



EO in Coastal Risk Management

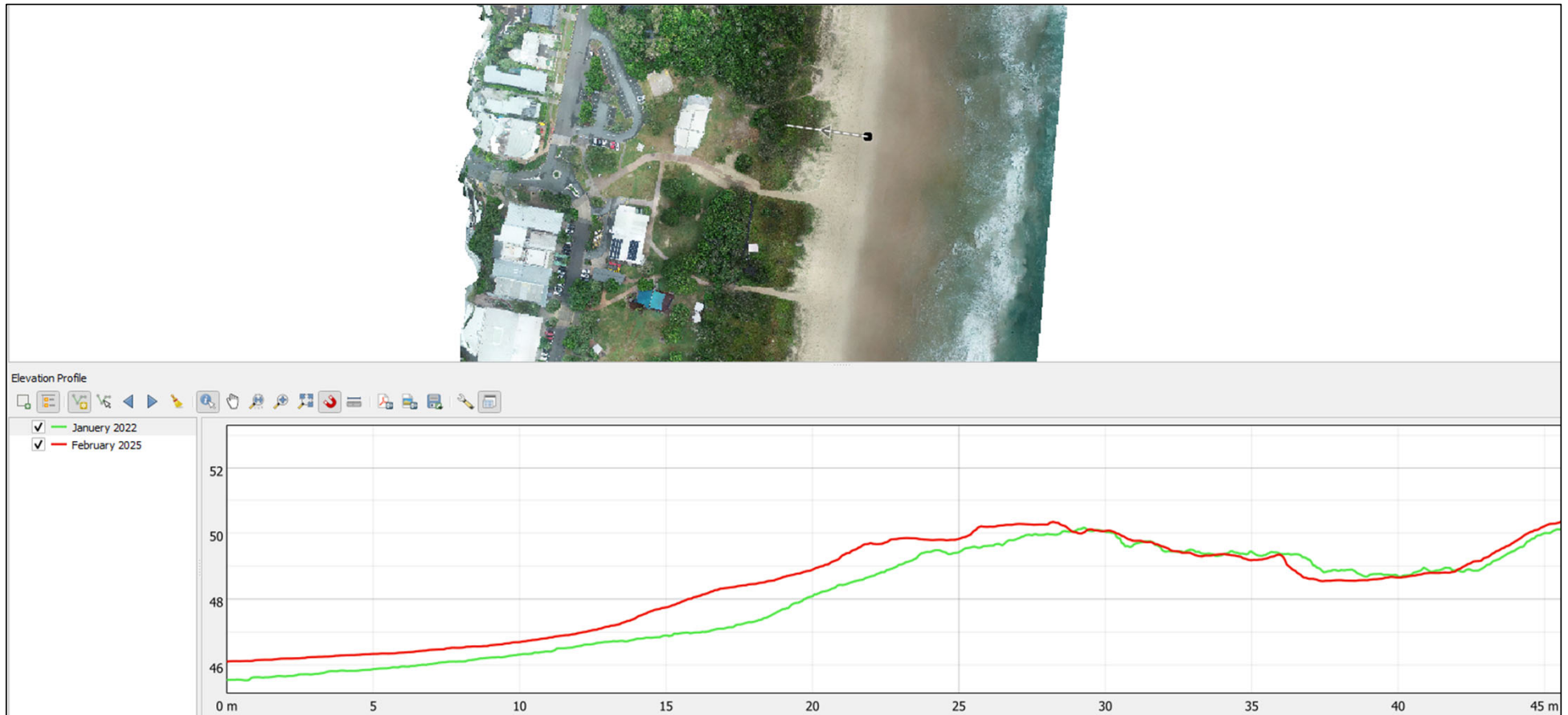
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UniSC

Transforming Queensland's Disaster Resilience from Space
9th December 2025

Can we stop coastal erosion?

