**Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve Continuous Water Quality Metadata January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017**

Latest Update: September 15, 2022

Note: This is a provisional metadata document; it has not been authenticated as of its download date. Contents of this document are subject to change throughout the QAQC process and it should not be considered a final record of data documentation until that process is complete. Contact the Aquatic Preserve office (Stephanie.Erickson@dep.state.fl.us) with any additional questions.

### Data Set and Research Descriptors

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### Entry verification

To begin, deployment data are uploaded from the YSI data logger (datasonde) to a Personal Computer (IBM compatible). Files are exported from EcoWatch in a comma-delimited format (.CSV) and transferred into separate Microsoft Excel files by site, year, and month. Excessive pre- and post-deployment data are removed from the files at this time. The monthly files are then prepared, processed, and reviewed following the procedures in the Centralized Data Management Office’s (CDMO) National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERR) System-wide Monitoring Program (SWMP) Data Management Manual Version 6.3 (February 2010). Currently, Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve (EBAP) does not submit data to the CDMO and therefore does not apply the associated procedures. The monthly data file is then opened in Microsoft Excel and processed using the NERRQAQC macro. The macro automatically inserts station codes, combines date and time, creates metadata worksheets for flagged data, summary statistics, and graphs the data for review. It allows the reviewer to apply QA/QC flags and codes to the data and append files. During primary QA/QC, data are flagged and coded if they are missing, out of sensor range, or anomalous. Where deployment overlap occurs between files, the data produced by the newly calibrated datasonde (sonde) is generally accepted as being the most accurate. Data management is currently performed by Rebecca Cray.

Beginning in July 2018, data underwent additional Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures. An automated primary QA/QC process was performed by the CDMO and involved checking the standardized flags and codes that were previously applied to the data by the Aquatic Preserve Office. The process applied additional standardized flags to the data if values were outside sensor specifications and were not previously flagged. Yearly data files that completed the primary QA/QC process were returned to Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (RCP) staff for a secondary QA/QC procedure. Data were evaluated, and standardized flags and codes were either modified or new codes were applied to individual data points by insertion into the flag columns using the CDMO’s NERRQAQC Excel macro to provide further documentation of the data. Data files were then returned to the CDMO for ingestion into the Florida Aquatic Preserves database as provisional data. For more information on QA/QC flags and codes, see Sections 11 and 12 and for more information on NERRQAQC macro versions, see Section 14.

### Research objectives

In 2004, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s (FDEP) Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (CAMA), now RCP, began a pilot program using extended deployed water quality monitoring devices, or datasondes, across several of its field offices. After the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve (EBAP) office was selected, three datasonde monitoring sites were set up within the bay. There were several factors considered when selecting the monitoring sites including salinity gradients, water depth, freshwater inputs, tidal circulation patterns and the location of navigational markers. Additionally, to correlate existing data collection efforts and refrain from duplicating data, locations of other water quality studies were also taken into consideration.

The datasondes, located in a long, shallow estuary, are affected by saltwater inclusion from several Gulf of Mexico inlets and freshwater input from five tributaries. The passes are, from north to south: Hurricane Pass, Matanzas Pass, Big Carlos Pass, New Pass, Big Hickory Pass, and Wiggins Pass in Collier County. The tributaries are, from north to south: Hendry Creek, Mullock Creek, Estero River, Spring Creek, and the Imperial River. The watershed for Estero Bay spans 359.6 square miles and encompasses both the Southern Coastal Plain and Southern Florida Coastal Plain ecoregions, which comprise areas that are typical of low, flat, southern Florida lands dominated by wetlands and characterized by slow, sheet-flow drainage patterns. Natural communities include, mangrove-dominated islands along the coast with salt marsh habitats occurring landward of the mangrove zone, pine flatwoods, cypress swamps, and cabbage palm hammocks. The communities within the bay include seagrass beds, mangrove islands, salt marshes, tidal flats, and oyster bars. In the past, the naturally dispersed water patterns distributed nutrients over broad areas of wetland vegetation and seasonal fluctuations in flow from rainfall created the necessary salinity regime in Estero Bay for good estuarine productivity. However, increased development in the area since the 1960’s has led to changes in the natural river systems around Estero Bay, altering freshwater inflow patterns. The watershed activities that potentially impact the bay include point-source wastewater discharge and non-point source runoff or leaching of pollution from roads, agriculture lands, urban areas, and un-vegetated lands which contain fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, metals, sediments, petroleum compounds, and bacteria.

The datasonde data provide information on the overall health of Estero Bay on a continuous basis. Specifically, the data from these stations provide a baseline of water quality measurements for identifying, monitoring, and comparing differences in the parameters over time. The data also aid in the interpretation of changes observed in indictor organisms, bay communities, and for making comparisons to other geographical areas. The data may also assist with the understanding of effects from anthropogenic changes within the bay. The principle goal of the program is to attain baseline data on the overall water quality of Estero Bay for the purpose of preventing further degradation.

### Research methods

Beginning July 14, 2004 two water quality stations, EB01 (Tom Winter) in the north end of Estero Bay and EB02 (Spring Creek) in the central portion of the bay, were designated as permanent Continuous Water Quality Monitoring Program sites for Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve. A third water quality station, EB03 (Fish Trap Bay), was added on November 23, 2004 at the southern end of the preserve. The dataset from these three monitoring stations has been essentially uninterrupted since the first day of deployment.

Until July 2017, all sondes deployed had been YSI 6600 Extended Deployment System (EDS) with three that are the V2-2 model. Beginning in July 2017, YSI EXO2 sondes were deployed at EB01, while continuing use of YSI 6600 sondes at EB02 and EB03. Prior to deployment, the sondes are calibrated for pH, specific conductivity, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, and depth following the procedures outlined in the YSI Operating and Service Manual. Prior to the December 2011 deployment, the depth was calibrated using a barometric pressure value of 760 mmHg for each calibration, actual atmospheric pressure was not calculated. For the December 6, 2011 deployment a NIST certified barometer was used to obtain the actual atmospheric pressure and determine the depth offset value.

A two-point calibration is used for pH (YSI buffers 7 & 10) and turbidity (0 NTU distilled water & 126 NTU YSI, Inc.). A 0.5M KCL solution (YSI conductivity calibrator) is used to calibrate specific conductivity. Dissolved oxygen (DO) is calibrated in oxygen saturated water, using a bucket and an aerator. Prior to June 29, 2010, rapid pulse dissolved oxygen sensors were calibrated using water saturated air, using a small amount of water in a vented calibration cup. The percent saturation value is determined by using the current barometric pressure to convert to the adjusted value and entered into EcoWatch. ROX optical DO probes are deployed at all three sites. The depth is also calibrated by using the current barometric pressure to determine the depth offset value and entered into EcoWatch.

