

**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**



# **State of the Seashore**

*presented by*

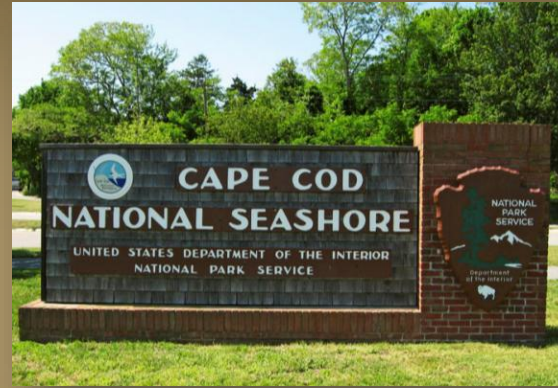
**Superintendent Jennifer Flynn**

**April 8, 2024**

**Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission**

# Seashore History

- Established in 1961
- 43,500 Acres
- 4 Million visits a year
- 40 miles of Seashore
- Within 6 towns
- 6 Bathing Beaches
- 2 Visitor Centers
- 2 Former Military Bases
- Marconi Station



# Economic Benefits

In 2022, 4 million park visits spent an estimated \$548 million in the gateway community while visiting Cape Cod National Seashore. These expenditures supported a total of 6,680 jobs, a cumulative benefit to the local economy of \$750 million.



# Staffing

- 56 Permanent Employees
  - 68 Total Permanent Positions
  - 12 vacant permanent positions
  - 2 permanent positions hired in 2024 to date.
  - 4 permanent positions approved to hire in 2024
- 113 Targeted seasonal hires and 12 interns in 2024
- 9 Inflation Reduction Act funded positions (Term and Seasonal)

# IRA

- Public Law 117-169
- Hire employees at eligible units of the NPS
- Appropriated \$500 million to NPS through 2030
- Parks received implementation direction on January 13, 2023.
- CACO – \$2.57 million
- These funds are not a permanent base operating increase for parks; rather, they are a one-time opportunity to support additional park employees in key areas that will have a defined period of performance and relate to core park purpose.
- Must have a legacy impact beyond timeframe of the IRA and demonstrate investment in the future of the park.



# IRA – Hiring Plan

- Herring River Ecologist – Term GS 9 – Currently working list of qualified applicants
- IT – Term GS 11- awaiting certificate
- Archeologist – Term GS 9
- Tribal Liaison – Term GS 9/11
- Youth Outreach Coordinator – Term GS 9
- Data Manager – Winter Seasonal GS 7 (2 year)
- Lands Support Specialist – Winter Seasonal GS 5
- Education Technician – Winter Seasonal GS 7 (2 year)
- Museum Tech/Curator GS 9 – FY 25 seasonal

