Texas High School Coastal Monitoring Program at Van Vleck High School: 2023-2024

January 2025



Texas High School Coastal Monitoring Program

- Provide high school students with a real-world learning experience by monitoring the beach and dune environment.
- Obtain a better understanding of the relationship between coastal processes, beach morphology, and shoreline change
- Increase public awareness and understanding of coastal change, processes, and hazards by making data and findings available for coastal managers and scientists, students and teacher, and the general public.







TEXAS Geosciences

Bureau of Economic Geology

Jackson School of Geosciences
The University of Texas at Austin





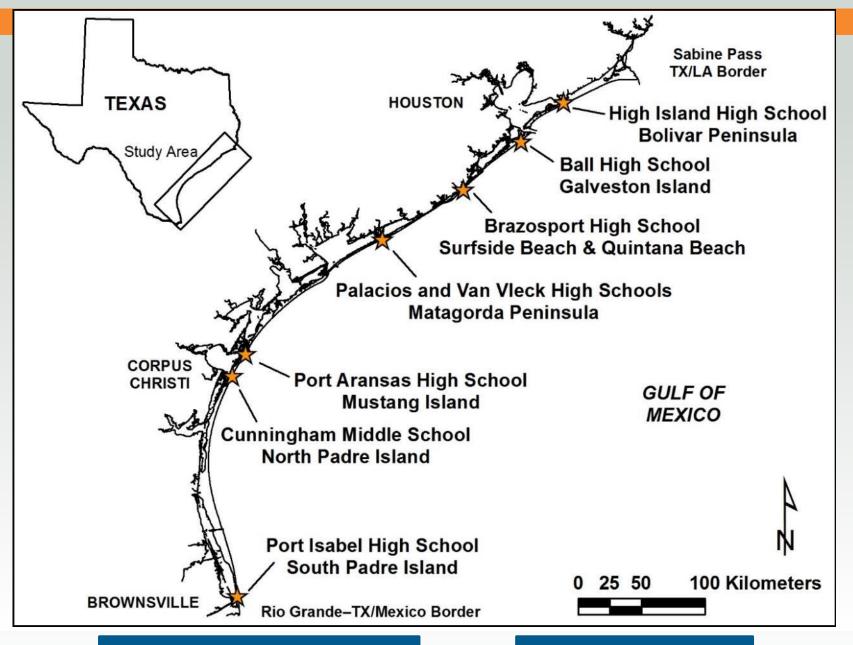














2023-2024: 23 field trips with ~230 students

1997-2024 421 field trips

Student Collected Data

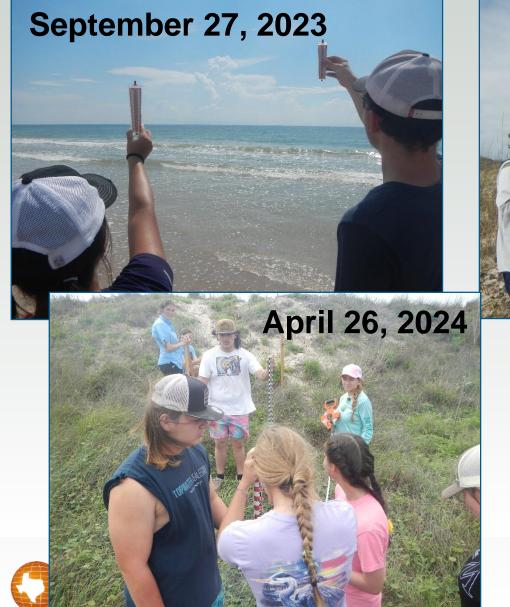
- Topographic transect oriented perpendicular to the shoreline
 - measured from the same starting point landward of the foredune and oriented in the same direction.
- Estimates of processes acting on the beach
 - wind direction and speed; wave direction, height, and period; and longshore current direction and speed
- GPS survey of the vegetation line and shoreline
 - quantitative data on the position of the shoreline and vegetation line