All sondes are deployed within 4-inch diameter PVC pipes, which are attached to either a private residential dock (EB01) or “aid-to-navigation” pilings (EB02 and EB03). The pipes are oriented vertically and attached with stainless steel rods molded to wrap around the piling and bolted to galvanized hangers. Up to three hangers are used depending on the height of the pipe. A stainless-steel bolt is also installed at the end of the pipes to keep the sonde from falling through. The submerged end of the PVC has two rows of rectangular holes whose short ends are rounded (pill/stadium shaped). There are 4 holes per row measuring vertically approximately 8 inches tall and horizontally 2 inches wide. Sondes are secured by rope to an eyebolt in the top of the PVC caps. An additional hole is drilled through the top of the pipes and caps in order to insert a bolt and lock for security. The bottoms of the pipes are open and positioned such that the sensors are 0.5 meters above the bottom.

The sondes are further protected from crabs and other live organisms by attempting to restrict the openings on the sonde guard with plastic mesh screening. The plastic mesh (with 1/8-inch diamond-shaped holes) is attached to the outside of the sondes guard’s circumference using low- profile zip ties. . In 2015, increased antifouling efforts were applied to guards in the form of copper tape on the exterior of the plastic guards plus copper alloy woven mesh (McNichols Co., 4 mesh, 0.047’’ woven square weave, 66% open area). This same copper mesh is applied to the exterior of the copper antifouling sonde guards on EXO sondes as well.

Sondes are deployed, generally, for two weeks to one month at a time. The sampling period is set for 15-minute intervals (readings are made every 15 minutes). The following physical water quality parameters are recorded: temperature (degrees Celsius), specific conductivity (mS/cm), salinity (parts per thousand), dissolved oxygen (mg/L and % saturation), depth (m), pH and turbidity (NTU). To test how well the sondes hold calibration, field measurements are performed using a handheld YSI instrument (YSI 85 2004-Feb. 2008, YSI556 Feb. 2008-July 2015, YSI ProDSS July 2015-present) which serves as a “spot check” at the time of deployment and retrieval. The parameters recorded are temperature, specific conductivity, conductivity, salinity, dissolved oxygen (mg/L and % saturation), and depth. Additionally, a post-deployment calibration verification is conducted in the lab. The parameters include temperature, pH (7.0 and 10.0), turbidity (0 NTU), specific conductivity (50 mS/cm), DO%, depth, and battery volts.

## NOTE: All data associated with this metadata file are reported in Local Standard Time (Oct- March) and NOT adjusted for daylight savings time.

### Site location and character

**EB01 (Tom Winter):**

Lat/Long (Decimal Degrees): 26.434944 -81.911389

The EB01 datasonde is located on the bay side of Estero Island in Matanzas Pass, across from Julies Island, and is the most northern of the three site locations. The Tom Winter labeling is to clarify the sonde location which is affixed to a residential dock (parcel 28-46-24- W3-0020B.0390) approximately 300 meters across the channel from Julies Island. The monitoring site is approximately 5.0 km (linear dimension) from Matanzas Pass Bridge to the northwest and 4.4 km from Big Carlos Pass to the southeast. The closest tributary is the Y- junction of the mouths of Hendry Creek and Mullock Creek, approximately 5.1 km north east of the sonde location. Matanzas Pass is roughly 8.9 km long and has a mid-channel depth of approximately 1.0 to 3.6 meters at MHW. At the sampling site, the depth is 2.05 meters at MHW and the width of the water body is 335 meters. Tides at EB01 are mixed semidiurnal and range from 0.85 m to 1.39 m according to the NOAA Tides and Currents website; Estero Island, Estero Bay, FL Datum, Station ID 8725351, 1983-2001 Epoch. Salinities range from 2.2 ppt to 34.4 ppt and fluctuate daily with tides, wind, rainfall, and freshwater discharge (USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2007-5217, Estero Bay near Horseshoe Keys data, 10/1/2004 – 09/30/2005). The channel substrate is predominantly fine sand and there is no bottom vegetation. Generally, Estero Island’s shore line, on the bay side, is sea walled and will not have any vegetation. The closest vegetation are red and black mangrove islands across the channel. The land to the north of the site contains a significant amount of protected state-owned preserve area known as Estero Bay Preserve State Park

# EB02 (Spring Creek):

Lat/Long (Decimal Degrees): 26.385917 -81.846333

The EB02 site is located northwest of the mouth of Spring Creek and south of Coconut Point. The sonde is affixed to navigational marker 9A within the Spring Creek access channel. The average depth at this site is approximately 1.70 meters at MHW. Tides at EB02 are mixed semidiurnal and range from 0.74 m to 1.27 m according to the NOAA Tides and Currents website; Coconut Point, Estero Bay, FL Datum, Station ID 8725319, 1983-2001 Epoch. Salinities range from 8.2 ppt to 35.9 ppt and fluctuate daily with tides, wind, rainfall, and freshwater discharge (USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2007-5217, Big Carlos Pass data, 10/5/2004 – 09/30/2005). The substrate within the channel is a mixture of sand and silt with no bottom vegetation. However, there is seagrass found in the vicinity. Mature red and black mangrove forests dominate the nearby banks of the bay and several mangrove islands are nearby. The mouth of Spring Creek is approximately 4.4 km downstream from where a six-lane highway (SR 41) crosses over the tributary.

# EB03 (Fish Trap Bay):

Lat/Long (Decimal Degrees): 26.354972 -81.844528

The EB03 site is located east of Broadway Channel and north of Intrepid Waters at the southern end of EBAP. The sonde is affixed to a piling (manatee caution sign) in the center of Big Hickory Bay. The mouth of the Imperial River is approximately 2.1 km to the south of the sonde’s location and is the closest tributary. The average depth at MHW is approximately 1.40 meters. Tides are mixed semidiurnal and range from 0.62m to 0.81m (NOAA Tides and Currents website; Fish trap Bay, Estero Bay, FL Datum, Station ID 8725272, 1983-2001 Epoch). Salinities range from 1.6 ppt to 33.6 ppt and fluctuate daily with tides, wind, rainfall, and freshwater discharge (USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2007-5217, Fishtrap Bay data, 10/1/2004 – 09/30/2005). The substrate within the channel is a mixture of sand and silt with no bottom vegetation. Mature red and black mangrove forests dominate the nearby banks of the preserve. The dominant natural vegetation of the watershed is hydric pine, scrubby flatwoods, and cypress. The mouth of Imperial River is approximately 2.1 km downstream from a six-lane highway (SR 41) and approximately 7.6 km from I-75, both of which cross over the tributary.

