



BOEM BUREAU OF OCEAN
ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Maximizing Regional Sand Management in North Carolina

North Carolina Beach Inlet and
Waterway Association (NCBIWA)

November 19, 2024
2024 Annual Conference

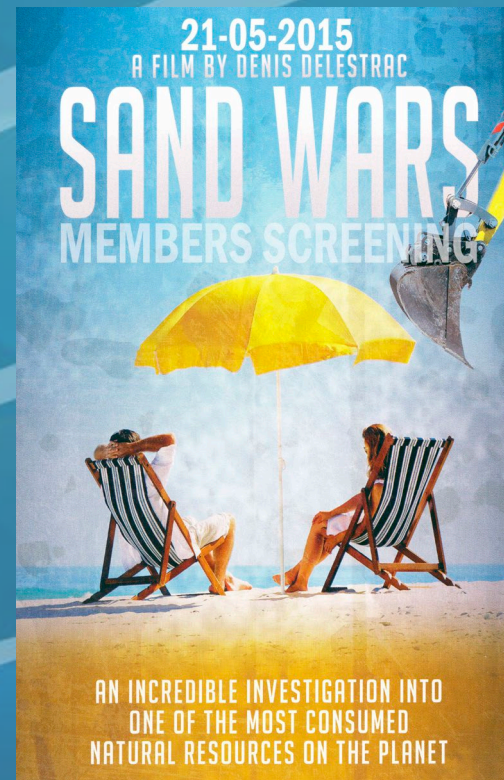
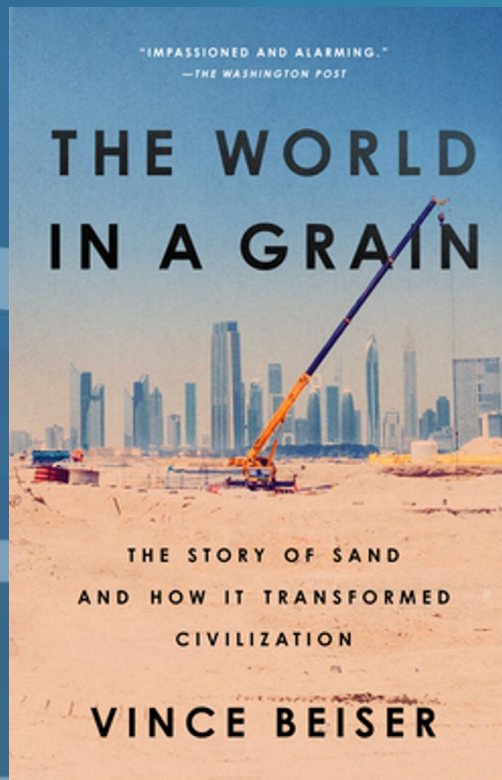
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BOTTOM LINE: Sediment is a Finite Resource that Must be Strategically Identified, Accessed, and Managed



“Sand is the second most consumed natural resource, after water, and must be wisely managed (UNEP, 2022).”





“When people picture sand spread across idyllic beaches and endless deserts, they understandably think of it as an infinite resource”

(The World is Running Out of Sand, Smithsonian Magazine, September 8, 2017)

NC's Changing Sand Paradigm: "ALL HANDS ON DECK"

"Sand is like gold. There are a lot of projects that rely on it, and it's a limited resource." (Miami Herald, November 30, 2022)

