



# What Do We Do About the Outer Banks? Overcoming Barriers to Resilience in a Multiple Decision-Maker Environment

NC Sea Grant Resilience Team



# Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- VCAPS, Nags Head Project Overview
- Multi-Jurisdictional Challenges
- Questions for Participants
- Discussion
- Next Steps

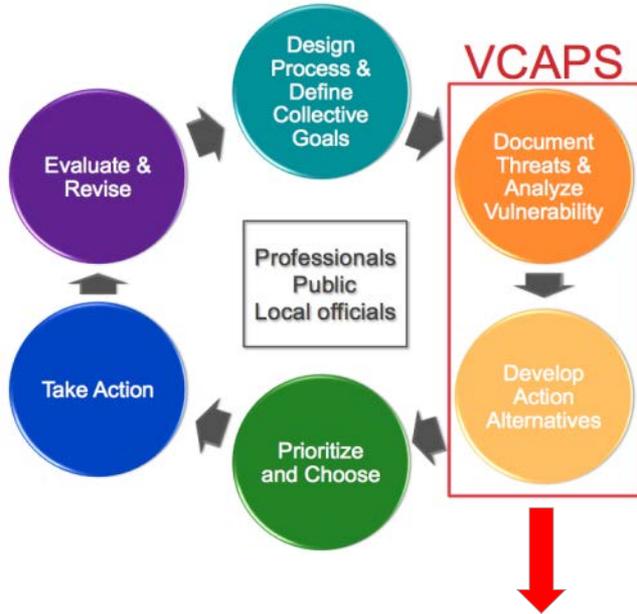




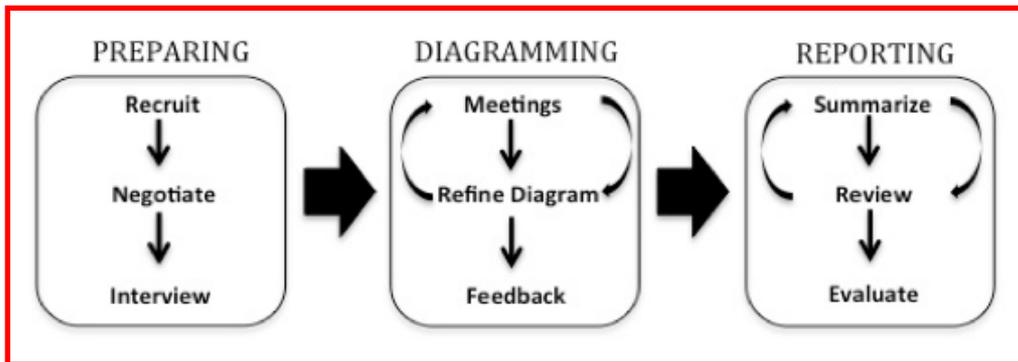


# Vulnerability, Consequences, and Adaptation Scenario Process (VCAPS): Facilitating Dialogue

- About hazards like sea level rise, flooding, coastal storms
- About what these do to Nags Head
- About factors that make consequences better or worse
- Document current and potential actions, *both desired and not*

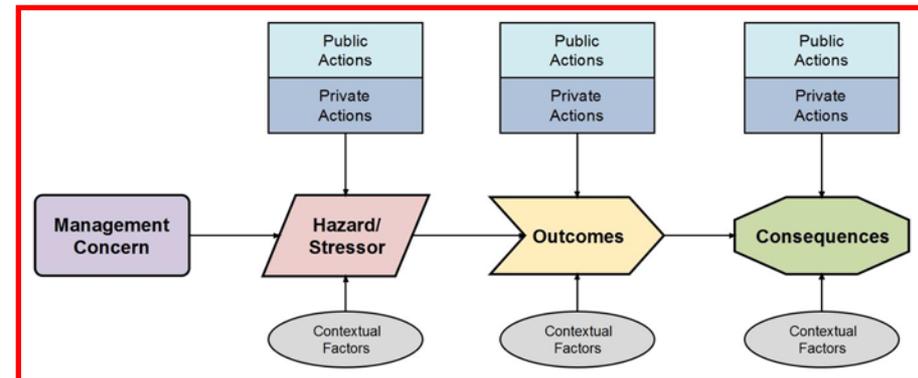


VCAPS supports initial phases of resiliency planning and implementation...

