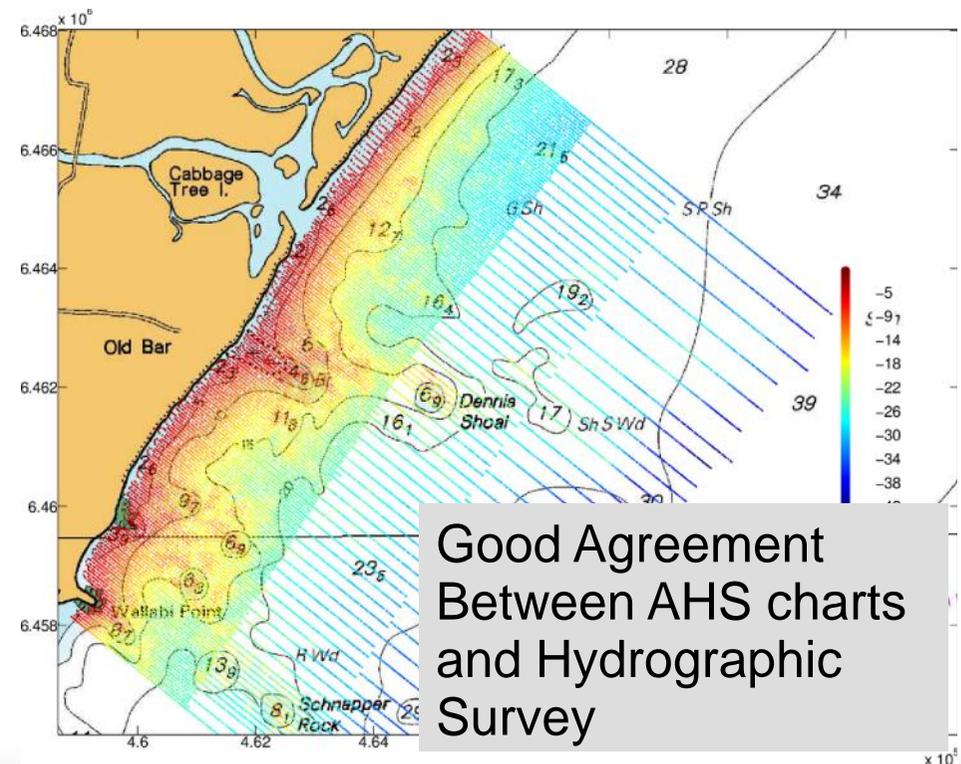


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Analysis of field data for site characterization and model initialization.

## Old Bar, NSW

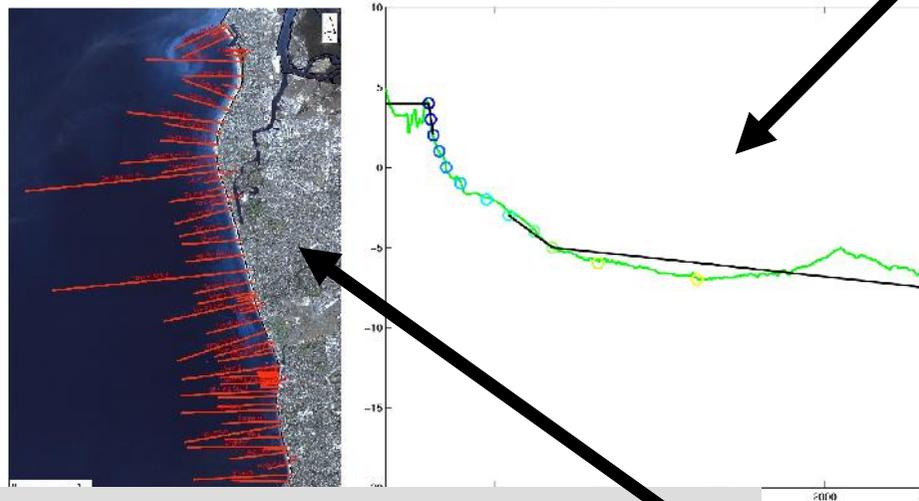
- a) Ground penetrating radar
- b) LIDAR
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- g) Geoscience Australia Bathymetry



# Methodology DETAILS

Analysis of field data for site characterization and model initialization.

Survey Profile and EVO profile



## Adelaide, SA

- a) LIDAR
- b) Beach profile surveys**
- c) Nearthmap imagery
- d) Australian Hydrographic Service (AHS) Charts
- e) Geoscience Australia Bathymetry
- f) Historical sand carting and pumping

