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Tutorials

EXPLORE REAL TIME DATA

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In this tutorial, you will be introduced to:

1. The data providers
2. The real time datasets you can access on Baydeltalive.com
3. How to explore and use real time data
4. How to save a real time data preset for future viewing and use with project and research

GETTING STARTED:

First, always be sure you are logged in by using the login/signup buttons at the top of the screen. If you don't log in, you won't be able to save your work.

Once you are logged in, from the homepage, **click on EXPLORE DATA.**

THE DATA PROVIDERS:

You are now looking at the interface for accessing real time data.

Real time data category gives you access to the extensive sensor network throughout the state of California.
Sources such as, the California Data Exchange Network (CDEC), USGS National Information Water System (NWIS), and more provide these data.

Please note: These data sources are accessed by remote web services and are not hosted by Baydeltalive.com. The data provider maintains data quality.

EXPLORE REAL-TIME DATA:

We will start with CDEC. **Choose that option in the Data Source drop-down menu.**
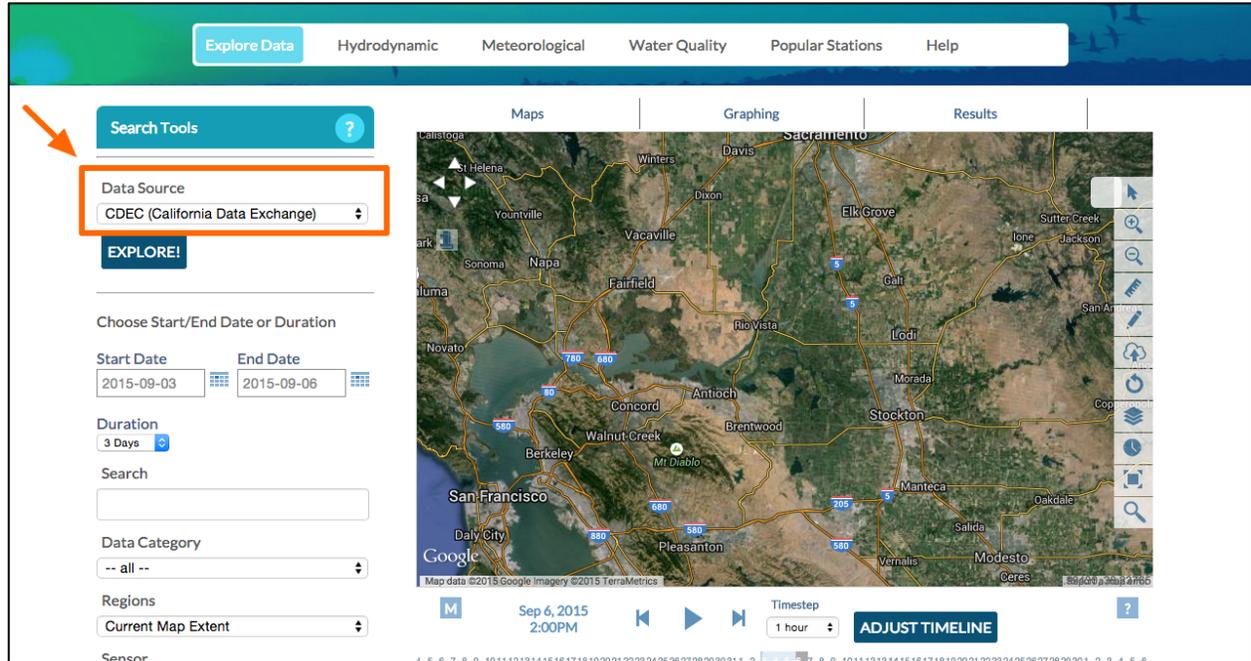

This dataset contains hydrodynamic, meteorological and water quality sensor information from the Delta and its watershed. For example you can explore things like snow pack, electrical conductivity, wind and more than 200 + other data parameters.

