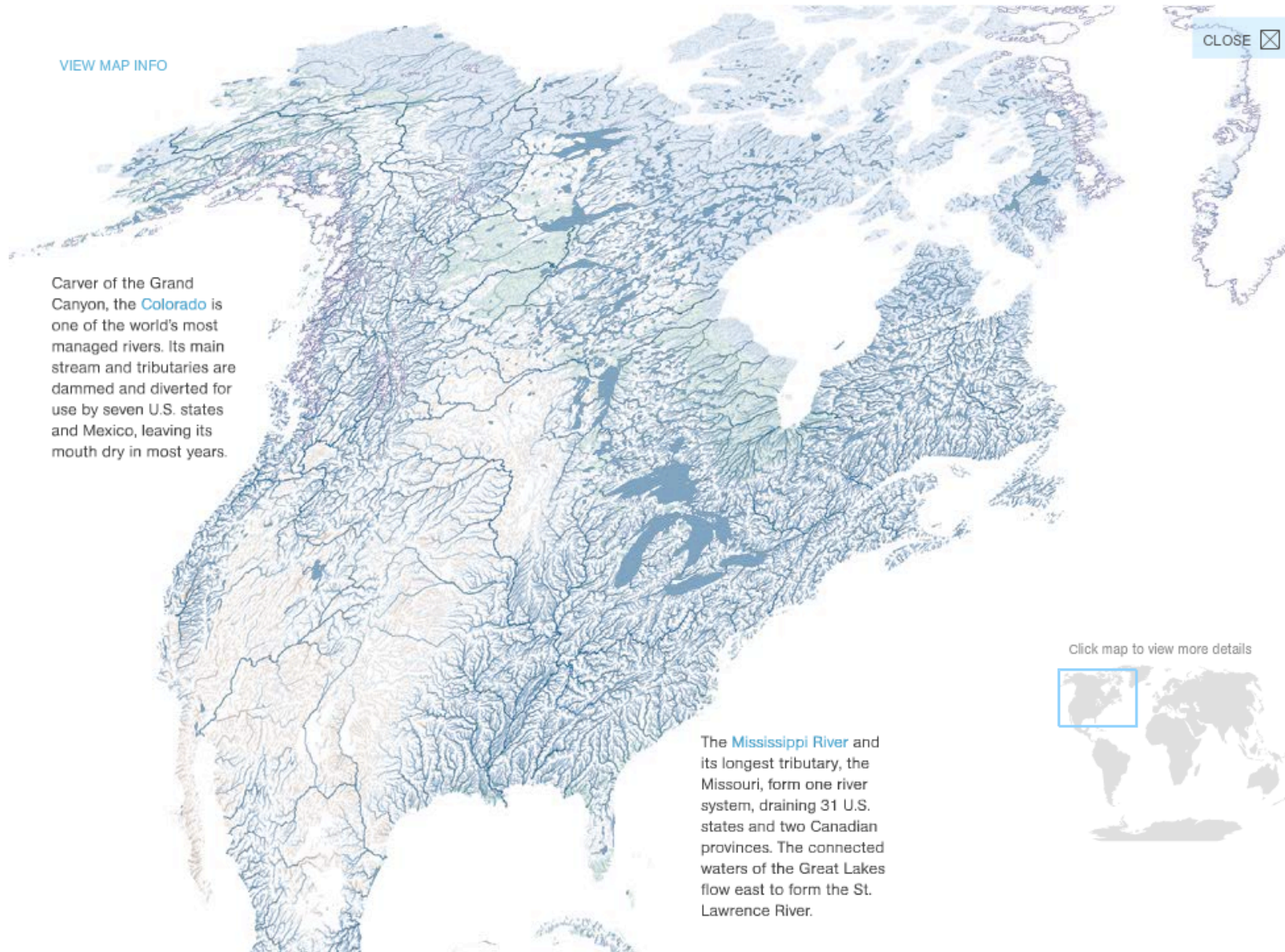
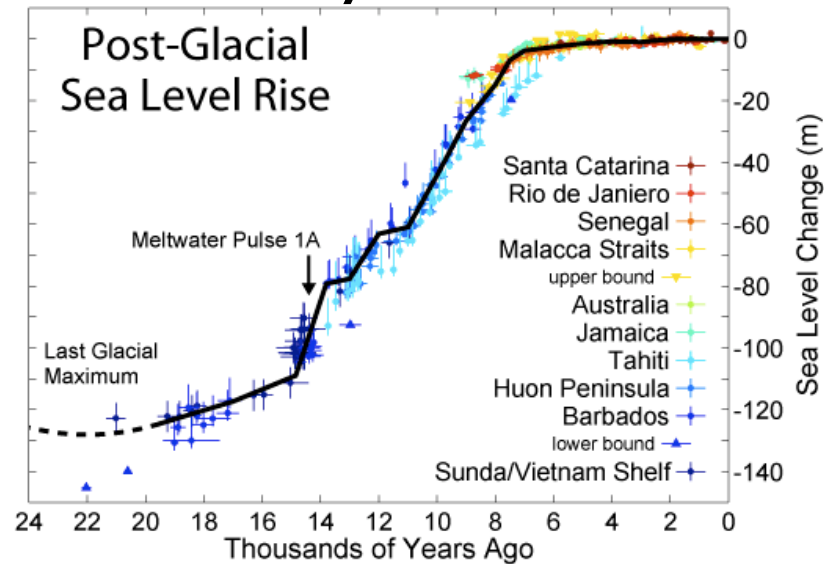


