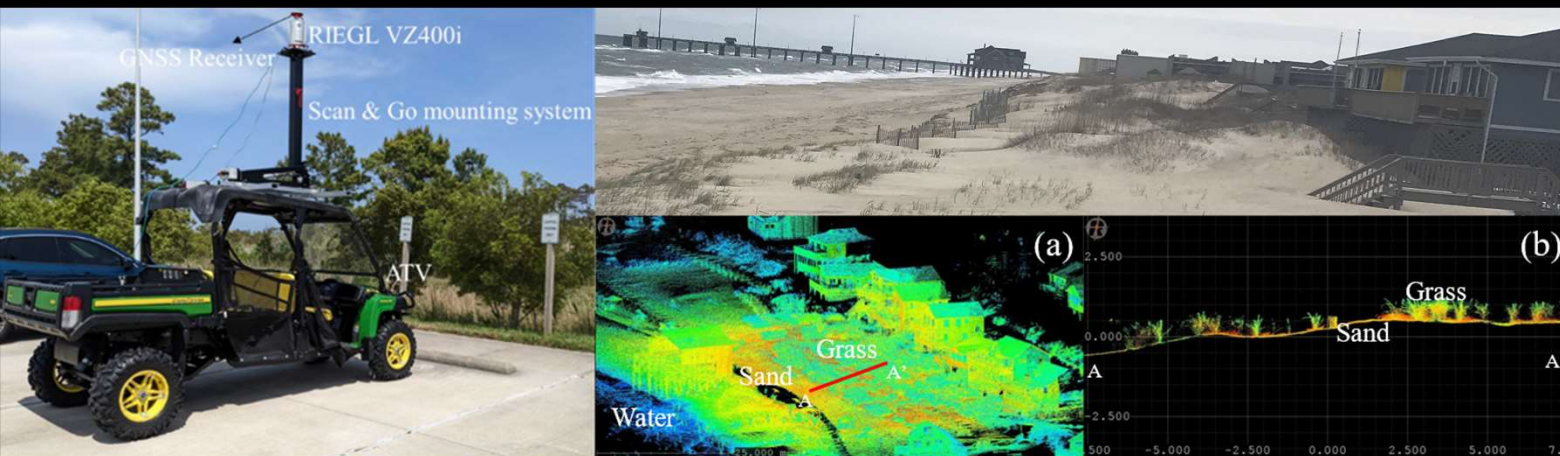


# Project: Using lidar to assess impacts of dune restoration on coastal resilience in North Carolina



Lin Xiong

David Lagomasino

Amanda Payton

Shalimar Moreno

xiong121@ecu.edu

| Time (EDT)                         | Title                      | Presenter(s)   |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| 10:00am – 10:20am<br><b>20 min</b> | Welcome and introduction   | All            |
| 10:20am – 10:50am<br><b>30 min</b> | Project overview           | Lin Xiong      |
| 10:50am – 11:00am<br><b>10 min</b> | Lidar demonstration        | Lin Xiong      |
| 11:00am – 11:10am<br><b>10 min</b> | Break                      |                |
| 11:10am – 11:30am<br><b>20 min</b> | Beach nourishment projects | David M. Ryan  |
| 11:30am – 11:50am<br><b>20 min</b> | BBOBX overview             | Phil Delpierre |
| 11:50am – 12:10am<br><b>20 min</b> | Questions and comments     | All            |
| 12:10am – 1:00pm<br><b>50 min</b>  | Group photo and lunch      | All            |