First you can choose to filter the data by sensor type using the quick links in the sub-navigation: Hydrodynamic, Meteorological or Water Quality.
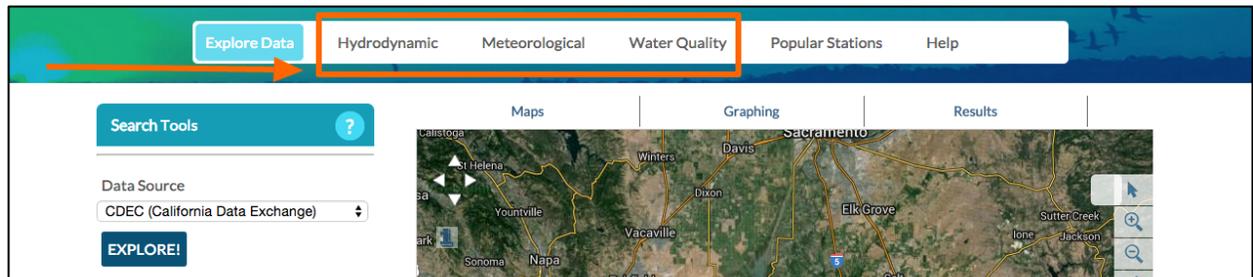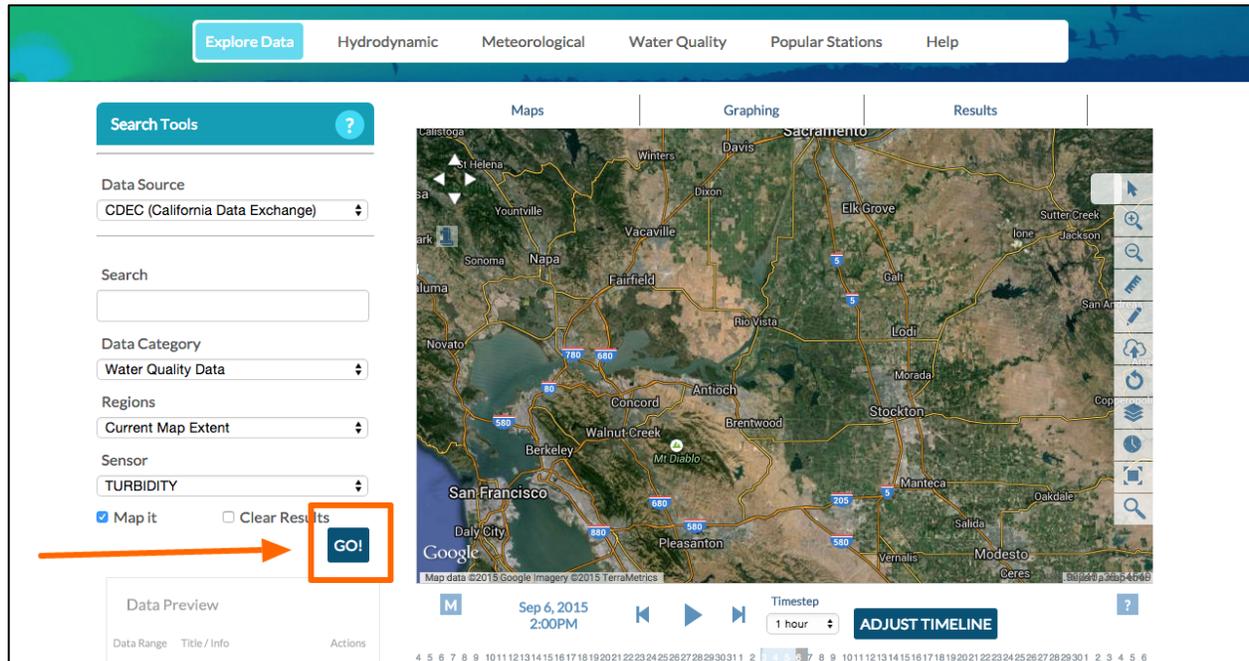
Or you can choose to dig deeper by using the Data Category menu option.
Choose "Water Quality" from the Data Category drop-down menu.
