## Living Shoreline Response to Building Coastal Resilience

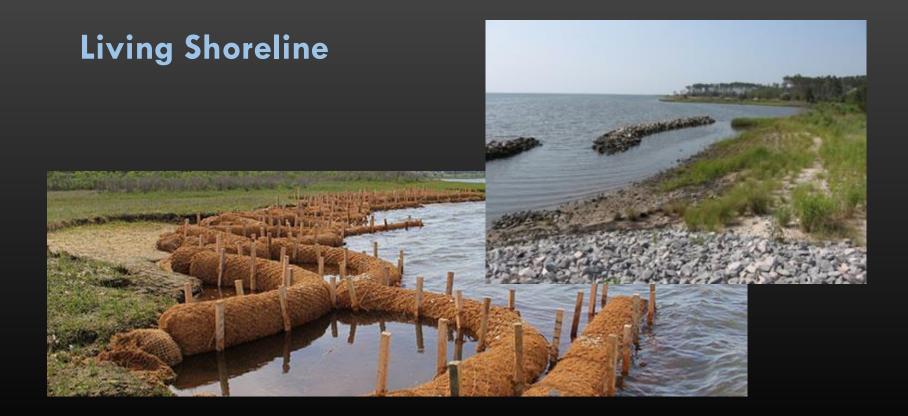
Ralph Roob City of Greater Geelong – Senior Environmental Engineer University of Melbourne – National Centre for Coasts and Climate

Stephen E Swearer Professor University of Melbourne – National Centre for Coasts and Climate

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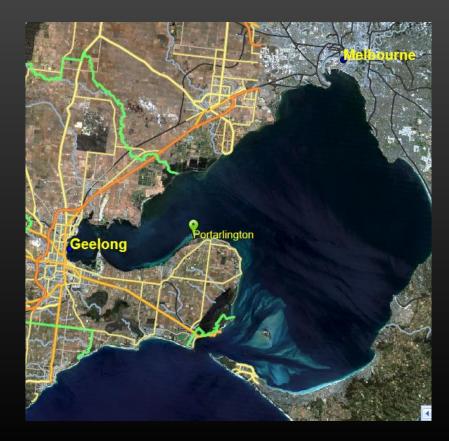
Teresa M Konlechner Research Fellow University of Melbourne – National Centre for Coasts and Climate



