



CARICOOS



GLIDERS, SAILEDRONES, AND AUTONOMOUS OCEANOGRAPHIC OBSERVATIONS IN THE U.S. CARIBBEAN

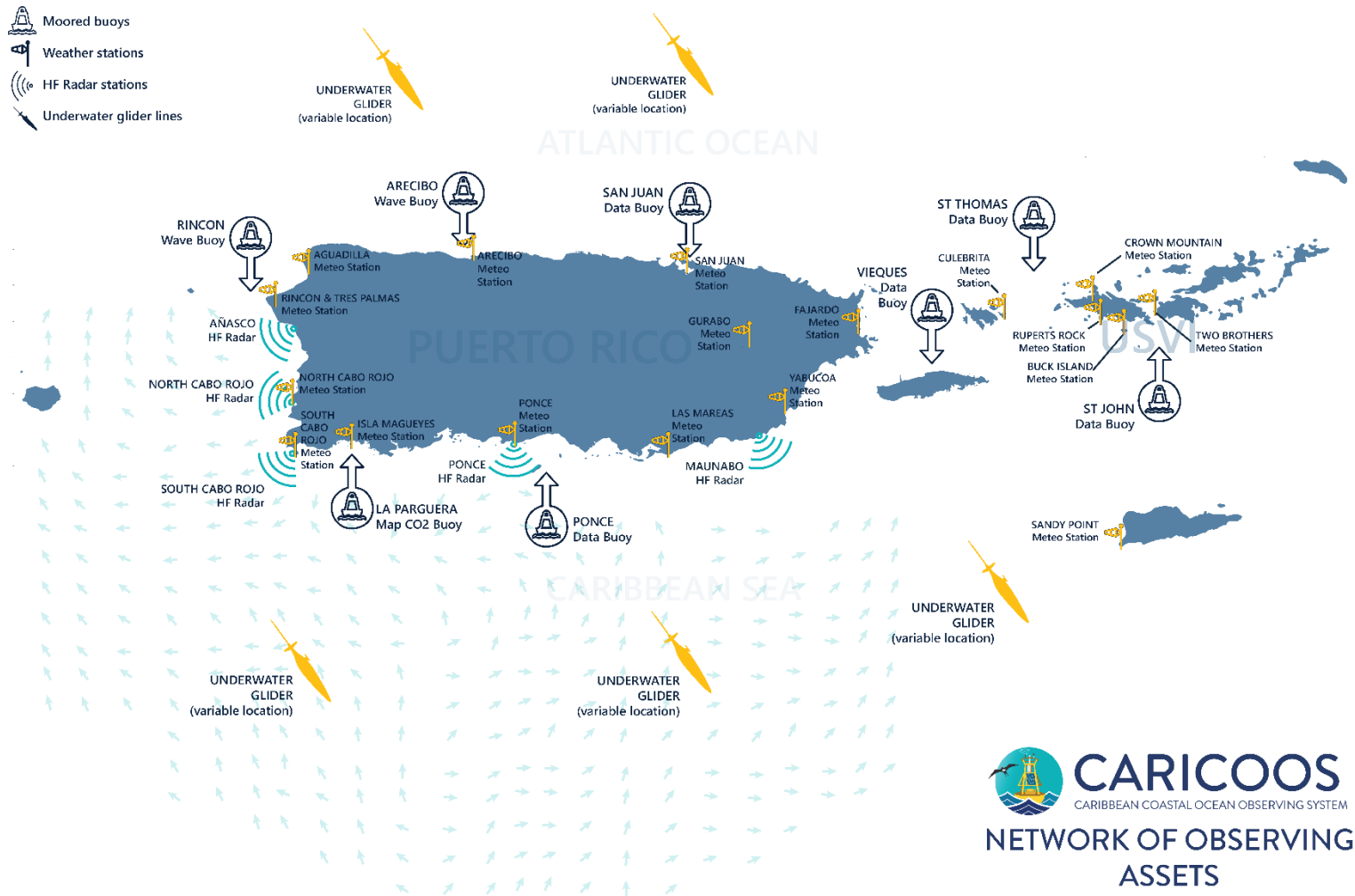
Eng. Patricia Chardón-Maldonado, Ph.D.,
Deputy and Technical Director
Caribbean Coastal Ocean Observing System (CARICOOS)



ABOUT CARICOOS | US CARIBBEAN REGION



- CARICOOS mission is to provide unquestionably high-priority decision-supporting information for enhancing safety on our coasts and ocean, improving the efficiency of maritime operations, and supporting coastal resource management.
- Through a fully participatory and user-driven approach, CARICOOS aims at the following overarching goals:
 - 1) **Support** safe and efficient **maritime operations**;
 - 2) **Minimize impact** from coastal hazards;
 - 3) **Support** the effective **management of coastal living resources**; and
 - 4) **Monitor climate variability**



IOOS

RESEARCH
NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

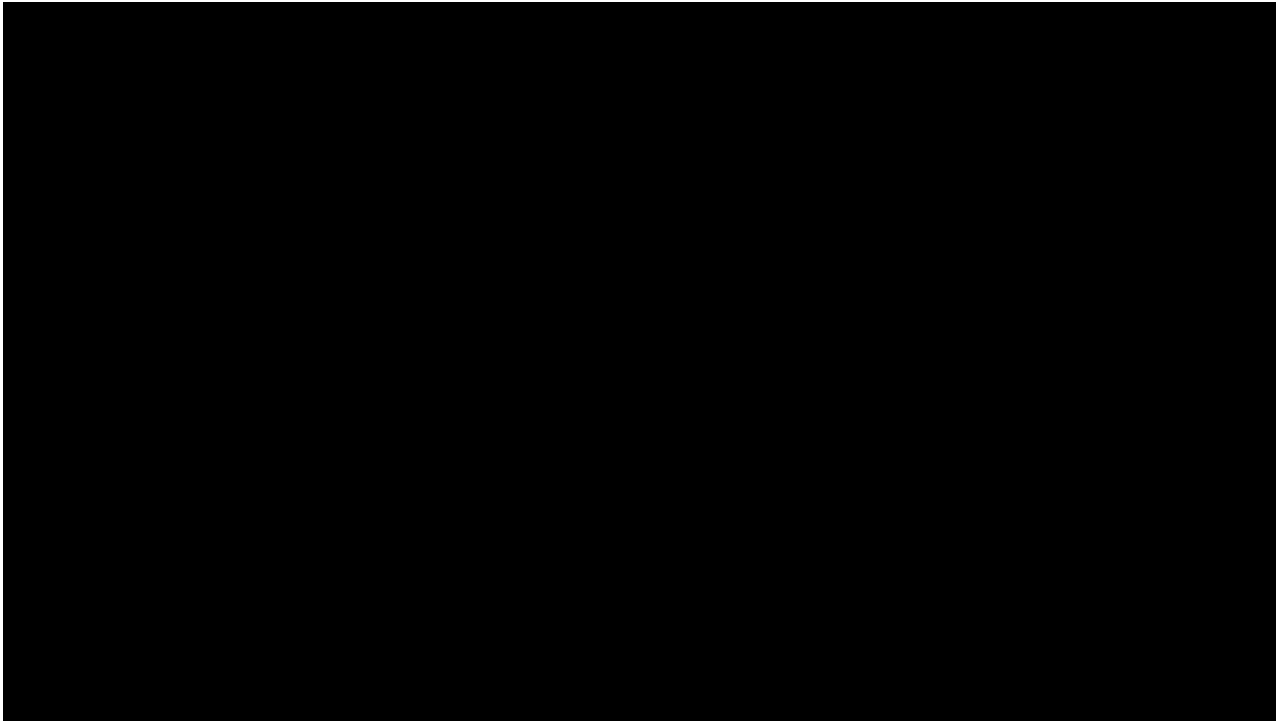


CARICOOS
CARIBBEAN COASTAL OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM

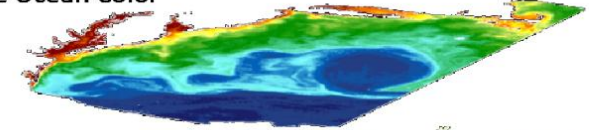
NETWORK OF OBSERVING
ASSETS

UNDERWATER GLIDERS

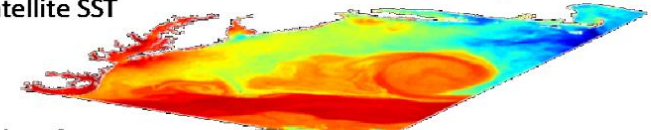
- The autonomous underwater vehicles (known as gliders) dive to depths of up to 1,000 meters and travel hundreds of kilometers across the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea to monitor ocean temperature, salinity, and current, among other ocean parameters.