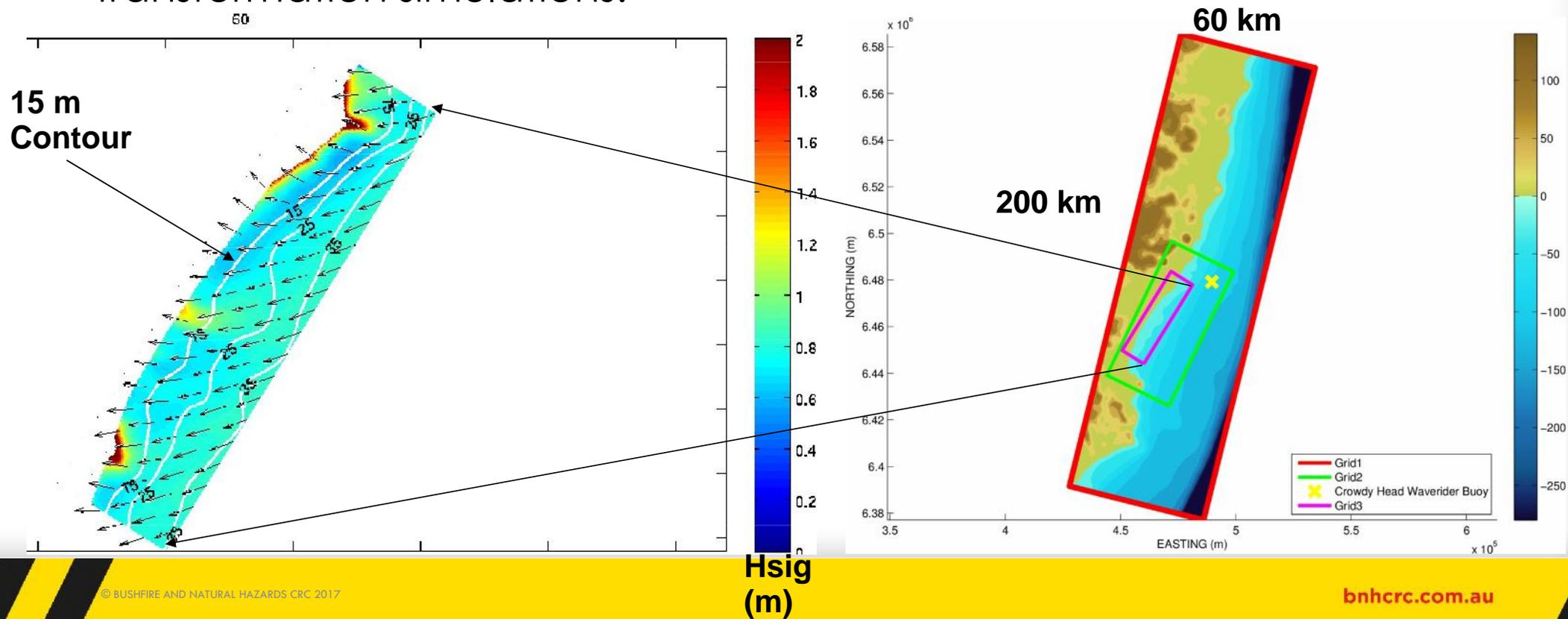
Beach Profile Survey Monitoring Campaign Since 1970

# Methodology

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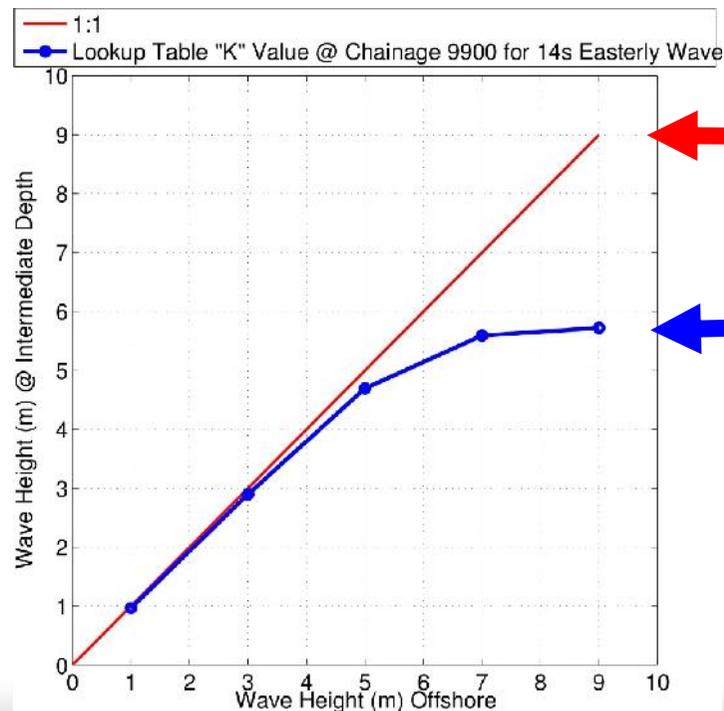
# Methodology DETAILS

Simulating waves nearshore (SWAN) model coastal wave transformation simulations.



# Methodology DETAILS

Simulating waves nearshore (SWAN) model coastal wave transformation simulations.



Linear Look-up Table

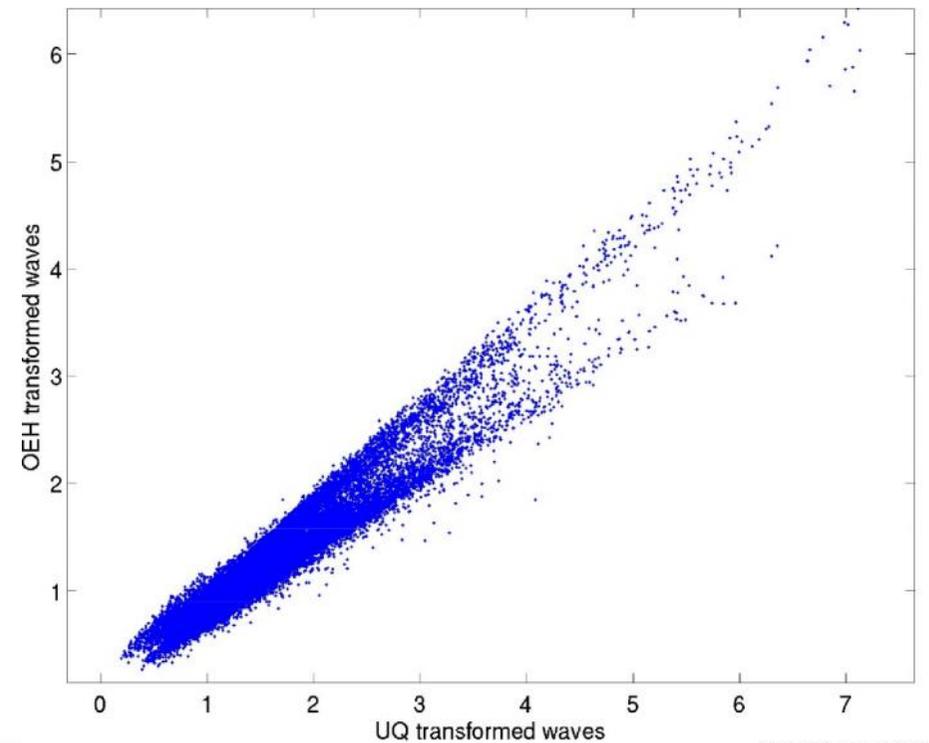
Non-linear Look-up Table

## Methodology DETAILS

Simulating waves nearshore (SWAN) model coastal wave transformation simulations.

