# RISK INFORMED DECISION MAKING FOR SEA LEVEL RISE ADAPTATION

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#### PUBLIC PERCEPTION

Are flood events really becoming worse?



**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** 

Hurricanes Have Doubled Due to Global Warming, Study Says



PBS **NEWSHOUR** 

Why the strongest storms are getting stronger

# theguardian

Extreme weather becoming more common, study says

# FERNANDINA BEACH SEA LEVEL TREND

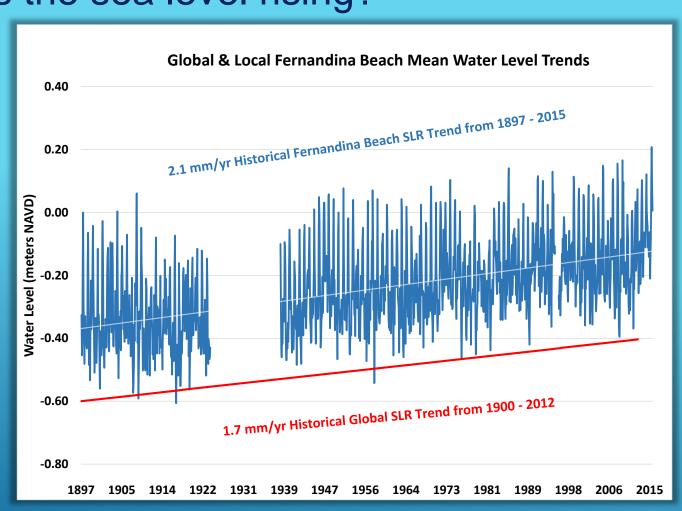
# How much is the sea level rising?

Global Sea Level Rise

1.7 mm/yr since 1900

Local Sea Level Rise in Fernandina Beach

2.1 mm/yr since 1897

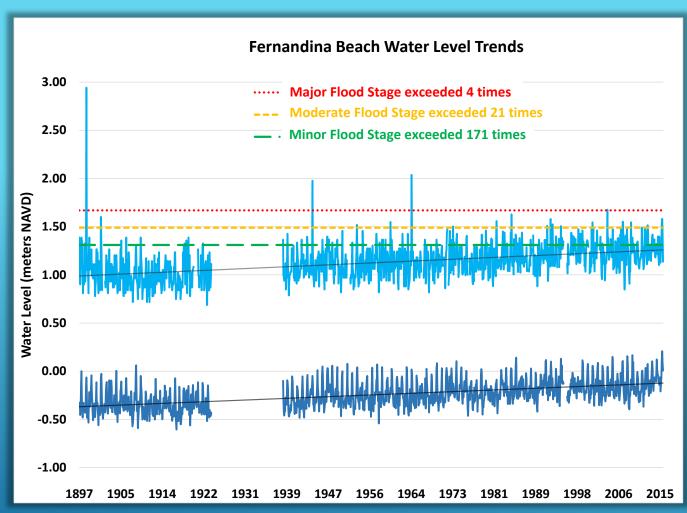


Both trends have been increasing over the past two decades.

#### FERNANDINA BEACH SEA LEVEL TREND

#### Are coastal flood events increasing in severity?

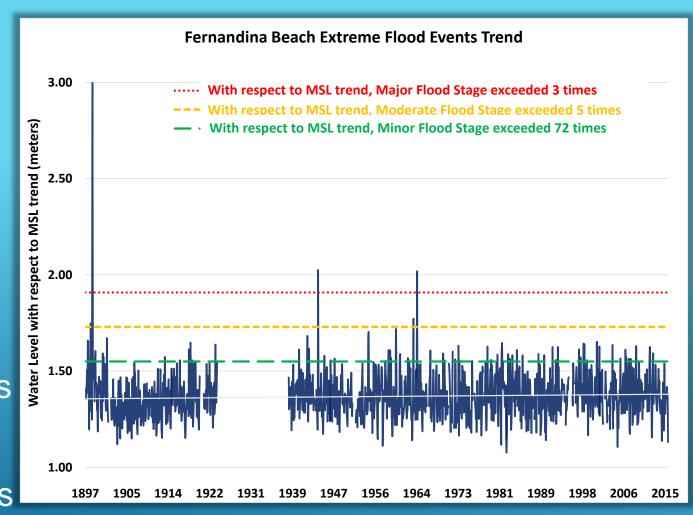
- Analyze historic monthly water level data
- Tidal gauge is located on St. Mary's River
- Compare to Flood Stages



#### SEA LEVEL RISE INFLUENCE

#### What if the effects of sea level rise are negated?

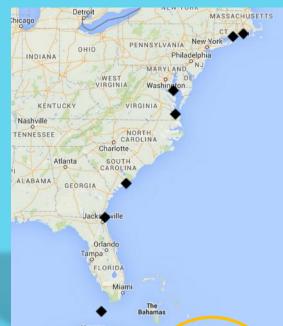
- Subtract the monthly mean from the monthly max water level
- Residual shows Extreme Flood Events
- Compare to Flood Stages



# STUDY OF SEVERAL EAST COAST SITES

How much is the sea level rising?

How does sea level rise affect flood events?

