

Understanding Property Owner Shoreline Management Decisions

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- Ü Shoreline property owners have a lot of latitude to modify their shorelines and their choices can have a significant impact on neighboring shorelines and the overall health of the ecosystem.
- Ü It is important to have a better understanding of what factors are important to owners in making their decisions so that we can better influence those decisions in ways that are most beneficial for the entire community and the ecosystem.

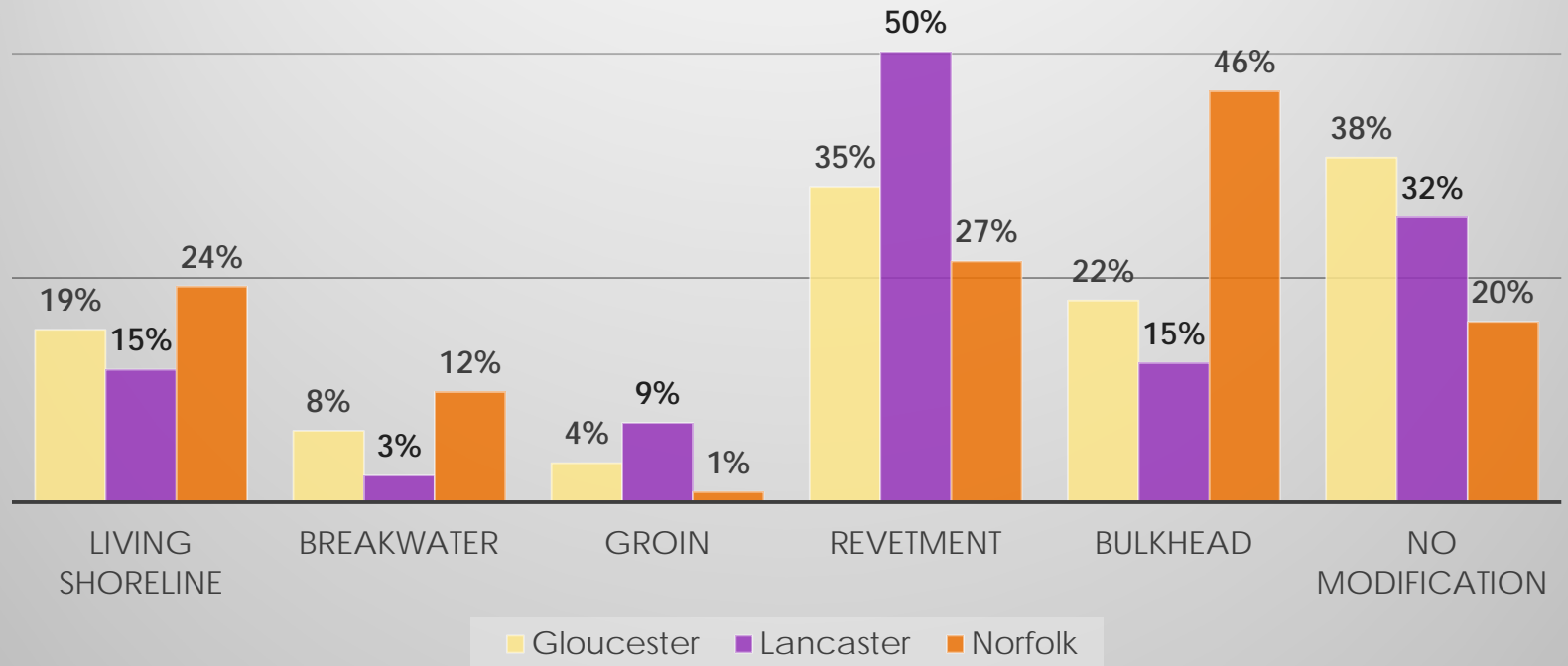
Findings from Gloucester Case Study Using VMRC Permit Data

- Ü Property owners are more likely to modify if there is higher wave energy, higher Hurricane Storm Surge categories, and higher land or improvements value.
- Ü They are less likely to modify the farther the primary structure on a parcel is from the shoreline, if the property is in a conservation zone or has a high percentage of natural cover.
- Ü And what type of modifications the neighbors have makes significantly influences their choice – they are much more likely to do the same thing as their neighbors.

