

SATELLITE-BASED COASTAL MONITORING: TOOLS FOR EFFICIENT PRE- TO POST-STORM ASSESSMENTS

Edward Albada, PE EOMAP USA Inc.



WHO IS EOMAP?



Private high-tech company Acquired by Fugro 2025



Focus on satellite data analytics, IT solutions, webapps and API



Specialise in aquatic environments



International team of 50+ employees



Serving HOs, engineering, academia, costal zone managers...



Coquina Beach, Manatee County, FL

PROBLEM STATEMENT & OBJECTIVES

Need Statement

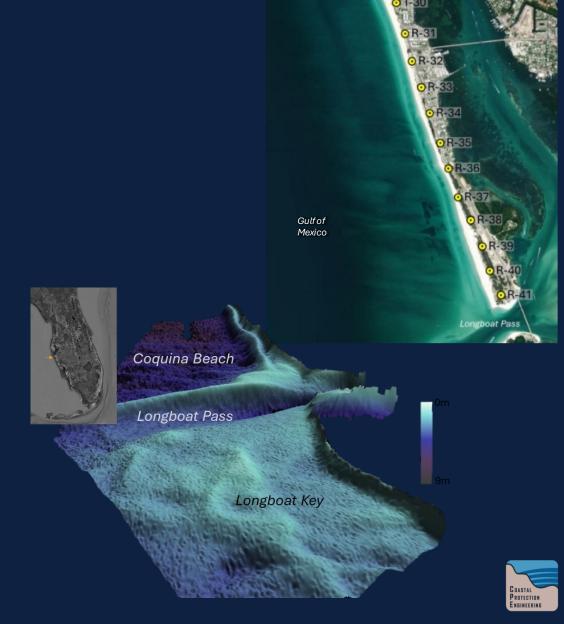
Rapid assessments of beach volume losses immediately after a storm event

Problem Statement

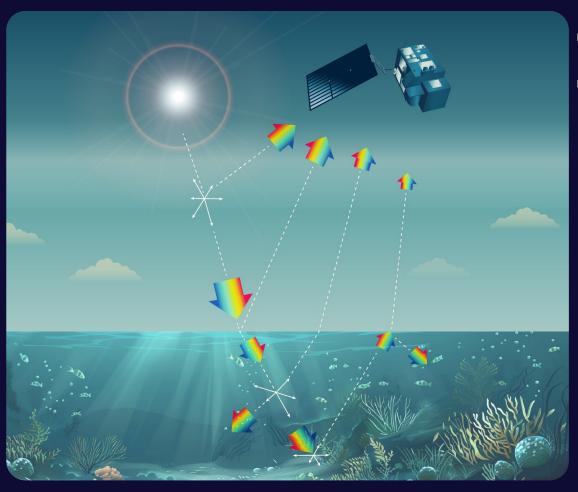
- Beach profiles = incomplete coverage
- Time delay in collection
- Expensive

Proof of concept

- SDB as an alternate data capture tool.
- Evaluate the usefulness and effectiveness of using SDB in estimating volume losses after a storm event.
- Comparative analysis of SDB and hydrographic surveys conducted at Coquina Beach, Manatee County, Florida following Hurricane Idalia.



METHODOLOGY WQ RETRIEVAL



- Physics-based **Modular Inversion Processor MIP**
- Addressing of

 - all dependencies of scattering and absorption
 - bidirectional reflection/ transmission at the water surface

Output:

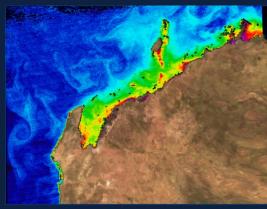


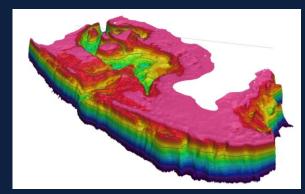
Seabed characteristics such as SDB, benthic mapping
Quantitative water quality parameters such as
Chlorophyll, Turbidity, or Secchi Disc Depth, harmful
algal bloom indicator