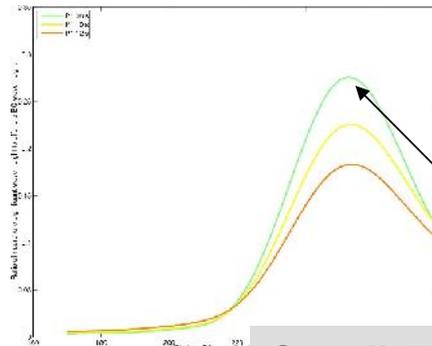
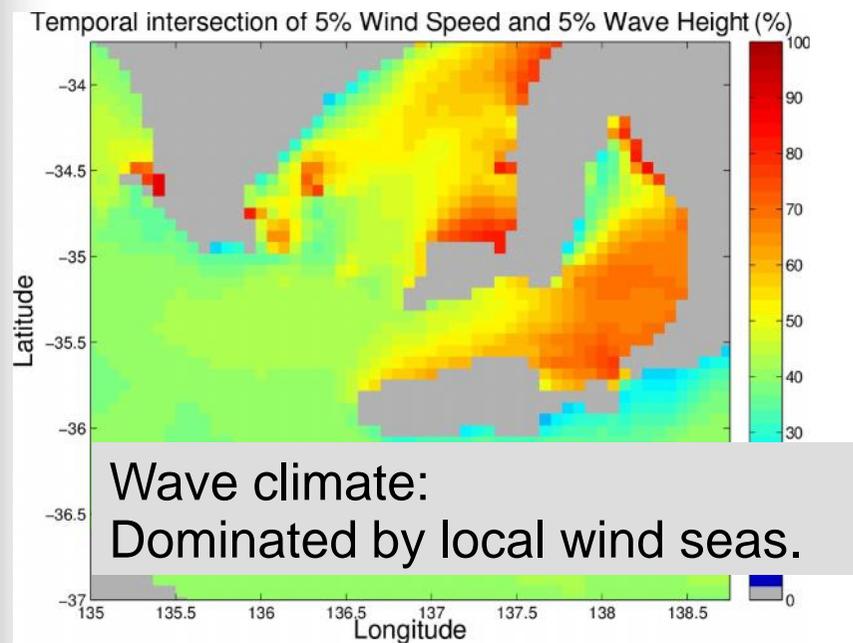
### NSW nearshore wave toolbox

- a) Good agreement between our method and the NSW wave transformation toolbox.
- b) Potential to apply NSW wave transforms for future shoreline modelling applications.

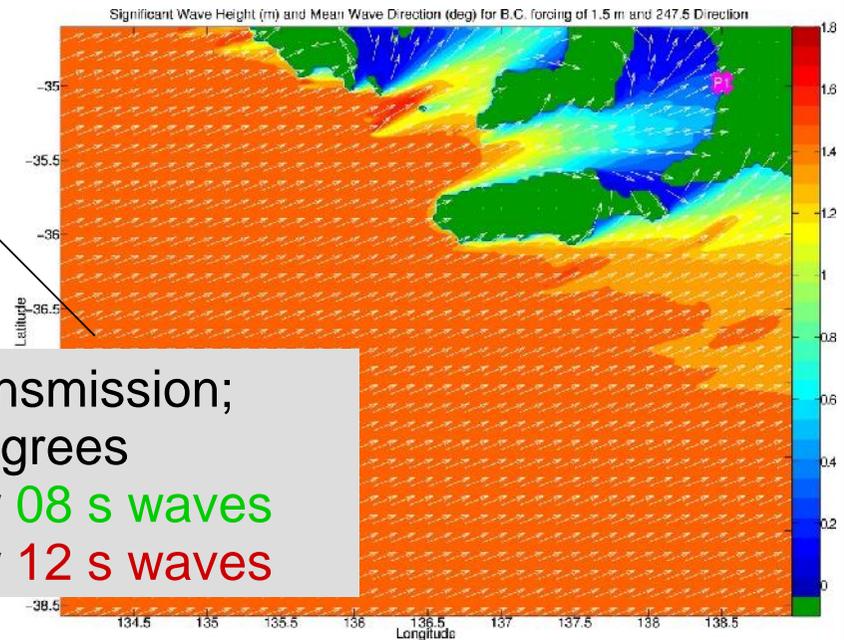


# Methodology DETAILS

Simulating waves nearshore (SWAN) model coastal wave transformation simulations.



Swell Transmission;  
At 255 degrees  
~ 28% for 08 s waves  
~ 18% for 12 s waves



# Methodology DETAILS

Simulating waves nearshore (SWAN) model coastal wave transformation simulations.



Australian Government  
Bureau of Meteorology

The Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research  
A partnership between CSIRO and the Bureau of Meteorology