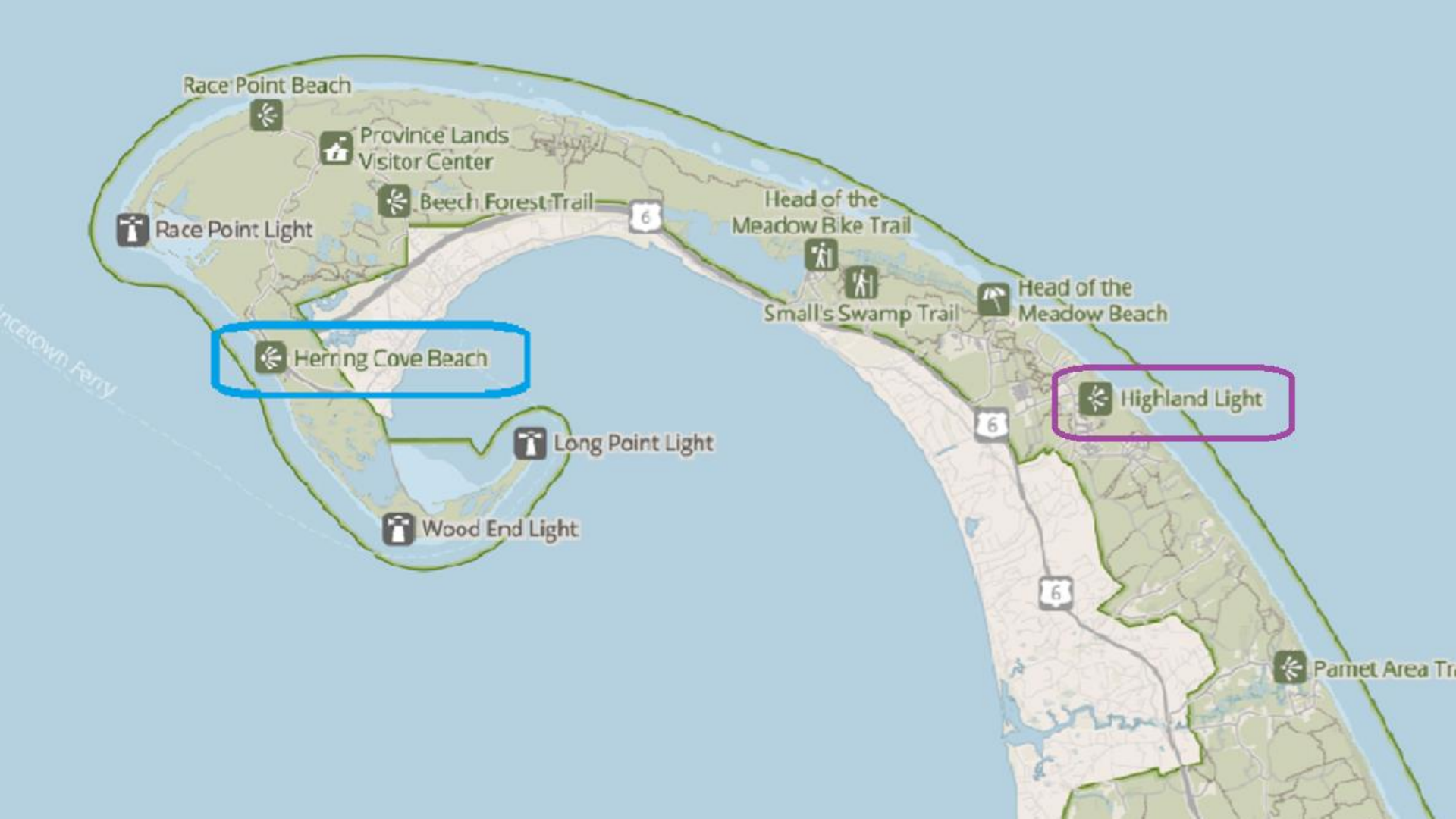
# Budget and Finance

- ONPS – Planned a 5.44% reduction from 2023.
- FY23 CACO ONPS budget \$8.605 million.
- FY 24 Authorized 8.509 million
- FY23 project money spent \$3.124, 579 (Cyclic, Rec Fee and Repair Rehab)
- FY23 Great American Outdoors ACT: demo project - \$10 million
- Recreation Fee - 1.1 M to 1.4 M
- Off Road Vehicle Permits – Average of 350K
- Special Use Permits – \$4,000  
Commercial Use Permits- \$43,000
- Leasing – \$530,000
- Housing Revenue (24 permanent houses & 35 seasonal houses)
- Donation Account – amounts vary each year

# Concessions, CUA and SUP

- Prospectus solicited for next 10-year contract for the Highland Links Golf Course in 2024.
- Prospectus in development for the Herring Cove Bathhouse Snack Bar. Early 2025 for solicitation.
- In 2023 106 Special Use Permits were issued for recreational activities, and 27 Commercial Use Authorization permits were approved.





Race Point Beach

Province Lands  
Visitor Center

Beech Forest Trail

Race Point Light

Herring Cove Beach

Long Point Light

Wood End Light

Head of the  
Meadow Bike Trail

Small's Swamp Trail

Head of the  
Meadow Beach

Highland Light

Pamet Area Tr

Wilmington Ferry



## HIGHLAND LINKS GOLF COURSE

Golf Course open year-round.

Pro Shop and Snack Bar are seasonal. (April thru October)

### Required Services:

- Golf Operations – 9-hole golf course
- Motorized and non-motorized cart rental
- Golf equipment rental
- Limited Food & Beverage sales
- Retail- Pro Shop sales

### Authorized Services:

- Golf lessons
- Alcoholic beverage sales
- Vending
- Special events



## HERRING COVE SNACK BAR

Open Memorial Day weekend thru Columbus Day weekend.