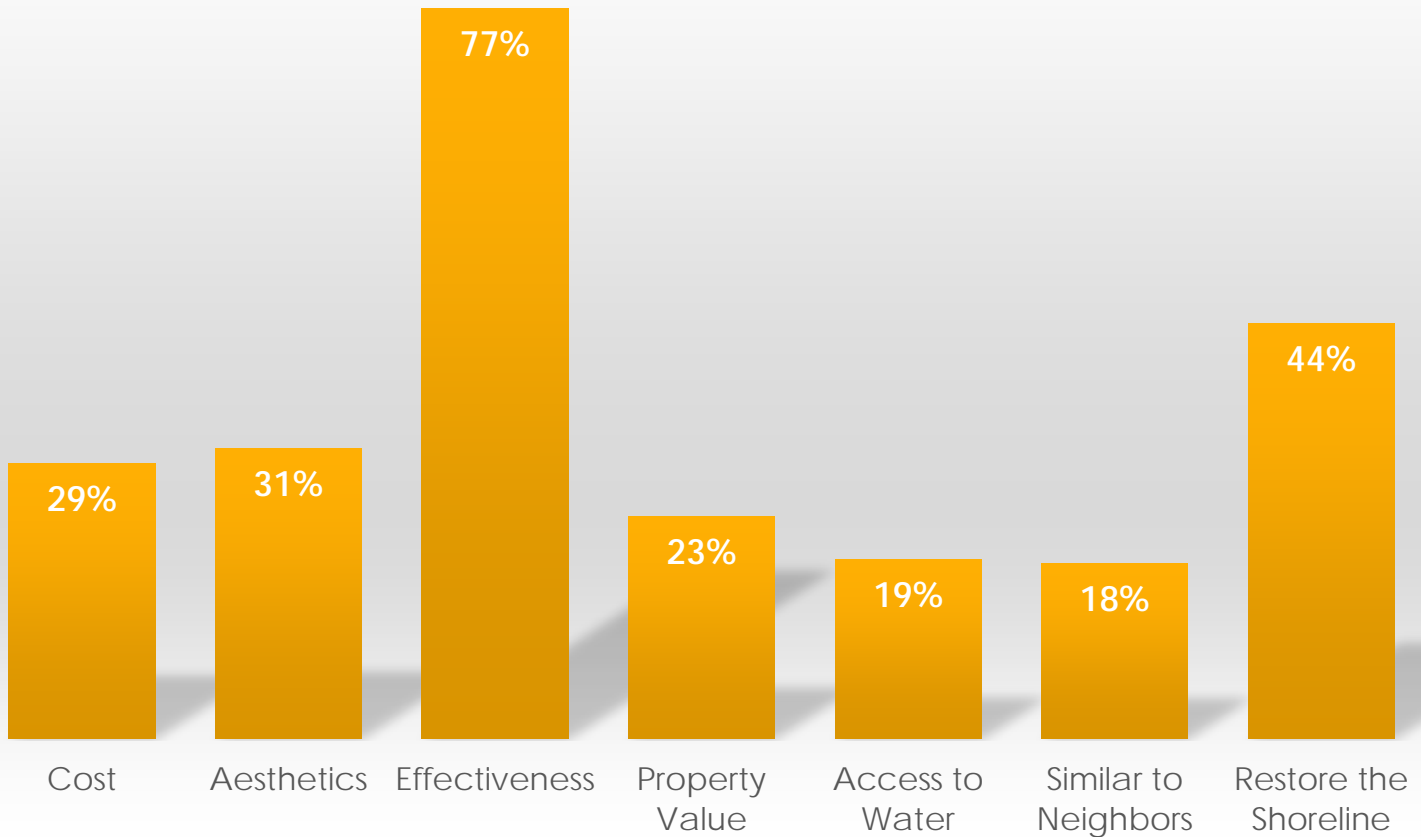
Findings from the Property Owners Survey

- Ü Sent 3,050 mail surveys to stratified random sample of property owners in Gloucester, Lancaster and Norfolk.
 - Ü Received 765 back (25 percent response rate) with good coverage of the three areas.
- Ü Survey collected data on:
 - Ü Experience with erosion.
 - Ü Types of modifications in place and when they were made.
 - Ü Reasons for modifying/not modifying.
 - Ü Sources of information about shoreline modifications.
 - Ü Perceptions about changing levels of flooding/erosion.
 - Ü Perceptions about impact of their choices on erosion and the health of the bay.