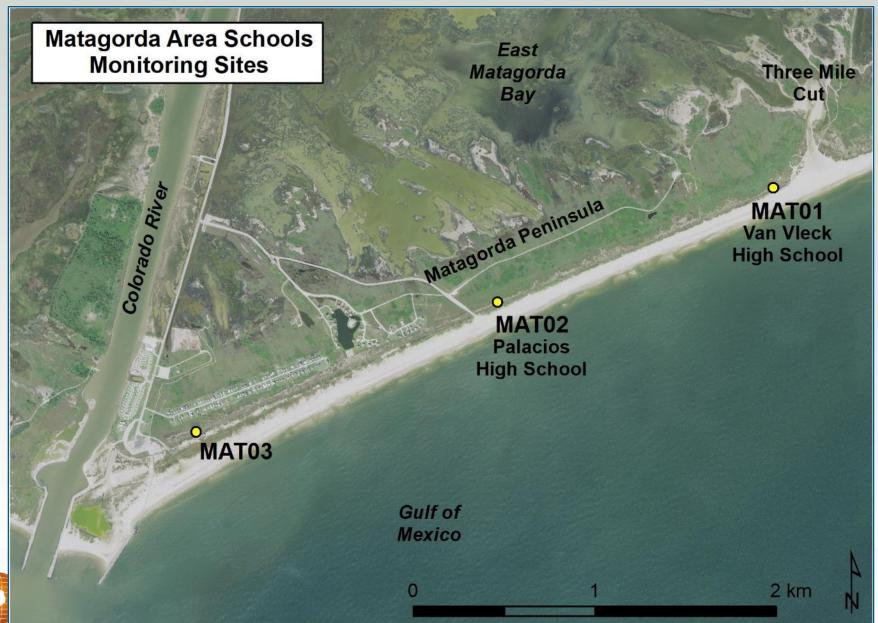
field trip dates







Matagorda Peninsula Study Sites



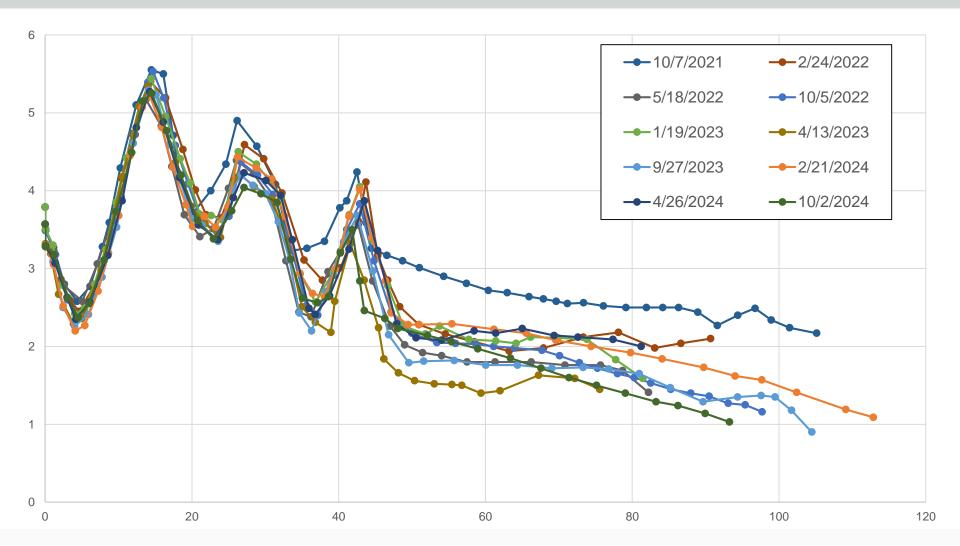


MAT01

February 21, 2024

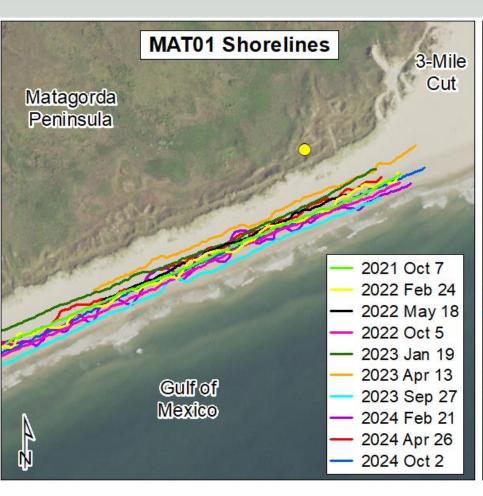


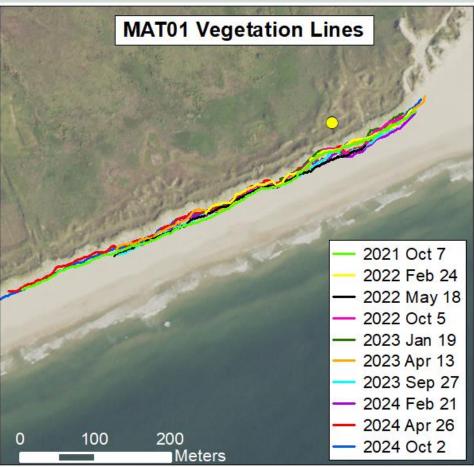
MAT01: fall 2021-fall 2024





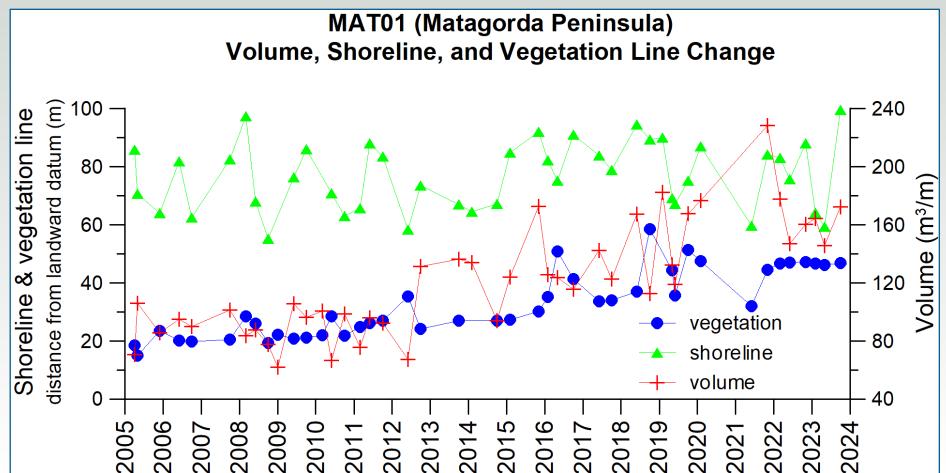
MAT01 shore and vegetation line positions