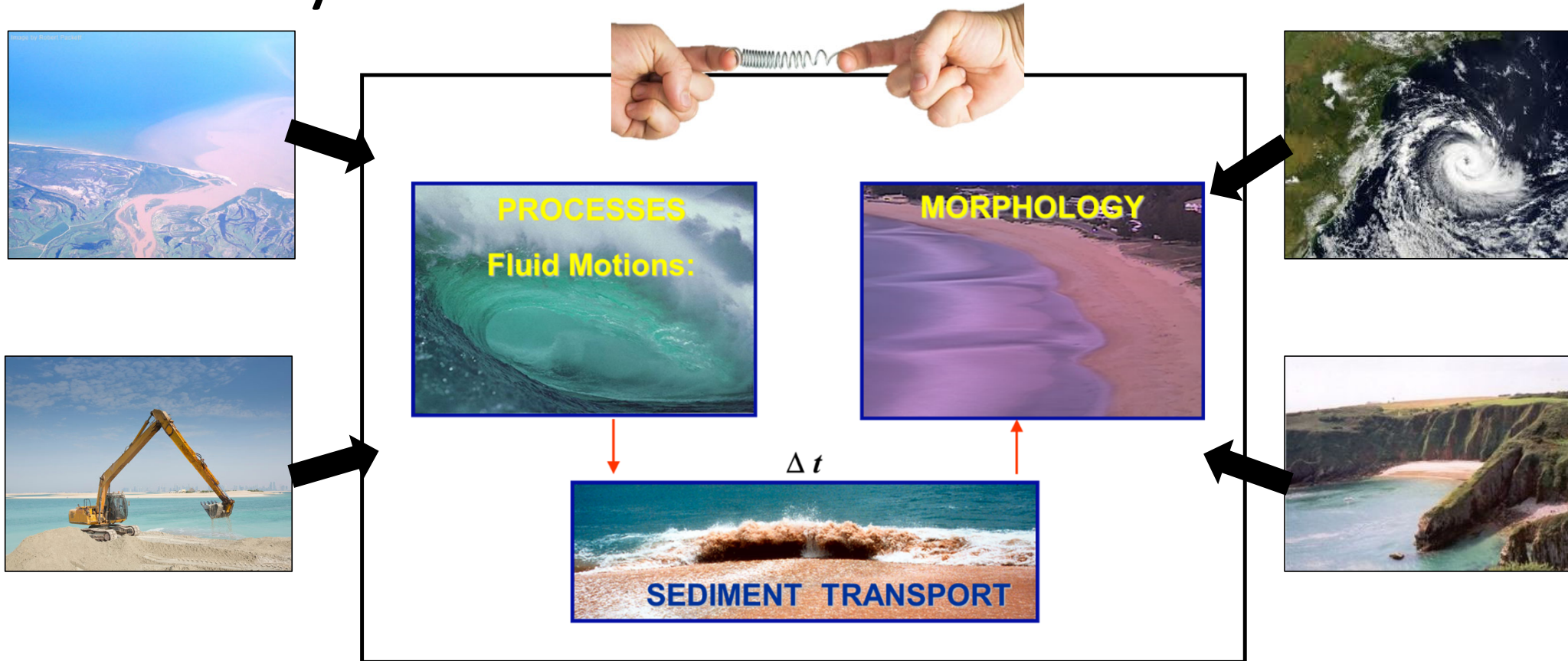


Can Do we need to stop erosion?