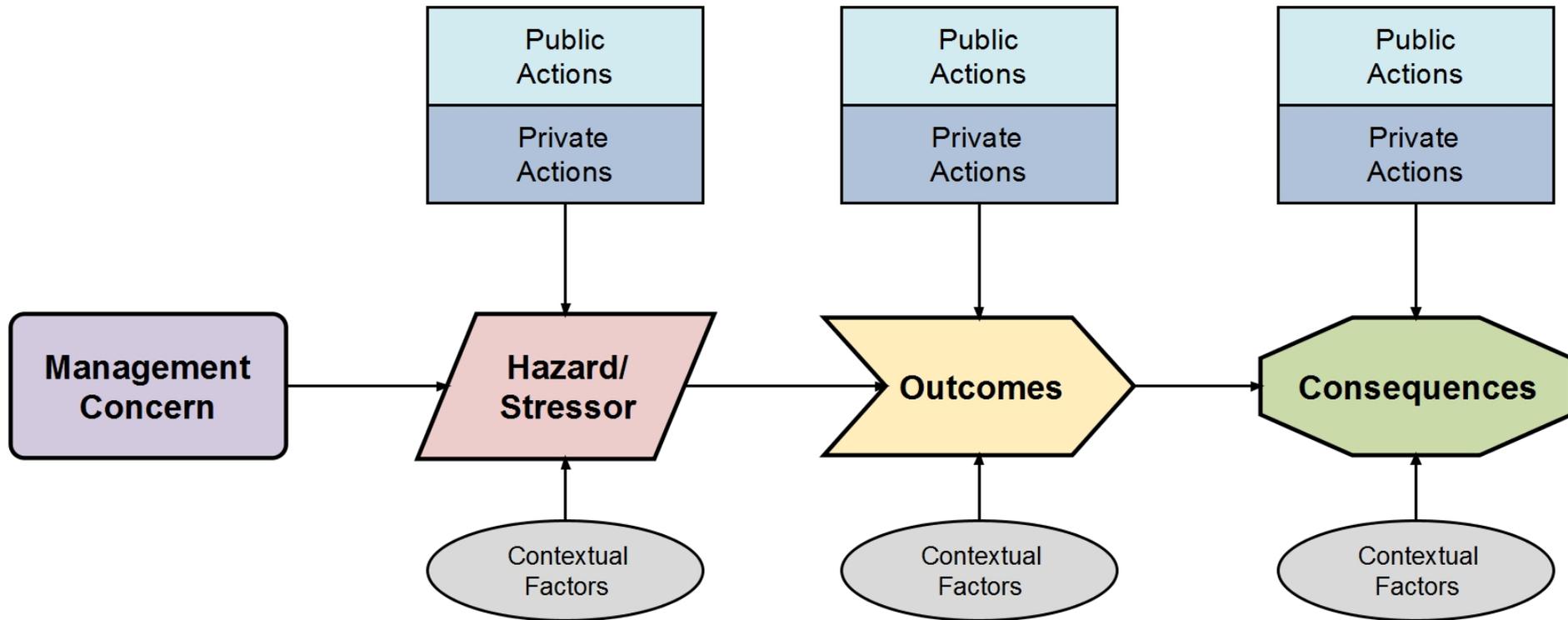


...through group discussion and learning...

...supported by real-time diagramming.



# VCAPS diagrams: Building blocks



# Nags Head's Challenges

- Maintaining clean water
- Marsh and sand loss to erosion
  - Oceanfront
  - Soundside (marsh)
- Maintain quality of life



