



# Living Shoreline Opportunity: Edith Read Wildlife Sanctuary

**Westchester County Legislator Catherine Parker  
District 7**



# PROJECT DESIGN TEAM



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Coastal Ecologist



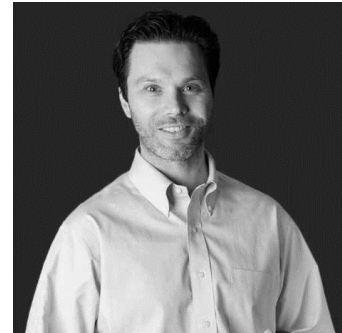
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Project Manager



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Regulatory Specialist



ROY SCHIFF, PhD, PE  
2d Hydrodynamic Modeler



MIKE DOHERTY, PLA  
Landscape Architect

# HISTORIC AERIAL IMAGERY

## 1940



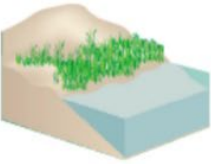
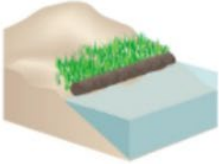
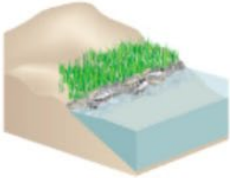
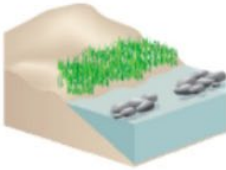
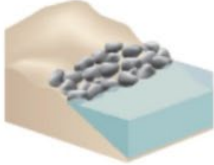
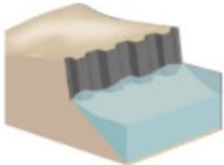
# HISTORIC AERIAL IMAGERY 1925



# HISTORY & timeline

- Playland built in 1928
- Manursing Pond created between 1925 and 1940.
- Nor'easter in December 1992: Shoreline and sanctuary access road severely eroded by strong wave action.
- Further damage to the Sanctuary and Playland Park during subsequent tropical cyclones and other storms.
- County installed hard armoring and dune system along the shoreline to improve its resilience to coastal erosion.
- Dunes substantially destroyed and eventually eliminated during Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

# ... IS A "LIVING SHORELINE?"

GREEN - Softer Techniques			GRAY - Harder Techniques		
Living Shorelines			Coastal Structures		
					
<b>VEGETATION ONLY</b> Provides a buffer to upland areas and breaks small waves. Suitable for low wave energy environments.	<b>EDGING</b> Added structure holds the toe of existing or vegetated slope in place. Suitable for most areas except high wave energy environments.	<b>SILLS</b> Parallel to vegetated shoreline, reduces wave energy, and prevents erosion. Suitable for most areas except high wave energy environments.	<b>BREAKWATER</b> (vegetation optional) - Offshore structures intended to break waves, reducing the force of wave action, and encourage sediment accretion. Suitable for most areas.	<b>REVETMENT</b> Lays over the slope of the shoreline and protects it from erosion and waves. Suitable for sites with existing hardened shoreline structures.	<b>BULKHEAD</b> Vertical wall parallel to the shoreline intended to hold soil in place. Suitable for high energy settings and sites with existing hard shoreline structures.

Source: CRS, adapted from NOAA, *Guidance for Considering the Use of Living Shorelines*, 2015, p. 8, at [https://www.habitatblueprint.noaa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/NOAA-Guidance-for-Considering-the-Use-of-Living-Shorelines\\_2015.pdf](https://www.habitatblueprint.noaa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/NOAA-Guidance-for-Considering-the-Use-of-Living-Shorelines_2015.pdf).



