

*Distributional consequences of
coastal risk management policies
under sea-level risk: a survey of OECD
country approaches*

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Context: Why focus on coastal adaptation?

Sea level rise will bring more frequent and severe flooding to coastal areas

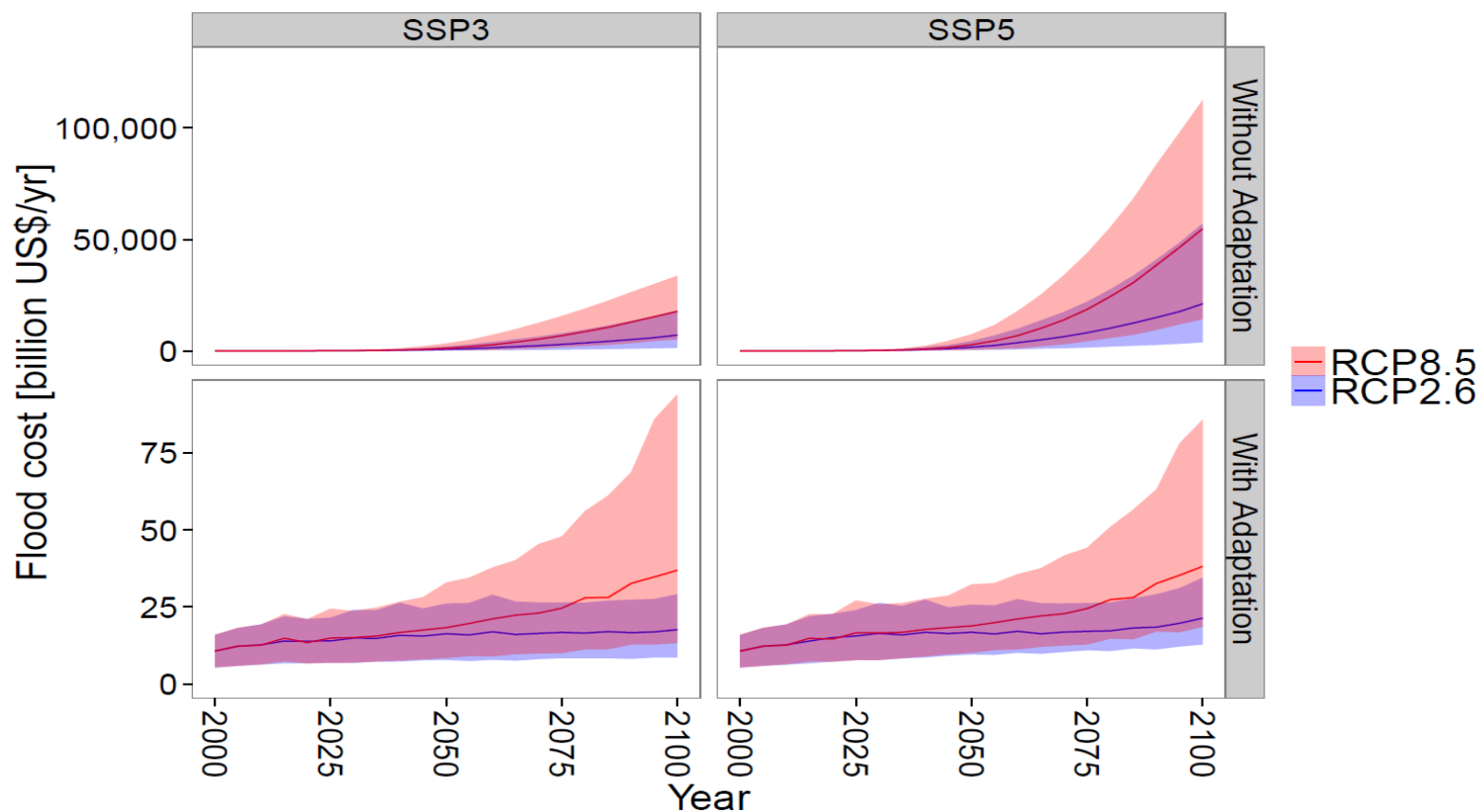


Hypothesis: Current institutional arrangements are not well equipped to deal with rising coastal risks – with distributional consequences