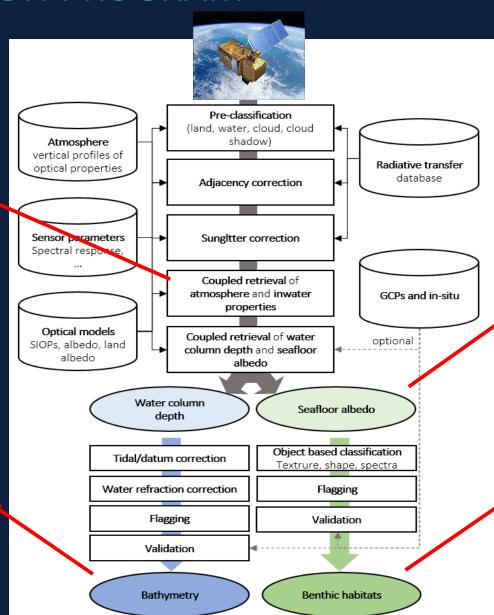
MODULAR INVERSION PROGRAM

Water quality





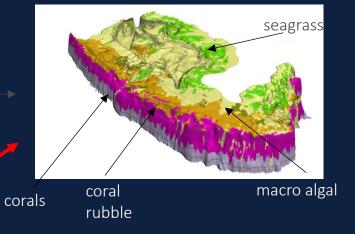
SDB (Satellite-derived bathymetry



Seafloor reflectance (colour)



Benthic habitats

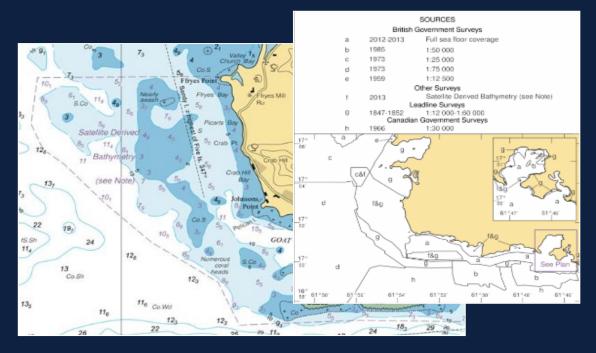


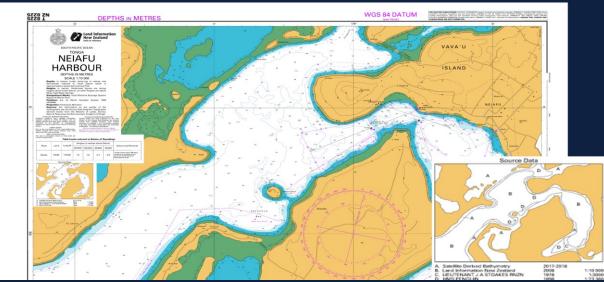
SDB BENEFITS

- Very high (0.5-2 meters) to high (10- meters) spatial resolution
- No on-site mobilization is needed
- Fast turnaround (hours to a day post-capture)
- Accessibility and cost-effective vs. traditional methods
- Map the gaps (rocky, reefs, shallows)
- Access to historical and real-time data in challenging waters
- Accepted/Suitable for nautical charting, hydrodynamic modeling, and coastal zone management

British
Admiralty
Chart BA 2066
Southern
Antigua

New Zealand LINZ NZ8225 Neifu Harbour, Tonga





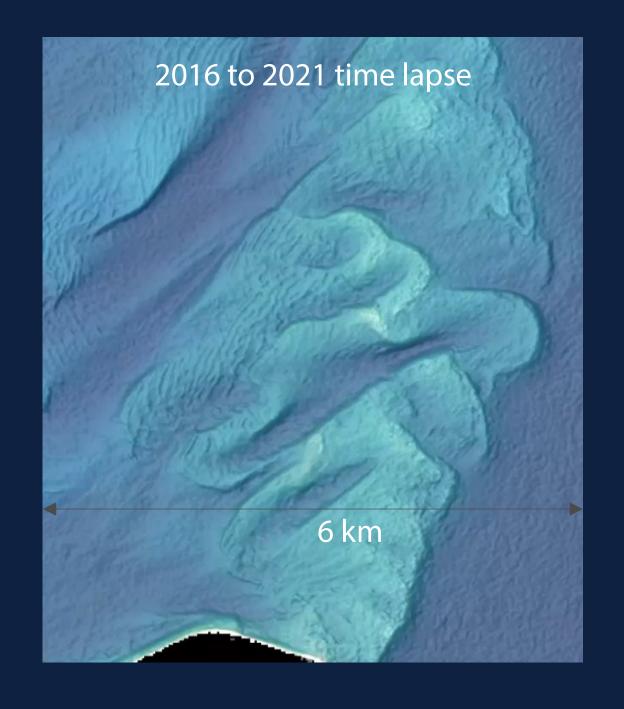
NEARSHORE CHANGE DETECTION

Monitoring

bathymetry over time allows to understand dynamics and future trends

Satellite-Derived
Bathymetry allows a
unique access to past
(almost 30 years)
and ongoing seabed
changes.





