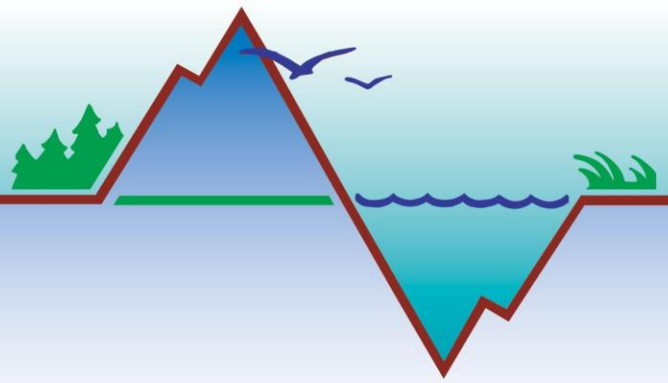


Kachemak Bay Research Reserve Phytoplankton Update

November 2019 – April 17th, 2020

Harmful Algal Bloom Program

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Hello Everyone!

After a snowy winter, spring is here and time to share our first phytoplankton update of 2020! We collected weekly samples from the Homer Harbor on the weeks the harbor wasn't frozen over, and what a sight that was! Throughout the winter months Homer Harbor had low numbers of phytoplankton, with a small increase in diatoms taking advantage of the longer days the past few weeks.

Coming up on Tuesday April 28th, we will be sharing our prerecorded community monitor training on our website. Presentations by KBNERR, ADFG, and NOAA will be posted for monitors to access on HABs in 2019, water quality monitoring, razor clam abundances, and ongoing HAB research. KBNERR will also be posting a guide for community monitors walking through the plans for sampling and monitor support for this upcoming summer. On Thursday April 30th, Rosie will be hosting virtual "office hours" to answer any questions and to schedule equipment pick up times for community monitors.

At this time **all** KBNERR field work, including phytoplankton and wild shellfish collection, has been suspended. This is in accordance with the State of Alaska "shelter in place" order and UAA policy COVID-19 response. Recently the University has announced the potential for some research projects to receive exemptions to be able to complete some field work. We will keep everyone posted on how this will impact our HAB monitoring in summer 2020.

The next Kachemak Bay phytoplankton update will be sent out the first week of May.

As always please reach out with any questions. Note that all KBNERR staff are working remotely, email is the best method to reach us with your questions.

From all of us in the Harmful Species Program we are sending well wishes and thank you for all you contribute to keeping our Kachemak Bay communities safe and informed.

Jasmine and Rosie

Kachemak Bay Research Reserve Phytoplankton Update

Qualitative Analysis Phytoplankton Data

INNER BAY

DATE	Bay	Water Temp	Salinity	Dominant species	Dinophysis	Pseudo-nitzschia	Alexandrium
3/23/2020	Peterson Bay	3.2		<i>Thalassiosira</i> sp.	Present	None	None
3/23/2020	Gull Island	3.2		Sparse Sample	None	None	None

3/23/2020	Glacier Spit	2.7		Mixed Diatoms	None	None	None
3/23/2020	Halibut Cove	5		Sparse Sample	None	None	None
3/28/2020	Homer Harbor	2.7	30.4	Sparse Sample	None	None	None

*Samples received after last weekly update

OUTER BAY

DATE	Bay	Water Temp	Salinity	Dominant species	Dinophysis	Pseudo-nitzschia	Alexandrium
3/20/2020	Tutka Bay	2.8	30.27	<i>Thalassiosira</i> Bloom	None	Present	None
4/2/2020	Tutka Bay	3.0	30.8	Mixed Diatoms Bloom	Present	Present	None



Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
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