### Required Services:

- Food & Beverage sales

### Authorized Services:

- Alcoholic beverage sales
- Convenience item sales
- Food & Beverage sales (Temporary locations outside of assigned land, but on NPS property)





THE CAPE SCHOOL OF ART



Be Body and Earth



Ptown Pedicabs



Cape Cod Photo Tours



gendronbike



JOHN TUNNEY PHOTOGRAPHY



Provincetown Wellness

VISIONARY PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

CAPE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

# Leasing Program Properties

- Modern House Trust – 4 properties
- Nauset Beach Inn
- Short-Term Rentals – Currently 7 properties
- Truro NEED/Hosteling International
- 7 Dune Shack Properties – In progress
- Future – Nauset Light Keepers House, 3 Park Houses – Ahearn, Jeddiah Higgins and Sirna, Provincetown Airport, Payomet, Dune Shack non-profits.



# Project Completed

- Failing Structures Removal
  - 44 Structures Throughout Seashore
  - Great American Outdoors Act
  - Legacy Restoration Fund
  - Eliminates hazards
  - Restores landscape



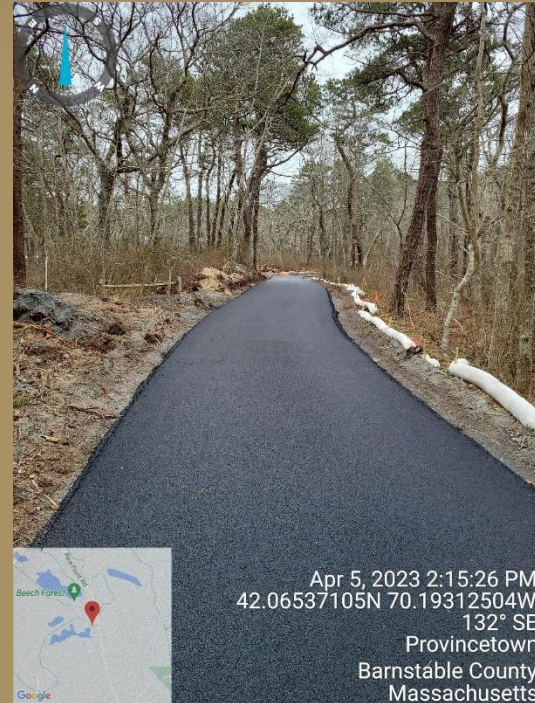
# Beech Forest Surface Boardwalk Replacement

