

# Mangrove Expansion Rates in the Apalachicola Bay region of Florida

**Jenny Bueno**, PhD Candidate Florida State University &  
MAD Fellow at the Apalachicola NERR

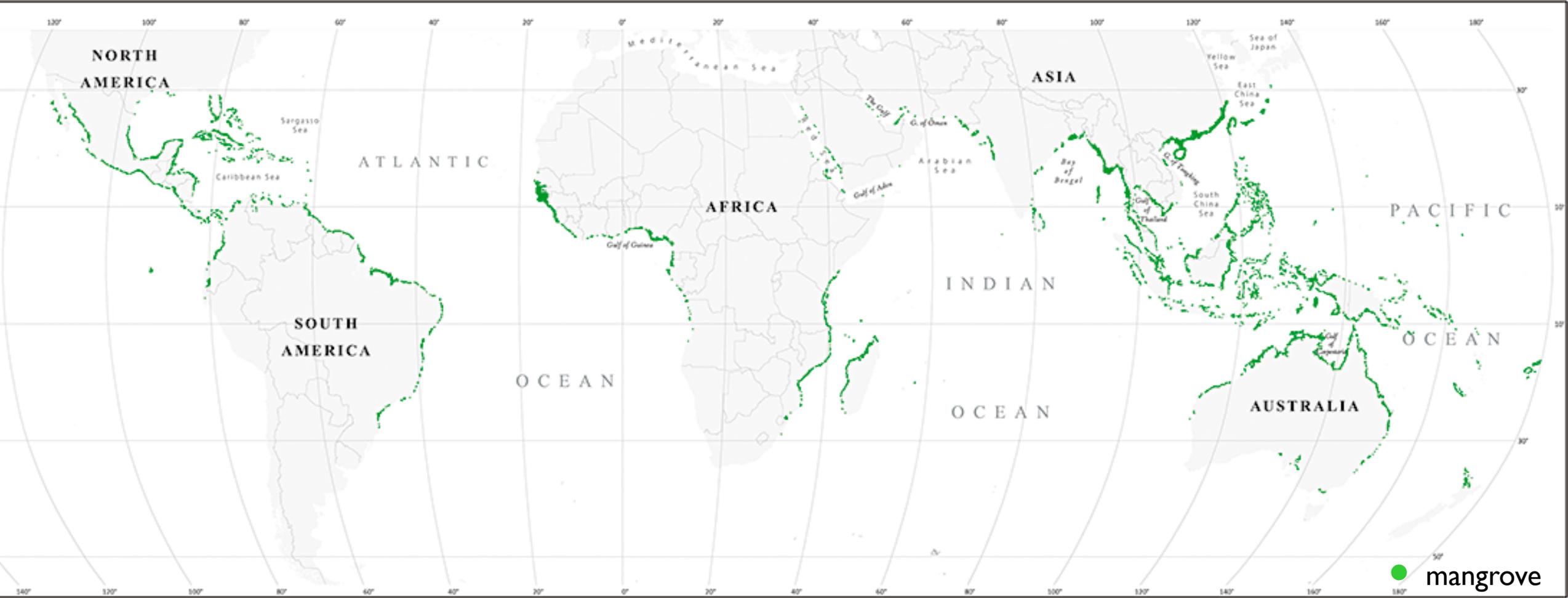
Dr. Sarah E. Lester, PhD- Florida State University Department of Biological Sciences

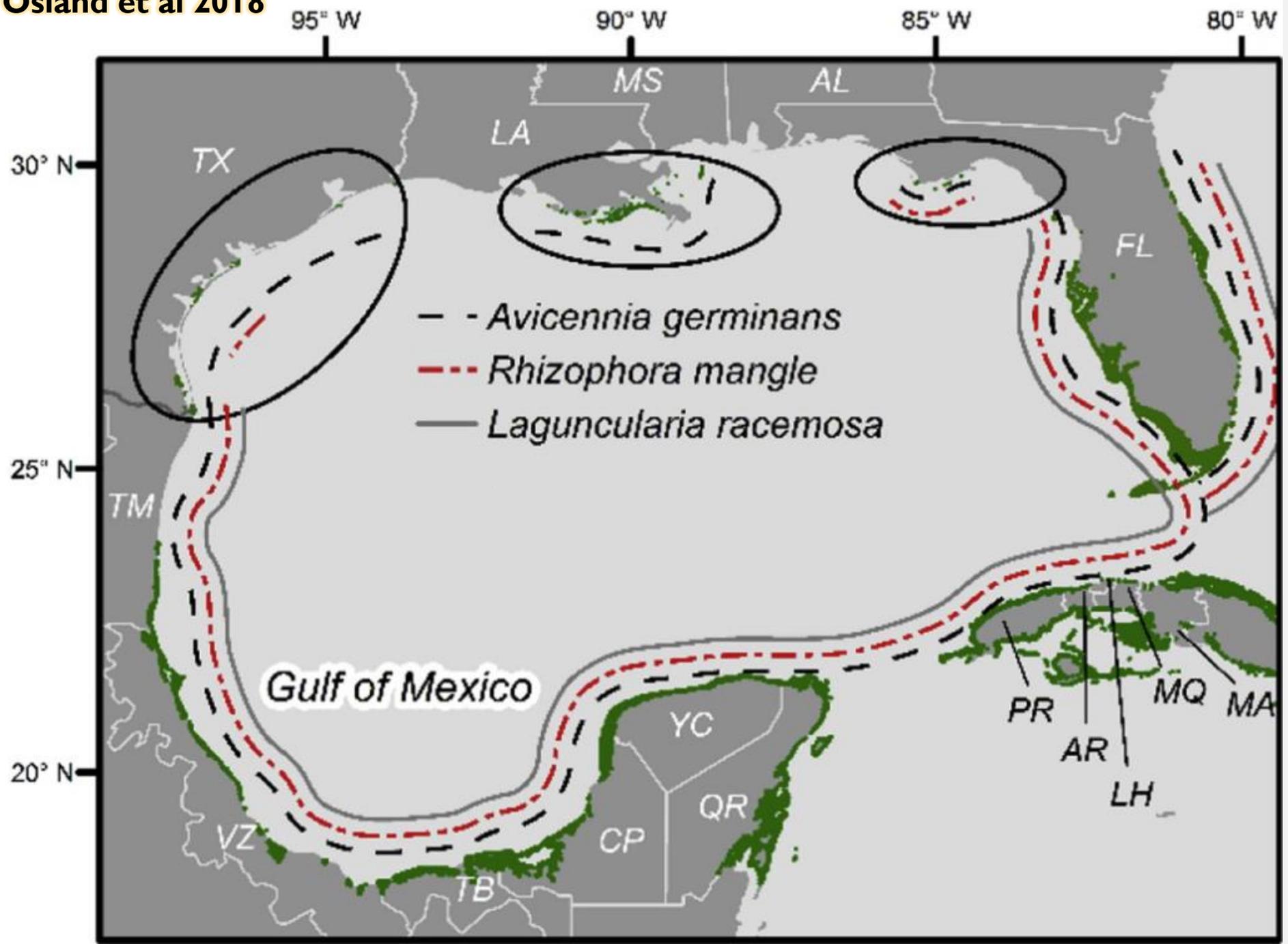
Dr. Joshua L. Breithaupt, PhD- Florida State University Coastal & Marine Lab

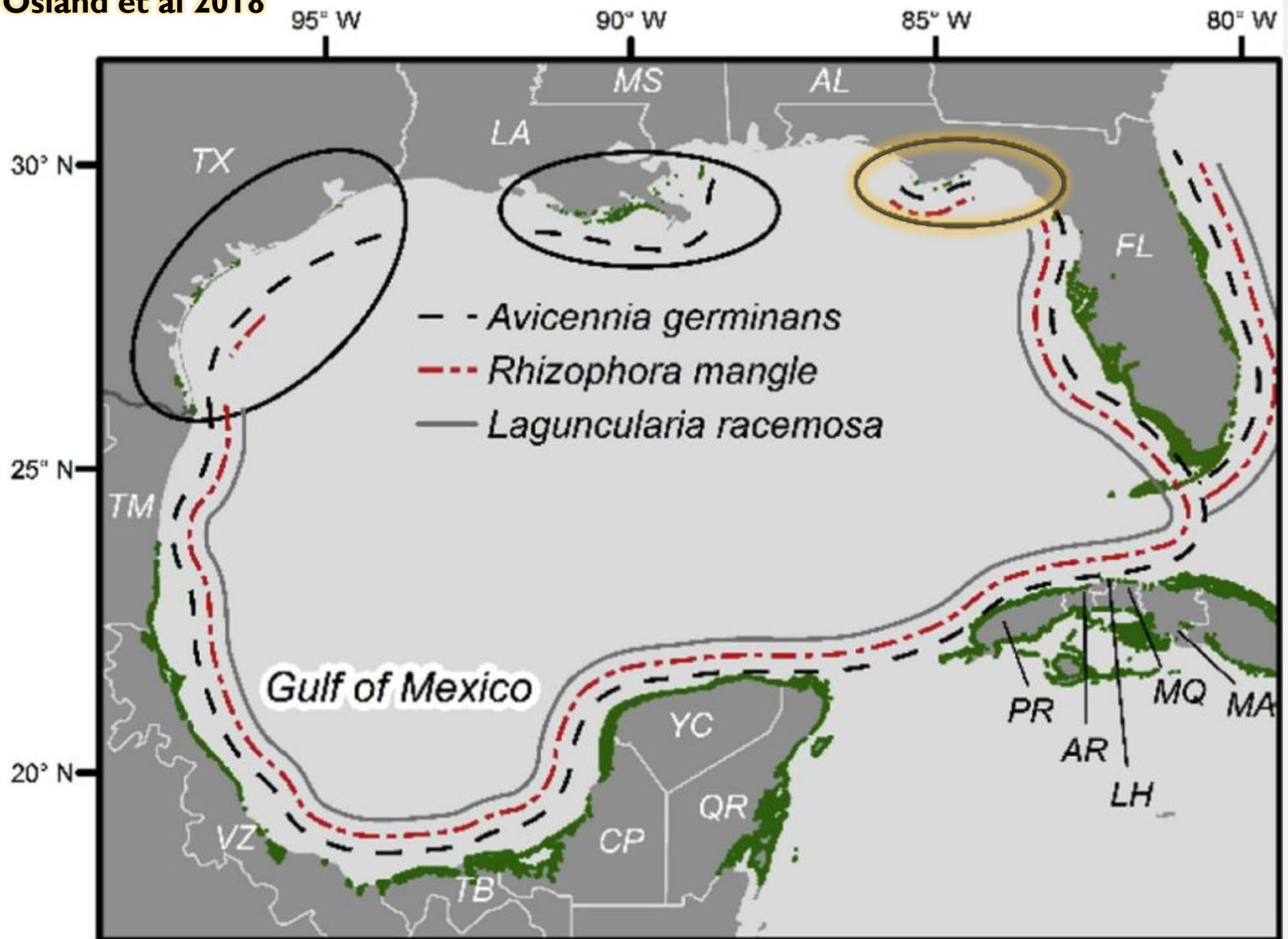
Dr. Sandra Brooke, PhD- Florida State University Coastal & Marine Lab

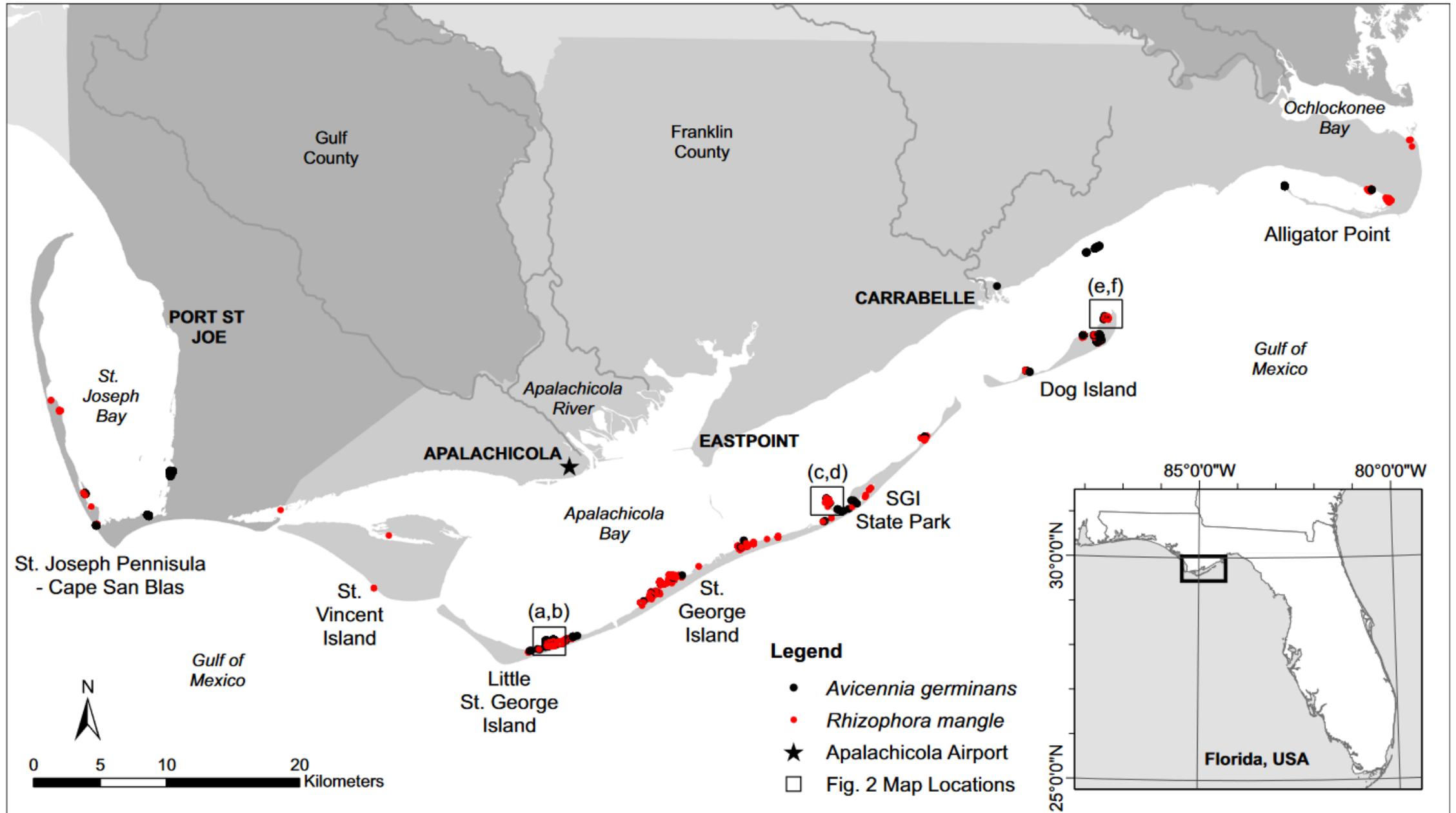
Jason Garwood, Research Director- Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve