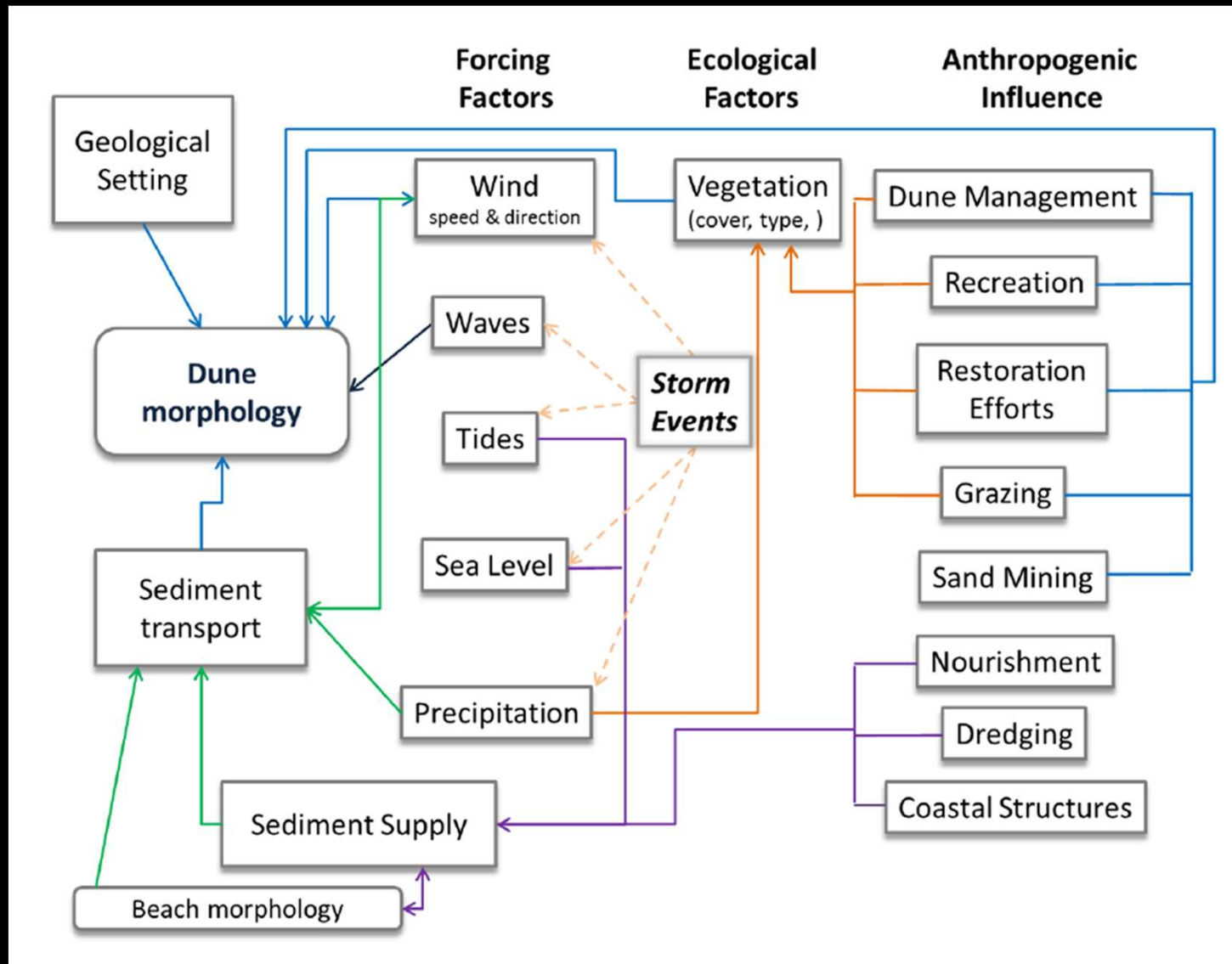
# Outline

- Background
- Goals and objectives
- Method
- Expected outcomes
- Project plan
- Preliminary result

