

Observations to Operations: Why validation is important?



Julie Thomas
Scripps Institution of
Oceanography

*Hydrographic
Review Panel
Los Angeles, CA
April 9, 2015*



southern california bight



Buoy



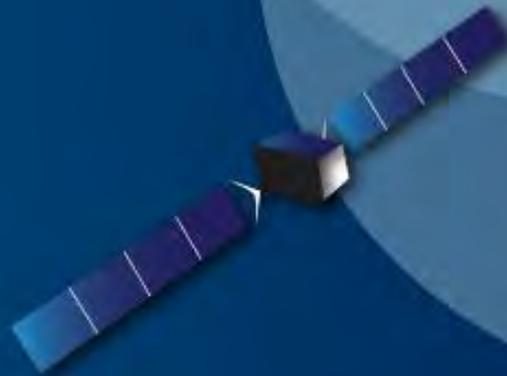
Mooring



Glider Track



SCCOOS Shore Station



Southern California Coastal
Observing System -SCCOOS

SCCOOS Surface Currents



HF Radar, Santa Catalina provides surface currents

Coastal Data Information Program

- Based at SIO since 1975
- ~58 Wave Stations
LIDAR & In-Situ Beach
Surveys
- 17 People
- Major Funding by:
USACE, DPR
- Partners
(IOOS, NOAA
CA Coastal Conservancy
ONR/NAVY...)

CDIP Mission:

Monitor and predict
nearshore waves and
shoreline change.

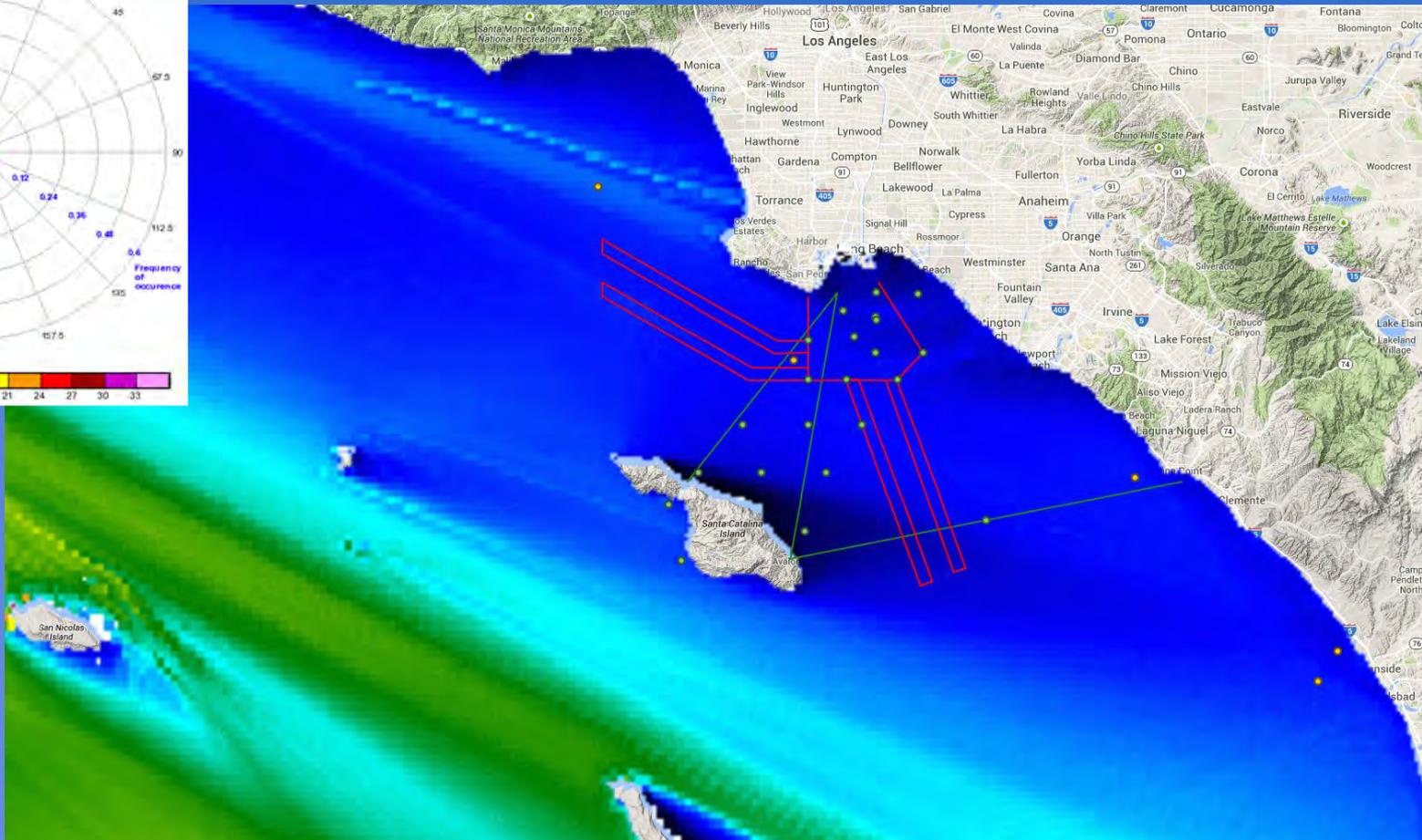
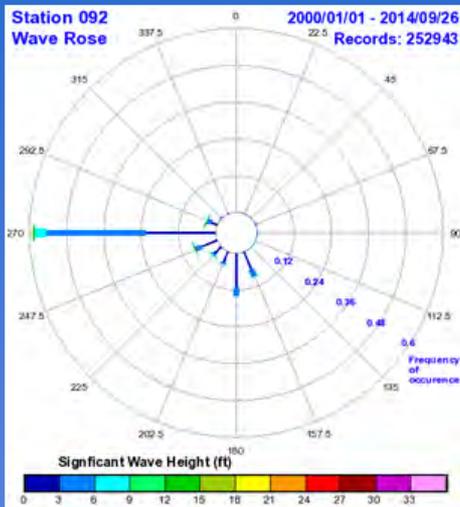
CDIP Wave Buoys – NAVIGATION



