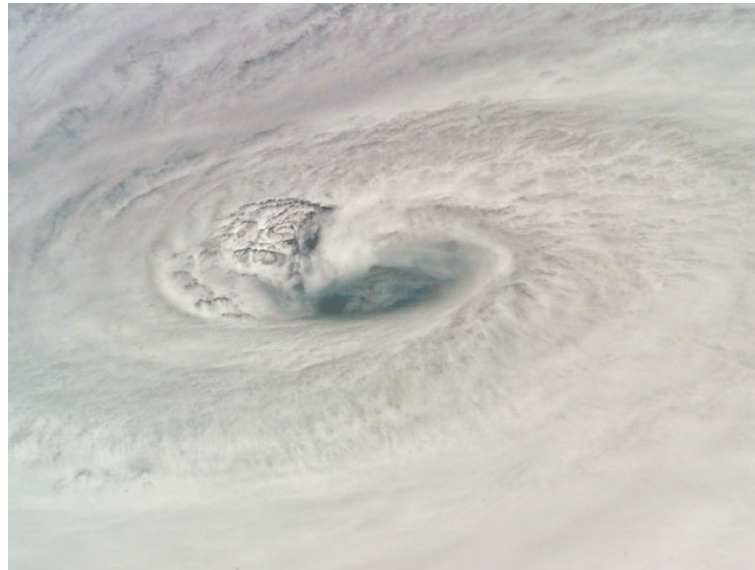


# Community Engagement and Cost Benefit Analysis for Sea Level Rise and Storm Surge Adaptation



*Samuel B. Merrill, Ph.D.*  
*December 6, 2012*



# Muskie School of Public Service

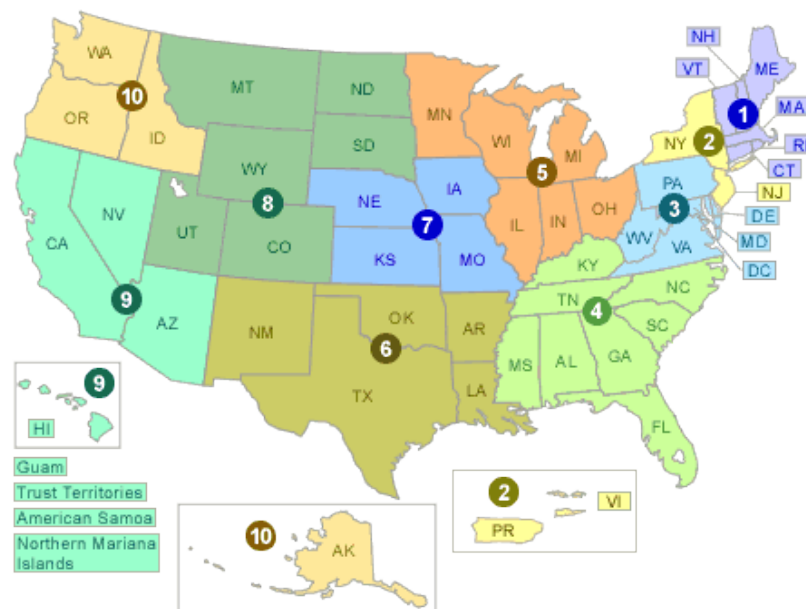
University of Southern Maine  
Portland, Maine



# Environmental Finance Center Network

The EFCN is a university-based organization creating innovative solutions to managing costs of environmental protection and improvement. It consists of ten EFCs serving states in EPA's ten regions. By sharing information, tools and techniques, the EFCs help address difficult how-to-pay issues of providing environmental services.

<http://www.epa.gov/efinpage/efcn.htm>.





**Catalysis Adaptation  
Partners, LLC**

[www.catalysisadaptation.com](http://www.catalysisadaptation.com)



Credit: Robin Utrecht/AFP/Getty Images





# Impacts from Flooding





# Adaptation Works

Homeowners in Florida could reduce losses from a severe hurricane by 61 percent, resulting in \$51 billion in savings, simply by building to strong construction codes.

Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center, University of Pennsylvania.

“Managing Large Scale Risks in a New Era of Catastrophe.” 2007

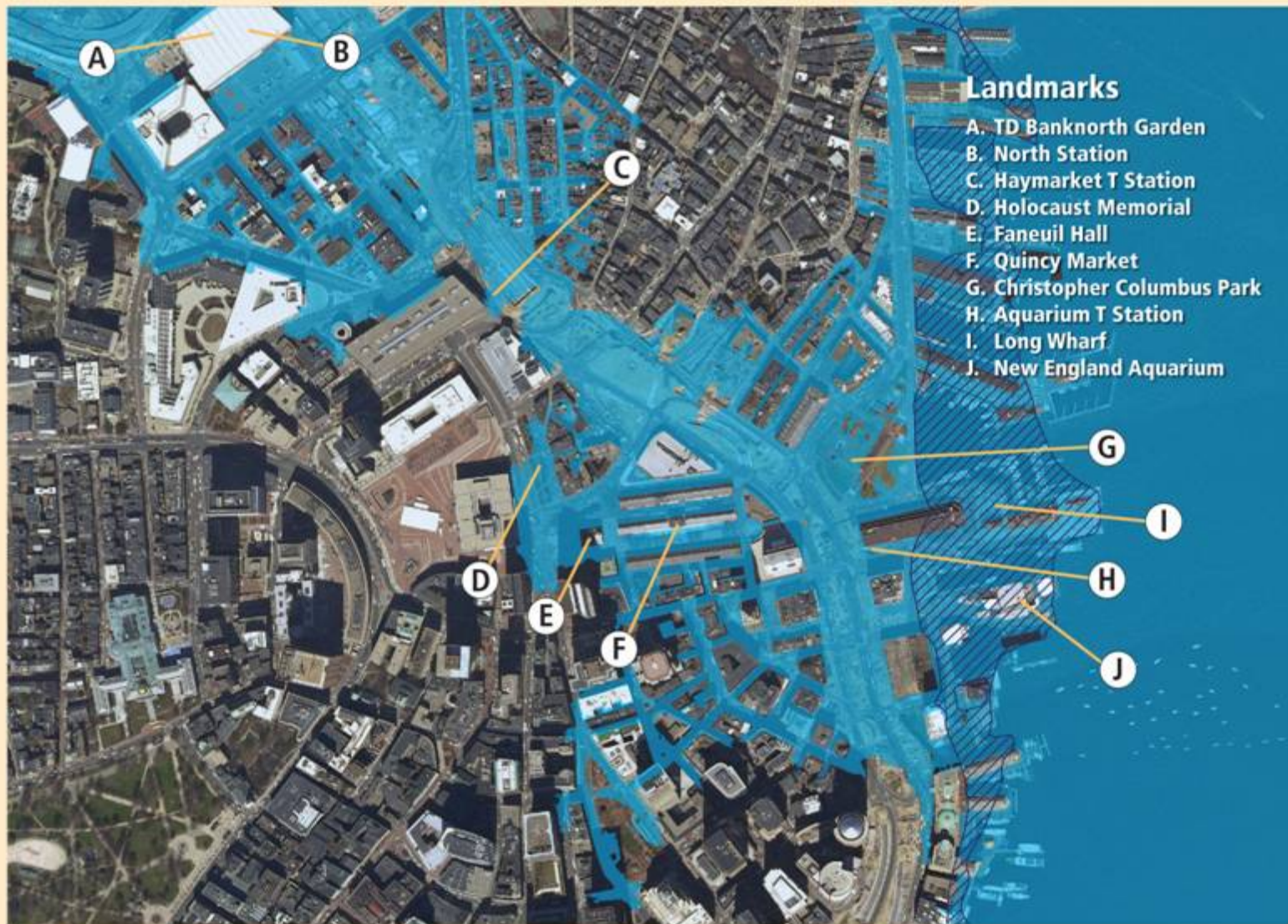


## It is Difficult to Shift into Action Mode:

- 1) Consequences appear far off in time.
- 2) Cost-benefit relationships are ambiguous.
- 3) Possible actions are complex.
- 4) Doing nothing is far, far easier.



# Coastal Flooding in Boston under Present and High Emission Sea Levels



■ Current 100-year flood zone  
■ Projected 100-year flooded area (higher-emissions scenario)

## **There are only four options:**

- 1) Do nothing (usually = remain in denial)
- 2) Fortify assets
- 3) Accommodate higher water levels
- 4) Relocate assets

## There are only four options:

- 1) Do nothing (usually = remain in denial)
- 2) Fortify assets
- 3) Accommodate higher water levels
- 4) Relocate assets

**>> COAST is a tool and approach to help evaluate costs and benefits of these options.**

# The COAST Strategy

- 1) Don't discuss climate change.

# The COAST Strategy

- 1) Don't discuss climate change.
- 2) Focus on observed, local data.



Patriot's Day Storm 2007: York Beach

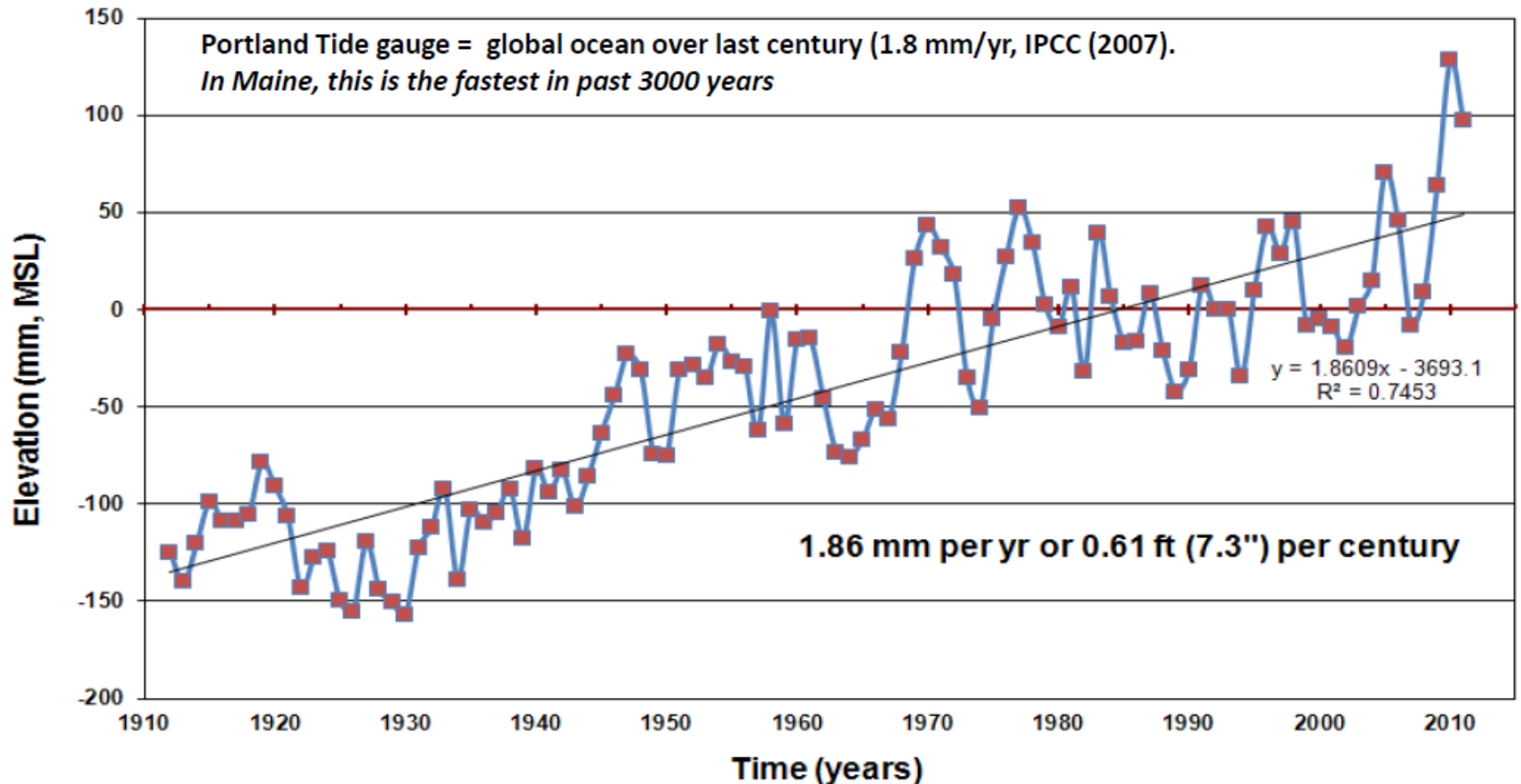


# Sea Level, Portland, Maine

1912-2011 (through November 30, 2011)