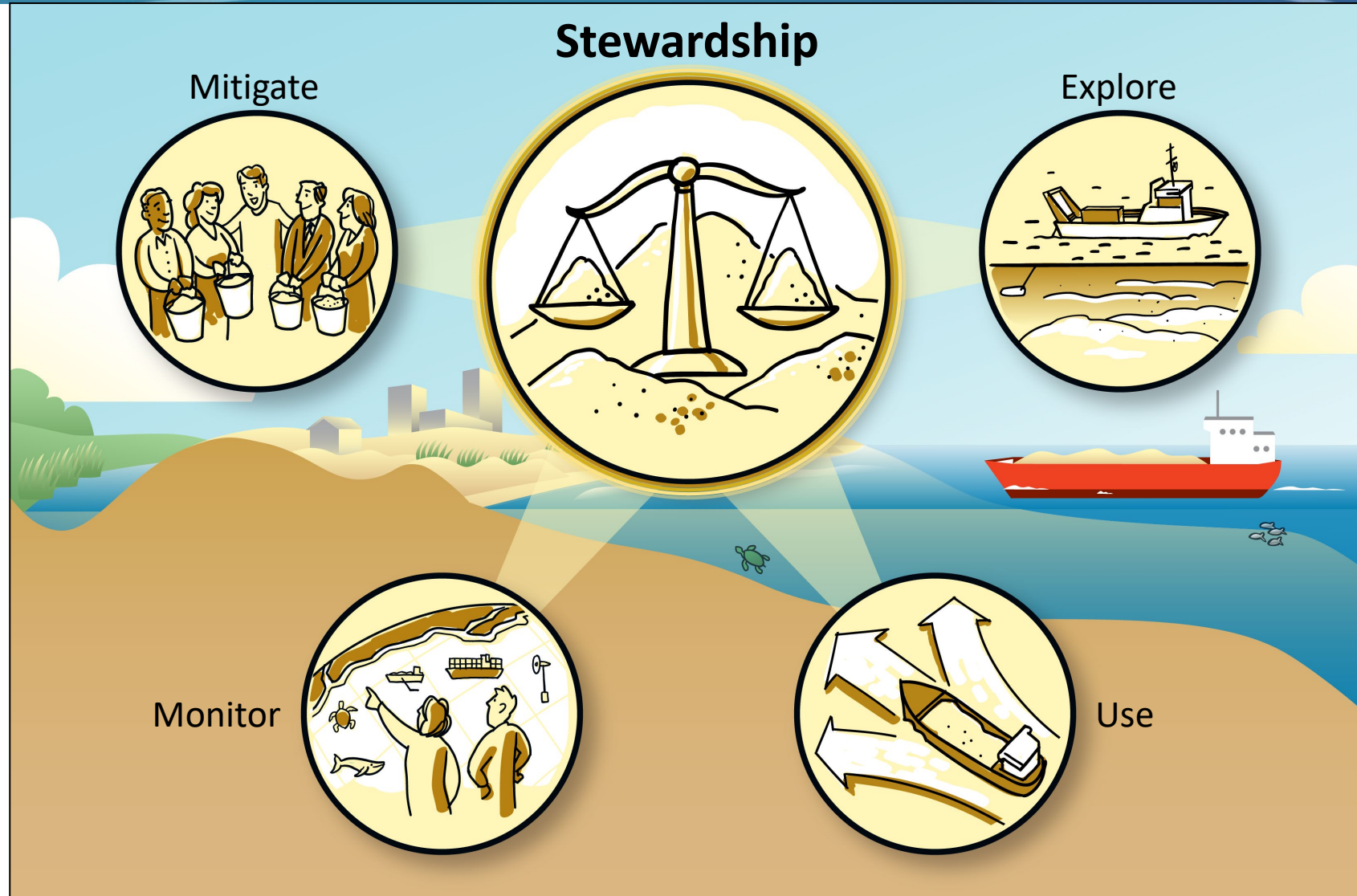
"We need to know where the sand is (and is not) in order to properly manage it (BOEM MMP)"

"Stewardship of sand requires an understanding of how habitat relates to substrate."