### Data collection period

Water quality data collection began July 14, 2004 at EB01 and EB02 and November 23, 2004 at EB03. This collection began January 1, 2017 and ended December 31, 2017. During this time period there were 18 deployments at each site.

***EB01 (Tom Winter)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Deployment** | **Start Date** | **End Date** |
| 1 | 01121316 | 12/14/2016 12:04 | 1/5/2017 11:42 |
| 2 | 01010417 | 1/5/2017 11:42 | 1/31/2017 9:36 |
| 3 | 01013017 | 1/31/2017 9:36 | 2/28/2017 9:15 |
| 4 | 01022717 | 2/28/2017 9:15 | 3/22/2017 7:50 |
| 5 | 01032117 | 3/22/2017 7:50 | 4/20/2017 11:25 |
| 6 | 01041917 | 4/20/2017 11:25 | 5/9/2017 8:02 |
| 7 | 01050817 | 5/9/2017 8:02 | 5/31/2017 8:17 |
| 8 | 01053017 | 5/31/2017 8:17 | 6/20/2017 9:53 |
| 9 | 01061917 | 6/20/2017 9:53 | 7/5/2017 12:17 |
| 10 | 01070417 | 7/5/2017 12:17 | 7/25/2017 8:18 |
| 11 | 01072417 | 7/25/2017 8:18 | 8/17/2017 10:54 |
| 12 | 01081617 | 8/17/2017 10:54 | 9/6/2017 8:05 |
| 13 | 01090417 | 9/6/2017 8:05 | 9/26/2017 12:16 |
| 14 | 01092517 | 9/26/2017 12:16 | 10/12/2017 8:37 |
| 15 | 01101117 | 10/12/2017 8:37 | 11/1/2017 12:26 |
| 16 | 01103117 | 11/1/2017 12:26 | 11/21/2017 9:12 |
| 17 | 01112017 | 11/21/2017 9:12 | 12/14/2017 12:37 |
| 18 | 01121317 | 12/14/2017 12:37 | 1/9/2018 13:21 |

***EB02 (Spring Creek)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Deployment** | **Start Date** | **End Date** |
| 1 | 02121316 | 12/14/2016 9:13 | 1/5/2017 10:40 |
| 2 | 02010417 | 1/5/2017 10:40 | 1/31/2017 10:53 |
| 3 | 02013017 | 1/31/2017 10:53 | 2/28/2017 10:32 |
| 4 | 02022717 | 2/28/2017 10:32 | 3/22/2017 9:17 |
| 5 | 02032117 | 3/22/2017 9:17 | 4/20/2017 8:36 |
| 6 | 02041917 | 4/20/2017 9:55 | 5/9/2017 9:04 |
| 7 | 02050817 | 5/9/2017 9:04 | 5/31/2017 9:35 |
| 8 | 02053017 | 5/31/2017 9:35 | 6/20/2017 9:04 |
| 9 | 02061917 | 6/20/2017 9:04 | 7/5/2017 10:51 |
| 10 | 02070417 | 7/5/2017 10:51 | 7/25/2017 9:38 |
| 11 | 02072417 | 7/25/2017 9:38 | 8/17/2017 9:38 |
| 12 | 02081617 | 8/17/2017 9:38 | 9/6/2017 9:03 |
| 13 | 02090417 | 9/6/2017 9:03 | 9/26/2017 10:53 |
| 14 | 02092517 | 9/26/2017 10:53 | 10/12/2017 11:14 |
| 15 | 02101117 | 10/12/2017 11:14 | 11/1/2017 11:02 |
| 16 | 02103117 | 11/1/2017 11:02 | 11/21/2017 10:43 |
| 17 | 02112017 | 11/21/2017 10:43 | 12/14/2017 10:48 |
| 18 | 02121317 | 12/14/2017 10:48 | 1/9/2018 11:44 |

***EB03 (Fish Trap)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Deployment** | **Start Date** | **End Date** |
| 1 | 03121316 | 12/14/2016 10:15 | 1/5/2017 9:57 |
| 2 | 03010417 | 1/5/2017 9:57 | 1/31/2017 12:04 |
| 3 | 03013017 | 1/31/2017 12:04 | 2/28/2017 11:37 |
| 4 | 03022717 | 2/28/2017 11:37 | 3/22/2017 10:01 |
| 5 | 03032117 | 3/22/2017 10:01 | 4/20/2017 10:15 |
| 6 | 03041917 | 4/20/2017 10:15 | 5/9/2017 9:34 |
| 7 | 03050817 | 5/9/2017 9:34 | 5/31/2017 10:18 |
| 8 | 03053017 | 5/31/2017 10:18 | 6/20/2017 8:35 |
| 9 | 03061917 | 6/20/2017 8:35 | 7/5/2017 9:58 |
| 10 | 03070417 | 7/5/2017 9:58 | 7/25/2017 10:46 |
| 11 | 03072417 | 7/25/2017 10:46 | 8/17/2017 8:51 |
| 12 | 03081617 | 8/17/2017 8:51 | 9/6/2017 9:43 |
| 13 | 03090417 | 9/6/2017 9:43 | 9/26/2017 10:06 |
| 14 | 03092517 | 9/26/2017 10:06 | 10/12/2017 10:10 |
| 15 | 03101117 | 10/12/2017 10:10 | 11/1/2017 10:10 |
| 16 | 03103117 | 11/1/2017 10:10 | 11/21/2017 11:28 |
| 17 | 03112017 | 11/21/2017 11:28 | 12/14/2017 10:02 |
| 18 | 03121317 | 12/14/2017 10:02 | 1/9/2018 9:37 |

### Distribution

Considerable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided and meet quality assurance guidelines used by the Florida’s Department of Environmental Protection Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve program. Please note that the included data are estimates of actual conditions subject to improvements in accuracy and precision of field methods over time as well as infrequencies in sampling duration, rendering data in some instances, to be unsuitable for temporal or spatial comparisons. As a result, the user is responsible for interpretations based on supplied data.

Neither the State of Florida nor the Florida Department of Environmental Protection makes any warranty, expressed or implied, including the warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose arising out of the use or inability to use the data, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights.

The PI retains the right to be fully credited for having collected and processed the data. Following academic courtesy standards, the PI and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve, where the data were collected, will be contacted and fully acknowledged in any subsequent publications in which any part of the data are used. The data set enclosed within this package/transmission is only as good as the quality assurance and quality control procedures outlined by the enclosed metadata reporting statement. The user bears all responsibility for its subsequent use/misuse in any further analyses or comparisons.

Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve water quality data and metadata can be obtained from the Research Coordinator at the individual site (please see Principal Investigators and Contact Persons).