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



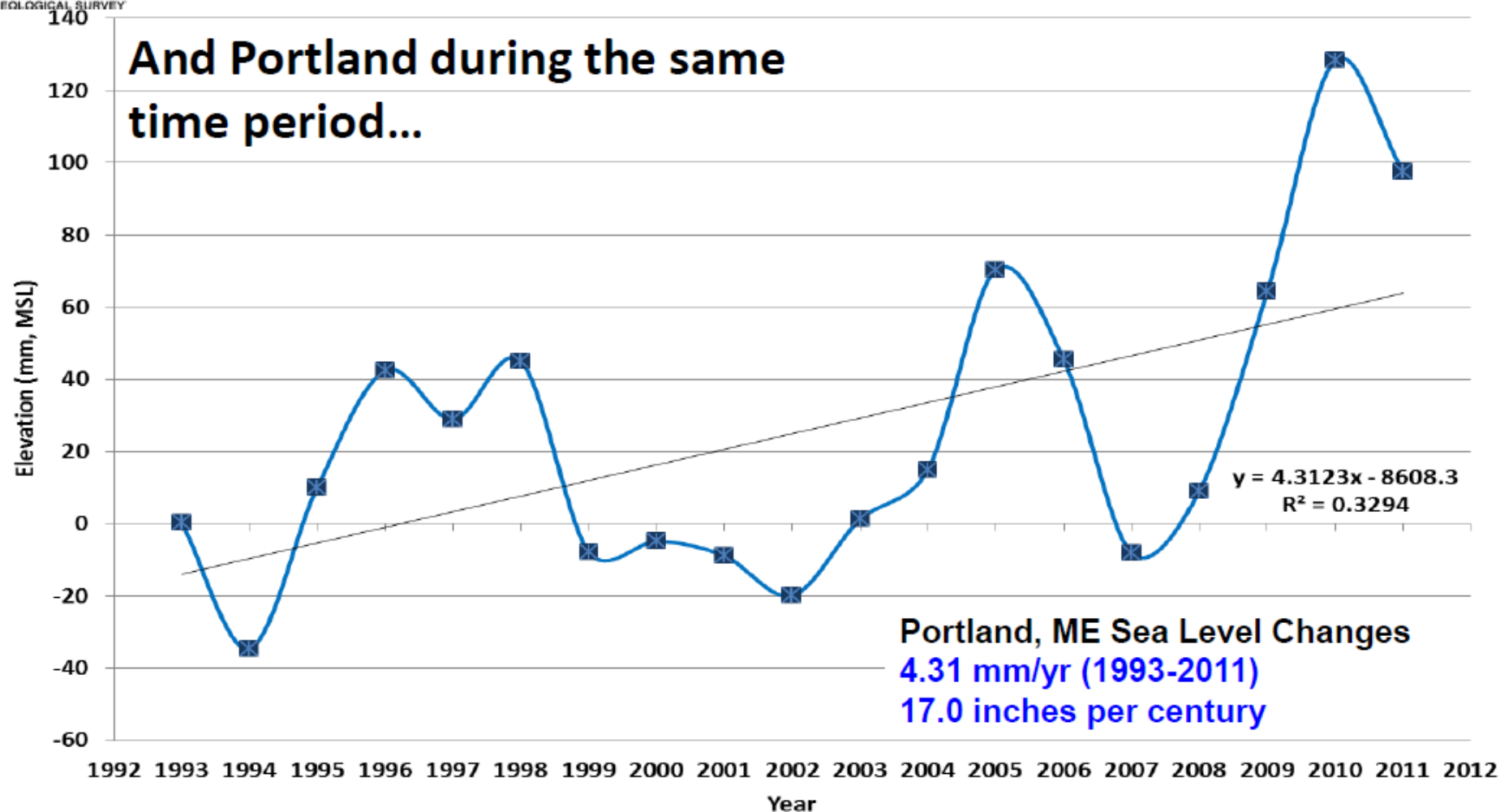
Data courtesy of NOAA CO-OPS, [www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov](http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov)

P.A. Slovinsky, Maine Geological Survey, January 3, 2012



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

## Sea Level, Portland, Maine 1993-2011 (through November 30, 2011)





10 20020000 CVFF 10) 0000





The Old Port, 10/11 at high tide (M. Craig)





NO  
THRU  
TRAFFIC  
RESIDENT  
AND  
BUSINESS  
TRAFFIC  
ONLY

NO  
THRU  
TRAFFIC  
RESIDENT  
AND  
BUSINESS  
TRAFFIC  
ONLY  
NO  
LOITERING

PRIVATE  
PARKING









Marginal Way and Cove St., 9/10, New Moon

J. Piribeck





Marginal Way and Cove St., 9/10, New Moon

J. Piribeck

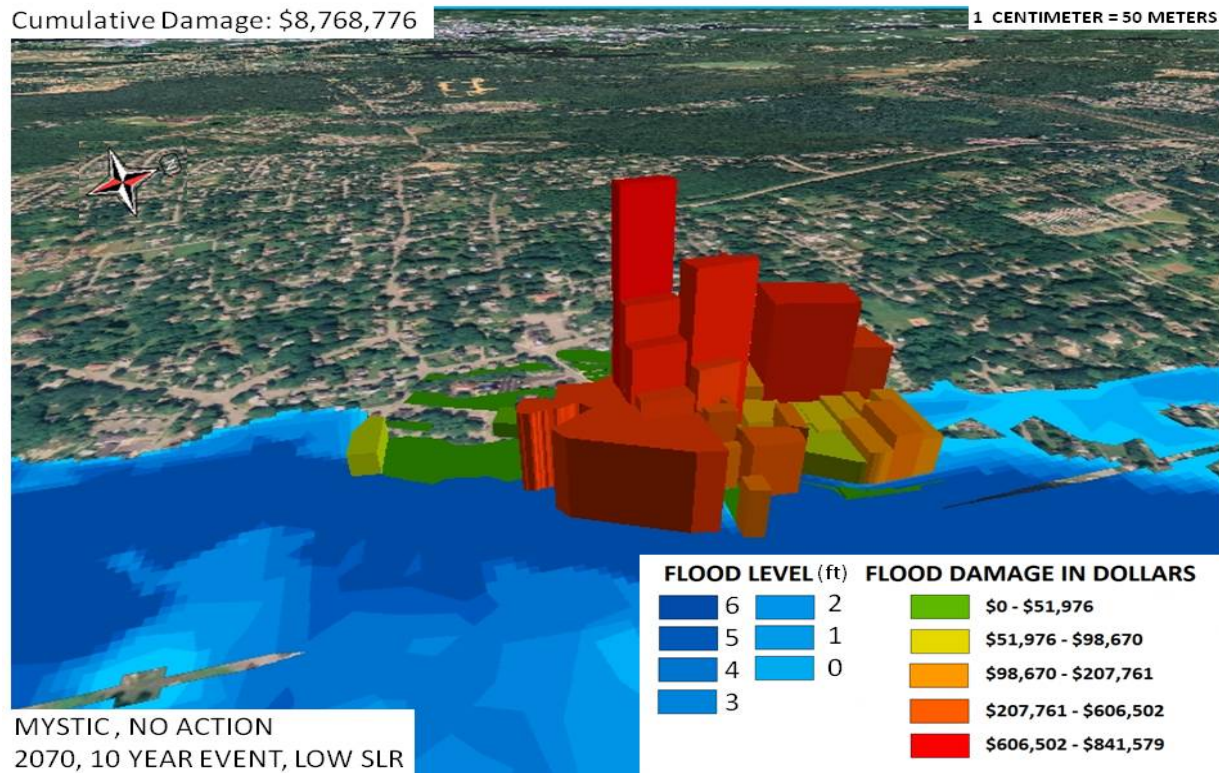


The Old Port, 3/10 at high tide (D. Yakovleff)



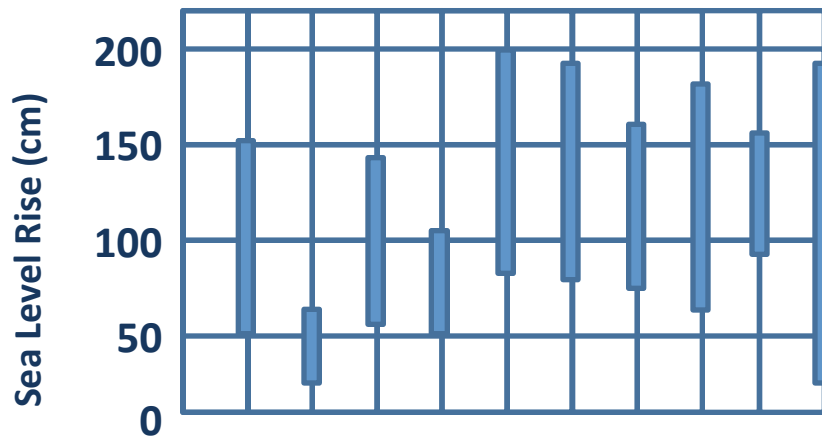
# The COAST Strategy

- 1) Don't discuss climate change.
- 2) Focus on observed, local data.
- 3) Use 3D visualization.