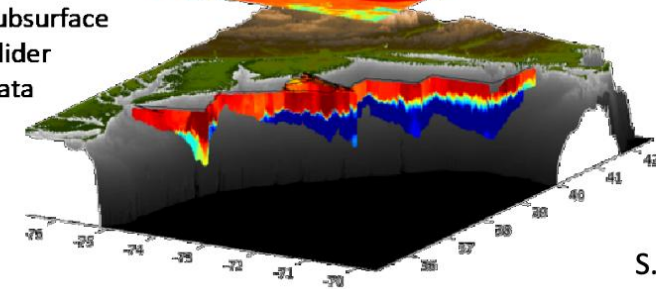
Satellite Ocean Color



Satellite SST



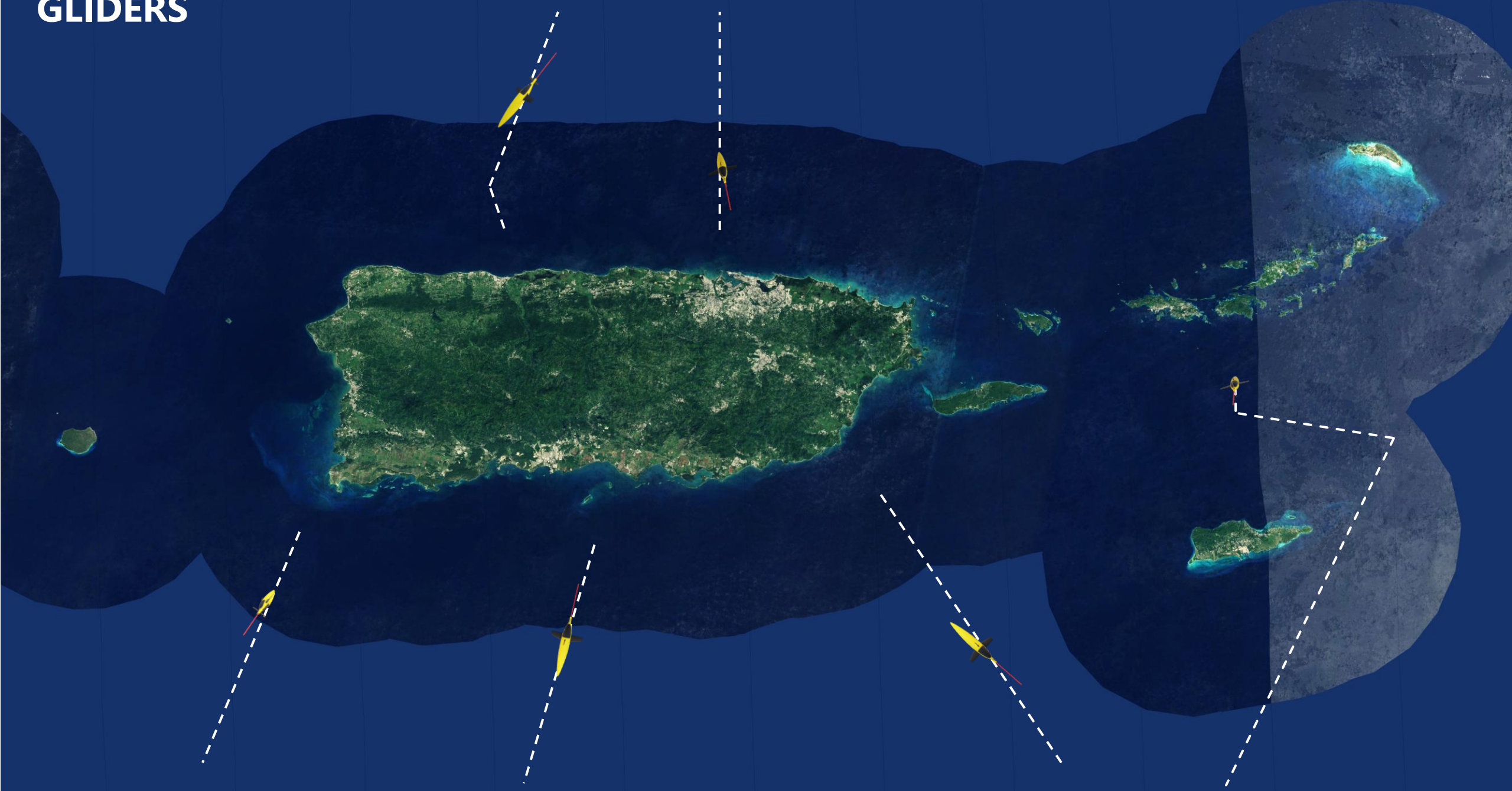
Subsurface
Glider
Data



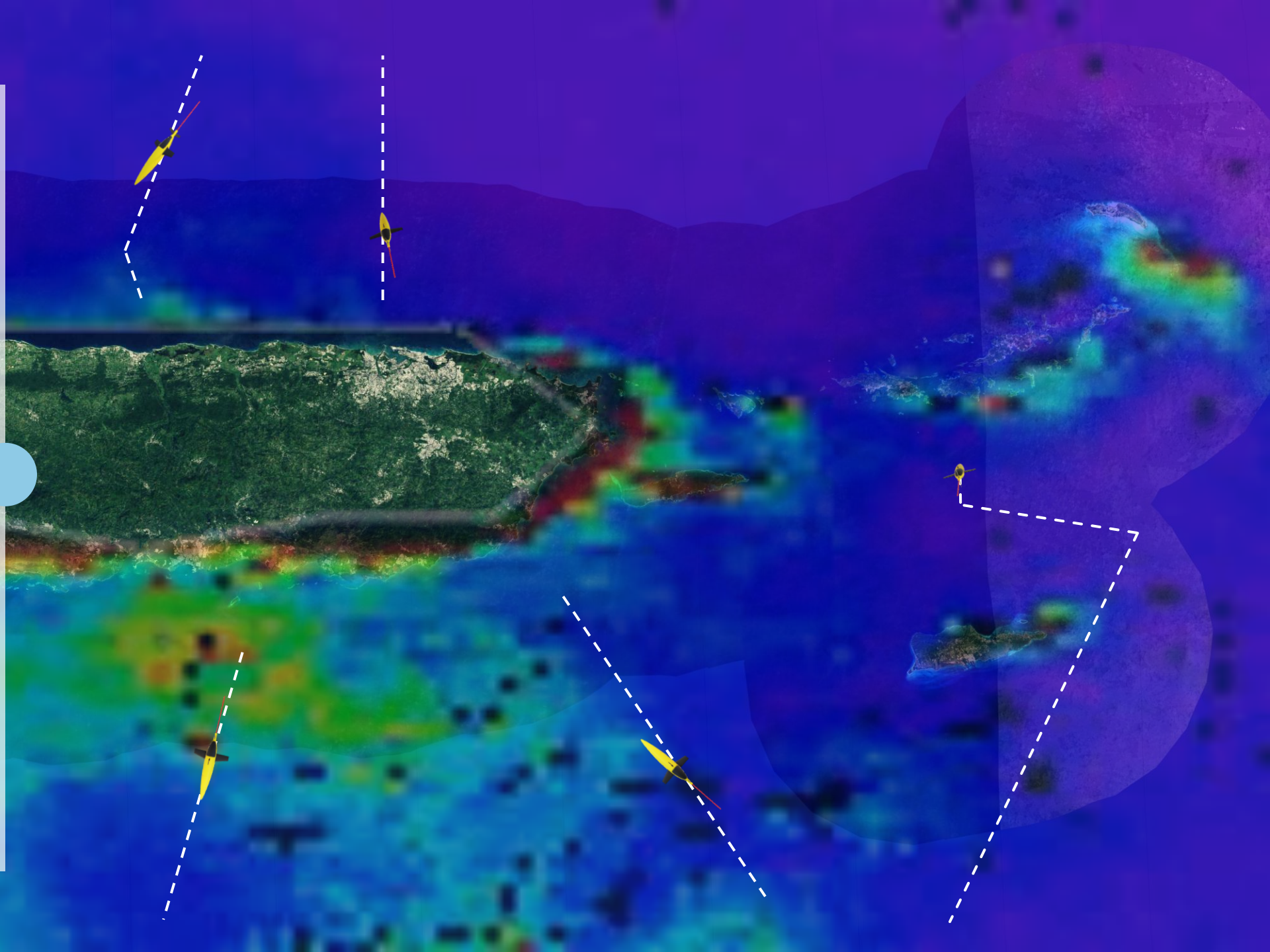
S. Glenn

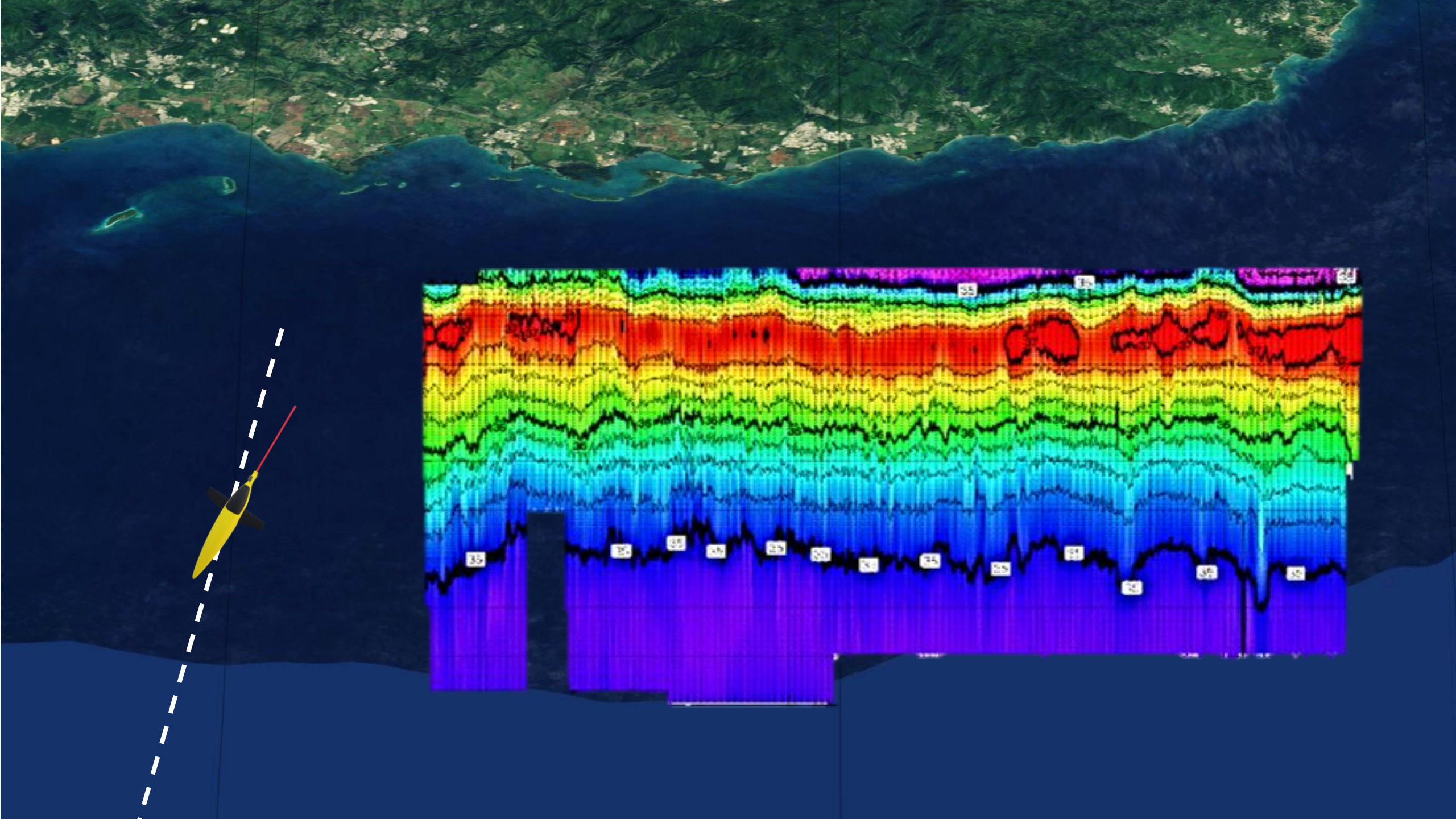


GLIDERS

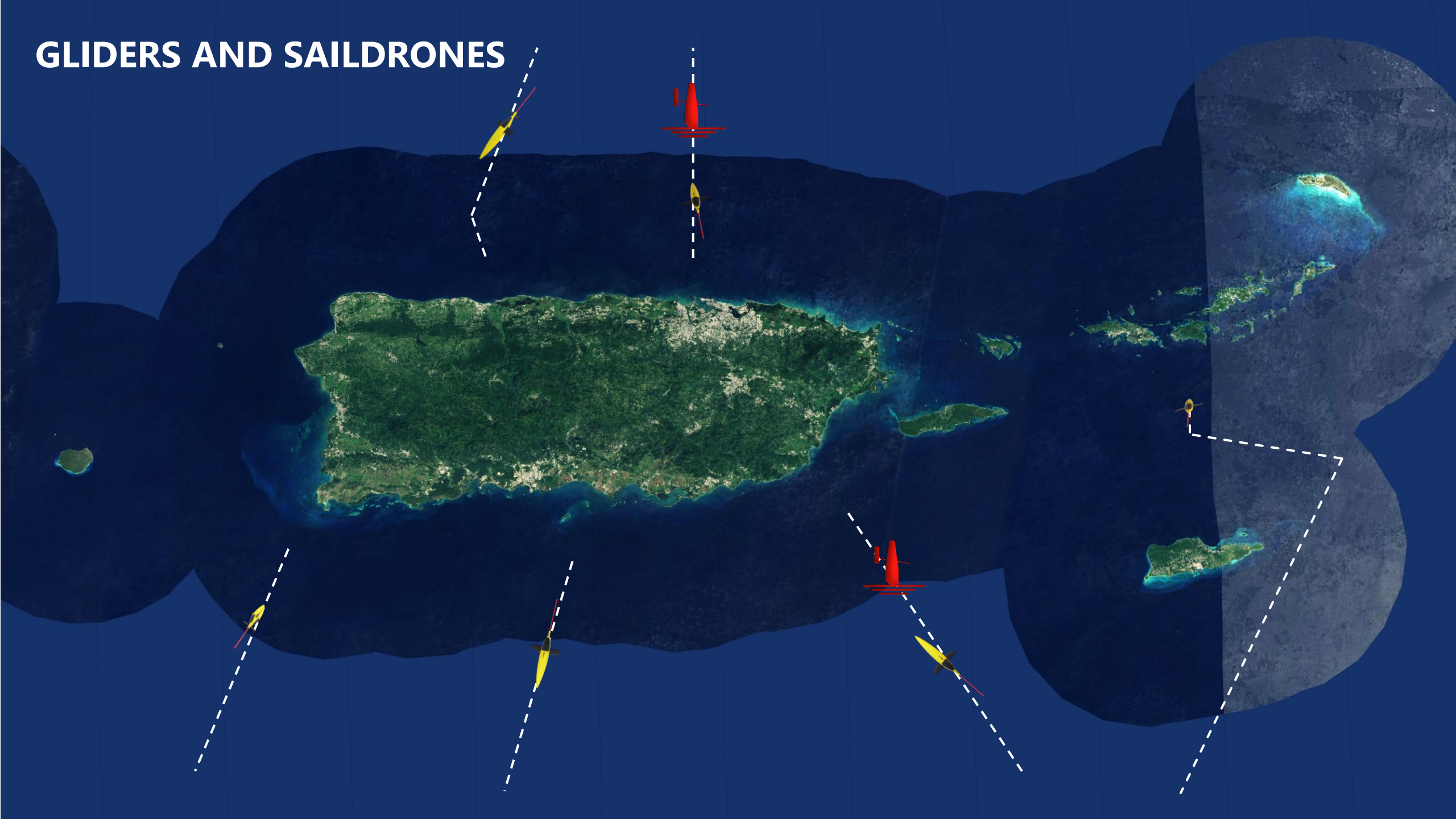


- The northeastern Caribbean and adjacent tropical Atlantic experiences the **frequent occurrence of tropical cyclones** traveling over mesoscale features with water mass properties impacted by the **intrusion of continental river plumes** (Orinoco and Amazon).
- **Reinitiate serial observations at CaTS** (SW of PR) for **climate change** monitoring using an underwater glider.