# LIVING SHORELINE (ls) DEFINITION

- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) defines a living shoreline as follows:
  - **"A living shoreline is made up mostly of native material.**  
It incorporates natural vegetation or other living, natural soft elements alone or in **combination** with some type of harder shoreline structure, like **oyster reefs, rock sills, or anchored large wood for added stability.** Living shorelines connect the land and water to stabilize the shoreline, reduce erosion, and provide ecosystem services, like **valuable habitat**, that enhances **coastal resilience.**"
- Examples can include beach nourishment, dune creation or restoration, tidal marsh (wetland) restoration with or without rocky structures, artificial reefs, and bioengineered bank stabilization

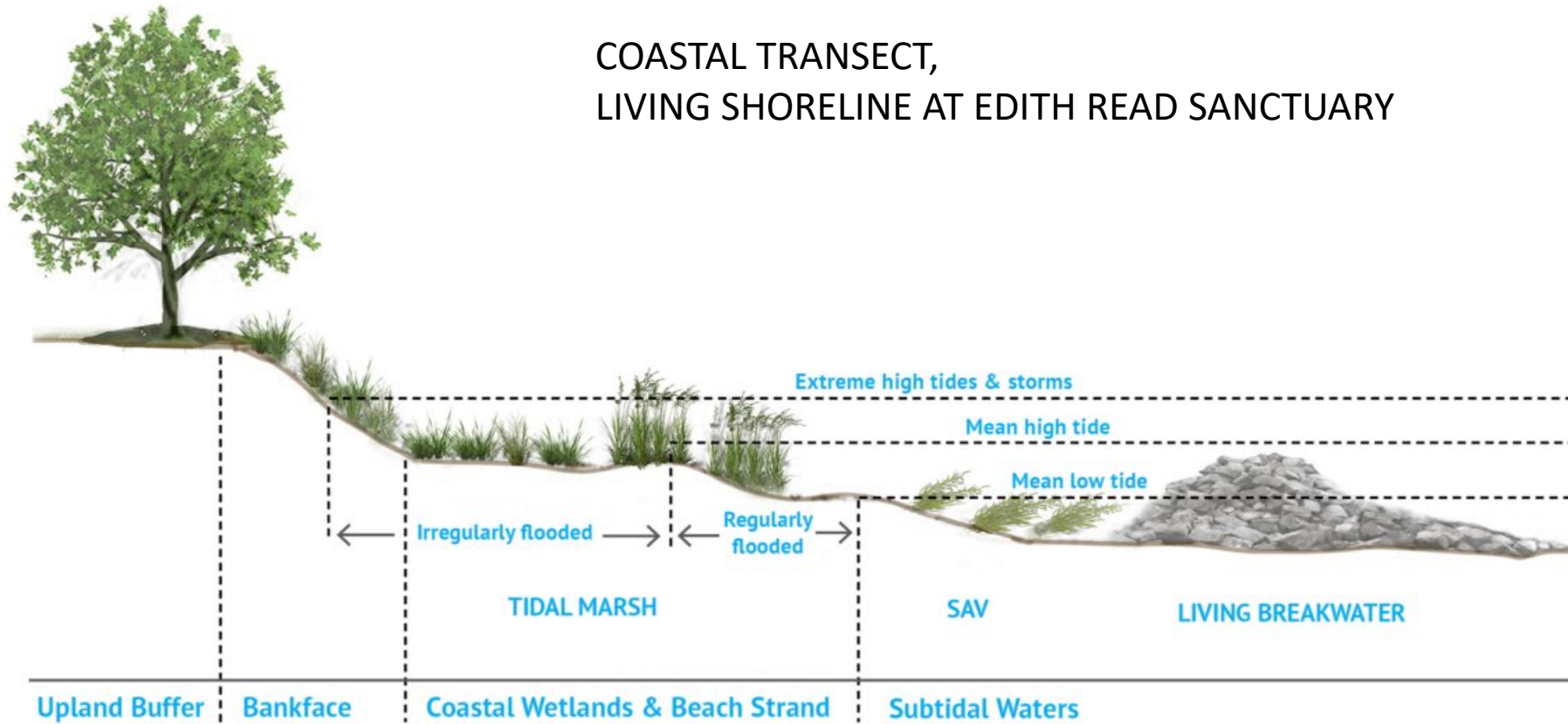


# Hurricane Sandy October 29, 2012



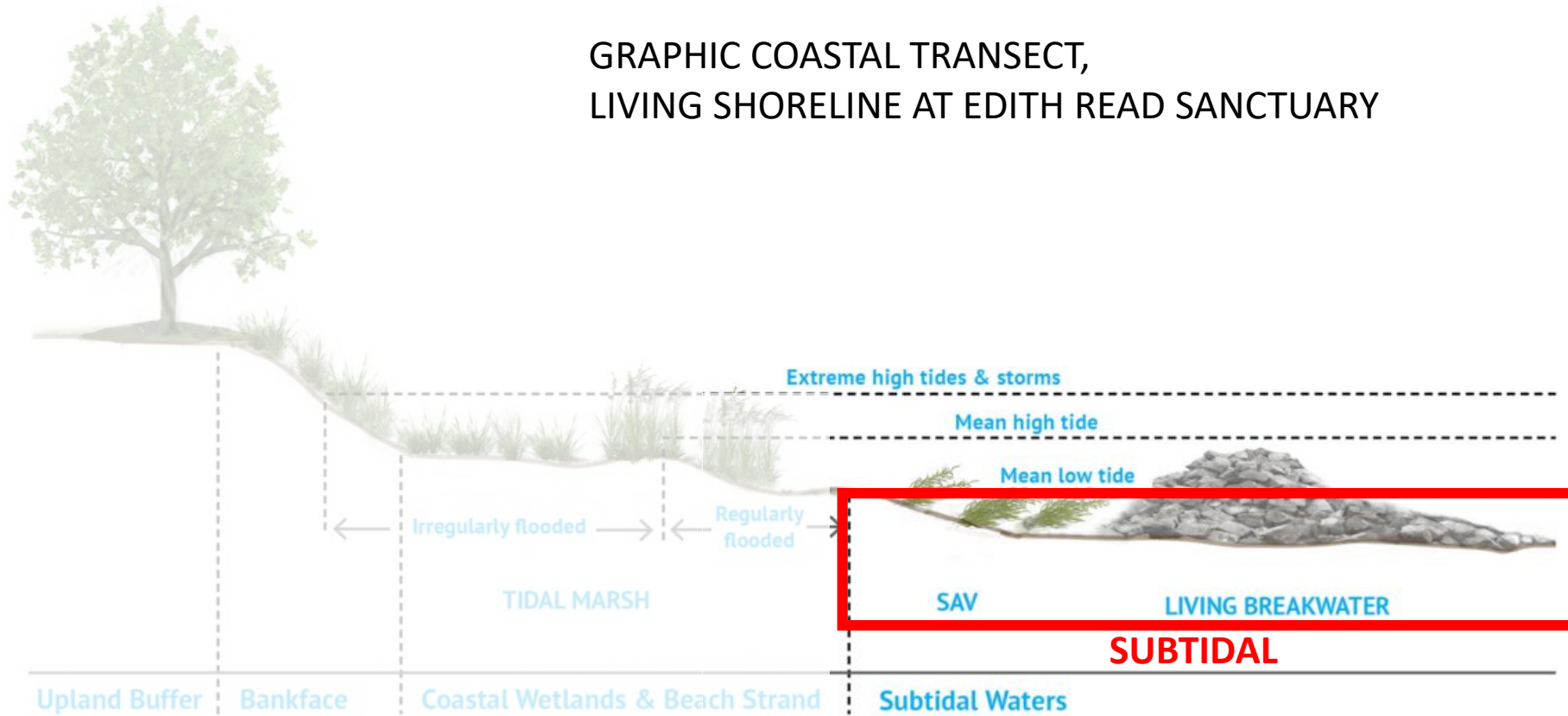
# shoreline components

COASTAL TRANSECT,  
LIVING SHORELINE AT EDITH READ SANCTUARY



# shoreline components

GRAPHIC COASTAL TRANSECT,  
LIVING SHORELINE AT EDITH READ SANCTUARY



**THREE PRIMARY ZONES**

# Subtidal/Intertidal Wave Attenuation

- Oyster Reef & Boulder Sills (Elevation -4'-1' NAVD)