# Background

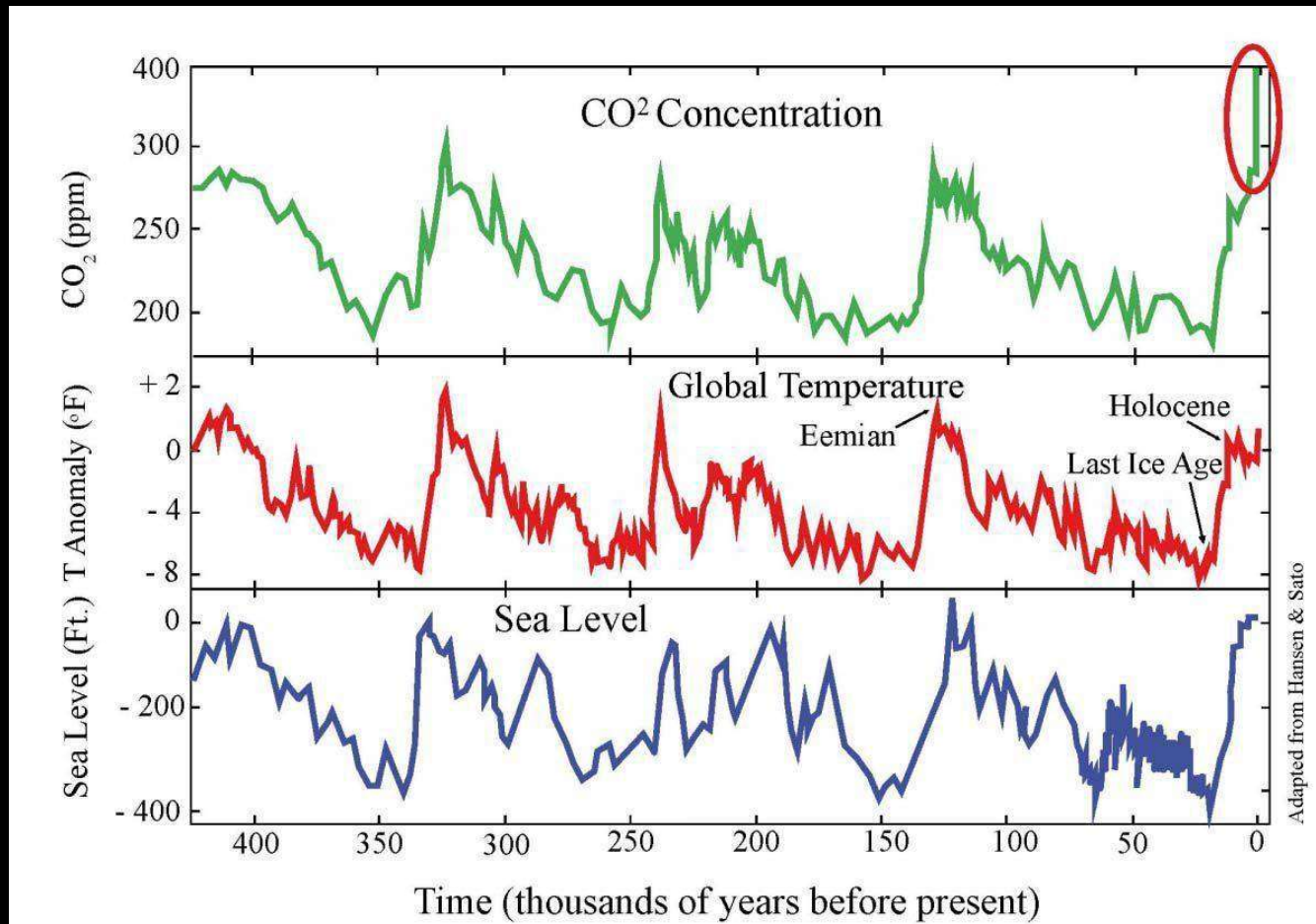
- Coastal beaches and dunes are natural barriers at low-lying coastal margins (Barbier et al., 2011).
- They can reduce flood and protect communities.
- In OBX, these ecosystems support millions of annual visitors and a 2.3-billion-dollar tourism industry.





(Del Angel, 2012)