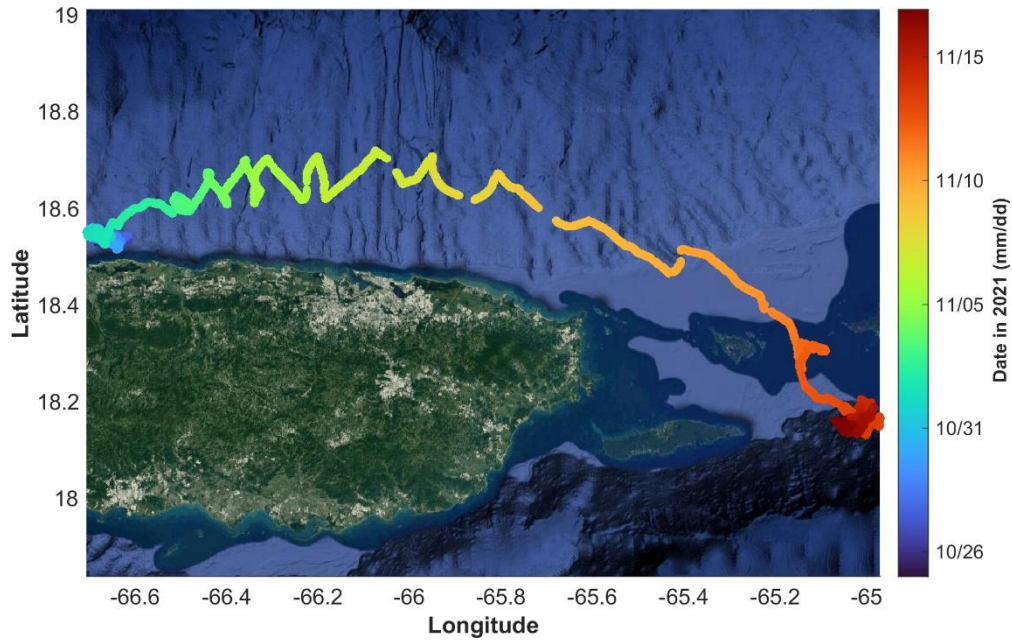




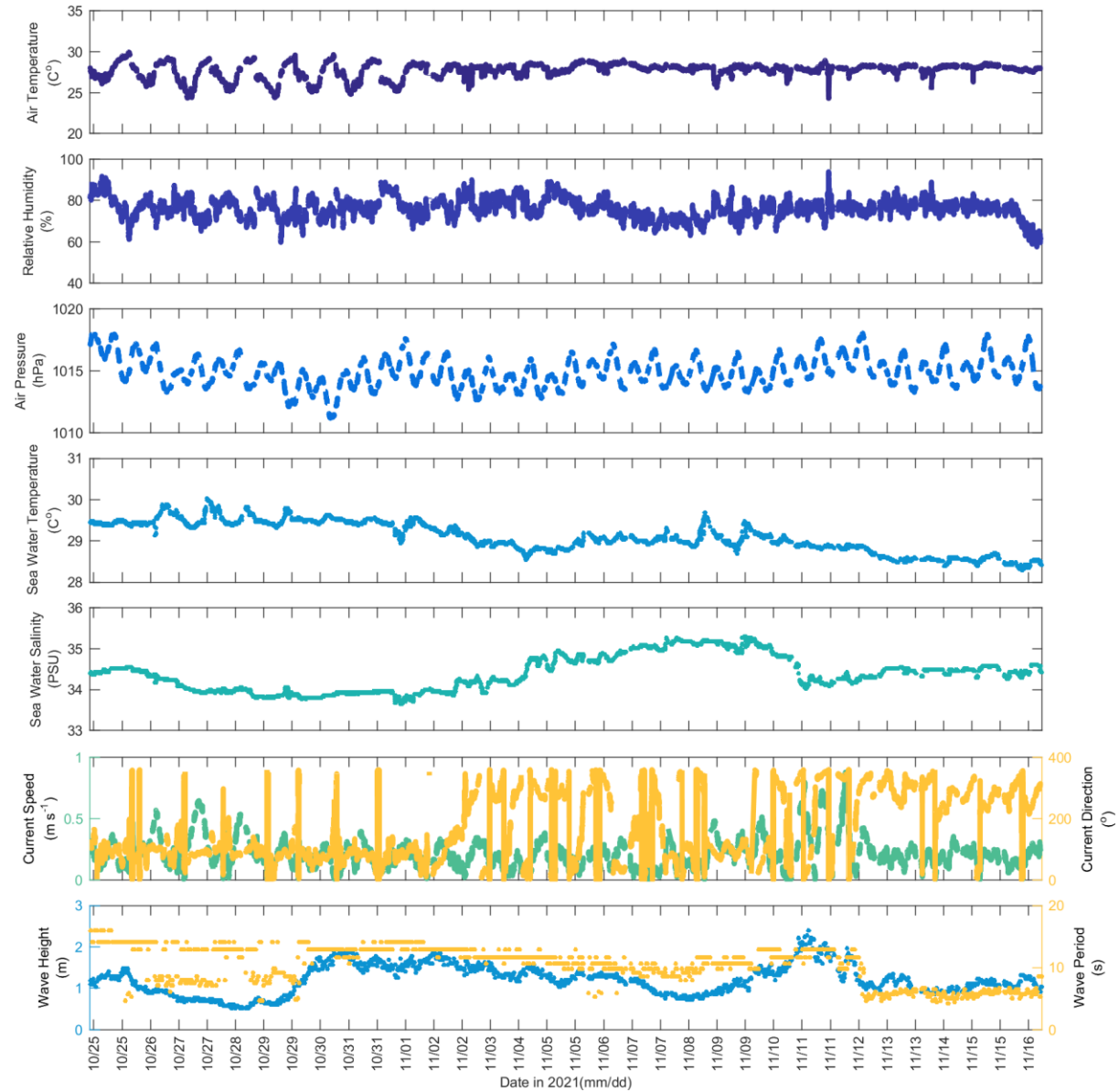
GLIDERS AND SAILDRONES



SAILDRONES



DATA



CARICOOS MAPCO₂ BUOY

- CARICOOS will continue to provide support for the operation of the MapCO₂ buoy and related discrete bi-weekly water sampling/analysis at La Parguera Marine Reserve with funding from NOAA OAP.
- This effort will be paralleled by a regional assessment of dissolved and particulate carbon fluxes required for proper interpretation of MapCO₂ buoy/discrete water sample data.

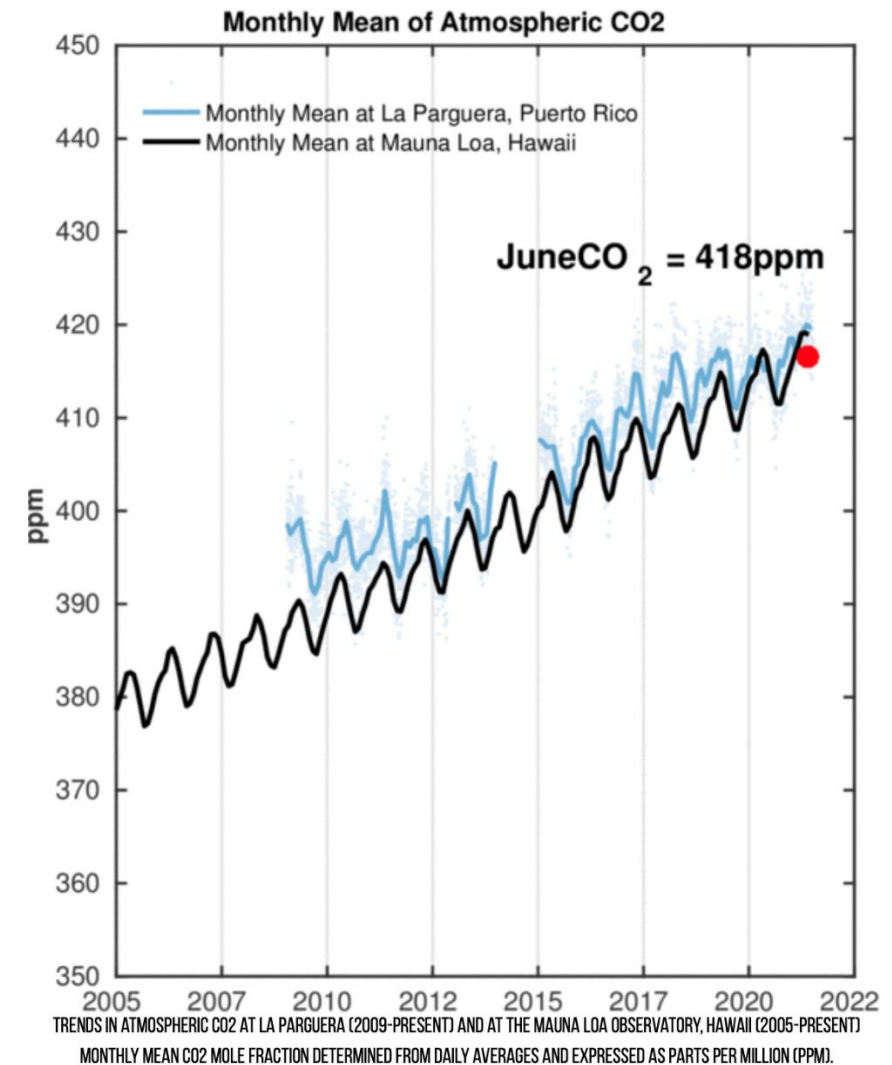
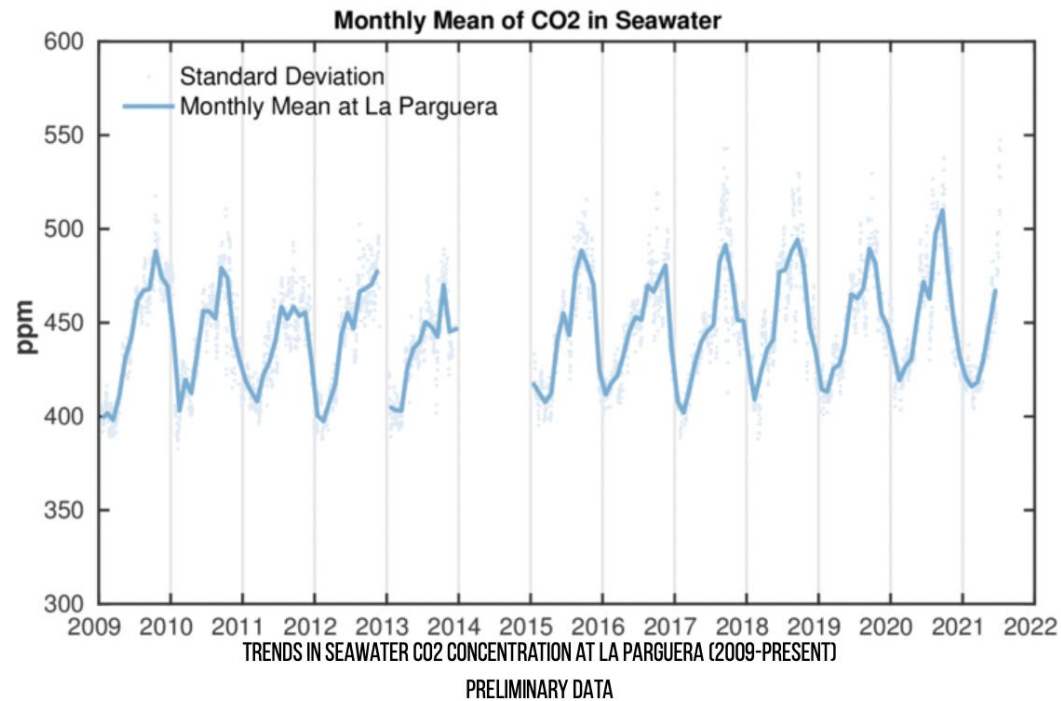
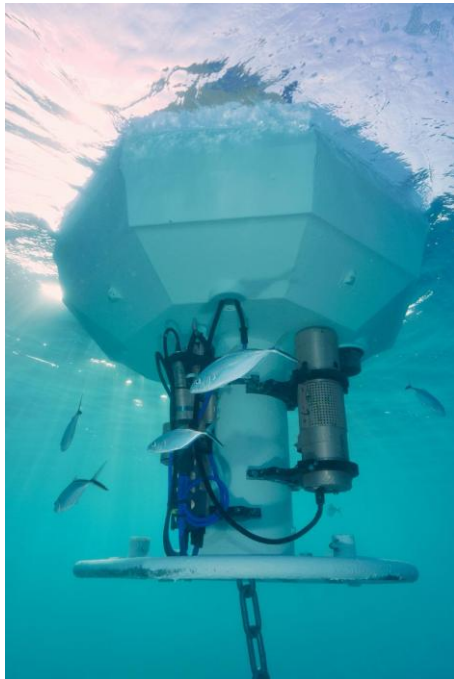