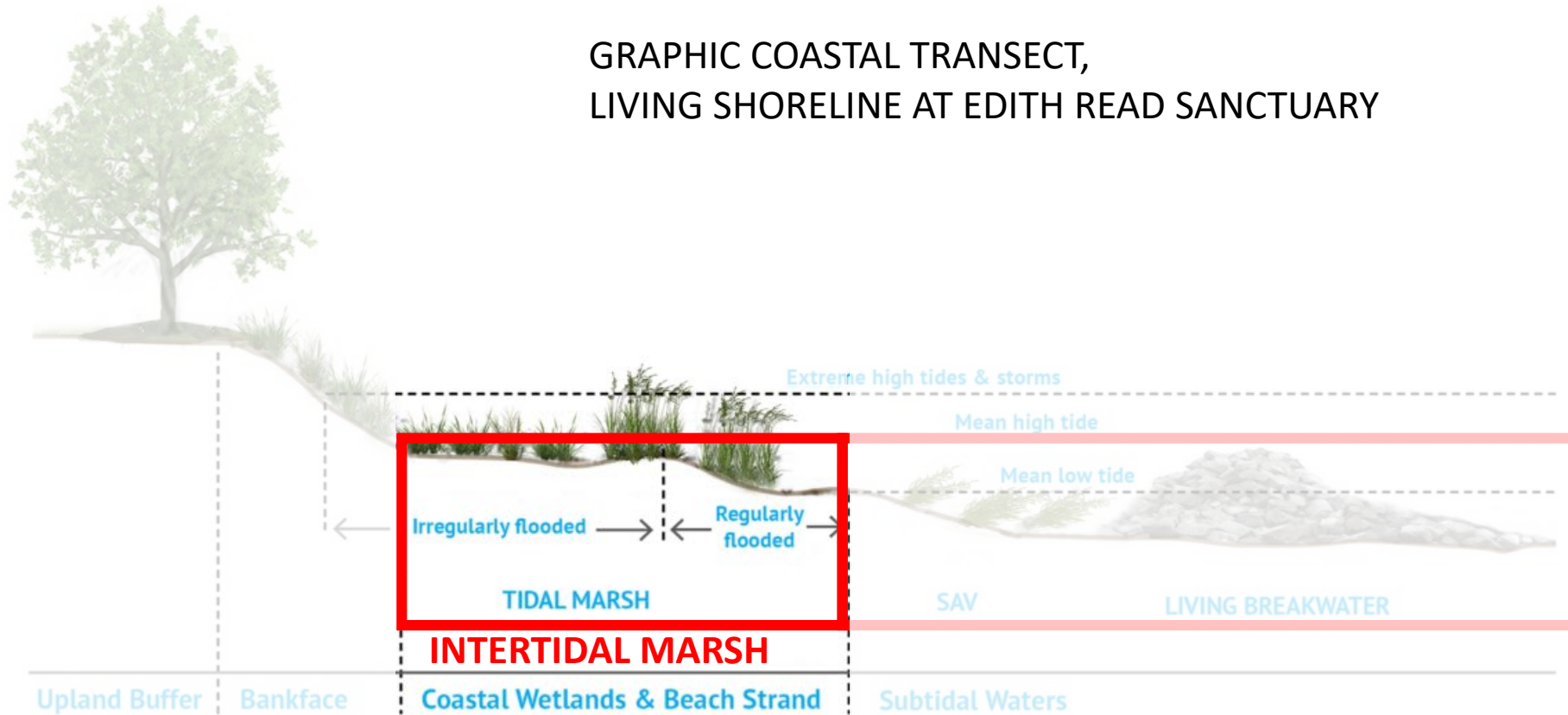
“Reef ball”