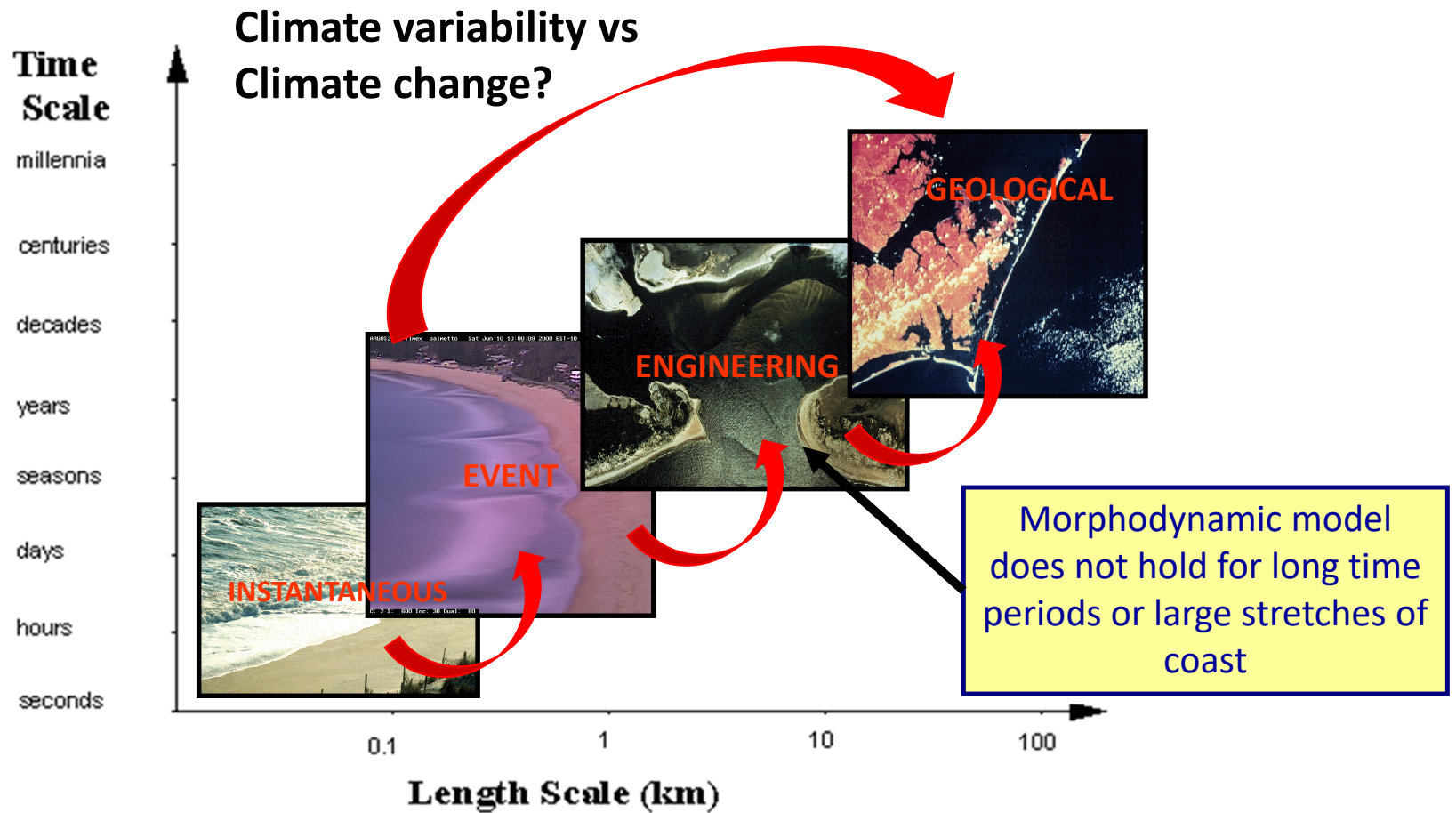
Coastal System

Dynamic equilibrium



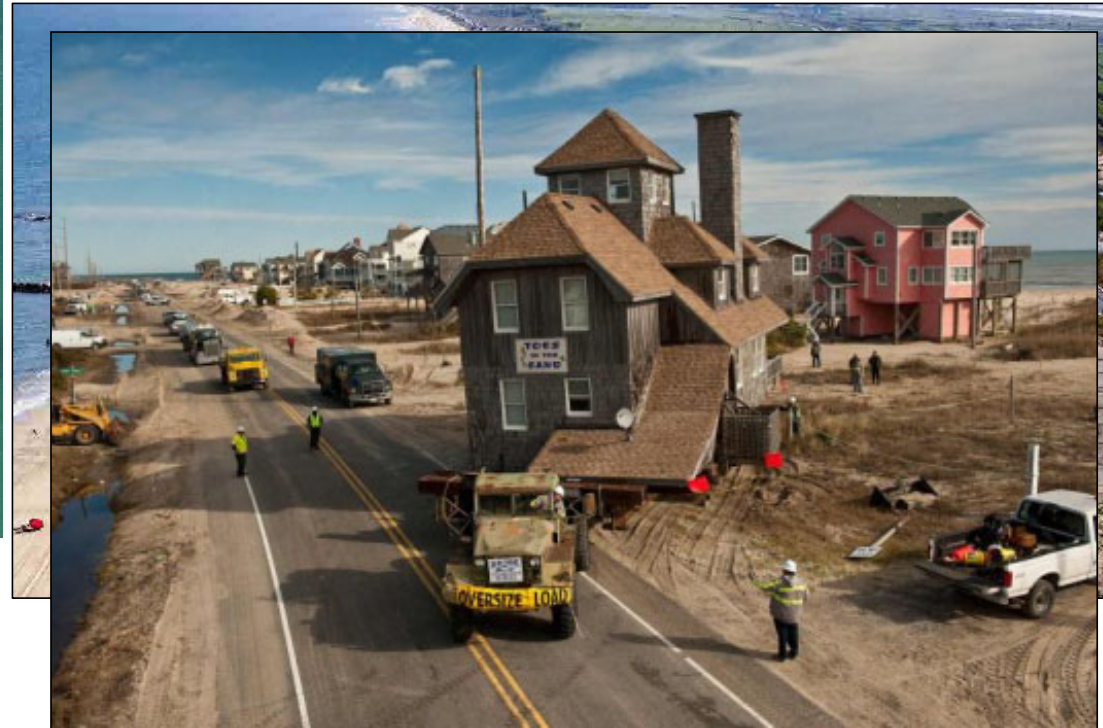
“the **mutual** adjustment of **topography** and **fluid dynamics** involving **sediment transport**” (Wright & Thom, 1977)

Predictions



Solutions

Managed retreat??



Nature-based solutions??

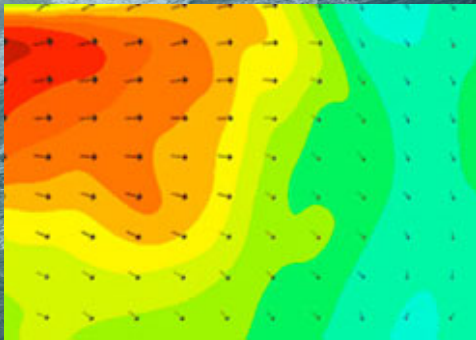
Mapping, monitoring, modelling



Case Study: **COASTS** (Coastal Change Observation and Analytics (multi-) Scale (multi-) Technology System



3x cloud-free Sentinel-2 (10m)
4x cloud-free WV-2/3 (2m)



Regional wave model (SWAN) and beach erosion model (XBeach) were developed and calibrated



27x drone surveys were undertaken using a survey-grade DJI Phantom 4 RTK drone between 2020-2023