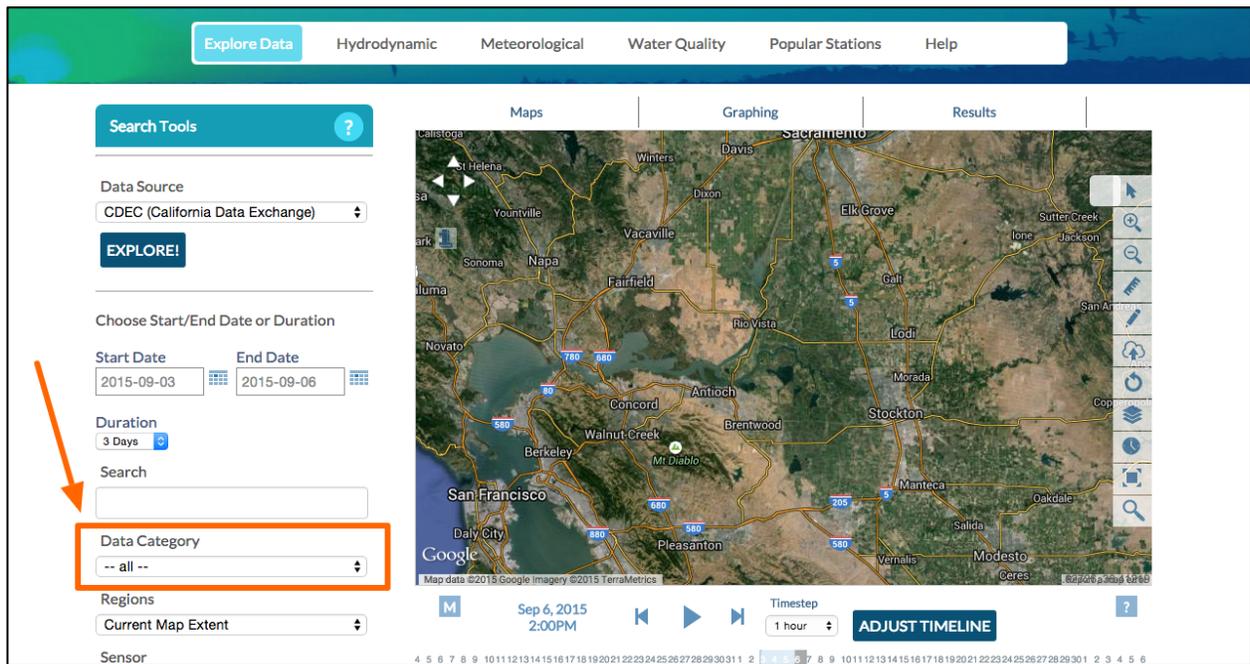
A drop-down list of sensors will appear on the left. You can scroll through the list to find your water quality parameter. **Choose turbidity.**
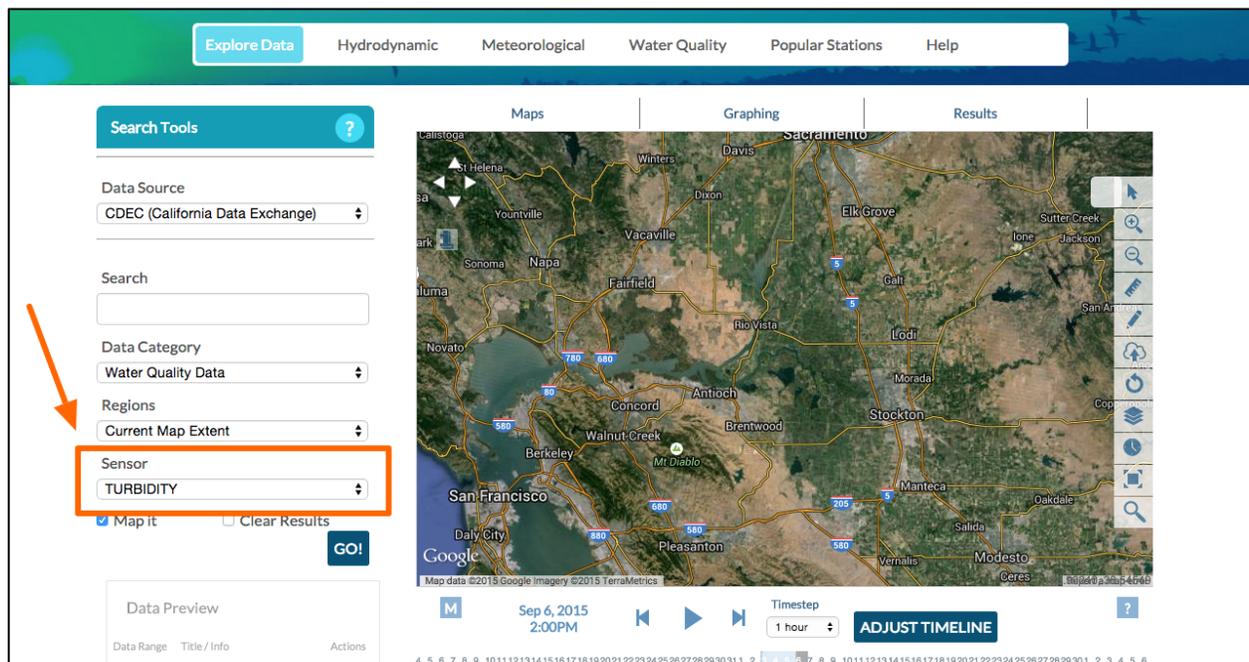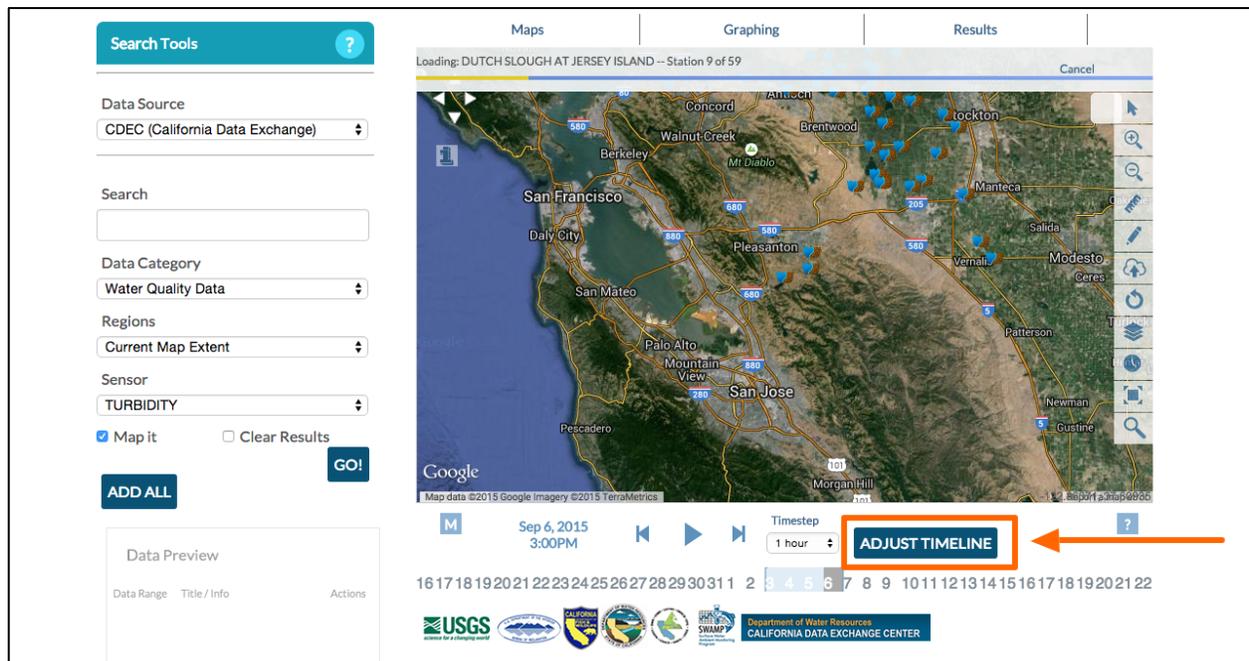
**Click "GO!" to get the data.**