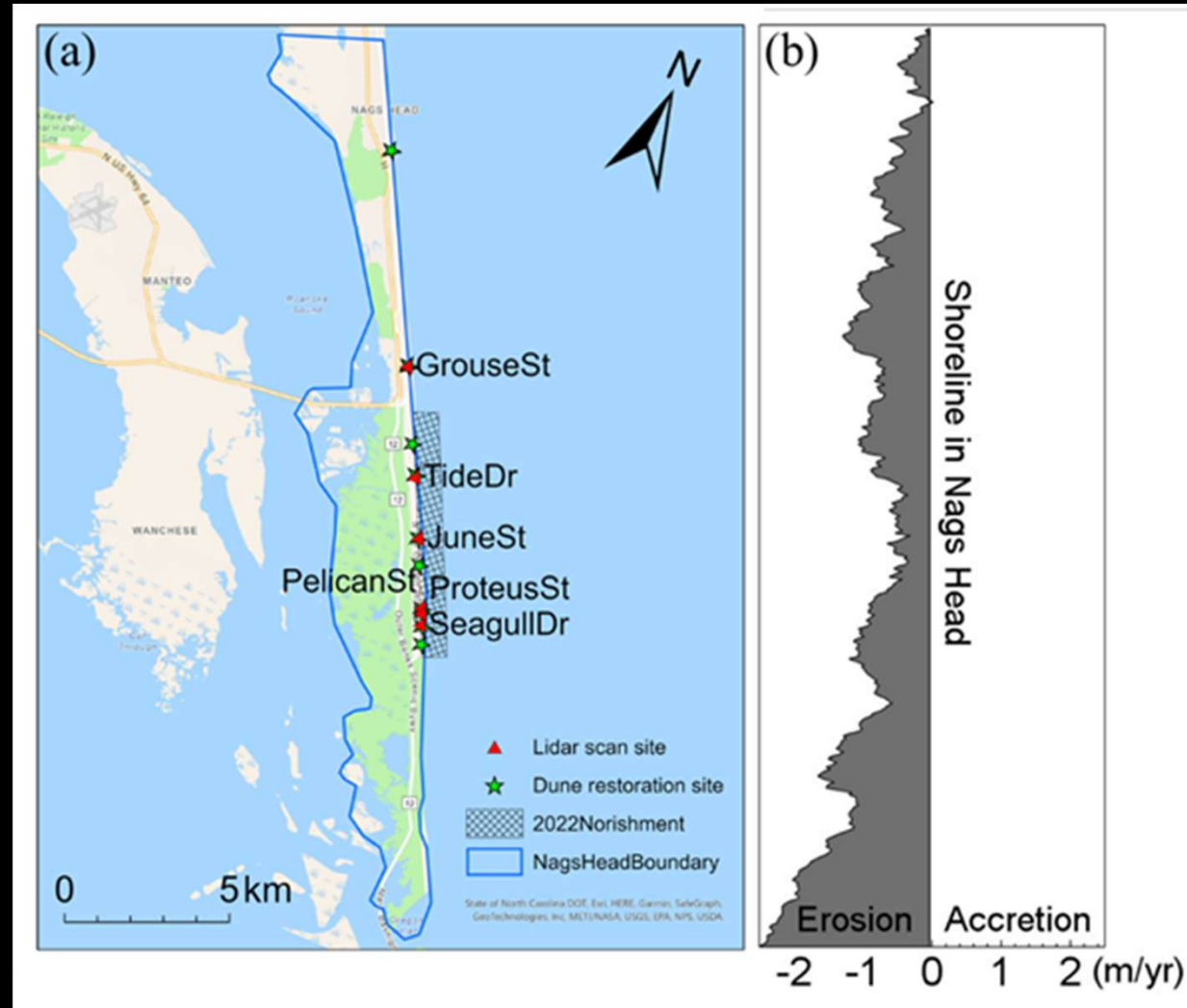
# CO<sub>2</sub>, Temperature, and Sea Level



