Objective: Collect water temperature data from four estuaries representing different coastal regions of the US.

You and your group will use the NERR Central Data Management Office (CDMO) web portal to collect and graph one year of water temperature data (2014) from four different reserves representing northern and southern estuaries on the east and west coast of the US. The reserves and sampling stations are:

1) Winyah Bay/North Inlet (Oyster Landing water quality station) in South Carolina

2) Jacques Cousteau Reserve (Lower Bank water quality station) in New Jersey

3) Tijuana River Reserve (Boca Rio water quality station) in southern California

4) Elkhorn Slough (Vierra Mouth water quality station) in central California

Data collection: Go to the NERR website (http://cdmo.baruch.sc.edu/get/export.cfm) and select the reserve of choice using the interactive map (below left), then select the station indicated in the description above from the scrolling list (below right). Make sure you select a "water quality" station rather than a nutrient or meteorological station.

Select the "graph data" option and generate a graph of temperature data for the 2014 calendar year by entering 1/1/14 and 12/31/14 in the custom date fields.

Click "save this graph as an image". Repeat this for all four reserves listed above. Bring a printed copy of the graph(s) to class and come prepared to share, interpret and discuss the data.