The CDEC default time extent for CDEC is 3 days and now 3 days worth of data for each station is loading in my map extent.

**You can change the time extent by clicking the "Adjust Timeline" button.**

Note: If you choose new dates and adjust the timeline, let the new information load in the map before closing out of the adjust timeline pop-up (pictured below).
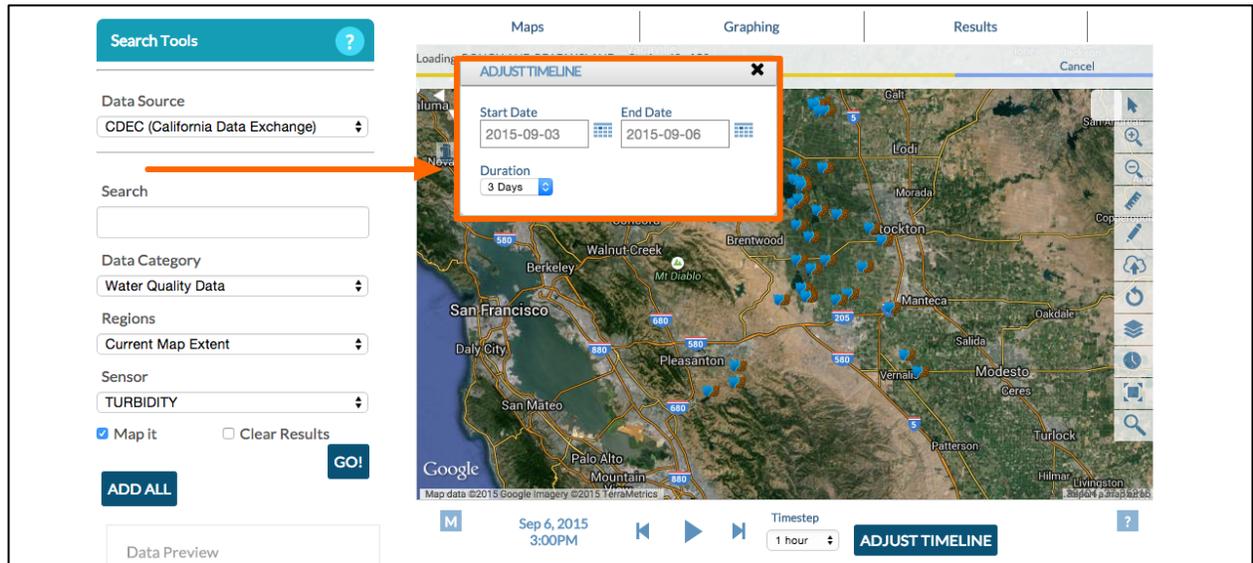
Now you can explore the data at each station using your mouse cursor.

Hover over a station and a rollover will appear with detailed information including the current turbidity value at that station, a 3-day trend graph (unless you adjusted the time extent to include more days), station metadata and a link to the original data source.
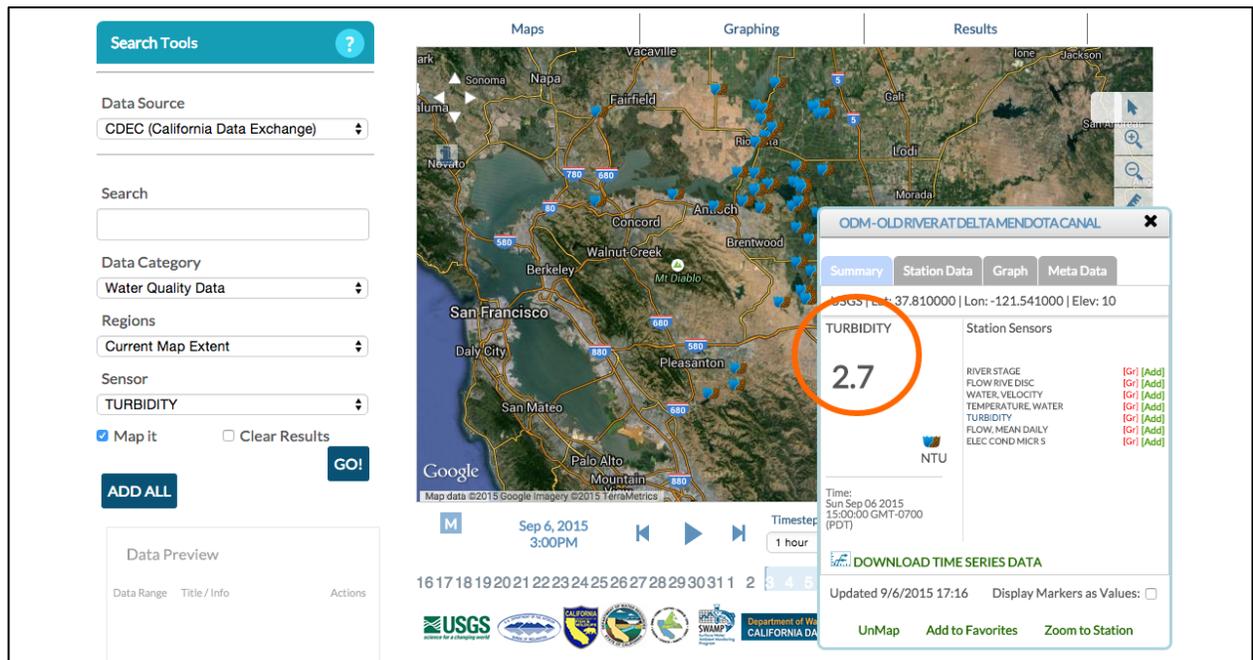
Pictured: rollover badge appears when mouse cursor scrolls over stations, showing turbidity value