Boulder Sill

# shoreline components

GRAPHIC COASTAL TRANSECT,  
LIVING SHORELINE AT EDITH READ SANCTUARY



**THREE PRIMARY ZONES**

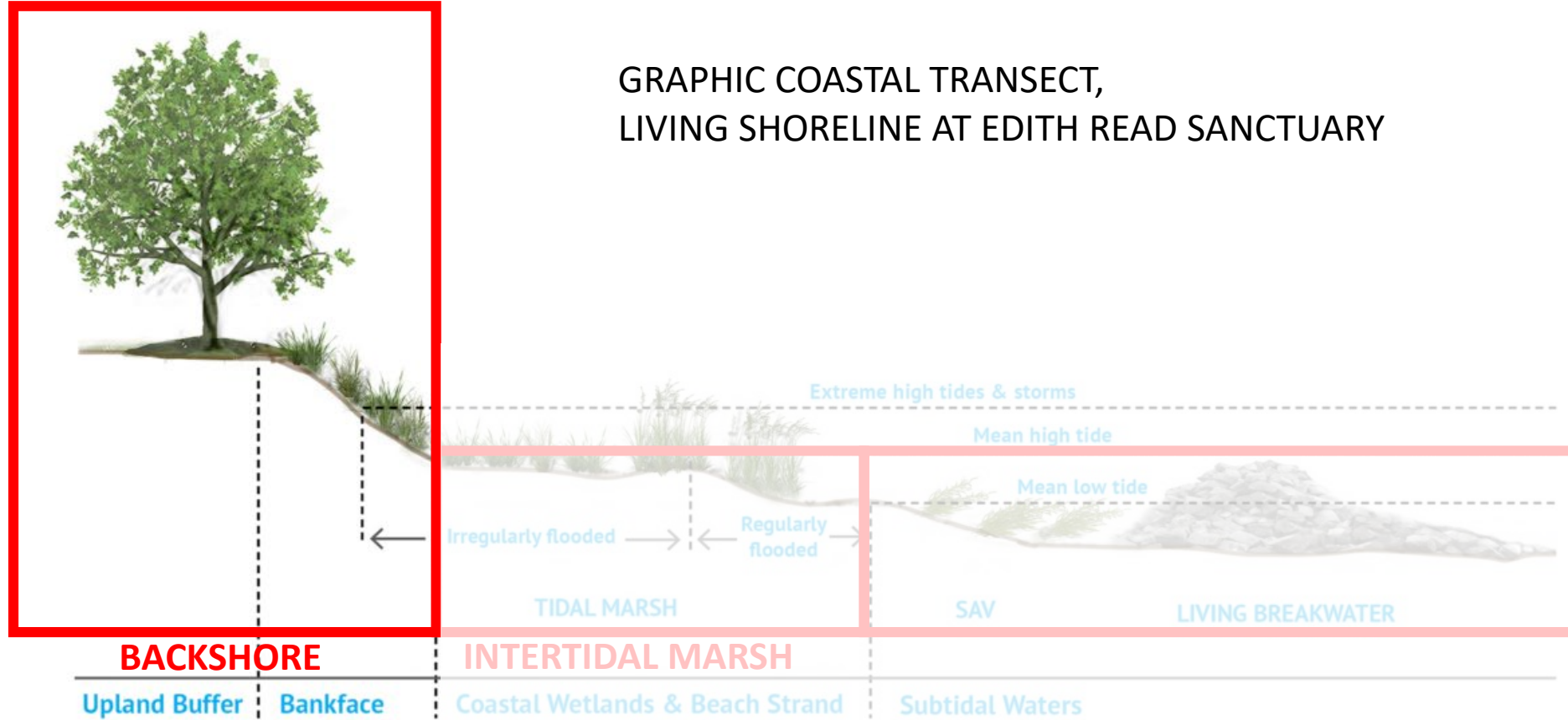
# Intertidal Marsh

- (Elevation 1' - 5' NAVD)



Intertidal Marsh: peat recruitment and spartina in reduced wave energy zone

# shoreline components



**THREE PRIMARY ZONES**

# Backshore Coastal Berm

- (> Elevation 5' NAVD)



Salt-tolerant native shrubs and trees planted on berm



## **NEXT STEPS:**

- SUMMER 2021: Begin design and 2d wave modeling
- FALL 2021: Advance design drawings
- WINTER 2021: Regulatory Permitting
- FALL 2022: Final design
- WINTER 2022/2023: Construction