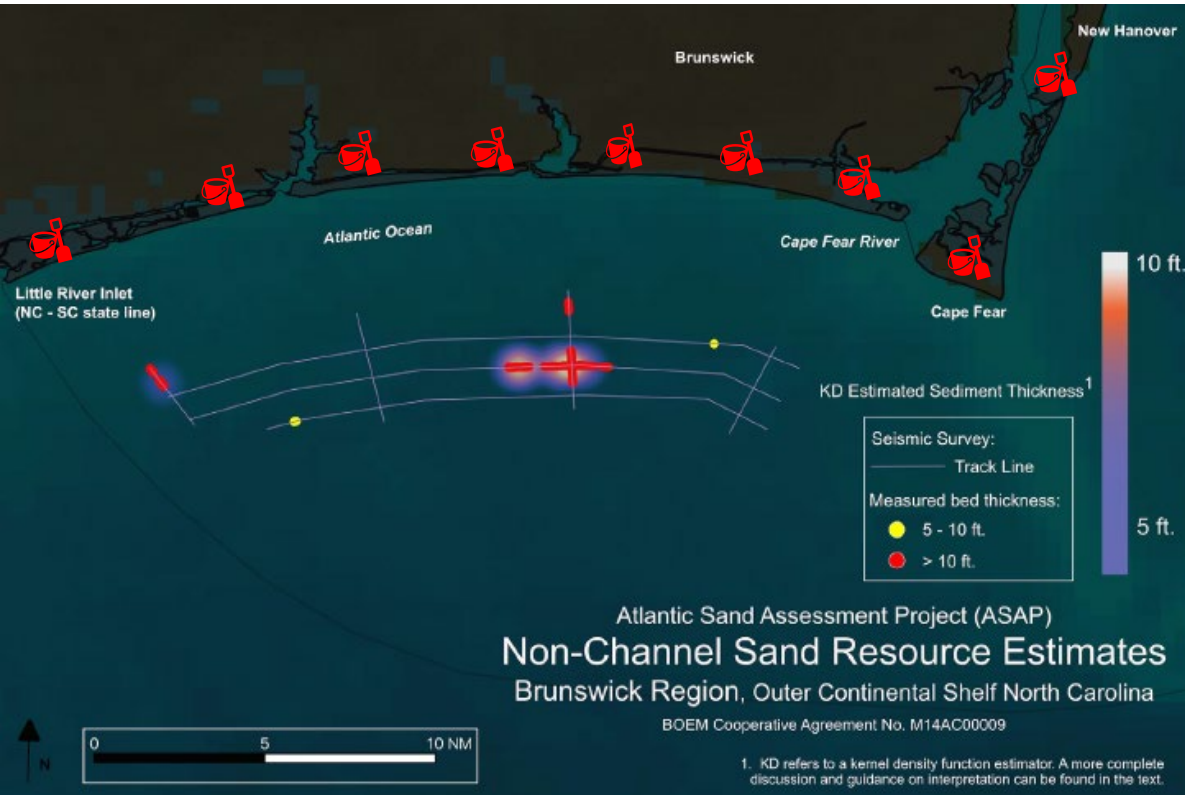


BOEM's Intersection with Coastal Resilience

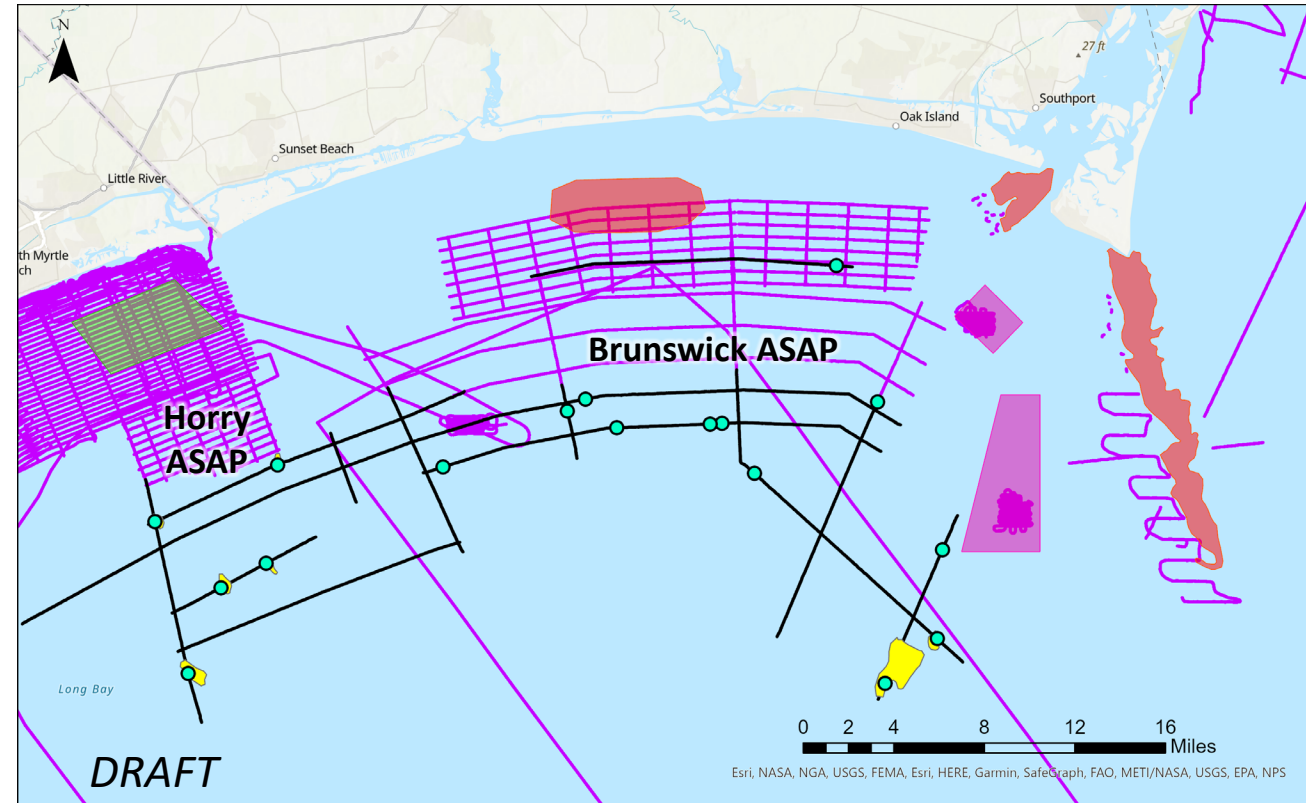
- Marine Minerals Program ensures stewardship of sand and the environment by:
 - Help finding where OCS sand is (and is not)
 - Facilitating use of OCS sand
 - Monitoring sand supply, demand, and use
 - Help mitigating conflict along the way



