

Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve is Education on the Ground



2017

Connect



7,300 acres of tidal waters
52 communities
Great Bay Discovery Center
Hugh Gregg Coastal Conservation Center



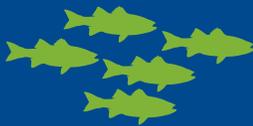
Prepare

30 teachers trained
12,891 contact hours
3,862 students engaged

Improve



volunteers for science,
restoration and education
1,174 volunteer hours



"In my eighteen year career, this was the most professional, engaging, useful in the classroom, tasty, exciting, rewarding, fun, friendly and thoughtful workshop I have ever attended."



TOTE teacher, 2016

"Wonderful!! Best P.D I've experienced in a long time!"

TOTE teacher, 2015

Teachers engaged in science on the Estuary

How can teachers use estuaries as a tool to teach Next Generation Science Standards? How can teachers learn about what sea level rise really looks like on the ground? How can teachers translate estuarine science back to their students in the classroom?

--Teachers on the Estuary "TOTE", that's how! --

Each summer a group of teachers from New Hampshire and beyond gather at the Great Bay Discovery Center to dip their collective toes into a saltmarsh, eelgrass bed or a dissolved oxygen data set for Great Bay. In 2017, 30 teachers attended multi-day TOTE workshops at the reserve to learn how scientists study the estuary, how managers makes decisions around water quality and what kayaking through a meandering estuarine creek feels like on a hot summer day.

TOTE exposes teachers to real and relevant science. TOTE works!

Discovering the Magic of Nature

A young child squeals with delight as she realized the ominous looking horseshoe crab she is holding is actually quite harmless!... An angler draws his fly line back and watches it settle gently on the bay, waiting for the one moment when a striper grabs his fly... A grandparent strolls the boardwalk with multiple generations of family, listening to songbirds, feeling the breeze off the saltmarsh...

The Great Bay Discovery Center sits on the edge of Great Bay and serves as a gateway for visitors of all kinds to learn more about the Great Bay Estuary. Walking trails, exhibits with live estuary animals and interactive experiences with nature bring young and old to the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Each year more than 10,000 visitors learn what makes Great Bay so special and why it is such a critical and important ecosystem. Over 5,000 school children visit the Center annually and leave with a sense of natural wonder and a spark of curiosity to learn more about the world around them.

New Hampshire's Great Bay is one of 29 sites in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. Each site is a state federal partnership that combines research, monitoring, and education to advance the understanding and management of estuarine environments.



NATIONAL
ESTUARINE
RESEARCH
RESERVE
SYSTEM



National Estuarine Research Reserve Education Change on the Ground in 2017

Connects

People to Estuaries

**1 million+
ACRES**

of natural classrooms & living laboratories with



**28 INTERPRETIVE
CENTERS**



**650,340
VISITORS**

learn about estuaries through Research Reserve outreach & education



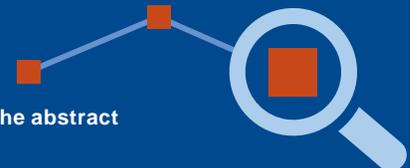
Aloha to our Hawai'i Reserve, designated in 2017!

Prepares

the Next Generation

**87,899
STUDENTS**

take learning out of the abstract & into the outdoors



**3,079
TEACHERS**

are trained in the estuary & supported in the classroom



SKILLS BUILT

- ✓ Observation
- ✓ Asking research questions
- ✓ Problem solving
- ✓ Data driven decision making

ESTUARY SCIENCE

LOCAL DATA

LAB WORK

FIELD INVESTIGATION

Improves

the Environment

**12,849
CITIZENS**

are trained & inspired to protect their coasts & estuaries



VOLUNTEER ACTIONS

- ✓ Protect wildlife
- ✓ Monitor water quality
- ✓ Plant native species
- ✓ Clean up the coasts

**28 RESEARCH RESERVE
EDUCATORS**

lead programs that foster coastal stewardship in communities in 23 states



Creating value through education
39,035 volunteer hours = \$942,305*