### Associated researchers and projects

In addition to this water quality dataset, Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve conducts epibenthic monitoring of five seagrass sites. Starting in 2002, five fixed stations located throughout the aquatic preserve are monitored twice a year, once in the dormant season and once in the growing season, using Braun-Blanquet techniques. Beginning in 2016, macroalgae has been collected at each of these transects during seagrass surveys. These samples are analyzed to determine species present and biomass of each species. Abundance scores are also applied to algae as part of the seagrass monitoring. Two of these seagrass sites are located within close proximity of the EB02 and EB03 sonde locations.

Since 1998, volunteers with the Charlotte Harbor Estuaries Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Network (CHEVWQMN) have collected water quality data once a month at up to 7 sites within Estero Bay (or 46 sites within the greater Charlotte Harbor region). This program is currently coordinated through the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves office in Punta Gorda, FL.

In 2008, EBAP began monitoring the nesting effort of wading and diving birds which use mangrove islands within the bay as rookeries.

Beginning in February 2012, red tide samples for Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s (FWC) Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) have been collected by Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve staff during datasonde retrieval, by the CHEVWQMN volunteers, and/or more often as requested by FWRI.

Lee County and FDEP’s Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration collect water quality samples within Estero Bay and the watershed.

### Physical Structure Descriptors

1. **Sensor specifications:**

Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve deploys YSI 6600 EDS and YSI 6600 – V2 (2) EDS datasondes and YSI EXO2 datasondes. Sensor specifications for YSI 6600 datasondes are as follows:

Parameter: Temperature Units: Celsius (C)

Sensor Type: Thermistor Model#: 6560

Range: -5 to 50 C

Accuracy: +/- 0.15

Resolution: 0.01 C

Parameter: Conductivity

Units: milli-Siemens per cm (mS/cm)

Sensor Type: 4-electrode cell with autoranging Model#: 6560

Range: 0 to 100 mS/cm

Accuracy: +/- 0.5% of reading + 0.001 mS/cm Resolution: 0.001 mS/cm to 0.1 mS/cm (range dependant)

Parameter: Salinity

Units: parts per thousand (ppt)

Sensor Type: Calculated from conductivity and temperature Range: 0 to 70 ppt

Accuracy: +/- 1.0% of reading pr 0.1 ppt, whichever is greater Resolution: 0.01 ppt

Parameter: Dissolved Oxygen % saturation

Sensor Type: Optical probe w/ mechanical cleaning Model#: 6150 ROX

Range: 0 to 500% air saturation

Accuracy: 0-200% air saturation: +/- 1% of the reading or 1% air saturation, whichever is greater 200-500% air saturation: +/- 15% or reading

Resolution: 0.1% air saturation

Parameter: Dissolved Oxygen mg/L (Calculated from % air saturation, temperature, and salinity) Units: milligrams/Liter (mg/L)

Sensor Type: Optical probe w/ mechanical cleaning Model#: 6150 ROX

Range: 0 to 50 mg/L

Accuracy: 0-20 mg/L: +/-0.1 mg/l or 1% of the reading, whichever is greater 20 to 50 mg/L: +/- 15% of the reading

Resolution: 0.01 mg/L

Parameter: Non-vented Level - Shallow (Depth) Units: feet or meters (ft or m)

Sensor Type: Stainless steel strain gauge Range: 0 to 30 ft (9.1 m)

Accuracy: +/- 0.06 ft (0.018 m)

Resolution: 0.001 ft (0.001 m)

Parameter: pH – bulb probe or EDS flat glass probe Units: pH units

Sensor Type: Glass combination electrode Model#: 6561 or 6561FG

Range: 0 to 14 units Accuracy: +/- 0.2 units Resolution: 0.01 units

Parameter: Turbidity

Units: nephelometric turbidity units (NTU)

Sensor Type: Optical, 90 degree scatter, with mechanical cleaning Model#: 6136

Range: 0 to 1000 NTU

Accuracy: +/- 2% of reading or 0.3 NTU (whichever is greater) Resolution: 0.1 NTU

Sensor specifications for YSI EXO2 datasondes are as follows:

Parameter: Temperature Units: Celsius (C)

Sensor Type: Conductivity/Temperature Sensor Model#: 599870

Range: -5 to 35 C and 35 to 50 C Accuracy: +/- 0.01 C and +/-0.05 C Resolution: 0.001 C

Parameter: Conductivity

Units: milli-Siemens per cm (mS/cm)

Sensor Type: Conductivity/Temperature Sensor Model#: 599870

Range: 0 to 200 mS/cm

Accuracy: 0-100 mS/cm: +/- 0.5% of reading + 0.001 mS/cm (whichever is greater), 100-200 mS/cm +/-1% of readings

Resolution: 0.0001 mS/cm to 0.1 mS/cm (range dependent)

Parameter: Salinity

Units: parts per thousand (ppt)

Sensor Type: Calculated from conductivity and temperature Range: 0 to 70 ppt

Accuracy: +/- 1.0% of reading or 0.1 ppt, whichever is greater Resolution: 0.01 ppt

Parameter: Dissolved Oxygen % saturation Sensor Type: Optical Dissolved Oxygen Sensor Model#: 599100-01

Range: 0 to 500% air saturation

Accuracy: 0-200% air saturation: +/- 1% of the reading or 1% air saturation, whichever is greater 200-500% air saturation: +/- 5% of reading

Resolution: 0.1% air saturation

Parameter: Dissolved Oxygen mg/L (Calculated from % air saturation, temperature, and salinity) Units: milligrams/Liter (mg/L)

Sensor Type: Optical Dissolved Oxygen Sensor Model#: 599100-01

Range: 0 to 50 mg/L

Accuracy: 0-20 mg/L: +/-0.1 mg/L or 1% of the reading, whichever is greater 20 to 50 mg/L: +/- 5% of the reading

Resolution: 0.01 mg/L

Parameter: Vented Level- 10m Units: feet or meters (ft or m)

Sensor Type: Integrated Vented Level Sensor Range: 0 to 33 ft (0 to 10 m)

Accuracy: +/- 0.03% FS (+/-0.003 m or +/-0.010 ft) Resolution: 0.001 ft (0.001 m)

Parameter: pH – bulb probe or EDS flat glass probe

Units: pH units

Sensor Type: pH Sensor unguarded Model#: 599702

Range: 0 to 14 units

Accuracy: +/- 0.1 units within +/-10 C of calibration temp.; +/- 0.2 units for entire temp. range Resolution: 0.01 units

Parameter: Turbidity

Units: nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) Sensor Type: Turbidity Sensor

Model#: 599101

Range: 0 to 4000 NTU

Accuracy: 0 to 999 NTU: 0.3 NTU or +/-2% of reading (whichever is greater); 1000 to 4000 NTU: +/-5% of reading

Resolution: 0 to 999 NTU: 0.01 NTU; 1000 to 4000 NTU: 0.1 NTU

### Dissolved Oxygen Qualifier:

### The reliability of the dissolved oxygen (DO) data after 96 hours post-deployment for non-EDS (Extended Deployment System) data sondes may be problematic due to fouling which forms on the DO probe membrane during some deployments (Wenner et al. 2001). Many Aquatic Preserves have upgraded to YSI 6600 EDS data sondes, which increase DO accuracy and longevity by reducing the environmental effects of fouling. The user is therefore advised to consult the metadata and to exercise caution when utilizing the DO data beyond the initial 96-hour time period. However, this potential drift is not always problematic for some uses of the data (e.g., periodicity analysis). It should be noted that the amount of fouling is site specific and that not all data are affected. The Principal Investigator should be contacted concerning the reliability of the DO data because of the site and seasonal variation in the fouling of the DO sensor. EBAP transitioned all dissolved oxygen sensors from rapid pulse to optical type sensors during the June 30, 2010 deployment.