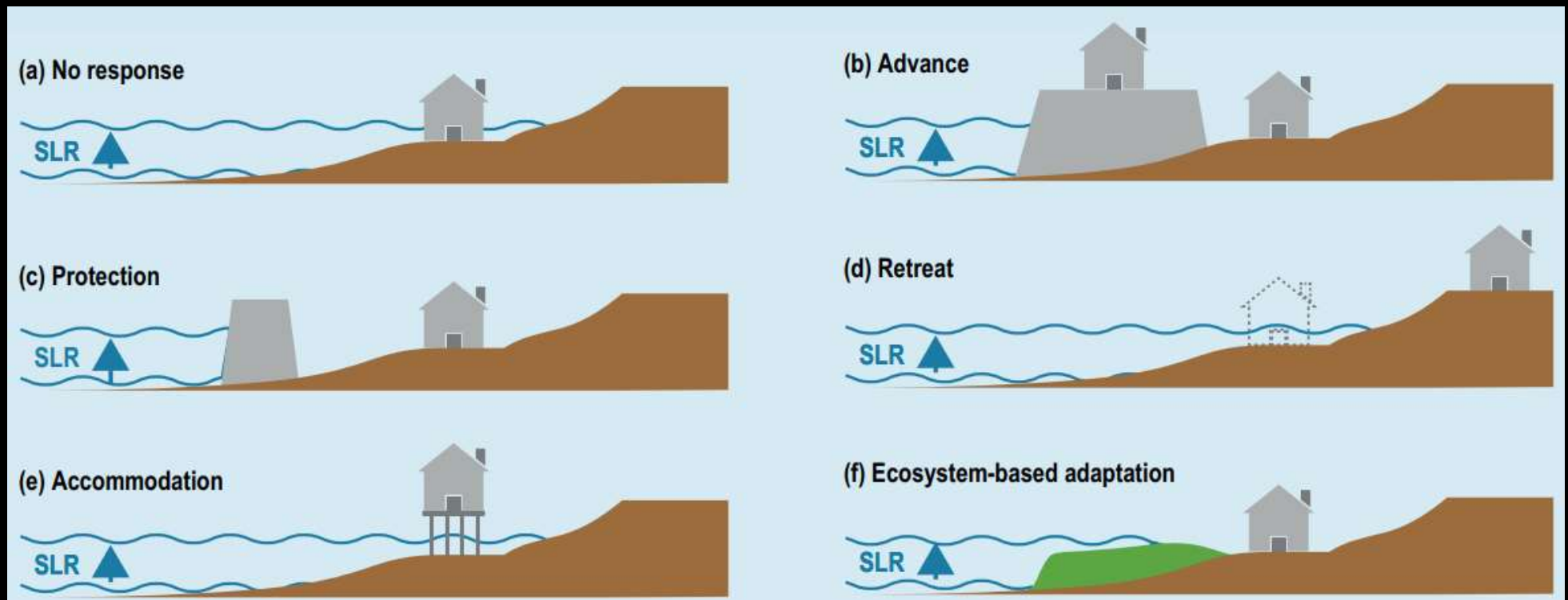


# Coastal erosion in Nags Head

- Nags Head is a town in the OBX and sits on a barrier island system that stretches 17 miles separating the sounds from the Atlantic Ocean.
- The town has the largest sand dune system along the US east coast (Mitasova et al., 2005) but has sustained significant erosion over the past 50 years leading to economic damage (Kaczkowski et al., 2018).
- The average shoreline erosion rate from 1949 to 2016 in Nags Head was  $0.9 \text{ m yr}^{-1}$  with a maximum value of  $2.5 \text{ m yr}^{-1}$  (NC Division of Coastal Management, 2019).



# Different types of responses to coastal risk and sea level rise (SLR)



IPCC report, 2019, Chapter 4: Sea Level Rise and Implications for Low-Lying Islands, Coasts and Communities.  
[https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/3/2019/12/SROCC\\_FullReport\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/3/2019/12/SROCC_FullReport_FINAL.pdf)



# Goals and objectives

- 1) Quantify beach and dune dynamics at dune stabilization sites (e.g., dune grass, Christmas trees, sand fences, control)
- 2) Present findings and recommendations to BBOBX and Town of Nags Head