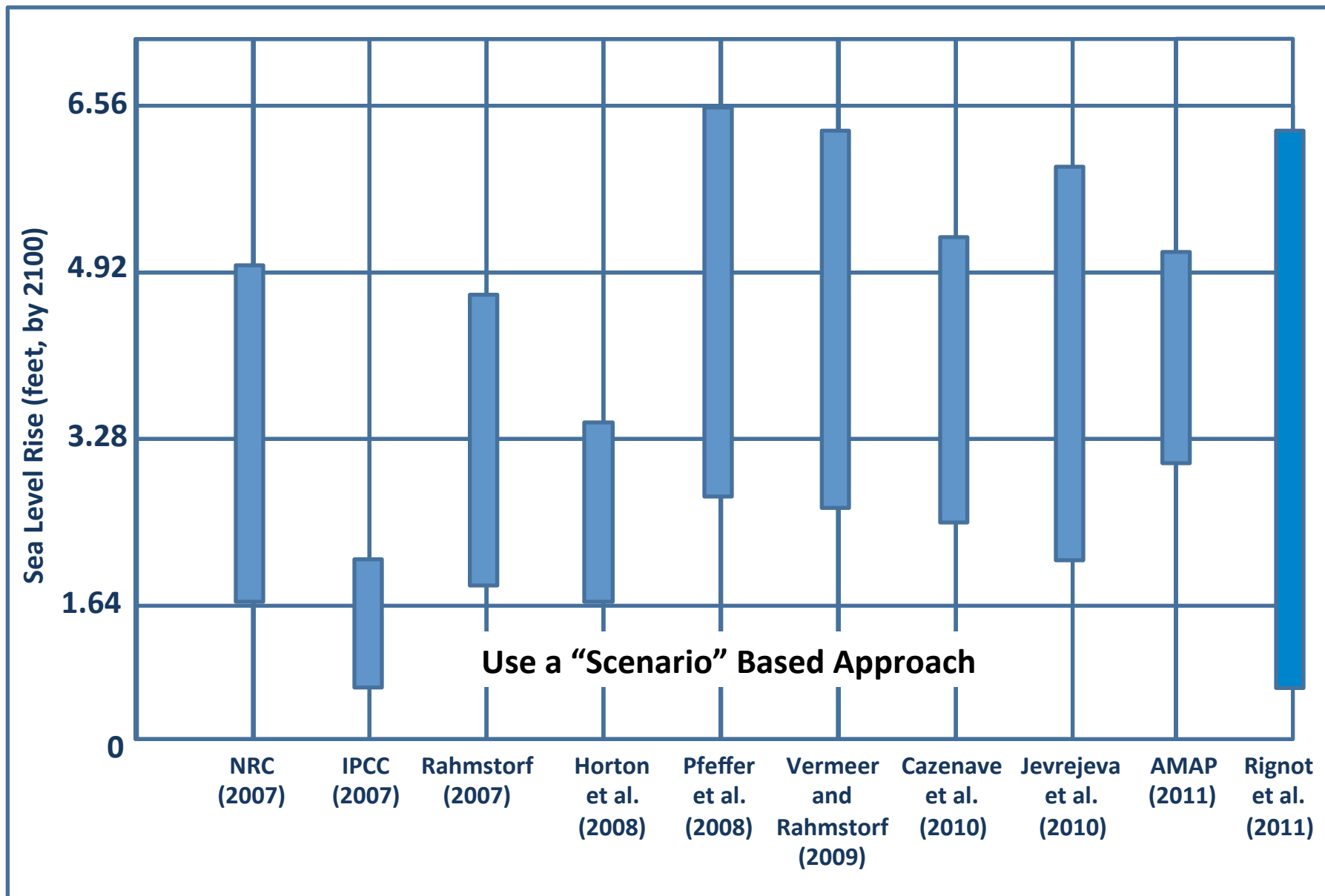


# The COAST Strategy

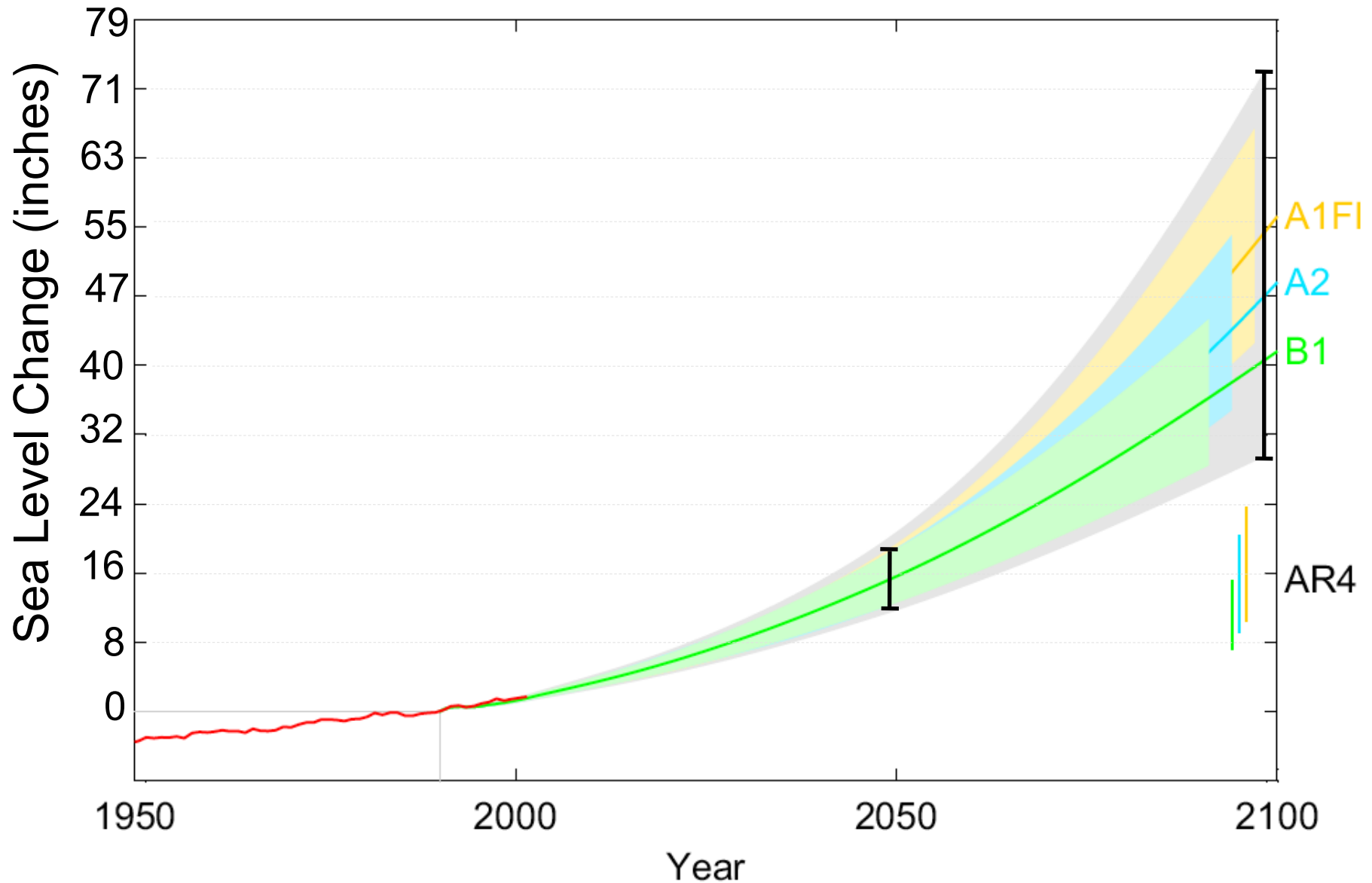
- 1) Don't discuss climate change.
- 2) Focus on observed, local data.
- 3) Use 3D visualization.
- 4) Use a scenario-based approach.



# SLR Scenario Ranges

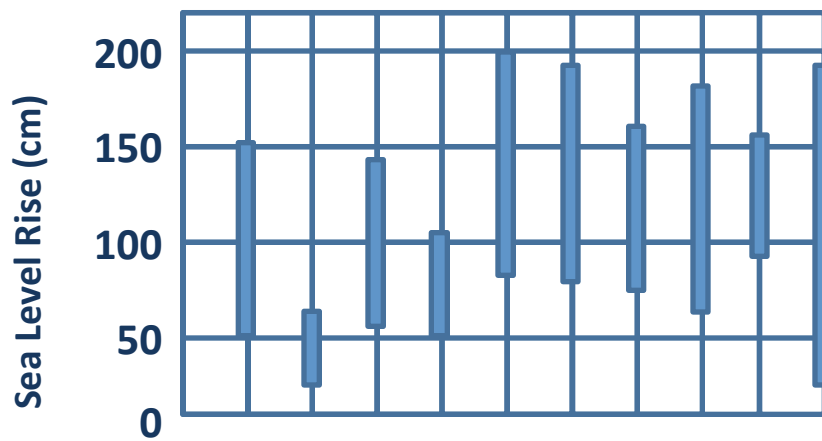


# Projection of Sea Level Rise from 1990 to 2100

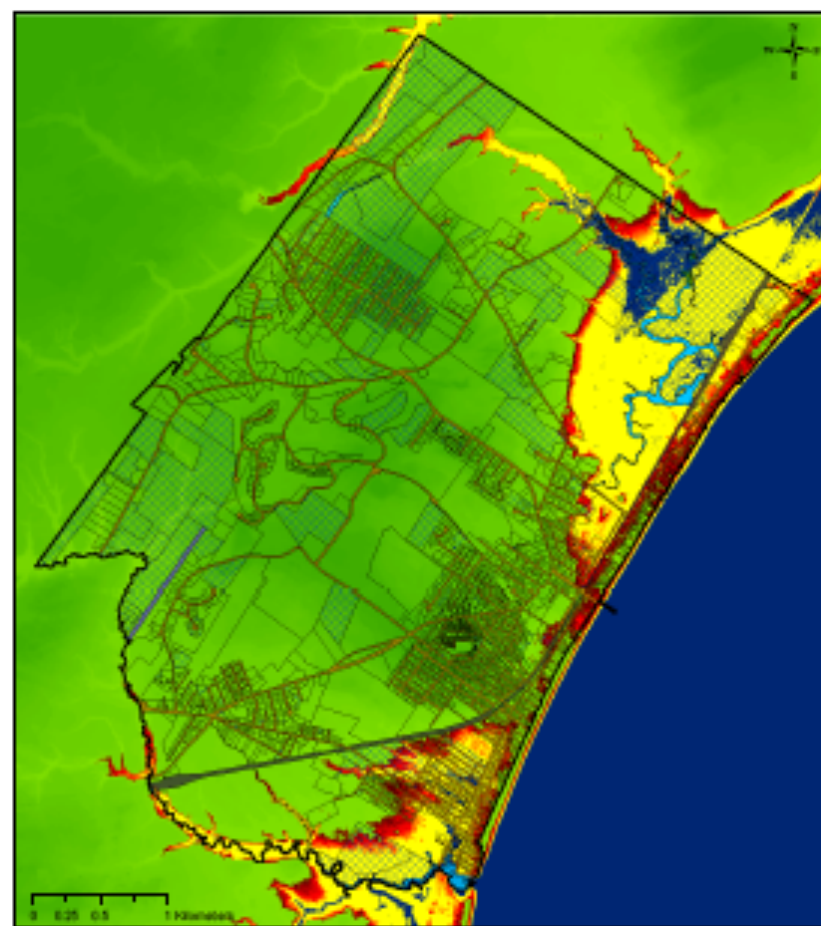


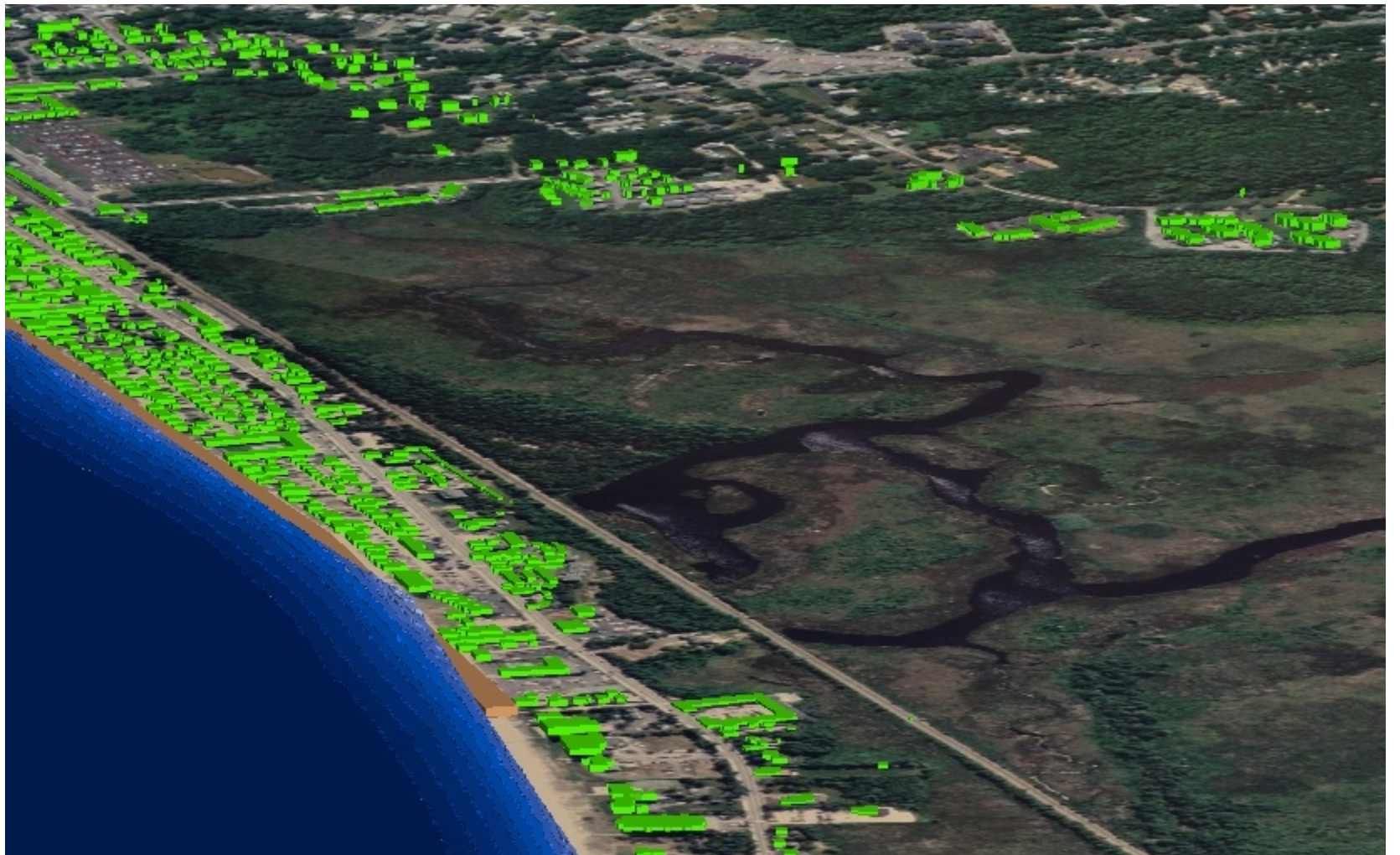
# The COAST Strategy

- 1) Don't discuss climate change.
- 2) Focus on observed, local data.
- 3) Use 3D visualization.
- 4) Use a scenario-based approach.
- 5) Empower with a sense of possibility  
... then get out of the way.







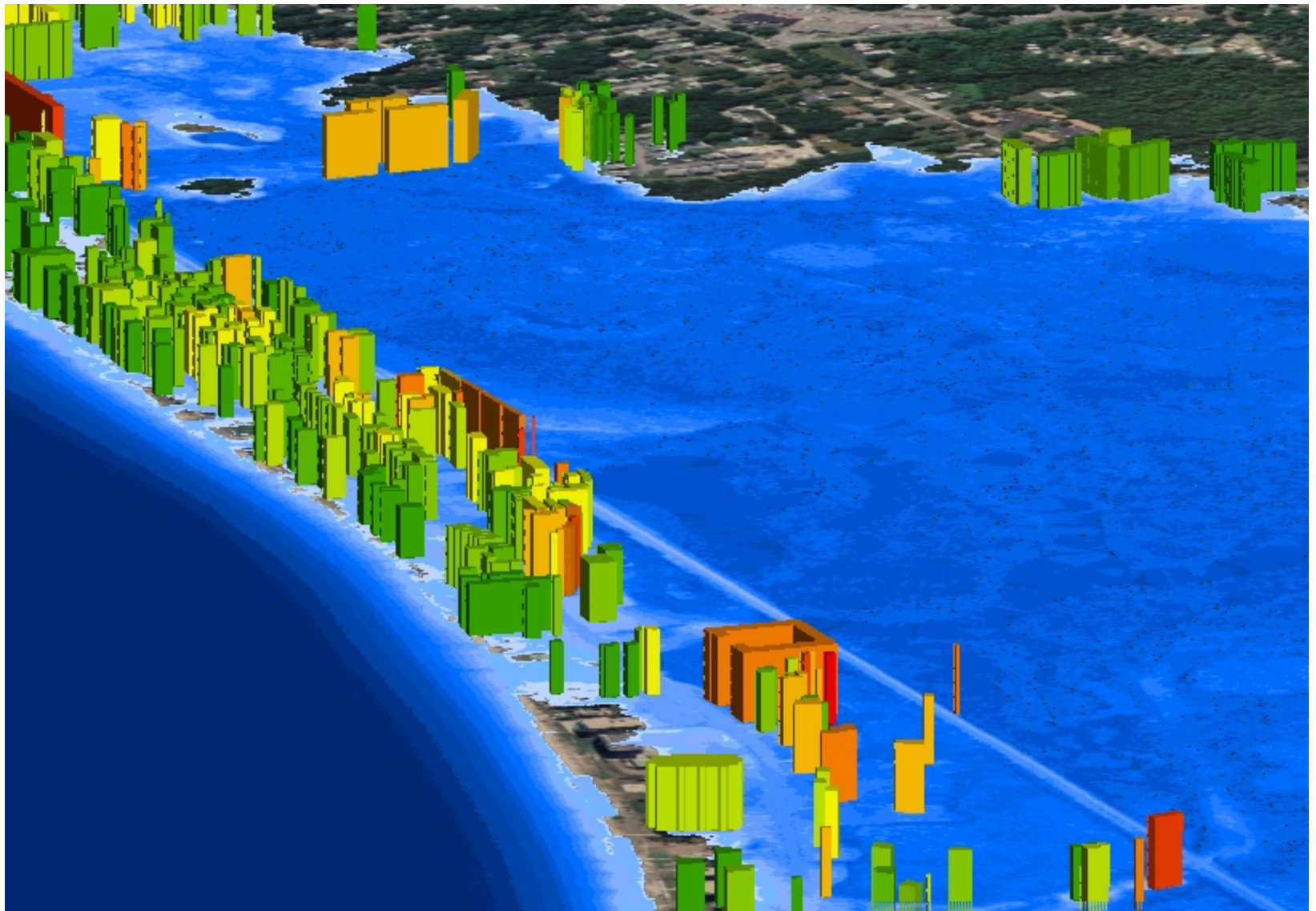


# Data for Decision-Making

Damage Functions for Single Family  
Residential Structures with Basement

Depth (feet)	Mean of Damage
0	25.5%
1	32.0%
2	38.7%
3	45.5%
4	52.2%
5	58.6%
6	64.5%

