### Nor'easters + Dunes + Beaches – Answers from Citizen Science



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### Three Nor'easters in 10 days

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Video: Carol Robidoux, Manchester Ink

### **Coastal Research Volunteers**





### NH Beach and Dune Profile Programs





### Why are we doing this?

Need data to aid management decisions and planning

- How beaches and dunes change seasonally
- How beaches and dunes react to storm events
- Volumetric changes in the beaches and dunes
- Evaluation of restoration efforts

No long-term study has been done for New Hampshire!





Slide adapted from Larry Ward, UNH CCOM



### Jenness Beach State Park: Maximum and Minimum Profiles July 26, 2017 and March 6, 2018





### Jenness Beach State Park: Maximum, Minimum, and Latest Profiles July 26, 2017, March 6, 2018, April 20, 2018



# As of April 20, Jenness had not recovered from the winter storms

Slide: Larry Ward, UNH CCOM

### All Profiles at North Hampton State Park January 27 to April 21, 2018



North Hampton (August 8, 2016): Accretional Conditions

North Hampton (September 9, 2016): Erosional Conditions (after Hermine)





### Maximum and Minimum Profiles at North Hampton State Park February 24 and March 10, 2018





### North Hampton State Park

March 28 and April 21, 2018



### All Profiles for Hampton Beach State Park - Dunes



### Hampton Beach State Park – Dunes December 15, 2017 and March 26, 2018



## All Profiles at Seabrook Beach

January 29 to April 21, 2018



### **Maximum and Minimum Profiles at Seabrook Beach**

#### January 29 and March 7, 2018



### Seabrook Beach - Dunes December 12, 2017 and March, 29 2018





March 28, 2018







Slide: Larry Ward, UNH CCOM

### Seabrook Beach March 27 and April 21, 2018



### Conclusions

All beaches got hammered in March

Recovery is occurring to varying degrees

Need more data to understand long term trends

Actions that will help beach and dune recovery:

- Retain sand in the system
- Allow space areas for beaches and dunes to move and reshape
- Protect dunes as a buffer and sand source
- Restore dunes where conditions allow
- Explore novel approaches to shoreline stabilization (e.g., living shorelines) in lieu of hardening

Funded, in part, by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management under the Coastal Zone Management Act in conjunction with the NH DES Coastal Program





### Thank you to the volunteers of the NH Volunteer Beach Profile Monitoring Program!

#### Wallis Sands Beach

WS 01
Claudia Gilmartir
Lee Pollock
Sylvia Pollock

WS 02.5 Molly Dennett Holly Oliver Marc Tosiano

#### **Jenness Beach**

JB 02
NH Coastal
Program staf

#### **North Hampton Beach**

#### NHB 01 and NHB 02

Tom Adams **Dennis Barrett** Hank Bautzmann **NB 01 NB 02 Rick Cliche** Hopi Wickson Leslie Cliche Maverick Wickson Don Maggs Lauren Belliveau **Dave Perkins Greyson Belliveau Dave Samara** Sally Nickerson **Hampton Beach HB 02 HB 04** Mike Stockdale **Cathy Silver** Terry Stockdale **Doug Silver** Sherri Townsend Seabrook Beach **SB 02** 

**North Beach** 

Dave Canedy Kathy Canedy Colin Canedy

SB 03 and SB 04 **Rebecca Beasley** Jennifer Stetson **Bryce Stetson** 

### **Dominant Beach Types in NH**

#### Northern Beaches

- North of Great Boars Head
- Smaller beaches with lower sediment volume
- Tend to be flatter with fewer features
- Minor net sediment volume changes

#### Southern Beaches

- Primarily south of Great Boars Head
- Large, wide beaches
- True barriers
- Large, well-defined berms
- Much more relief



Profile measurements from Wallis Sands station WS02 over the study period.



Profile measurements from Seabrook Beach station SB01 over the study period.

Slide adapted from Larry Ward, UNH CCOM