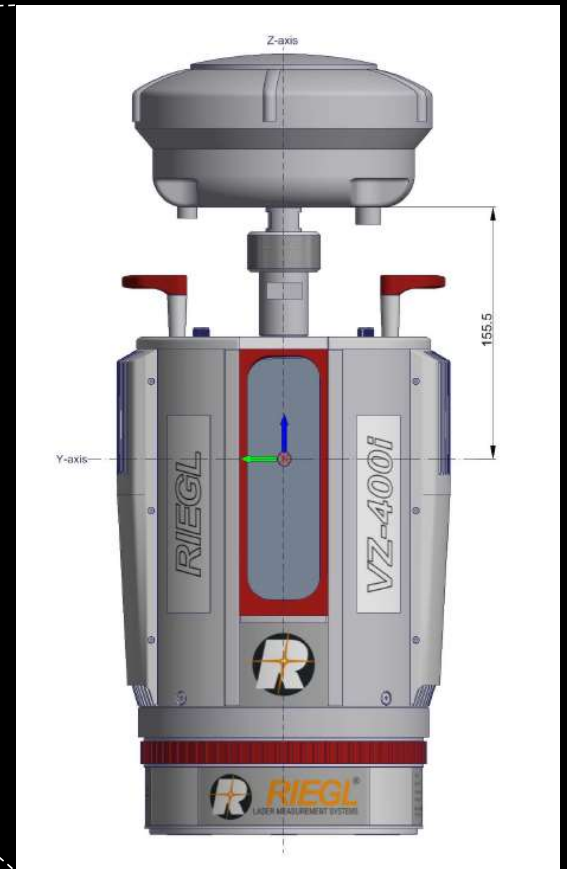


Nags Head Beach Restoration Project, July 2022



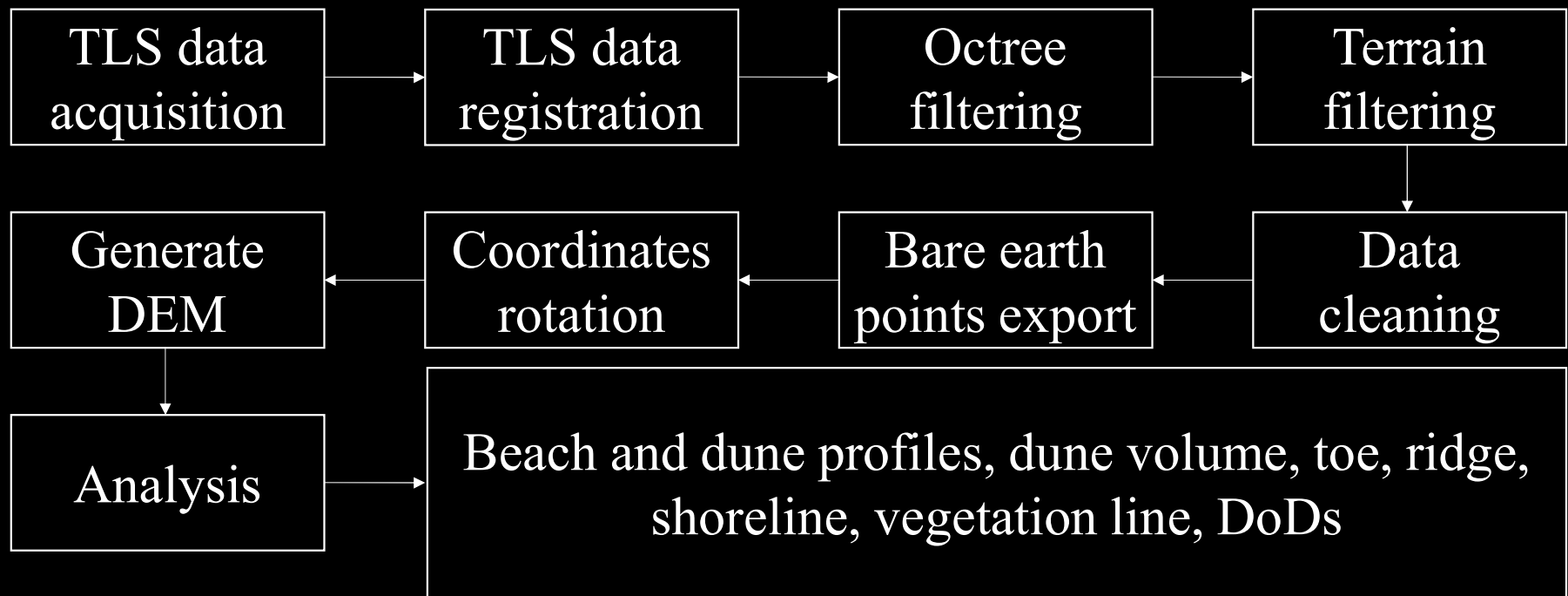
Grass planting by BBOBX, March 2022

# Method (Coastal Laser Scanner System)



# TLS introduction

# Workflow for TLS data processing



## Expected results in the final report

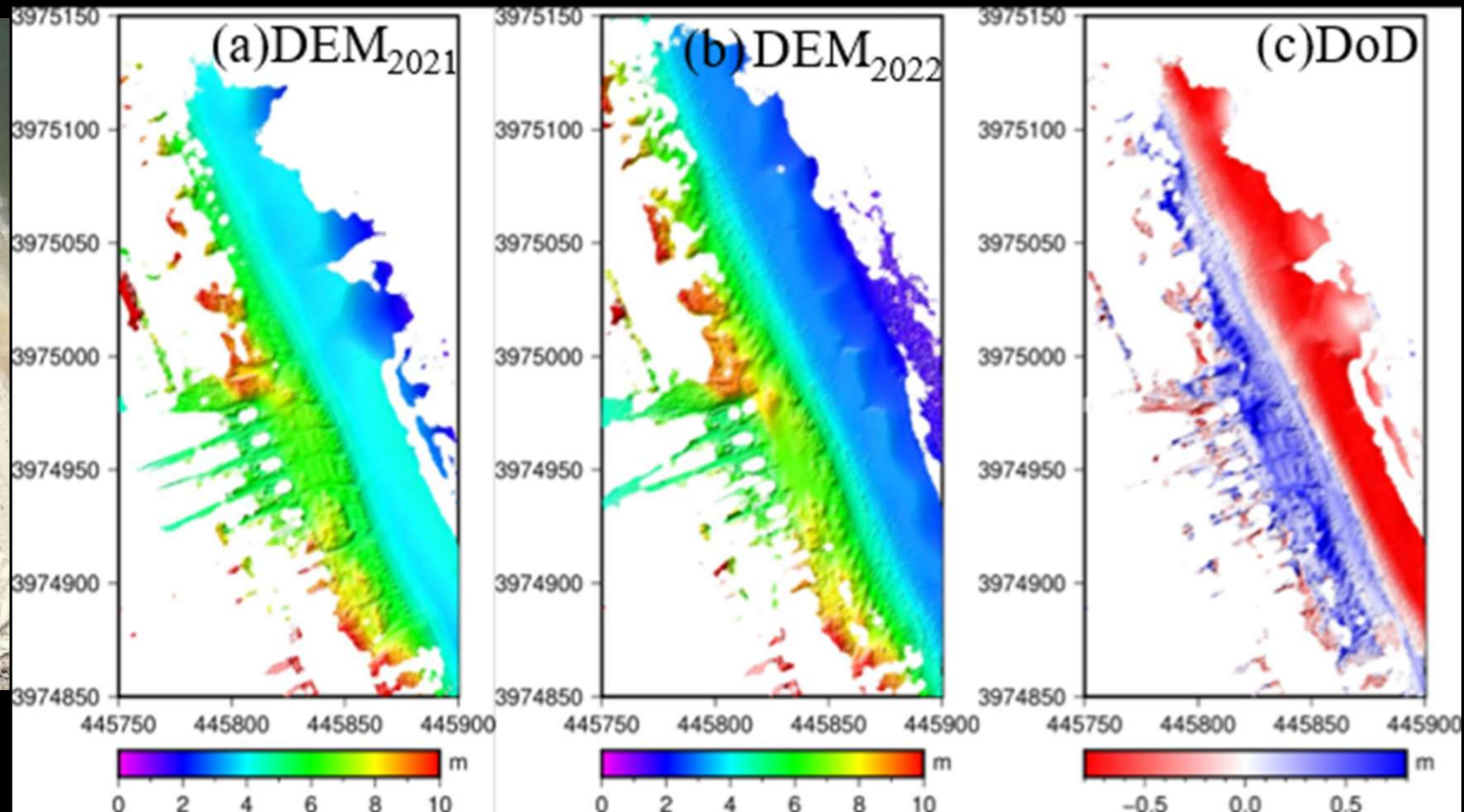
- 1) lidar point cloud data of coastal beach and dunes in LAS format,
- 2) data processing codes that will be openly shared in GitHub,
- 3) high-resolution (10 cm  $\times$  10 cm) and high-accuracy ( $\sim$ 2 cm) Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) and Difference of DEMs (DoDs) before and after restoration,
- 4) changes in dune toe, ridge, volume, shoreline and vegetation,
- 5) interactive webmaps using Google Earth Engine Apps to share results for stakeholders and the community,
- 6) recommendations for future dune restoration management

