



Development of a Coastal Resilience Framework, North Shore of Lake Erie

Pete Zuzek, Linda Mortsch, Larry Hildebrand October 13, 2022



Presentation Outline

- I. Study Area
- II. Approach to Work Plan
- III. Key Work Plan Activities
- IV. Questions and Discussion



Background on the Coastal Zone Canada Association



- Incorporated in 1993
- Objectives:
 - Promoting the understanding, appreciation, and awareness of the uniqueness and value of the coastal areas of Canada
 - Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information for the sustainable use and development of coastal areas in Canada
 - Host meetings, organize conferences, and generate reports
- Executed 14 conferences across Canada since 1994
- June 11 to 14, 2023 Conference in Victoria, BC
- https://www.coastalzonecanada.org/





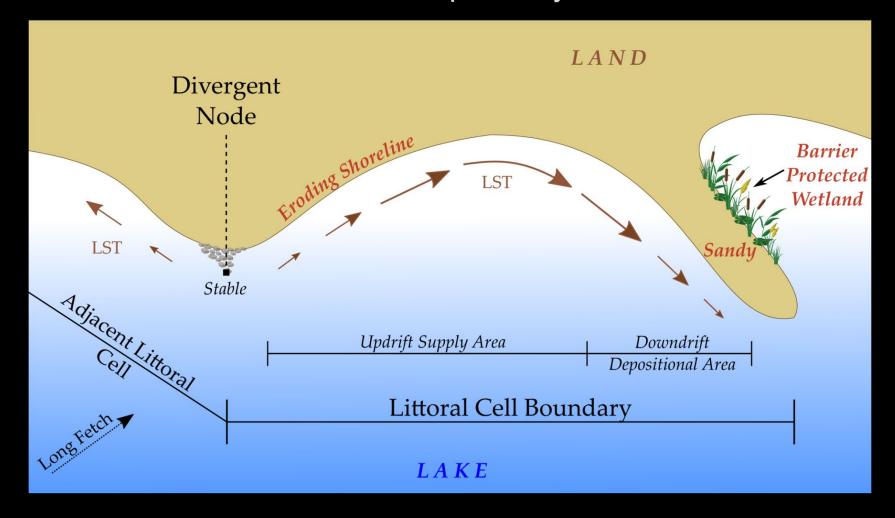
I – STUDY AREA, LITTORAL CELLS, AND GEODIVERSITY





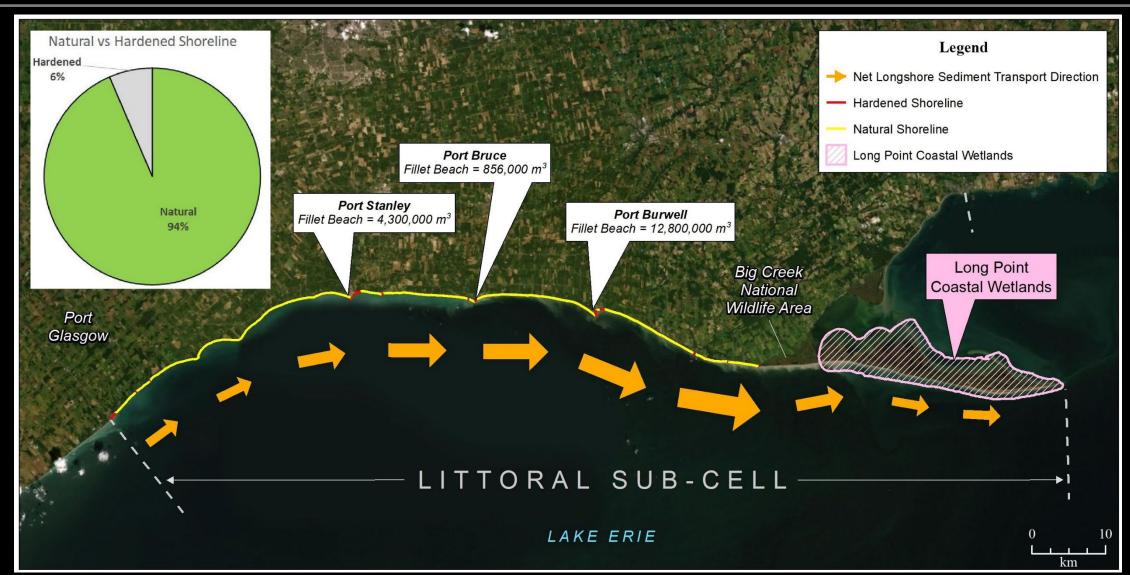
Scale is a Critical Component in the Design of the Framework

