# Introduction

- Thank you for the Grant
- CO2 Air Monitoring
- Summary/Findings



# Morro Bay Estuary Air Monitoring (MBEAM)

Pilot Project May 11, 2021

## MBEAM Locations

- Methodology
- Interpretation
- Route reversed mid-point



# CO2 matrix for the year

- Bi-monthly readings for 1 year
- Results per date & location
- Overall CO2 avg of 456.3 ppm
- Safe level of CO2 is 350 ppm

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# Keeling's Curve

- Earth's CO2 avg 417 ppm
- Seasonal variation
- Data consistent



## Collaboration w/Cal Poly Ocean Acidification Crew

#### MBEAM Locations 1-10

### Cal Poly OA Locations S1-S6



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# Cal Poly OA Locations S1-S6

- 6+ Locations
- Starting point depends on tide
- Measuring CO2, pH and salinity in the Estuary



# Working with Cal Poly OA Crew

- Shea
- Richard
- Amanda
- Emily



# Cal Poly OA Crew

- Amanda
- Shea
- Stephen



## Ocean Acidification

- Convection cycle
- Increased CO2 decreases pH
- Endangering life that inhabits the Estuary

The Carbon Cycle Showing Storage (gigatons carbon) and Fluxes (gigatons carbon/year)



# Atmospheric CO2 & Ocean Acidification Correlation

- CO2 in the atmosphere
- Inverse correlation with CO2 & pH levels in the Oceans
- Compromising the Estuary

#### Ocean acidification: the data



# Eelgrass

- Natural solution
- Sequesters carbon dioxide
- Complements oyster beds

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Eelgrass acreage (represented in yellow) has declined since 2007 when 344 acres were mapped. While beds toward the front bay and along the main channel have remained relatively stable, nearly all eelgrass was lost in the mid and back bay. Eelgrass loss has since stabilized, and the 2017 map shows small patches of eelgrass recurring in areas that suffered almost total loss.

STATE OF THE BAY 2020

# Conclusions

- Education
- Collaboration
- Restoration



#### Morro Bay Estuary Air Monitoring (MBEAM) @



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## MBEAM Pilot Project

• Thank you to the Mayor & City Council for the opportunity to provide this presentation.



Question and discussions