# There are a lot of estuaries



<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2010/04/water/water-animation>

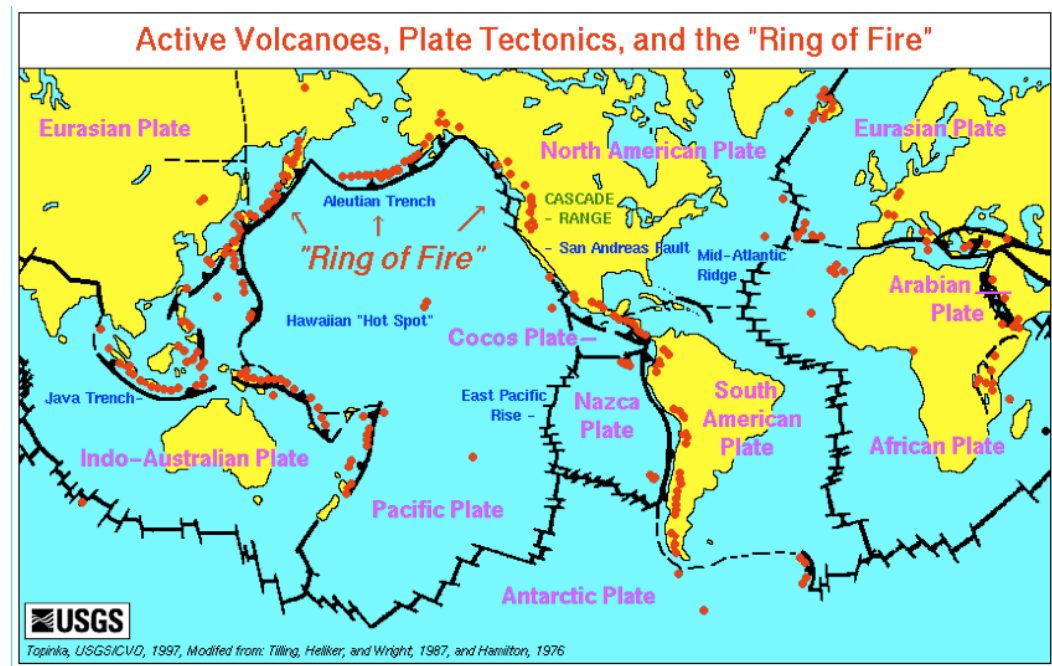
