# MEOPAR Salish Sea Research and Climate Change in Marine BC

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#### Outline

- MEOPAR
  - Salish Sea Model
  - Coastal Hazard Vulerability Indictors
  - Sea-level Rise Case Study
- Climate Change in Marine BC
  - Temperature
  - Sea Level
  - Glaciers
  - Changing River Flows
  - Salinity
  - Precipitation
  - Winds

#### What is MEOPAR?



- Marine Environmental Observation Prediction and Response Network
- An NSERC Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE)
- 5 years renewable multiple times
- Based at Dalhousie, led by Doug Wallace
- Strong Social Science component
- Emphasis on producing useful products for Stakeholders

#### MEOPAR Structure

#### **RESEARCH PROGRAM: ORGANIZATION**

PREDICTION CORE

**Theme 1 Projects** 

Hours - Seasons

**Theme 2 Projects** 

Seasons - Decades

**OBSERVATION CORE** 

via Partnership **Program** 

meopar.ca

**New Projects** via Open Calls

**New Pls** via Recuitment **Program** 

**New Linkages** 

# Project 1.2 A Network of Fixed Coastal Observing and Forecast Systems

Two fixed systems: Halifax Harbour and Strait of Georgia. In Strait of Georgia:

- Ocean Model (Allen)
- Community vulnerability (Chang)
- Impact of sea-level rise on Vancouver (Chang)
- Oil Spill Impacts due to Ship Collisions (Pelot)

#### Strait of Georgia/Salish Sea

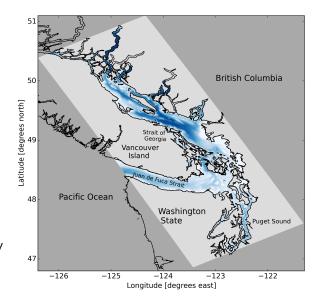


NASA

Configure and Evaluate a Coupled Biological-Chemical-Physical Model of the Strait of Georgia for Prediction and Nowcasts

#### Modelling

- Configure the model
- Evaluate the model (make sure its getting close to the right answer)
- Run daily: hindcast of last 24 hours, forecast of next 24 hours
- Share results publicly



#### Quantities We Simulate

#### Configured and Evaluated

• Sea surface height (storm surge)

#### Configured and some Evaluation

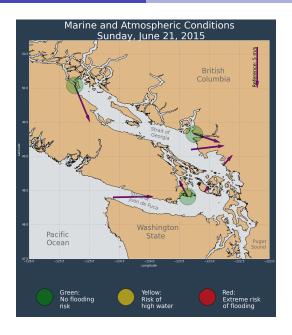
- Temperature, Salinity of Water
- Currents at all depths
- Object trajectories

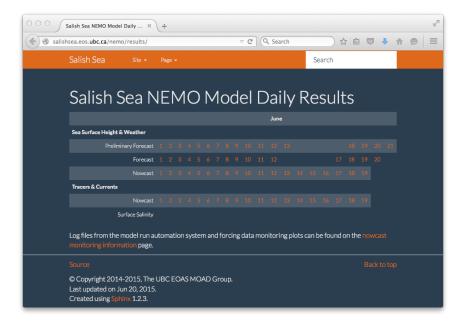
#### Next

- Nutrients
- Carbon and pH
- Phytoplankton
- Zooplankton

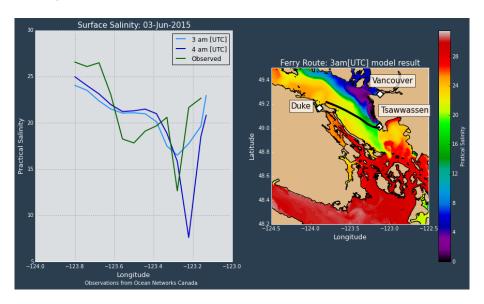
#### Status

- Run daily: Since Autumn 2014:
  - Preliminary Forecast for Tomorrow by 7 am PST
  - Nowcast for Today by 12 noon PST
  - Forecast for Tomorrow by 2 pm PST
- Share:
  - Storm Surge Portal and Storm Surge Page
  - Preliminary Results for Other Fields