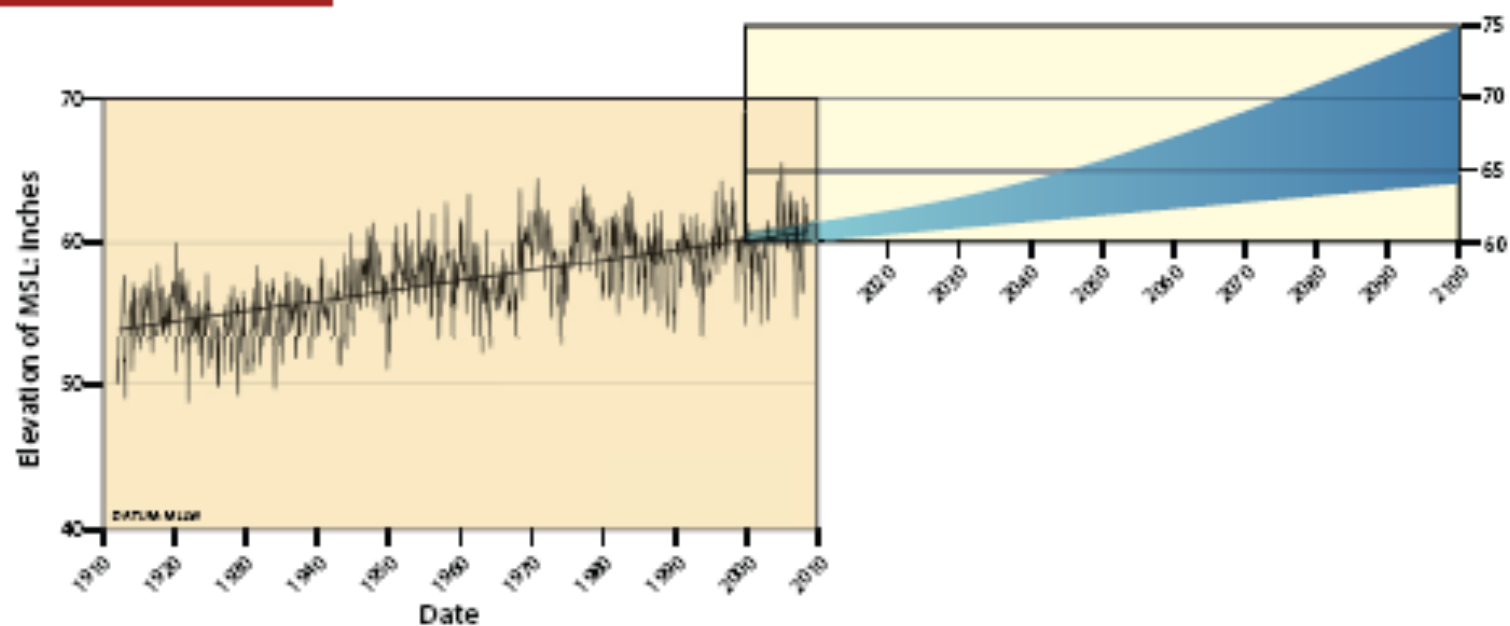


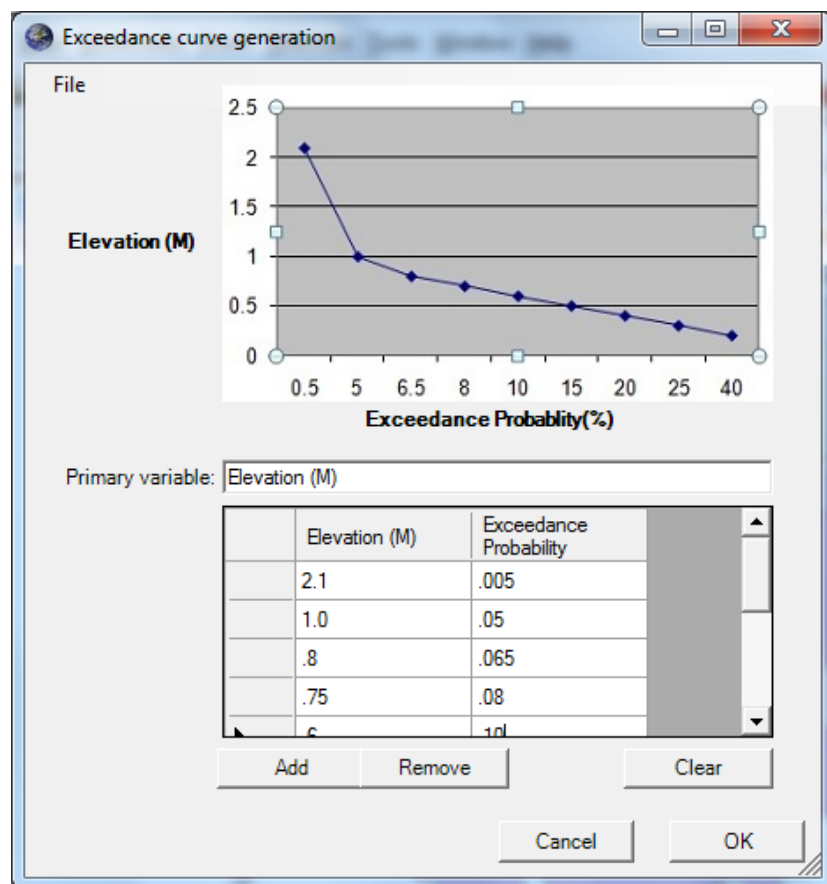


# Expected costs and damages, 2010 - 2050

SLR Scenario	Adaptation	Residual Damages	Adaptation Cost	Total Damages and Costs
		(\$ million)	(\$ million)	(\$ million)
No SLR	No Action	680	0	680
	50 yr flood	3.4	52.4	55.8
	100 yr flood	0	60	60
Low	No Action	899.3	0	899.3
	50 yr flood	28.3	52.4	80.7
	100 yr flood	0	60	60
High	No Action	1016.6	0	1016.6
	50 yr flood	67.8	52.4	120.2
	100 yr flood	37.6	60	97.6

## Maine Sea Level, 1912-2100





The "Generation" window is used to configure the scenario. It includes fields for "Scenario Name", "Start Date", and "End Date". Below these are sections for "Fixed Modifiers" and "Dynamic Modifiers".

**File**

Scenario Name:

Start Date:

End Date:

**Fixed Modifiers**

- ☒ Tidal Elevation - NOAA Chart 2492
- ☒ Barrier Construction - Proposal 71237-C
- ☐ Annual Storm Surge - NOAA Document 04152011

**Dynamic Modifiers**

- ☒ SLR 2011 - Agressive
- ☐ SLR 2011 - Moderate
- ☐ SLR 2011 - Conservative

Buttons:

The "Configuration" window is used to set output options. It includes a section for "Output Settings" and checkboxes for opening files in different applications.

**Output Settings**

Range Gradient:

Damage Field:

Output Directory:

☒ Open File in ArcMap

☐ Open File in ArcGlobe

☐ Open File in Google Earth



# **Simplified method for scenario-based risk assessment adaptation planning in the coastal zone**

**Paul Kirshen • Samuel Merrill • Peter Slovinsky •  
Norman Richardson**

Received: 16 November 2009 / Accepted: 14 November 2011  
© Springer Science+Business Media B.V. 2011

## COAST Programming Status

- Currently runs as an extension in ArcMap v.9 and 10
- Currently requires Spatial Analyst
- Converting to a subset of Global Mapper, no Arc required
- Will remain a free download, on the NE/EFC website
- Expected online release date for v1.0: Q2 2013



## **The COAST Process**

1. Specify location and vulnerable asset
2. Select time horizons, SLR and SS thresholds
3. Select adaptation action, estimate costs
4. Input Depth Damage Function
5. Input reference data (parcel, elevation, etc)
6. Run the model
7. Use maps and tables in public process

# The COAST Process

Has been or **is being used** in

1. Old Orchard Beach, ME
2. Portland, ME
3. Falmouth, ME
4. East Machias, ME
5. Seabrook, NH
6. Hampton, NH
7. Hampton Falls, NH
8. **Tybee Island, GA**
9. **Cambridge, MA**
10. **Kingston, NY**
11. **Oxford, MD**

## Possible Assets to Model

- Real estate values
- Economic output
- Public health impacts
- Displaced persons, vulnerable demographics
- Natural resources values
- Cultural resources values
- Community impacts
- Infrastructure (transportation, energy, facilities, telecommunications)

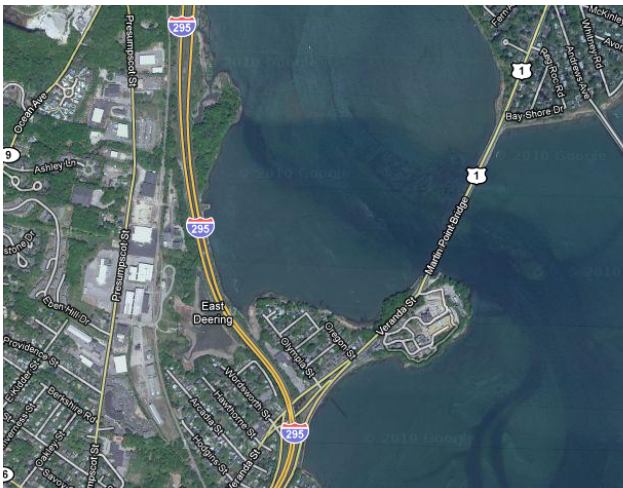






Machias Bridge, Machias

(pressure transducer placed in 8/11)

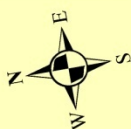


Martin's Point Bridge, Falmouth





Catalysis Adaptation  
Partners, LLC



Ogunquit Sewage Treatment Plant  
2006 Aerial Photography

1 inch = 50 feet

0 Feet  
500





Pumping  
Sta. #1

Generator

*View Across the Marsh  
From Roof of Ogunquit  
Sewage Treatment Plant  
April 2007 Patriot's Day  
Storm*



# Ogunquit Sewer District Treatment Facility

(2006 LiDAR; 2009 ArcGlobe Imagery)

## 2006 LiDAR

Elevation  
ft, NAVD88

	-9.5 - 0
	0.1 - 2
	2.1 - 4
	4.1 - 6
	6.1 - 8
	8.1 - 10
	10.1 - 12
	12.1 - 14
	14.1 - 16
	16.1 - 18
	18.1 - 20
	20.1 - 30



Catalysis Adaptation  
Partners, LLC





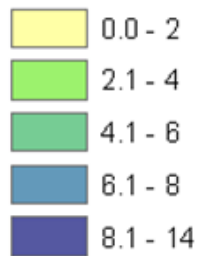
1978 Storm + 0.6 m



## Potential Inundation Analysis Ogunquit, ME

1978 Storm + 0.6 m

Potential Flood Depths (ft)

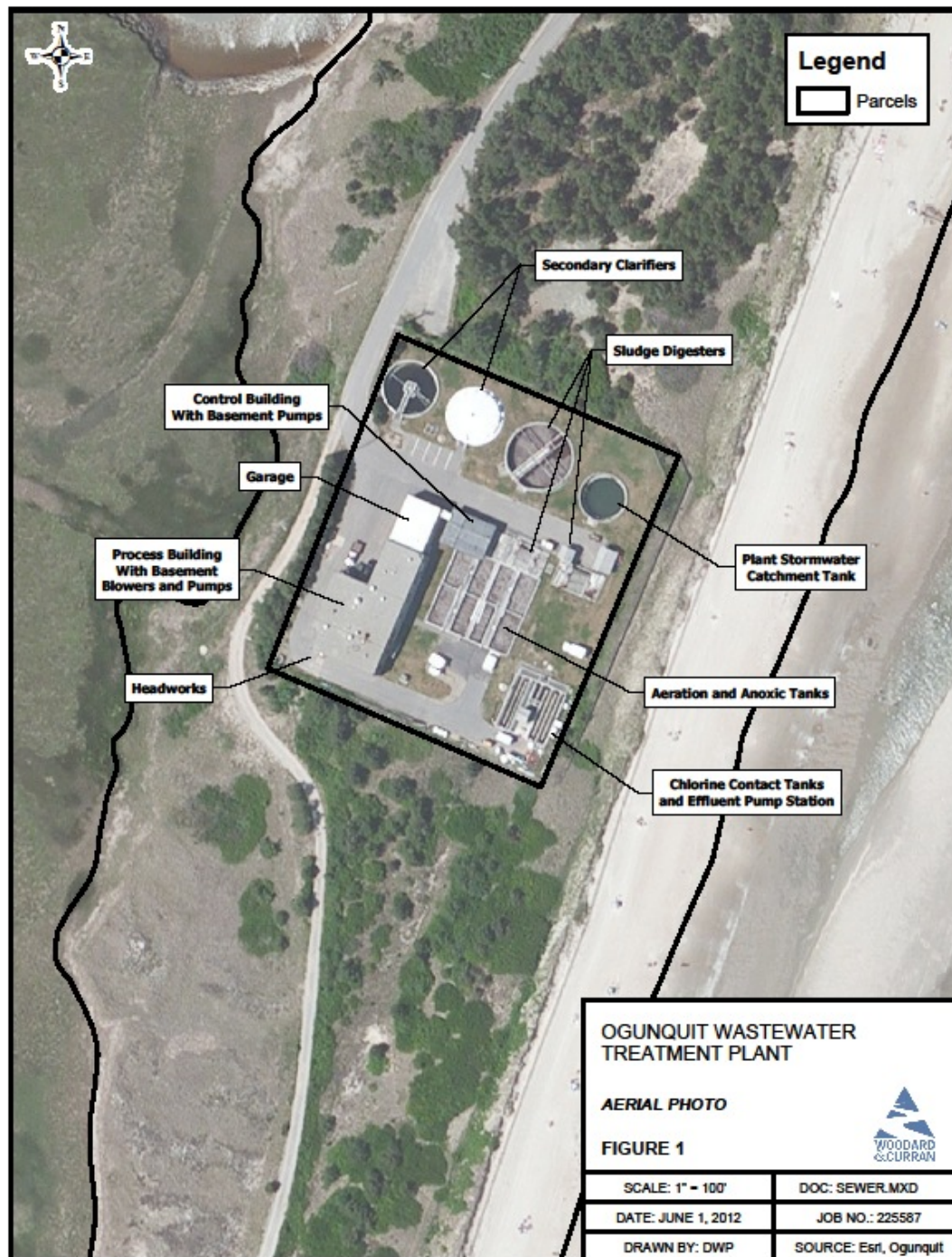


90 45 0 90 Meters







Catalysis Adaptation  
Partners, LLC





## Vulnerable Sewage Pump Stations In or Adjacent to Floodplains

### Legend

-  Sewage Treatment Plant
-  Sewage Pump Stations In or Adjacent to Floodplains
-  Sewer Lines
-  Tax Parcels