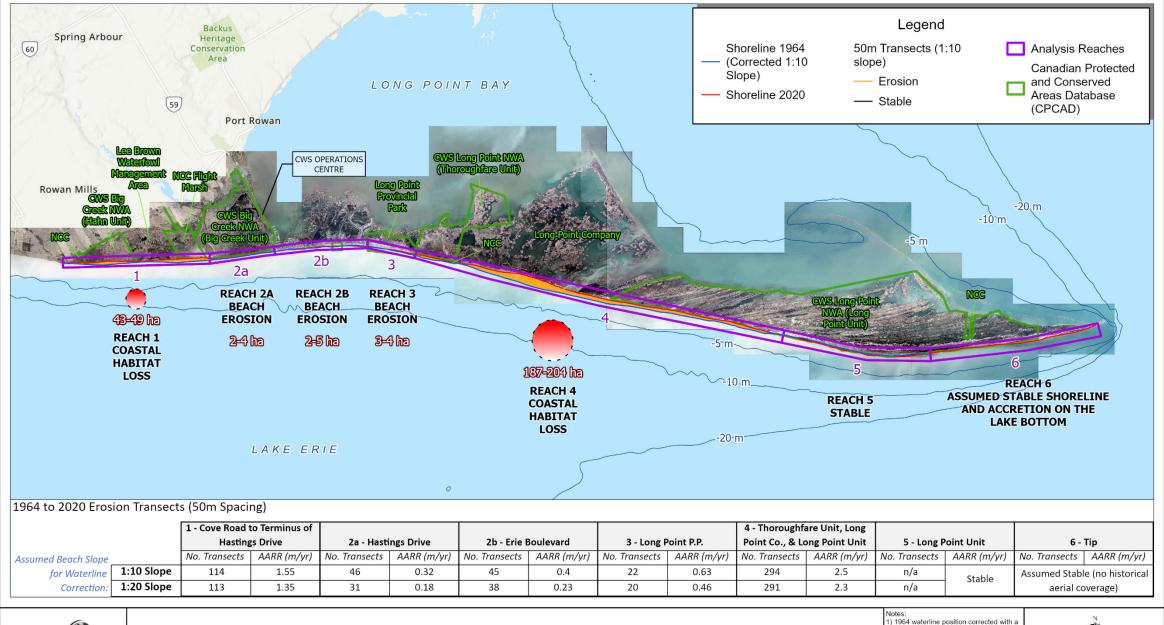
• Littoral Cells define sediment sources, pathways, and sinks





Long Point Littoral Cell 18M m³ Trapped at Three Harbours



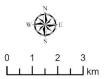




1964 to 2020 Long Point Sand Spit Evolution and Habitat Loss

1) 1964 waterline position corrected with 1:10 and 1:20 slope to correspond to the 2020 water level.

2) AARR = Averaged Annualized Recession Rate in metres per year. 3) 2020 orthos provided by the Canadian Wildlife Service. 1964 air photos provided by Long Point Region C.A.



500+ Hectares of Wetland Habitat Loss in Rondeau Bay and Rondeau Provincial Park



Point Pelee National Park and the Hillman Marsh Wetland Habitat Loss

- PPNP: Lost ~80 hectares of coastal wetlands since 1930s
- Hillman Marsh: Lost 150 hectares of wetlands since 1954









Impaired Coastal Processes Result in Geodiversity and Biodiversity Declines

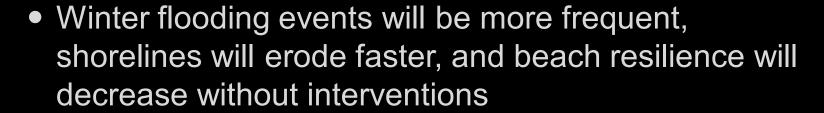
- Shoreline armouring has reduced natural sediment supply
- Harbours have disrupted alongshore sediment transport
- Serious threats to geodiversity, which is biodiversity's silent partner
- Collectively, 1,000 hectares of coastal wetlands have been permanently lost at Long Point, Rondeau, Hillman Marsh, and Point Pelee National Park
- Annex 7, Habitat and Species, of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement calls for Net Habitat Gain