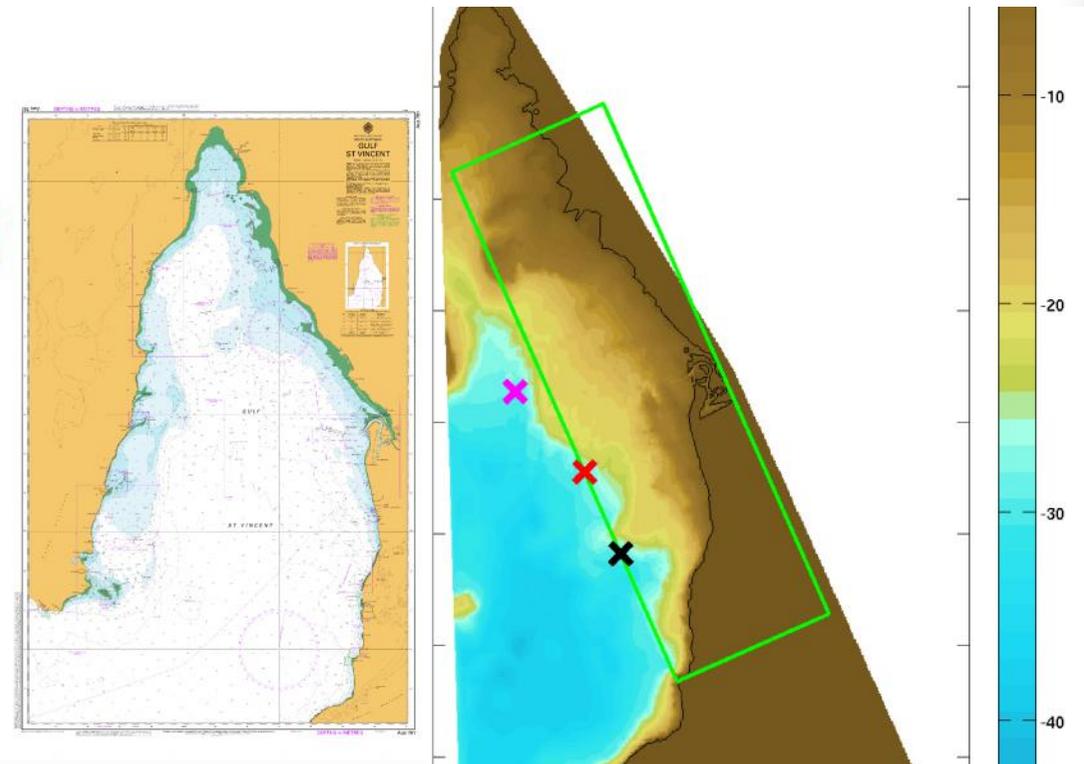


A Global Wave Hindcast focussed on the Central and South Pacific

Tom Durrant, Diana Greenslade, Mark Hemer and Claire Trenham

CAWCR Technical Report No. 070

April 2014



# Methodology

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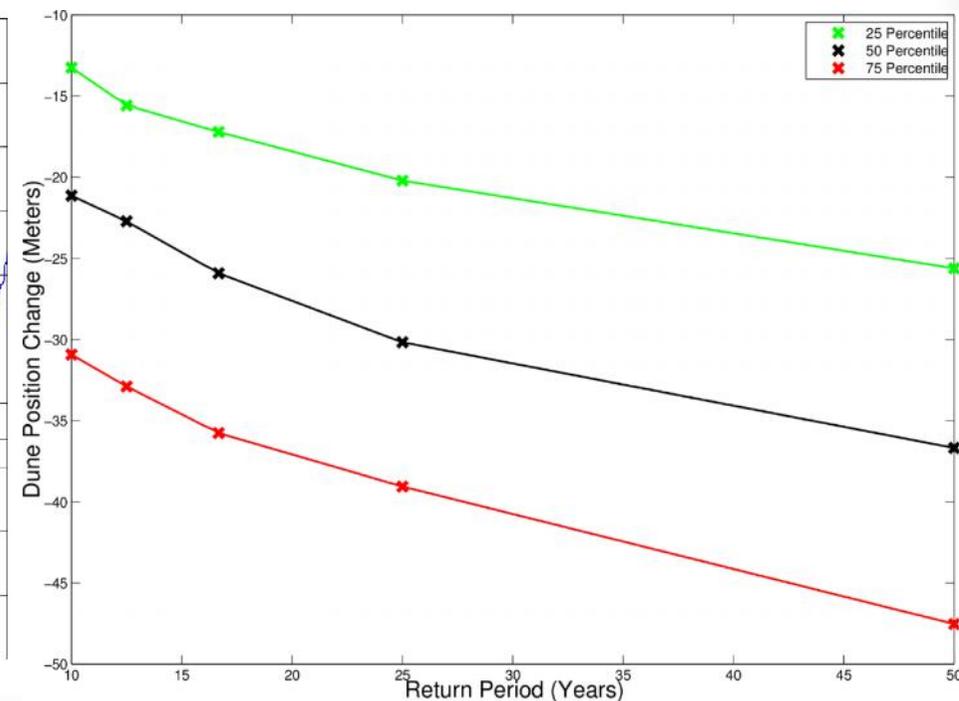
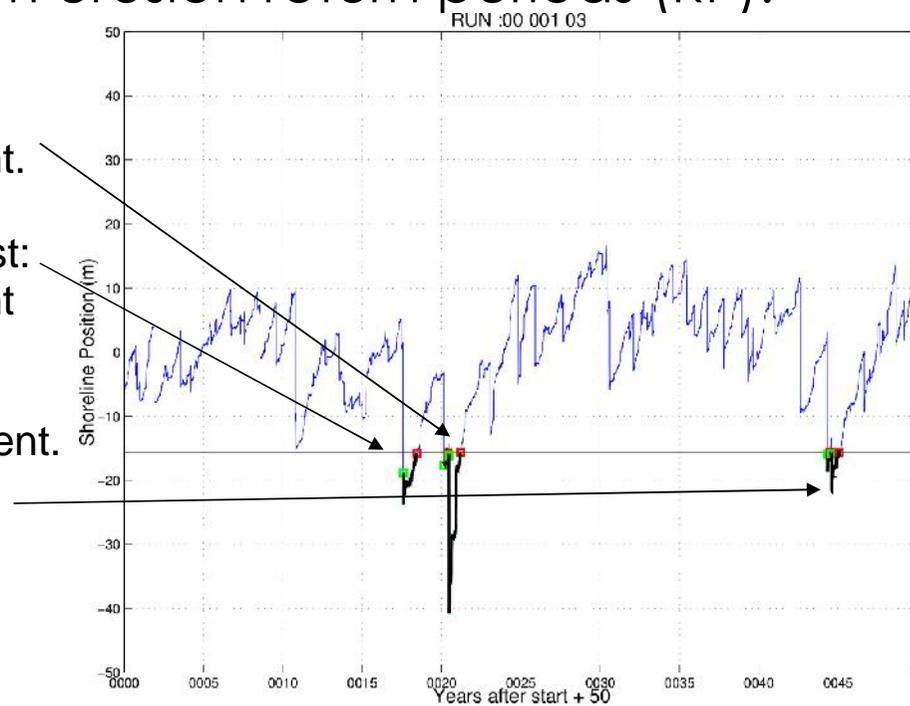
# Methodology DETAILS

Simulate shoreline evolution for ~ 50 year time horizons to develop storm erosion return periods (RP).

