

Elkhorn Slough

SUMMARY

Elkhorn Slough is characterized by low symptom expressions for chlorophyll-a and dissolved oxygen, reflecting a reduction in symptom level since the 1999 assessment. The macroalgae symptom expression is high, and is known in to be a periodic problem. Conditions are expected to worsen in the future.

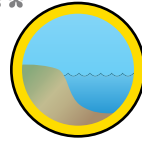
Influencing Factors

Nutrient load is unknown and influencing factors cannot be calculated.



Eutrophic Conditions **

Primary symptoms high but problems with more serious secondary symptoms still not being expressed.



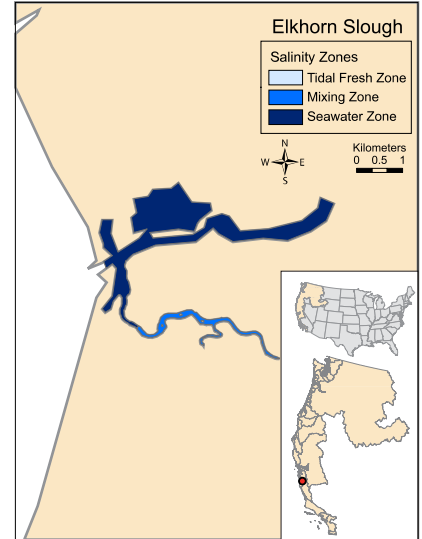
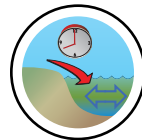
Future Outlook

Nutrient related symptoms observed in the estuary are likely to substantially worsen.



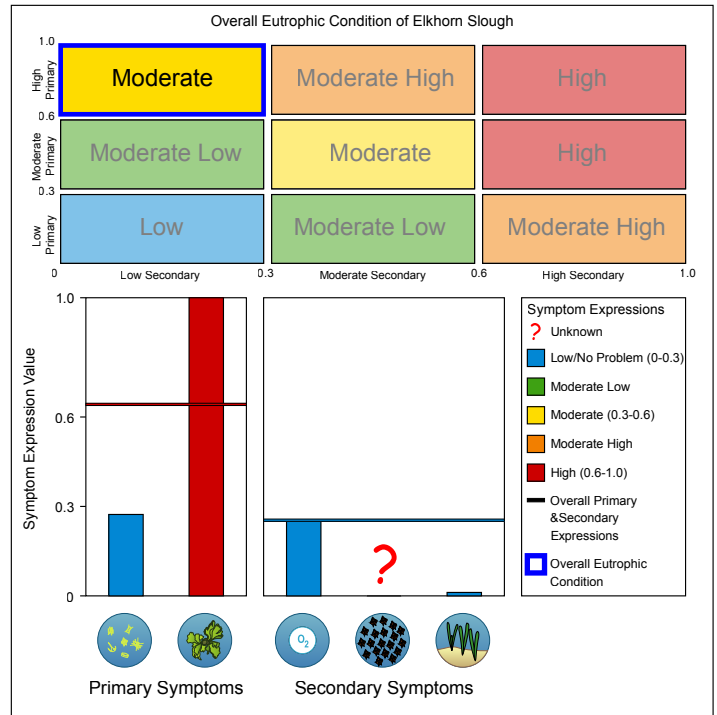
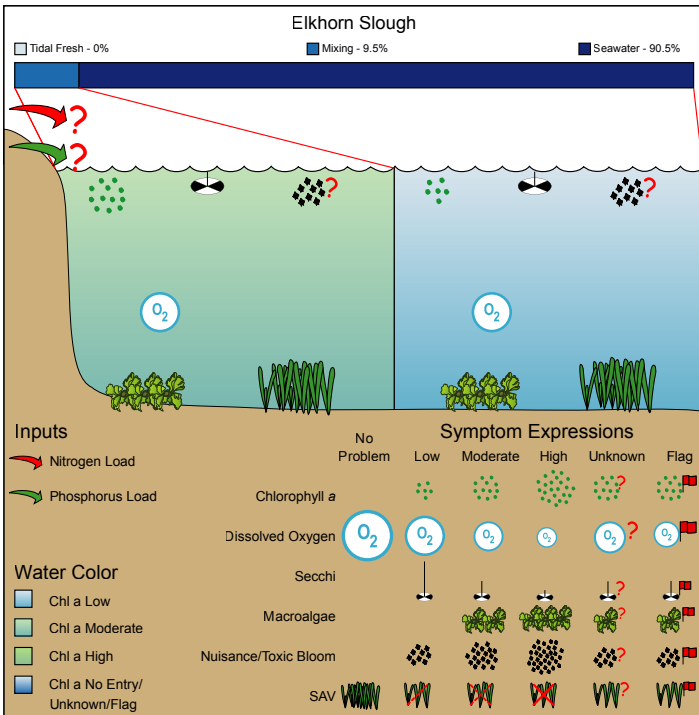
ASSETS Rating

Assessment of Estuarine Trophic Status based on the three factors evaluated in NEEA.



Influence/eutro/future	Unknown	Low	Mod Low	Moderate	Mod High	High	Reliability and Confidence				
ASSETS	Unknown	High	Good	Moderate	Poor	Bad	?	*	**	**	**

EUTROPHIC CONDITION



WATERSHED AND ESTUARY CHARACTERISTICS

Estuary		Landuse / Population		Watershed Details / Input Loads	
Area (km ²)	3	Urban (km ²)	127 (20.9%)	Area (km ²)	603
Tidal fresh zone area (km ²)	0	Agriculture (km ²)	220 (36.3%)	Mean elevation (m)	123
Mixing zone area (km ²)	<1	Forest (km ²)	137 (22.6%)	Max. elevation (m)	805
Saltwater zone area (km ²)	3	Wetland (km ²)	8 (1.3%)	Watershed: estuary ratio	201.0
Volume (1,000 x m ³)	8,520	Range (km ²)	114 (18.8%)	TSS (tonne y ⁻¹)	130,000
Depth (m)	2.84	Barren (km ²)	0 (0%)	DIN (kg y ⁻¹)	Unknown
Tide Height (m)	1.09	Total (km ²)	606 (0%)	DIP (kg y ⁻¹)	Unknown
Residence Time (d)	3	Population	118,195	TSS/est. area (tonne km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	43,333
		Popn: est. area ratio	39,398	DIN/est. area (kg km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Unknown
				DIP/est. area (kg km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Unknown