MAT01: shoreline, vegetation line, and volume changes

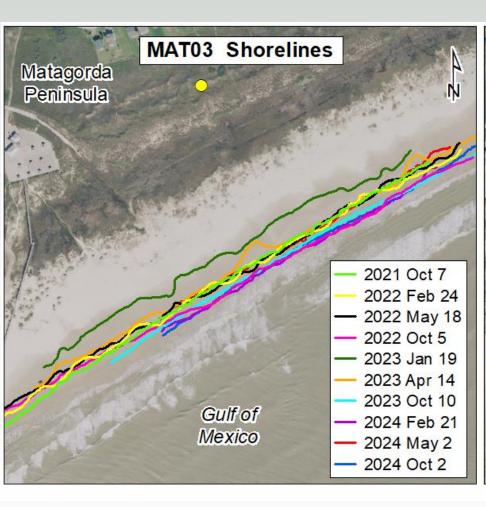


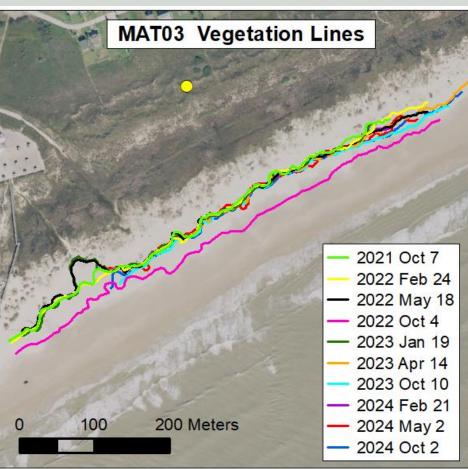


Sediment volume was calculated above 1 meter NAVD88.



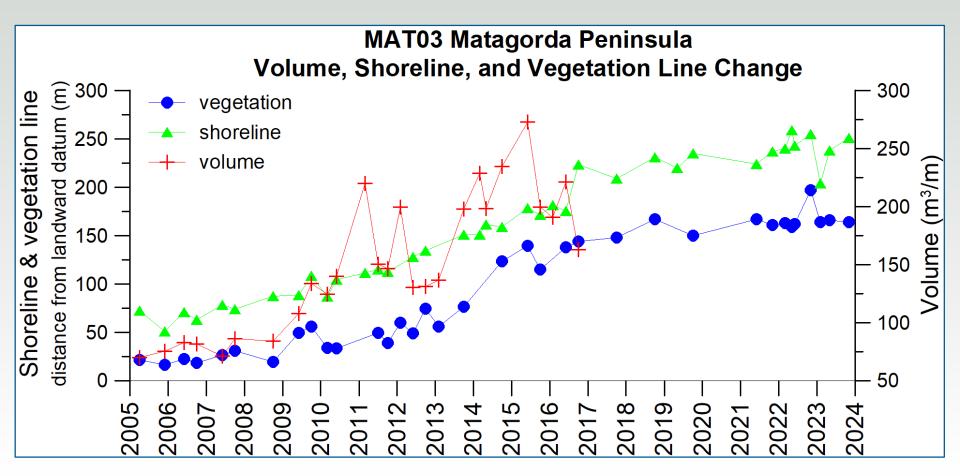
MAT03 shore and vegetation line positions







MAT03: shoreline, vegetation line, and volume changes





Sediment volume was calculated above 1 meter NAVD88.