

Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (ESNERR) & Morro Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP)

present a virtual exchange on Monday, December 3, 2018
on

A Comparison of Salt Marshes in Central California Estuaries

(see GoToMeeting webinar connection info below)

Background: Given their shared roles as major estuaries within California's Central Coast region, Elkhorn Slough and Morro Bay estuary programs are interested in more information exchanges to build their respective capacities and better inform their research, monitoring, restoration, and outreach efforts.

For their second exchange, comparative tidal marsh ecology was chosen as the general theme, with a series of subtopics being prioritized for discussion.

Exchange objectives:

- Enhance the understanding by participants of salt marsh patterns and processes within and between the two estuaries.
- Strengthen professional networking between ESNERR and MBNEP
- Explore ideas for joint research questions

Agenda:

- 09:00** Welcome & introductions ([Dan Brumbaugh](#))
- 09:10** Topic 1: Historic (~centuries) vs current marsh extent and composition (e.g., salinity-associated communities).
What are the long-term trends and what is behind them?
Morro Bay & Elkhorn 5-min presentations, then discussion ([Kerstin Wasson](#), [Carolyn Geraghty](#))
- 09:40** Topic 2: Recent (~decadal) patterns of loss, gain or change and what we think is behind them
What are the primary and secondary factors affecting our systems? (e.g., SLR, salinity changes, eutrophication, invasive plants and animals, losses of key species?).
Elkhorn 5-min presentation, then discussion ([Kerstin](#), [Charlie Endris](#))
- 10:05** Topic 3: Elevations, elevation change, and factors affecting them (sediment supply, decomposition, subsidence, etc.)
Morro Bay & Elkhorn 5-min presentations, then discussion ([Charlie](#), [Carolyn](#))
- 10:35** *Break*
- 10:45** Topic 4: What are the priority management interventions that are needed in these two systems?
What are the opportunities for additional conservation, restoration, and habitat migration?
Morro Bay & Elkhorn 5-min presentations, then discussion ([Monique Fountain](#), [Carolyn](#))
- 11:15** General discussion, including next steps for the exchange?
- 11:45** Wrap

Webinar connection info for the Elkhorn-Morro Bay Exchange:

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/201664309>

If you haven't done this before, you'll need to download and install a small GoToMeeting app as part of the process, so give yourself a few extra minutes for that.

Then, when joining the webinar, please select **phone connection** for audio and follow the call-in instructions.

As an audio backup:

Dial (in US): **+1 (408) 650-3123**

Access Code: **201-664-309#**

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A note about the Coastal Training Program, ESNERR:

The Elkhorn-Morro Bay Exchange is being facilitated by ESNERR's Coastal Training Program (CTP). With support from NOAA, the CTP works to improve stewardship of lands, waters, and biodiversity across California's Central Coast region by offering technical assistance and educational programs that (1) help bridge the gaps in understanding among scientists, land managers, regulators, and other stakeholders, (2) foster dialogue within and across these groups, and (3) build community support for coastal sustainability.

All CTP events are evaluated by participants, and we (and our NOAA funders) look at these evaluations carefully to help us improve our programs, so please help us by filling out a short (!) evaluation afterwards, either online or on paper. Thanks!