Research overview

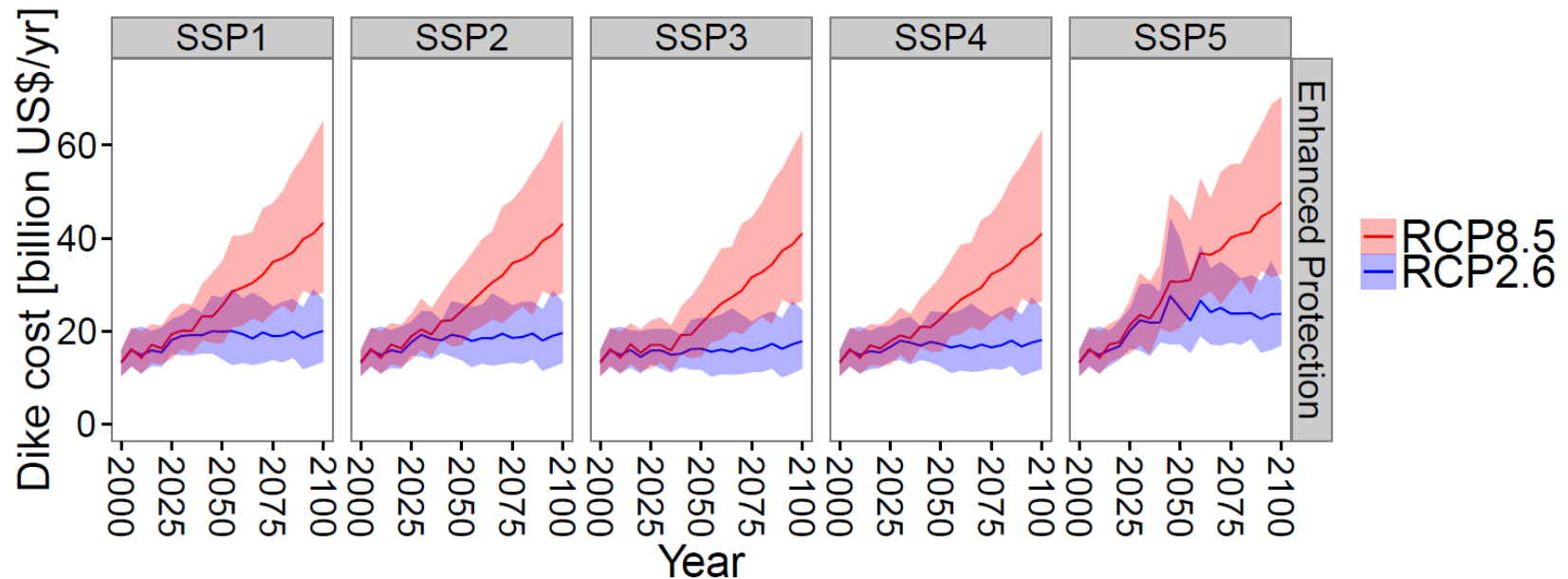
	<i>Research questions</i>	<i>Method</i>
Understanding the problem:	• What is the extent of the problem?	<i>Modelling</i>
	• Why risks not internalized into decisions?	<i>Literature review</i>
Current approaches:	• What policy tools are OECD countries using to reduce coastal risks?	<i>Scan of adaptation plans & other grey literature</i>
What works:	• What aspects of the national context support, or hinder, adaptation at the local level?	<i>Case studies (NZ, Canada, U.K., Germany)</i>
	• What are the elements of an effective response?	<i>Case studies, expert interviews</i>

The economic costs of sea-level rise (1)

