



February 11, 2025: Ariella Chelsky, San Francisco Estuary Institute. Sloughs and Salt Ponds – Investigating Water Quality in a Complex Ecosystem

Comments and Information Shared in Meeting Chat

- Kevin Lunde: Has SFEI performed an analysis of N and P in the ponds and sloughs to evaluate whether N or P or both are drivers of algae growth.
- Brenda Buxton: Thanks! Very interesting.
- Levi S Lewis, UC Davis OG Fish Lab: Interesting observation: We also observed an incredible macroalgal bloom in A8 in Sep. 2024. It had clear water (low Chla?) but was full top to bottom of macroalgae.
 - Katie Noland, SFEI: When sampling SP8 during that macroalgal bloom, we found that our sensor was not within the bloom boundaries when we went August 27th. Unsure if it had grown over to our sensor location in the following September. Thanks for pointing that out!
- Ellen Johnck: How long (years) has the RWQCB criteria of 5 mm of DO per liter is essential for fish survival been in place? Please confirm if that is a correct statement/question. Because if the DO criteria is perpetually not being achieved based on your nutrient studies, is there any discussion about the criteria and if not, then salt pond restoration management actions need to be altered. Ellen Johnck, Environmental consultant
- David Schoellhamer: Newark Slough has low DO in summer, no ponds, and no treatment plants (Mowry Slough also as I recall). There is a lot of decaying organic matter back there. Is low summer DO a natural condition in Lower South Bay sloughs? Do ponds/treatment plants alter timing and magnitude of low DO events?
- Clysta Seney: Thank you SFEI. Appreciate all the work and that you are sharing back to some of us citizens who have submitted habitat data over decades. Keep it going.
- Levi S Lewis, UC Davis OG Fish Lab: All great points Jim! Thank Ari!
 - Christine Joab: 👍

- Maia Singer: Thanks Ari and all! Great discussion.