#### **Example Results**





Coastal Hazard Vulnerability Indicators



# Coastal Hazard Vulnerability Indicators ASM Breakout Session

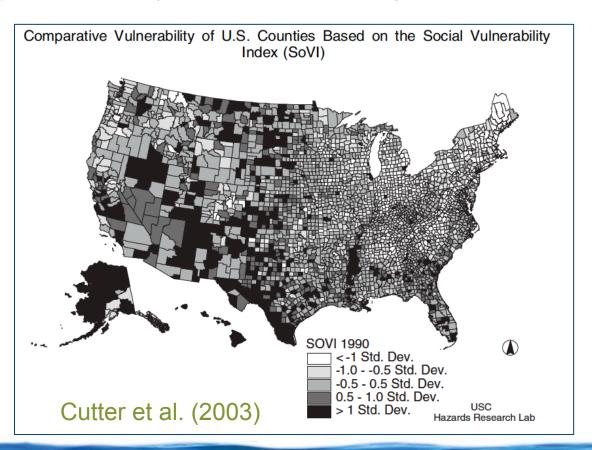
PI: Dr. Stephanie E. Chang

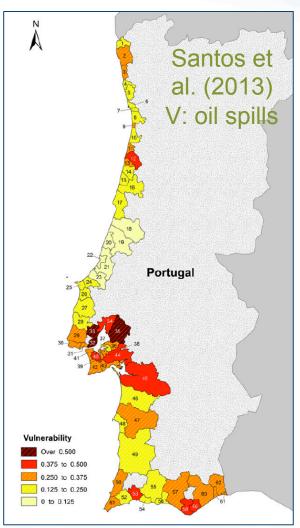


# Traditional Vulnerability Indicators

Q: Which places are most vulnerable?

Q: Which places are similarly vulnerable?