Biggest:  
1/50 year event.

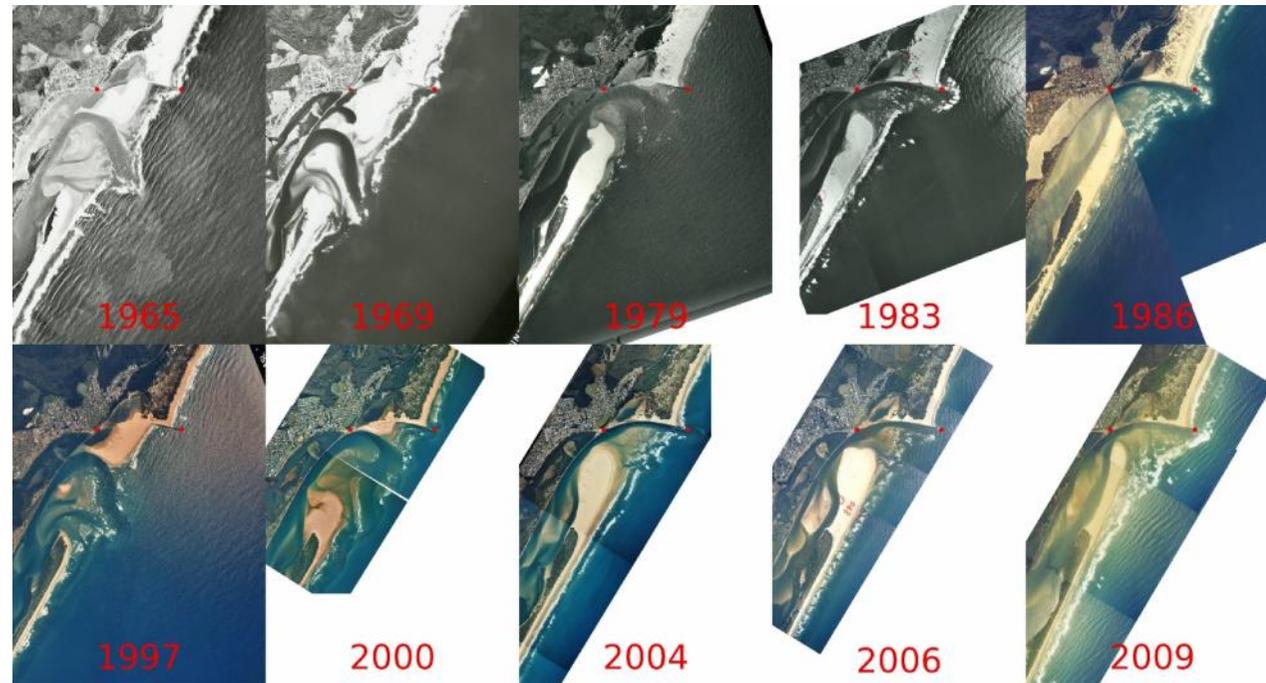
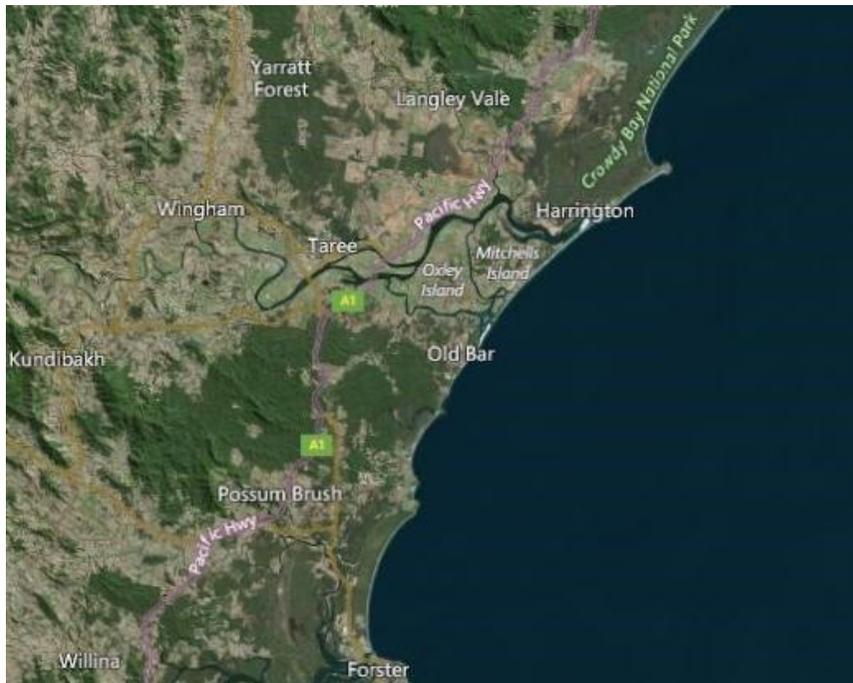
Second Biggest:  
1/25 year event

Third Biggest:  
1/16.6 year event.