Drones

Beach topography

Satellites

Bathymetry
Turbidity
Shoreline

In situ instruments

Tides
Temperature
Wave height and direction
Current speed and direction



Analytics

Change analysis
Transects
Time series
Erosion / deposition

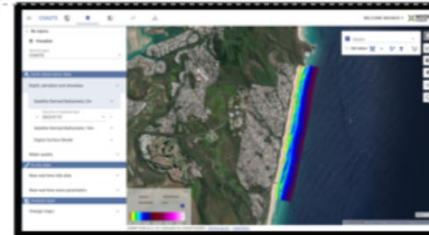
Hydrodynamic modelling

Wave height
Erosion rates
Storm scenarios
Coastal erosion forecasting



Visualisation and delivery

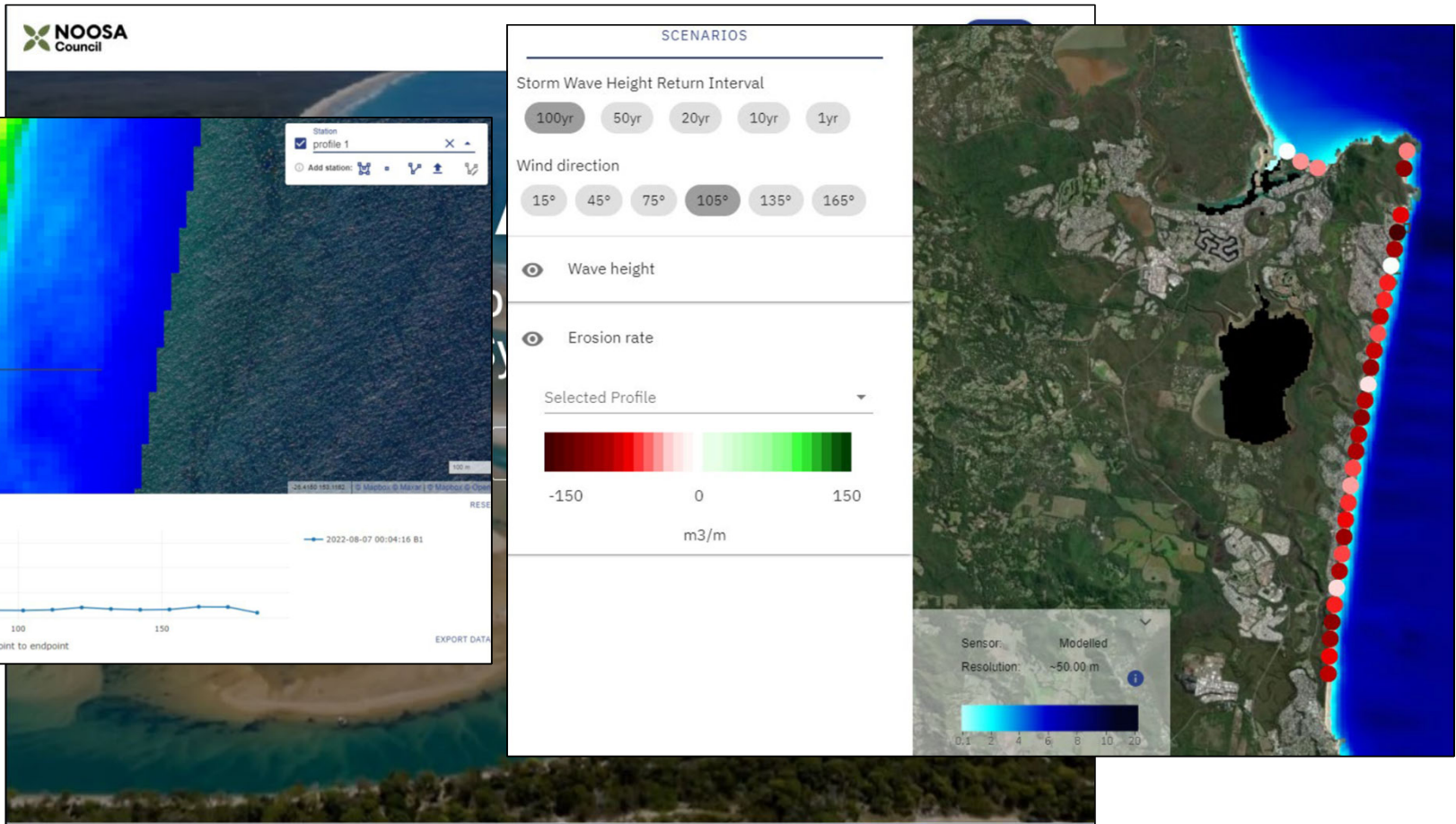
Web-based, interactive
Thresholds and alerts



● Forecasting, Planning, Management:

- Erosion, Deposition
- Storm events
- Coastal hazards
- Beach safety
- Inundation
- Climate change

Case Study: COASTS



Challenges



Next Steps

- Continued monitoring & improvement with new datasets (e.g. fixed-cameras, TLS) and updating existing data/models
- Training & embedding
- Transfer to other locations

Thank you