## Port Phillip Bay Sea Walls



### **Ramblers Road Foreshore**

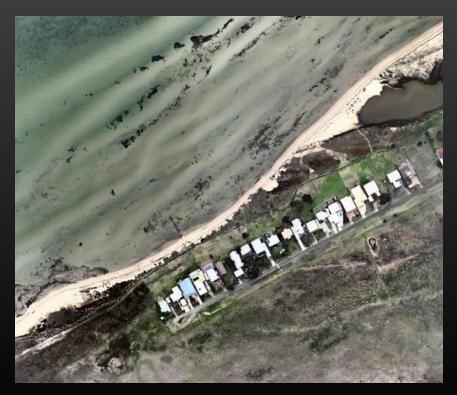


#### Dynamic coastline of the Ramblers Road Foreshore



## Seagrass loss





Ramblers Road 2005

#### Ramblers Road 2014

## Winter storms and inundation



#### **Recent works**



Primary berm reinforcement

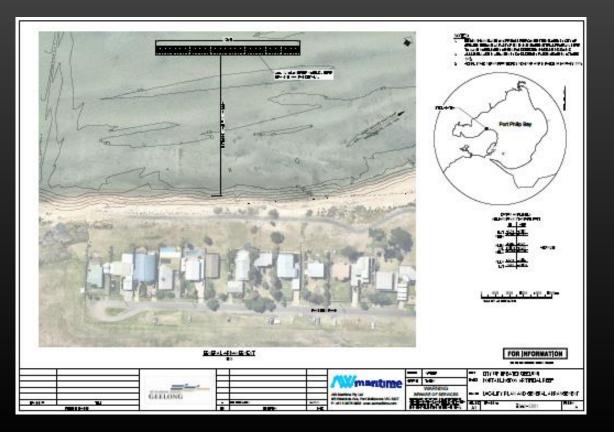


Beach renourishment and sand fencing

#### Foreshore works - Reshaping and vegetating low lying areas

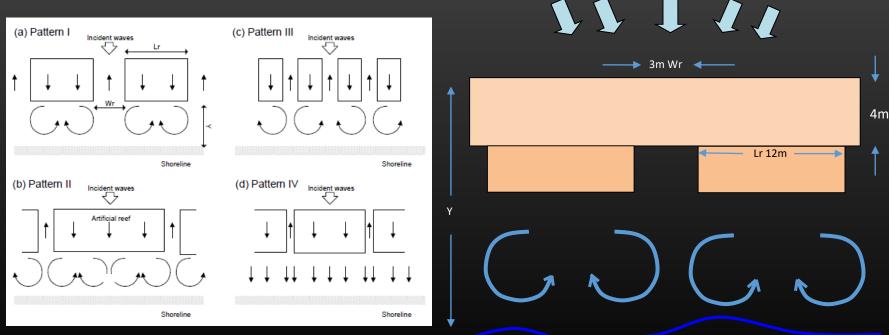


## Artificial reef or breakwater - location and orientation



## Conceptual design of an artificial reef or breakwater

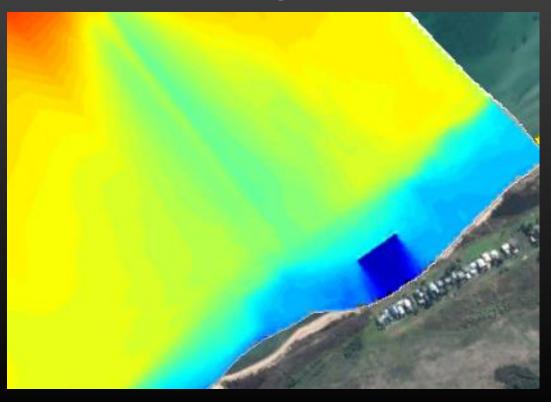
Wave Direction



The design controls sand accumulation and littoral drift Configuration is based: Wr > 0.25 and Lr < 4 (Yoshioka et al 1993)

Shoreline

# Modelling of offshore artificial reef or breakwater configuration



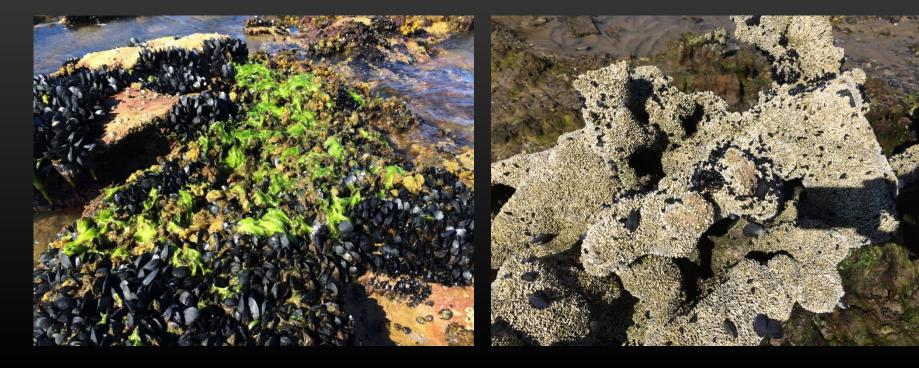
## Types of artificial reefs





#### Reef design elements

Colonise naturally with reef communities that act to "cement" the structure Modular structure - constructed on land, quickly installed and modified if required Once the steel in the structure has corroded, a reef of natural appearance remains



#### **Artificial Reef Materials**

Shell recycling – bi-product from the Bass Strait scallop fishery, previously disposed of in landfill

Discarded rocks from residential development



#### Artificial Reef Modular Cages



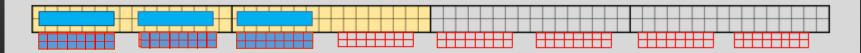
### **Artificial Reef installation Day 1**



## Completed artificial reef



#### "Greening a Grey" structure - design & material use



	Т						

Seaward layer 2.0 x 2.0 x 0.5m steel cages with weld mesh

Leeward layer 1.5 x 1.5x 0.75m steel cages with weld mesh



Seeded with mussels



Rock and shell - basalt rock 200-300 dia, Bass Strait scallop shell

Rock only - basalt rock 200-300 dia

## **Baseline and ongoing monitoring**





#### **Biological Parameters**

- Sediment grain size sampling and analysis
- Seagrass mapping / monitoring
- Reef community colonisation

## **Baseline and ongoing monitoring**



#### **Physical Parameters**

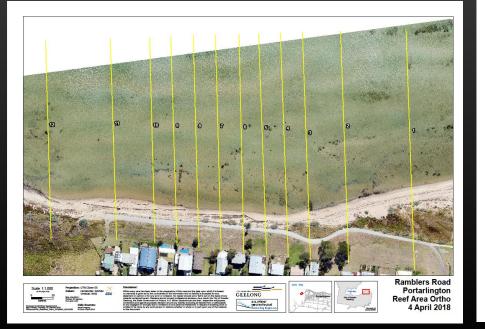
- Wave climate using pressure sensors
- Surface models using UAV (Drone) surveys
- Beach profiles and nearshore bathymetry using Total Station

