



K-12 Estuarine Education Program(KEEP)

NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserve System is committed to preparing tomorrow's future leaders with the knowledge and understanding of our nation's oceans and coasts to be responsible stewards. To fulfill this commitment, the system has created the K-12 Estuarine Education Program (KEEP) to increase the ocean literacy of students, teachers and the general public.

KEEP Improves Ocean Literacy

The KEEP Program will help students and teachers learn about essential coastal and estuarine concepts, develop data literacy skills and strengthen their critical thinking, team building, and problem solving skills. The goals of KEEP are to:

- Raise the ocean literacy of K-12 students and teachers regarding coastal and estuarine ecosystems.
- Increase the number of teachers trained to teach students about estuaries and coastal ecosystems.
- Encourage responsible stewardship of estuarine, natural, and cultural resources, especially of research reserves.
- Promote understanding of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

For more information, visit www.estuaries.gov.

The National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) goal for education is to enhance people's ability and willingness to make informed decisions and take responsible actions that affect coastal communities and ecosystems.

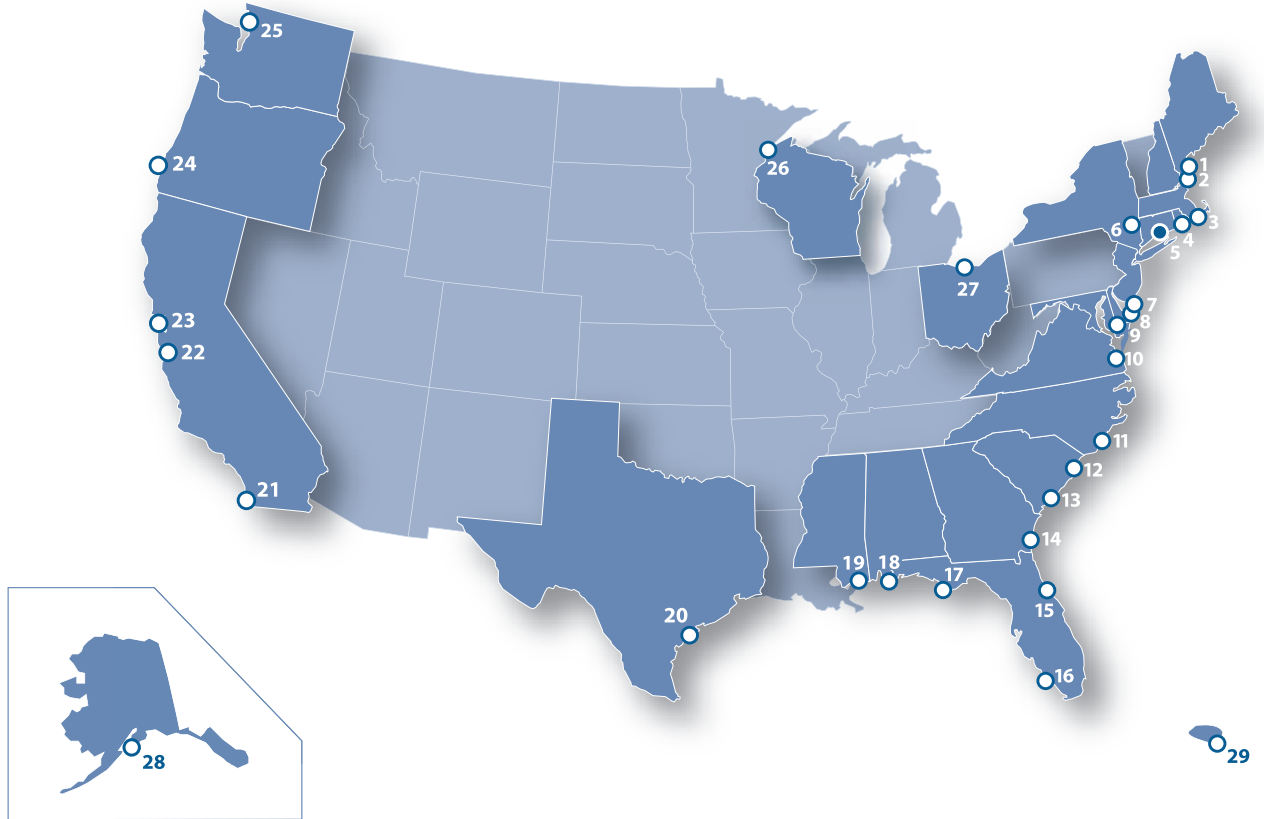
Place-based Education Across the Country

KEEP will be administered and delivered by educators in the 28 National Estuarine Research Reserves in 22 states and Puerto Rico. Reserve education coordinators deliver informative, interactive, and fun professional development programs at individual Reserves and at national and regional education conferences.

Individual reserves also will take students into the field to generate a sense of stewardship. The program will help teachers bring the curriculum to life by using hands-on experiments. Individual reserves also will offer locally relevant educational programs and online resources.

On-line and Standards-based Learning for Students and Teachers

KEEP provides an on-line, inquiry-based Estuaries 101 Curriculum, correlated to national and state standards, that promotes estuarine science activities to excite students about essential coastal and estuarine concepts. An on-line interface will allow access to real-time and archived estuarine monitoring data. KEEP also will incorporate the popular EstuaryLive program, an Internet field trip to estuaries across the nation.



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| 1. Wells, Maine | 16. Rookery Bay, Florida |
| 2. Great Bay, New Hampshire | 17. Apalachicola, Florida |
| 3. Waquoit Bay, Massachusetts | 18. Weeks Bay, Alabama |
| 4. Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island | 19. Grand Bay, Mississippi |
| 5. Connecticut * | 20. Mission-Aransas, Texas |
| 6. Hudson River, New York | 21. Tijuana River, California |
| 7. Jacques Cousteau, New Jersey | 22. Elkhorn Slough, California |
| 8. Delaware | 23. San Francisco Bay, California |
| 9. Chesapeake Bay, Maryland | 24. South Slough, Oregon |
| 10. Chesapeake Bay, Virginia | 25. Padilla Bay, Washington |
| 11. North Carolina | 26. Lake Superior, Wisconsin |
| 12. North Inlet-Winyah Bay, South Carolina | 27. Old Woman Creek, Ohio |
| 13. ACE Basin, South Carolina | 28. Kachemak Bay, Alaska |
| 14. Sapelo Island, Georgia | 29. Jobos Bay, Puerto Rico |
| 15. Guana Tolomato Matanzas, Florida | |

** Proposed Reserve*

● designated ○ proposed