# Thresholds, Barriers, Constraints

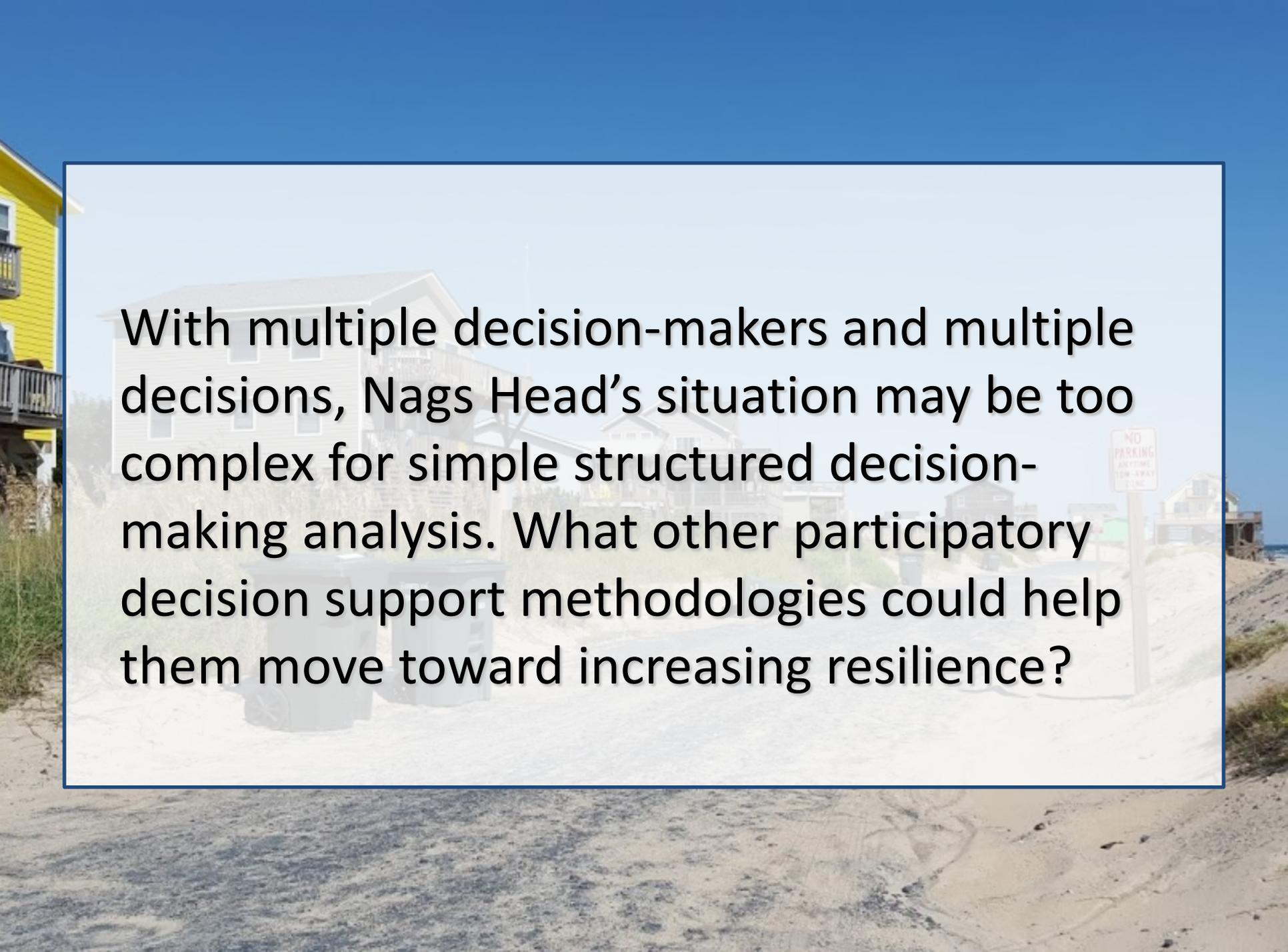
- What are tipping points?
  - Septic system function and water quality
  - Erosion and real estate, tourism market response
- Local long term data/understanding versus impact on decision-making without it
- How to fund adaptation?
  - Maintenance
  - Cross-scale collaboration to apply for \$
- What about issues not in the Town's control?



# Multiple Decision-Makers

- Dare County control:
  - Drinking water
  - Emergency management
- State of NC control:
  - Roads/drainage in South NH, Hwy 64
  - Inlet management
- Federal control:
  - NPS marshes in South NH
  - Inlet management



The background image shows a coastal town with several houses, some with porches, and a sandy area. A sign that reads "NO PARKING ANYTIME FOR AWAY FROM" is visible on the right side. The sky is clear and blue.

With multiple decision-makers and multiple decisions, Nags Head's situation may be too complex for simple structured decision-making analysis. What other participatory decision support methodologies could help them move toward increasing resilience?

The background of the slide is a photograph of a golf course. In the foreground, there is a green flag on a wooden post. The middle ground shows a grassy area with a sand trap. The background is a dense line of tall pine trees under a clear sky.

Using the options generated, please suggest social science research and engagement strategies to assist the Town of Nags Head with collaboratively developing a work plan to address sea level rise:

- As part of comprehensive planning
- As part of implementation plans