

MEET THE MICROENVIRONMENTS Teacher Guide

Microenvironment Location	Salinity	Unique Features
Gunnison Bay	20 -27%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut off from south arm by railroad causeway. • Salt crystals precipitate out salt-saturated water. • Too salty for most organisms to live in. • Red color is from salt-loving microbes.
Flats and Wetlands	mixed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulfur-producing bacteria create rotten-egg smell. • Managed by dikes and barriers. • Host a variety of organisms: plants, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, bacteria.
Bear River Bay	1-7%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salinity varies with water inflow from snow melt. • Very shallow, almost disappears during periods of drought.
Ogden Bay	less saline than South Arm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosts an impressive bird population.
Farmington Bay	3-5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separated by the rest of the lake by Antelope Island and two causeways. • Shallow, so water temperature varies seasonally. • Sewage treatment plant leads to blue-green algae blooms.
South Arm (Gilbert Bay)	7-15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home to most of lake's Brine Shrimp population. • Deepest part of the lake at 32 feet.