# REMOTE SENSING



## Platforms

Satellite

Aircraft

Drones

Ground-based platforms

# REMOTE SENSING



## Platforms

Satellite  
Aircraft  
Drones

Ground-based platforms



## Scale

Global  
Regional  
Local

# REMOTE SENSING



## Platforms

Satellite  
Aircraft  
Drones  
Ground-based platforms



## Scale

Global  
Regional  
Local



## Sensors

Passive  
Active

# REMOTE SENSING



## Platforms

Satellite  
Aircraft  
Drones  
Ground-based platforms



## Scale

Global  
Regional  
Local



## Sensors

Passive  
Active



## Applications

Habitat inventory  
Biomass estimation  
Wetland health  
Habitat changes

# RATE OF MANGROVE EXPANSION IN APALACHICOLA BAY FLORIDA



## Platforms

Satellite  
**Aircraft**  
Drones  
Ground-based platforms



## Scale

Global  
Regional  
**Local**



## Sensors

Passive  
**Active**

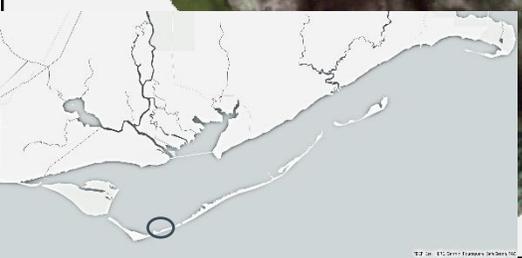


## Applications

Habitat inventory  
Biomass estimation  
Wetland health  
**Habitat changes**

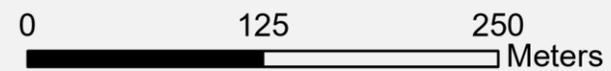
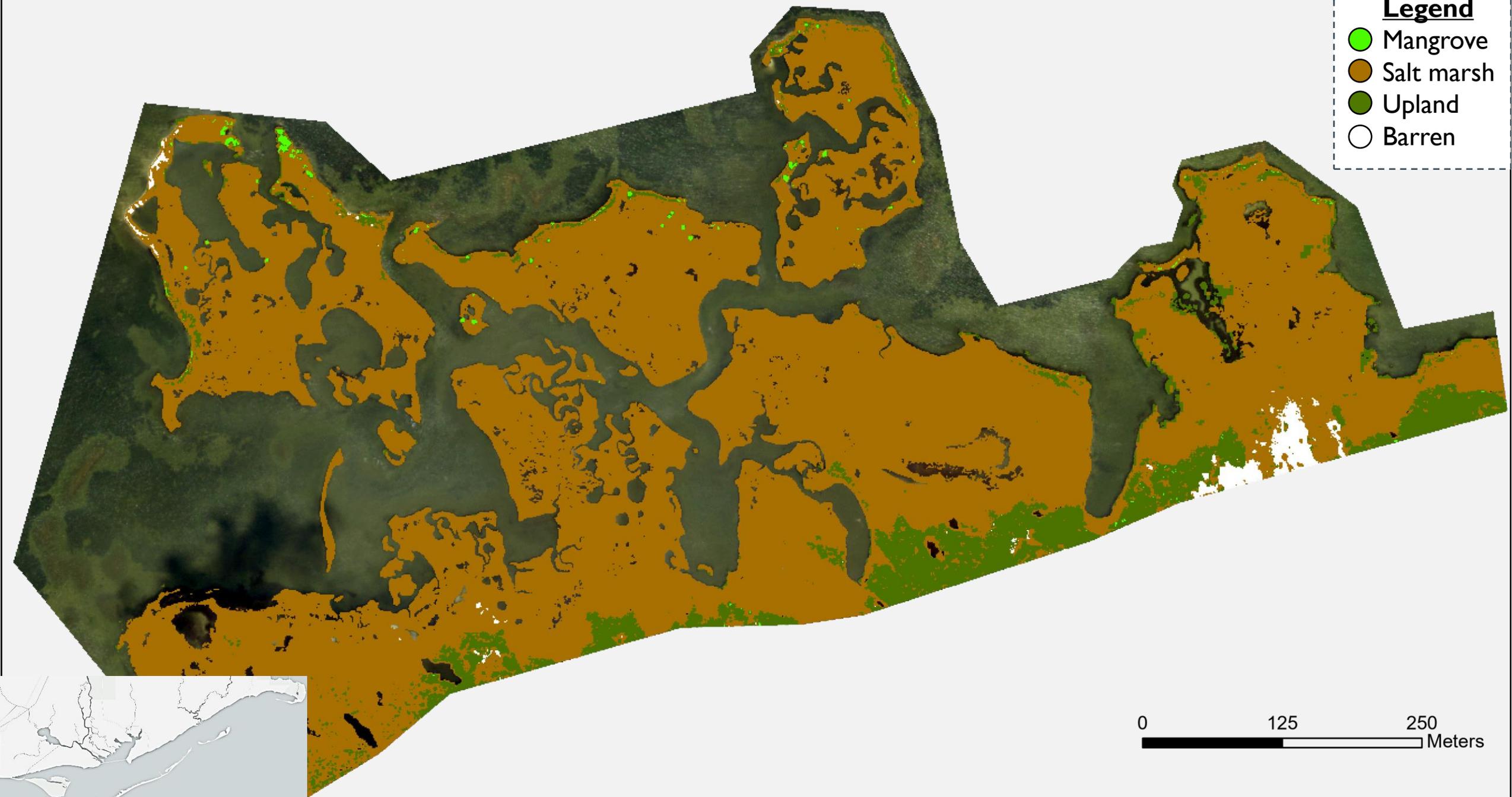


0 125 250  
Meters



**Legend**

-  Mangrove
-  Salt marsh
-  Upland
-  Barren



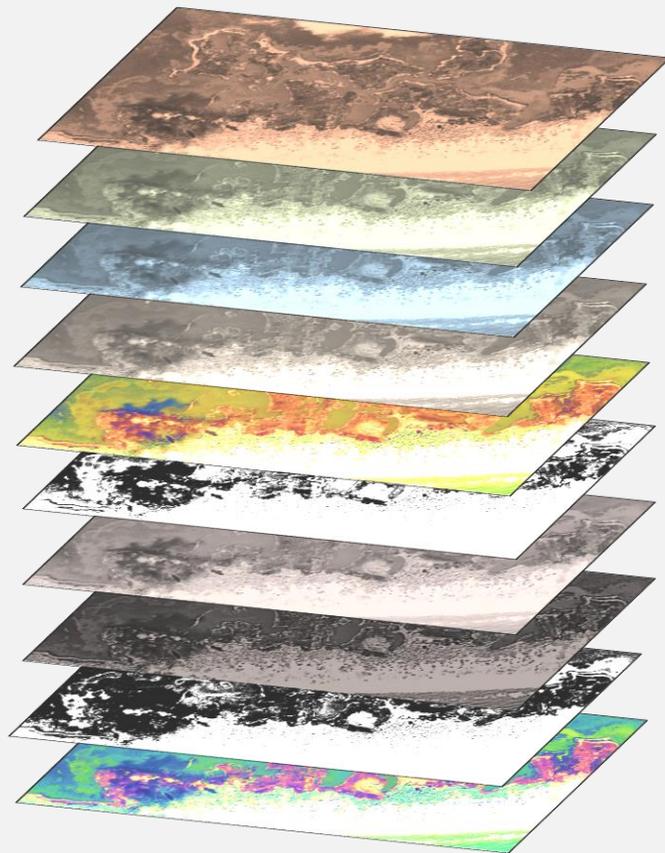
Imagery

Layers

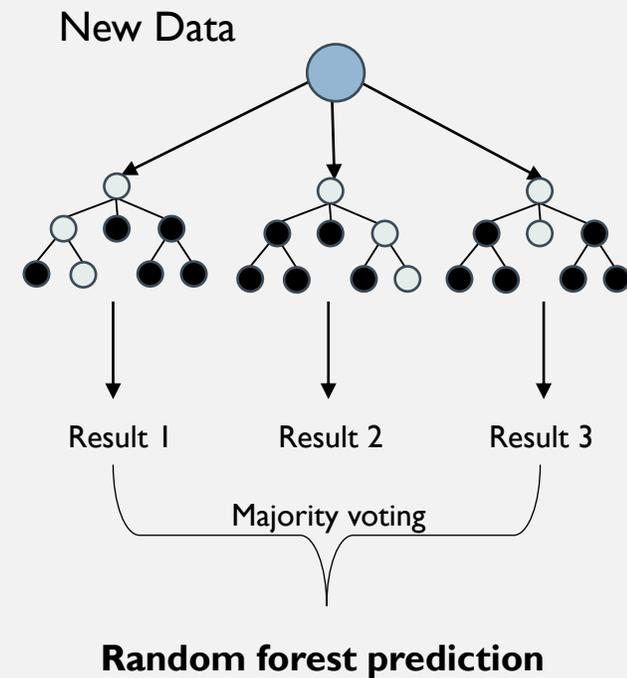
Samples

Classification

- NAIP aerial imagery

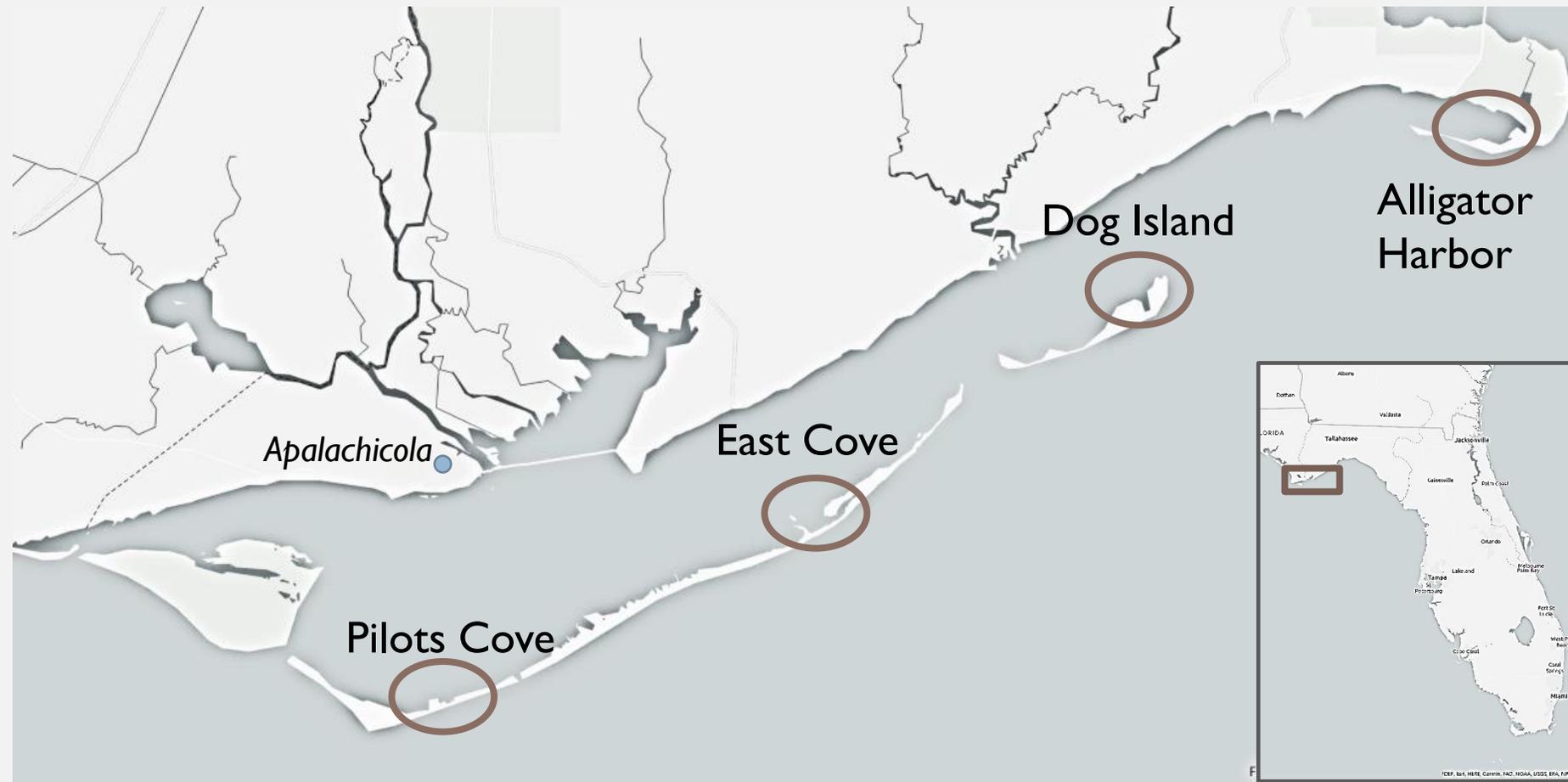


- Mangrove
- Salt marsh
- Upland
- Barren
- Water



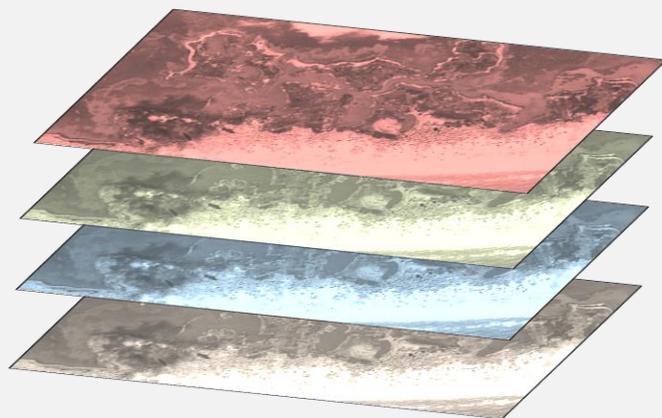
## Imagery

- NAIP aerial imagery
  - 2010, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2022
  - 1-m resolution
  - 4 bands



