

Maintaining Sandy Shorelines: The Challenges of Accelerating Sea Level Rise

1) Sea level has been fluctuating throughout geologic time



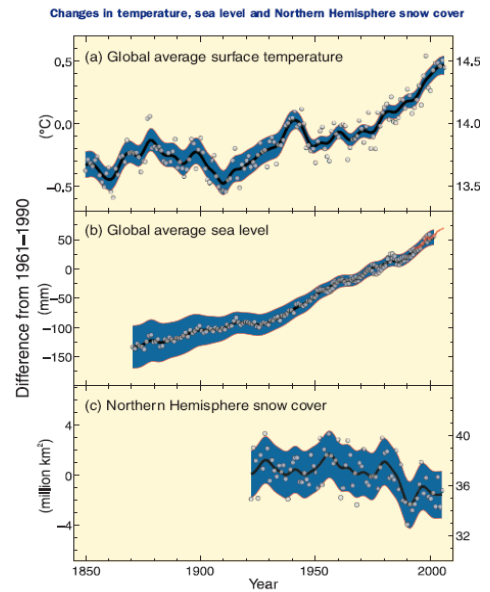
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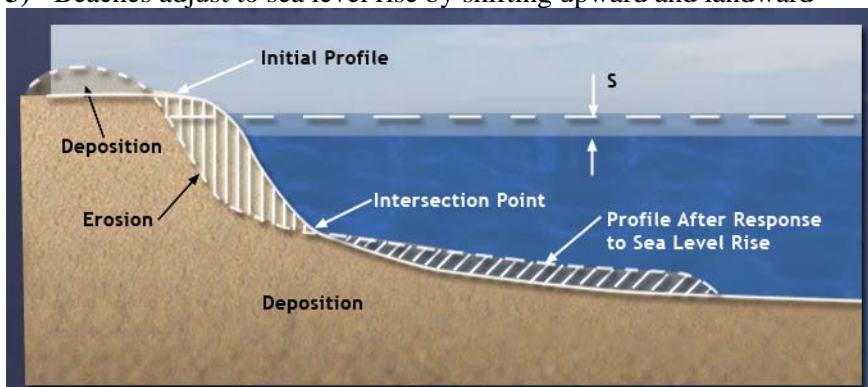
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2) Sea level is rising faster today than in the 1960's

- Likely due to increased CO₂ emissions
- Will it continue to accelerate? TBD



3) Beaches adjust to sea level rise by shifting upward and landward



- 4) Continued beach restoration = Most sensible response in terms of science & economics



1965 - 2006

Global avg sea level rose 7.2 cm
Beach restoration!

- 5) Cost of shore protection << economic base (\$5 million << \$2 billion+)

			July 2006 - July 2007	
	# Hotel Units	Tourist Development Tax	Tourist Development Tax Revenues	Estimated Direct H/M/C Expenditures
Pinellas (beaches)	18,817	5%	\$24,618,173	\$1,934,101,777
Pasco (no beaches)	2,113	2%	\$ 755,174	\$ 151,035,000
Hernando (no beaches)	792	3%	\$ 423,463	\$ 56,462,000

Annual cost to restore beaches in Pinellas County: \$5 million

- 6) "Prognosis should not be alarm or complacency"
- Greenhouse gas emissions should be reduced
 - No need for panic along the coast; need long-term planning
 - Federal policies to sustain beach restoration are necessary

For more information, contact Nicole Elko, nelko@pinellascounty.org (727) 464-3774.

ABOUT ASBPA

Founded in 1926, the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) represents the scientific, technical and political interests along the coast in an effort to shape national research and policy concerning shore and beach management and restoration. ASBPA strives to engage in a factual debate on coastal issues and economics that will foster sound, far-sighted and economical development and preservation of our nation's beaches. For additional information about ASBPA, please visit www.asbpa.org.