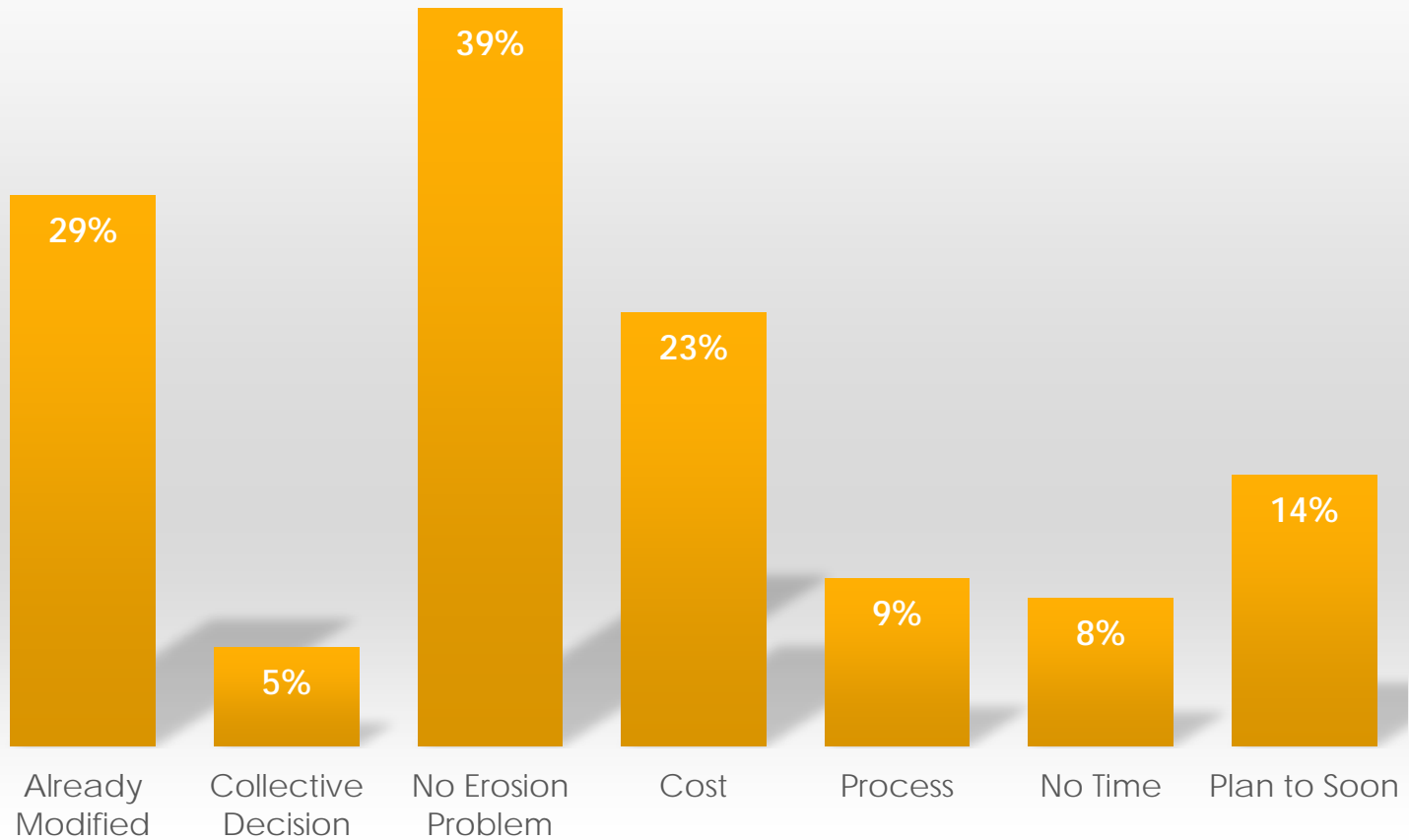
Modification Frequency by Location



Reasons for Shoreline Modification Choice



Reasons for Not Modifying the Shoreline



Beliefs About Impacts by Modification Type