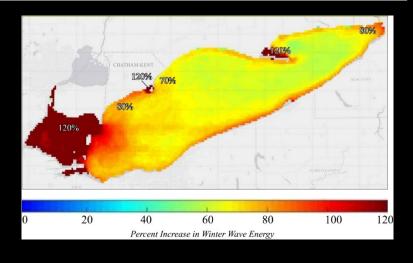




Climate Change Is Increasing Threats to Communities and Infrastructure

- Higher highs during wet periods are projected
- Ice cover has decreased dramatically and will continue to decline
- Winter wave energy will increase 50 to 100% across the lakes

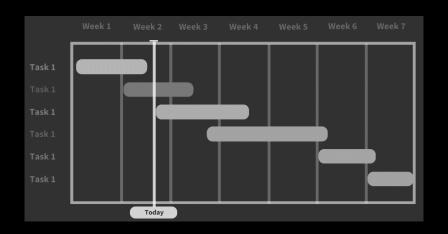








II – APPROACH FOR WORK PLAN





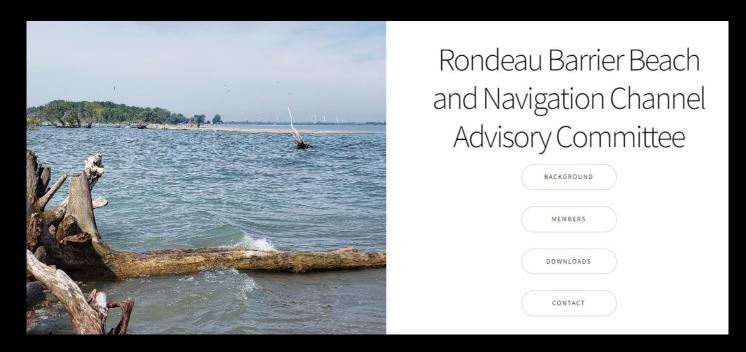
By Everyone For Everyone

- The Coastal Resilience Framework requires an 'all of society approach'
- Think Tank members will play an important role in guiding the Framework's development
- Government agency participation is critical to achieving collective Framework goals and will also support individual agency mandates
- Landowner and Stakeholder participation begins in the next Fiscal Year (April 2023)



Website for Information and File Sharing

- If the Think Tank see benefits in a common space to share information and files (e.g., minutes, presentations, reports, etc.), a website can be setup
- Would be similar to the Rondeau Advisory Committee:
 - http://www.zuzekinc.ca/rondeau/





III – KEY WORK PLAN ACTIVITIES





Finalize Narrative, Goals, and Objectives

- Establish draft goals and objectives with the Think Tank (November meeting)
- Review and revise the draft narrative (November & December meetings)
- Share draft narrative, goals, and objectives with communities, landowners, stakeholders (next fiscal year)
- Each meeting will address specific topics to advance development of Framework



Legislation and Policy Scan

- Recommendation from Think Tank discussions
 - Sets baseline context for understanding coastal governance in Great Lakes region (combined with documentation of priorities and programs)
- Final version developed in collaboration with Think Tank members
 - Organized by scale and agency (e.g., Municipal, CA, Provincial, Federal)
 - LURA Stakeholder mapping will address NGOs
- Use excel file as template for input
 - Key questions (e.g., agency mandate, relevant legislation (with link), partners identified)
 - Draft prepared and circulated for review by Think Tank members (after Oct. meeting)
 - Working template provided by email and populating by Think Tank members with results compiled into Master document (timing?)



Document Relevant Existing Government Priorities and Programs

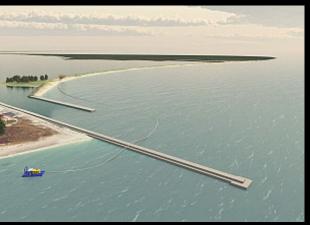
- Purpose is to identify current agency/government priorities and programs that can contribute to advancing coastal resilience
- Combined in Excel file with the legislation and policy scan to organize effort



Draft-in-Progress Framework by March 2023

- Review similar domestic and International frameworks
- Collaborate with LURA on the outputs from the stakeholder mapping exercise
- Some potential components of the framework were recently highlighted in an integrated climate change adaptation report prepared for NRCan
- Strategies already developed to restore geodiversity in littoral cells and protect barrier landforms (Measures 2A to 2D, ECCC Coastal Wetlands Resilience Study)







IV - QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