Catalysis Adaptation  
Partners, LLC



# ***Controversial Adaptation Solution?***



***1.5 Miles***

***Wells Sanitary District  
Main Plant***

***Ogunquit Sewer District  
Main Plant***

# Adaptation Actions: Hard or Soft

- Revetments





**Pea Patch Island, DE (Delaware River)**

# Adaptation Actions: Hard or Soft

- Revetments
- Geotextile tubes





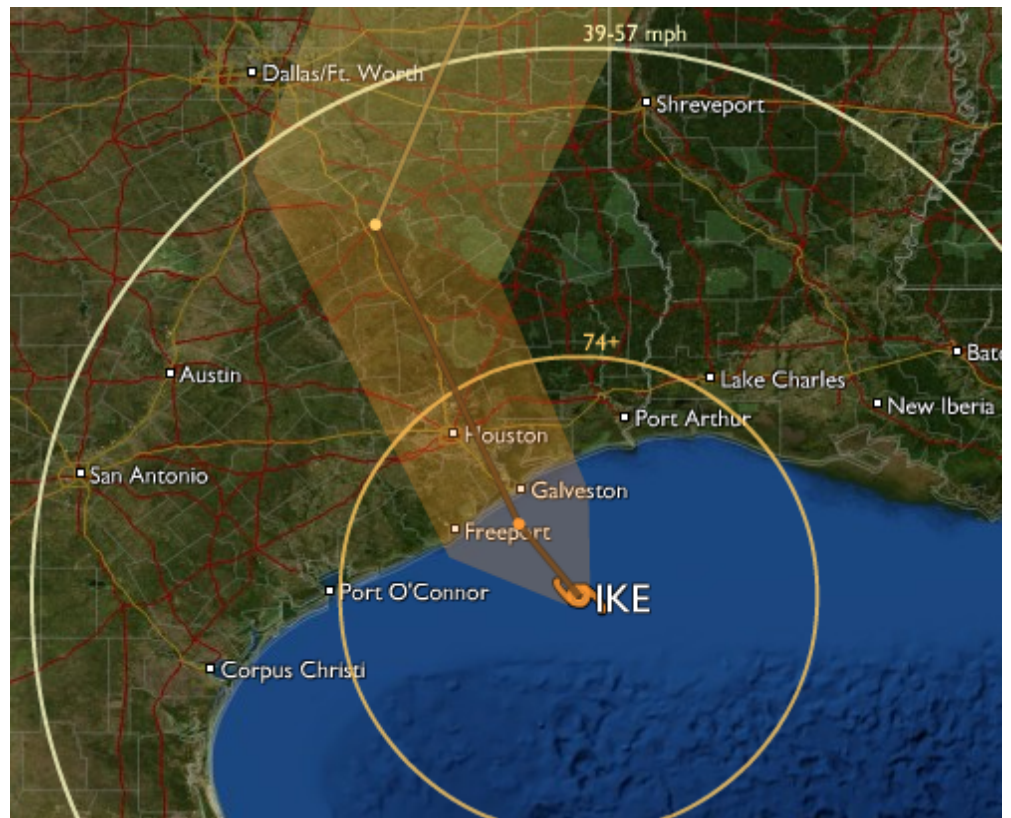
# Adaptation Actions: Hard or Soft

- Revetments
- Geotextile tubes
- Sea walls









## Input: a range of adaptation options

- Revetments
- Geotextile tubes
- Sea walls
- Jetties









# Adaptation Actions: Hard or Soft

- Revetments
- Geotextile tubes
- Sea walls
- Jetties
- Other creative approaches



Floodwalls with removable aluminum or steel gates. Cologne, Germany (Rhine).





Buildings have a “hardened” 1st story along a wide pedestrian walkway.





# Urban design strategy: Hamburg, city on the water

Level of emergency route: 7.5 m

Level of harbour: 5.3 m

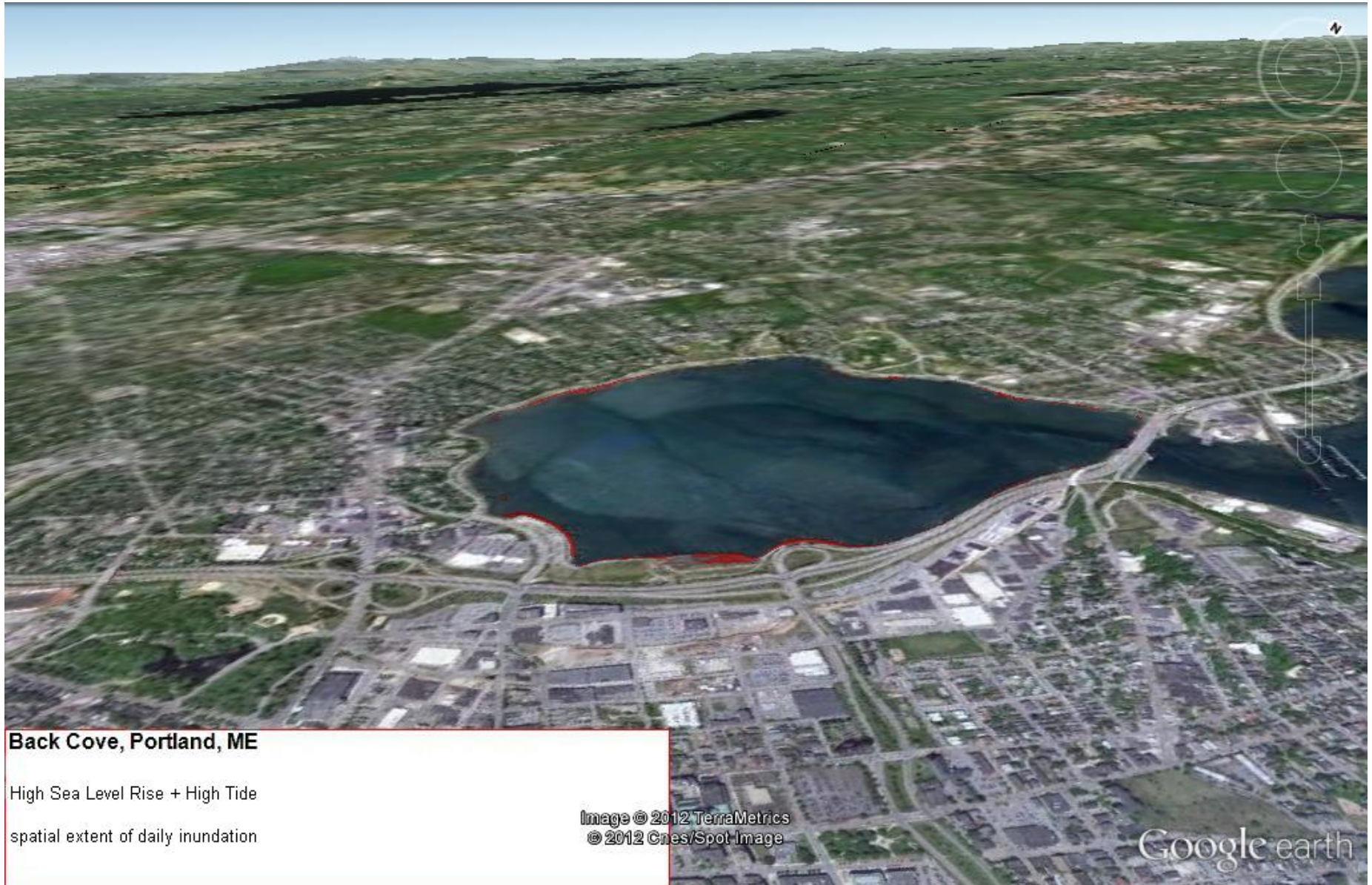
Emergency routes

# Adaptation Actions: Hard or Soft

- Revetments
  - Geotextile tubes
  - Sea walls
  - Jetties
  - Other creative approaches
- 
- Wet or dry floodproofing
  - Incentives, zoning, and other regulatory changes



# Back Cove, Portland Maine



## Back Cove, Portland, ME

High Sea Level Rise + High Tide  
spatial extent of daily inundation

Image © 2012 TerraMetrics  
© 2012 Cnes/Spot Image

Google earth



# 2100, high sea level rise and mean higher high water



**Back Cove, Portland, ME**

High Sea Level Rise + High Tide  
spatial extent of daily inundation

Image © 2012 TerraMetrics  
© 2012 Cnes/Spot Image

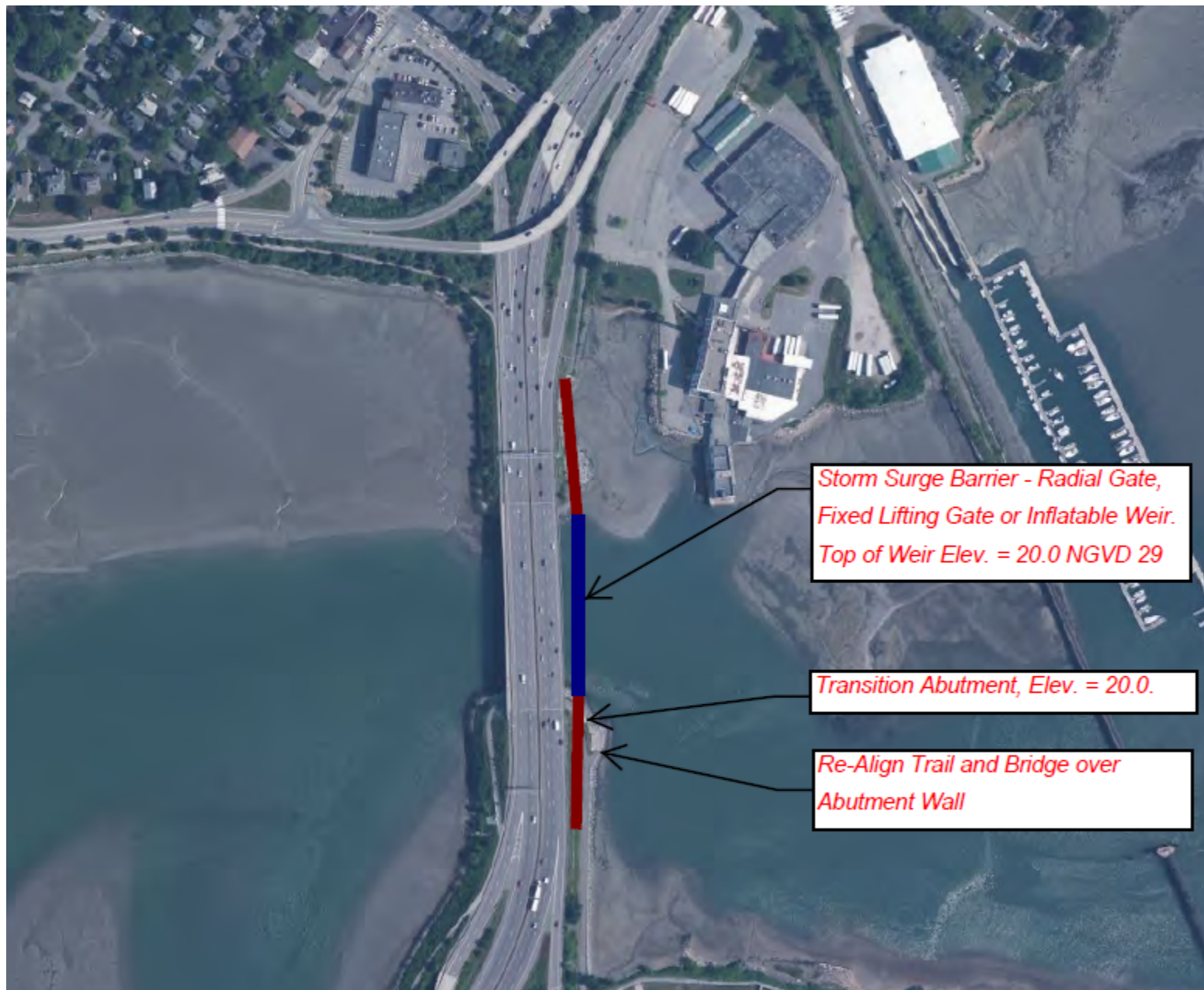
Google earth

## **Now the Portland Case:**

### **The four options:**

- 1) Do nothing
- 2) Fortify assets
- 3) Relocate assets
- 4) Accommodate higher water levels