# I. Drowned river valleys



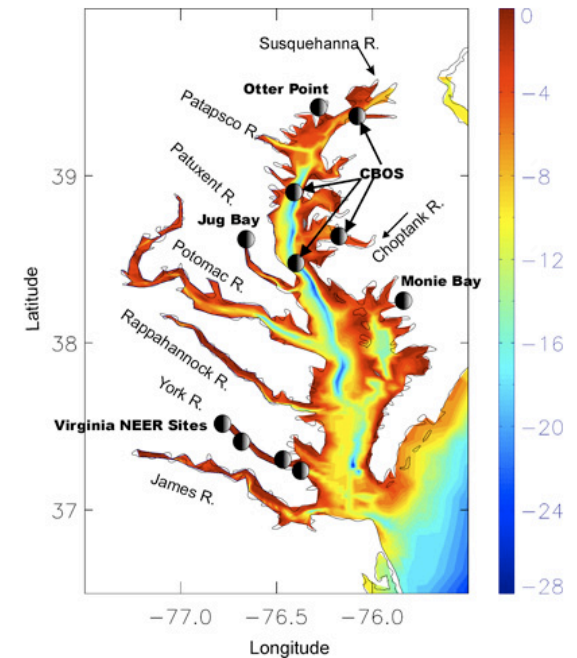
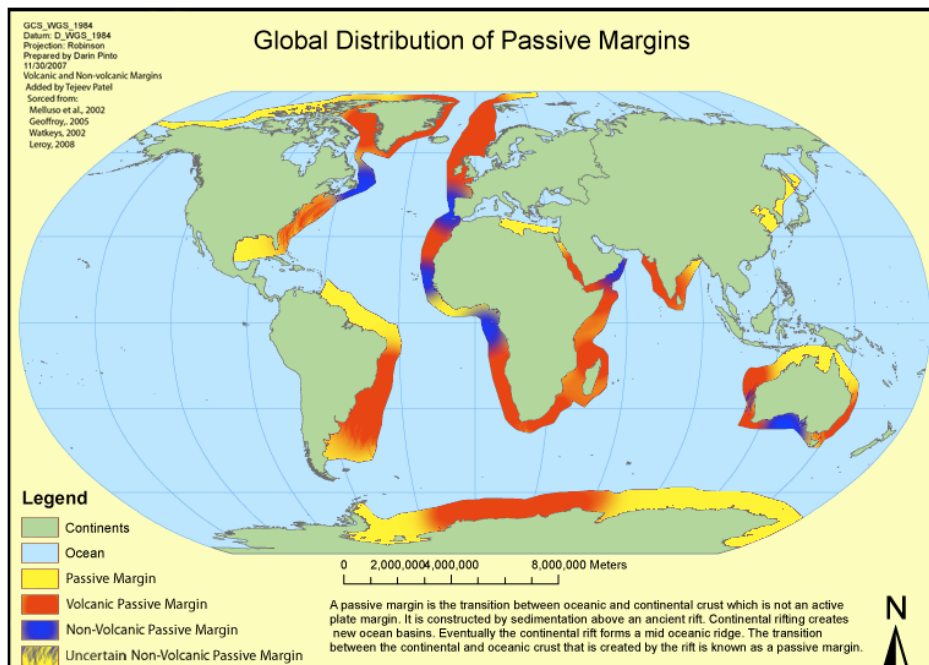
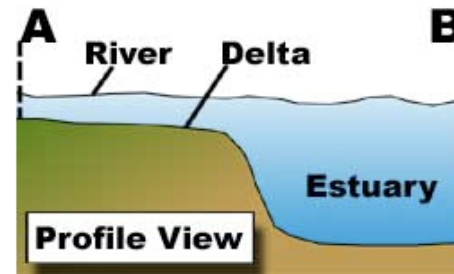
Albion R. Est., CA