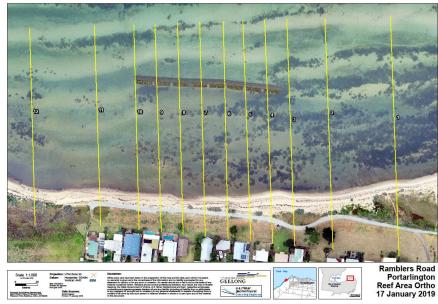


#### UAV (Drone) Surveys

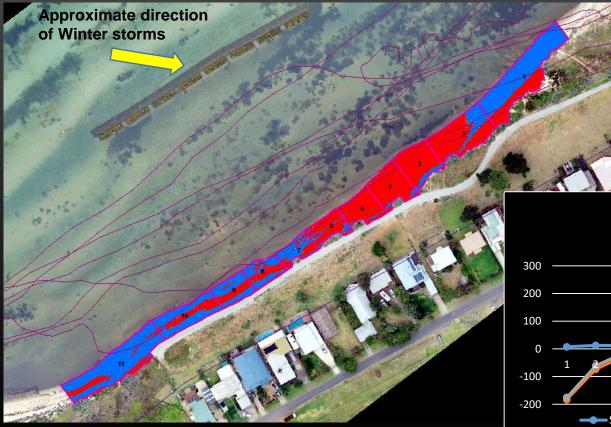
#### **UAV Surveys**

- 3 per year
- Images are mosaicked and georeferenced
- 3D surfaces created
- Surface comparison to calculate sand volumes
- Map changes in seagrass distribution





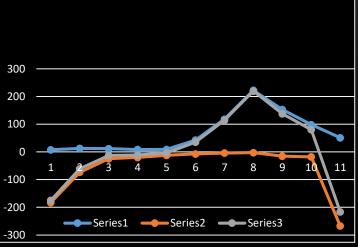
#### Sand volume – beach sector gain / loss



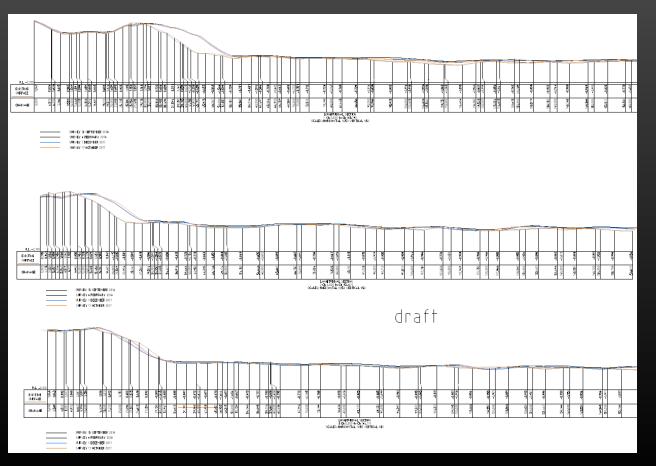
#### Aerial Imagery analysis

#### Changes in sand volume

- April to August 2018 Net gain 108m<sup>3</sup>
- August 2018 to January 2019 Net gain 113m<sup>3</sup>
- Total net gain 221m<sup>3</sup>



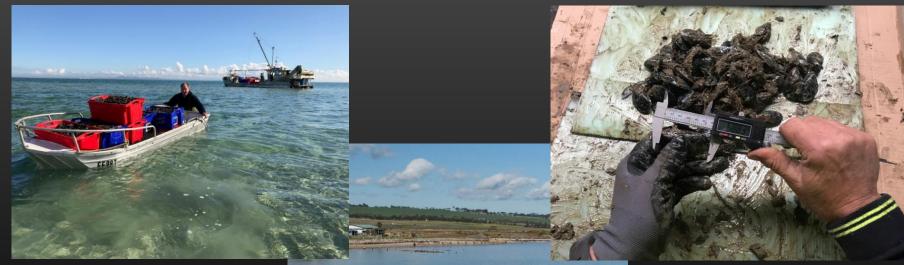
#### **Beach profiles and nearshore bathymetry**



## Surveys – total station

- 3 per year
- 12 transects average 150m offshore

#### Mussel seeding trial



900kg were delivered soon after harvest from nearby aquaculture site

#### 3 techniques 0.25<sup>2</sup>m trial plots

- Loose
- On basalt tiles
- On growing ropes



2000 individuals measured to establish length frequency

#### Mussels fouled by algal growth during Summer

# Natural settlement of Mussel Spat





December 2018



## Summary of key objectives & benefits

Understanding of the variable nature of the coastal environment

Develop a design that considers the natural environment - coastal processes

#### **Building coastal resilience**

- Shoreline defence established as part of the landscape
- Shoreline protection from wind driven waves
- Sand accretion

#### Realise co-benefits through enhanced ecosystem services

- Colonisation of reef marine communities
- Potential for seagrass restoration
- Trial for seeding and growing native mussels

#### Maintain the volume and placement of sand used to renourish beaches



#### **Project Partners**