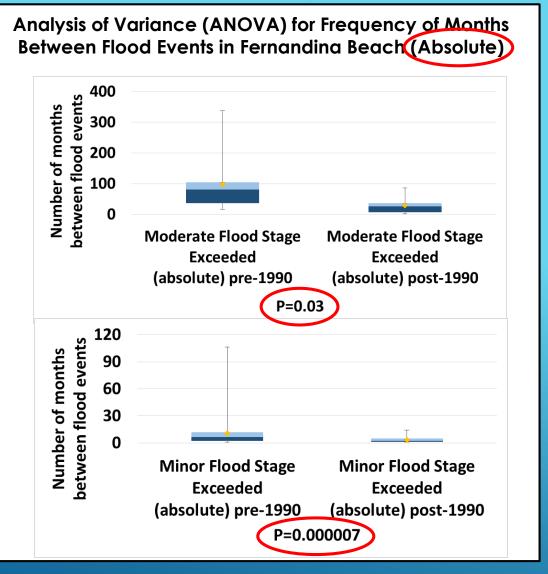


Location	Date Range	Number of Data Points	Maximum Water Level Trend (mm/yr)	Mean Water Level Trend (mm/yr)	
Newport, RI	1930 - 2014	843	2.64	2.73	-0.08
New London, CT	1938 - 2014	885	1.98	2.58	-0.44
Solomon's Island, MD	1937 - 2014	898	3.53	3.78	-0.25
Norfolk, VA	1928 - 2014	1041	4.43	4.60	-0.16
Charleston, SC	1921 - 2014	1119	3.55	3.17	0.38
Fernandina Beach, FL	1897 - 2014	1168	2.27	2.04	0.22
Key West, FL	1913 - 2014	1141	2.45	2.36	0.08

#### ANOVA COMPARISON OF FLOOD EVENTS

#### Are coastal flood events increasing in frequency?

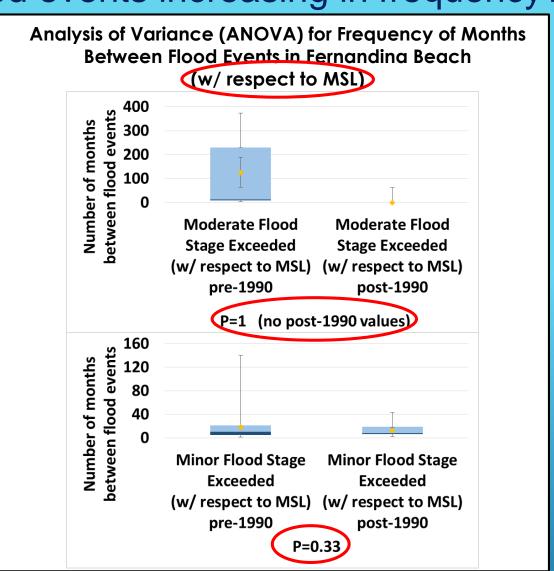
- Conducted variety of statistical analyses
- Compared frequency between flood events
- Floods which exceededFlood Stages



#### ANOVA COMPARISON OF FLOOD EVENTS

#### Are coastal flood events increasing in frequency?

- Compared flood frequency with and without Sea Level Rise
- With SLR, significant increase in frequency
- Without SLR, no change in frequency



#### MIDWAY SUMMARY

#### Initial conclusions

- Coastal flood events are not increasing in severity or frequency when Sea Level Rise is negated
- Coastal flooding appears worse due to:
  - o Sea Level Rise
  - Increased coastal development
  - Increased total flood damage costs

#### **ADAPTATION**

# How do coastal communities adapt to Global SLR?

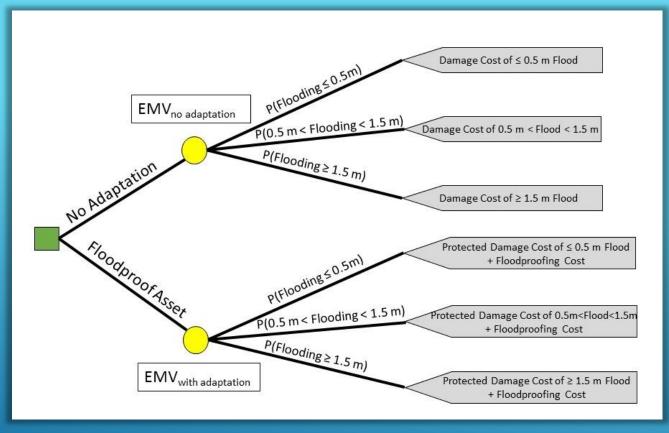
- More flood events due to Global SLR
- Flood damage costs exceed budgeted costs
- Adaptation costs less over time than future flood damage



#### DECISION TREE ANALYSIS

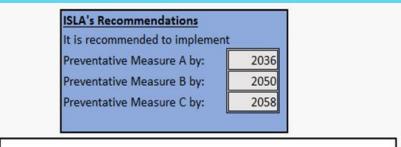
### How to quantify the economic effects of SLR?

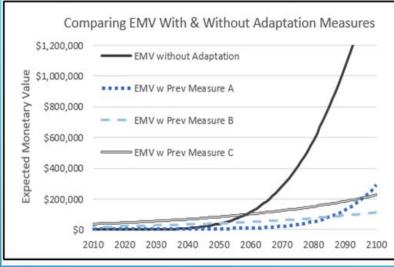
- Probability of future flood events
- Multiplied by flood damage costs
- Find EMV(ExpectedMonetary Value)
- Compare EMV's with and without flood protection



# IMPLEMENTING SEA LEVEL ADAPTATION (ISLA) TOOL

- Helps the user select the best course of action for adaptation to sea level rise for a vulnerable asset and location
- Gives feedback of which adaptation measure to select and when to implement it
- Quantifies economic impact of different options
- Contact Angela Schedel for a site specific analysis for your location





# QUESTIONS?

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