<http://www.gualalariver.org/photo/albion-aerial.jpg>

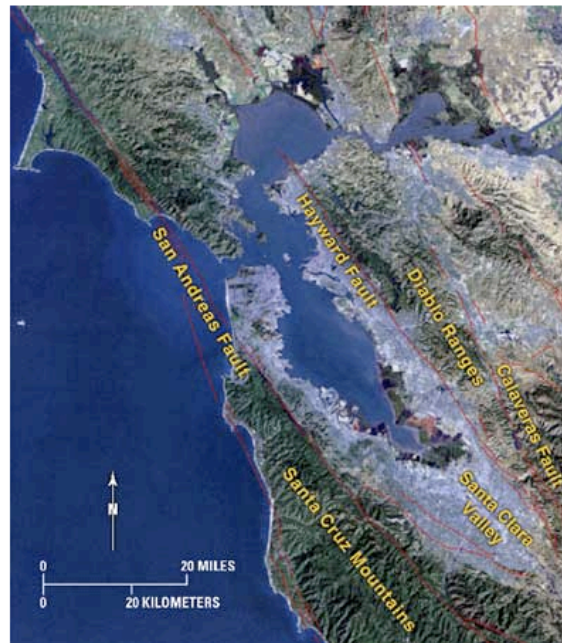
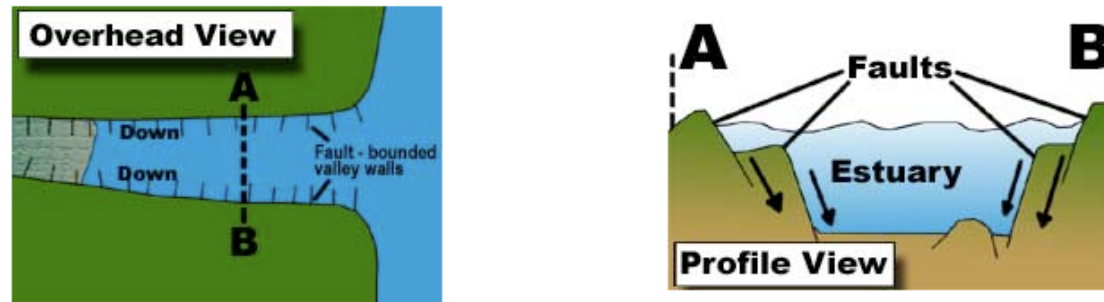


1. **Coastal Plain Estuaries** are formed by the sea level rising and filling an existing river valley. Examples of this are the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland and the harbor in Charleston, South Carolina





2. **Tectonic Estuaries** are caused by the folding or faulting of land surfaces. These estuaries are found along major fault lines, like the San Francisco Bay area in California.