HURRICANE IDALIA

- Hurricane Idalia, August 30, 2023
- Intense surge, waves on west coast of Florida:
 - NOAA St. 42099 (St. Petersburg) Hs = 33.8 ft
 - Storm surge Tampa 4.5 ft
- Coquina Beach impacted by the storm from a combination of extreme surges and waves
- Beach Erosion approximately 75,000 cubic yards
- Demonstration conducted with consulting firm CPE





Coquina Beach post-Hurricane Idalia (2023)







Topo-bathy survey

COQUINA BEACH SURVEYS

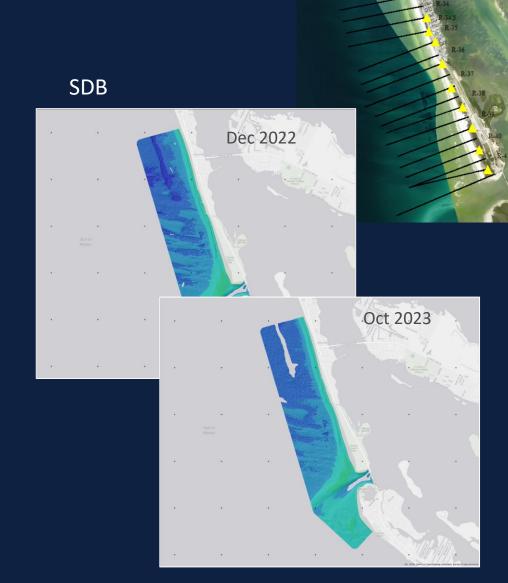
Topo-bathy survey

 APTIM: December 2022 (pre-Idalia) and October 2023 (post-Idalia) at each FDEP R-Monument.

Satellite-Derived Bathymetry

- December 2022 (pre-Idalia) and October 2023 (post-Idalia) from Planet's Super-Dove satellites with approximately 10 ft spatial resolution.
- SDB calculated with EOMAP's physics—based algorithms.
- No local survey or training data were used in this process!

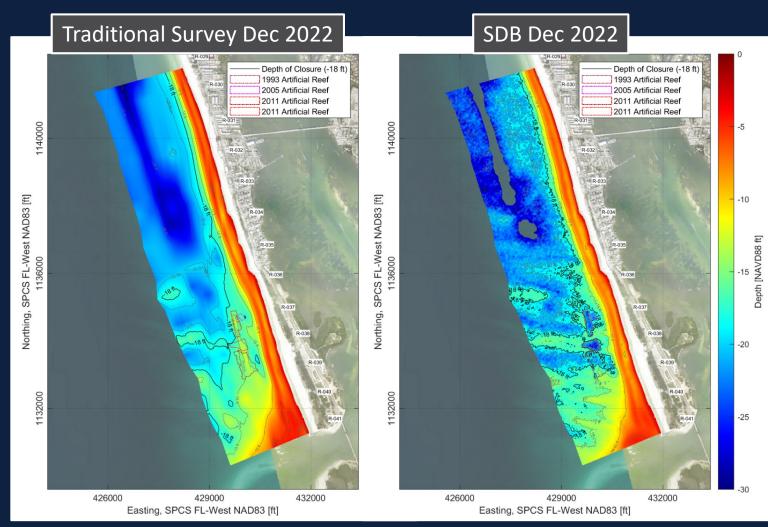
Volume changes compared using approach from FEMA Storm Damage Report from the landward survey limit to the depth of closure (-18 ft NAVD), or to the nearshore hardbottom and artificial reefs, in some location.