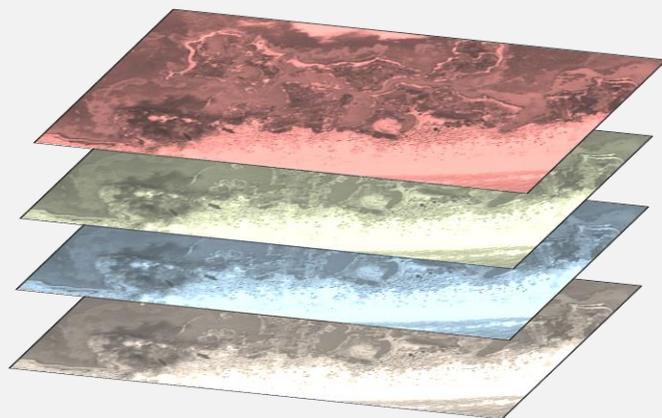
## Layers

- R, G, B, IR
  - *High NIR reflectance*



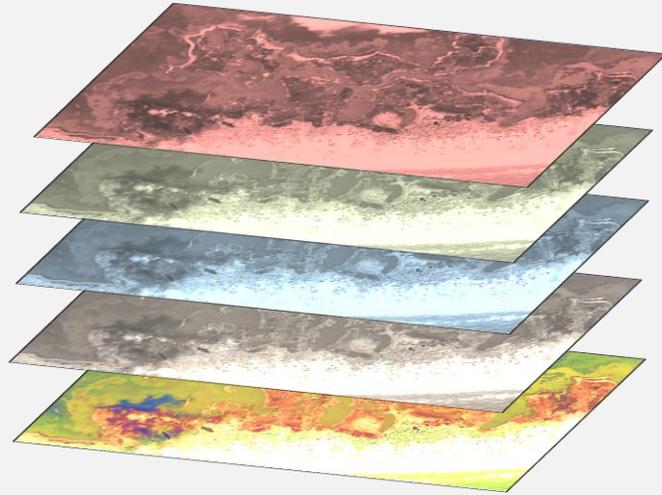
## Layers

- R, G, B, IR
  - *High NIR reflectance*

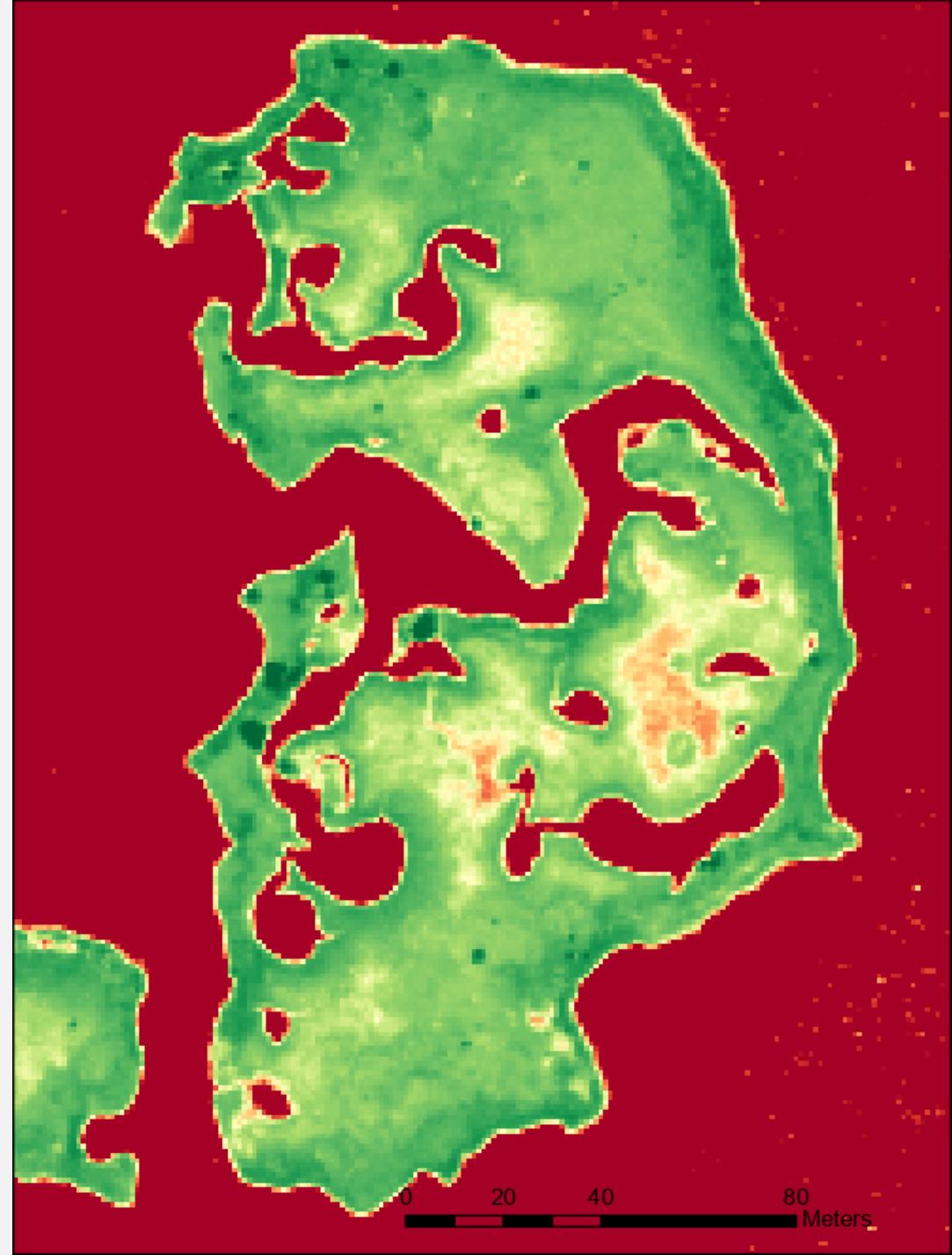


## Layers

- R, G, B, IR
- NDVI

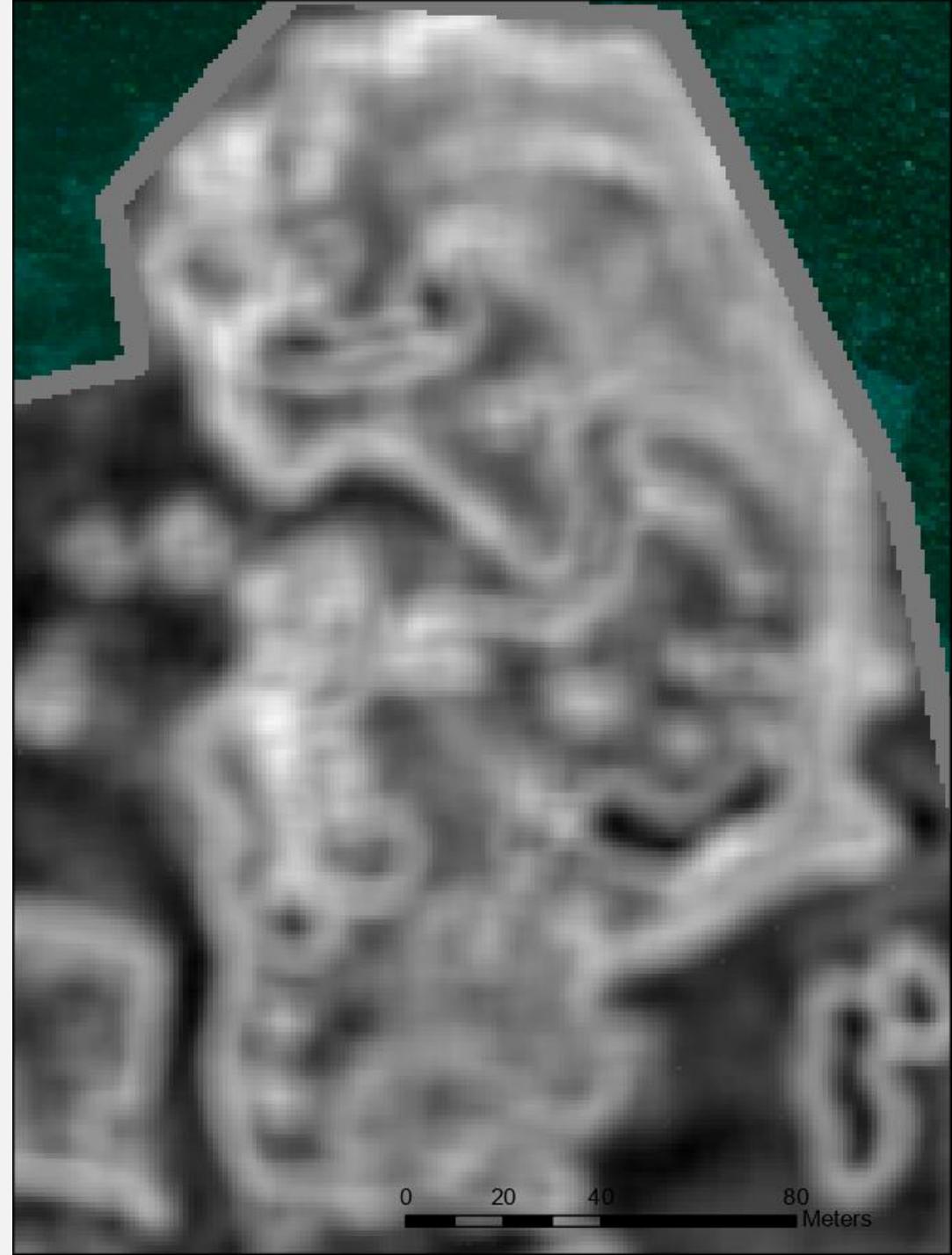
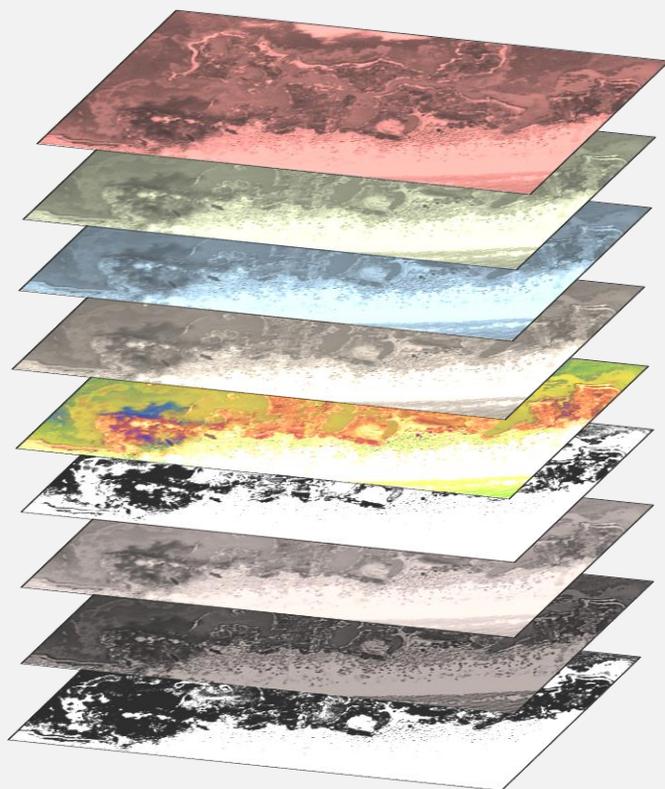


**IR- RED**  
**IR + RED**



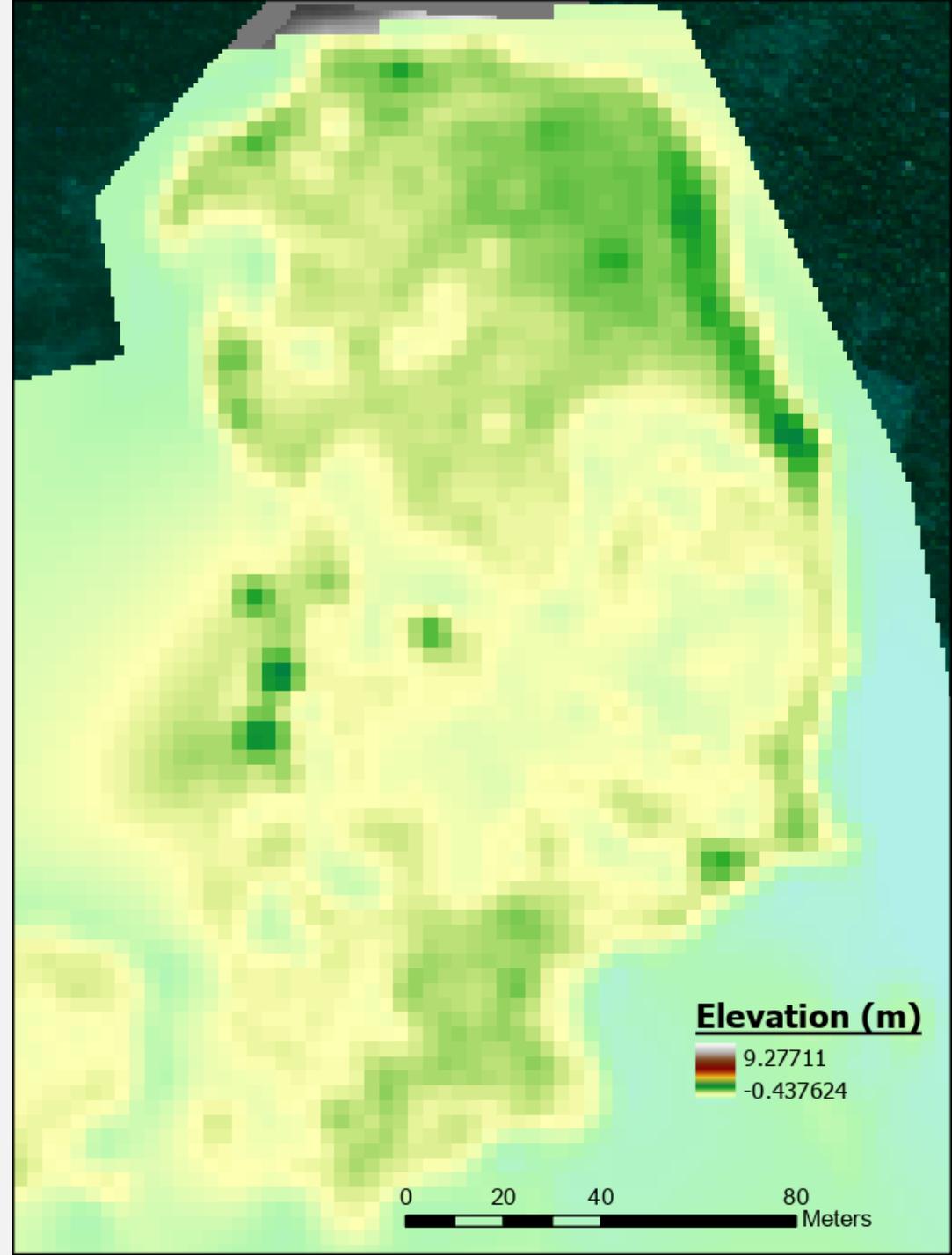
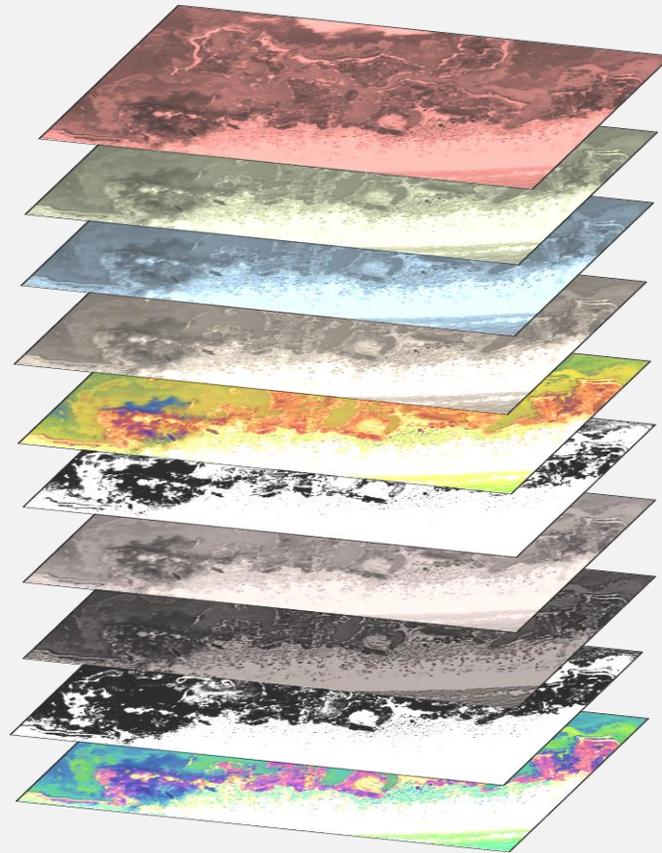
## Layers

- R, G, B, IR
- NDVI
- Texture analysis



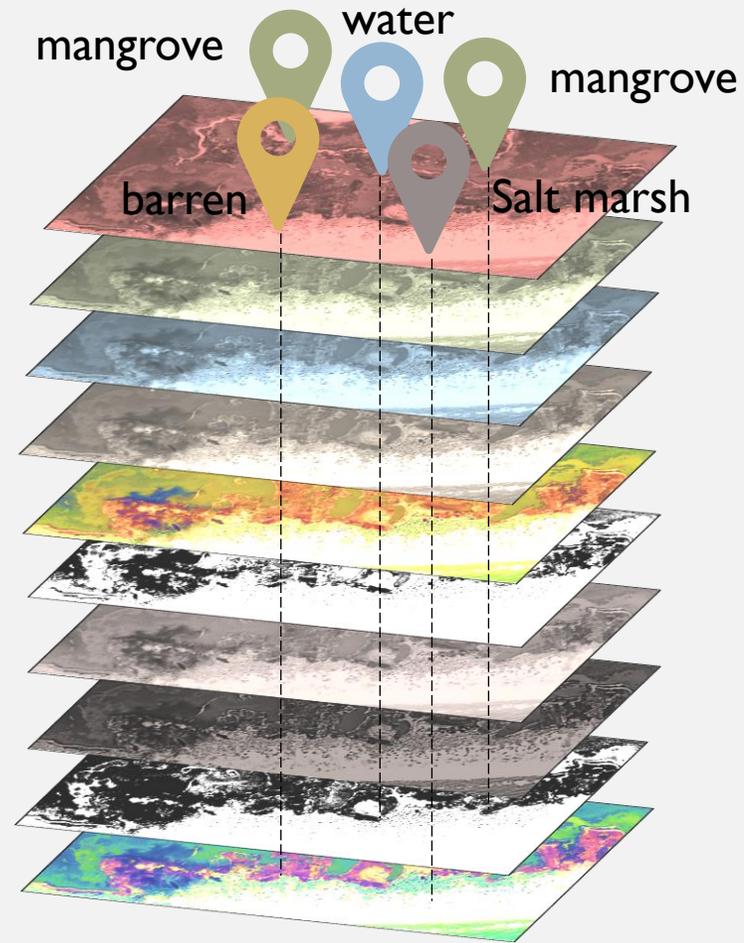
## Layers

- R, G, B, IR
- NDVI
- Texture analysis
- DEM



## Layers

- R, G, B, IR
- NDVI
- Texture analysis
- DEM



## Samples

- Assign a class to pixels
- 5 classes:
  - Mangroves:
    1. Red
    2. Black



# Samples

- Assign a class to pixels
- 5 classes:
  - Mangroves
  - Salt marsh vegetation:
    1. *Juncus roemerianus*
    2. *Spartina alterniflora*
    3. Glasswort
    4. Saltwort