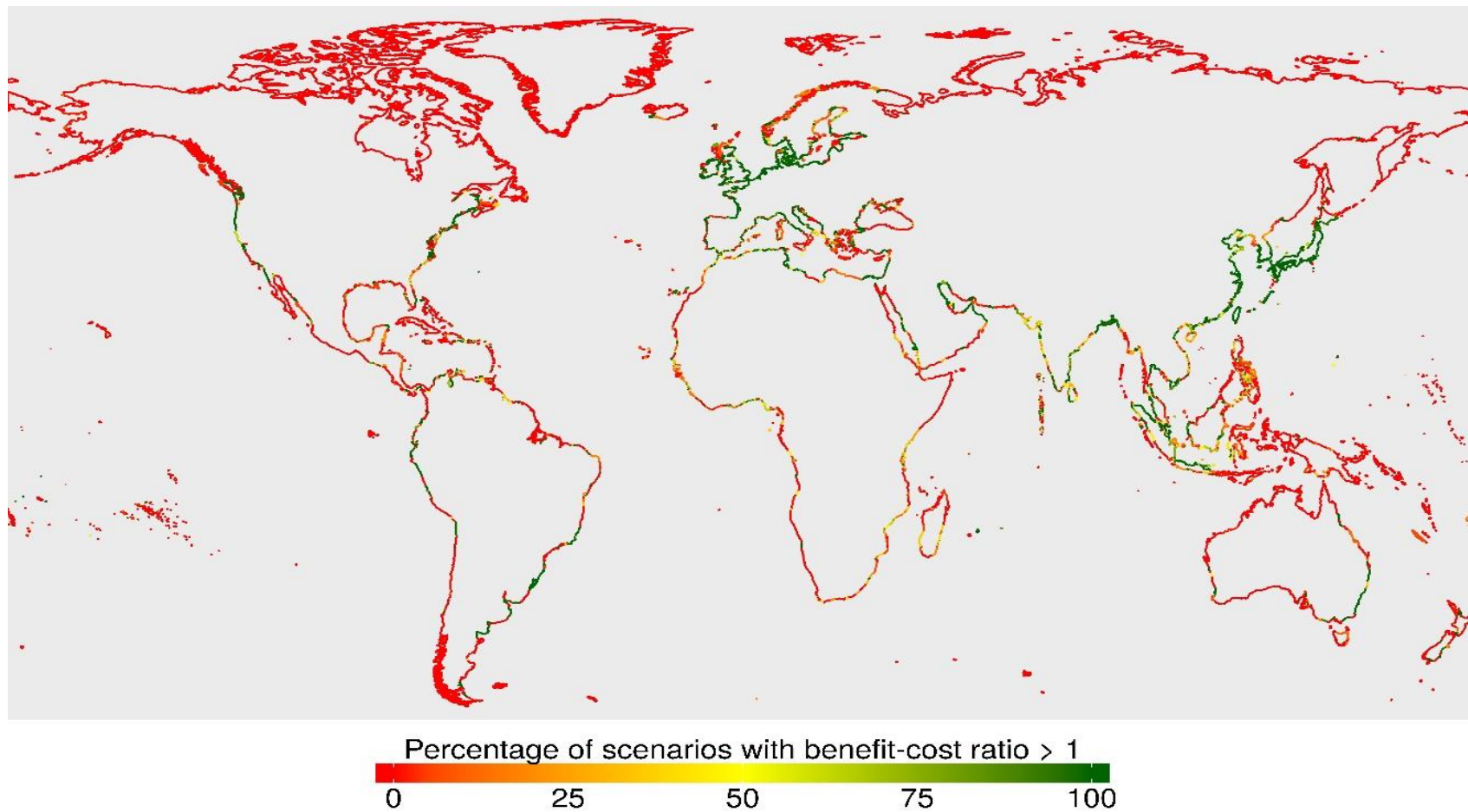


The economic costs of sea-level rise (2)

- Investment needs are substantial: up to 70 billion USD by 2100



Robust adaptation to 21st century sea-level rise



Evidence of a problem



Understanding the problem

- Individuals/
property
owners
- Developers
- Local
governments
- National
governments

Gaps in risk awareness

Misaligned incentives for risk reduction

Political economy obstacles

The role of national governments



Information provision



Regulatory/ economic instruments



Dedicated national funding

What policy tools are in use?

NUMBER OF OECD COUNTRIES



25

Information
provision



13

Regulatory/
economic
instruments



5

Dedicated
national
funding

What policy tools are in use?



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What policy tools are in use?