COMPARISON ANALYSIS – SURFACE PLOTS

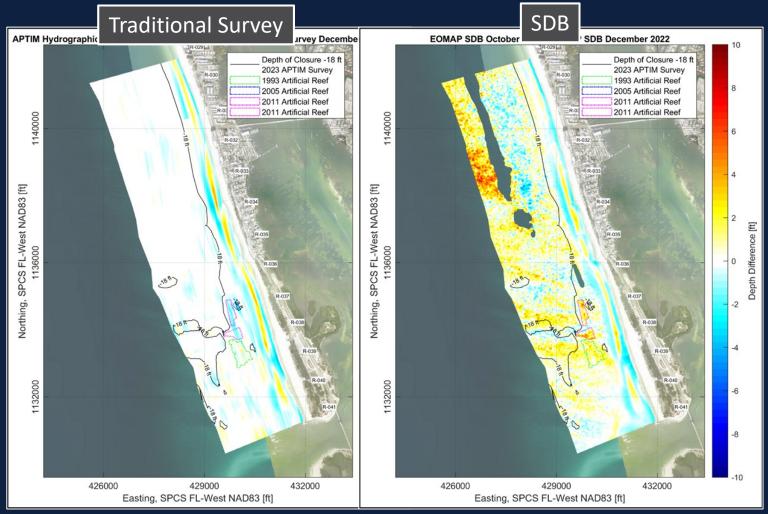
- from the shoreline and captures spatial changes with higher resolution, providing a detailed depiction of bottom morphology
- Hydrographic survey shows smoother bed morphology (line interpolation)
- Notable differences at the artificial reef locations where SDB shows deeper water elevations
- SDB accuracy can further be improved by identifying project specific critical areas before data processing





COMPARISON ANALYSIS – SURFACE DIFFERENCE PLOTS

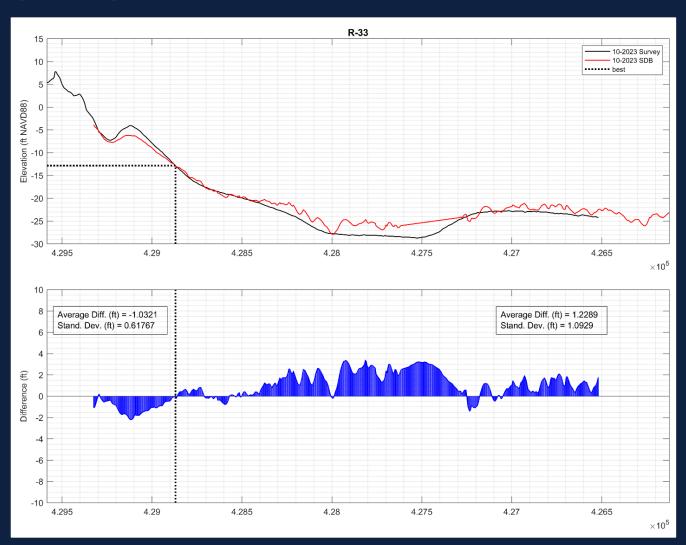
- Similar trends in areas shallower than the Depth of Closure (-18 ft NAVD)
- Similar Pattern of shoreline erosion and accretion at the nearshore bar
- Deeper than the Depth of Closure,
 a greater difference is observed
 between the datasets





COMPARISON ANALYSIS – PROFILES

- SDB data extracted along FDEP monuments
- SDB captures the overall profile shape accurately, with few exceptions
- Average difference approximately 1
 foot compared to hydrographic survey
- Shallower elevations: lower standard deviation
- Deeper elevation (>-20ft): greater variability in difference between the hydrographic survey and SDB data

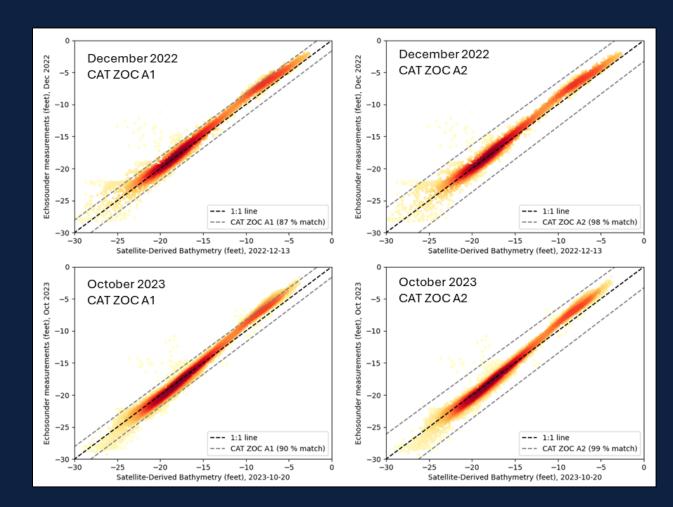




COMPARISON ANALYSIS – STATISTICAL

- CATZOC (Category Zone of Vertical Confidence) used to evaluate vertical accuracies, which is a common measure for specifying uncertainties in charts
- Nearly achieved CATZOC A1
 - → >95% of all data have 0.5m absolute and 1% relative uncertainties
- Achieved CATZOC A2
 - → >95% of all data have 1m absolute and 1% relative uncertainties