*Storm Surge Barrier - Radial Gate,  
Fixed Lifting Gate or Inflatable Weir.  
Top of Weir Elev. = 20.0 NGVD 29*

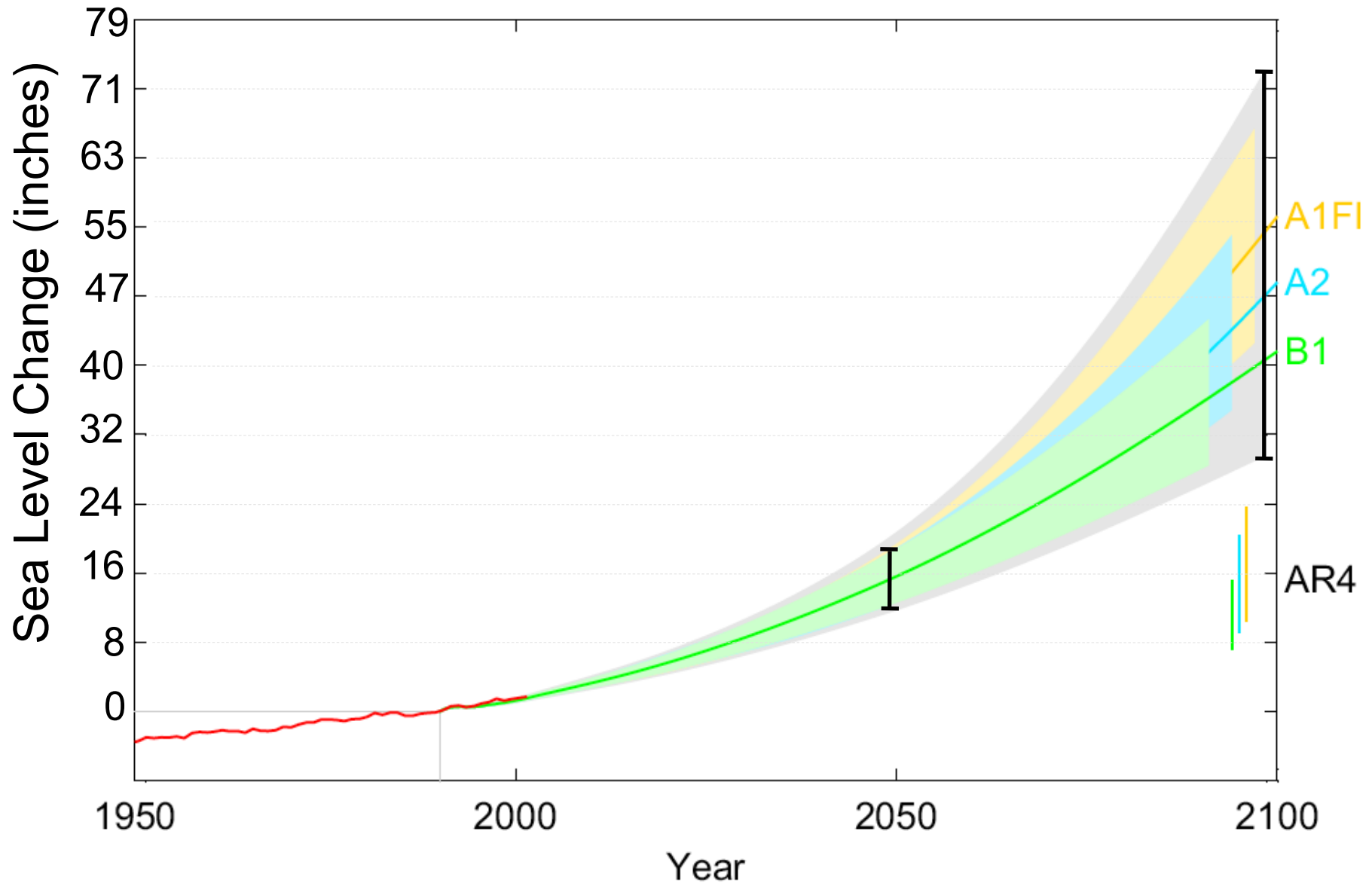
*Transition Abutment, Elev. = 20.0.*

*Re-Align Trail and Bridge over  
Abutment Wall*



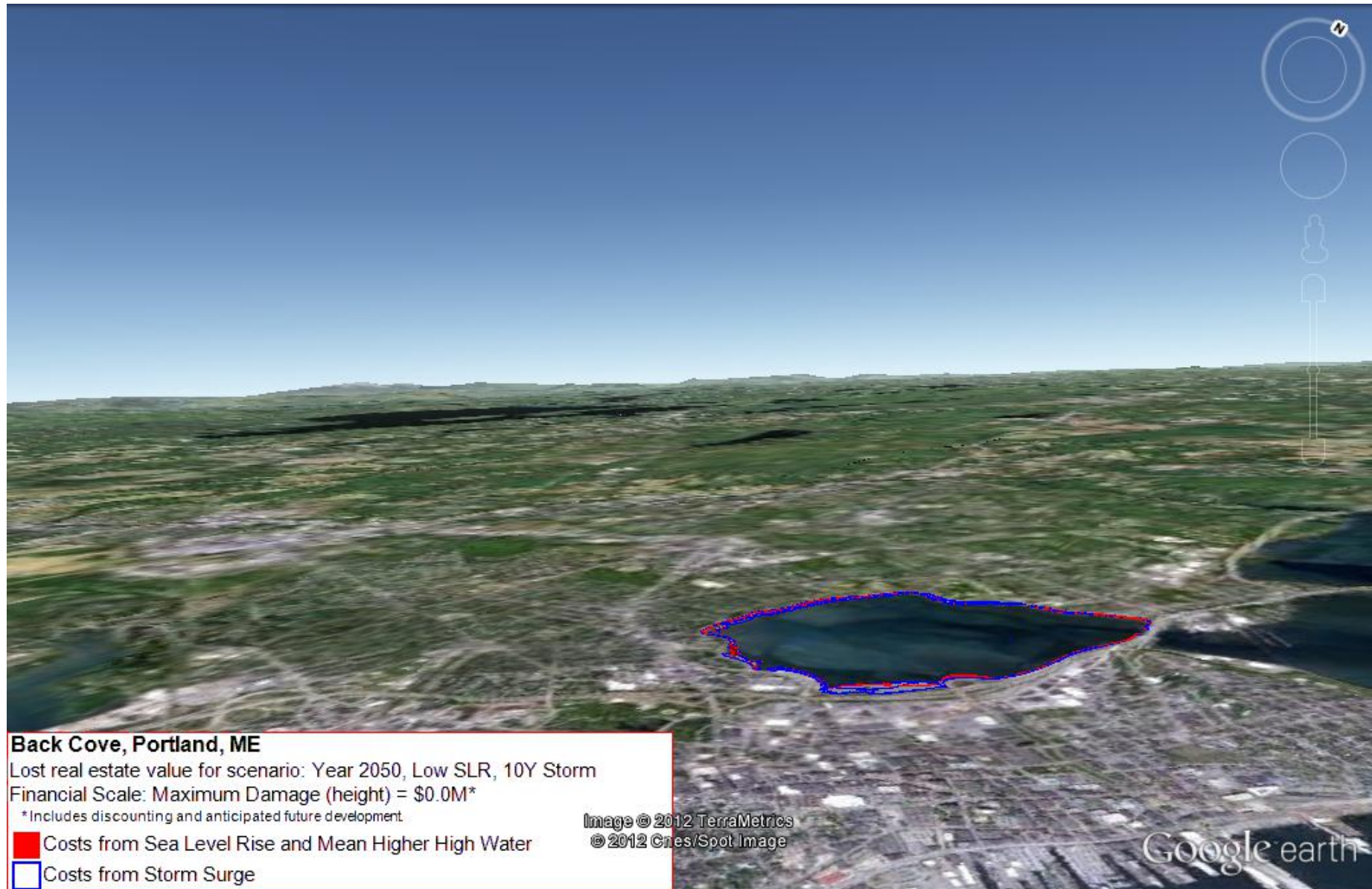


# Projection of Sea Level Rise from 1990 to 2100

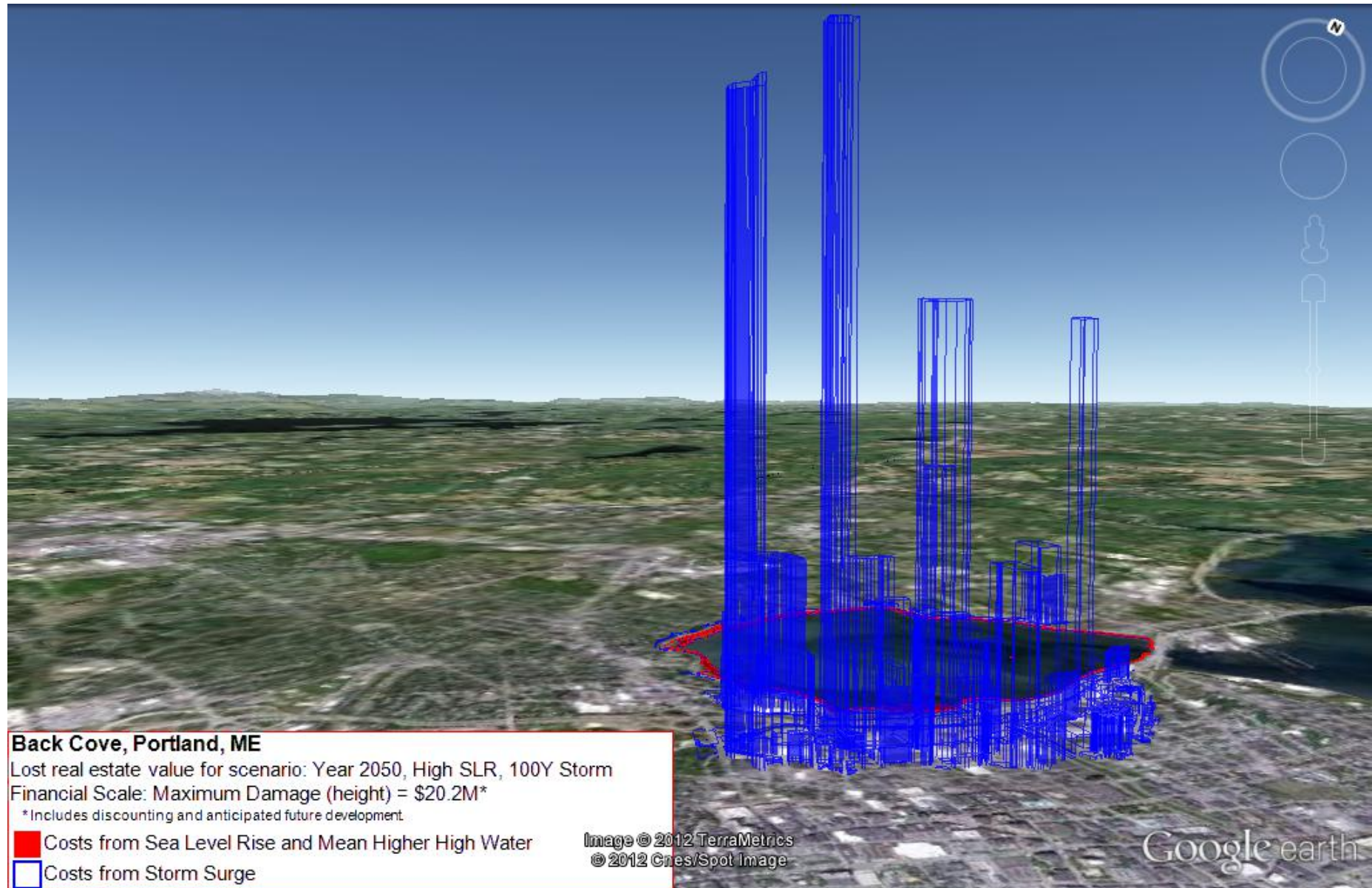




# 2050, low sea level rise, 10 year storm



# 2050, high sea level rise, 100 year storm



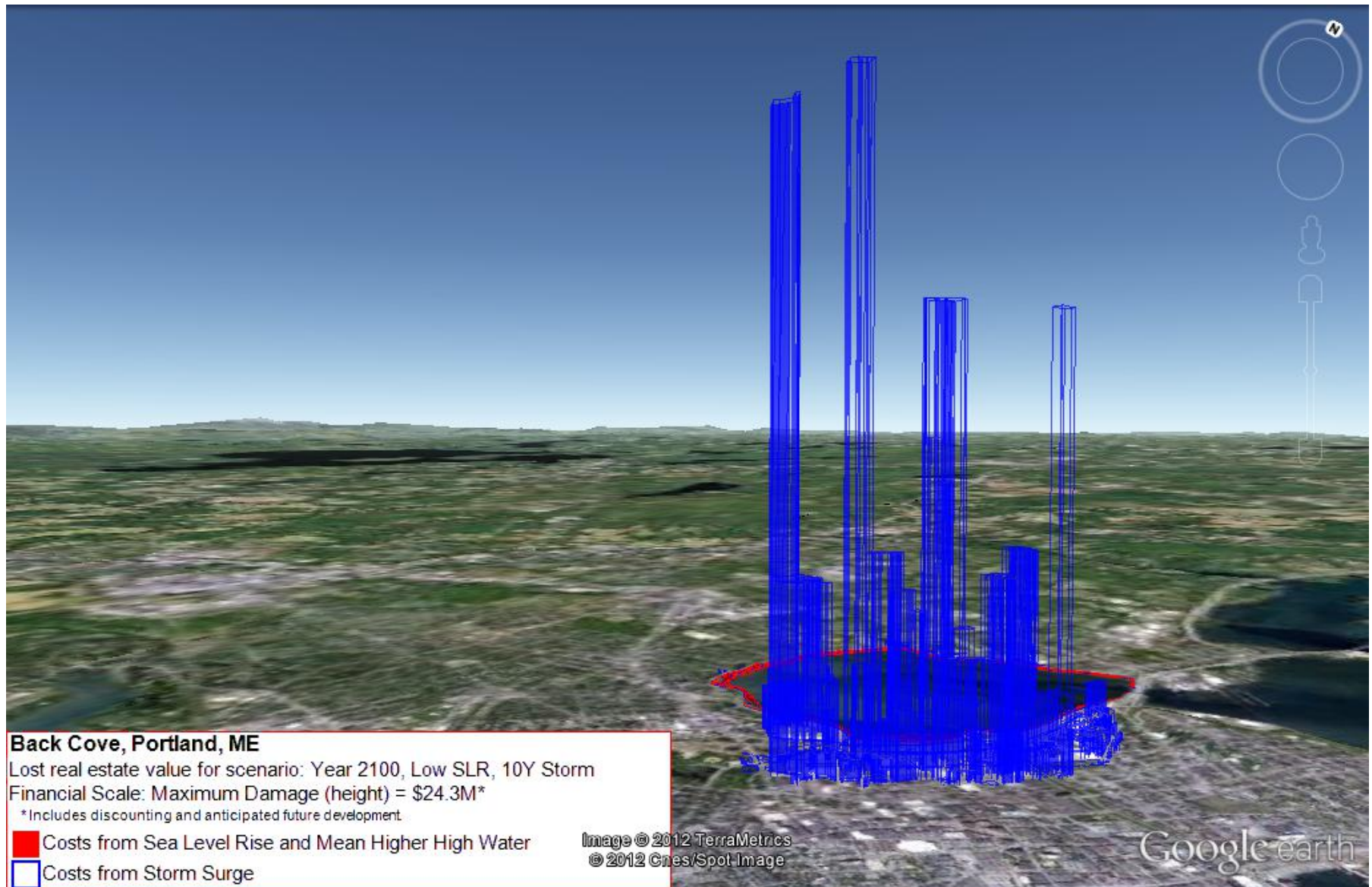
## Back Cove, Portland, Maine

### Adaptation Costs and Cumulative Expected Damages, through 2050.

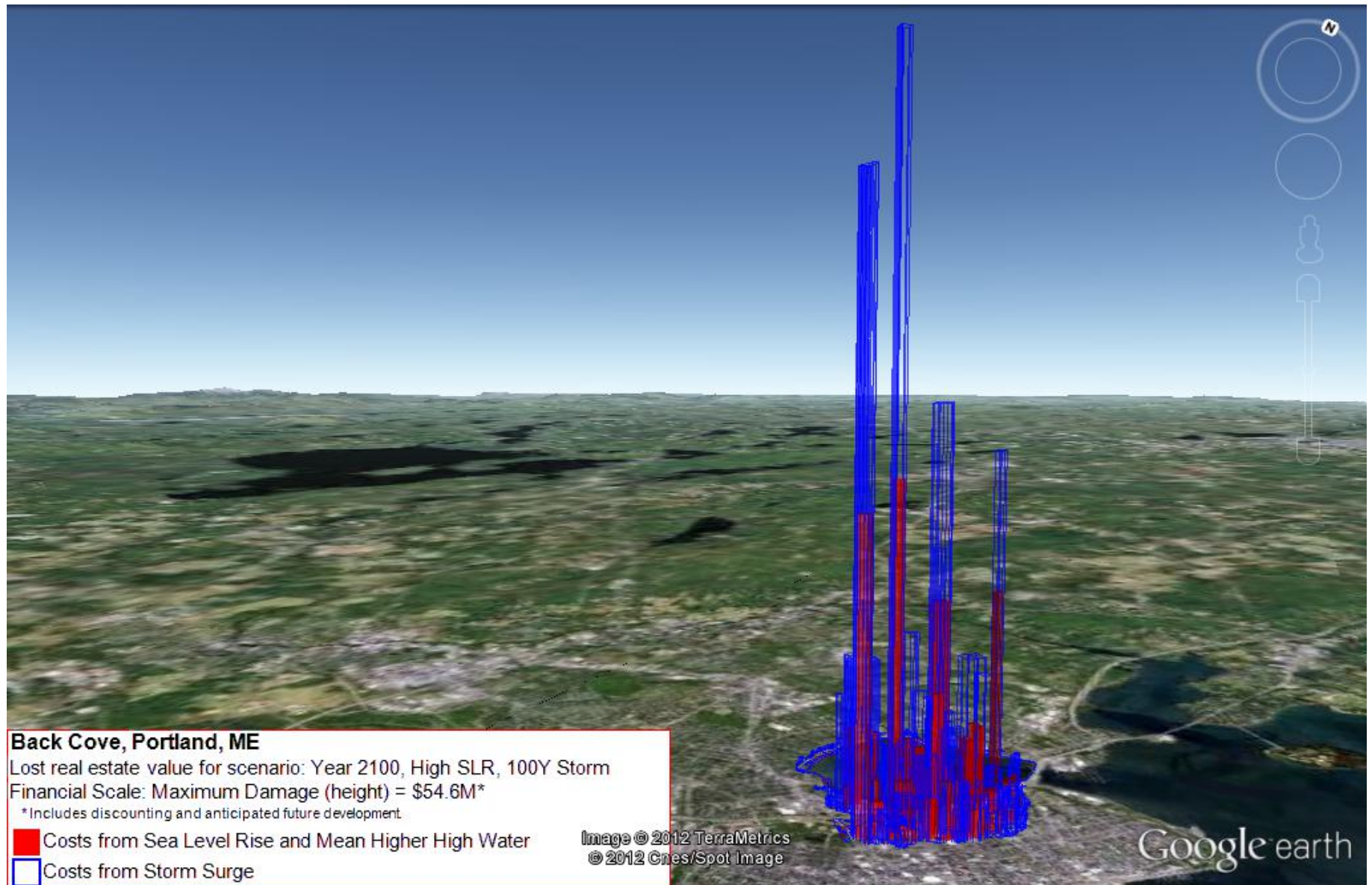
<u>2050</u> SLR Scenario	Adaptation	Cost (M)	Real Estate Damage (M)	Percent of damage from	
				Storm surge	SLR
No SLR	No Action	\$0	\$356	100%	0%
	Surge Barrier / Levee	\$103 / \$0	\$0		
Low SLR (7.9")	No Action	\$0	\$407	100%	0%
	Surge Barrier / Levee	\$103 / \$0	\$0		
High SLR (19.7")	No Action	\$0	\$447	100%	0%
	Surge Barrier / Levee	\$103 / \$0	\$0		



# 2100, low sea level rise, 10 year storm



# 2100, high sea level rise, 100 year storm



## Back Cove, Portland, Maine

### Adaptation Costs and Cumulative Expected Damages, through 2100.

<u>2100</u> SLR Scenario	Adaptation	Cost (M)	Real Estate Damage (M)	Percent of damage from Storm surge	SLR
No SLR	No Action	\$0	\$1,791	100%	0%
	Surge Barrier / Levee	\$0 / \$40	\$0		
Low SLR	No Action	\$0	\$2,674	97%	3%
(27.6")	Surge Barrier / Levee	\$0 / \$40	\$0		
High SLR	No Action	\$0	\$3,680	71%	29%
(70.9")	Surge Barrier / Levee	\$0 / \$40	\$0		