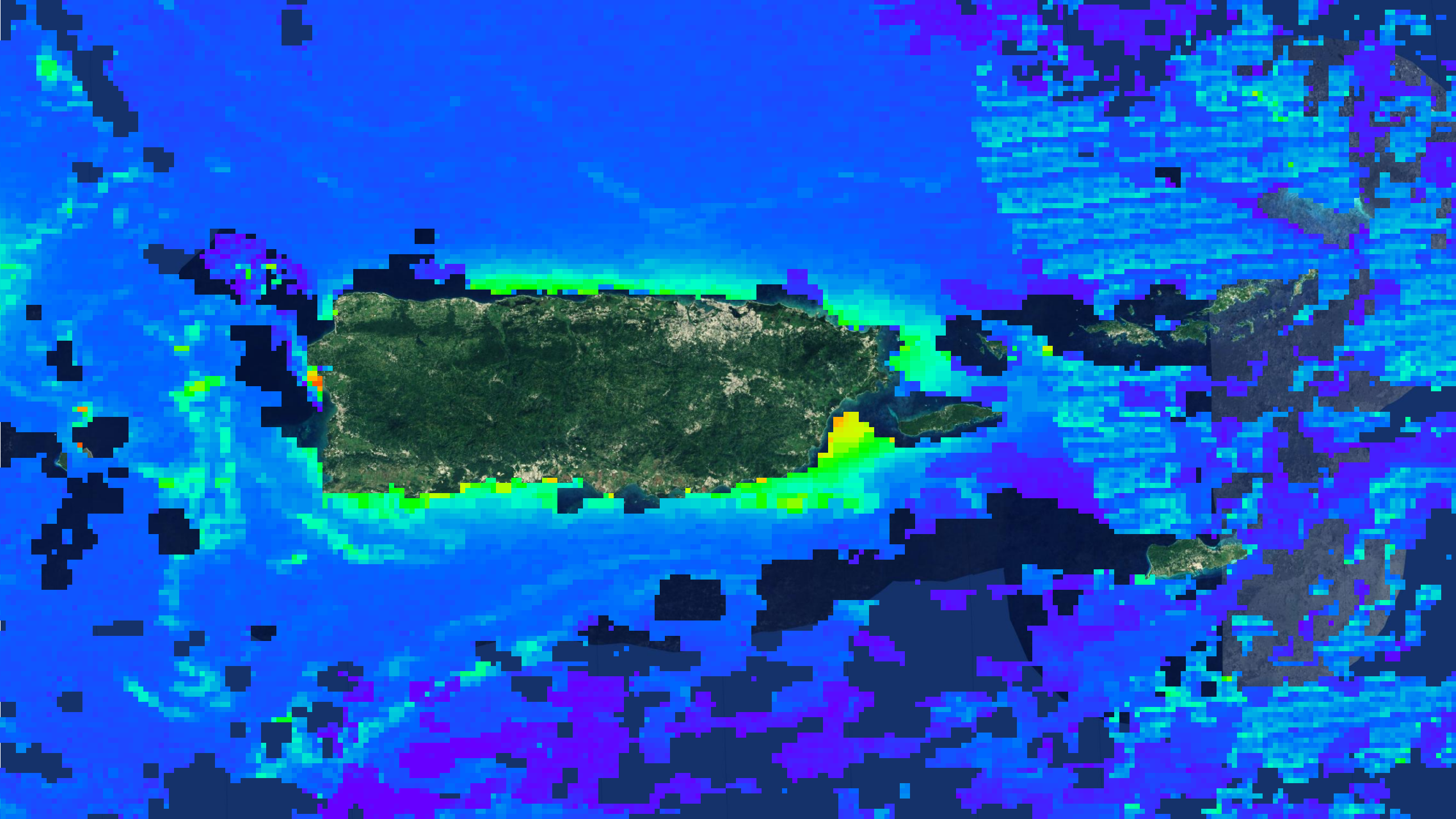
LA PARGUERA
OA BUOY

USER-ORIENTED DATA PRODUCTS

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

- The Cayo Enrique CO₂ buoy, one of only eleven in the entire world, measures CO₂ in the air and seawater, along with seawater temperature and salinity in the coral reef area of La Parguera, Lajas.

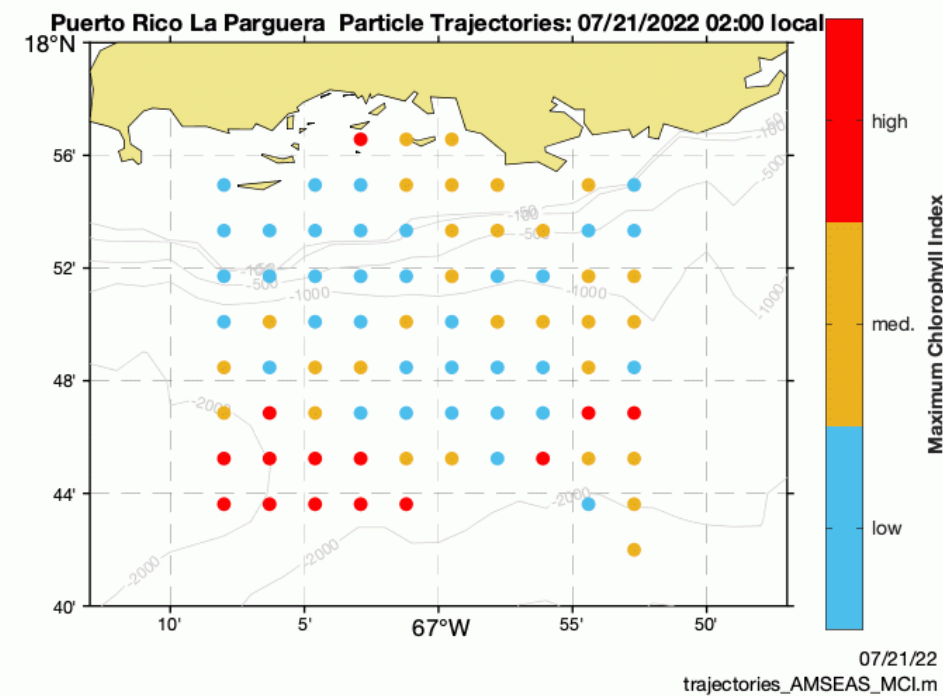
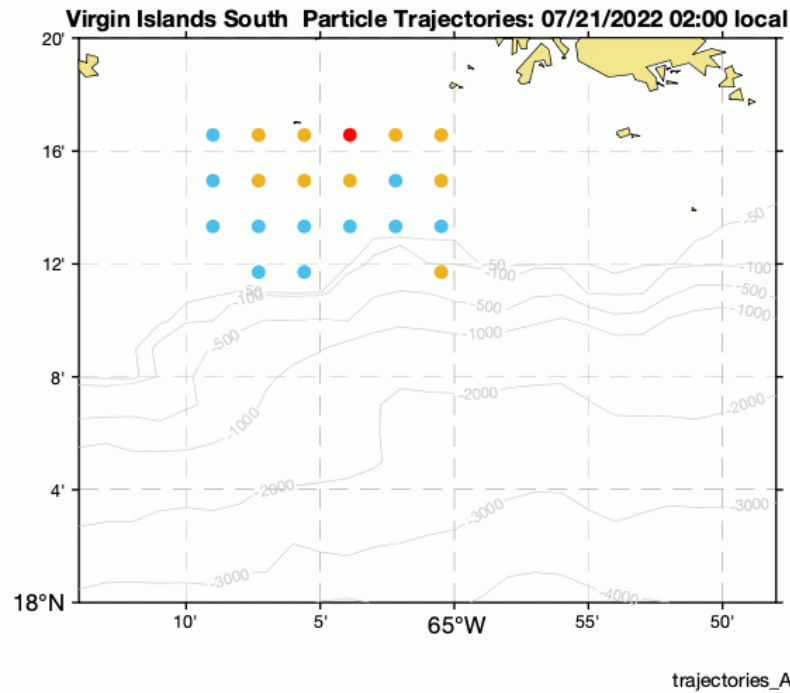




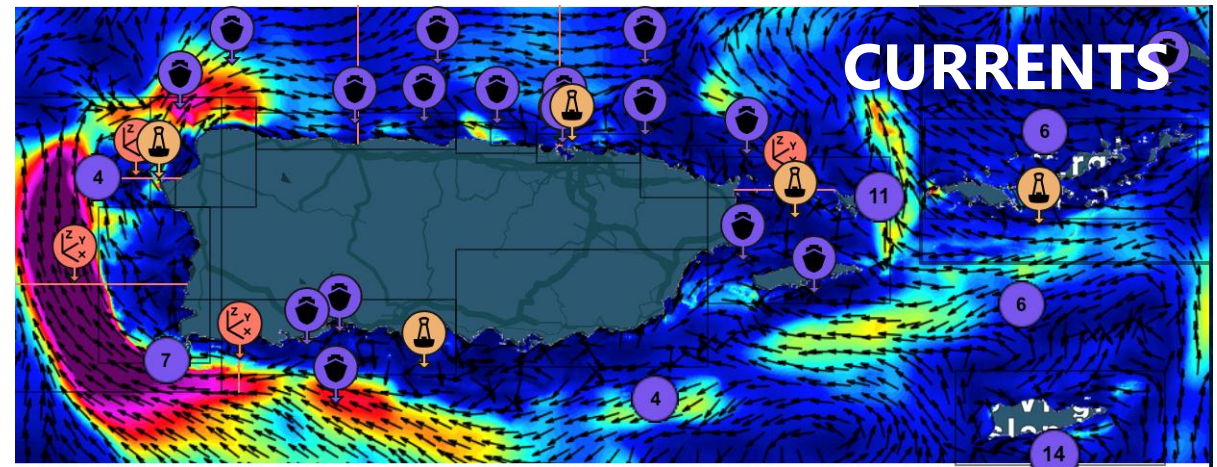
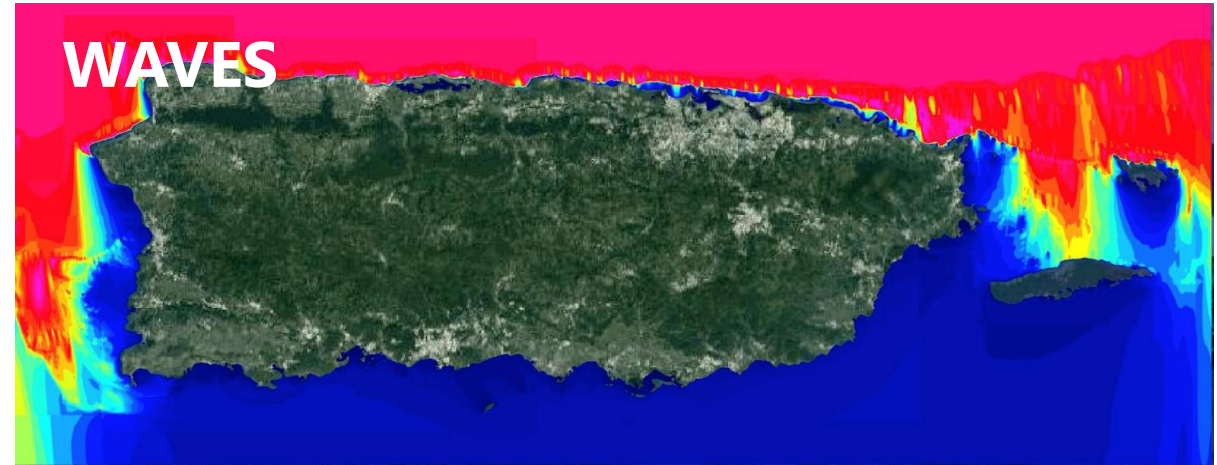
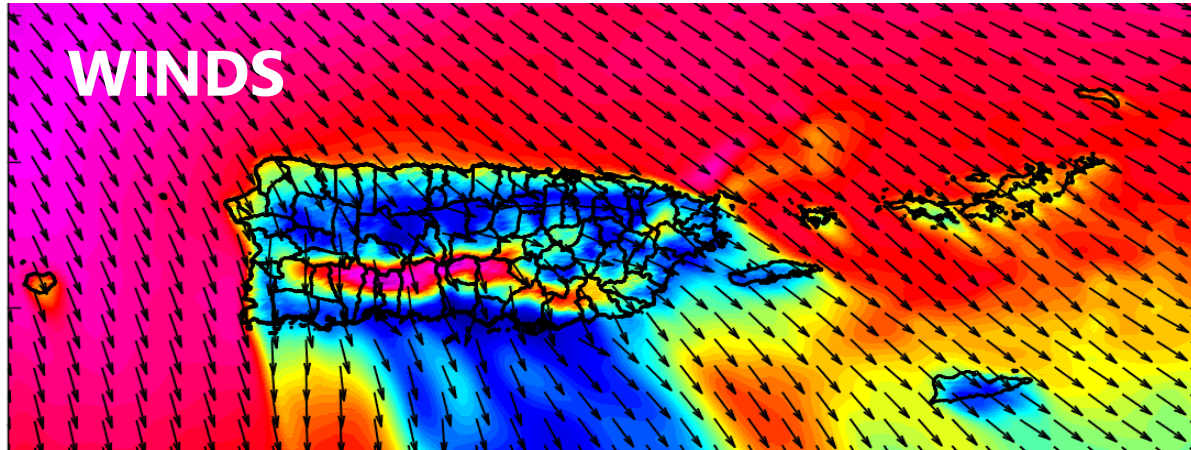
USER-ORIENTED DATA PRODUCTS