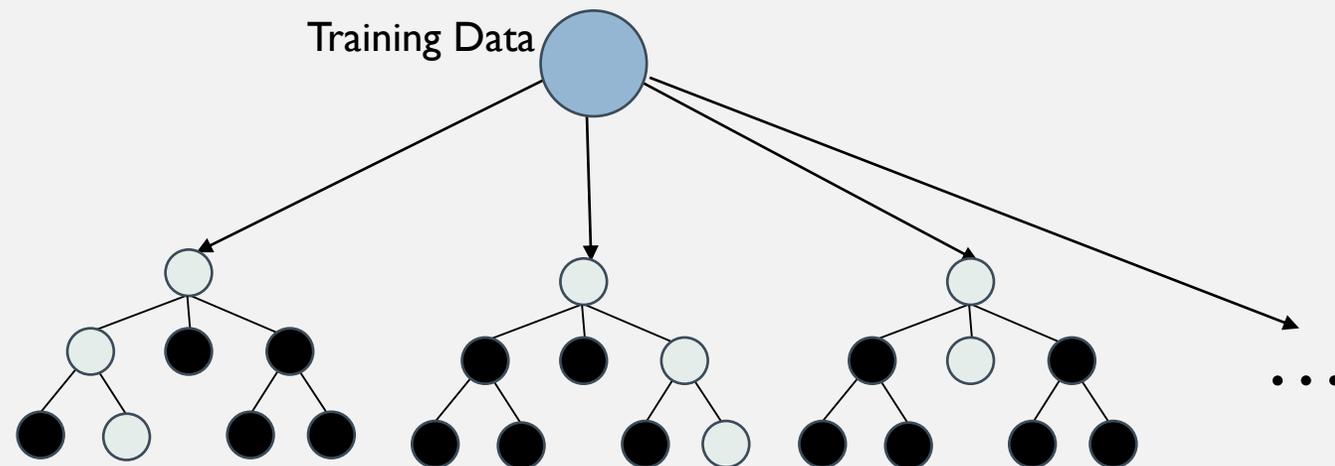
## Samples

- Assign a class to pixels
- 5 classes:
  - Mangroves
  - Salt marsh vegetation
  - Upland
  - Barren
  - Water
- 500 samples



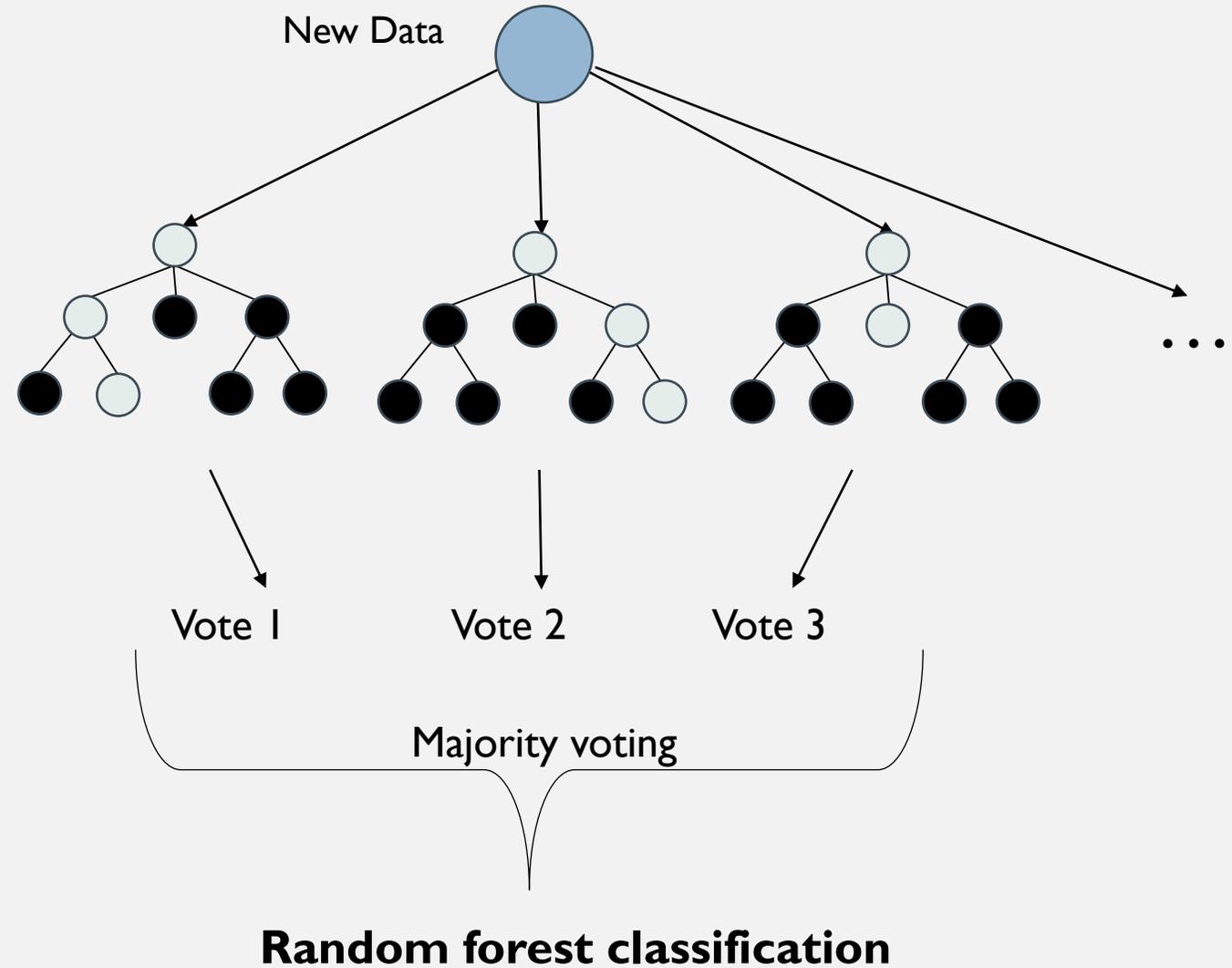
# Classification

- Create random forest model
- Train using 80% of samples



# Classification

- Create random forest model
- Train using 80% of samples
- Classify
- Test using 20% of samples
  - Total accuracy
  - Class accuracy