Pictured: rollover badge 3-day trend graph tab

Pictured: rollover badge meta data tab

You can download the data and graph for a project through the "download time series data" link.
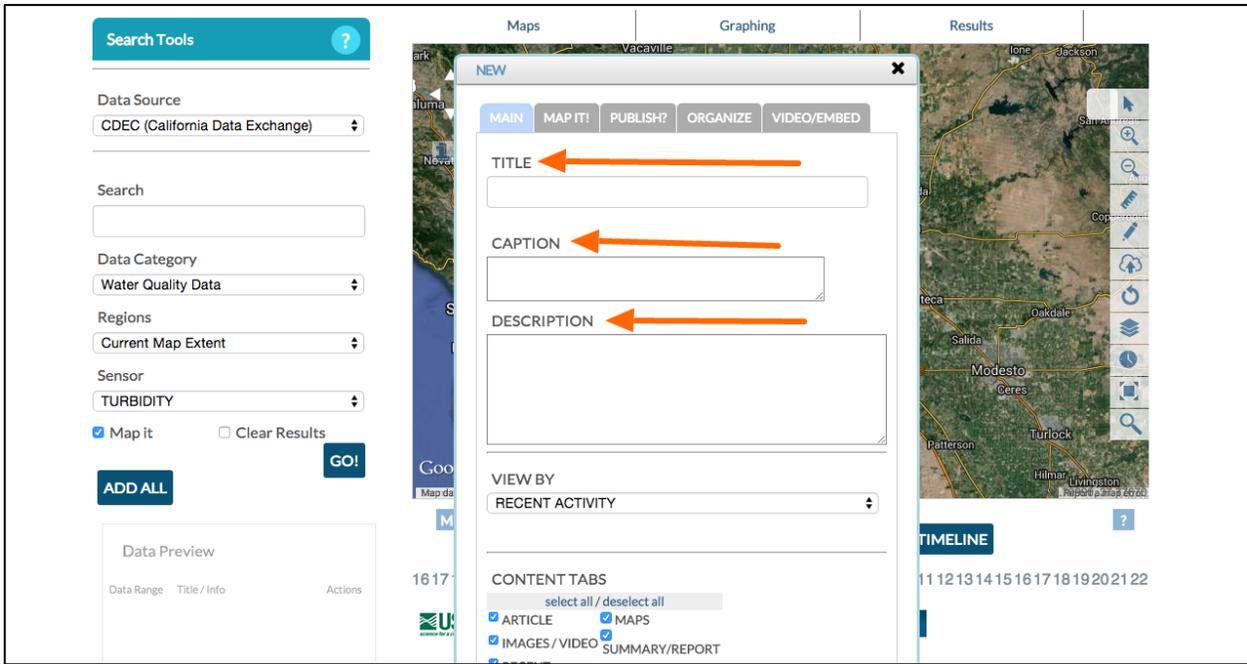

Pictured: rollover badge link to original data source / download time series data

SAVE THE DATA PRESET:

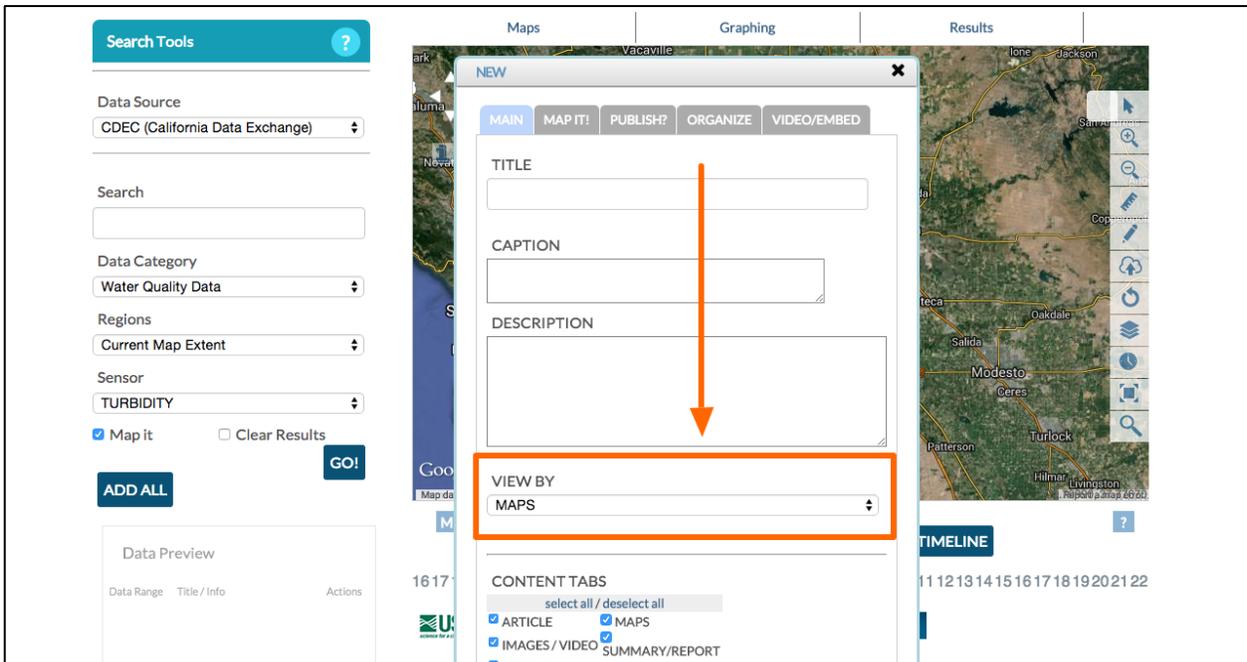**To save the data preset, go to the toolbar on the right-hand side and click the "save map" icon.**

You have several options here such as the title, caption, description, and where to publish it.

For now, title this one "Turbidity Stations" and go down to the "view by" drop-down menu.
These options are correlated to how the map will show up when you go to look at it later. **Choose "map."**

Then scroll down and click, "save changes."

A box will appear and you can view the map now or go on to create other maps.
Click "view" and go in to edit some of the information.