**Consider hurricane barriers for storm surge protection**

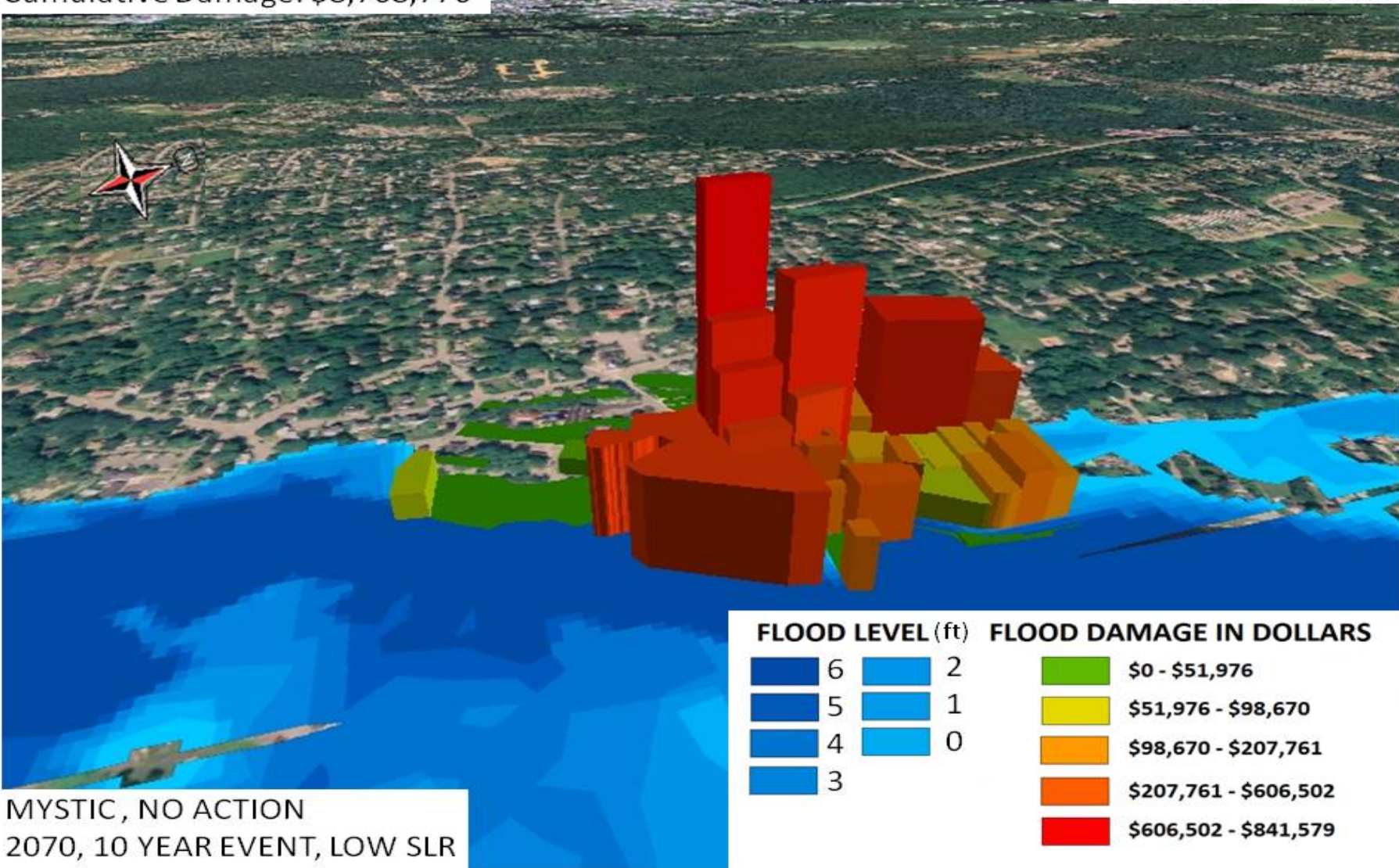




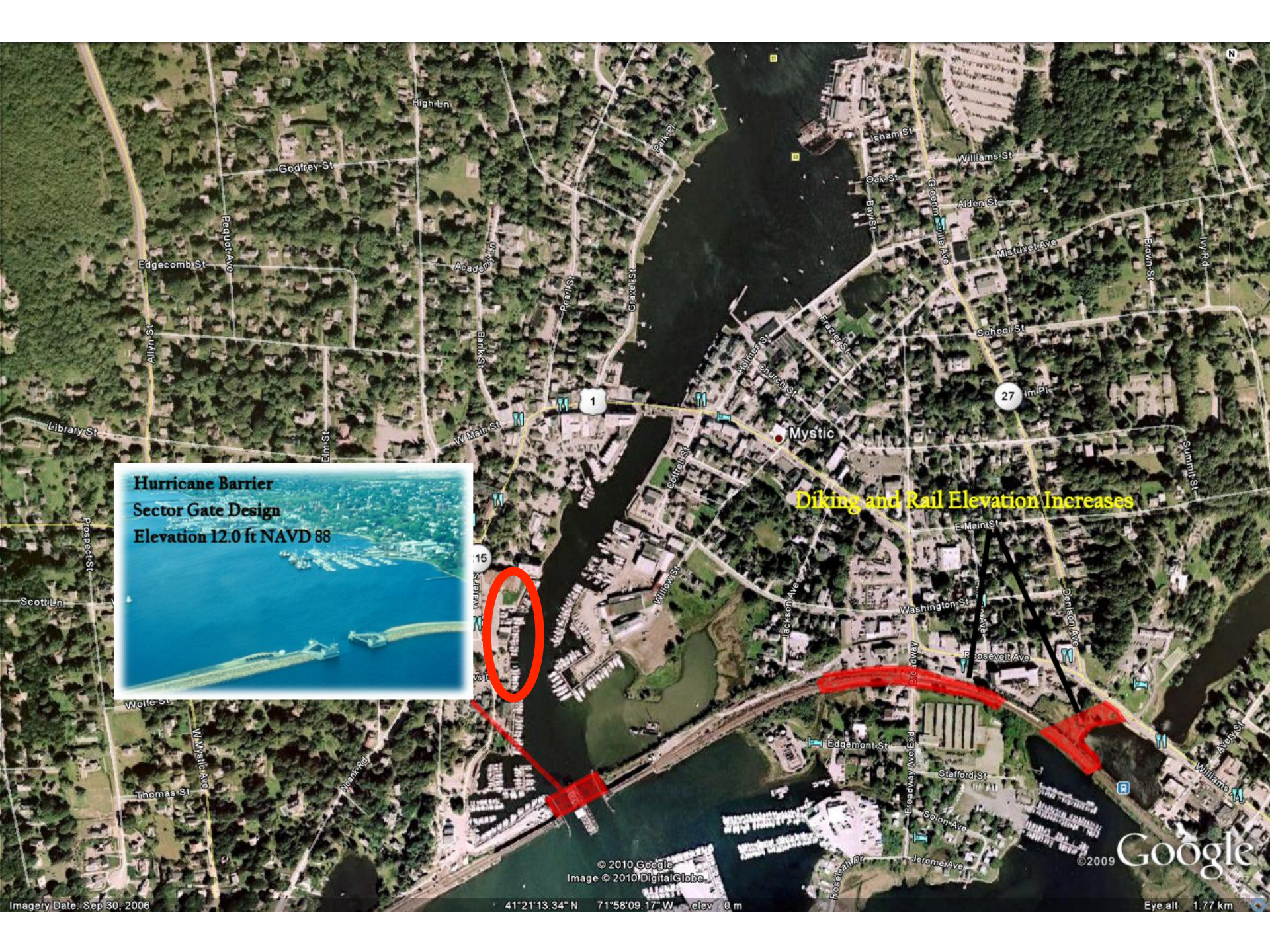


Cumulative Damage: \$8,768,776

1 CENTIMETER = 50 METERS







Hurricane Barrier  
Sector Gate Design  
Elevation 12.0 ft NAVD 88

Diking and Rail Elevation Increases

© 2010 Google  
Image © 2010 DigitalGlobe

Google

Imagery Date: Sep 30, 2006

41°21'13.34" N 71°58'09.17" W elev 0 m

Eye alt 1.77 km



Scenarios		Max. Water Elev. (ft., NAVD88)	Engineering Options	Construction Costs	Annual Maintenance Costs
Sea level rise, normal tides	A	3.2 – 4.0	No action up to minimal flood proofing and infrastructure elevation along river.	Insignificant	Insignificant
	B	5.5 – 6.5	Hurricane Barrier at Mystic River entrance.	\$18 Million	\$75,000
100-year storm event in 2010	C	5.4			
	D	7.4			
10-year storm in 2070, Hi SLR	E	7.0	Hurricane Barrier at Mystic River entrance.  <i><u>ADDITIONAL FORTIFICATION</u> and elevating the railroad, as well as increased diking to east.</i>	\$27-30 Million	\$100,000
	F	8.9			
100-year storm in 2070, Hi SLR	G	8.6			
	H	10.5	Hurricane Barrier at Mystic River entrance.  <i><u>FURTHER FORTIFICATION</u> and elevating the railroad, as well as increased diking to east.</i>	\$35 Million	\$120,000

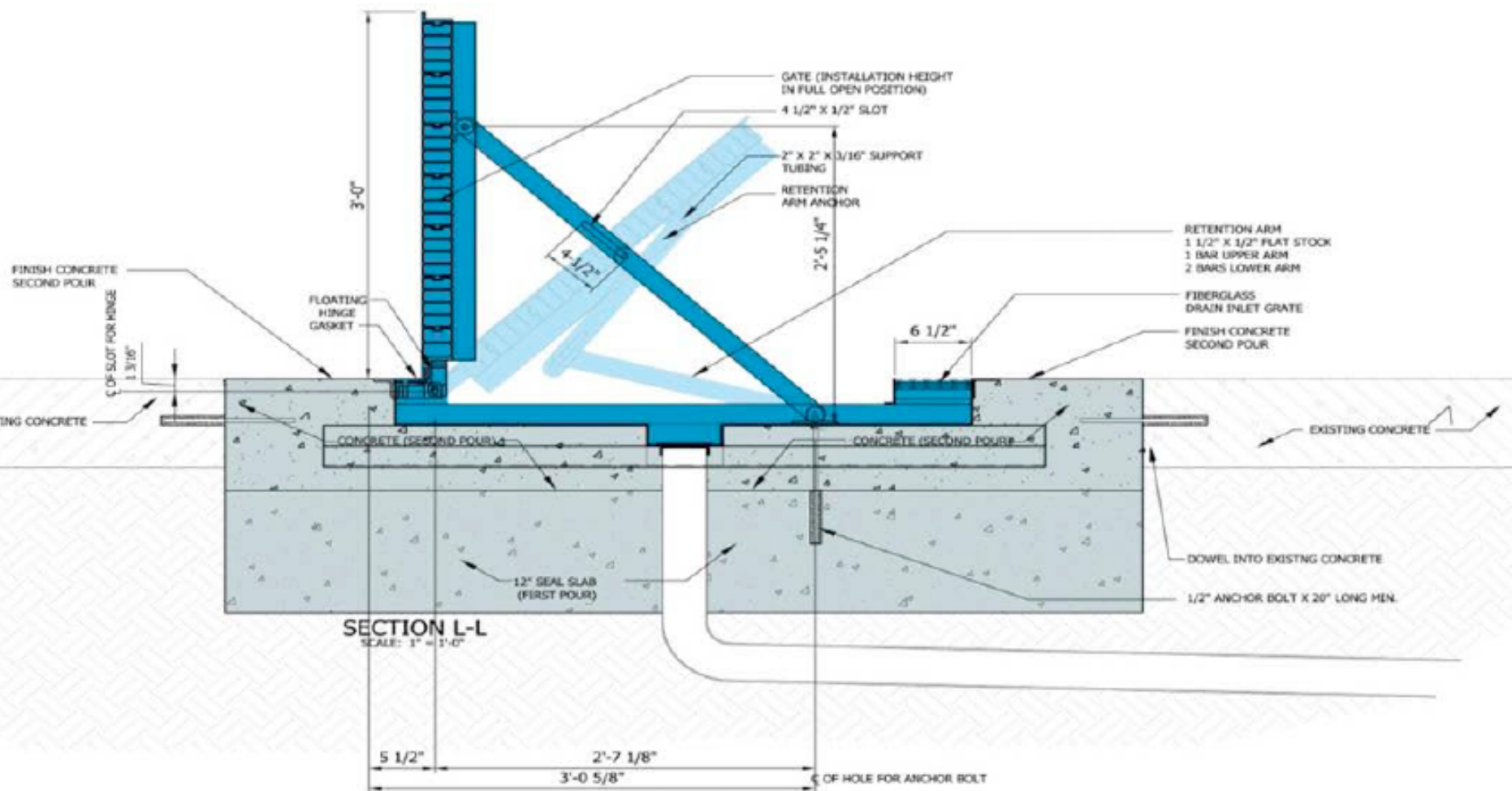


# Transit Applications





CLEARANCE 8'-2"







## File

Scenario Name: Back Cove, Portland, ME

## Input

Exceedance Curve: C:\CoastData\Portland\Sandbox\PortlandSurgeHeightExceedanceCurve ...

## Land Elevation

Layer: BackCove\_base.tif

Vertical Unit: Feet

## Flooding Scenario

Year: 2050

Eustatic SLR: High

Recurrence: 100Y

Total flood elevation for this event: 12.477 Feet (NAVD88)

## Assets

☒ Parcels

New...

Properties...

## Adaptations

☒ Levee

New...

Properties...

## Additional Parameters

Discount Rate (pct): 3.5

## Outputs

Output Data Folder: C:\CoastData\Portland\Sandbox\Testing3 ...

Summary Report File: C:\CoastData\Portland\Sandbox\Testing3\COAST\_summary.xls ...

Calculate

Close





## Search

Fly To Find Businesses Directions

Fly to e.g., 94043

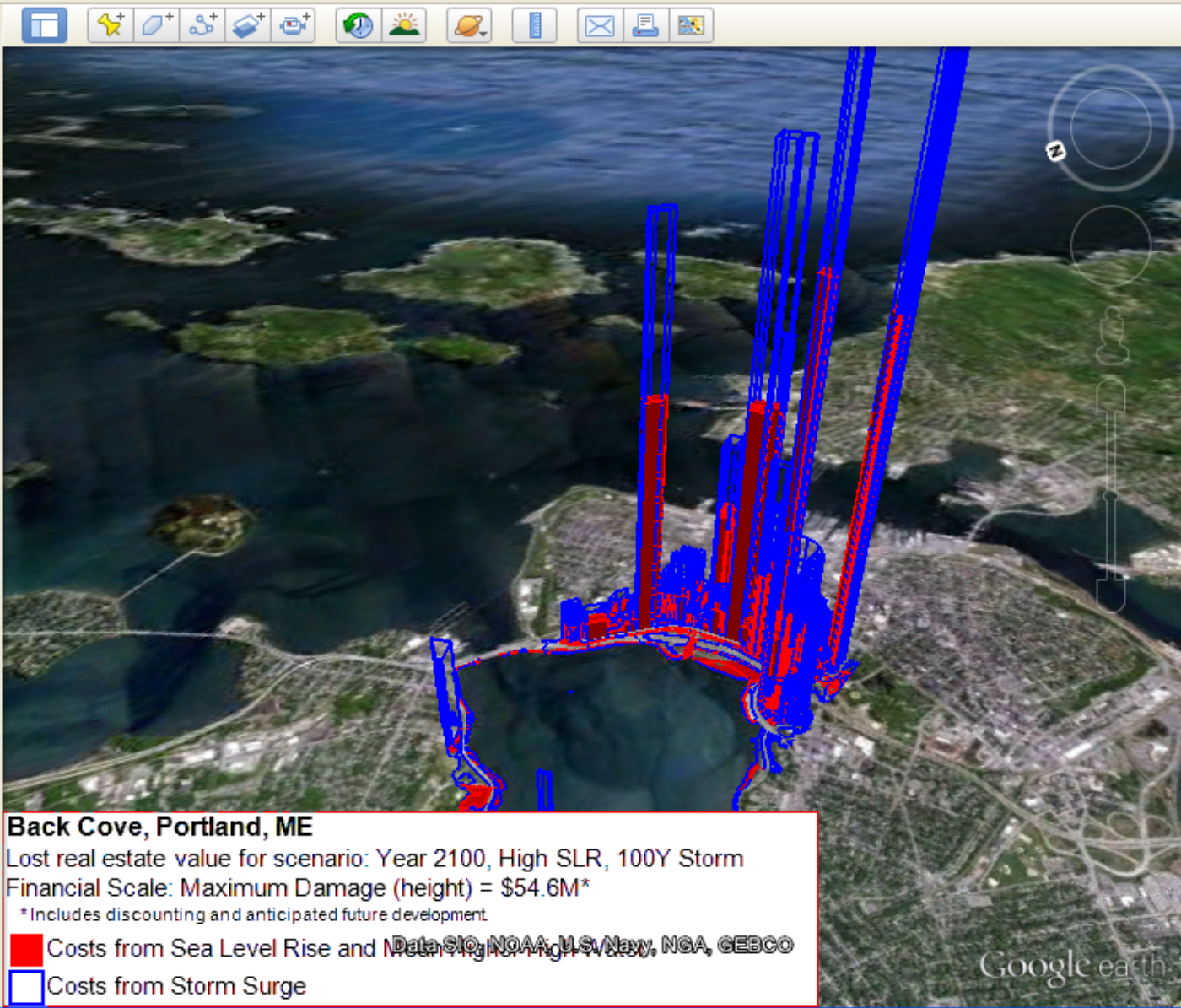
## Places

- My Places
  - Starting Location
  - Temporary Places
    - back cove, portlan...
    - back cove, portlan...
  - Temporary Places
  - Temporary Places

## Layers

Earth Gallery >>

- Primary Database
- Borders and Labels
- Places
- Photos
- Roads
- 3D Buildings
- Ocean
- Weather
- Gallery
- Global Awareness



# Sea Isle City, NJ

Geotextile Tubes

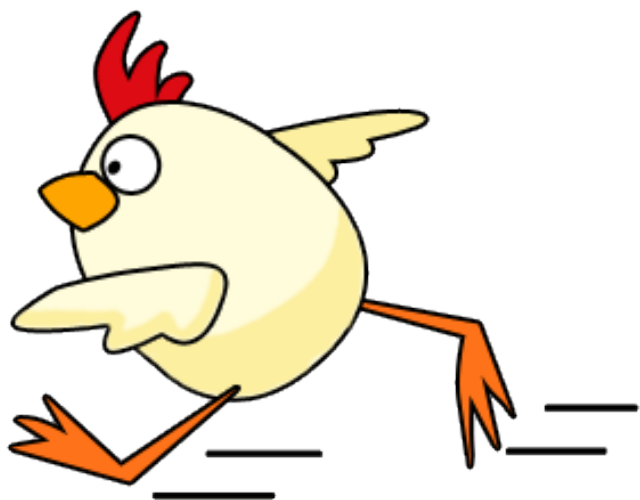


Facing the bluntness of reality is the highest form of sanity and enlightened vision.

- Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche







## Contact info:

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<http://efc.muskie.usm.maine.edu>

207-228-8596



Catalysis Adaptation Partners

[info@catalysisadaptationpartners.com](mailto:info@catalysisadaptationpartners.com)

<http://www.catalysisadaptation.com>

207-615-7523