### Depth Qualifier:

The YSI datasondes utilized by Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve are equipped with non-vented depth/level sensors. Readings for non-vented sensors are automatically compensated for water density change due to variations in temperature and salinity; but for all non-vented depth measurements, changes in atmospheric pressure between calibrations appear as changes in water depth. The error is equal to approximately 1.03 cm for every 1 millibar change in atmospheric pressure and is eliminated for vented sensors because they are vented to the atmosphere throughout the deployment time interval. EBAP began calibrating depth with an offset with the December 6, 2011 deployment.

Beginning in 2006, NERR SWMP standard calibration protocol calls for all non-vented depth sensors to read 0 meters at a (local) barometric pressure of 1013.25 mb (760 mm/hg). If accurate atmospheric pressure data are available, non-vented sensor depth measurements can be corrected. After 04/04/12, depth sensors were calibrated with an offset using local barometric pressure measured on site with a Fisher Scientific TM Traceable tm digital barometer.

**Salinity Units Qualifier:**

6600 series sondes report salinity in parts per thousand (ppt) units and the EXO sondes report in practical salinity units (psu). These units are essentially the same and for the AP water quality program purposes are understood to be equivalent, however psu is considered the more appropriate designation. Moving forward the AP program will assign psu salinity units for all data regardless of sonde type.

**Turbidity Qualifier:**

6600 series sondes report turbidity in nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) and the EXO sondes use formazin nephelometric units (FNU). These units are essentially the same but indicate a difference in sensor methodology, for AP water quality program purposes they will be considered equivalent. Moving forward, the AP program will use FNU/NTU as the designated units for all turbidity data regardless of sonde type. If turbidity units and sensor methodology are of concern, please see the Sensor Specifications portion of the metadata.

### Coded variable definitions

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sampling Station: | Sampling Site Code: | Station Code: |
| Tom Winter | EB01 | EB01 |
| Spring Creek | EB02 | EB02 |
| Fish Trap Bay | EB03 | EB03 |

1. **QAQC flag definitions**

QAQC flags provide documentation of the data and are applied to individual data points by insertion into the parameter’s associated flag column (header preceded by an F\_). During primary automated QAQC (performed by the CDMO), -5, -4, and -2 flags are applied automatically to indicate data that is missing and above or below sensor range. All remaining data are then flagged 0, passing initial QAQC checks. During secondary and tertiary QAQC 1, -3, and 5 flags may be used to note data as suspect, rejected due to QAQC, or corrected.

-5 Outside High Sensor Range

-4 Outside Low Sensor Range

-3 Data Rejected due to QAQC

-2 Missing Data

-1 Optional Supported Parameter

 0 Data Passed Initial QAQC Checks

 1 Suspect Data

 2 *Open - reserved for later flag*

 3 Calculated data: non-vented depth/level sensor correction for changes in barometric
pressure

 4 Historical Data: Pre-Auto QAQC

 5 Corrected Data

### QAQC code definitions

QAQC codes are used in conjunction with QAQC flags to provide further documentation of the data and are also applied by insertion into the associated flag column. A short description of each flag and code combination also appears on the notes tabs of the excel file. There are three (3) different code categories, general, sensor, and comment. General errors document general problems with the deployment or YSI datasonde, sensor errors are sensor specific, and comment codes are used to further document conditions or a problem with the data. Only one general or sensor error and one comment code can be applied to a particular data point, but some comment codes can be applied to the entire record in the F\_Record column.

General Errors

GIC No instrument deployed due to ice GIM Instrument malfunction

GIT Instrument recording error; recovered telemetry data GMC No instrument deployed due to maintenance/calibration GNF Deployment tube clogged / no flow