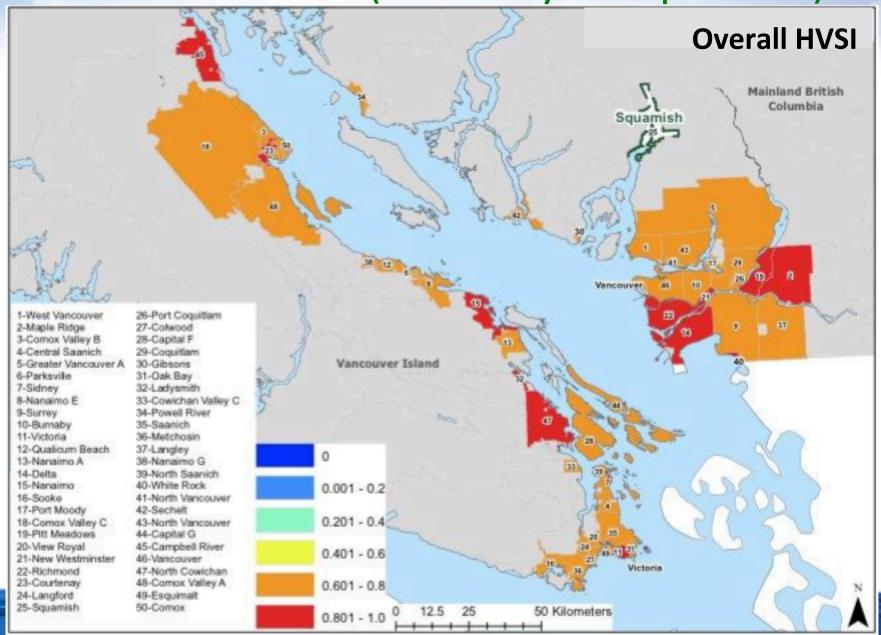


# **Indicators**

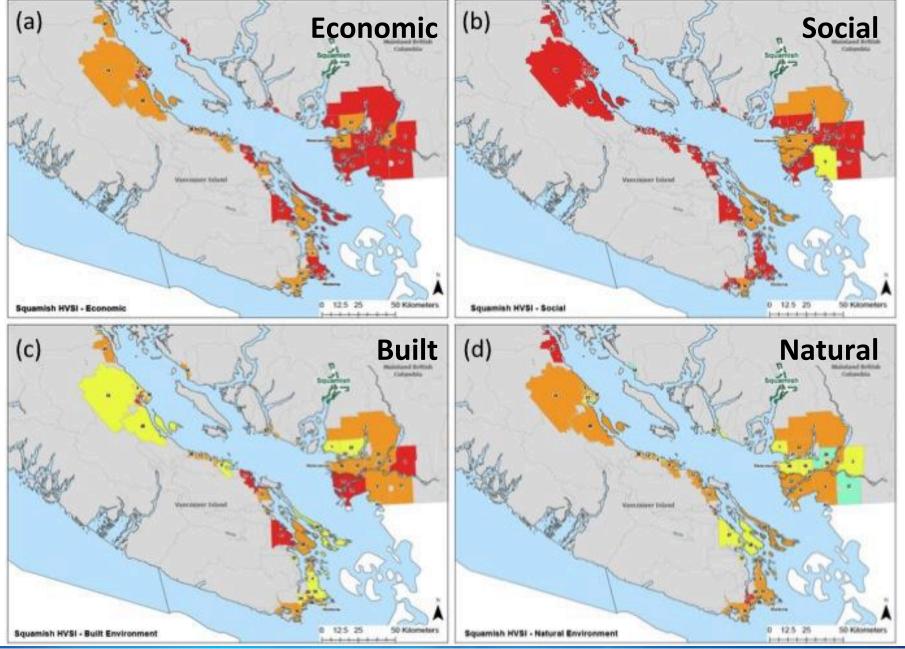
### Examples of risk indicators, by CAPITAL and Dimension

Dimension	ECONOMIC	SOCIAL	BUILT	NATURAL
Size	No. businesses	Population	\$ value of built environment	Coastline length
Spatial structure	% commuting outside	% pop. coastal	Commercial ctr on coast Y/N	Type of flood hazard
Composition	% employed in primary sector	% >65 yrs. old living alone	Structural flood protection Y/N	Landform
Participation	% unemployed	% cannot speak English/French	No. transport connections	Protected areas Y/N
Change	% change in no. businesses	% moved in within last 5 yrs	% residences pre-1960	SLR projection

# Initial Results (similarity to Squamish)



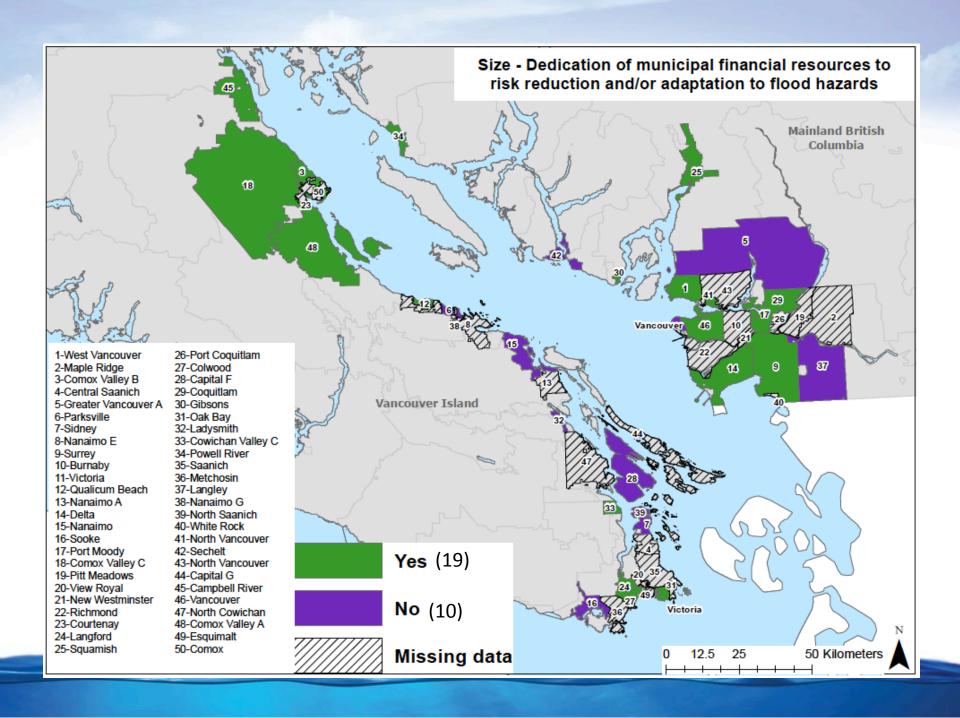
Similarity to Squamish, by Type of Capital

