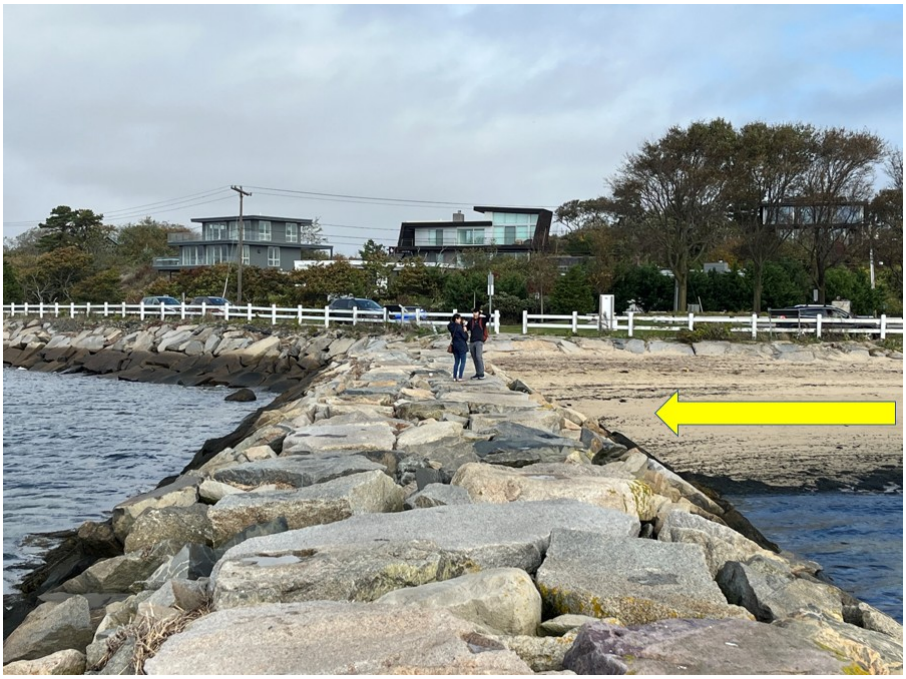
We are focused on salt marsh monitoring this year and continuing on studies with crab management, with some results that look promising if they could be implemented on a large scale. We are really starting to appreciate the importance of mineral; (sand) deposition in our marshes in their ability to persist. Daily tidal transport and storms can deliver substantial amounts and by doing so helps build elevation and makes the substrate more unsuitable for Sesarma crabs (they like peat, not sand). Sand wants to move into the marsh (direction of longshore current) at both ends but is prevented from doing so by the breakwater. The photo below shows how much sand (right of breakwater) is being impeded from being transported into the marsh (to the left of the breakwater). This happens at both ends of the breakwater.



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