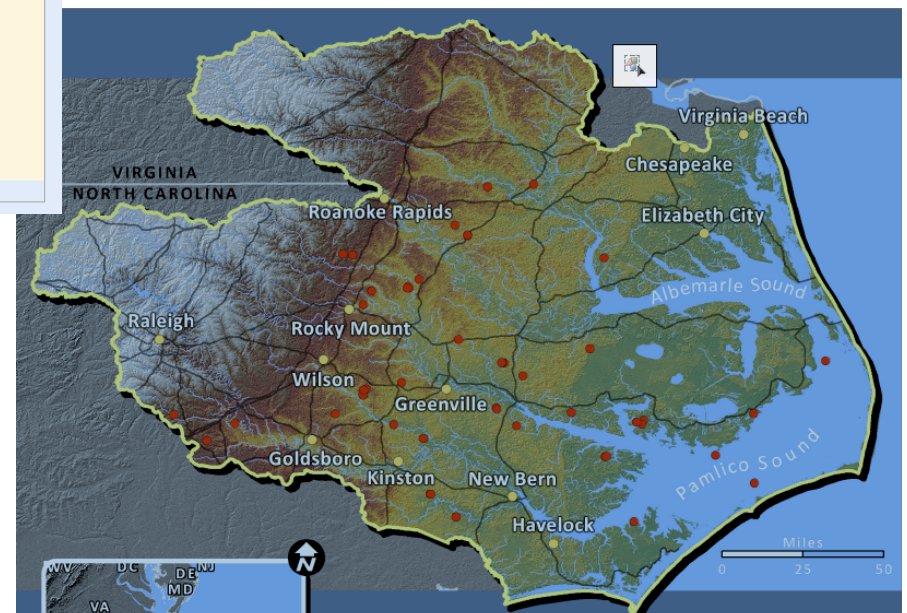
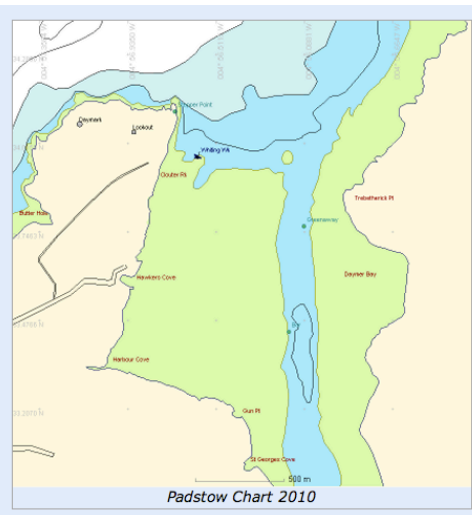
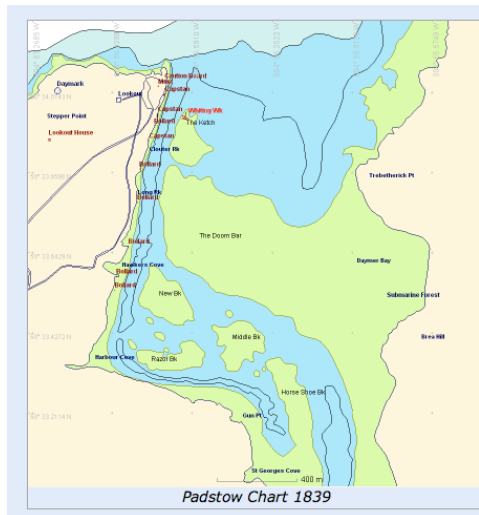
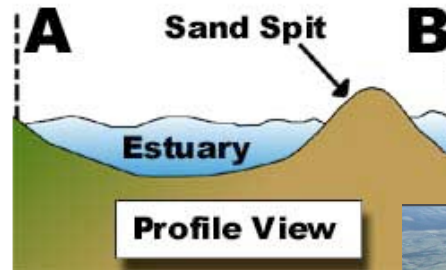
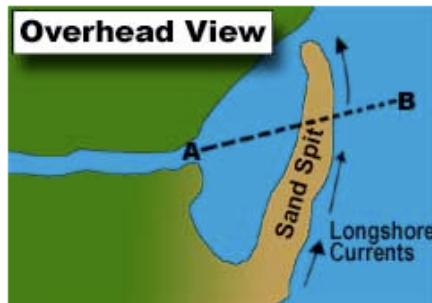


Satellite image of San Francisco Bay area showing the major faults and geographic features.

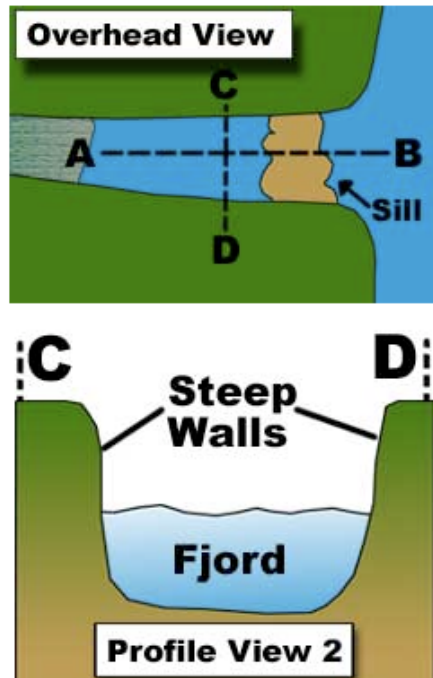
Source: *Geology of the Golden Gate Headlands* by Elder, W., (2001). In: Stoffer, Philip W. and Gordon, Leslie C. 2001 (eds.). *Geology and Natural History of the San Francisco Bay Area, A Field-Trip Guidebook*. [U.S. Geological Survey, Bulletin 2188](#). Field Trip 3, pp. 61-86. (Fig. 3.1)



3. **Bar-built Estuaries** form when a shallow lagoon or bay is protected from the ocean by a sand bar or barrier island. Examples of these are found along the Eastern Seaboard and the Gulf Coast of North America.