GOW Out of water event

GPF Power failure / low battery

GQR Data rejected due to QA/QC checks GSM See metadata

Sensor Errors

SBO Blocked optic

SCF Conductivity sensor failure SDF Depth port frozen

SDO DO suspect

SDP DO membrane puncture

SIC Incorrect calibration / contaminated standard SNV Negative value

SOW Sensor out of water

SPC Post calibration out of range SSD Sensor drift

SSM Sensor malfunction

SSR Sensor removed / not deployed

STF Catastrophic temperature sensor failure STS Turbidity spike

SWM Wiper malfunction / loss

Comments

CAB Algal bloom

CAF Acceptable calibration/accuracy error of sensor

CAP Depth sensor in water, affected by atmospheric pressure CBF Biofouling

CCU Cause unknown

CDA DO hypoxia (<3 mg/L) CDB Disturbed bottom

CDF Data appear to fit conditions CFK Fish kill

CIP Surface ice present at sample station CLT Low tide

CMC In field maintenance/cleaning CMD Mud in probe guard

CND New deployment begins CRE Significant rain event CSM See metadata

CTS Turbidity spike

CVT Possible vandalism/tampering CWD Data collected at wrong depth

### Post deployment calibration information

***EB01 (Tom Winter)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Deployment** | **SpCond** | **pH 7** | **pH 10** | **Turb (0)** | **Depth (cal val)** | **DO% (cal val)** |
| 1 | 01121316 | 49.25 | 7.08 | 9.99 | 2.8 | -0.126 (-0.109) | 98.6 (98.9) |
| 2 | 01010417 | 48.63 | 6.97 | 9.85 | 7.6 | -0.024 (-0.027) | 99.8 (99.8) |
| 3 | 01013017 | 47.78 | 7.06 | 9.98 | 71.7 | -0.033 (-0.041) | 97.9 (99.6) |
| 4 | 01022717 | 50.06 | 7.02 | 9.93 | 0.8 | -0.064 (-0.054) | 99.5 (99.5) |
| 5 | 01032117 | 48.41 | 7.18 | 10.06 | 211.9 | -0.085 (-0.068) | 98.6 (99.3) |
| 6 | 01041917 | 48.05 | 7.07 | 10.04 | 5.0 | -0.077 (-0.068) | 98.4 (99.4) |
| 7 | 01050817 | 49.39 | 7.09 | 10.04 | 1.3 | -0.057 (-0.054) | 99.1 (99.5) |
| 8 | 01053017 | 49.75 | 6.98 | 10.16 | 1194.4 | -0.087 (-0.095) | 97.9 (99.1) |
| 9 | 01061917 | 49.63 | 7.11 | 10.05 | 2.4 | 0.002 (-0.054) | 67.1 (99.5) |
| 10 | 01070417 | 50.214 | 6.97 | 10.02 | 0.31 | -0.019 (-0.054) | 102.0 (99.5) |
| 11 | 01072417 | 49.9785 | 7.10 | 10.06 | 0.89 | 0.017 (-0.068) | 101.7 (99.3) |
| 12 | 01081617 | 49.6912 | 7.11 | 10.16 | 0.94 | -0.111 (-0.109) | 100.2 (98.9) |
| 13 | 01090417 | 50.1009 | 7.40 | 10.39 | 0.66 | -0.092 (-0.150) | 98.8 (98.5) |
| 14 | 01092517 | 49.6504 | 7.13 | 10.11 | -0.47 | -0.155 (-0.068) | 98.5 (99.4) |
| 15 | 01101117 | 49.9633 | 7.28 | 10.05 | 0.88 | 0.007 (0.000) | 99.3 (100.0) |
| 16 | 01103117 | 49.8131 | 7.11 | 10.08 | 0.36 | -0.027 (-0.054) | 100.0 (99.5) |
| 17 | 01112017 | 49.9066 | 7.01 | 10.02 | -0.10 | 0.069 (-0.014) | 100.3 (99.9) |
| 18 | 01121317 | 49.6058 | 8.37 | 11.16 | -0.49 | -0.028 (-0.027) | 99.7 (99.8) |

***EB02 (Spring Creek)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Deployment** | **SpCond** | **pH 7** | **pH 10** | **Turb (0)** | **Depth (cal val)** | **DO% (cal val)** |
| 1 | 02121316 | 48.91 | 7.04 | 9.99 | 0.9 | -0.128 (-0.122) | 98.3 (98.8) |
| 2 | 02010417 | 48.37 | 7.06 | 9.95 | 25.2 | -0.019 (-0.014) | 0.0 (99.9) |
| 3 | 02013017 | 50.35 | 6.98 | 9.87 | 1.7 | -0.040 (-0.041) | 99.6 (99.8) |
| 4 | 02022717 | 48.17 | 7.09 | 10.00 | 4.0 | -0.073 (-0.054) | 100.0 (99.5) |
| 5 | 02032117 | 48.54 | 7.04 | 9.89 | 1.6 | -0.071 (-0.068) | 100.1 (99.3) |
| 6 | 02041917 | 47.84 | 7.02 | 9.96 | -0.6 | -0.072 (-0.068) | 99.2 (99.3) |
| 7 | 02050817 | 51.89 | 7.07 | 9.97 | 2357.6 | -0.060 (-0.041) | 99.0 (99.6) |
| 8 | 02053017 | 49.87 | 6.98 | 10.13 | 1.3 | -0.002 (-0.095) | 99.3 (99.1) |
| 9 | 02061917 | 49.79 | 7.32 | 10.36 | 0.8 | -0.003 (-0.054) | 99.9 (99.5) |
| 10 | 02070417 | 49.05 | 6.96 | 10.00 | 350.6 | -0.021 (-0.041) | 98.8 (99.6) |
| 11 | 02072417 | 52.29 | 7.11 | 10.04 | 424.8 | -0.086 (-0.068) | 101.2 (99.3) |
| 12 | 02081617 | 49.37 | 6.99 | 10.03 | 0.5 | -0.028 (-0.109) | 98.1 (98.9) |
| 13 | 02090417 | 50.42 | 7.03 | 10.03 | 320.2 | -0.133 (-0.150) | 98.9 (98.5) |
| 14 | 02092517 | 50.03 | 7.09 | 10.04 | 0.6 | -0.113 (-0.054) | 98.7 (99.5) |
| 15 | 02101117 | 46.91 | 7.07 | 10.03 | 0.1 | -0.004 (0.000) | 99.5 (100.0) |
| 16 | 02103117 | 50.95 | 7.01 | 9.96 | -0.5 | -0.060 (-0.041) | 99.3 (99.6) |
| 17 | 02112017 | 43.73 | 7.02 | 10.01 | 0.3 | 0.040 (-0.014) | 101.8 (99.9) |
| 18 | 02121317 | 49.58 | 7.07 | 10.01 | 1.7 | -0.044 (-0.014) | 99.6 (99.9) |

***EB03 (Fish Trap)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Deployment** | **SpCond** | **pH 7** | **pH 10** | **Turb (0)** | **Depth (cal val)** | **DO% (cal val)** |
| 1 | 03121316 | 50.56 | 6.95 | 9.84 | 2.7 | -0.121 (-0.122) | 98.6 (98.8) |
| 2 | 03010417 | 48.37 | 7.16 | 10.14 | 1.7 | -0.027 (-0.027) | 99.0 (99.8) |
| 3 | 03013017 | 49.64 | 7.23 | 10.18 | 0.9 | -0.037 (-0.041) | 98.7 (99.6) |
| 4 | 03022717 | 50.02 | 7.02 | 9.99 | 2.6 | -0.056 (-0.054) | 102.4 (99.5) |
| 5 | 03032117 | 48.87 | 7.09 | 9.96 | -1.3 | -0.063 (-0.068) | 99.0 (99.3) |
| 6 | 03041917 | 48.62 | 7.08 | 10.02 | 0.3 | -0.074 (-0.068) | 99.4 (99.4) |
| 7 | 03050817 | 50.04 | 7.24 | 10.29 | 23.2 | -0.059 (-0.041) | 99.5 (99.6) |
| 8 | 03053017 | 49.47 | 6.87 | 9.83 | 0.3 | -0.091 (-0.095) | 99.4 (99.1) |
| 9 | 03061917 | 49.61 | 7.10 | 10.08 | 33.2 | -0.054 (-0.054) | 99.6 (99.5) |
| 10 | 03070417 | 48.90 | 6.97 | 9.89 | 0.1 | -0.024 (-0.041) | 98.3 (99.6) |
| 11 | 03072417 | 49.08 | 7.02 | 9.93 | 0.9 | -0.031 (-0.068) | 99.9 (99.3) |
| 12 | 03081617 | 49.91 | 7.12 | 10.07 | 0.8 | -0.107 (-0.109) | 98.6 (98.9) |
| 13 | 03090417 | 50.30 | 6.92 | 9.93 | 1.1 | -0.146 (-0.150) | 98.2 (98.5) |
| 14 | 03092517 | 49.26 | 7.16 | 10.12 | 2.2 | -0.136 (-0.068) | 98.6 (99.4) |
| 15 | 03101117 | 48.91 | 7.01 | 9.97 | 22.9 | -0.020 (0.000) | 100.5 (100.0) |
| 16 | 03103117 | 48.63 | 7.21 | 10.16 | 14.5 | -0.064 (-0.041) | 100.6 (99.6) |
| 17 | 03112017 | 49.53 | 7.15 | 10.13 | 90.7 | 0.010 (-0.014) | 101.6 (99.9) |
| 18 | 03121317 | 49.71 | 7.04 | 9.92 | 0.7 | 0.002 (-0.027) | 100.0 (99.8) |