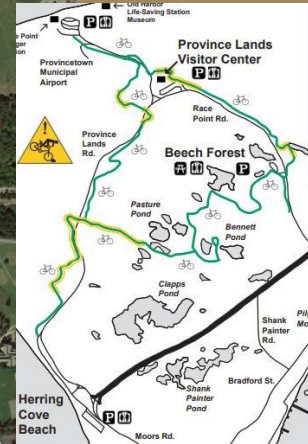
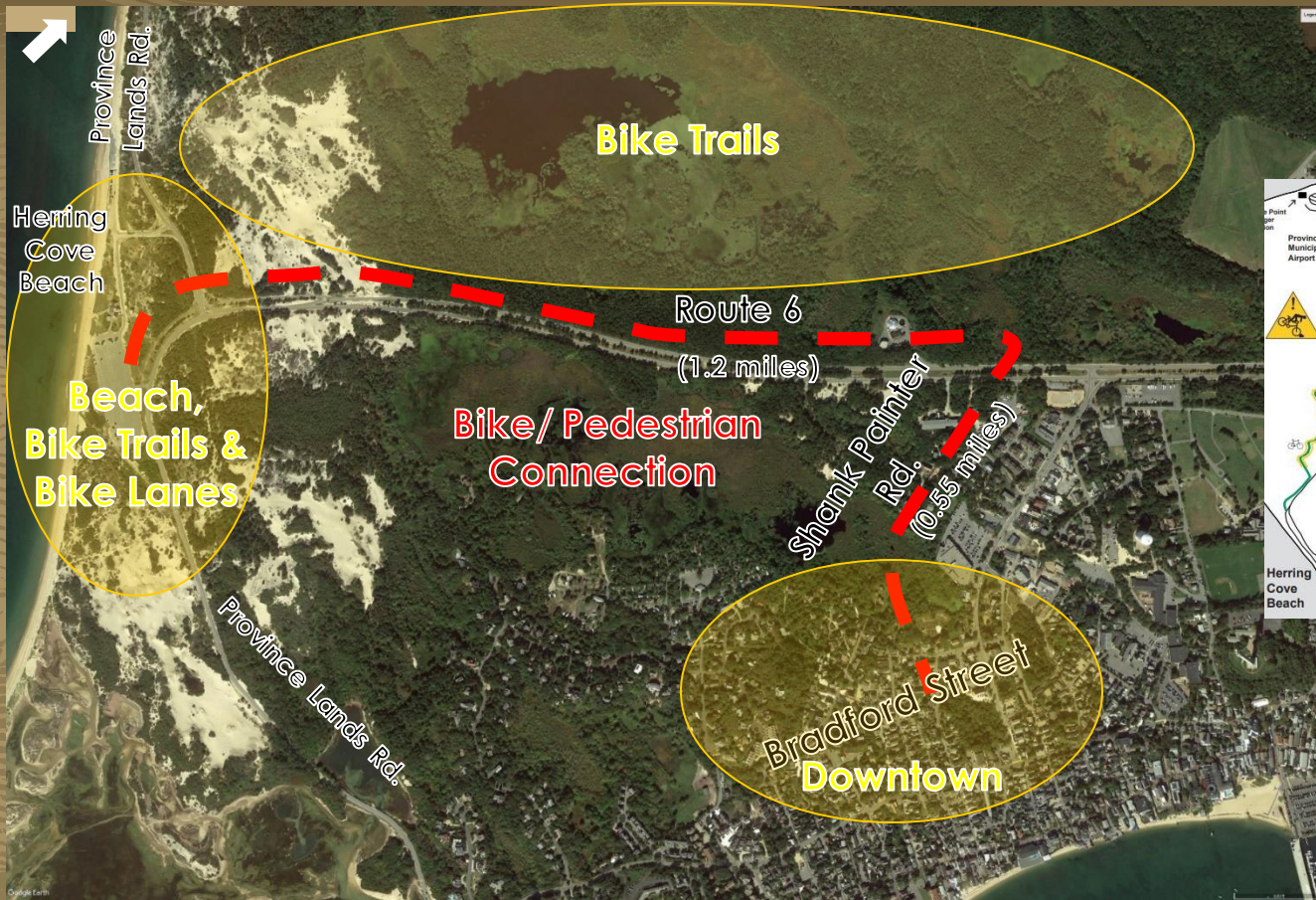
- Replacement of 150' low-lying wooden boardwalk on the outer loop of the Beech Forest Trail
- New boardwalk will remain in existing footprint; treads at 8" – 10" above grade
- Structural composite lumber for a 30–50-year lifecycle



# Community Connections

- Bicycle Paths Improvements
  - Connector path to Herring Cove Beach – completed Fall 2023
  - Beech Forest connector renewed and open
  - Actively working with Provincetown on Herring Cove to Shankpainter Rd Connection







## Other Roads, Trails, & Grounds Winter Work

- Atlantic White Cedar Swamp Elevated Boardwalk replacement (~200 linear feet)
- Nauset Marsh Timber Step Replacement
- Cyclic brushing of road, bike path, and trail corridors
- Replacement of snow fence along Coast Guard Beech and Moors Road
- Line striping and stenciling at Seashore beaches and parking areas
- Removal of beach debris
- Removal of hazard trees and limbs



# Projects - 2024

- New Fee Booths 2024 – Race Point and Head of Meadow
- Cable Road Sidewalk – Design 2024 Construction 2025 1.5 Million Dollar Project
- Road paving – 2023/2024 Marconi Road, Marconi Site and Headquarters, Pilgrim Heights, Head of Meadow, and Old Dewline Road in Truro. 2025 – Salt Pond Visitor Center, Doane Rock parking area and Tomahawk Trail in Eastham.
- Replacing Marconi Beach Stairs – May/June 2024
- Haz Tree removal – Defensible space around developed areas
- Over 1000 park signs are being replaced – Route 6 signs April/May 2024
- Race Point Bathhouse – Planned for FY25.
- Interior of Penniman House – Plaster repair in March/April 2024 then wallpaper work.
- New trams for Little Creek to Coast Guard
- Installing three vault toilets – Herring Cove South, Great Island and Beech Forest.
- High Speed internet with Open Cape – CCNS Bio Lab, Provincetown Airport, and connections to Race Point Ranger Station, Race Point Fee Booth, Province Lands Visitor Center and North District Maintenance.