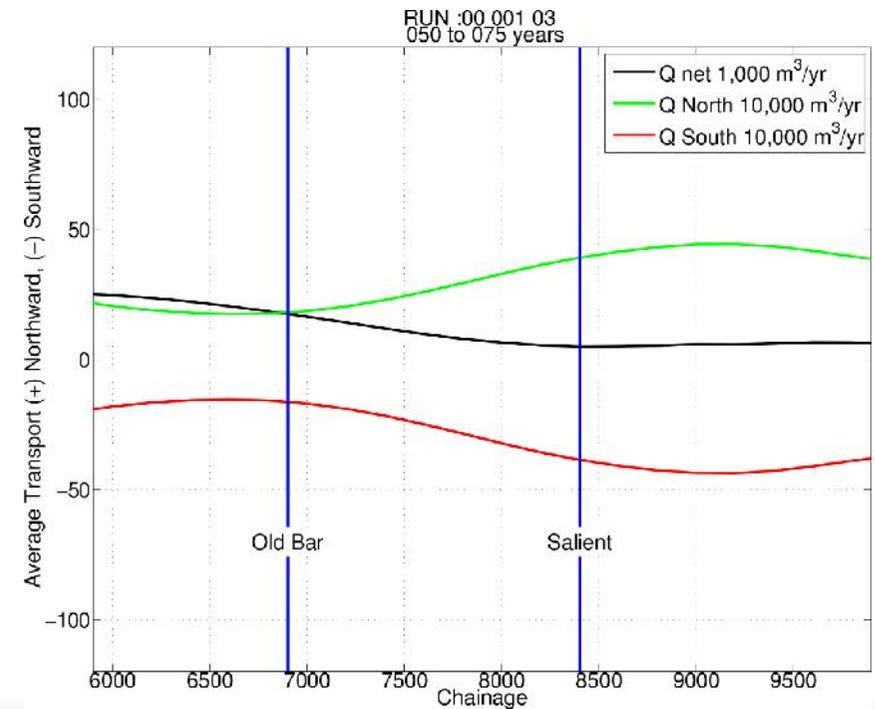
# Methodology DETAILS

Simulate shoreline evolution for ~ 50 year time horizons to develop storm erosion return periods (RP).



# Methodology DETAILS

Simulate shoreline evolution for ~ 50 year time horizons to develop storm erosion return periods (RP).



## RESULTS

Utilize GIS to map potential impact on infrastructure for various RP.



# RESULTS



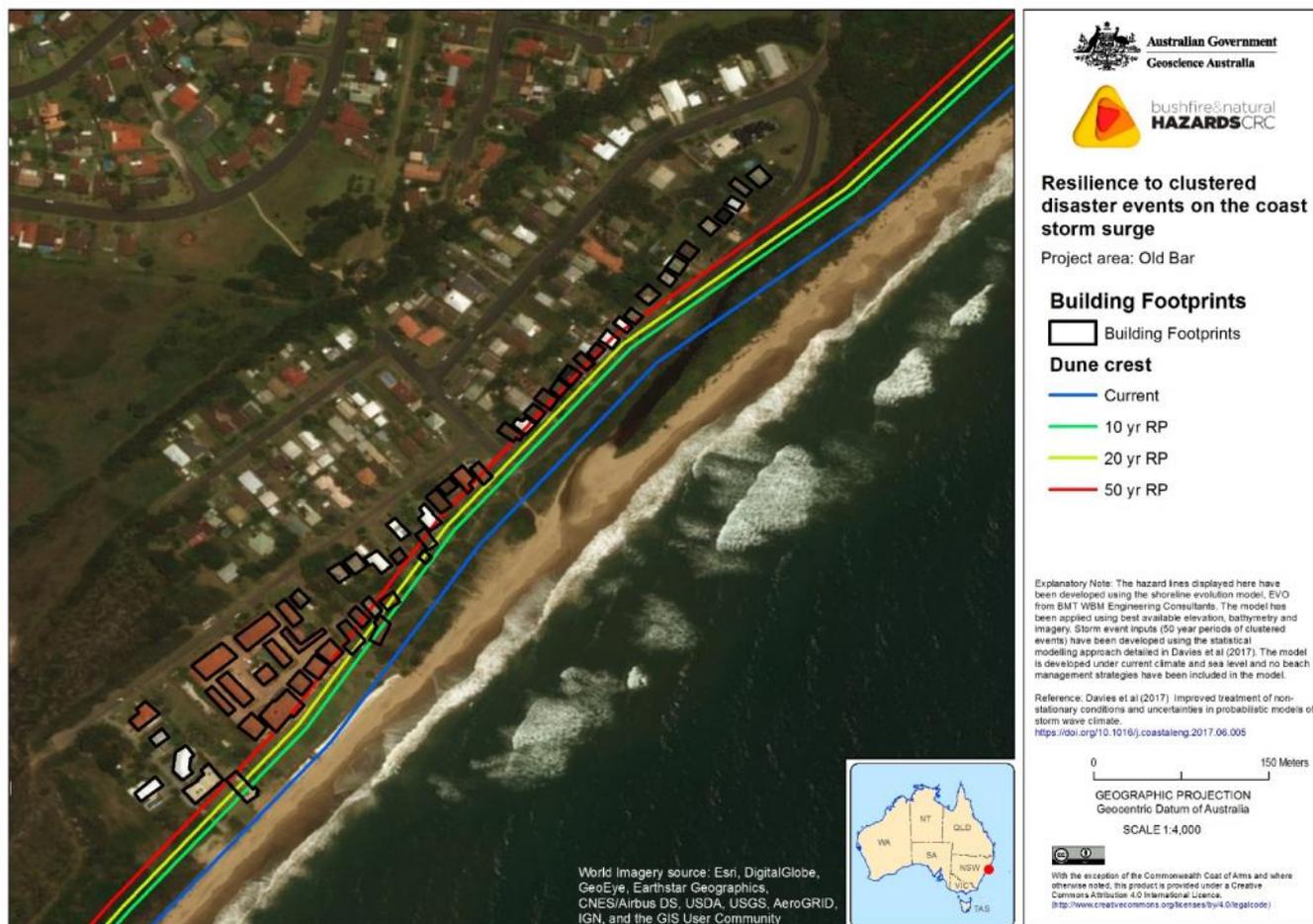
- 50 yr return period 'storm series' event
- Assumes no shoreline management strategies in place (e.g. sand bagging)