Note: SDB was processed without the use of training data; further improvements in vertical accuracies can be achieved with post-processed calibration-validation routine from a few existing survey profiles





COMPARISON ANALYSIS – VOLUME

- Traditional survey → Volume loss of 77,700 cy (7.2 cy/ft)
- SDB survey → Volume loss of **71,200 cy** (6.6 cy/ft)
- Difference between datasets → 6,500 cy (0.6 cy/ft)

Notes:

- comparison of volume change varied profile by profile
- SDB resolution captures intricate spatial changes, particularly around the inlet, which may account for the difference in volume losses.

	Distance (ft)	Pre-Idalia (Dec 2022) to Post-Idalia (October 2023)					
Profiles		SDB		Hydrographic Surveys		Difference	
		Density (cy/ft)	Volume (cy)	Density (cy/ft)	Volume (cy)	Density (cy/ft)	Volume (cy)
T-30		-2.3		-5.0		2.7	
	1126		-1,900		-2,000		100
R-31		-1.1		1.4		2.5	
	900		-4,500		-900		3,600
R-32		-8.9		-3.3		5.6	
	966		-10,400		-1,900		8,500
R-33	054	-12.5	45.000	-0.5	0.500	12.0	5 500
D 24	951	40.5	-15,200	47.5	-8,600	2.0	6,600
R-34	1019	-19.5	7.600	-17.5	0.200	2.0	700
D 25	1019	4.6	-7,600	1.2	-8,300	2.4	700
R-35	922	4.6	700	1.2	-900	3.4	1,600
R-36	922	-3.2	700	-3.1	-900	0.1	1,600
N-30	521	-3.2	-4,200	-5.1	-2,000	0.1	2,200
R-36.5	321	-12.9	-4,200	-4.6	-2,000	8.3	2,200
11-30.5	506	-12.5	-4,000	4.0	-2,700	6.5	1,300
R-37	300	-2.8	4,000	-6.1	2,700	3.3	1,300
	440	2.0	-2,800	5.12	-3,300	5.5	500
R-37.5		-9.9	_,	-8.7	-,	1.2	
	440		-1,900		-4,200		2,300
R-38		1.4	·	-10.5		11.9	·
	464		-2,100		-4,000		1,900
R-38.5		-10.4		-6.7		3.7	
	465		-3,400		-7,800		4,400
R-39		-4.3		-27.0		22.7	
	453		400		-6,800		7,200
R-39.5		6.2		-3.1		9.3	
	453		3,700		-6,000		9,700
R-40		10.3		-23.3		33.6	
	429		-800		-7,200		6,400
R-40.5		-14.1		-10.3		3.8	
	425		-8,000		-7,100		900
R-41	204	-23.5	0.000	-23.0	4.000	0.5	5 200
D 44 - 205	291	20.0	-9,200	4.4	-4,000	25.5	5,200
R-41+305		-39.9		-4.4		35.5	
Study Area (R-30 to R-41+305)	10,774	-6.6	-71,200	-7.2	-77,700	0.6	6,500

