

Location & weather:

Low:

High:

Predicted tides & times

time feet time feet

Date:

Name:

Location & weather:

Low:

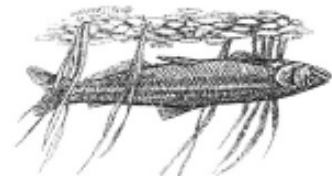
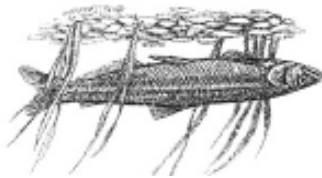
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Estuary Field Study Journal

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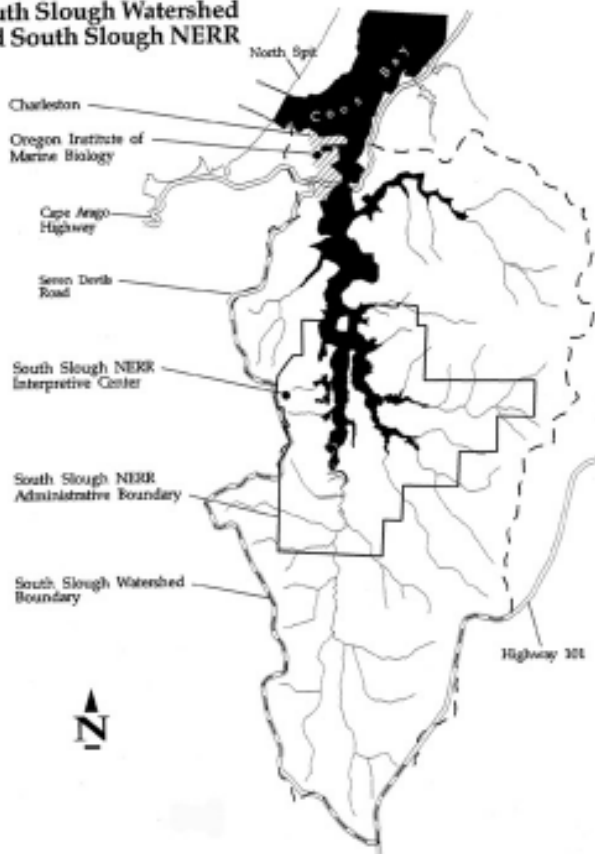
GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW ON YOUR FIELD STUDY:

- **Use your senses** - sight, smell, touch, hearing, but no tasting unless a qualified guide has approved the plant you want to taste.
- **Slow down and work quietly** - you will see, hear, and experience much more if you do.
- **Follow your teacher's instructions** - they are designed for your safety and to help you get the most out of the experience.
- **Respect the site** - please leave the plants, animals, and non-living parts of South Slough as you found them so that others may enjoy this special place.
- **Leave No Trace** - take what you have brought with you including garbage, recyclables, and compost.
- **Enjoy and Explore** - Estuaries are unique places with much to offer those such as yourself who work to understand them.

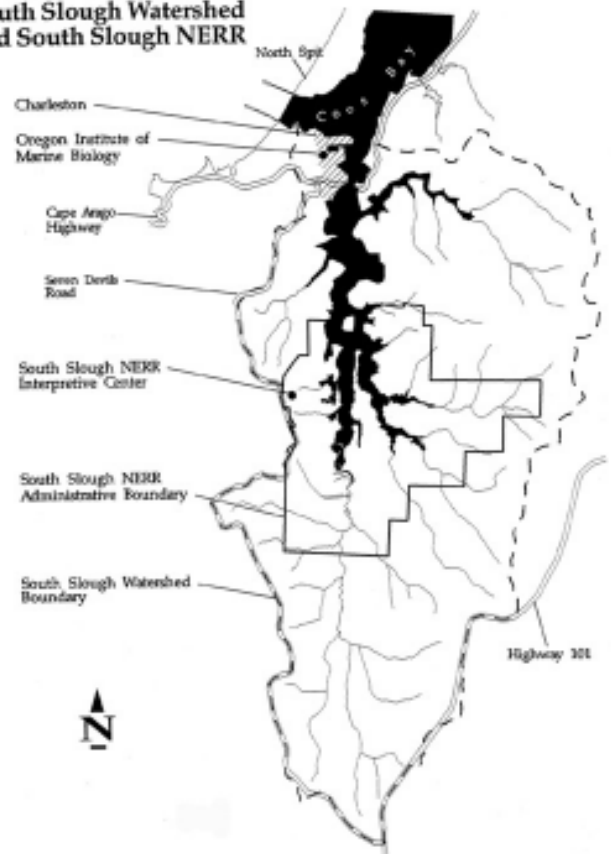
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South Slough Watershed and South Slough NERR



South Slough Watershed and South Slough NERR



Estuary: A place where fresh and saltwater mix, usually where a river meets the sea. It is enclosed from the sea by land except where it empties out into the ocean.

Mudflats: One of the natural communities of an estuary. It's a muddy place covered and uncovered by the tide water everyday. There are very few standing or visible plants. The many holes indicate lots of life below.

Open Water: One of the natural communities of an estuary. Even during the lowest of tides, there is a ribbon of water left in the channel. It is the water that fills the low places in the mudflats even at low tide and covers the mudflats and salt marshes at high tide.

Salt Marsh: One of the natural communities of an estuary. It is a grassy place between the edge of the mudflats and the trees and bushes of the uplands. Plants in this zone are flooded with salty tidal waters up to twice a day and have thus adapted to dealing with salt water.

Watershed: The area from which rainfall will ultimately drain into the same body of water; also called a drainage basin.



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