# PRELIMINARY RESULTS



2010

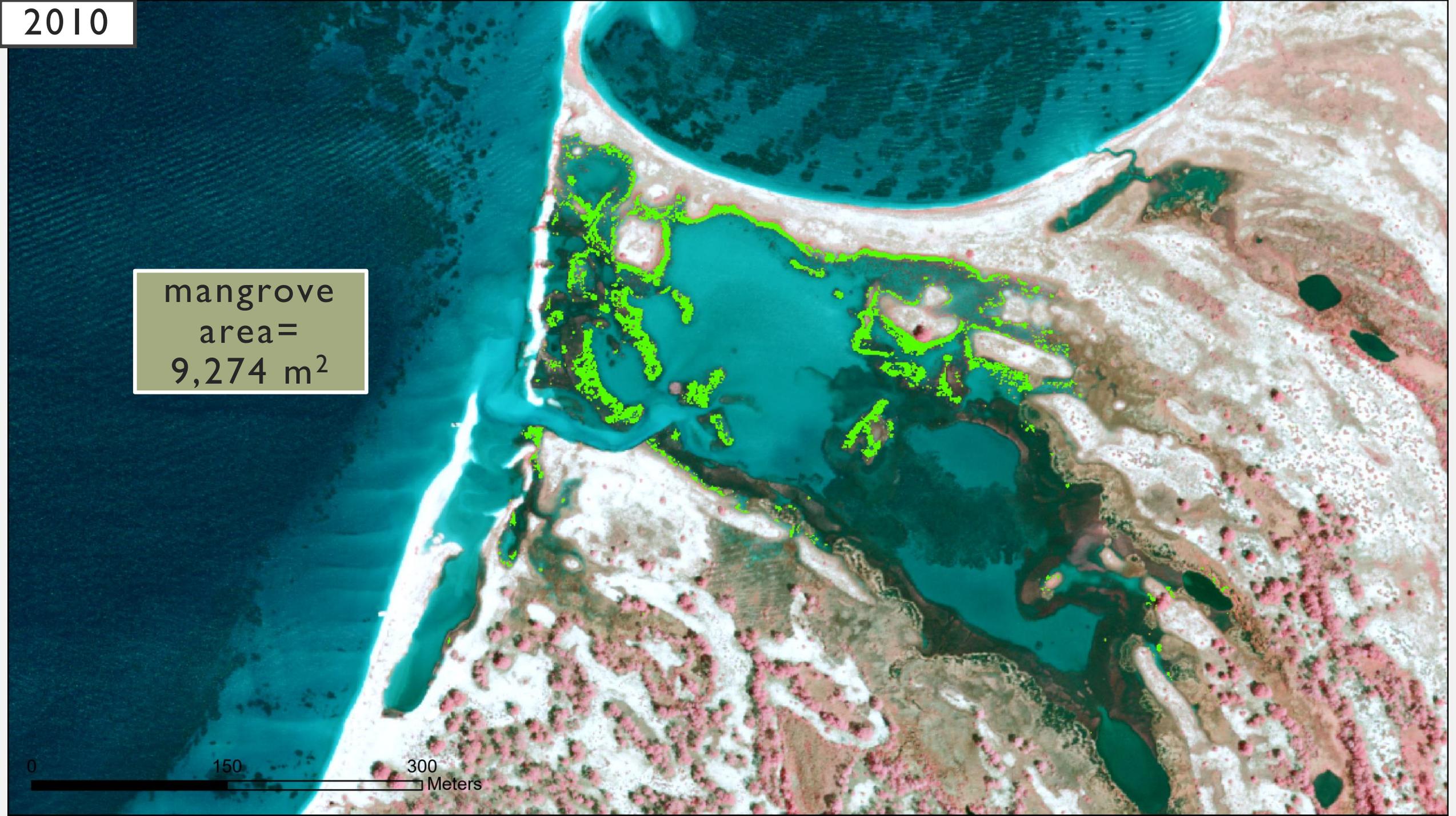


0 150 300 Meters

2010

mangrove  
area=  
9,274 m<sup>2</sup>

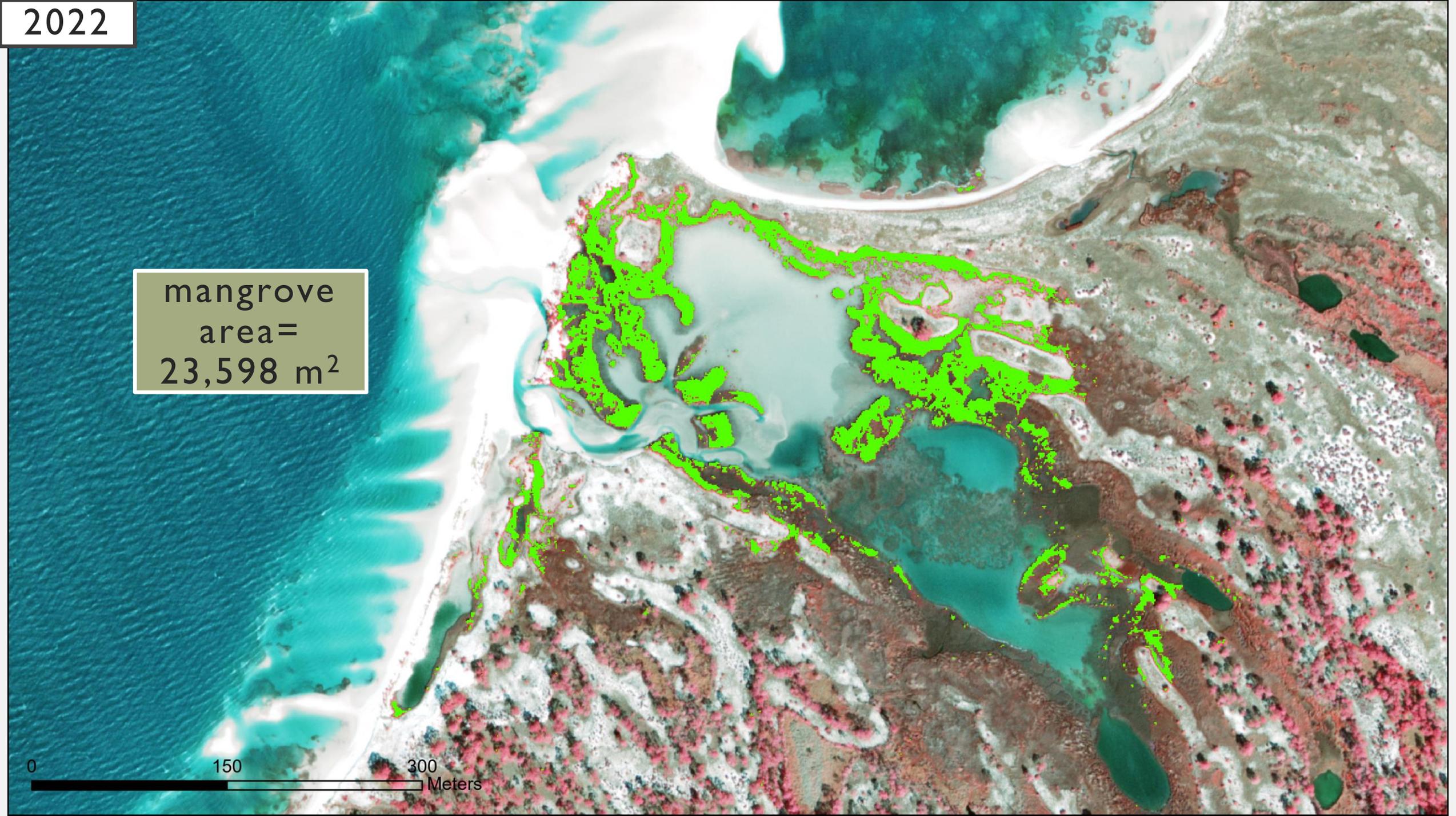
0 150 300 Meters



2022

mangrove  
area=  
23,598 m<sup>2</sup>

0 150 300 Meters

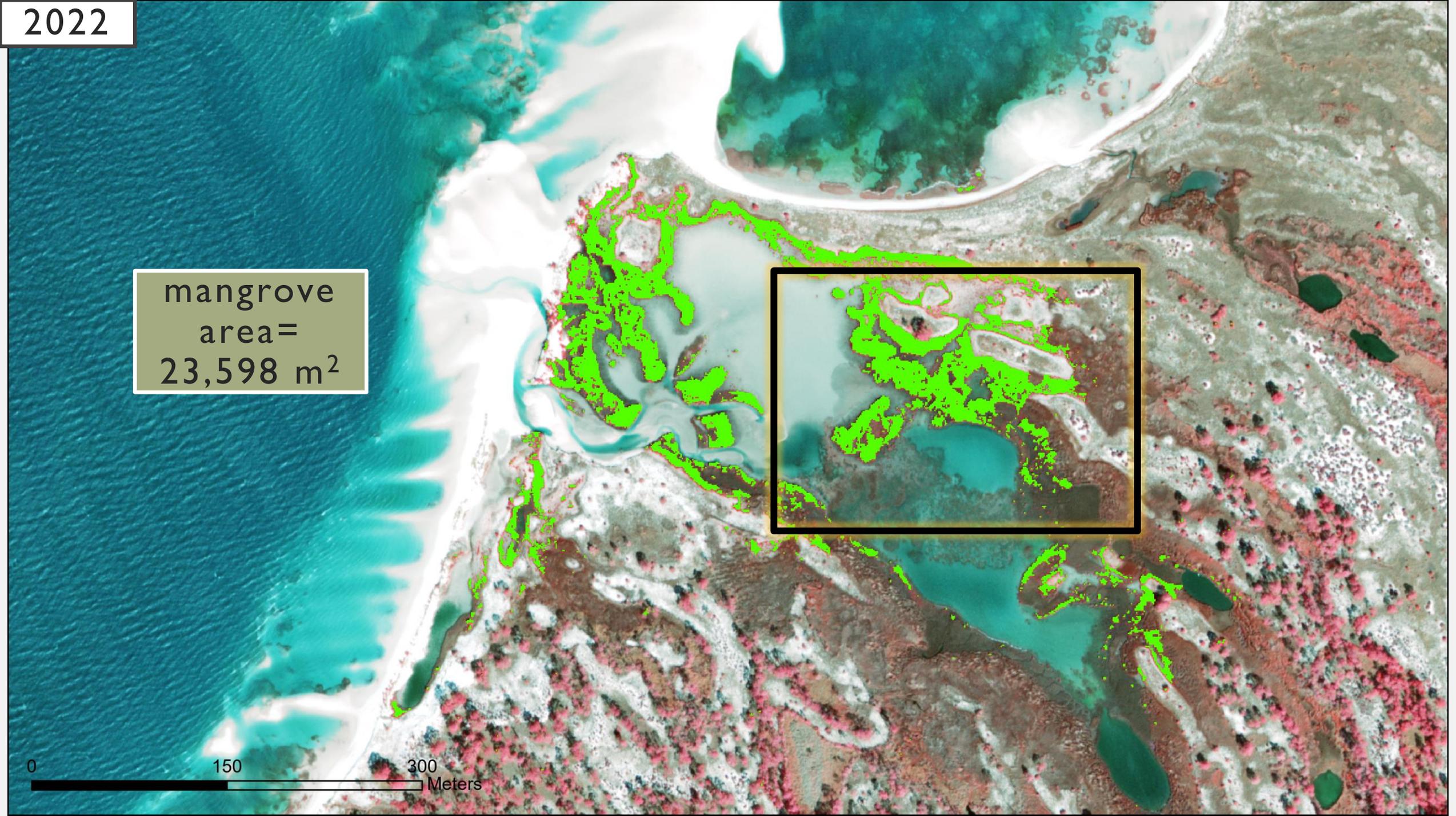


2022

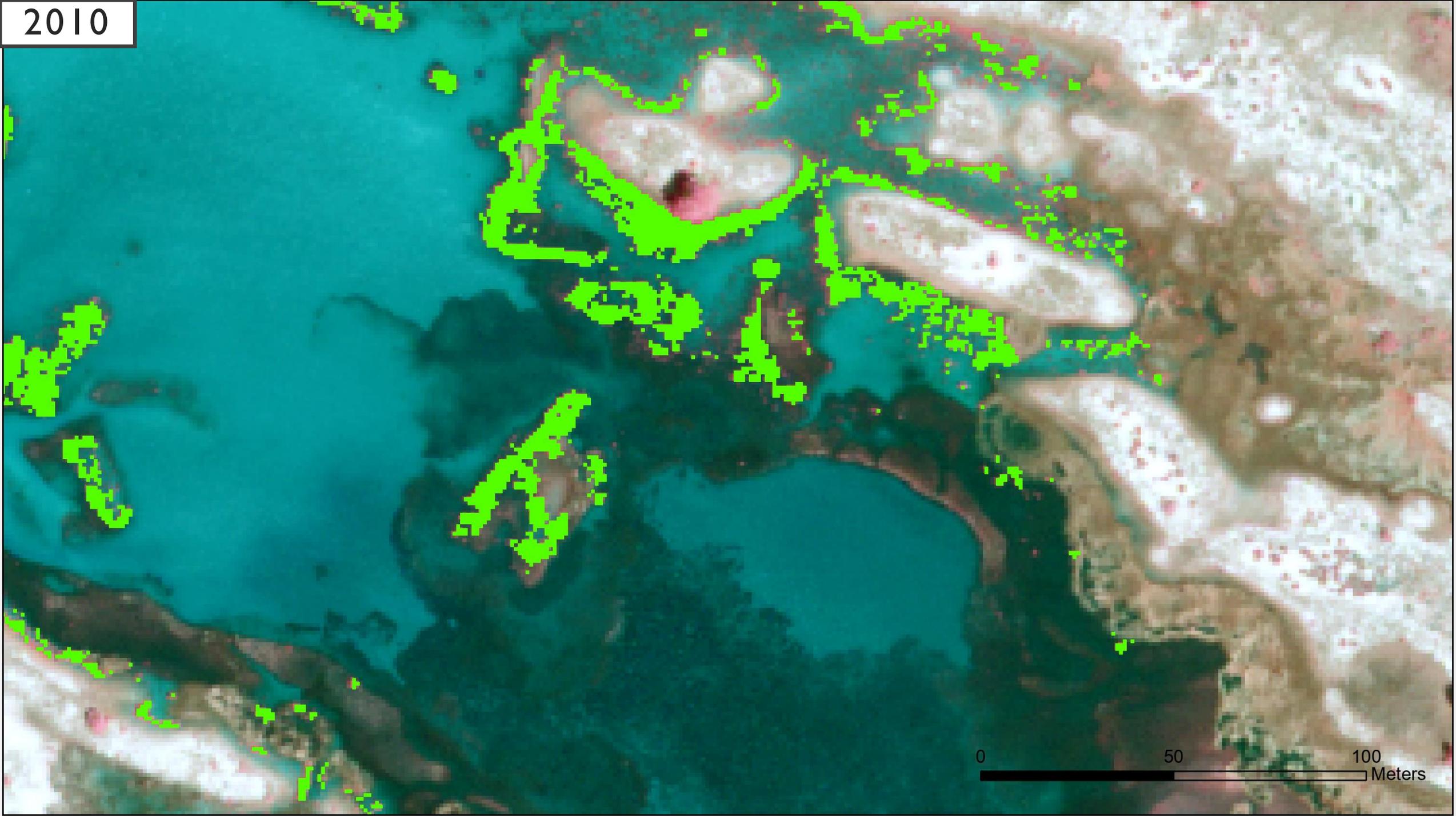
mangrove  
area=  
23,598 m<sup>2</sup>



0 150 300 Meters



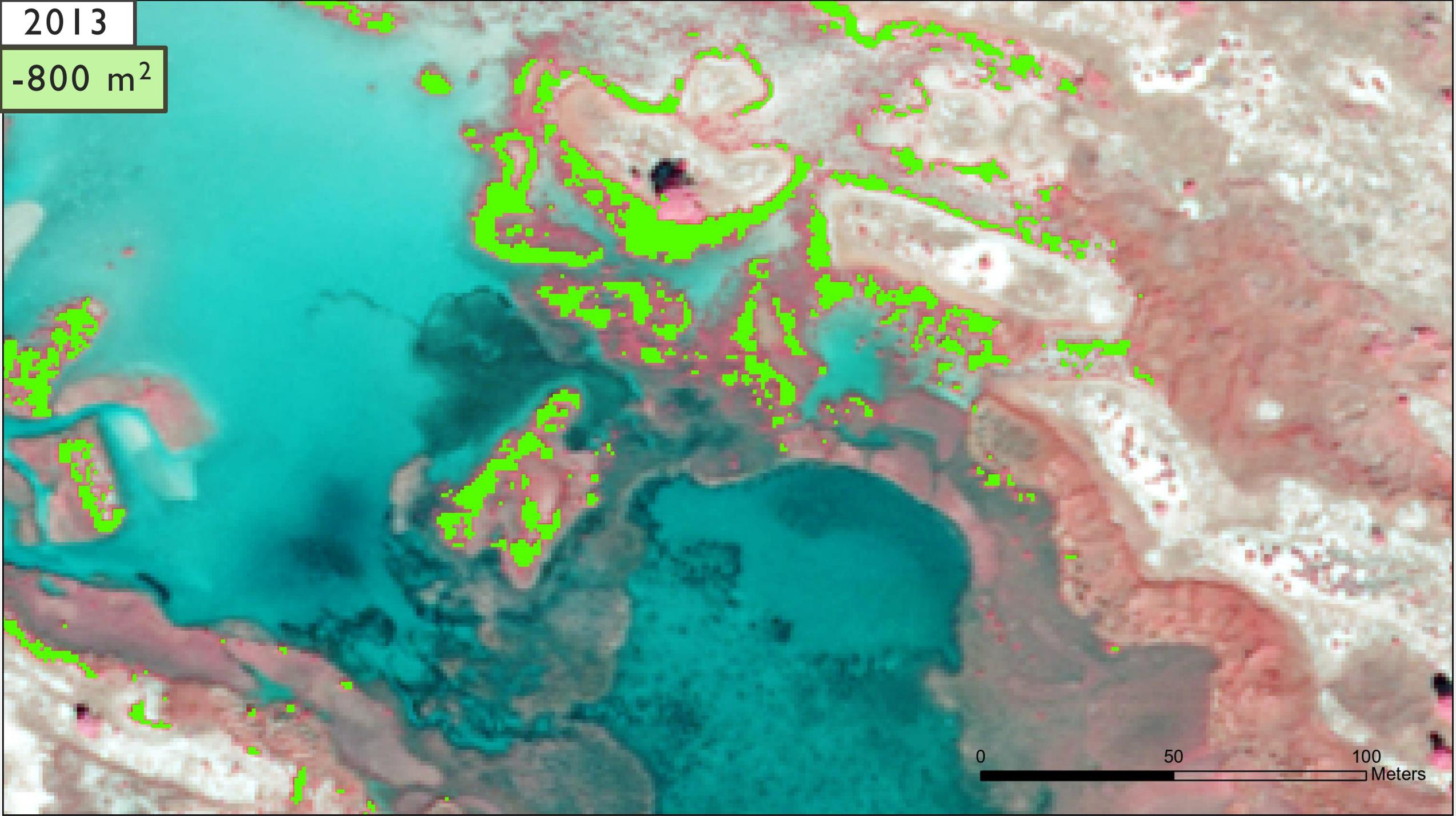
2010



0 50 100  
Meters

2013

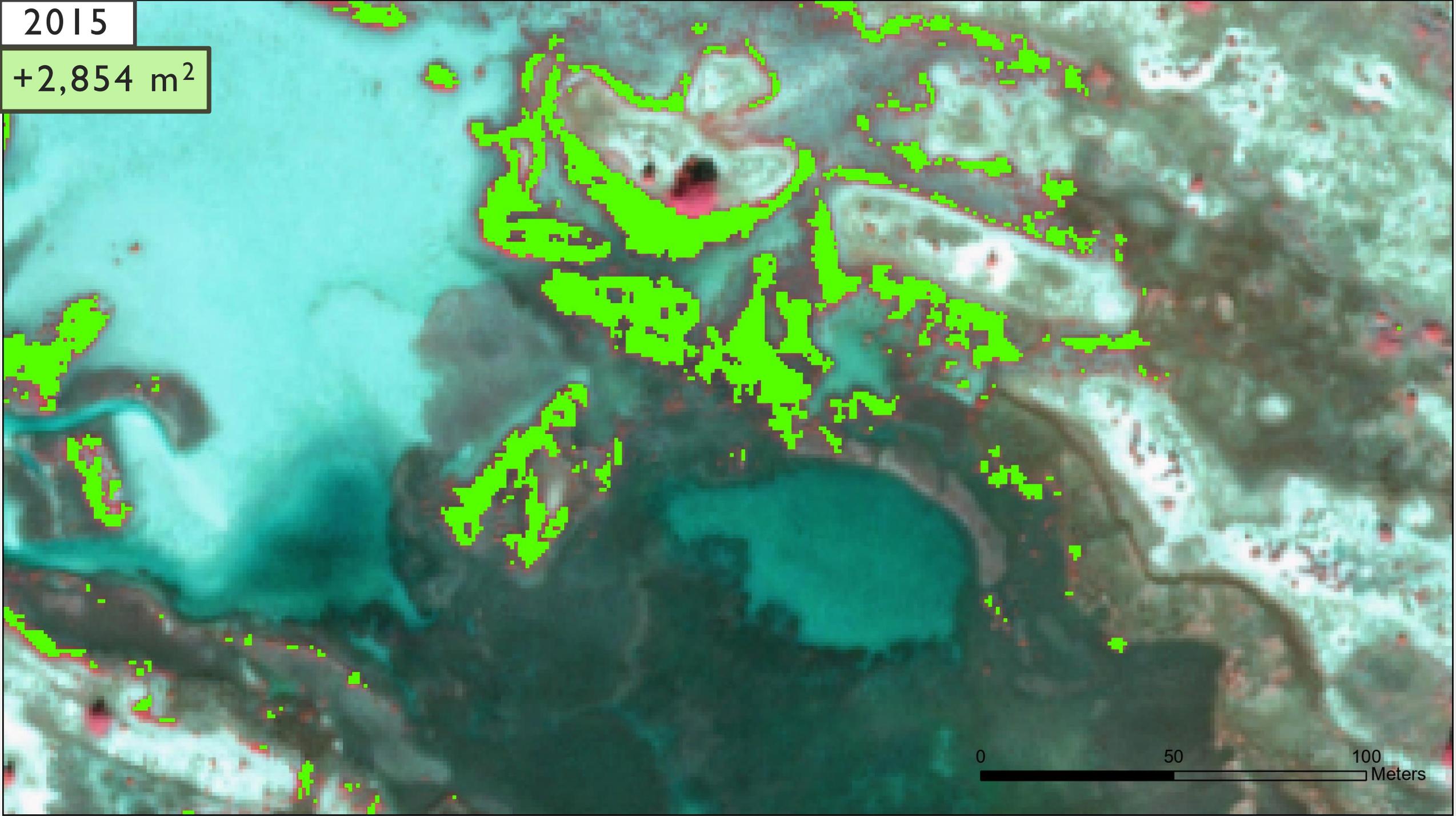