# RESULTS



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# RESULTS



- 50 yr return period 'storm series' event

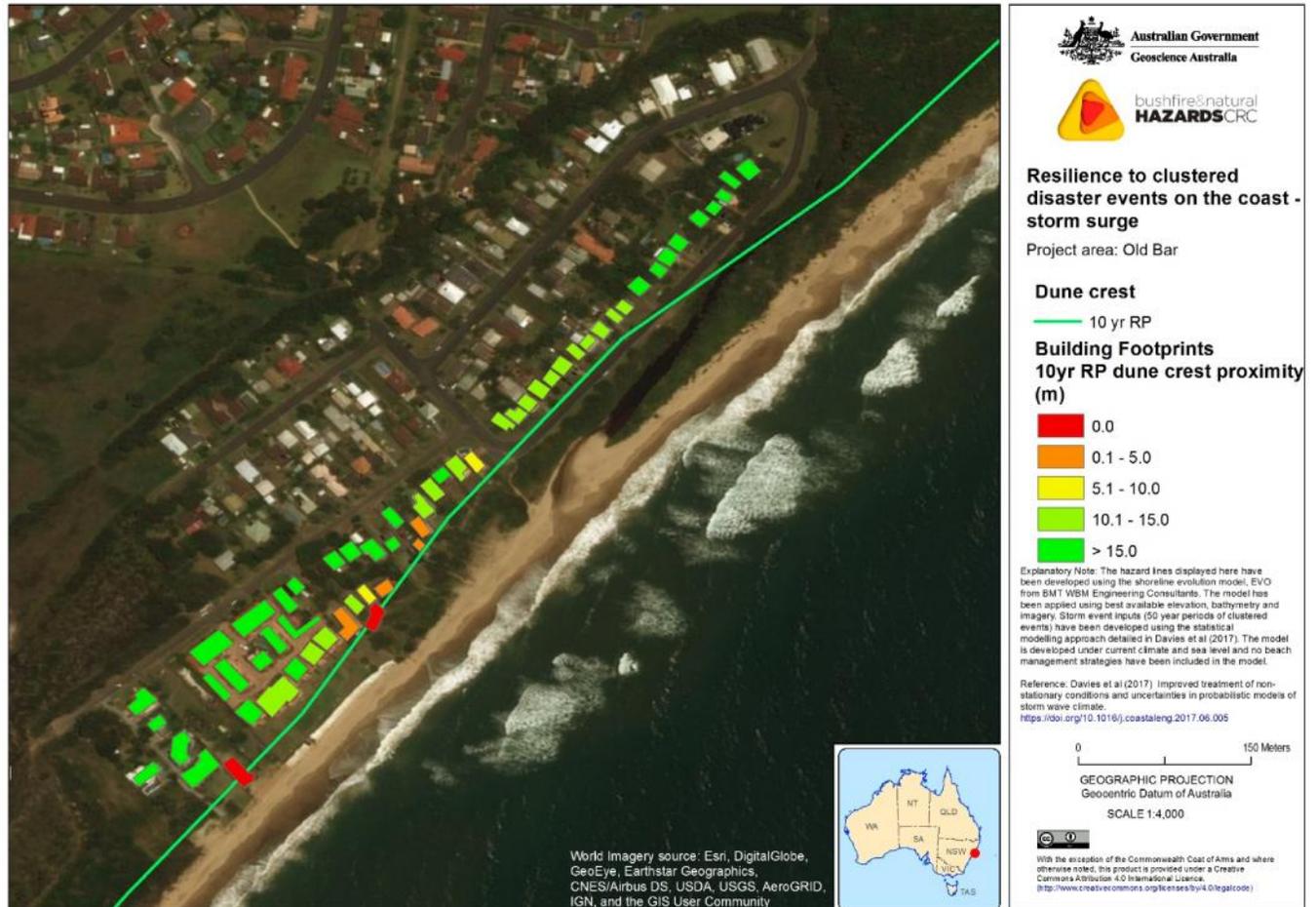
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# RESULTS



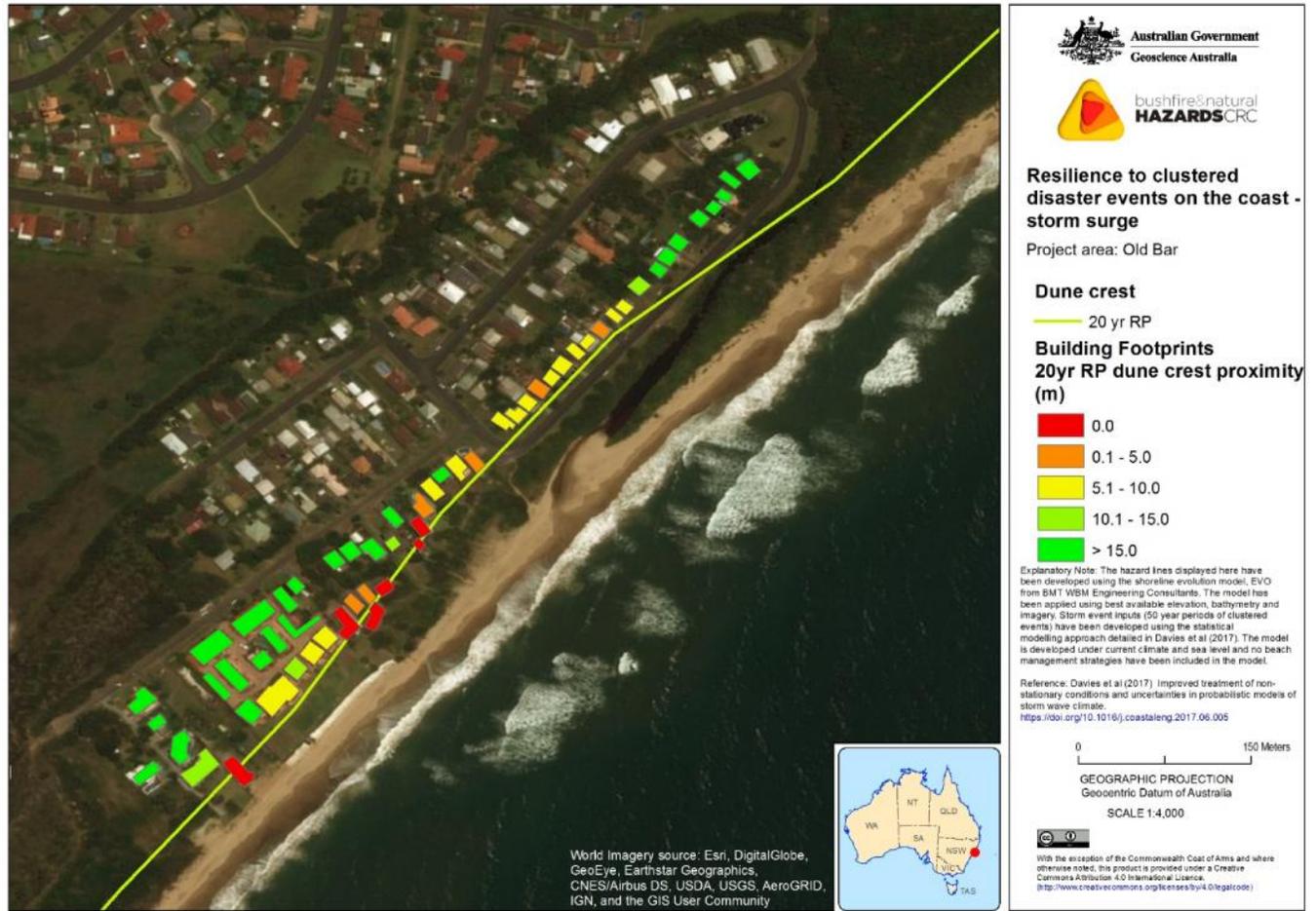
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# RESULTS