# Park Partnerships



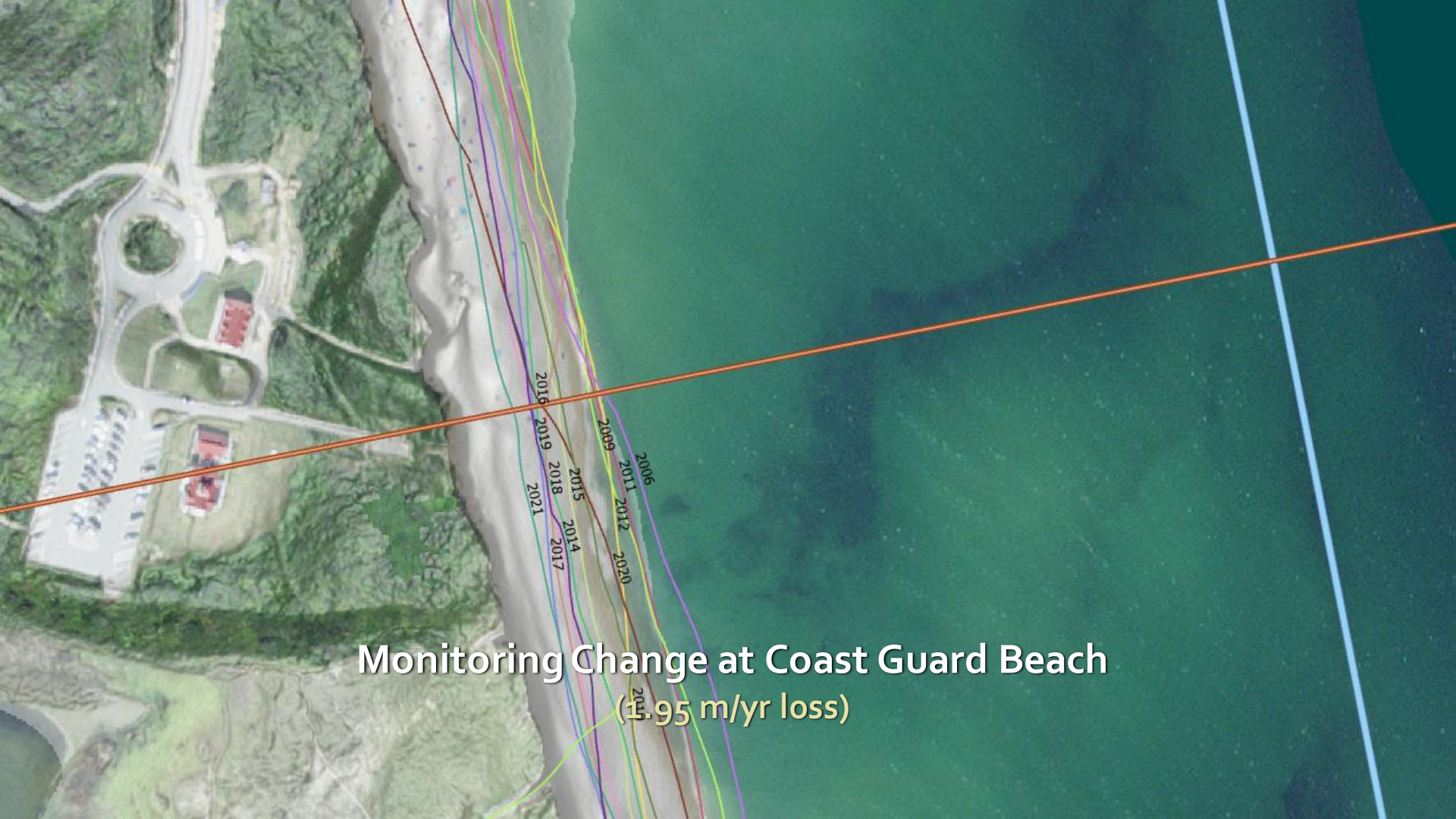
# Community Connections

- ❑ International Marconi Day- April 27
- ❑ Highland Light Event – May 3
- ❑ Poetry Event – June 14
- ❑ Family Fishing Day with MBBA
- ❑ Tuesday Night music/Lectures at SPVC
- ❑ Wednesday Night music at Herring Cove