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What policy tools are in use?



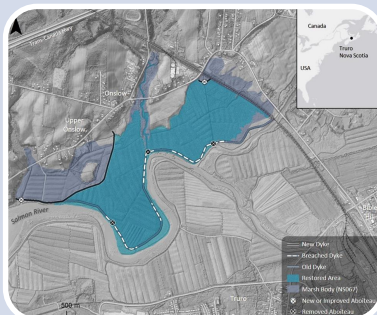
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Dedicated
national
funding

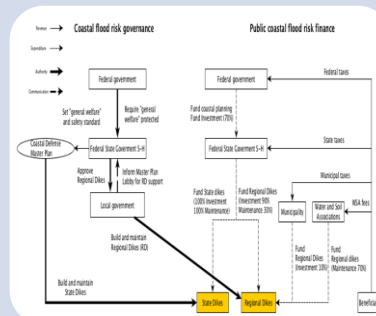
Implementation at the local level



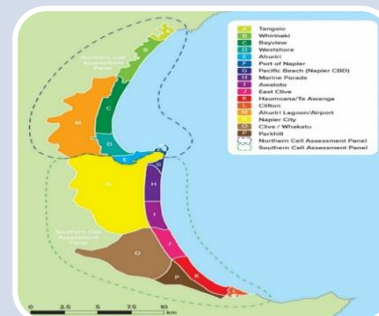
North
Norfolk,
United
Kingdom



Truro,
Canada

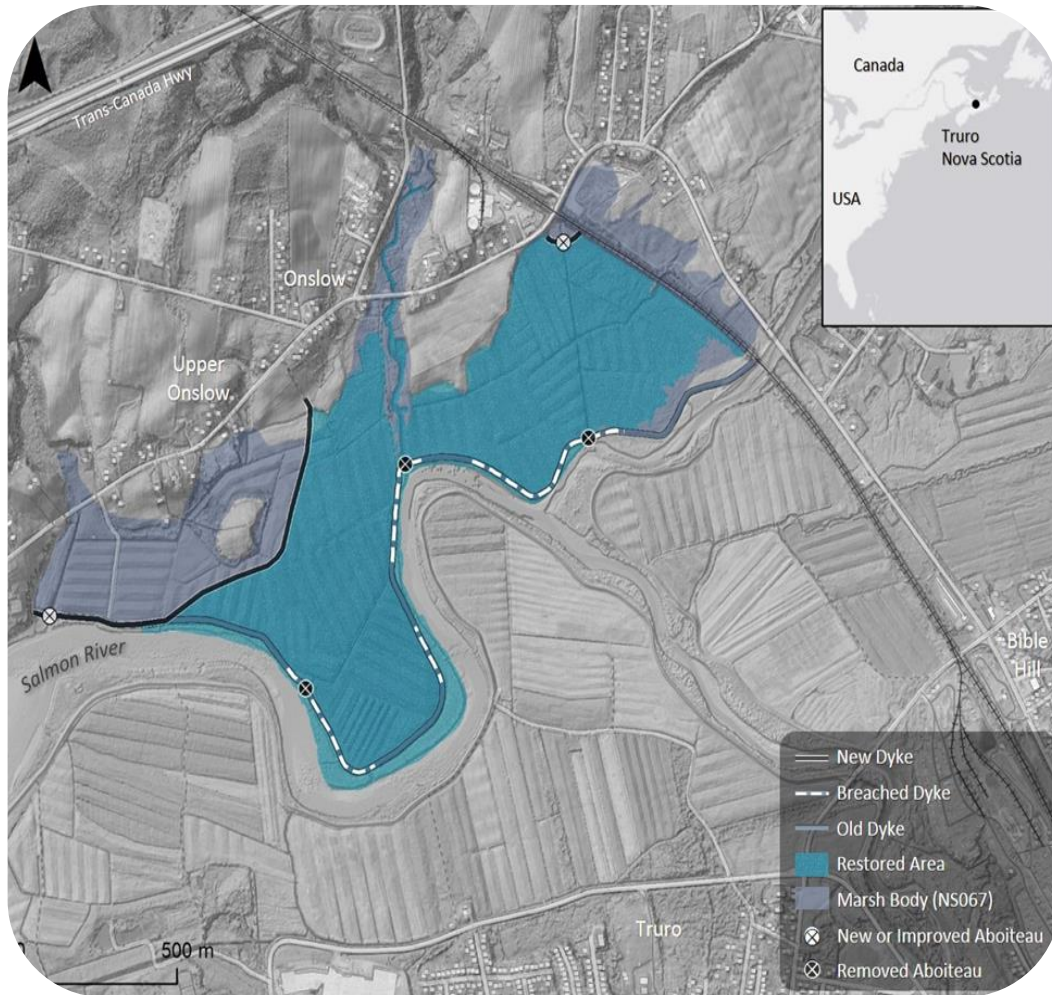


Schleswig-
Holstein,
Germany



Hawkes
Bay, New
Zealand

Truro illustrates common challenges



Information and engagement

- Citizen preferences for government intervention with hard options to maintain the status quo