-800 m<sup>2</sup>



0 50 100 Meters

2015

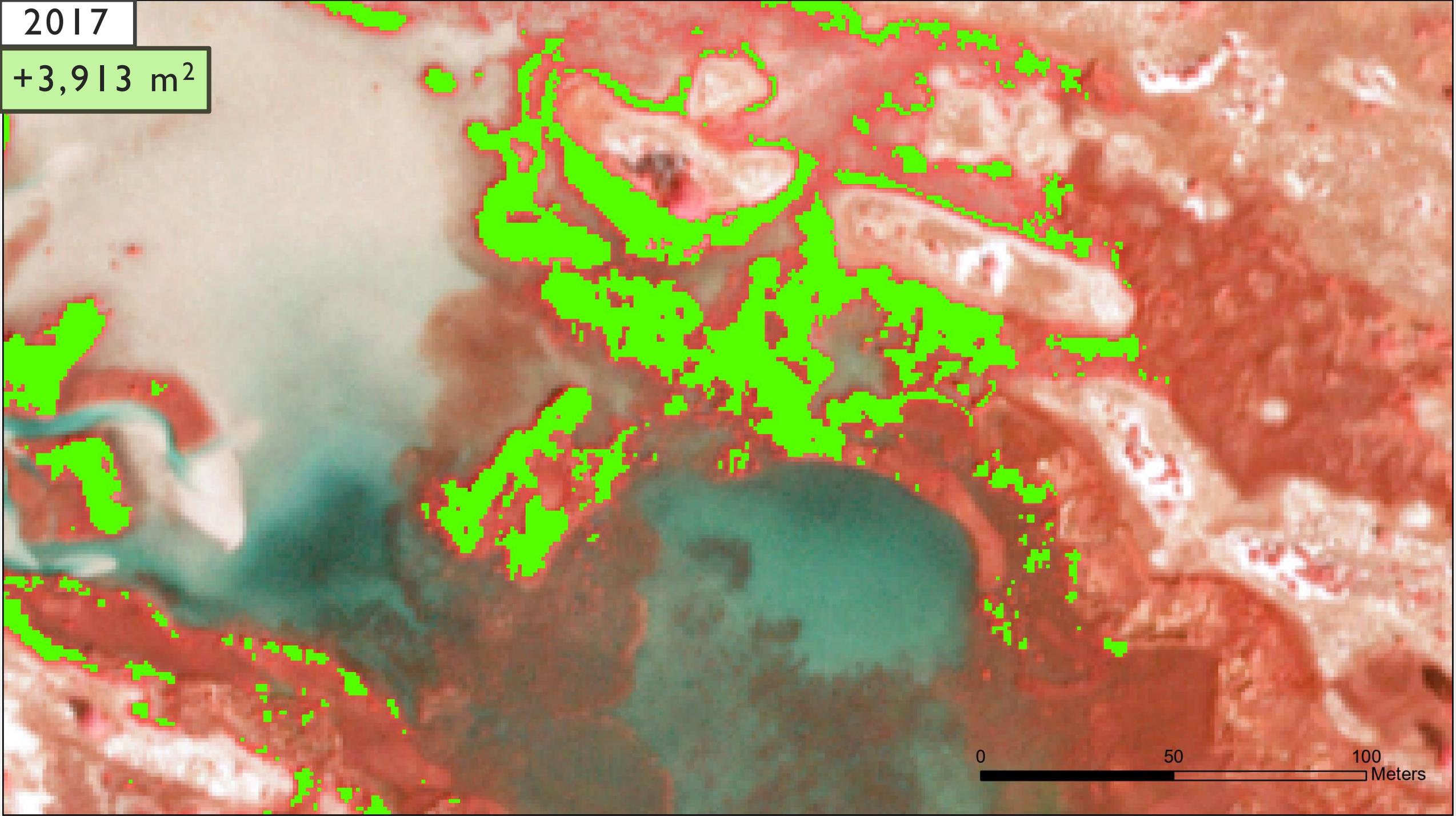
+2,854 m<sup>2</sup>



0 50 100 Meters

2017

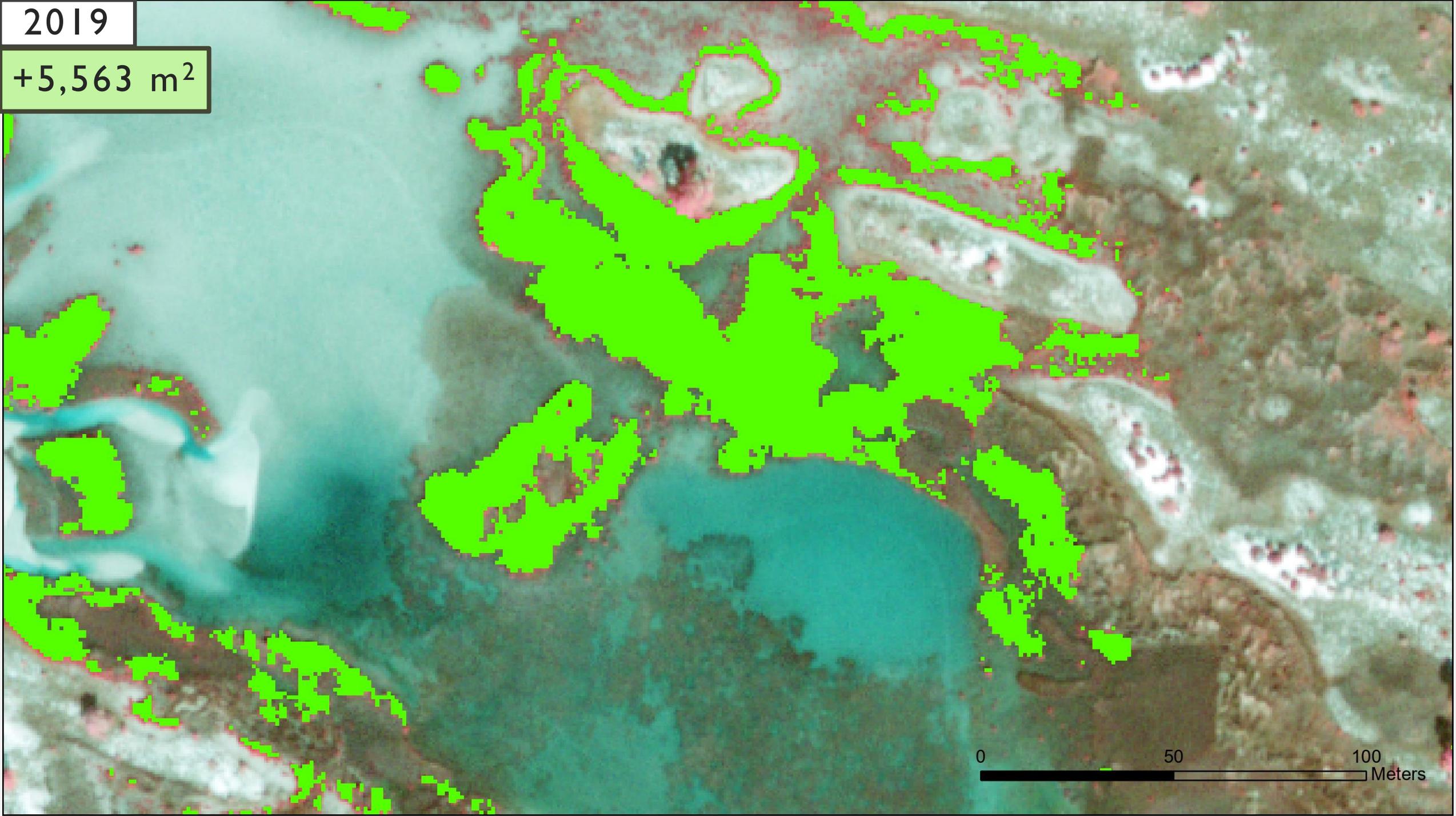
+3,913 m<sup>2</sup>



0 50 100 Meters

2019

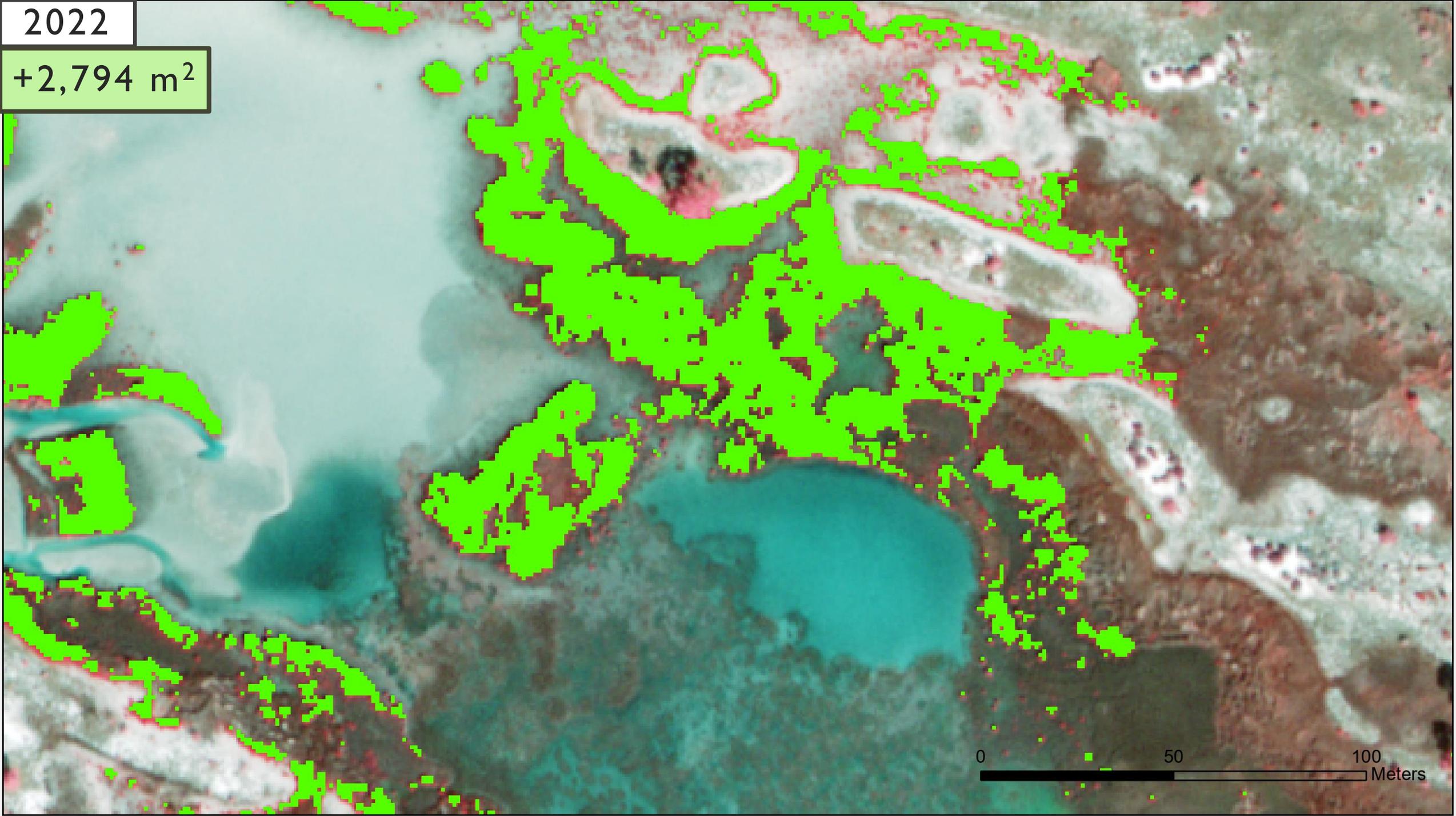
+5,563 m<sup>2</sup>



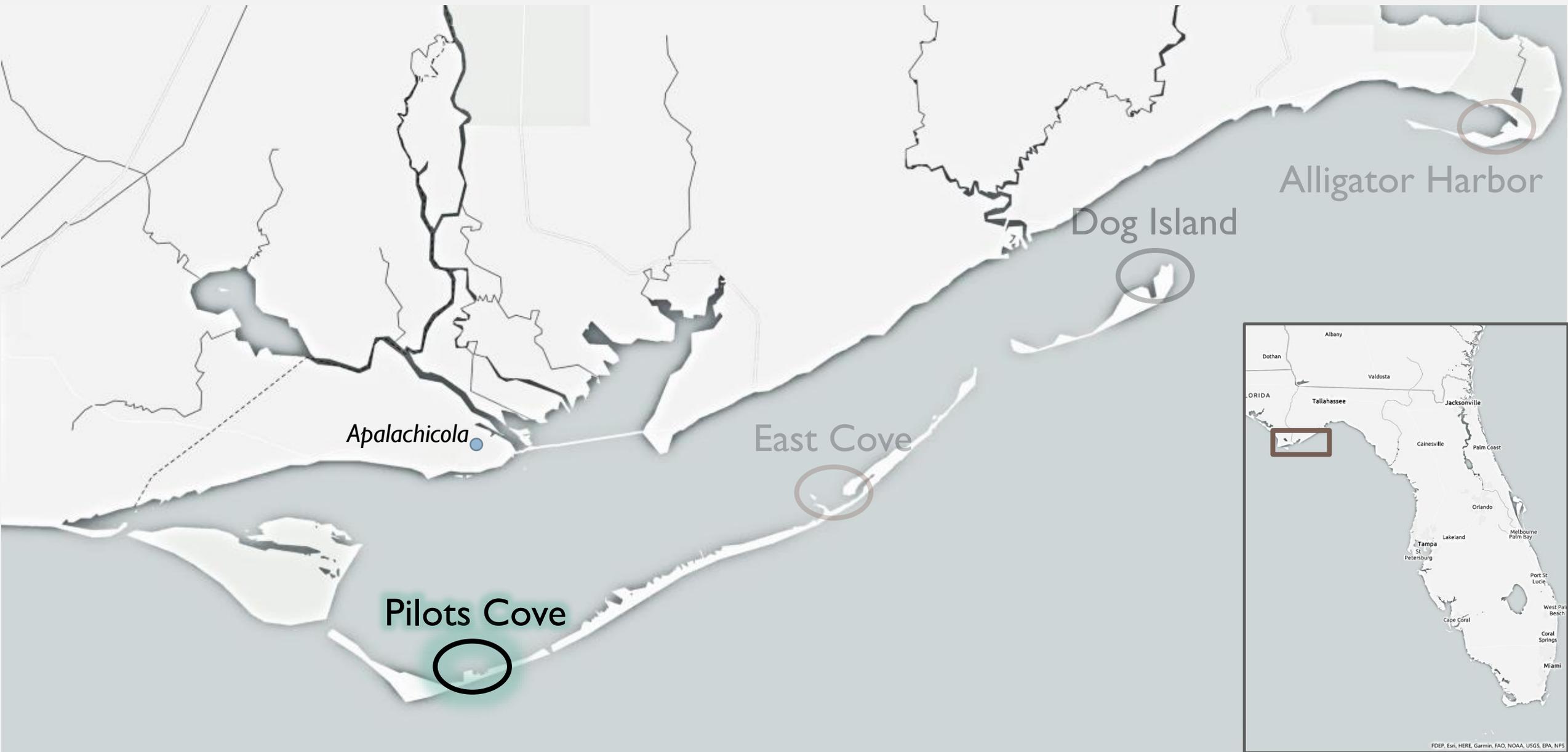
0 50 100 Meters

2022

+2,794 m<sup>2</sup>



0 50 100 Meters



2010



2010

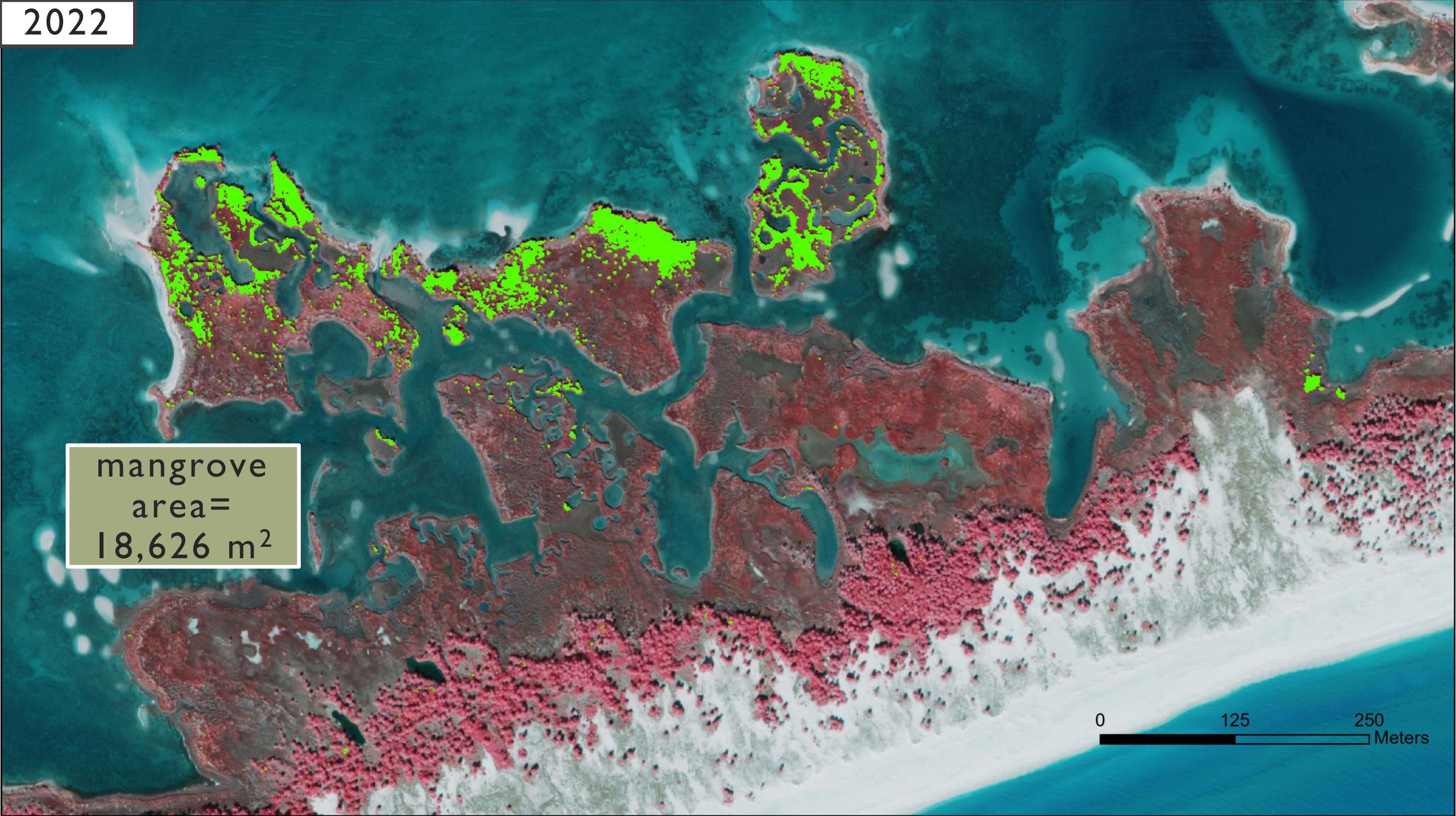
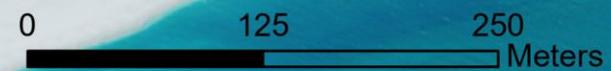
mangrove  
area=  
1,946 m<sup>2</sup>