Hover over the TOOLS menu in the upper left corner, and choose "edit."
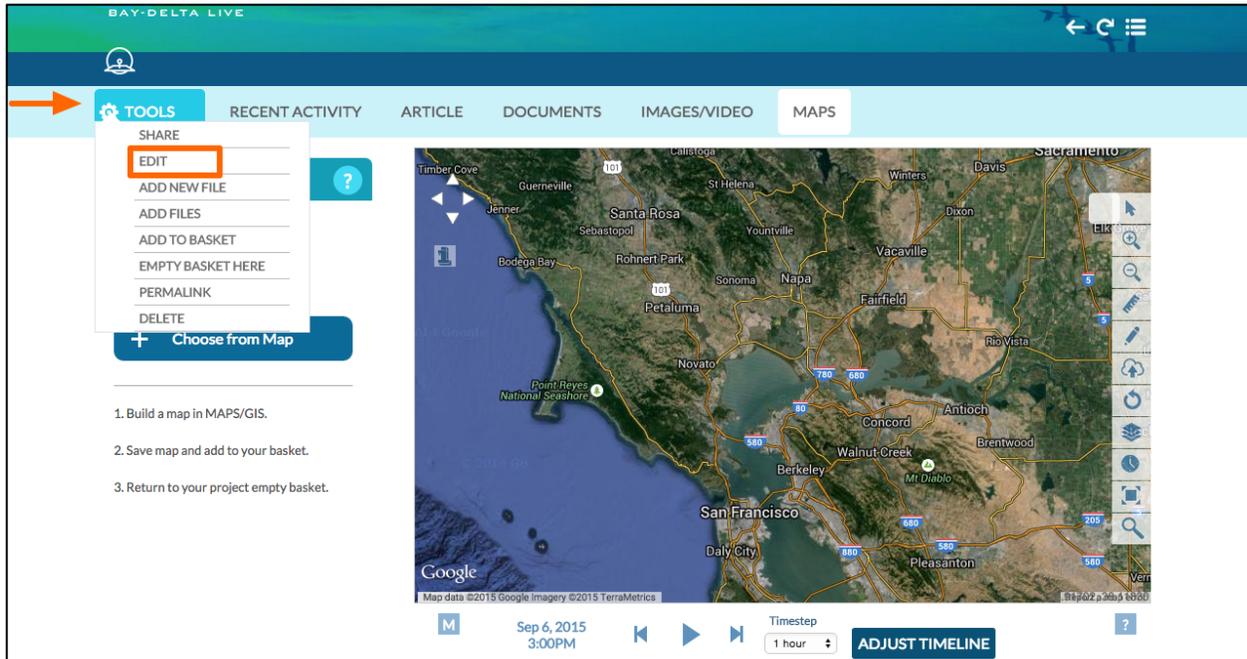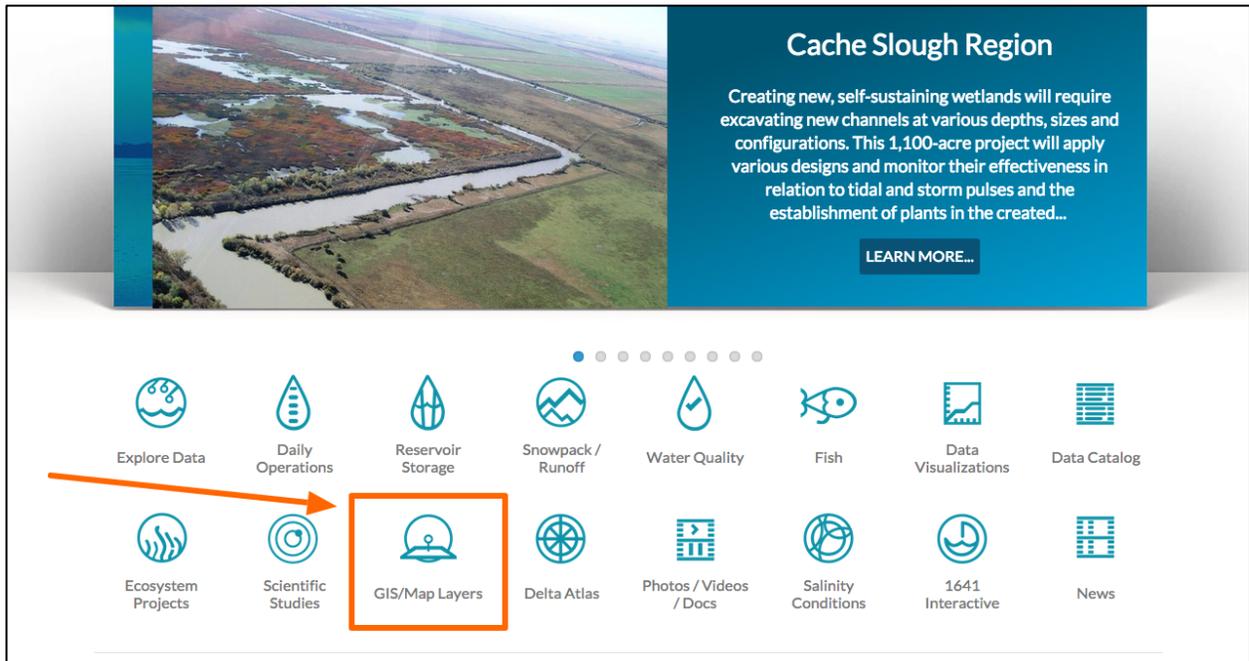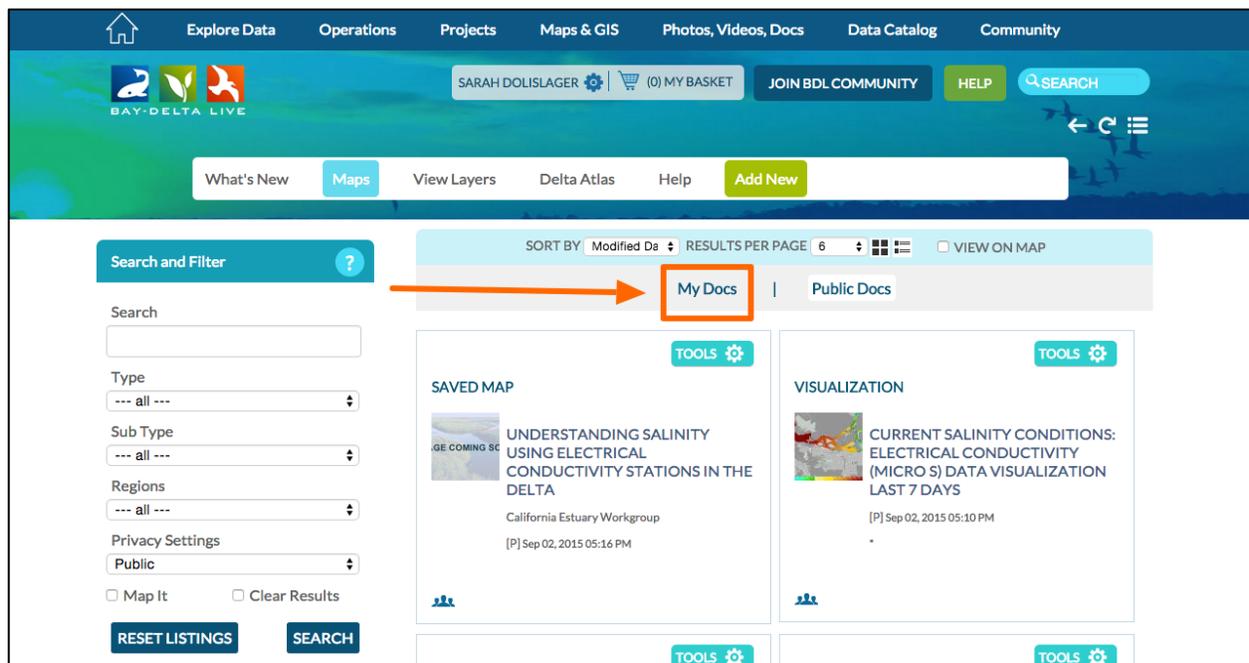

