

Near Shore Environmental Concerns

Jim Gibson
Devine Tarbell & Associates, Inc.

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Devine Tarbell & Associates, Inc.
Consulting Engineers, Scientists, & Regulatory Specialists

Near Shore Impacts

Near Shore

- Region of sea between but not including the shoreline and the off shore
- Combination of riparian, beach, and tidal zones
- No official definition – cannot be distance based
- Includes Estuaries
- Complex and Productive Systems
- Defined by vegetative zone



Near Shore Impacts

Near Shore

Substrate

- Vegetation, Mineral Nutrients, Gravel, Sand, Silt, Mud, Rock, Water

Producers

- Wetland Flora, Algae, Phytoplankton

Converters

- Aquatic Invertebrates, Fish, Birds, Marine Mammals, Lowland Wildlife, Bacteria

Off Shore

Substrate

- Sand, Mud, Detritus, Water

Producers

- Phytoplankton

Converters

- Aquatic Invertebrates, Fish, Birds, Marine Mammals



Near Shore Functions

- Primary Production
- Nutrient Processing
- Wave and Current Buffering
- Fish and Invertebrate Habitat
- Food for Birds
- Substrate for Secondary Production
- Water Quality
- Floodwater Attenuation
- Recreation and Aesthetics
- Navigation and Transportation
- Ecological Buffer



Near Shore Concerns

- Food Web Impacts
- Phytoplankton and Zooplankton
- Forage Fish
- Vegetation Impacts
- Essential Fish Habitat
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Increased Turbidity and Scour
- Increased Predation
- Migration Routes and Patterns



Near Shore Concerns

- Visual Impacts
- Cultural and Historical Impacts
- Recreational Resources
- Erosion and Sedimentation
- Sediment Contamination
- Hydraulic Alternations
- Noise and Temperature Pollution
- Diving Birds and Mammals
- Creating and/or Altering Habitats
- Invasive Species



Questions:

Jim Gibson
Devine Tarbell & Associates, Inc.

James.Gibson@devinetarbell.com

315.641.1624 (O)

315.415.2729 (C)

315.396.2581 (B)



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