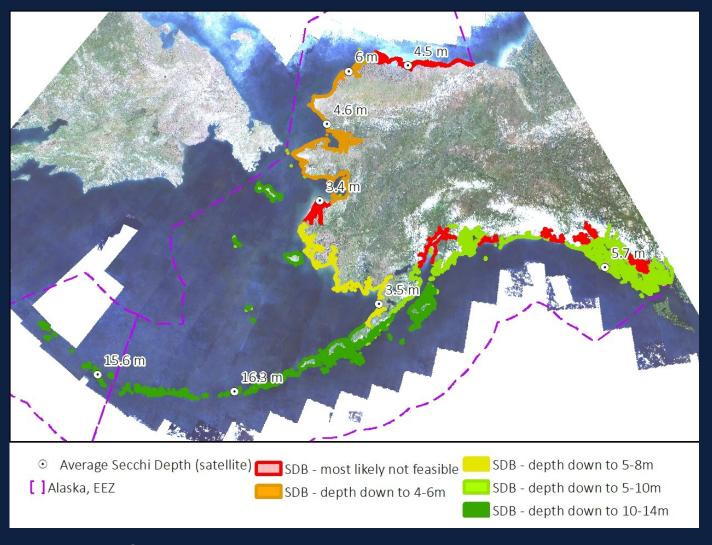


ALASKA SDB FEASIBILITY

Challenges

- Low light intensity at the seafloor
- Dynamic turbidity
- High cloud coverage
- Ice coverage
- Dense kelp forests

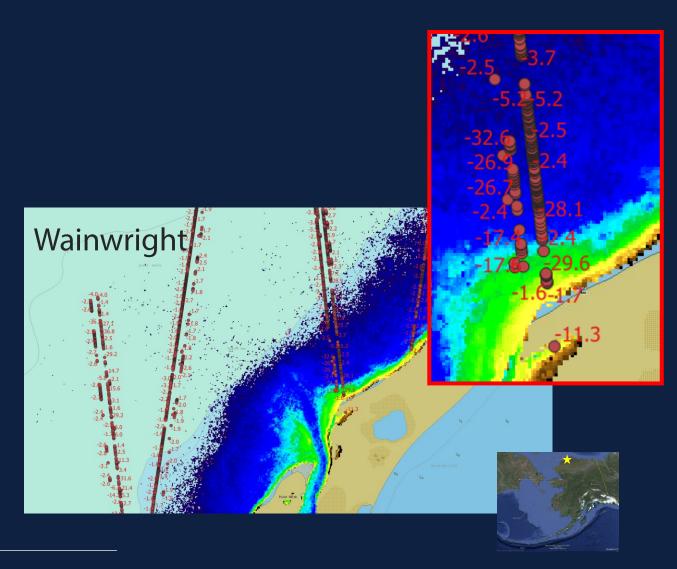


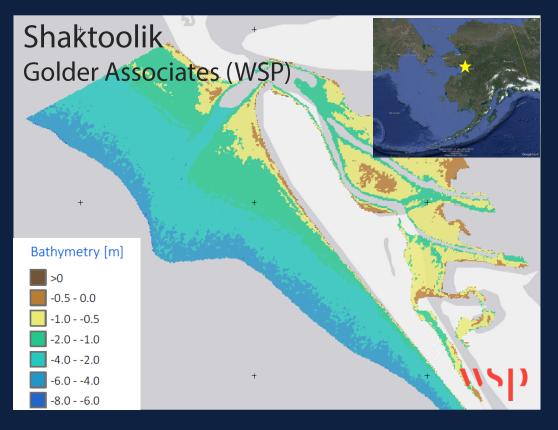


Norton Sound

- SDB feasibility areas (red)
- Yukon River turbid, intertidal mapping only

ALASKA SDB FEASIBILITY



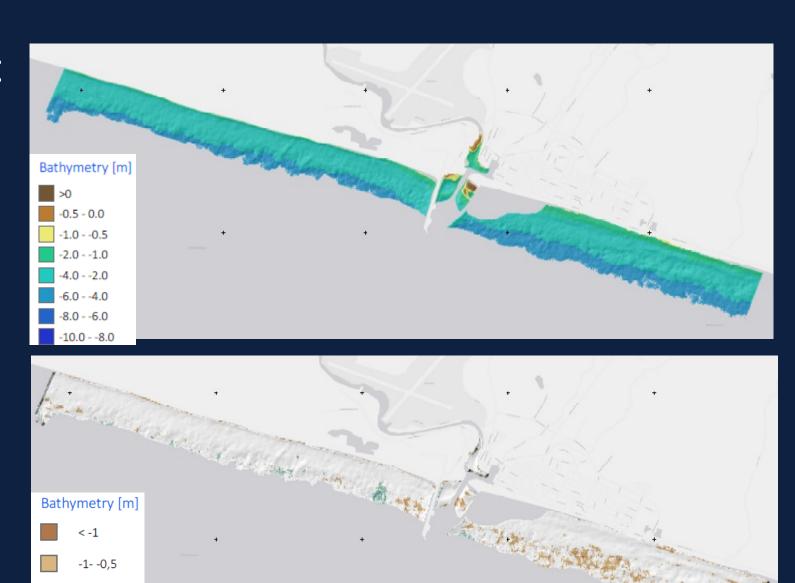


MERBOK ASSESSMENT - NOME

Merbok: Sept. 17, 2022.