# Lidar data collection plan

| Street name                  | Grass planting | Lat         | Lon          | Previous lidar scan | Tentative dates to scan |        |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|
|                              |                |             |              | Aug-21              | Oct-22                  | Feb-23 |
| E Hollowell St               | 2020           | 35.96879037 | -75.62949172 | ✗                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| Grouse St                    | NA             | 35.91764384 | -75.60046747 | ✓                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| E Hardgrove St               | 2018           | 35.89866694 | -75.59046745 | ✗                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| E Tides Dr                   | 2020           | 35.8912571  | -75.58598779 | ✓                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| E June St                    | 2016           | 35.87594669 | -75.57819969 | ✗                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| Juncos St                    | 2018           | 35.86953018 | -75.57482149 | ✗                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| E Pelican St                 | 2020           | 35.85909248 | -75.56929812 | ✓                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| E Proteus Ct                 | 2020           | 35.85808069 | -75.56867672 | ✓                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| E Seagull Dr                 | 2020           | 35.85463535 | -75.56706868 | ✓                   | ✓                       | ✓      |
| 10333A S Old Oregon Inlet Rd | NA             | 35.85018377 | -75.56521494 | ✗                   | ✓                       | ✓      |



# DEMs and DoD of beach and dunes

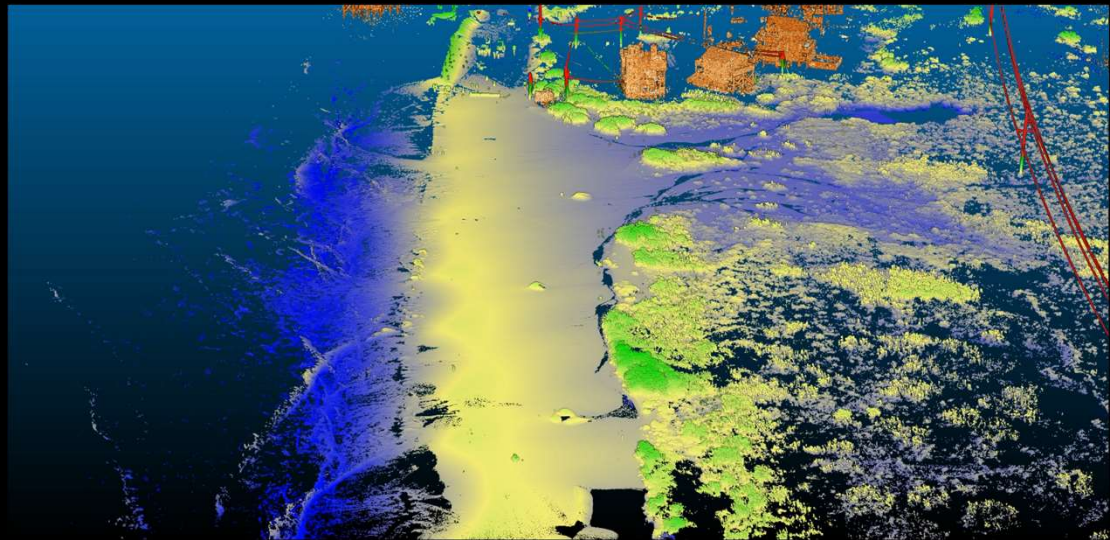


- Location: Grouse Street, Nags Head, Time: August 2021 and March 2022

# Washover area in Mirlo Beach



Drone photo from NBC news  
([www.nbcnews.com](http://www.nbcnews.com), 10/07/2022)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmqcRLaEmww>



A photograph of a beach scene. In the foreground, there are sand dunes with clumps of green beach grass. Several wooden fences, made of vertical slats, are planted in the sand, likely to stabilize the dunes. In the background, a wide sandy beach leads to the ocean under a clear sky.

Questions & comments?