1. **Other remarks/notes**

All data files are QAQC’d using the 2012 CDMO Excel macro. This macro automatically flags negative turbidity values between 0 and -2 NTU as Suspect <1> with the comment Acceptable Calibration/Accuracy Error of Sensor (CAF). In addition, the macro automatically flags DO values less than 3 mg/L as Passed Initial QAQC Checks <0> with the comment DO Hypoxia (<3 mg/L) (CDA). The DO flag is based on Federal standards. During the primary QAQC session, any reading that falls outside a sensor’s range (see section II. Physical Structure descriptors) is rejected (-3). For example, all turbidity readings over 1000 NTU are rejected (-3, SBO). Small negative depth readings where all other data is in line are marked suspect (1, SNV, CAP) per the CDMO manual since this is within the accuracy of the sensor. The shallow depth sensor is a non-vented probe that is susceptible to changes in barometric pressure when deployed in shallow estuaries, please refer to the depth qualifier under Section II. Additionally, negative turbidity readings between 0 and -2 have been flagged as suspect data (1, SNV, CAF) since the value is within the accuracy of the probe per the CDMO operations manual. Data from all out of water events (distinguished by both low SpCond values and low/negative depths) has all been rejected (-3, GOW, CLT)

Additionally, for Estero Bay, anomalous turbidity readings >126 NTU (the high calibration value), not within a well-defined turbidity peak (e.g., neighboring readings are not close), are marked as a suspect turbidity spike (1, STS). These readings may either be caused by optical interference by animals or fouling, or an unknown local disturbance. A description of all other flag/code combinations that appear in the dataset are noted below.

## EB01 (Tom Winter)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Deployment** | **Other Notes** |
| 01121316 | First pH reading of deployment (12/14/16 12:30) rejected since it appears that pH took a little bit to acclimate. The reading is much lower than those following it and does not match the field reading taken onsite. |
| 01010417 | DO wiper may be partly interfering since readings seem to fluctuate after it wipes; turbidity wiper loose and not contacting probe when it wipes and there is some fouling on the probe. Turbidity readings from 1/5-1/19 marked suspect, from 1/20-1/31 rejected. Values for deployment beginning 1/31 marked suspect. |
| 01013017 | turbidity kept fluctuating during post-cal from ~14 to ~70 NTU. Fouling level medium. Turbidity readings marked suspect through 2/21 at 0:00 where drift appears to begin, then marked rejected through end of deployment. |
| 01022717 | Do wiper not parked at 180 upon retrieval, but seemed to collect good readings during post-cal. |
| 01032117 | Fouling heavy: tube worms and tunicates (one growing partly over the turbidity optical port), likely caused the turbidity to fail its post-deployment verification. Data before 4/14 marked suspect, rejected after 4/14 |
| 01041917 | DO wiper not parked at 180 upon retrieval but readings were within range during post-calibration. All turbidity readings should be rejected since the readings were out of the acceptable range during post-deployment calibration verification, but through 5/1 marked suspect only. After 5/1 rejected due to drift. |
| 01050817 | Heavy fouling |
| 01053017 | Turbidity wiper not at 180 upon retrieval; heavy fouling. During post-cal, DO red in 90s for brief spell then zeros; reset wiper and worked again, dropping to zero occasionally (Graph indicates may need to reject readings for this deployment). Turbidity read over 1000 NTU for almost whole deployment. Rejected all DO and Turbidity data for this deployment. |
| 01061917 | Do readings ~49% at beginning of post-cal, slowly increased over a few hours in the bucket (maybe the membrane got dehydrated but it also appears a good portion of the black paint on the membrane got scraped off). Rejected all DO readings for this deployment. |
| 01070417 | First deployment with EXO2! |
| 01072417 |  No other notes. |
| 01081617 | Heavy, consistent rains concurrent with Texas' Hurricane Harvey from 8/25-8/27: look at rain, salinity and turbidity; wiper fell off during deployment. Distinct turbidity peak includes some high readings, did not mark those suspect or rejected since they're within a defined turbidity event during the heavy rains. Drift may have occurred at end of deployment, flagged readings late in deployment as suspect. |
| 01090417 | HURRICANE IRMA: Heavy wind and rain on 9/10 and 9/11. Suspect out of water event on 9/10 beginning 06:30 to 18:15. Reports indicate that winds pushed a great deal of water out of the bay and offshore. |
| 01092517 |  No other notes. |
| 01101117 | Wiper fell off; pH slope a bit low on return. All turbidity readings above 1000 NTU were rejected. There appears to be a turbidity peak on 10/20. Other values greater than 126 marked suspect. Sensor drift appears toward end of deployment, so marked suspect from 10/22 at 12:00. |
| 01103117 | Rejected turbidity greater than 1000 NTU |
| 01112017 | Rejected turbidity greater than 1000 NTU |
| 01121317 | pH sensor drift occurred so all pH readings rejected. Turbidity greater than 126 NTU marked suspect as it seems anomalous. |

