

Evidence #1

Methods to maintain healthy nutrient levels in bodies of water do not always work. Water nutrient levels return to normal when human overuse of fertilizer stops.

Evidence #2

Over the past 50 years, the number and the size of Dead Zones has increased. Over the same time, fertilizer use has also increased.

Evidence #3

Eutrophication can increase fish populations. More algae means there will be more food for fish to grow and reproduce. Fish will die when oxygen in water goes down.

Evidence #4

Fertilization and soil tillage helps to grow healthy crops. Efficient farming practices can help avoid excess fertilization and runoff into bodies of water.

Evidence #5

Algae blooms change the amounts of dissolved carbon and oxygen, and other toxins, in seawater. These changes can harm marine organisms.

Evidence #6

Farming, forestry, and fishing practices can be part of a region's economy. The health of these practices can impact the economy in both positive and negative ways.

Evidence #7

Marine life needs dissolved oxygen in water to live. As oxygen levels decrease in water, fewer and fewer organisms can survive. Dead Zones occur when levels of dissolved oxygen in the water fall below 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L).

Evidence #8

Not all Dead Zones are caused by farming. Urbanization and overfishing can also cause Dead Zones.