Brunswick/North Myrtle Region



(Corbett et al., 2019)



Ideal Sediment Management

Environmental



Resource Identification




Data



Resource Use



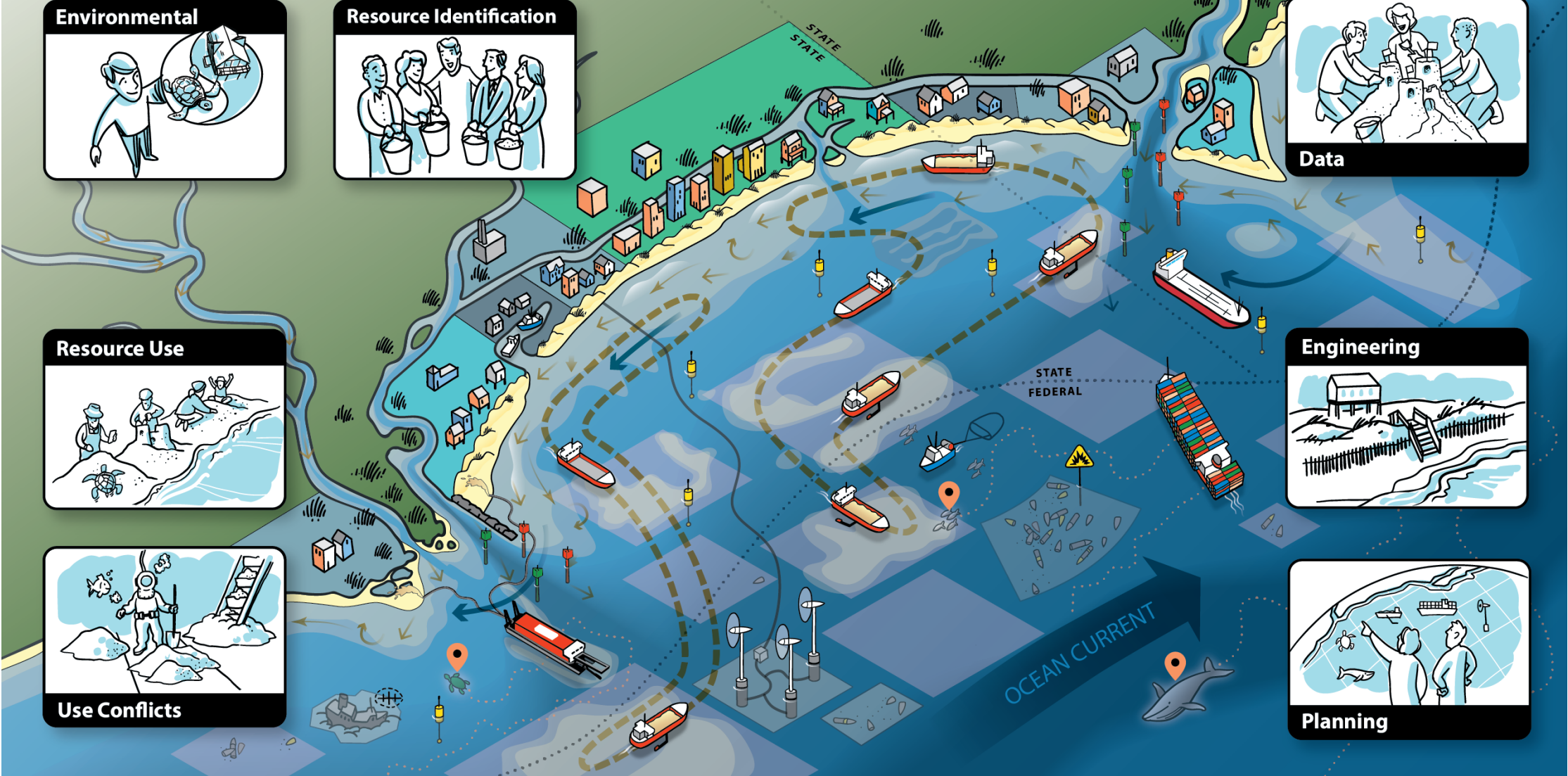
Engineering



Use Conflicts



Planning



Outlook for the Future



- Long-term considerations:
 - Proactive planning to support long-term coastal resilience strategies – “**Sand is Gold.**”
 - Inform/Educate Stakeholders towards holistic systems-based approach – “**Strategic Sand Management.**”
 - Balanced Stewardship of sand resources and environmental resources within an increasingly crowded ocean – “**informed trade-off analyses.**”
- Key research themes to be addressed:
 - Supply and demand assessments
 - Reconnaissance-level data collection
 - Sediment transport processes