<http://cdip.ucsd.edu>

4.4 million page views from Jun 2013 – Jun 2014
Data sent to NDBC @ 30 min and distributed to NWS

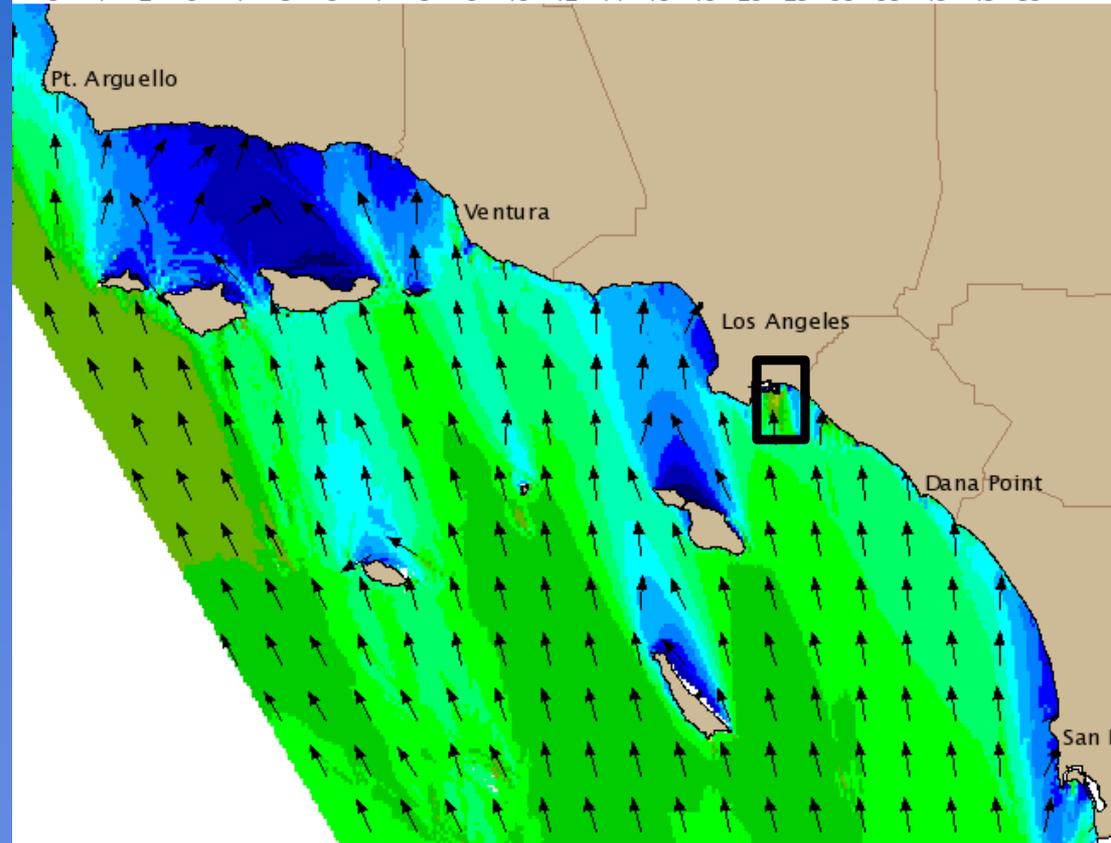
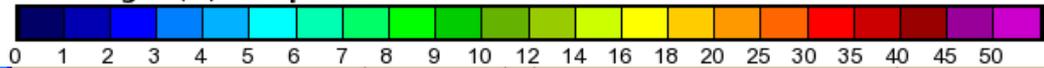
Full Directional Spectrum exposure for San Pedro buoy (2000-present)



Recent Damage to the Breakwater: >8ft South Swell



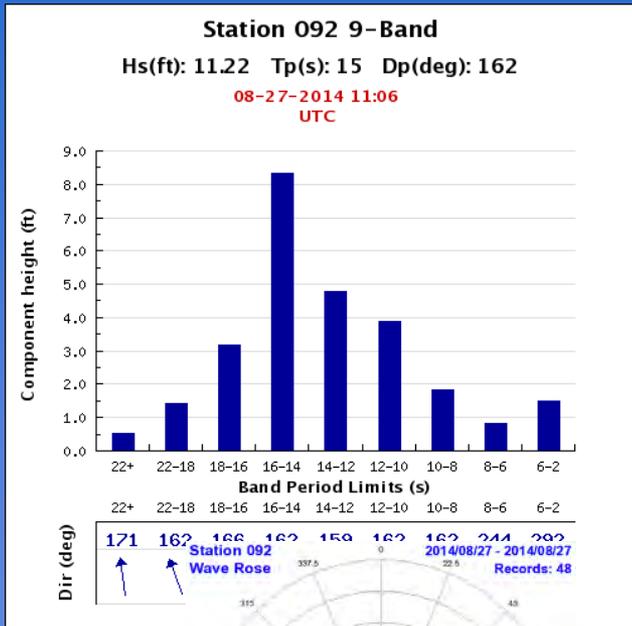
CDIP/SIO Experimental Southern California Swell Model
Wave Height (ft) and peak dir
Wed 2014-08-27 11:00 UTC



