

Blue Hill Bay

SUMMARY

Blue Hill Bay, predominantly seawater, is characterized by low or no problem symptom expression ratings for all indicators. The bay is periodically affected by offshore Alexandrium blooms, likely a product of coastal upwelling of nutrients.

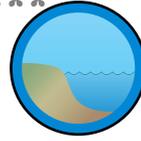
Influencing Factors

Any level nitrogen input and low to moderate susceptibility (good ability to dilute and flush nutrients).



Eutrophic Conditions ***

Level of expression of eutrophic conditions is minimal.



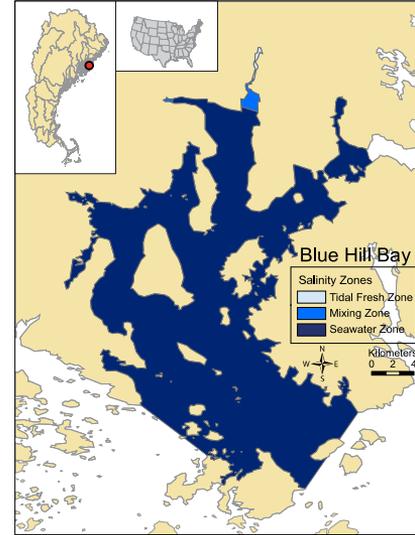
Future Outlook

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



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

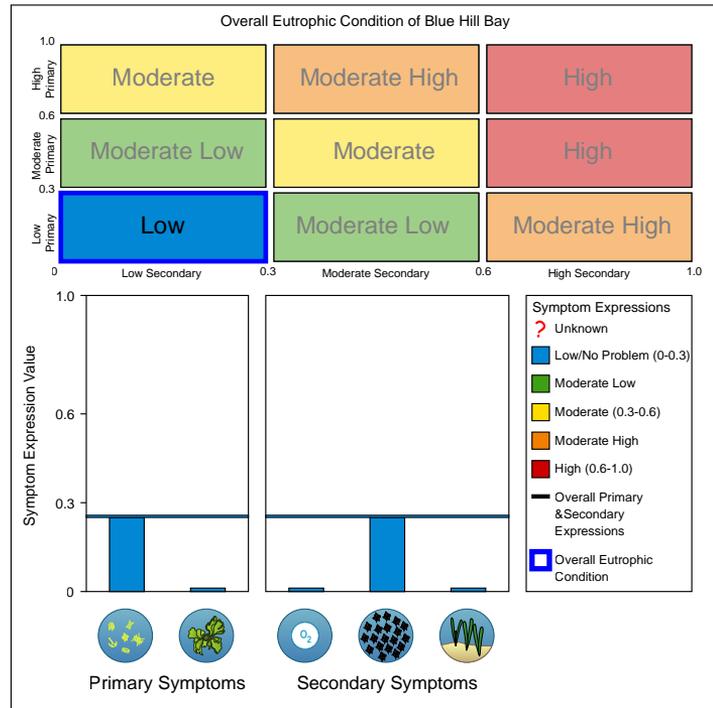
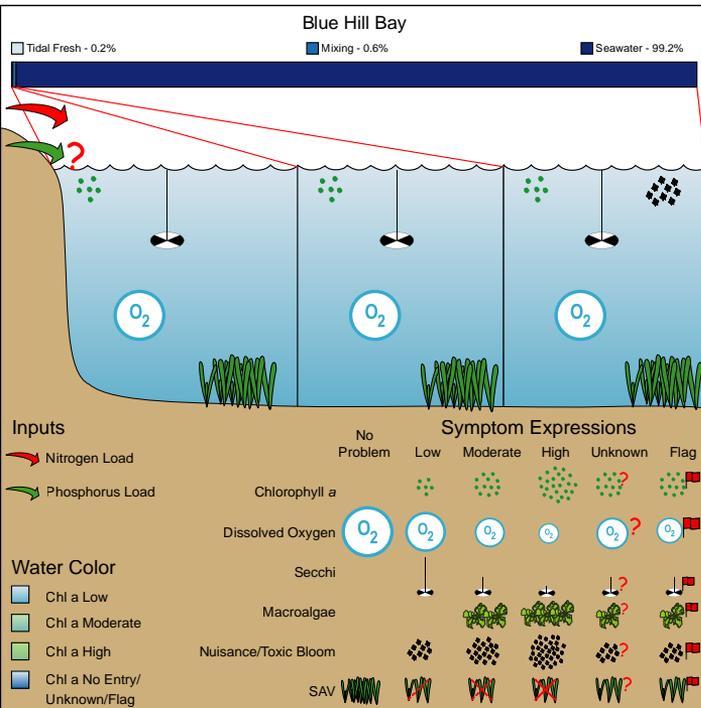
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High

EUTROPHIC CONDITION



WATERSHED AND ESTUARY CHARACTERISTICS

Estuary	Landuse / Population		Watershed Details / Input Loads		
Area (km ²)	317	Urban (km ²)	73 (4%)	Area (km ²)	1,964
Tidal fresh zone area (km ²)	<1	Agriculture (km ²)	23 (1.3%)	Mean elevation (m)	96
Mixing zone area (km ²)	2	Forest (km ²)	1,502 (83.3%)	Max. elevation (m)	396
Saltwater zone area (km ²)	314	Wetland (km ²)	129 (7.2%)	Watershed: estuary ratio	6.2
Volume (1,000 x m ³)	7,249,790	Range (km ²)	75 (4.2%)	TSS (tonne y ⁻¹)	11,600
Depth (m)	22.87	Barren (km ²)	0 (0%)	TN (kg y ⁻¹)	600,000
Tide Height (m)	3.11	Total (km ²)	1,803 (0%)	DIP (kg y ⁻¹)	Unknown
Residence Time (d)	28	Population	14,310	TSS/est. area (tonne km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	37
		Popn: est. area ratio	45	TN/est. area (kg km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	1,893
				DIP/est. area (kg km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Unknown