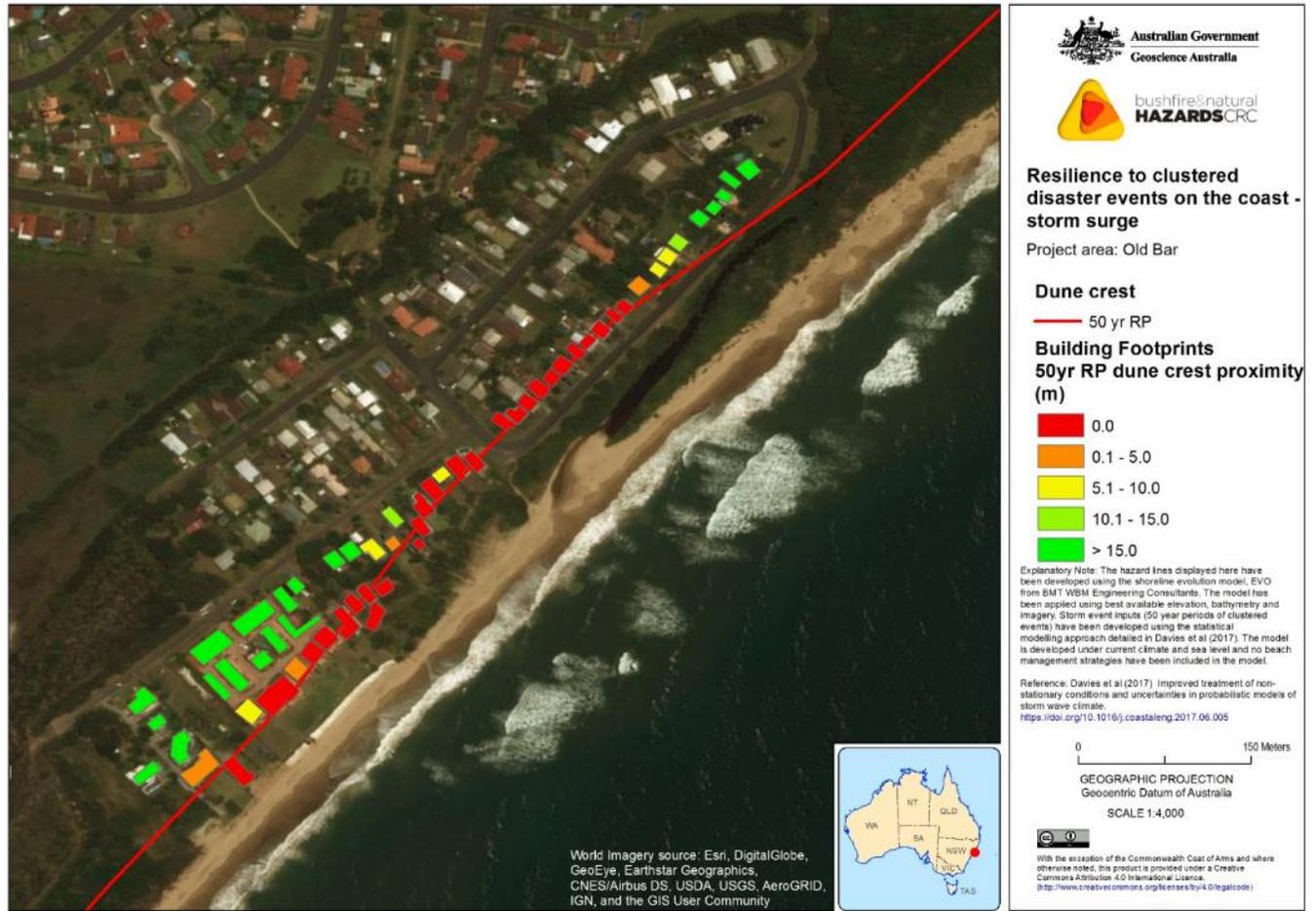
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- 50 yr return period 'storm series' event
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## CONCLUSIONS and FUTURE WORK

- 1) Have successfully developed a methodology to assess coastal erosion hazards within a probabilistic framework.
- 2) Tested this methodology at two erosion hotspots:
  - a) Old Bar, NSW. (Completed)
  - b) Adelaide Metropolitan Beaches, SA. (In progress)
- 3) Demonstrated utilization examples in regards to impact on infrastructure for the developed hazard line scenarios.

## CONCLUSIONS and FUTURE WORK

- 1) Adelaide simulations now running.
- 2) Infrastructure analysis at unfortified northern beaches.
- 3) Release of shoreline modelling codes and user manual.
- 4) Final project reports.





22 June, 2015



06 June, 2016