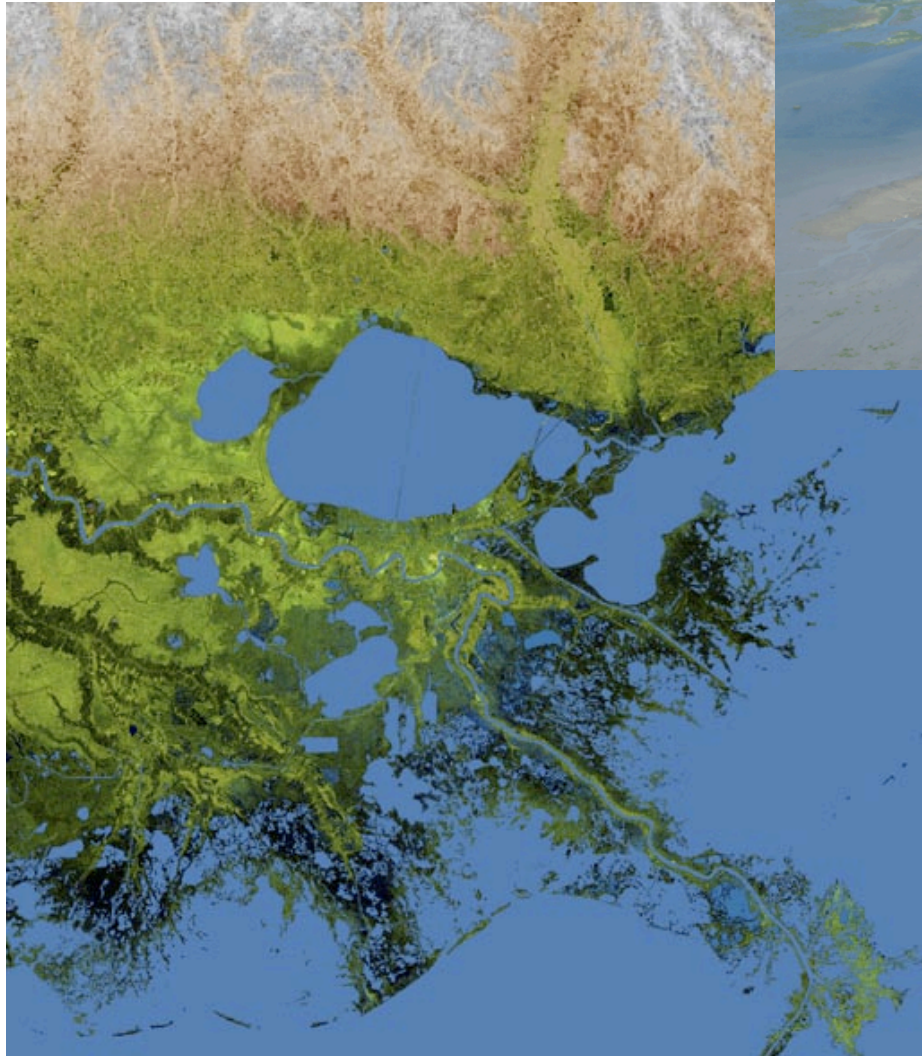


4. **Fjords** are U-shaped valleys formed by glacial action activity, like northern Europe, Alaska and Canada.