***EB02 (Spring Creek)***

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| --- | --- |
| **Deployment** | **Other Notes** |
| 02121316 | All instances of turbidity readings >1000 NTU flagged as rejected. All turbidity readings >126 NTU marked as suspect as they did not occur as part of a clearly defined turbidity peak |
| 02010417 | DO sensor read zero the entire deployment, therefore readings rejected due to sensor malfunction. All turbidity readings > 1000 NTU rejected. See notes in file regarding turbidity, but all readings beginning 1/24 at 10:15 rejected due to sensor drift. Sensor out of water on 1/08/17 from 4:15-6:00; those readings all rejected. Turbidity peak between 1/07 and 1/09and between 1/21 and 1/24 not rejected since time corresponds with heavy winds. |
| 02013017 | Out of water event on 2/10/17 from 8:00-9:00; those readings rejected. All turbidity readings >1000 NTU rejected. All greater than 126 NTU marked as suspect turbidity spikes. Some readings seem anomalous, not part of distinct peaks, but nothing seemed wrong during post deployment calibration verification. |
| 02022717 | Tube knocked at weird angle--likely hit by boat. Turbidity high on post-cal; therefore readings rejected. All readings should be considered suspect since they may have been taken at wrong depth. |
| 02032117 | The tube remained at an angle for the duration of this deployment. Readings not likely impacted by the angle of change but marked as suspect since depth may not have been right. |
| 02041917 | Previous datasonde retrieved at 8:36, but fixing the tube took time so this sonde was not deployed until 9:55 leading to a data gap during which all data should be rejected. |
| 02050817 | DO would occasionally just read zeroes during post-cal but data doesn't seem to show that; Turbidity readings very high during post-cal but no high readings in data from field (probe somehow damaged in transport?). All data rejected since there's no way to ascertain accuracy. Disjoint between deployments for pH and salinity. |
| 02053017 | Salinity drops after 6/4 due to rain events after a prolonged dry period. A few turbidity readings marked suspect as they were greater than 126 NTU and appeared outside of defined turbidity peaks. |
| 02061917 | pH high but within acceptable range on post-cal; lots of tiny crabs |
| 02070417 | Turbidity probe heavily fouled; once cleaned read -0.1 NTU in zero standard. All turbidity readings rejected due to drift but hard to determine where drift began. |
| 02072417 | Turbidity all over the place-started in thousands then @209 NTU, wiped then -3.3 NTU but rose steadily… heavily fouled. All turbidity data rejected. SpC and Salinity readings on 8/09 at 0:30 and 01:30 rejected likely due to some form of sensor malfunction. Several DO readings between 8/05 and 8/09 were 0 and appear anomalous, possibly due to a block window. They were marked rejected. |
| 02081617 | Heavy, consistent rains concurrent with Texas' Hurricane Harvey from 8/25-8/27: look at rain, salinity and turbidity. Turbidity high at end of deployment likely due to rain event. One reading on 8/22 >200 NTU marked suspect since it occurs outside a defined peak. |
| 02090417 | Hurricane IRMA on 9/10 and 9/11. Suspect out of water event on 9/10 between 07:30 and 17:15 marked suspect. Reports of winds pushing water out of bay. All turbidity readings greater than 1000 NTU rejected and >126 marked as suspect. All readings from 9/21 through end of deployment rejected due to sensor drift from biofouling. |
| 02092517 | No other notes. |
| 02101117 | SpC out of range, rejected SpC, Sal, DO, depth. All turbidity data >1000 NTU rejected and >126 marked suspect. Defined turbidity peak on 10/29 (turbidity readings not marked for that). Lots of points with high turbidity values, possibly due to crabs in the guard. |
| 02103117 | All turbidity values >1000 marked rejected, >126 marked suspect. |
| 02112017 | Specific conductivity out of range during post calibration, therefore all SpC, DO, salinity, and depth data rejected. Turbidity values greater than 126 marked suspect and those greater than 1000 marked rejected. |
| 02121317 | All turbidity values >1000 marked rejected, >126 marked suspect. |

***EB03 (Fish Trap)***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Deployment** | **Other Notes** |
| 03121316 | Very low tides caused several out of water events, marked as rejected. All turbidity readings <0 or >126 marked as suspect, all >1000 marked as rejected. |
| 03010417 | Several out of water events (see notes in file) marked as rejected; negative depths and turbidity readings marked as suspect. Turbidity readings above 1000 NTU rejected and those above 126 suspect. |
| 03013017 | pH probe was heavily fouled (appears that copper screen slid off of it during deployment). pH mV slope was low (161.7). Out of water events (see more detailed notes in data file). |
| 03022717 | Depth ports filled with fouling upon retrieval, but post-calibration values very close to what they should be. Out of water events. |
| 03032117 | Upon post-cal, SpC fluctuating but only within a 0.5 ms/cm range. Stone crab found in crab guard. Turbidity readings >1000 NTU marked rejected; >126 marked suspect. Out of water events. |
| 03041917 | Turbidity readings >1000 NTU marked rejected, >126 NTU marked suspect. Out of water events. |
| 03050817 | Bryozoan growing on wiper sticks out over window causing high turbidity. All readings rejected. Some out of water events due to extreme low tides. |
| 03053017 | fouling in depth port did not seem to interfere with readings. Out of water events rejected. Abrupt change in SpC and salinity beginning on 6/6 due to end of drought and influence shifting between marine and riverine. |
| 03061917 | Turbidity fluctuating a lot during post-cal and out of range; therefore turbidity readings rejected for this deployment. |
| 03070417 | Heavy fouling. Out of water events rejected. |
| 03072417 | Turbidity readings from 8/13/17 6:30-end of deployment rejected. It looked like sensor drift but there's a pattern of peaks that may have been caused by the presence of a goby in the guard. See Notes tab in file. |
| 03081617 | Heavy, consistent rains concurrent with Texas' Hurricane Harvey from 8/25-8/27: look at rain, salinity and turbidity. Salinity falls dramatically, and depths increase. pH drops. Due to dramatic decline in salinity due to torrential rains, did not reject events of low salinity and depth (likely not out of water events). Negative depths all marked as suspect though. |
| 03090417 | HURRICANE IRMA on 9/10 and 9/11. 9/10 5:30-17:00 likely an out of water event due to high winds pushing water out of the bay. Marked rejected. Other low depths and low specific conductivities but marked suspect as they may represent tidal flushing from the Imperial River. Lots of hypoxia events automatically flagged. Turbidity readings >1000 rejected and >126 marked suspect unless part of defined peak such as 9/9-9/11 and 9/17. |
| 03092517 | Hypoxic events automatically flagged. Negative depths marked suspect. |
| 03101117 | Turbidity out range. Blue crab in guard, lots of barnacle fouling. Marked suspect at beginning. Marked rejected due to drift beginning 10/24. All negative depths marked suspect. Some low SpC and salinity readings but hard to determine if that's due to freshwater layer or out of water event. Left them unmarked. |
| 03103117 | Turbidity out of range; all readings rejected. Heavy fouling. Some suspected out of water events but may be freshwater wedge. All negative depth readings marked suspect. |
| 03112017 | Heavy Fouling. All turbidity readings rejected due to failure to verify during post cal. Some suspected out of water events but may be freshwater wedge. All negative depth readings marked suspect. |
| 03121317 | All turbidity readings >126 NTU that don't fall within a defined turbidity peak marked rejected. |

**Acknowledgement:** The data included with this document were collected by the staff of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection at the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve. Any products derived from these data should clearly acknowledge this source (please use the attached logo). This recognition is important for ensuring that this long-term monitoring program continues to receive the necessary political and financial support.

