Section 2. Moving Islands

EXPLORING EARTH SURFACE CHANGES ALONG NORTH CAROLINA'S COAST

Sediments from Island Environments

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Beach

- Mostly quartz grains
- May have shell
 fragments or heavy
 (magnetic/black)
 minerals



Dunes

- Fine-grains; wellsorted
- Well-sorted because wind only moves certain sizes of grains
 - Wind cannot move boulders!



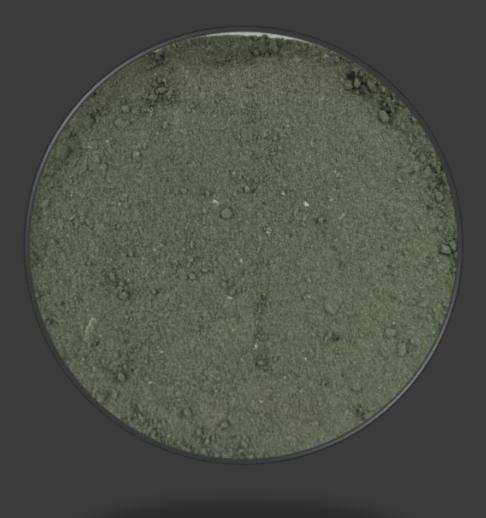
Maritime Forest

- Sandy, very organic material rich soil
- Forms from accumulation of plant material



Backbarrier Salt Marsh

- Muddy with lots of organic rich material
- May have
 substantial fraction
 of sand- from wind
 blow sand or
 overwash



Lagoon

- Mud or muddy sand
- May have shell fragments, whole shells, oysters, clams, mussels



Now it's your turn!



Unknown Sediment 1



Unknown Sediment 2



Unknown Sediment 3



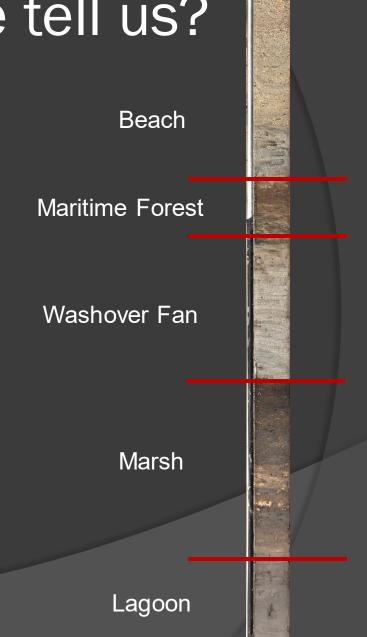


Let's examine some cores...



What does this core tell us?

Sea-level is rising and the island is moving landward!



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End of Section Final Discussion

- Sreak out group discussion-
 - How are humans impacting the natural evolution of barrier islands?
 - What should we do to mitigate this?

