

Sarasota Bay

SUMMARY

Sarasota Bay is a coastal embayment, characterized by a high symptom expression for chlorophyll-a and macroalgae. Nuisance/toxic blooms have a symptom expression of moderate, while dissolved oxygen and SAV symptoms are low. Decreases in nitrogen concentration and increased SAV coverage have helped to improve water clarity.

Influencing Factors

Nutrient load is unknown and influencing factors cannot be calculated.



Eutrophic Conditions **

Primary symptoms high and substantial secondary symptoms becoming more expressed, indicating potentially serious problems.



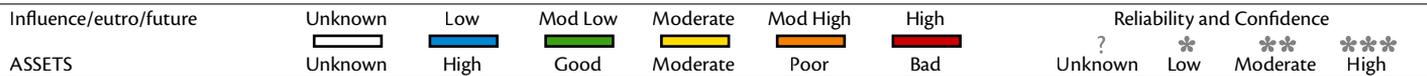
Future Outlook

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

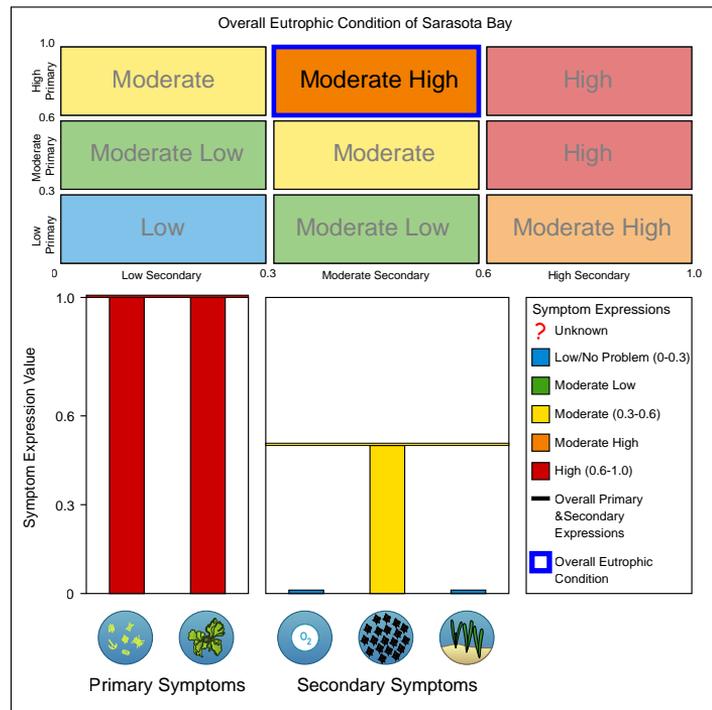
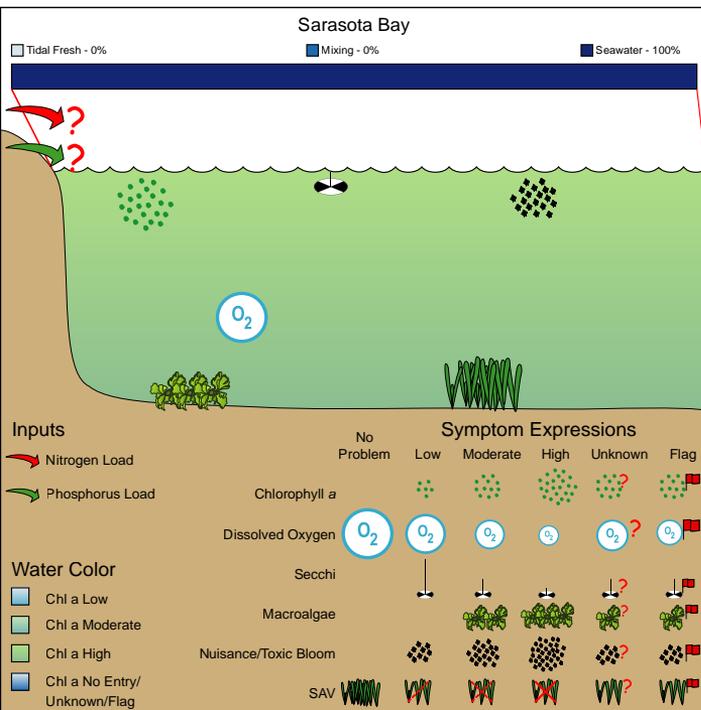


ASSETS Rating

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)	124	Urban (km ²)	300 (47.2%)	Area (km ²)	653	
Tidal fresh zone area (km ²)	0	Agriculture (km ²)	137 (21.5%)	Mean elevation (m)	7	
Mixing zone area (km ²)	0	Forest (km ²)	21 (3.3%)	Max. elevation (m)	30	
Saltwater zone area (km ²)	124	Wetland (km ²)	21 (3.3%)	Watershed: estuary ratio	5.3	
Volume (1,000 x m ³)	271,560	Range (km ²)	158 (24.8%)	TSS (tonne y ⁻¹)	14,600	
Depth (m)	2.19	Barren (km ²)	0 (0%)	TN (kg y ⁻¹)	Unknown	
Tide Height (m)	0.67	Total (km ²)	637 (0%)	TP (kg y ⁻¹)	Unknown	
Residence Time (d)	5	Population	229,454	TSS/est. area (tonne km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	118	
		Popn: est. area ratio	1,850	TN/est. area (kg km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Unknown	
				TP/est. area (kg km ⁻² y ⁻¹)	Unknown	