estuaries.gov Estuaries 101 Curriculum



## Teacher Guide—Life Science Module Final Assessment

- Provide a list of NERR sites to students with their home Internet address. Find the list on page two of this Final Assessment document.
- Break your students into small groups and either assign each group a NERR site or have them select their own to investigate.
- Student groups should select three endangered or threatened species in their chosen estuary to study.
- Students focus on one monitoring station within their estuary.
- Direct students to (http://cdmo.baruch.sc.edu/)
  where they can download their NERR's abiotic
  parameter data for the most recent complete year
  available.
- Students produce a PowerPoint, poster, or other presentation outlining the following items:
  - a. What research studies focusing on endangered or threatened species in your NERR have been completed or are underway? What are the results of these studies?
  - b. Display your data graphs and discuss the water quality in your estuary.
  - c. Have hypoxic or anoxic conditions occurred in your estuary during the year? Can you determine the cause of the hypoxia or anoxia (natural cause, human activity cause)?
  - d. Are populations of your three chosen species increasing, decreasing or stable?

- e. Name some interventions that you think could increase the number of each of your chosen species in your estuary.
- f. How does a decreasing population of each of your species affect other plant and animal species in your estuary?
- Grade student presentations for clarity, presentation style, and depth of research and analysis.





| State          | National Estuarine Research<br>Reserve | Website (URL)                                      |
|----------------|--|--|
| Alabama        | Weeks Bay NERR                         | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/WeeksBay/welcome.html        |
| Alaska         | Kachemak Bay NERR                      | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/KachemakBay/welcome.html     |
| California     | Elkhorn Slough NERR                    | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/ElkhornSlough/welcome.html   |
| California     | San Francisco Bay NERR                 | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/SanFrancisco/welcome.html    |
| California     | Tijuana River NERR                     | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/TijuanaRiver/welcome.html    |
| Delaware       | Delaware NERR                          | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/Delaware/welcome.html        |
| Florida        | Apalachicola NERR                      | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/Apalachicola/welcome.html    |
| Florida        | Guana Tolomato Matanzas NERR           | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/GTM/welcome.html             |
| Florida        | Rookery Bay NERR                       | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/RookeryBay/welcome.html      |
| Georgia        | Sapelo Island NERR                     | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/SapeloIsland/welcome.html    |
| Maine          | Wells NERR                             | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/WellsBay/welcome.html        |
| Maryland       | Chesapeake Bay MD NERR                 | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/ChesapeakeBayMD/welcome.html |
| Massachusetts  | Waquoit Bay NERR                       | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/WaquoitBay/welcome.html      |
| Mississippi    | Grand Bay NERR                         | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/GrandBay/welcome.html        |
| New Hampshire  | Great Bay NERR                         | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/GreatBay/welcome.html        |
| New Jersey     | Jacques Cousteau NERR                  | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/JacquesCousteau/welcome.html |
| New York       | Hudson River NERR                      | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/HudsonRiver/welcome.html     |
| North Carolina | North Carolina NERR                    | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/NorthCarolina/welcome.html   |
| Ohio           | Old Woman Creek NERR                   | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/OldWomanCreek/welcome.html   |
| Oregon         | South Slough NERR                      | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/SouthSlough/welcome.html     |
| Puerto Rico    | Jobos Bay NERR                         | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/JobosBay/welcome.html        |
| Rhode Island   | Narragansett Bay NERR                  | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/NarragansettBay/welcome.html |
| South Carolina | ACE Basin NERR                         | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/ACEBasin/welcome.html        |
| South Carolina | North Inlet-Winyah Bay NERR            | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/NorthInlet/welcome.html      |
| Texas          | Mission-Aransas NERR                   | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/Texas/welcome.html           |
| Virginia       | Chesapeake Bay VA NERR                 | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/ChesapeakeBayVA/welcome.html |
| Washington     | Padilla Bay NERR                       | http://nerrs.noaa.gov/PadillaBay/welcome.html      |
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