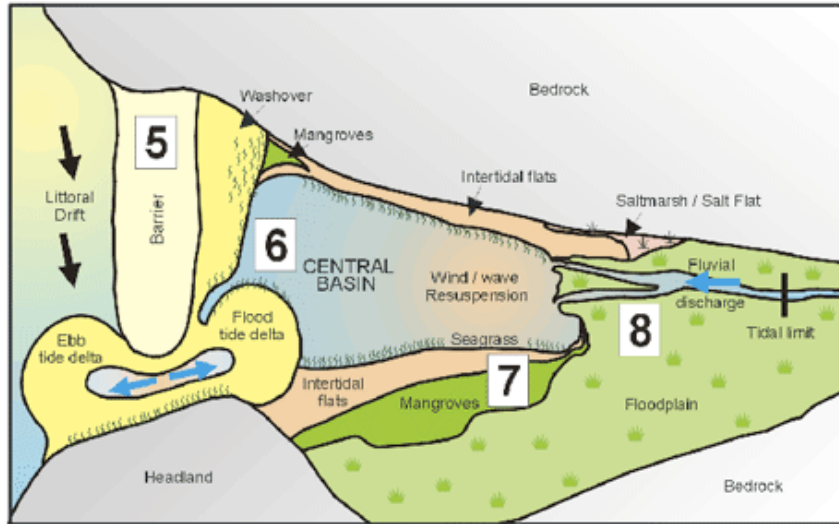
# Mississippi River estuary



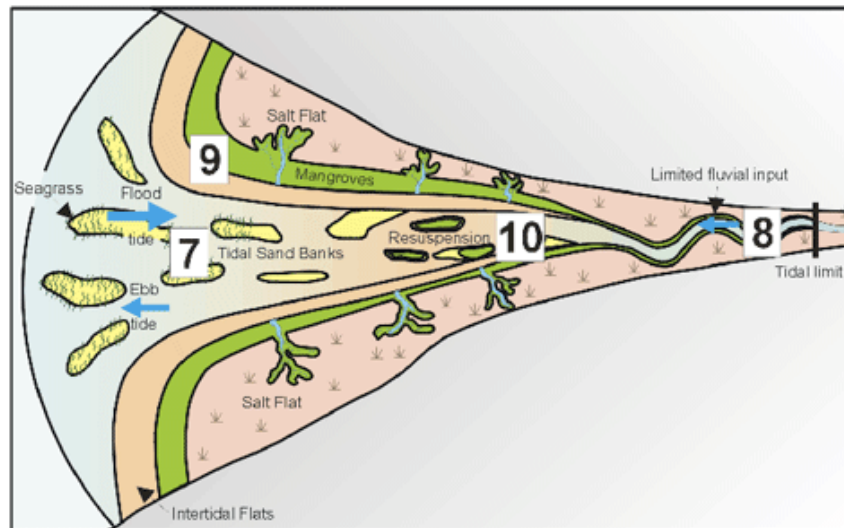


# Variations on the theme

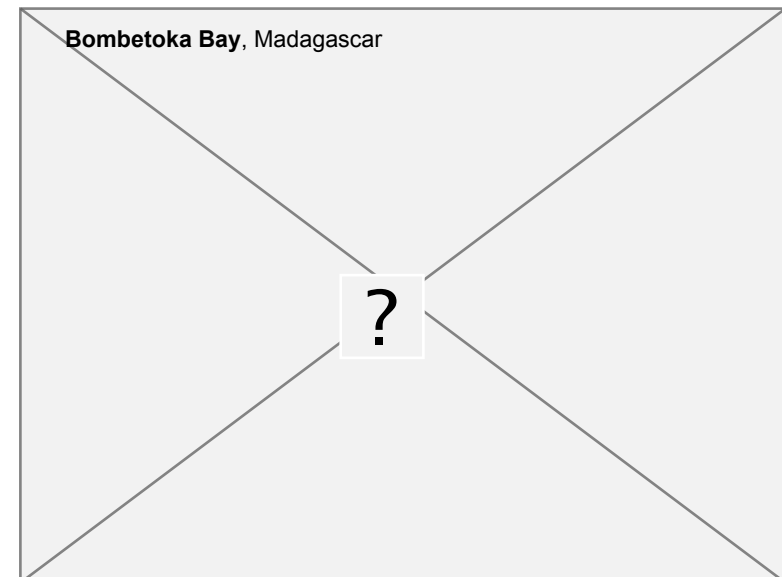
## Modifying the mixing basin



Wave-dominated Estuaries



Tide-dominated Estuaries



# Roughness

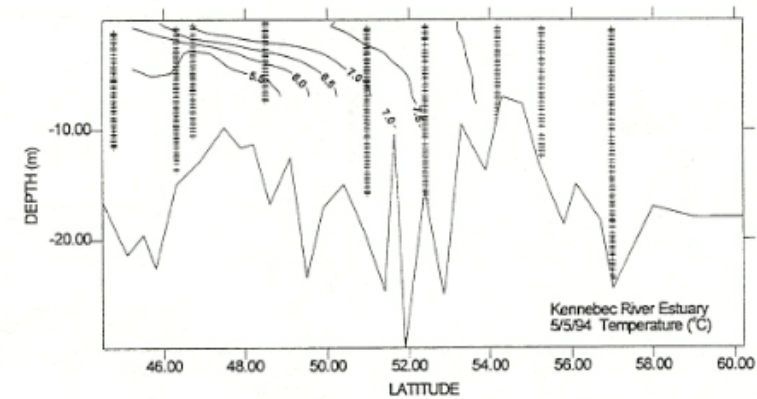
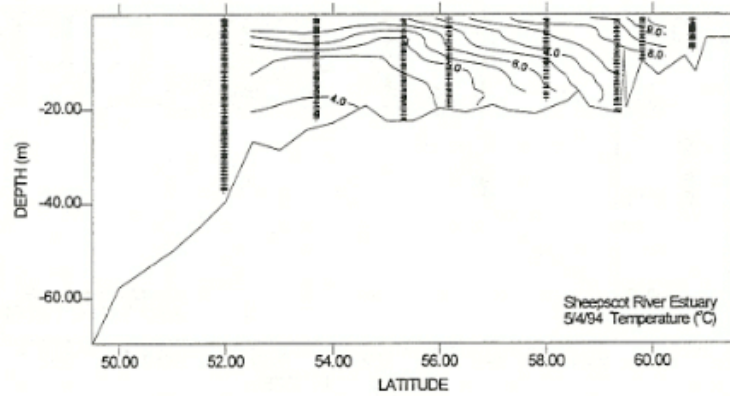
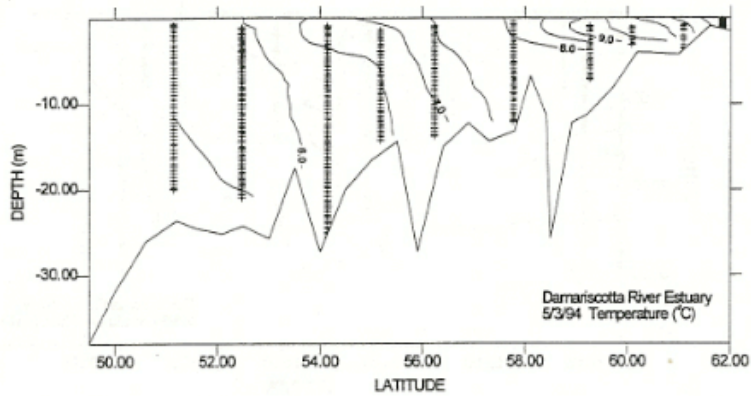


Figure A.3.1. Vertical section contour plots of temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), from the mouth to the head, in the Damariscotta, Sheepscot and Kennebec River estuaries in May 1994. Latitude is given as minutes north of 43 degrees N. Sample depths are shown as crosses at each station.

# Summary of morphological features

1. Shape
2. Size
3. Depth
4. Roughness



# Describe genesis of estuary



Image ID: DW0277

Dartmouth, on the banks of the estuary of River Dart, Devon, England  
Photo by: Dae Sasitorn



Image ID: DW2451

The Montrose Basin, part of the estuary of the South Esk forming a tidal basin near to the town of Montrose, Angus, Lowlands, Scotland  
Photo by: Adrian Warren