SARGASSUM

- Development and validation of Sargasso inundation forecast product using MCI imagery & CARICOOS hydrodynamic/ocean circulation model (collaboration with Rutgers University; PI: Dr. H. Roarty).



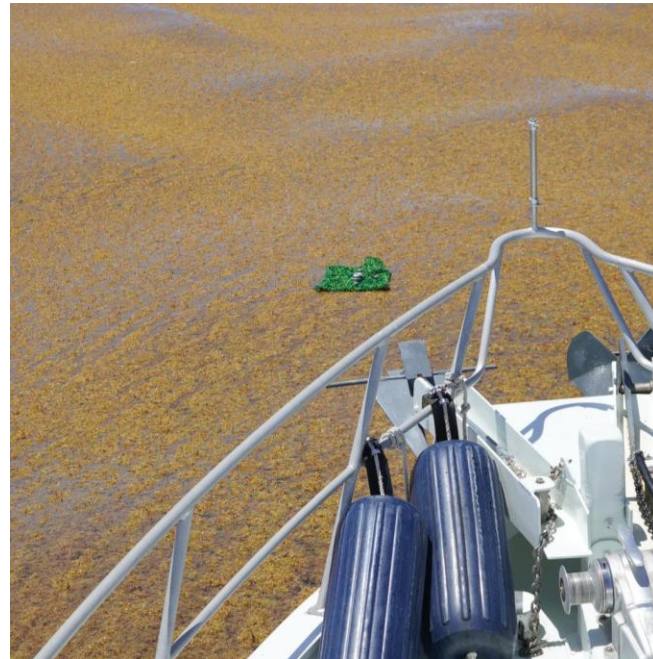
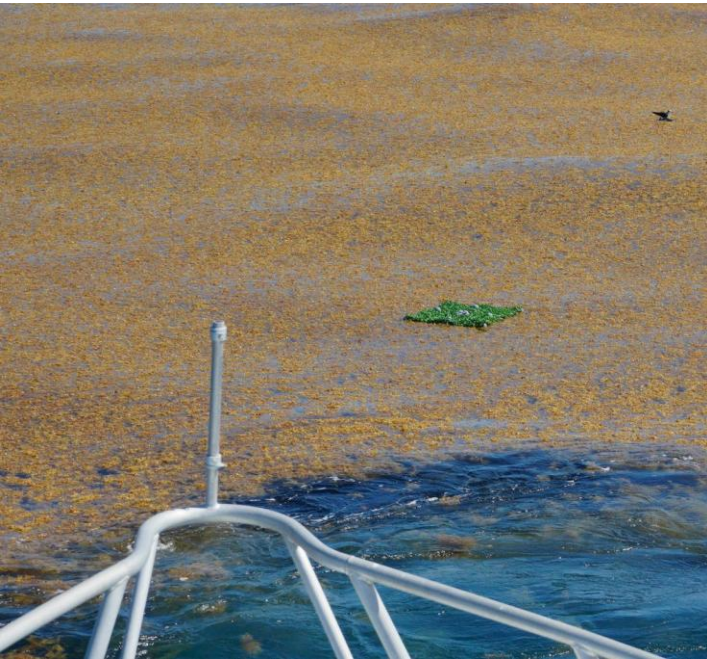
USER-ORIENTED DATA PRODUCTS FORECAST MODELS



USER-ORIENTED DATA PRODUCTS

SARGASSUM

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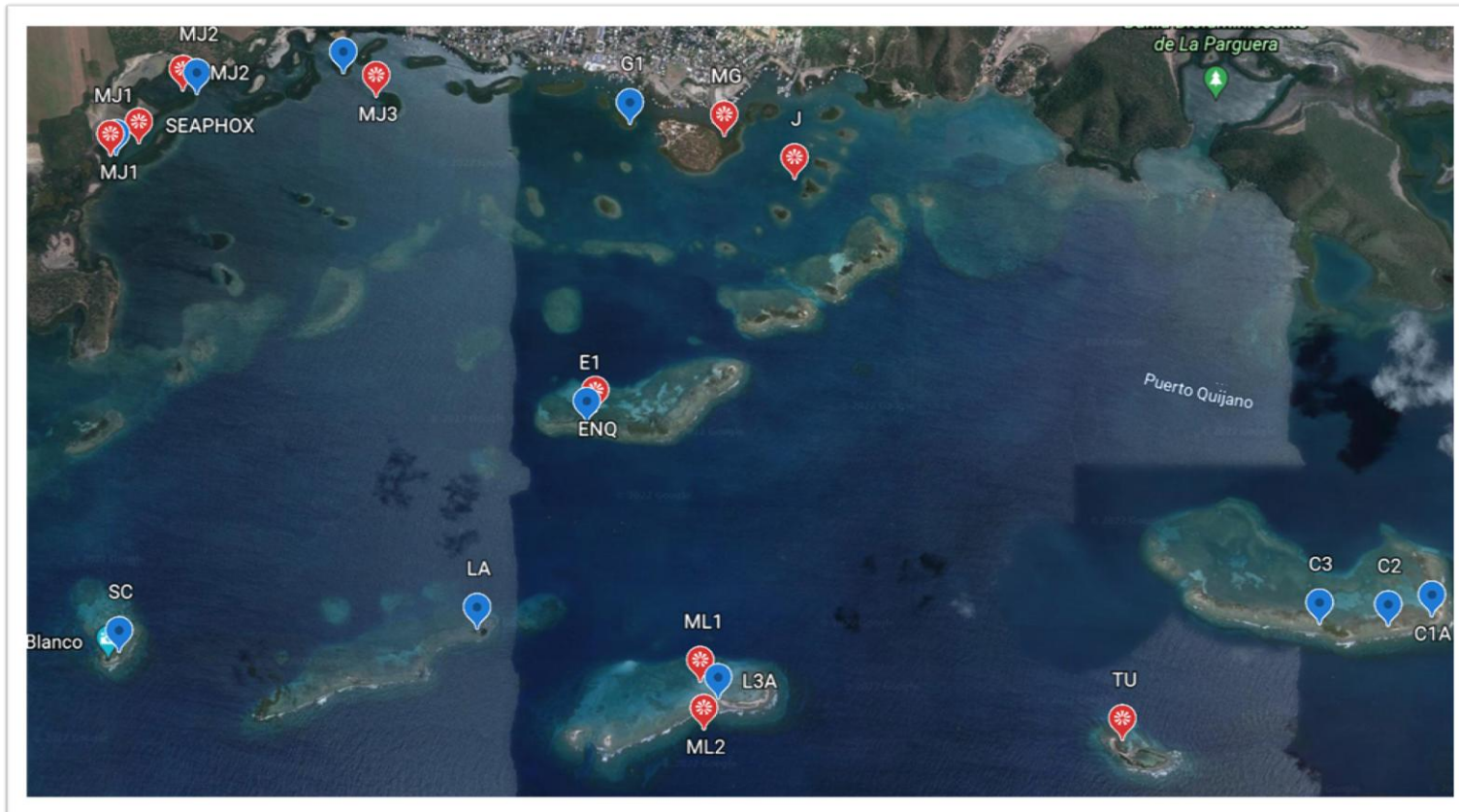


SARGASSO INUNDATION

EFFORTS TOWARDS ASSESSING AND MITIGATING IMPACTS

Weekly monitoring in La Parguera:

- Sargassum influx rate for using traps (11)
- Dissolved oxygen, pH, total alkalinity at 10 stations