0 125 250  
Meters



2022

mangrove  
area=  
18,626 m<sup>2</sup>



2022



mangrove  
area=  
18,626 m<sup>2</sup>

0 125 250  
Meters

2010



2013

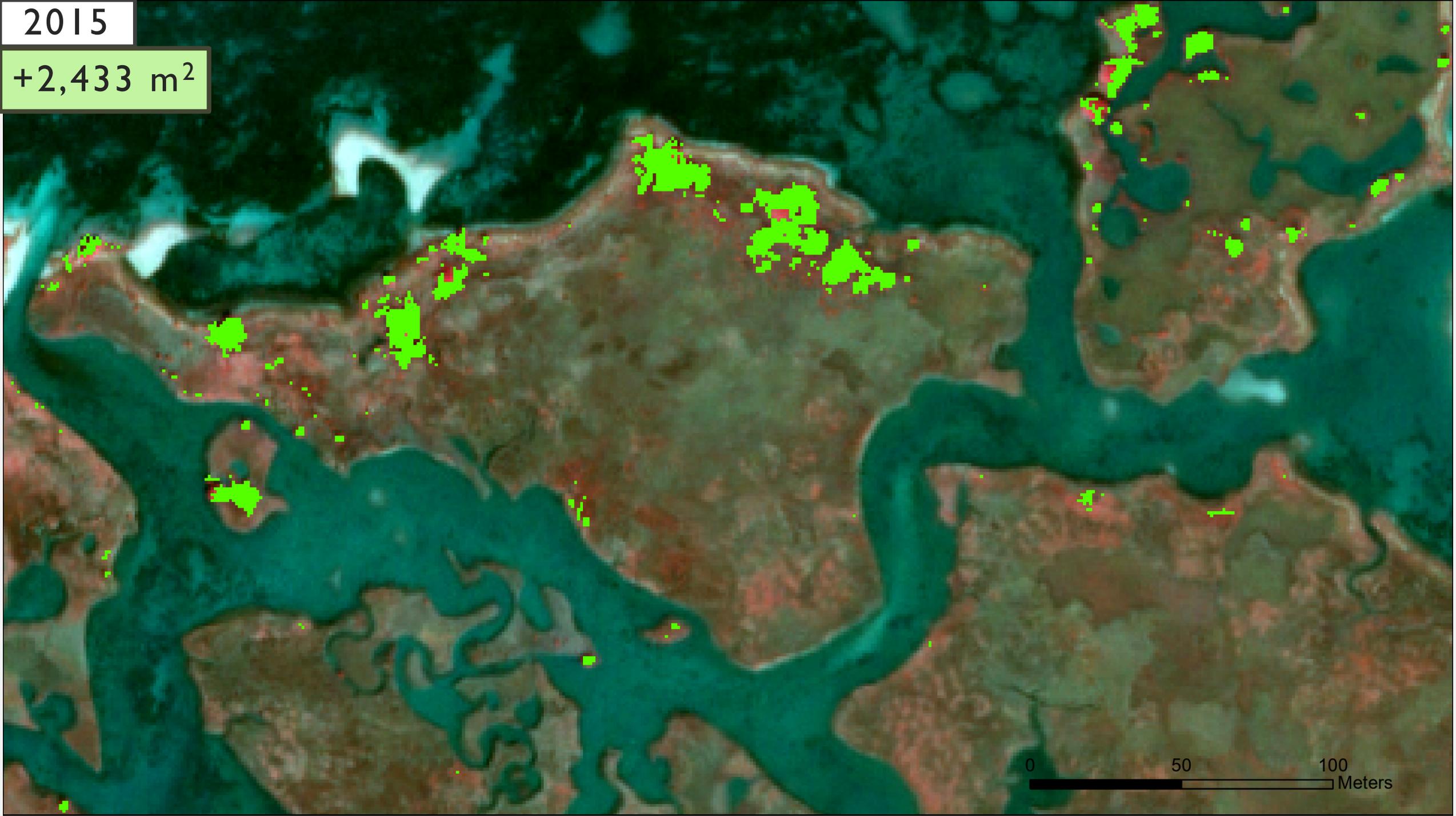
+1,180 m<sup>2</sup>



0 50 100 Meters

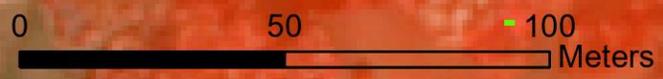
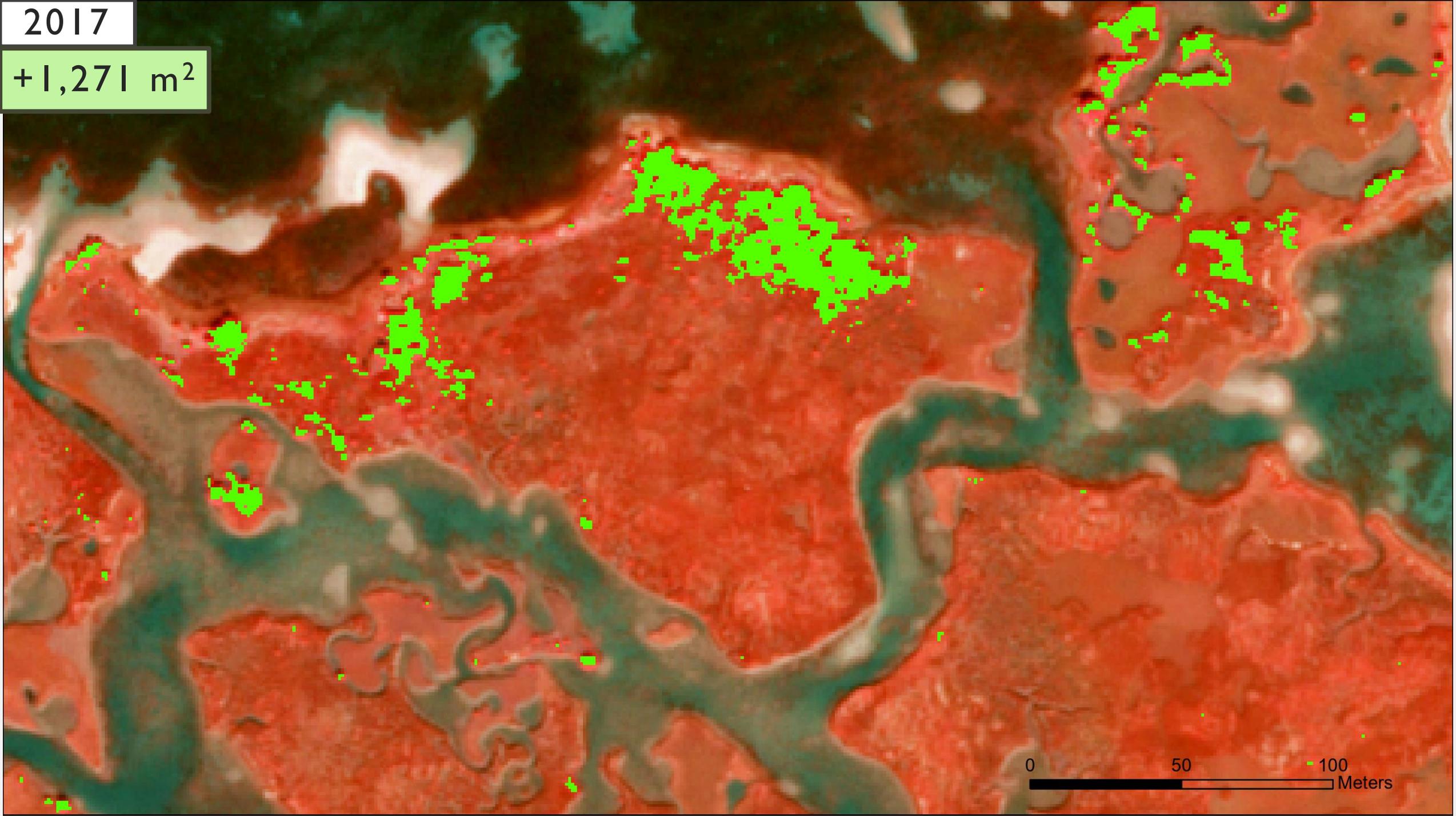
2015