California Department of Boating and Waterways



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Field Wave Gaging Program

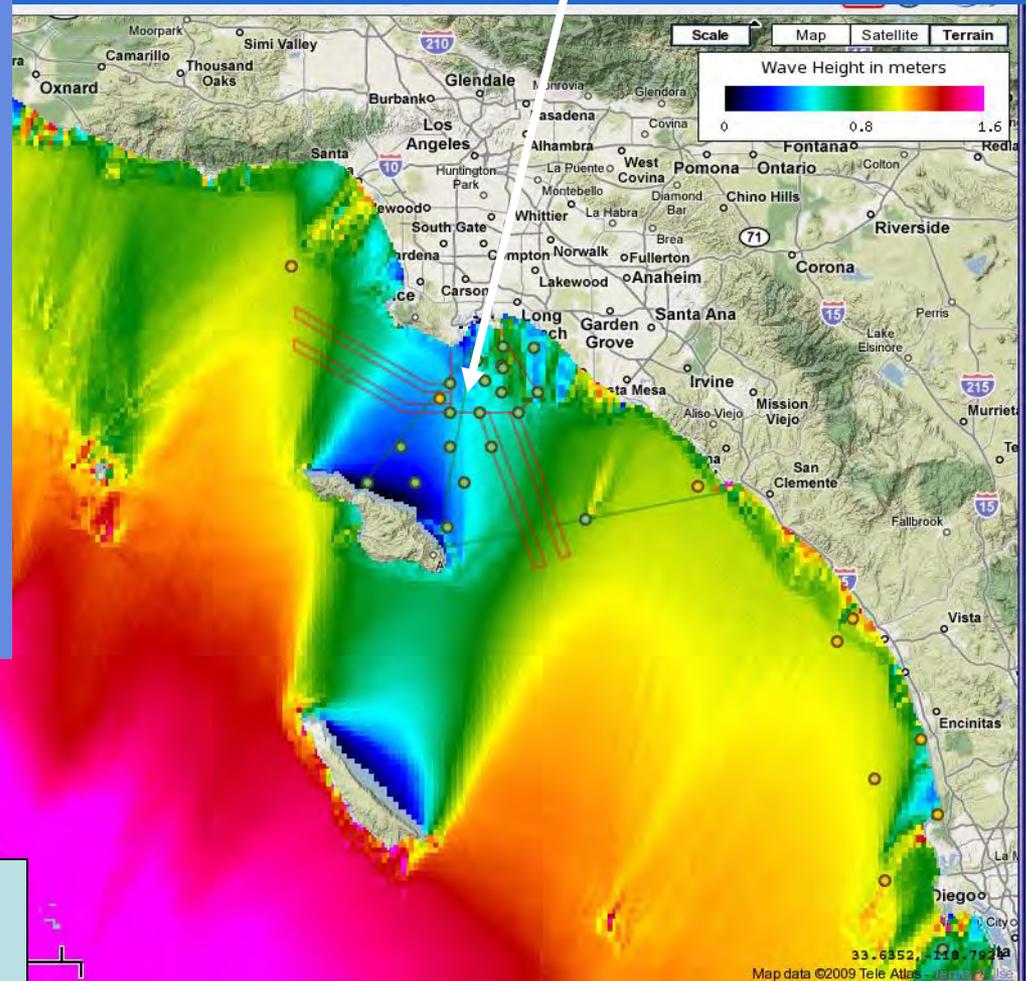


PORT of Los Angeles and Long Beach

CDIP's high resolution wave models allows for accurate forecasts.