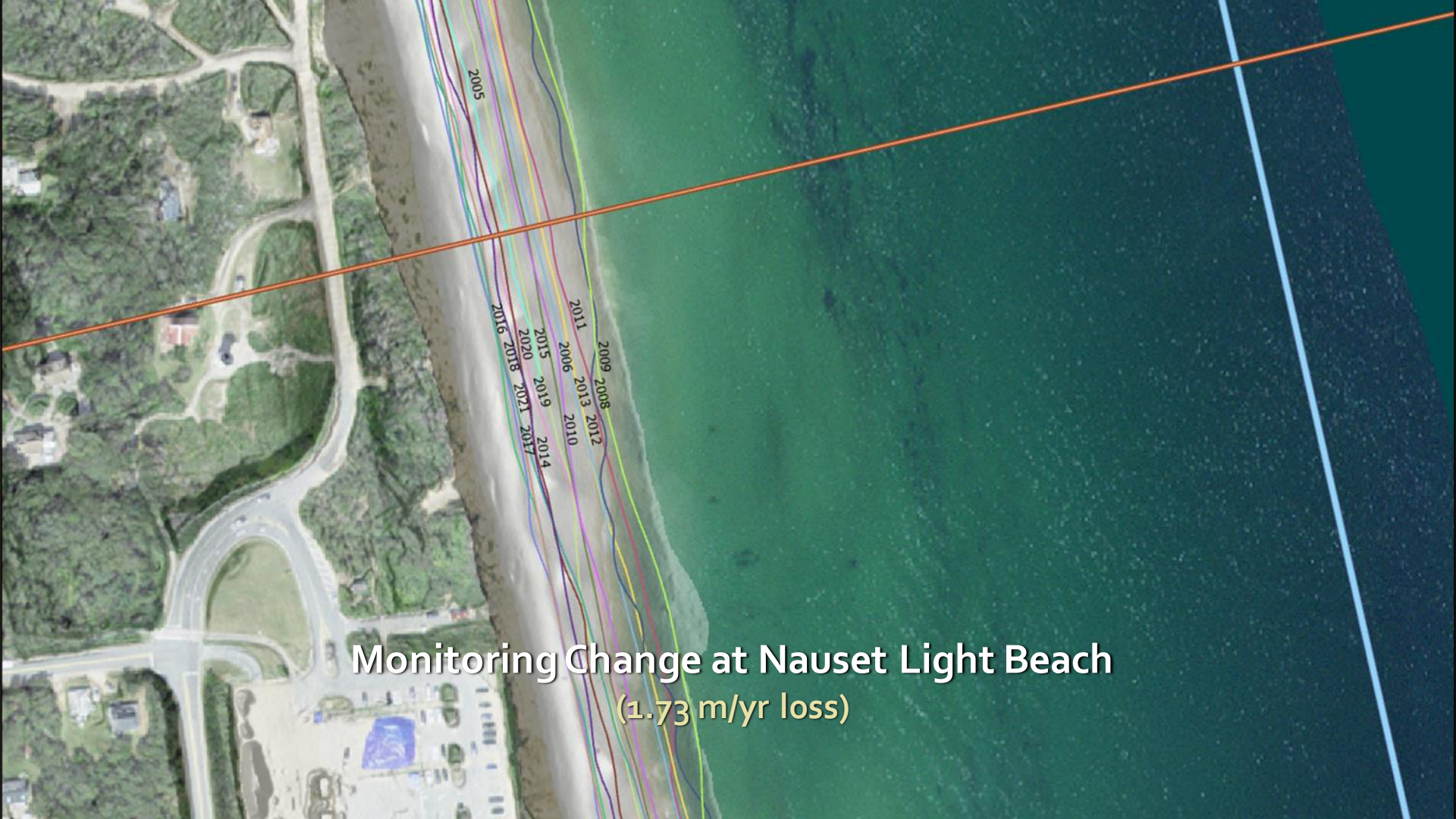
# Cape Cod National Seashore Coastal Change Monitoring