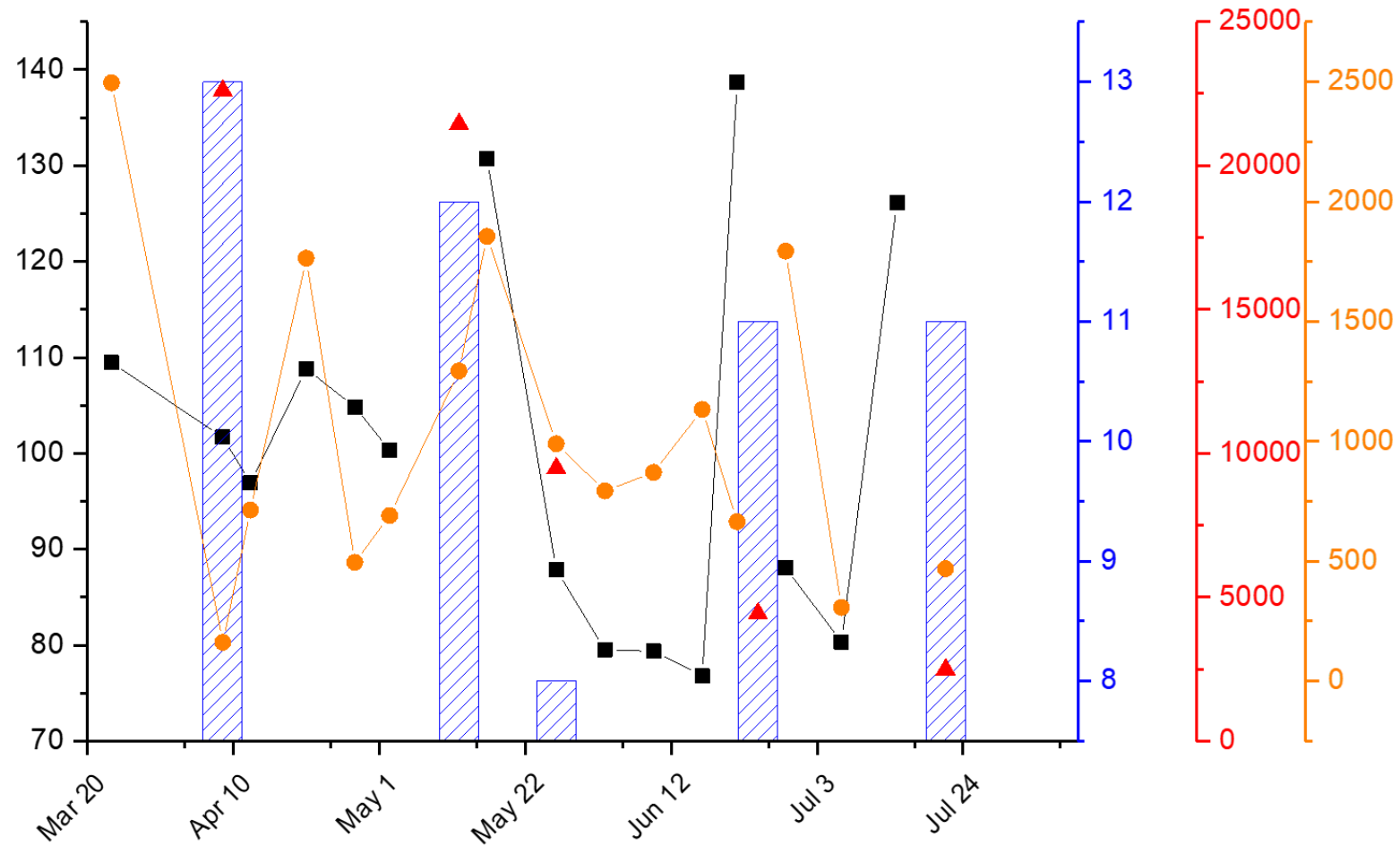


SARGASSO INUNDATION

EFFORTS TOWARDS ASSESSING AND MITIGATING IMPACTS



■ Percent Saturated Dissolved Oxygen
 ▨ biodiversity
 ▲ abundance
 ● Biomass of Sargassum (total dry kg / day)



Monitoring Sargassum influx rate for La Parguera using traps and documenting hypoxia and acidification.

USER-ORIENTED DATA PRODUCTS

SATELLITE-DERIVED WATER QUALITY DATA

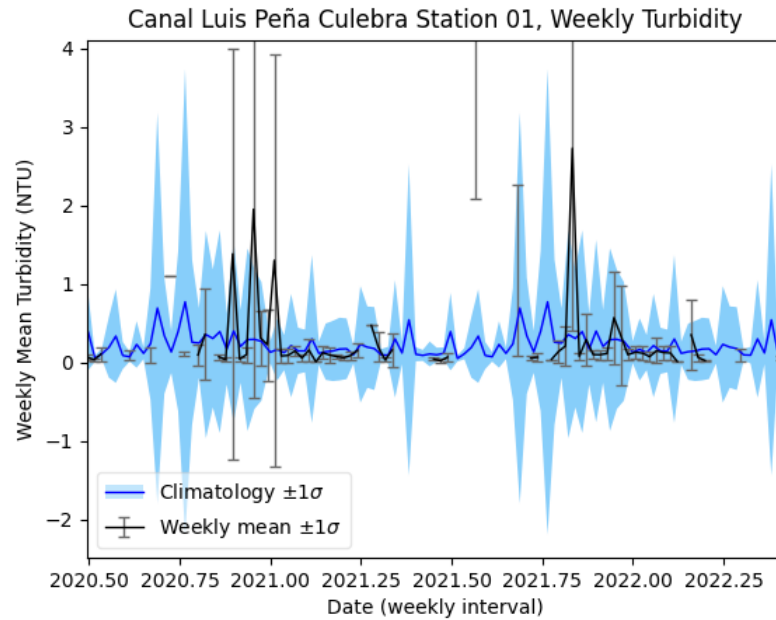


SOON IN THE
DATA PORTAL!

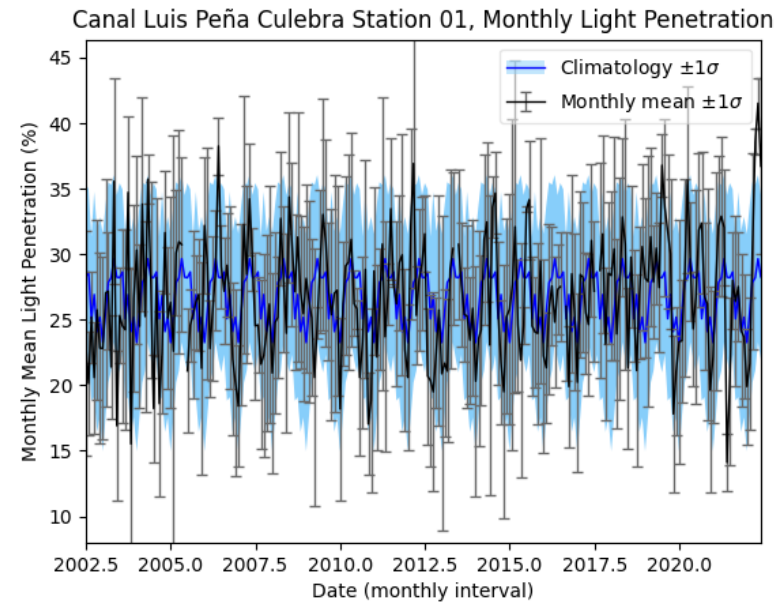
WATER QUALITY VIRTUAL BUOYS -EXAMPLES

(B.Barnes & C. Hu - USF)