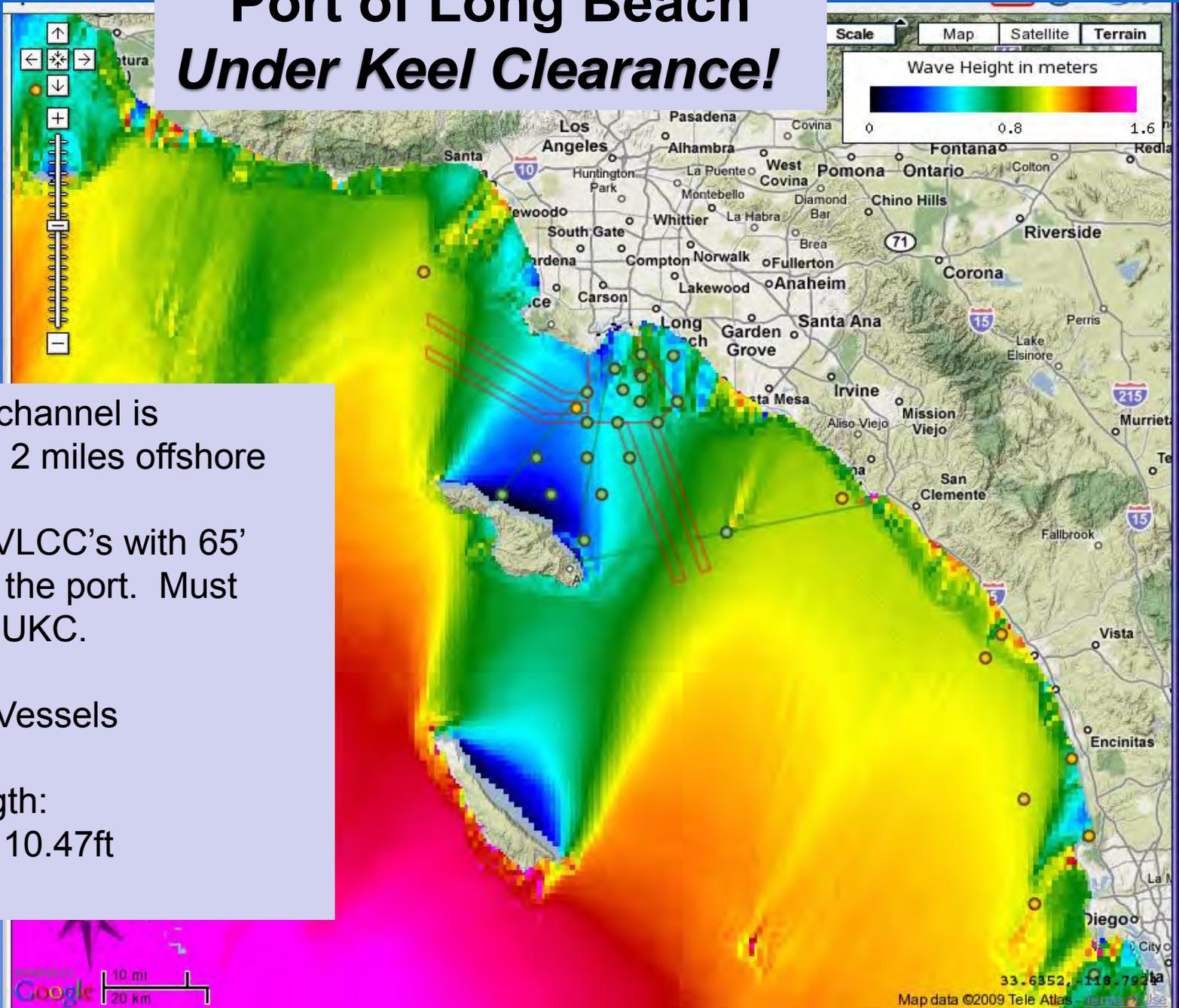
Spatial variation due to island shadowing allows coastal variability. Wave heights differ according to direction of the waves.

Pilots xfer 4 mi out



Big waves, big trouble?
headline in
Occounty.com, Jul 24, 2009

Port of Long Beach *Under Keel Clearance!*



Approach channel is
Dredged ~ 2 miles offshore

Presently VLCC's with 65'
draft enter the port. Must
have 10% UKC.

Panamax Vessels
69ft draft
1200' Length:
1° pitch = 10.47ft

Importance of Validation

Accuracy of Under Keel Clearance is critical for human and vessel safety.