Location	Rate of Change (m/yr)
Coast Guard Beach (Eastham)	1.95 m/yr Loss
Nauset Light (Eastham)	1.73 m/yr Loss
Highland Light (Truro)	0.02 m/yr Gain
Race Point Light (Provincetown)	0.56 m/yr Loss
Wood End Light (Provincetown)	0.97 m/yr Gain
Long Point Light (Provincetown)	0.35 m/yr Loss



Monitoring Change at Coast Guard Beach  
(4.95 m/yr loss)



Monitoring Change at Nauset Light Beach  
(1.73 m/yr loss)

Mill Creek Water Control  
Structure Location

Mill Creek

Herring River

Chequessett  
Bridge - Under  
Construction





An aerial photograph of a river system, likely the Herring River, showing a large bend. The river is dark green, surrounded by dense green forest. A road or dike runs along the left side of the river. Three specific areas are highlighted with white outlines and yellow text labels: the Herring River Dike on the left, the Mill Creek Salt Marsh Restoration Area in the center-right, and the Mill Creek Water Control Structure Construction Area on the right. A small stream labeled 'Mill Creek' flows into the main river from the right.

Mill Creek Salt  
Marsh Restoration  
Area

Herring River Dike

Mill Creek Water  
Control Structure  
Construction Area

Mill Creek

# Duck Harbor: Recurring Beach Overwash Events



# Duck Harbor: Development of Washover Fan



# Duck Harbor: Vegetation Clearing

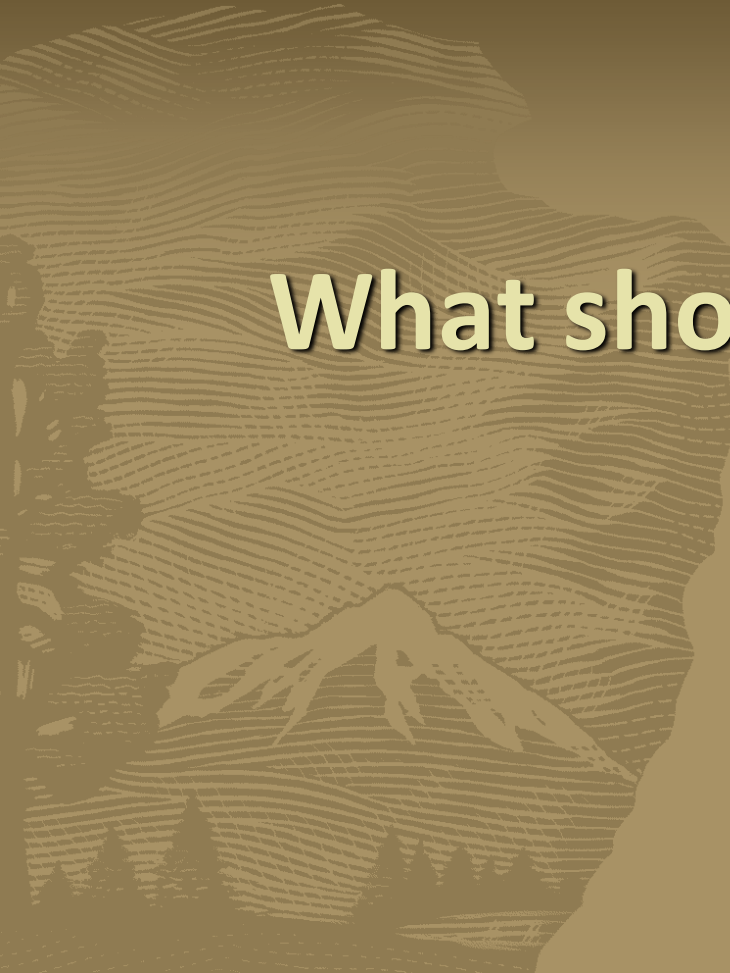
- Overwash Began in January 2021
- Occurs Roughly Monthly, When Cape Cod Bay Tide Reaches About 10.5 Feet
- Summer 2021: All Vegetation Killed by Salt Water
- Summer 2022: Extensive Natural Recruitment of Salt Tolerant Vegetation
- Winter 2022-2023: 80 Acres of Trees and Shrubs Taken Down
- Winter 2024: Remaining 40 Acres of Trees and Shrubs Cleared
- 2024 Events Affected By Unusual Winter Wind Patterns and Sustained Tides Higher Than Predictions



# Duck Harbor: Vegetation Clearing



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**What should we work on  
next?**