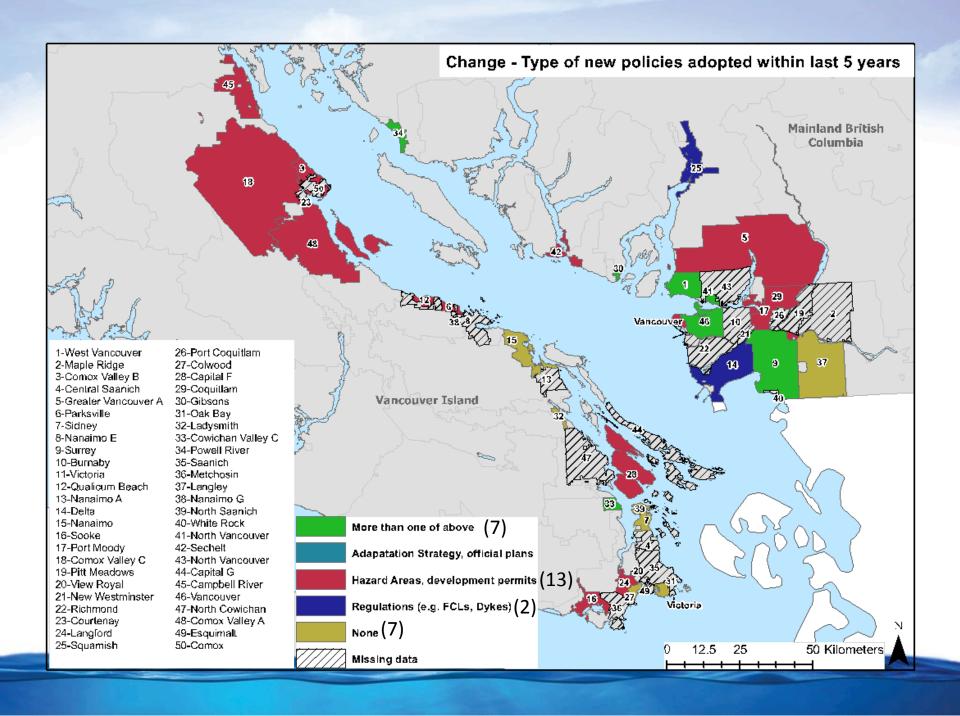


# **Next Steps**

- Revise indicator framework & variables
  - Add institutional and hazard capitals
- Stakeholder engagement workshop
- Online platform
- Expand number of communities

# **Institutional Indicators**



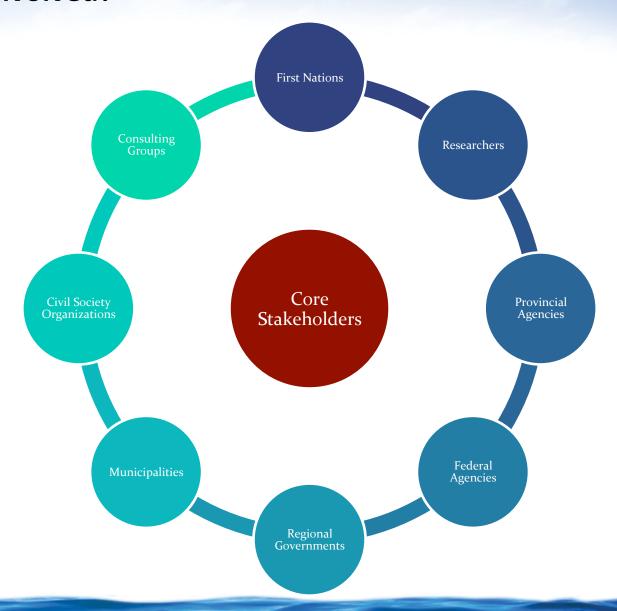


# 2015 Strait of Georgia Marine Hazards Workshop

#### **Objectives**

- Stakeholder feedback
- Showcase research from different project groups
- Facilitate network and connections

## Who was involved?



# **World Cafe**