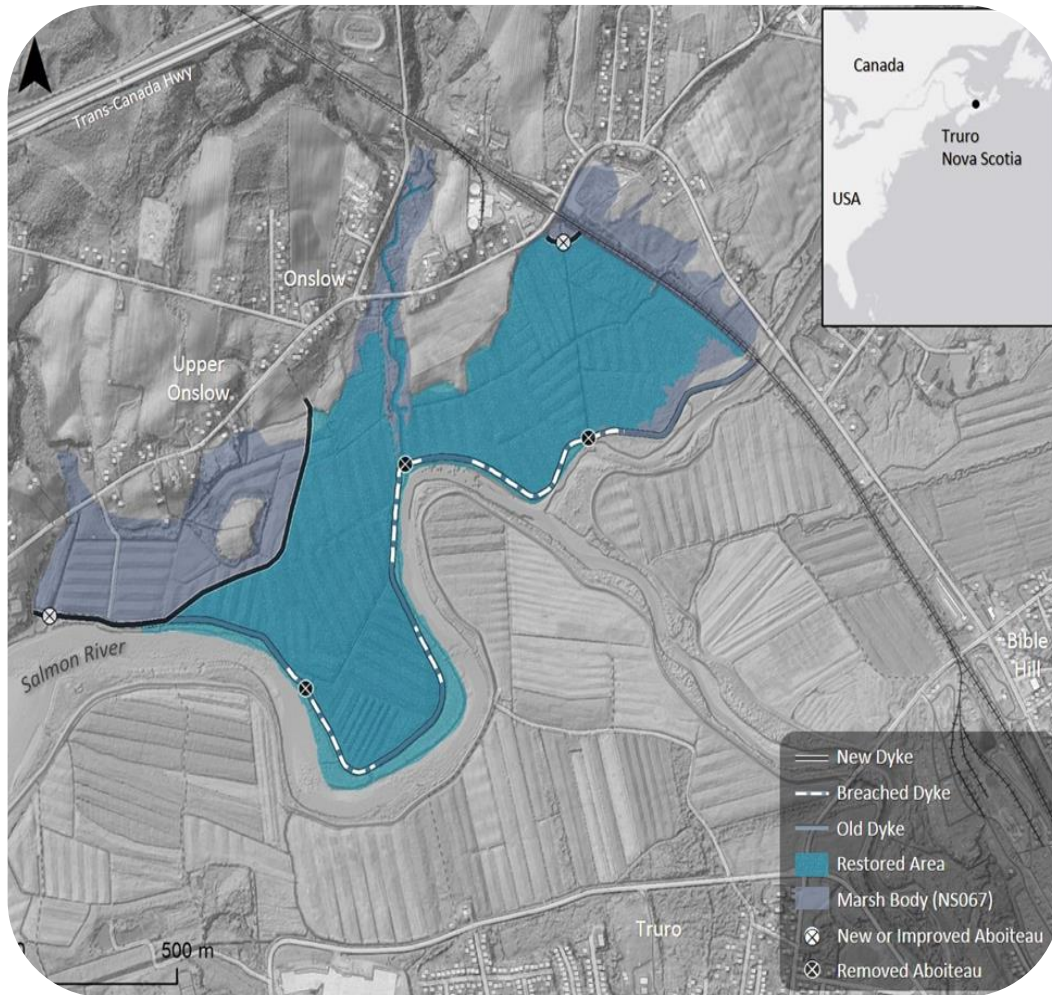
Alignment

- Responsibilities spread across different ministries and levels of government

Funding

- Unavailable or unclear sources

Truro illustrates common challenges



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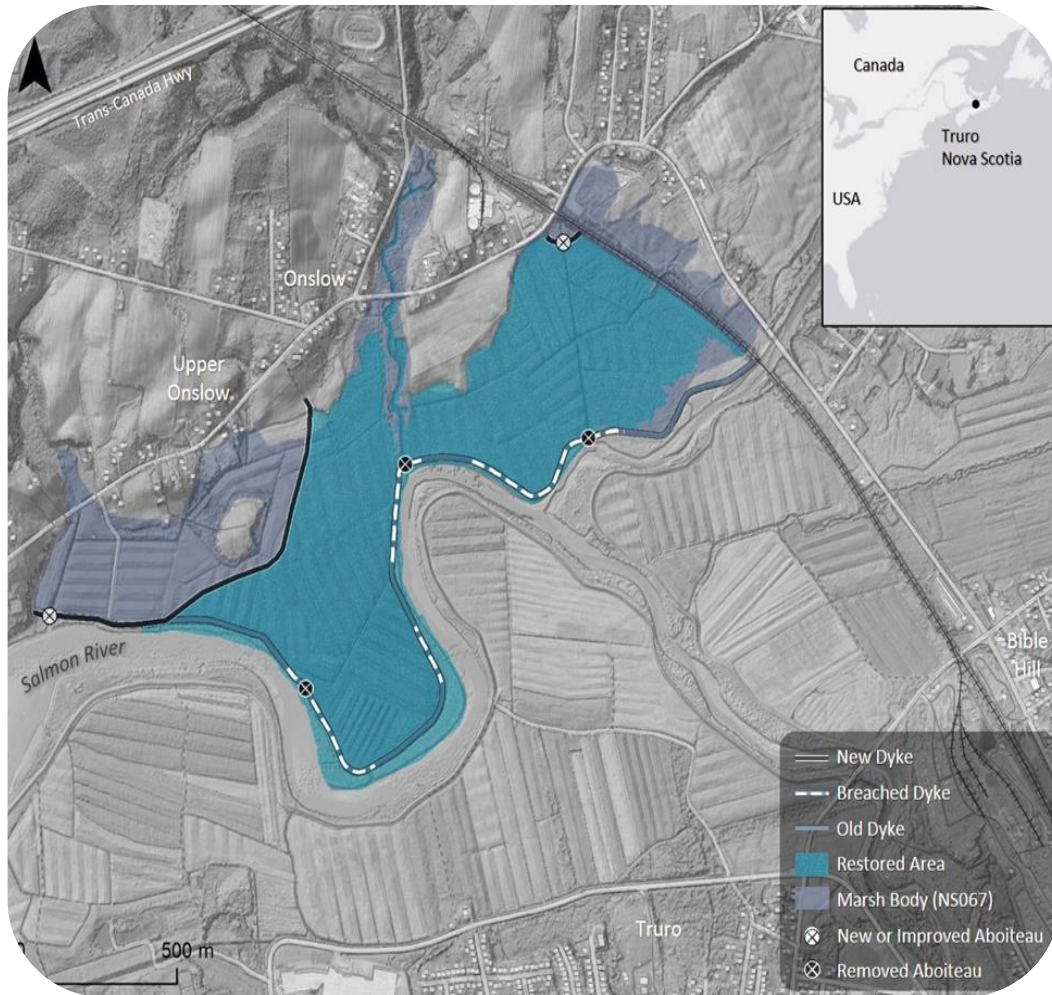
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Key takeaways for national governments

- Impacts will get worse - political and economic challenges expected to intensify
- Incentives set by national government can constrain local action
- Current focus on information, but there is a need to establish frameworks and set clear expectations

Thank you!