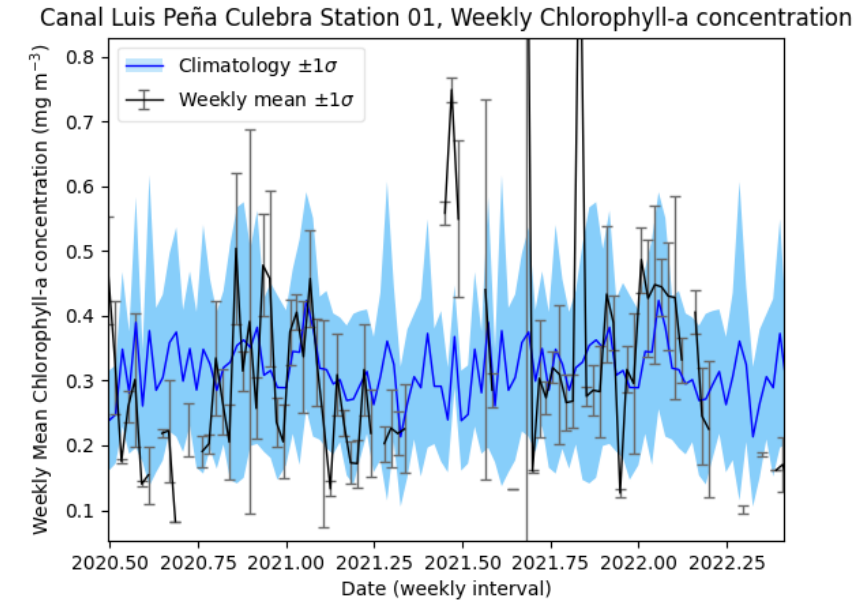
TURBIDITY



LIGHT PENETRATION



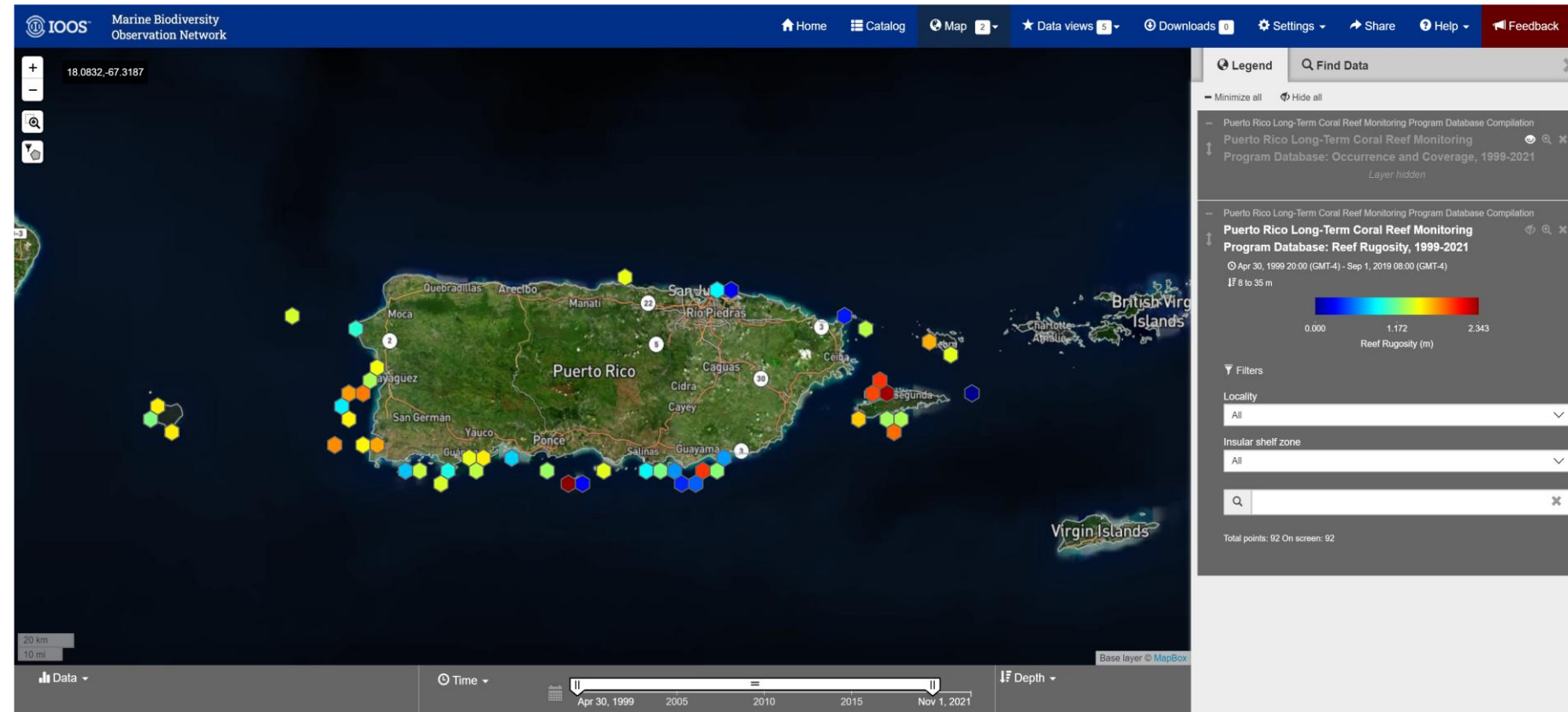
CHLOROPHYLL-a CONCENTRATION



USER-ORIENTED DATA PRODUCTS

BIODIVERSITY DATASET

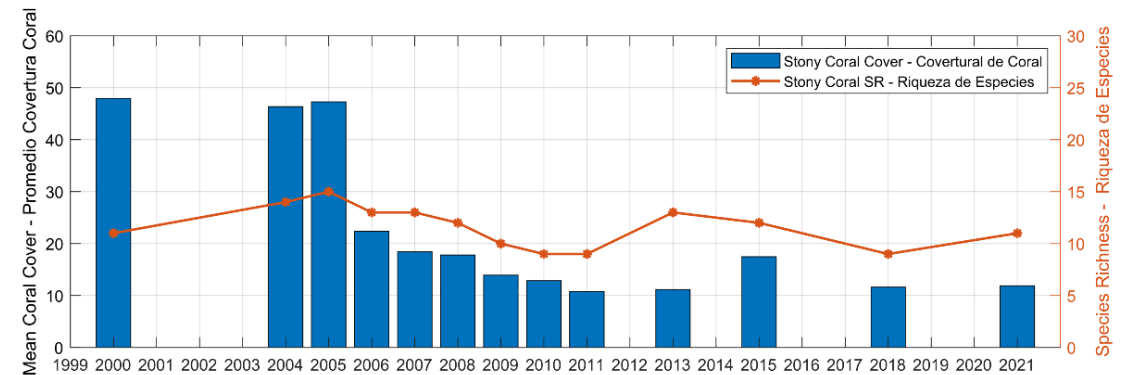
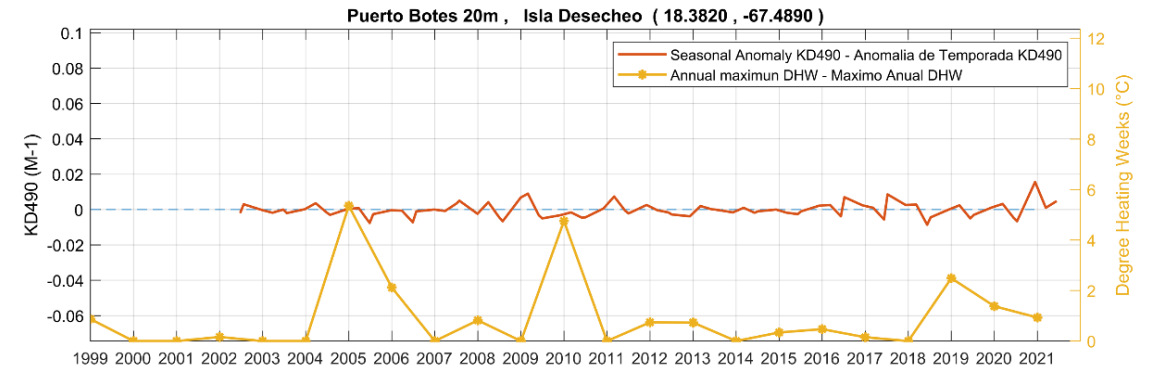
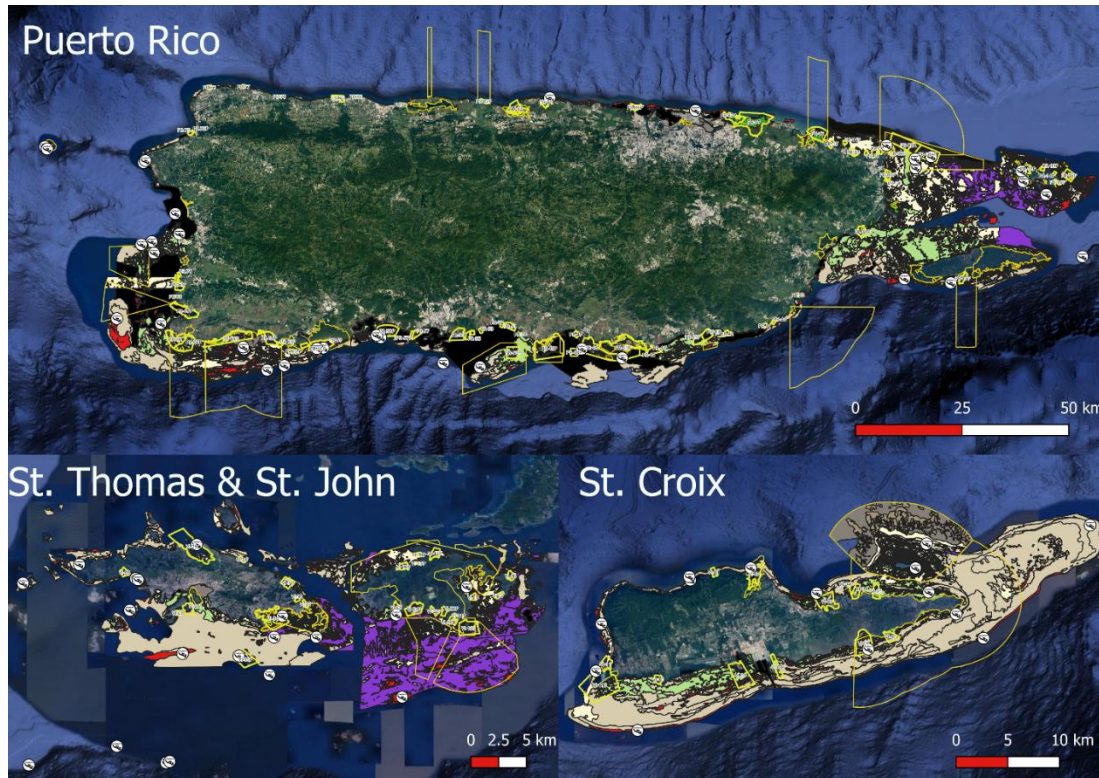
- Marine Biodiversity Observation Network (MBON)
- DwC translated datasets available in OBIS:
 - Puerto Rico Coral Reef Monitoring Program (PRCRMP): 1999-2021
 - USVI Territorial Coral Reef Monitoring Program (TCRMP): 2001-2019
 - Fish Assemblages of Artificial Reefs in Puerto Rico: 2018



USER-ORIENTED DATA PRODUCTS

ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIODIVERSITY DATA PRODUCT

- CARICOOS aims to support decision-making in management activities by providing access to environmental and biodiversity data products in the U.S. Caribbean region; a way to assess the status and trends of natural coastal barriers.
- Datasets were extracted from NOAA habitat maps, environmental stressors (DWH and KD490) from remote sensing, and biological indicators (coral cover and species richness) from in-situ coral reef monitoring stations



RESPONSIVE STAKEHOLDER-DRIVEN OBSERVING SYSTEM



- CARICOOS collects high-quality standardized observations of essential climate and ocean variables.
- High-quality data provide the basis for decisions that affect weather, marine environment, fish stocks, climate, commerce, and security.
- Maintaining healthy ecosystems and promoting safe and efficient marine operations requires knowledge of the ocean environment. Gliders, saildrones, and autonomous technologies for ocean observations provide opportunities to measure and monitor the ocean conditions in a manner that minimizes competition for ship time and provides a continuous, three-dimensional, near real-time representation of the ocean.

Image Source: Fact Sheet: Building Climate-Ready Fisheries and Fishing Communities
<https://www.nrdc.org/resources/building-climate-ready-fisheries-fishing-communities>
Illustrations by Christina Chung



CARICOOS



THANK YOU!