NOAA St. 46265 (Nome) Hs = 18.5 ft Storm surge +10.5 feet above low-tide 50-year high (since November 1974)





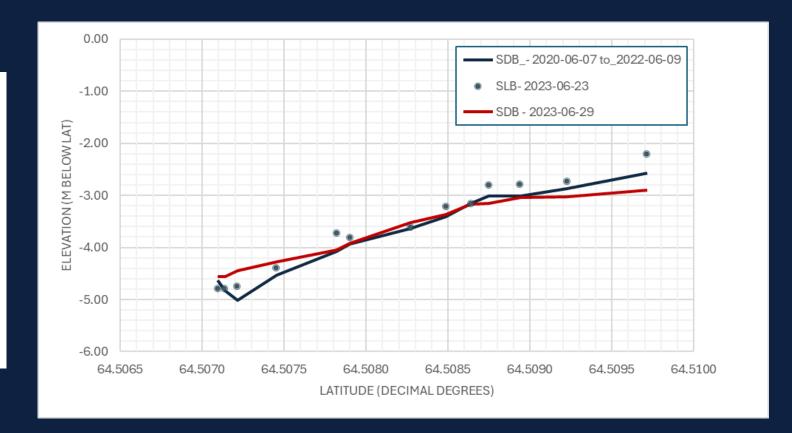
-0,5 - 0,5

0,5 - 1

MERBOK ASSESSMENT - NOME

SLB with Post-storm SDB

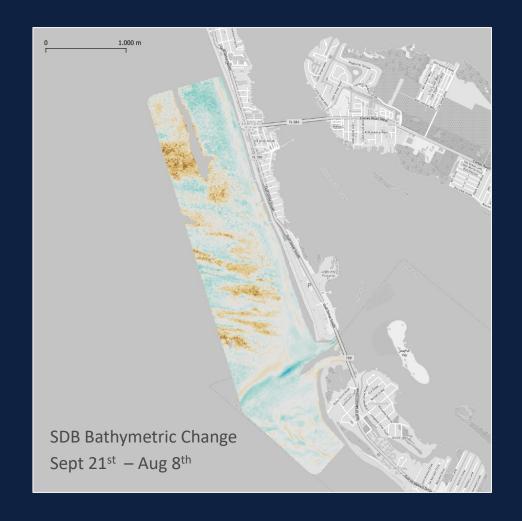
- 15 points available for comparison
- good agreement with an RMSE = 0.29
 Pre- to Post–Storm Comparison
- Erosion in shallow water (<3m deep)
- Deposition in offshore bar (>4 m deep)