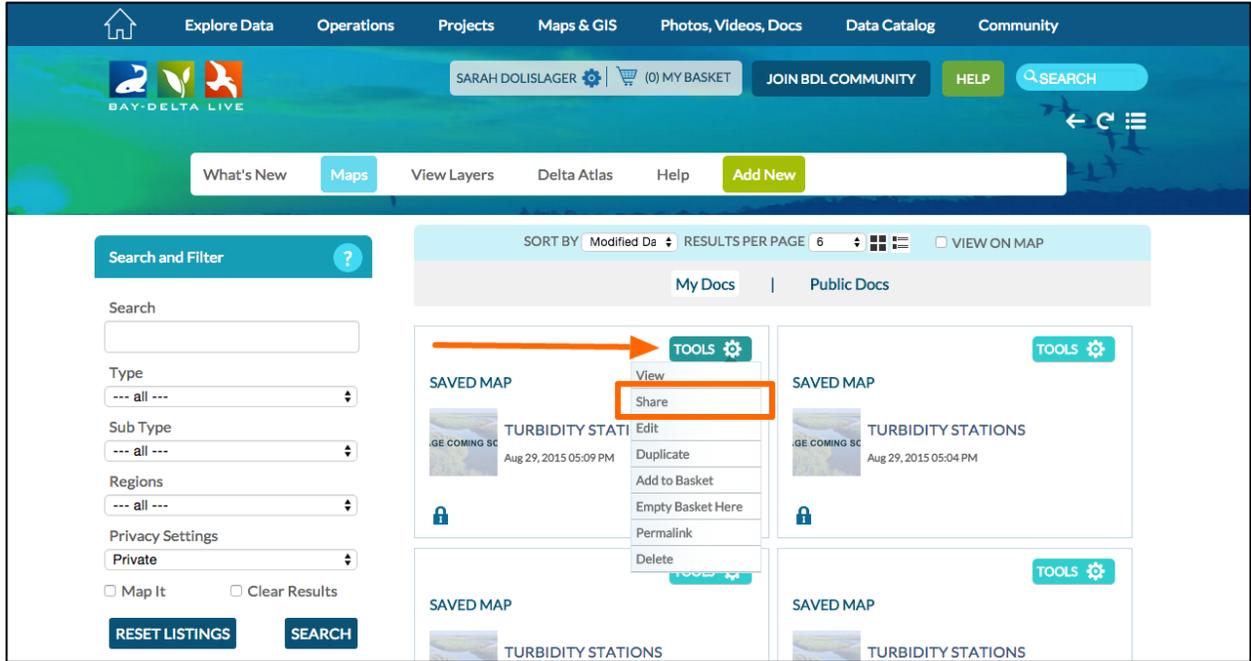If you would like to make your map public, you can do so through the "publish?" tab.
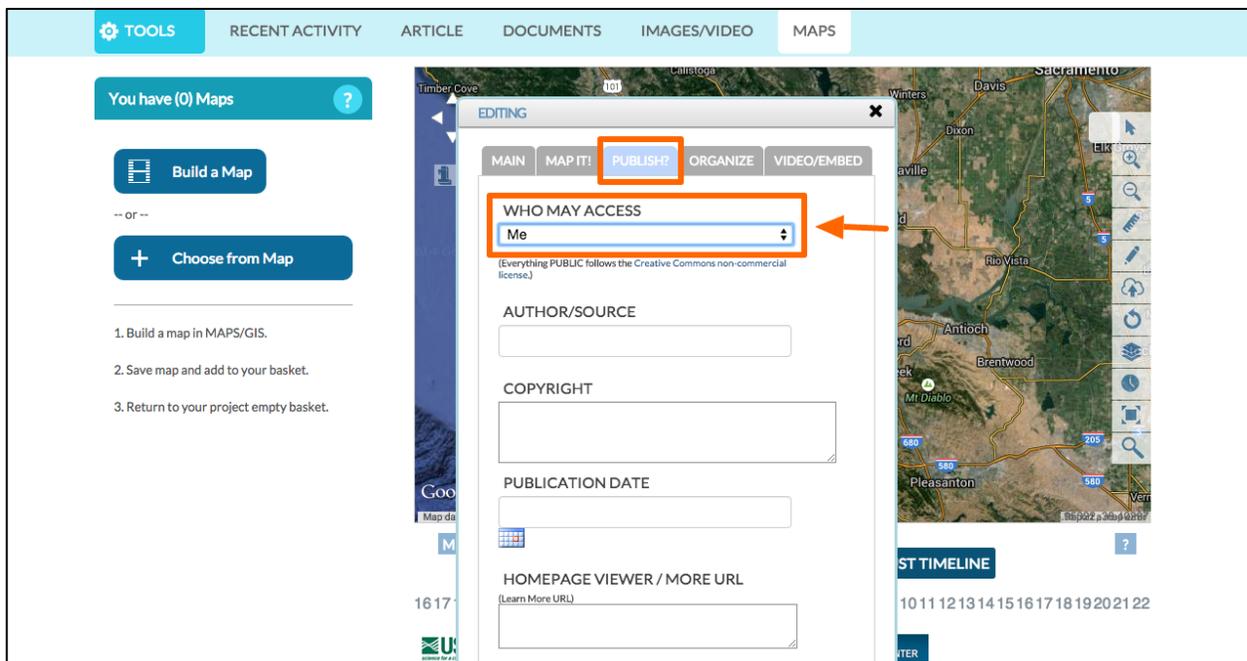
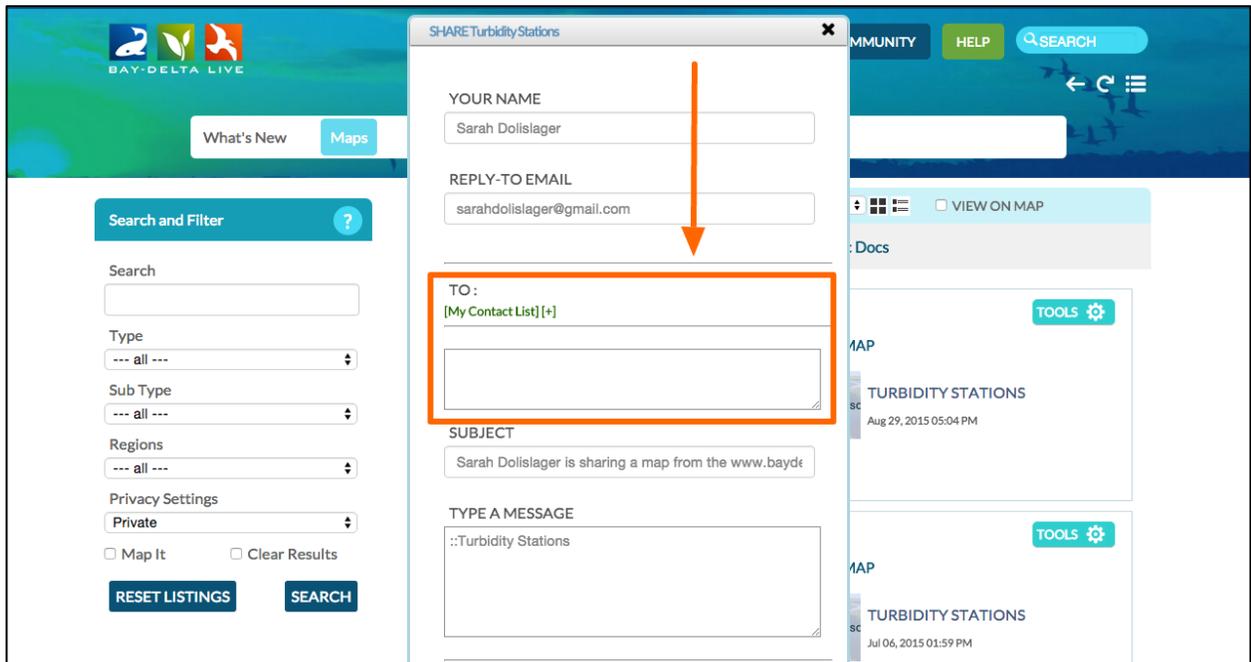**Now to access your map from the homepage, click on "GIS/Map Layers" icon.**

Then click on "My Docs" and there you'll see the data preset you created.

Lastly, you can share this data preset from the tools menu.
Choose "share" from the drop-down menu.

You can add an email address or use the built-in contact list to share with colleagues.

This concludes our first "Explore Real Time Data (1 Parameter)" tutorial.
We hope this will help you to get started using data for your Delta science research.