- *MODELS need to be tested under all conditions (Approximately 1 year of wave heights and wave directions). Small errors due to boundary conditions, island shadowing, bathymetry can propagate.*

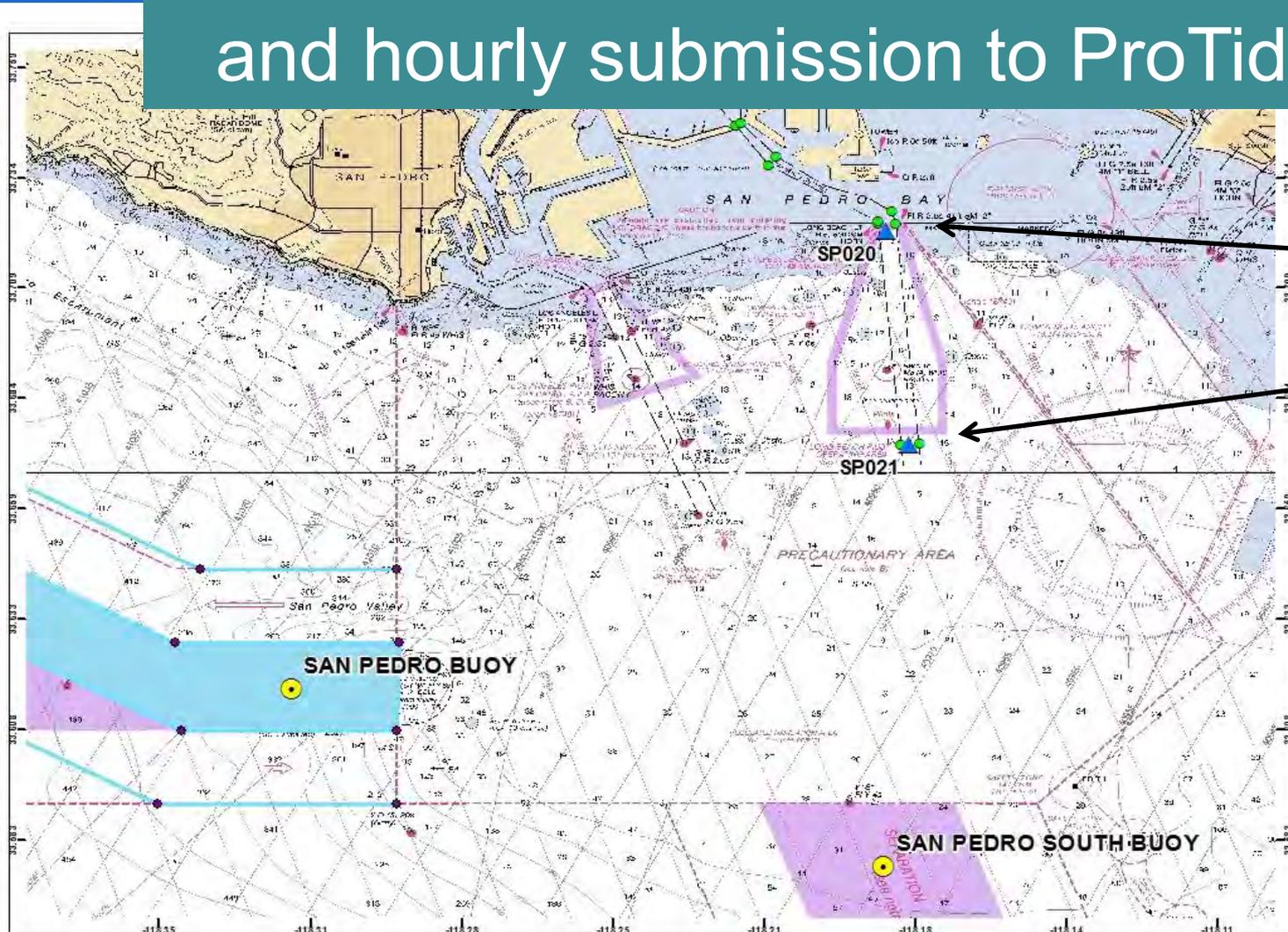


VLCC – 1200 ft length



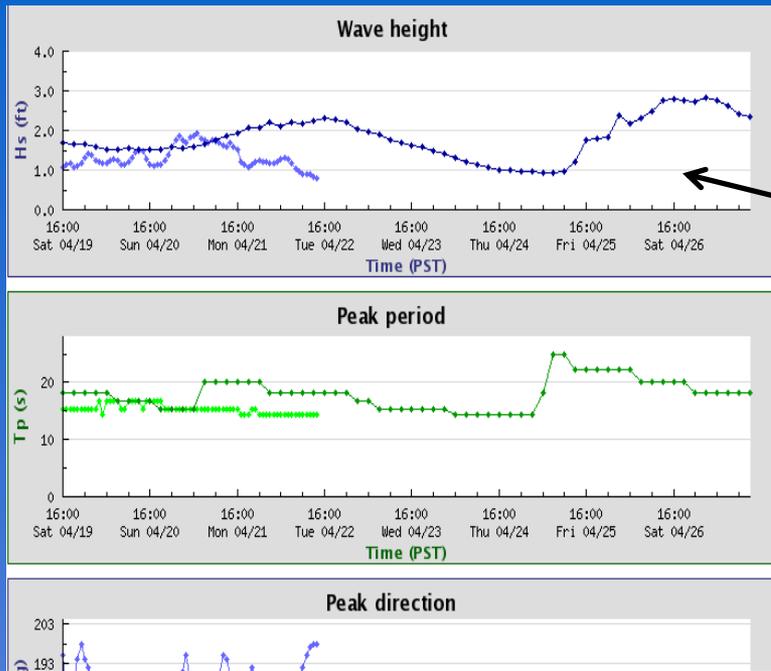
June 2014 - San Pedro Wave Buoy measured 21ft peak, at 13-14 sec. An ATC Oil Tanker rolled 10 degrees at the Long Beach Breakwater entrance. The vessel had a 55 ft draft, 160 ft wide. The roll increased the draft to 64 feet. (Channel currently dredged to 69ft)

- Installation of San Pedro South
- Wave model locations identified and hourly submission to ProTide



SP 020 20.81 m
Depth
(68.27 ft)

SP021 25.36 m
Depth
(83.20 ft)



Model is over predicting by >1 ft Significant Wave height.