SUMMARY

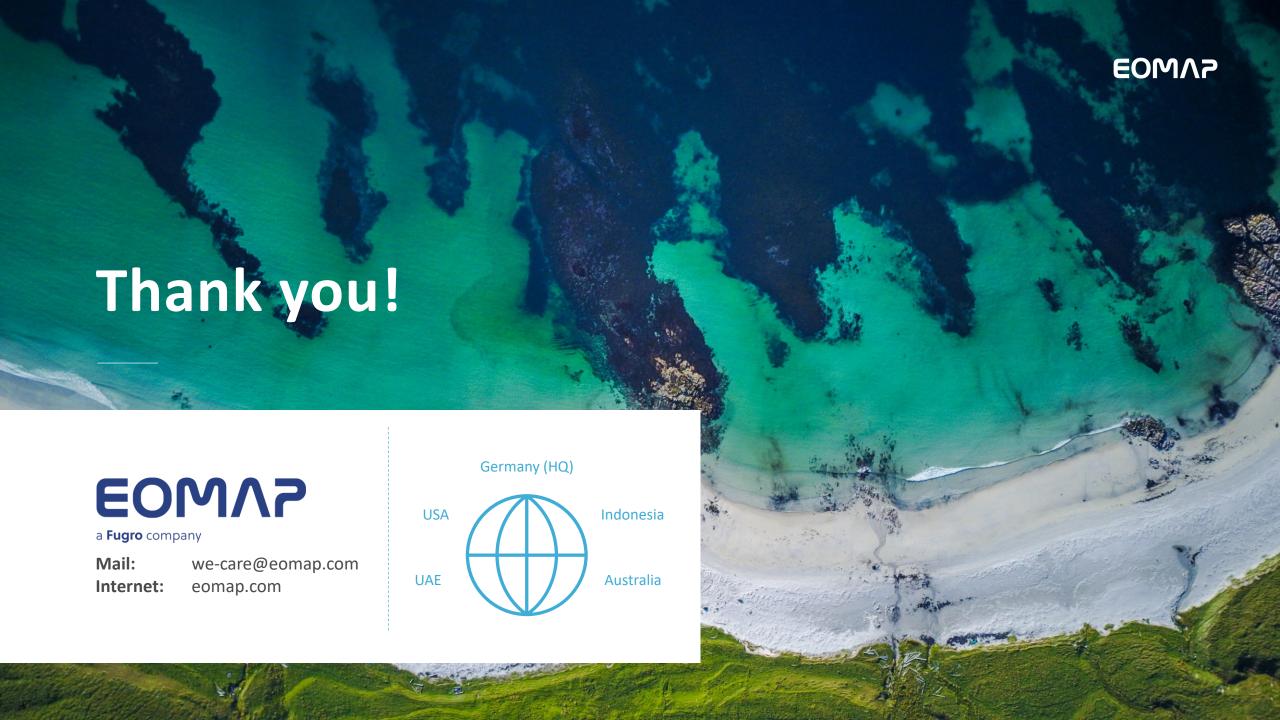
SDB has the potential to be a **valuable tool** in rapid post-storm disaster assessments:

- Rapid post-storm disaster assessment tool
- Cost-effective and accessible
- Ability to go back in time: baseline bathymetric surface prestorm and rapid assessment post-storm from archives
- Detect subtle spatial changes in high resolution
- Nearshore morphology analysis for numerical modelling calibration
- Global Repeatability: Using Planet data (daily records), we can process SDB almost anywhere needed





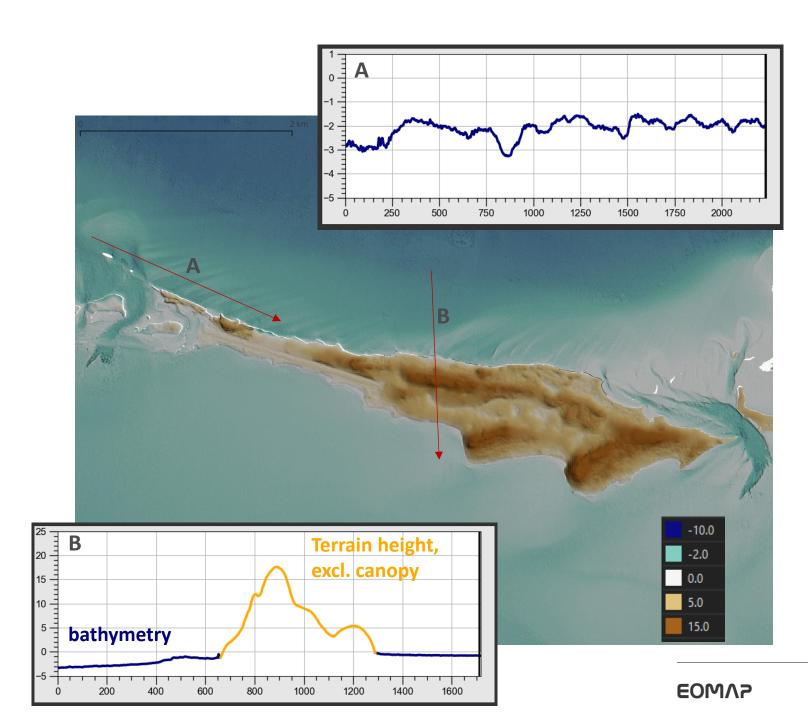




SEAMLESS, INTEGRATED SURVEYING

2m resolution Digital
Surface Model
combined with
Satellite-Derived
Bathymetry, Bahamas,
Hog Cay





Multisource bathymetry and Digital Elevation Models



WATER QUALITY FOR SURVEY CAMPAIGNS

Copper River

- **2018 2020**
- 59 cloud free images
- Statistical analysis produced for 3 polygons between April to September for:
 - Turbidity
 - KD90
 - **Z90**
 - Secchi Disk Depth

