

Perdido Bay

SUMMARY

Perdido Bay's high eutrophic condition rating stems primarily from a high symptom expression for dissolved oxygen and moderate level macroalgal symptoms. Hypoxic and biologically stressful dissolved oxygen levels occur in the tidal fresh and mixing zones. Industry and wastewater treatment have contributed considerably to the bay's water quality.

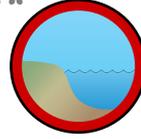
Influencing Factors

Nutrient load is unknown and influencing factors cannot be calculated.



Eutrophic Conditions **

Substantial levels of eutrophic conditions occurring with secondary symptoms indicating serious problems.



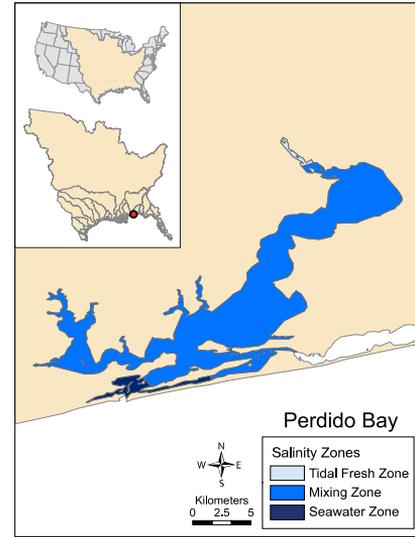
Future Outlook

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

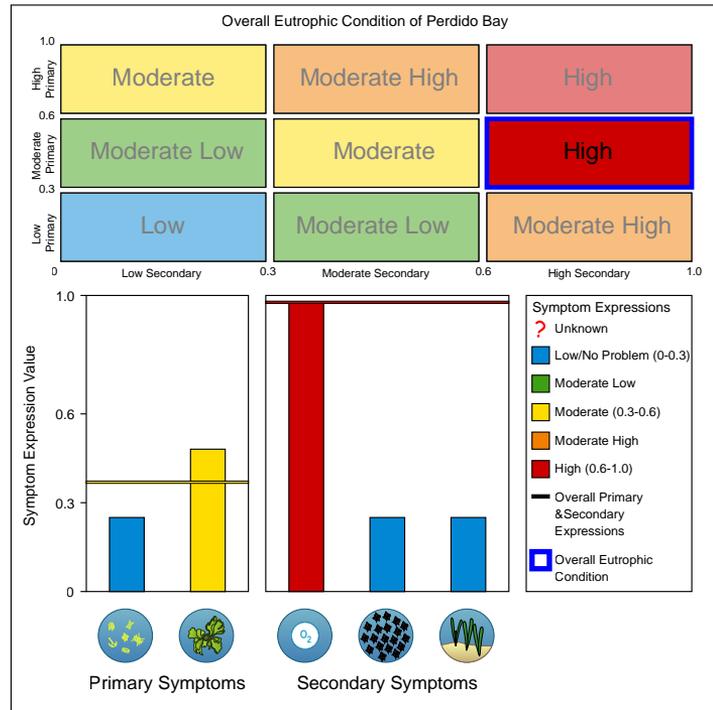
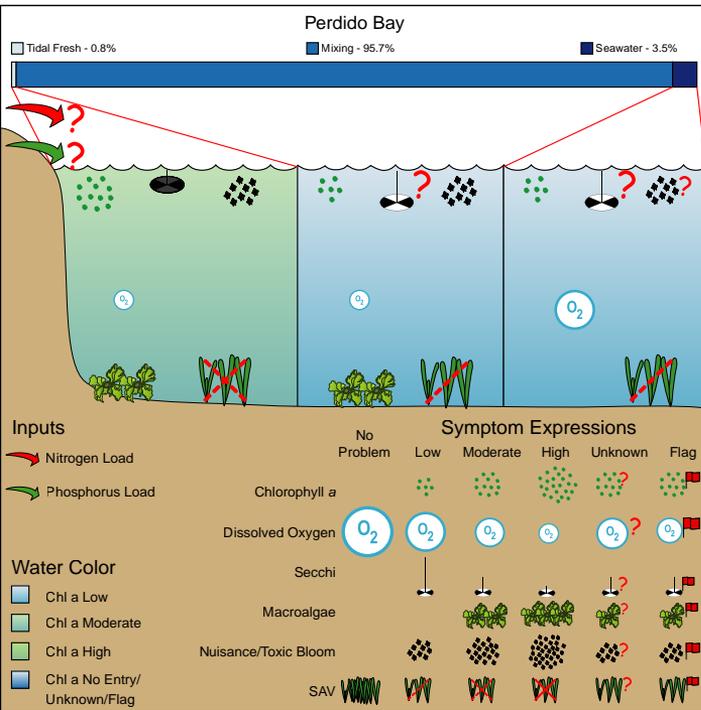


ASSETS Rating

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



EUTROPHIC CONDITION



WATERSHED AND ESTUARY CHARACTERISTICS

Estuary	Landuse / Population		Watershed Details / Input Loads		
Area (km ²)	129	Urban (km ²)	249 (8.6%)	Area (km ²)	2,928
Tidal fresh zone area (km ²)	1	Agriculture (km ²)	686 (23.6%)	Mean elevation (m)	46
Mixing zone area (km ²)	123	Forest (km ²)	1,865 (64.2%)	Max. elevation (m)	109
Saltwater zone area (km ²)	5	Wetland (km ²)	104 (3.6%)	Watershed: estuary ratio	22.7
Volume (1,000 x m ³)	197,370	Range (km ²)	0 (0%)	TSS (tonne y ⁻¹)	946,000
Depth (m)	1.53	Barren (km ²)	0 (0%)	DIN (kg y ⁻¹)	Unknown
Tide Height (m)	0.15	Total (km ²)	2,903 (0%)	DIP (kg y ⁻¹)	Unknown
Residence Time (d)	33	Population	156,628	TSS/est. area (tonne km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	7,333
		Popn: est. area ratio	1,214	DIN/est. area (kg km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Unknown
				DIP/est. area (kg km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Unknown