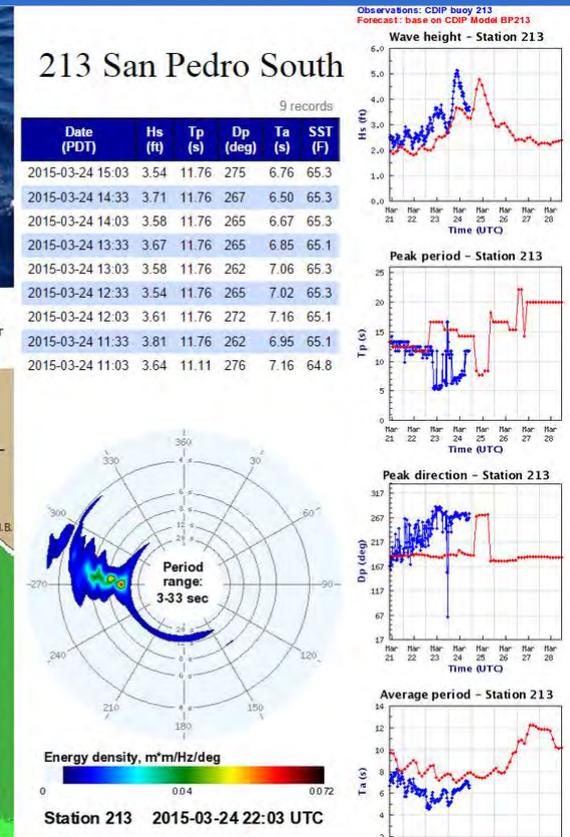
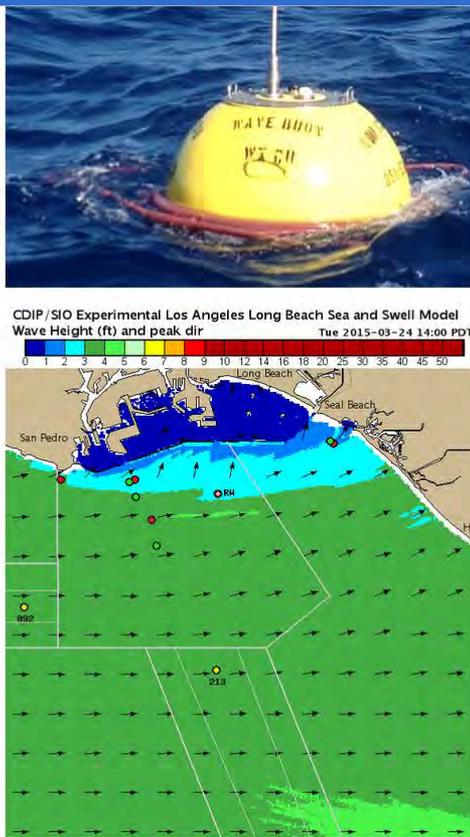
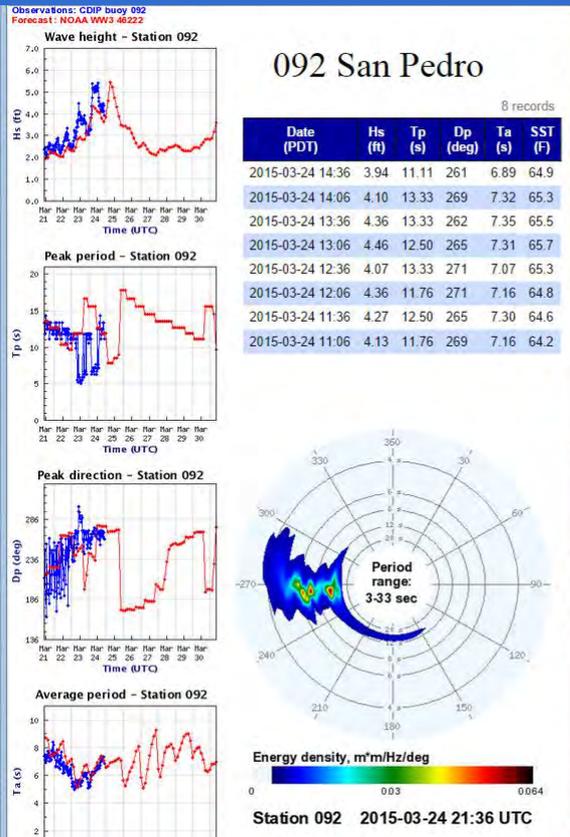
Prediction site: SP018

Date (PST)	14+ Hs	14+ Tp (ft)	14+ Dp (secs)	Tot Hs (deg T)	Tot Tp (ft)	Tot Dp (secs)	(deg T)
2015-03-25 04:00 pm	2.82	18.18	175	3.18	18.18	175	
2015-03-25 07:00 pm	2.85	18.18	175	3.28	18.18	175	
2015-03-25 10:00 pm	2.89	16.67	173	3.41	16.67	173	
2015-03-26 01:00 am	2.85	16.67	173	3.38	16.67	173	
2015-03-26 04:00 am	2.82	16.67	173	3.25	16.67	173	
2015-03-26 07:00 am	2.82	16.67	173	3.18	16.67	173	
2015-03-26 10:00 am	2.72	15.38	173	3.05	15.38	173	

San Pedro Buoy observation vs WW3 Model Predictions
 - Messaging to Jacobsen Pilots

San Pedro

Real-Time Observations and Models



UKC project is a perfect
example of federal, state
and local partnerships are
working!