+2,433 m<sup>2</sup>



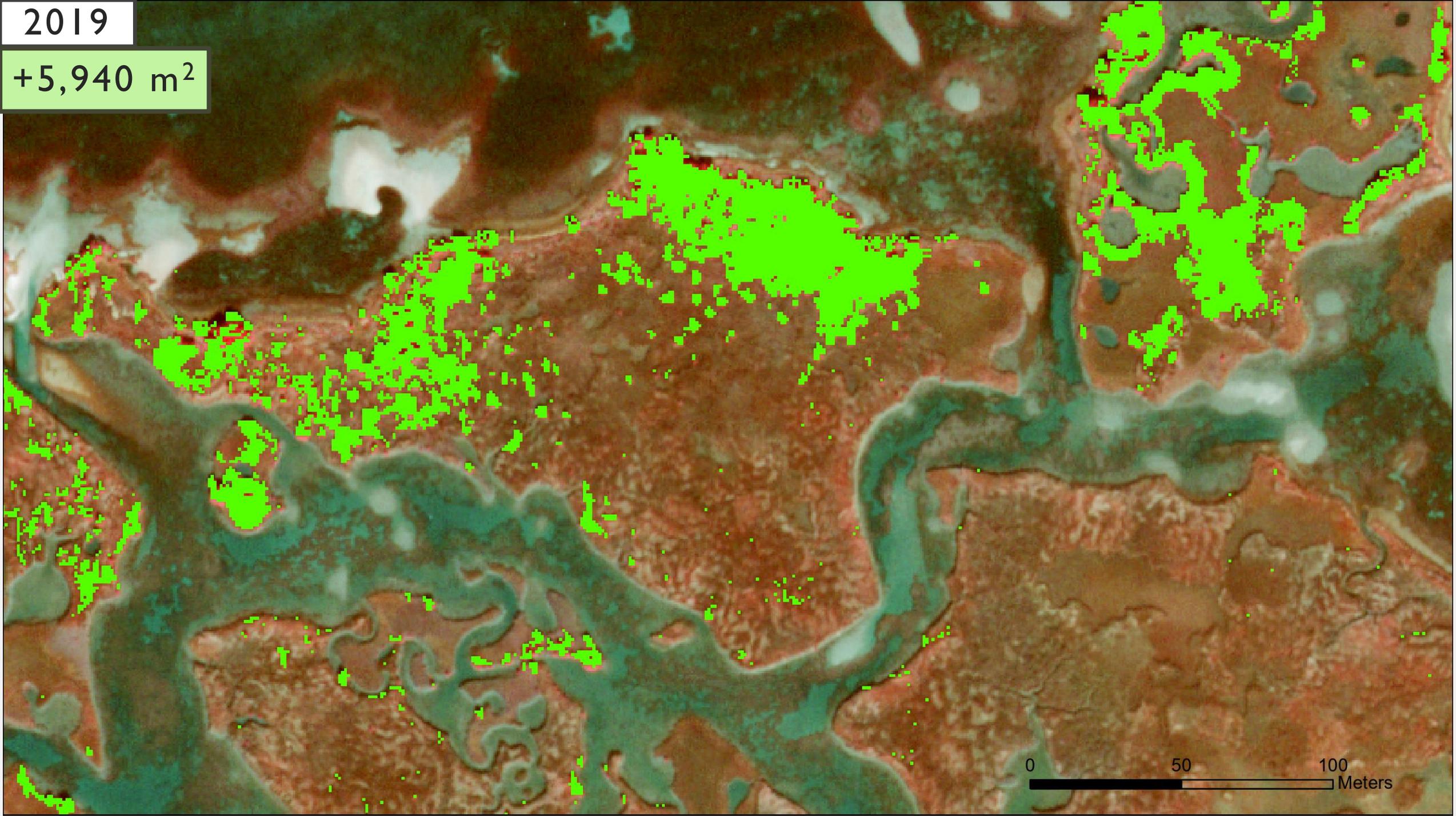
2017

+1,271 m<sup>2</sup>



2019

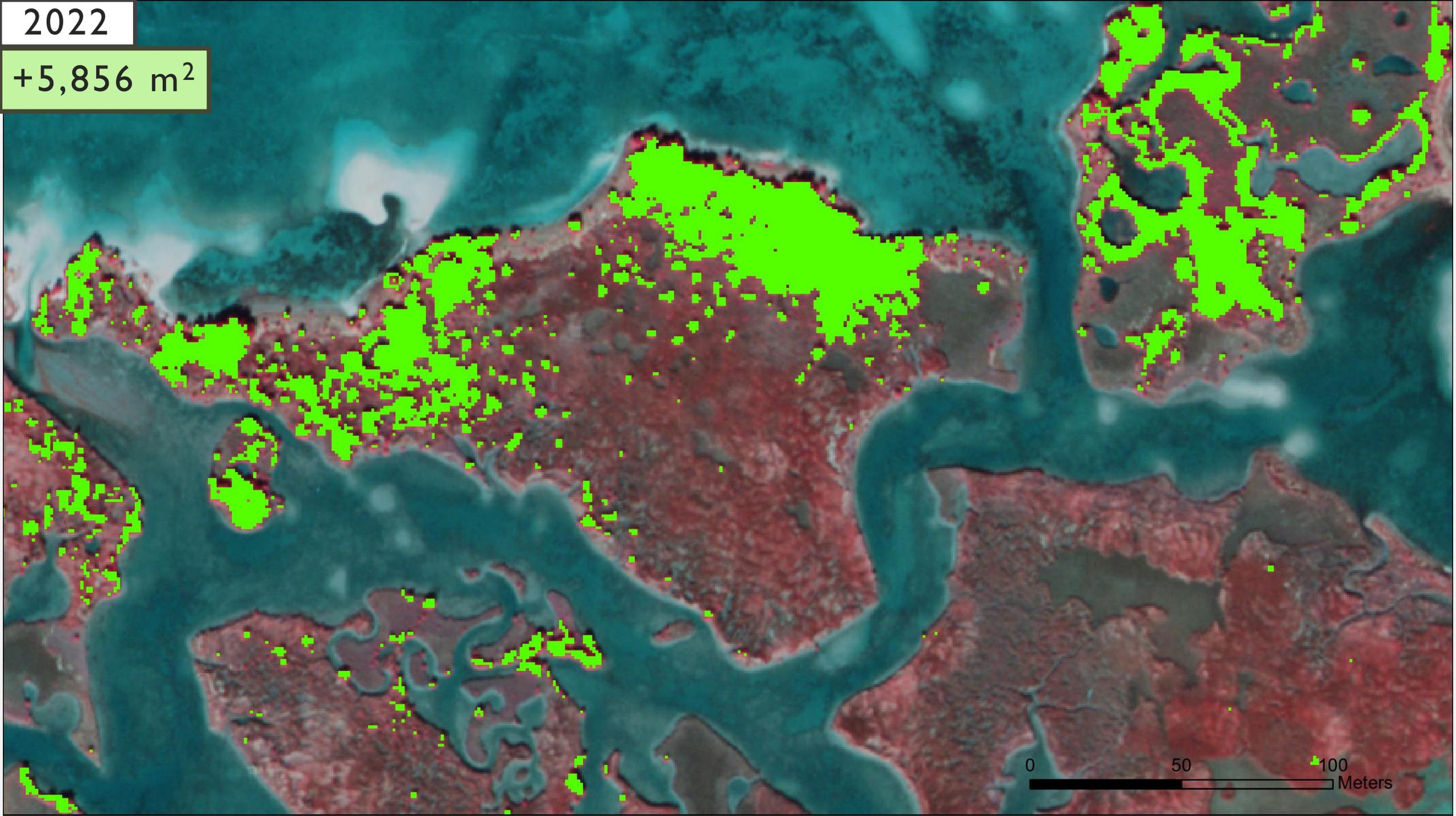
+5,940 m<sup>2</sup>



0 50 100 Meters

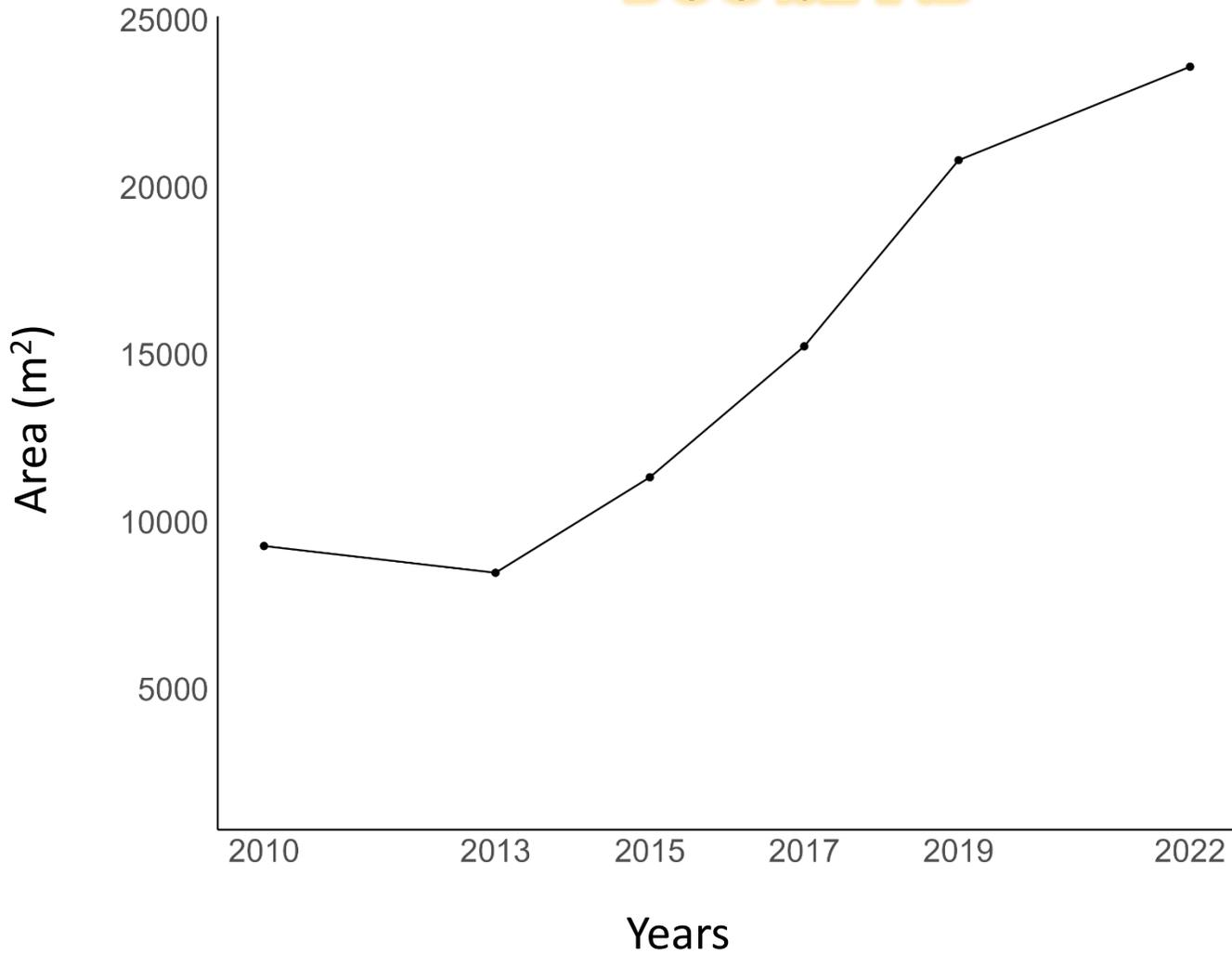
2022

+5,856 m<sup>2</sup>



# PRELIMINARY RESULTS

## DOG ISLAND



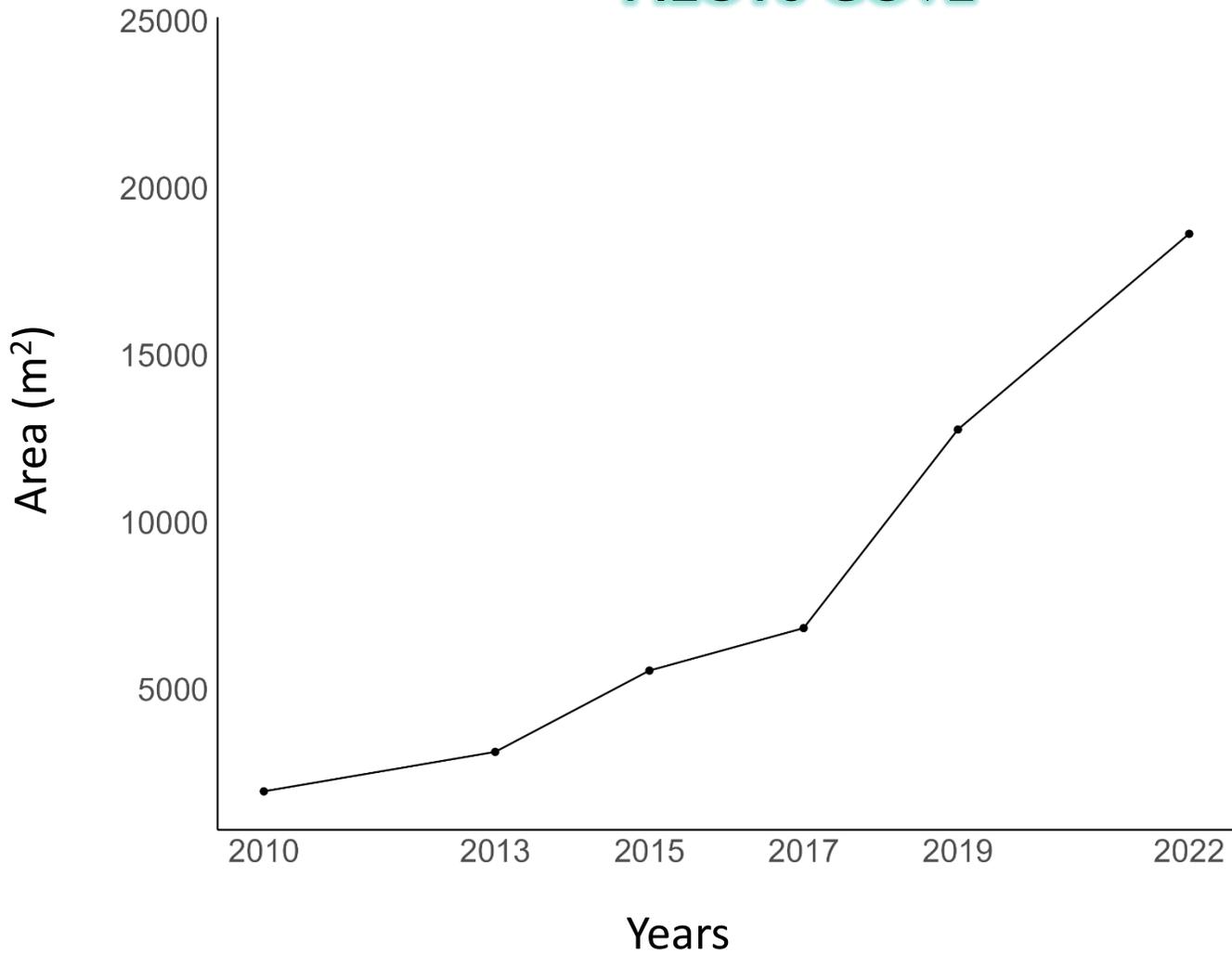
Net Rate of  
change=  
**1,193 m<sup>2</sup>/year**

Time Period	Rate of Change (m <sup>2</sup> /year)
2010-2013	-267
2013-2015	1,427
2015-2017	1,956
2017-2019	2,787
2019-2022	931

# PRELIMINARY RESULTS

## PILOTS COVE

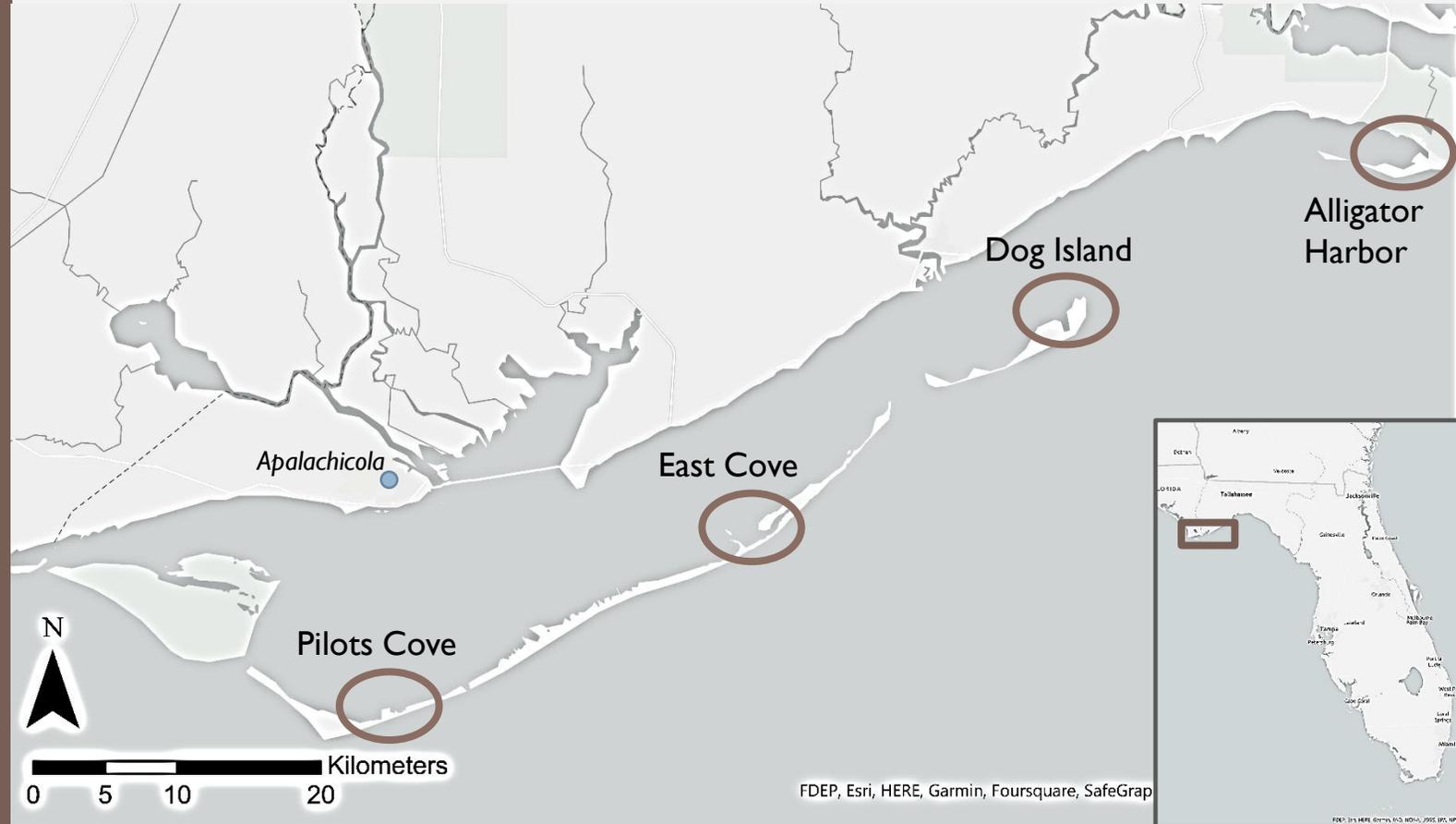
Net Rate of  
change=  
**1,390 m<sup>2</sup>/year**



Time Period	Rate of Change (m <sup>2</sup> /year)
2010-2013	393
2013-2015	1,216
2015-2017	635
2017-2019	2,970
2019-2022	1,952

# NEXT STEPS

- Including uncertainty in the area calculated
- Continued work:
  - 2 more sites w/ current low mangrove density:
    - East Cove
    - Alligator Harbor





## RELEVANCE

- Habitat loss
- Predict loss
- Conservation



## RELEVANCE

- Habitat loss
- Predict loss
- Conservation
- Cost-effective way to continue monitoring mangroves



## RELEVANCE

- Habitat loss
- Predict loss
- Conservation
- Cost-effective way to continue monitoring mangroves
- Other Gulf states

# REFERENCES

- Giri, C., Ochieng, E., Tieszen, L. L., Zhu, Z., Singh, A., Loveland, T., Masek, J., & Duke, N. (2011). Status and distribution of mangrove forests of the world using earth observation satellite data: Status and distributions of global mangroves. *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, 20(1), 154–159. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1466-8238.2010.00584.x>
- Osland, M. J., Feher, L. C., López-Portillo, J., Day, R. H., Suman, D. O., Guzmán Menéndez, J. M., & Rivera-Monroy, V. H. (2018). Mangrove forests in a rapidly changing world: Global change impacts and conservation opportunities along the Gulf of Mexico coast. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*, 214, 120–140. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2018.09.006>
- Snyder, C. M., Feher, L. C., Osland, M. J., Miller, C. J., Hughes, A. R., & Cummins, K. L. (2021). The Distribution and Structure of Mangroves (*Avicennia germinans* and *Rhizophora mangle*) Near a Rapidly Changing Range Limit in the Northeastern Gulf of Mexico. *Estuaries and Coasts*, 45(1), 181–195. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12237-021-00951-0>

THANK YOU!

Questions?

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Dr. Sarah Lester + Rasster Lab members

Dr. Josh Breithaupt + Breithaupt Lab members

Ryan Slapikas

Kevin Engelbert

Jason Garwood

