

ESTUARY ECOSYSTEM FOOD WEB

Energy Flow & Species Interactions

APEX PREDATORS

Osprey
Bull Shark

SECONDARY

Blue Crab
Striped Bass
Heron

PRIMARY

Zooplankton
Oysters
Shrimp

PRODUCERS

Phytoplankton
Saltmarsh Grass
Algae

Notes:

Arrows (not shown) represent the flow of energy from the organism being consumed to the consumer. Decomposers like bacteria and fungi process waste from all levels.

Key Terms:

Detritus: Decaying organic matter

Brackish: Mixture of fresh and salt water

Salinity: Salt concentration in the water