

Chesapeake Bay Maryland (CBM) NERR Water Quality Metadata
January - December 2014
Latest Update: January 8, 2016

I. Data Set and Research Descriptors

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2) Entry verification

Deployment data are uploaded from the YSI data logger to a Personal Computer (IBM compatible). Files are exported from EcoWatch in a comma-delimited format (.CDF) and uploaded to the CDMO where they undergo automated primary QAQC; automated depth/level corrections for changes in barometric pressure (cDepth or cLevel parameters); and become part of the CDMO's online provisional database. All pre- and post-deployment data are removed from the file prior to upload. A reserve may opt to include additional non-required data during primary upload, such as chlorophyll/fluorescence data. CBM NERR does collect and upload chlorophyll fluorescence data (see section 4 for additional chlorophyll methodology information). During primary QAQC, data are flagged if they are missing or out of sensor range. The edited file is then returned to the Reserve for secondary QAQC where it is

opened in Microsoft Excel and processed using the CDMO's NERRQAQC Excel macro. The macro inserts station codes, creates metadata worksheets for flagged data and summary statistics, and graphs the data for review. It allows the user to apply QAQC flags and codes to the data, remove any overlapping deployment data, append files, and export the resulting data file for upload to the CDMO. CBM NERR applies codes to data that are out of water due to low water depth, data obtained from sensors that malfunctioned/broke/post-calibrated out of range, data skewed by heavy biofouling, and data that appear as anomalous "spikes." To objectify what qualifies as a spiked data point and decrease the inherent subjectivity of such determinations, a data point is coded as a blocked optic or turbidity/chlorophyll spike if it is at least three times greater than both its preceding and following values. Other anomalous data are coded with the appropriate code as well as a "see metadata" code to further explain their exclusion from the dataset. Upload after secondary QAQC results in ingestion into the database as provisional plus data, recalculation of cDepth or cLevel parameters, and finally tertiary QAQC by the CDMO and assimilation into the CDMO's authoritative online database. Where deployment overlap occurs between files, the data produced by the newly calibrated sonde is generally accepted as being the most accurate. For more information on QAQC flags and codes, see Sections 11 and 12. Stephanie Hall is responsible for data management at CBM NERR

3) Research Objectives

One of the objectives of the monitoring program at CBM NERR is to conform to the NERR System Wide Monitoring Program (SWMP) where the overall goal is a long-term dataset providing baseline water quality information capable of tracking trends and identifying changes in water quality over temporal and spatial scales. In addition to the aforementioned NERR-wide research objectives, reserve-specific objectives include understanding how anthropogenic activities affect water quality and examining the effects of submerged macrophyte communities on water quality. To accomplish this, monitoring sites were selected that characterize the variety of habitat and water quality conditions existing at two of the three components that make up the CBM NERR, the Jug Bay and Otter Point Creek components. At the Jug Bay component, three sites were selected that span the range of conditions thought to be typical of this site. These sites include a reference site, an impaired site and a mainstem site; where the reference site is thought to have little anthropogenic-induced effect on water quality, an impaired site where anthropogenic activities strongly influence local water quality, and a mainstem site thought to be highly representative of mainstem water quality conditions at the Jug Bay component. The fourth and final site is located at the Otter Point Creek component, a much smaller component, and is thought to represent typical water quality conditions at this site. All four sites span the range of habitat conditions at these components to include varying abundances of submerged macrophyte communities as well as varying depth and energy regimes from shallow tidal creeks to proportionately deep tidal river systems to shallow open water embayments. Additional monitoring, outside the scope of this effort, is being done at all three components; Jug Bay, Otter Point Creek, and Monie Bay Components. These efforts use comparable field sampling methods, with high spatial resolution, to better understand the spatial variability between and around the sites monitored in this effort.

4) Research methods (YSI dataloggers)

Water quality measurements were taken every 15 minutes from January through December 2014 at each station, weather permitting. One YSI6600V2 data logger is deployed at each station. All data are recorded in Eastern Standard Time. When a datasonde is retrieved, another one is deployed at the same time to ensure a continuous dataset. During transport to and from the sampling sites, dataloggers are placed horizontally in a cooler with a damp towel. The cooler lid is kept slightly ajar, allowing the datalogger to be in equilibrium with the ambient barometric pressure.

Deployment apparatus' are constructed out of 4" diameter PVC pipe and suspended vertically in the water column. 2" diameter holes are cut into the PVC pipes at 2" intervals to guarantee free flow of water through the PVC pipe. The pipes are painted with Trinidad SR antifouling paint. The pipe is attached to a 2x4 using copper plated clevis hangers. The 2x4 is bolted to a piling with the bottom of the PVC pipe resting on the bottom of the river. A stop bolt was placed 0.25 meters from the bottom of the pipe to keep the YSI instrument at a constant depth above bottom.

Measurements for temperature, specific conductance, salinity, percent oxygen saturation, dissolved oxygen concentration, water depth, pH, turbidity, and chlorophyll fluorescence are recorded every 15 minutes. Deployments range from one to four weeks, depending on biofouling intensity (temperature dependent) and availability of field

personnel. When a deployment concludes, dataloggers are replaced with newly serviced and calibrated instruments. At the time of replacement two (2) simultaneous overlapping readings are taken between the old and new YSI instruments, as well as an in situ reading with a series 3 or 4a Hydrolab sonde. All simultaneous overlapping readings are taken prior to the previously deployed sonde being disturbed in any way. Once retrieved, the sondes are placed in a cooler with a damp towel for transport back to the lab. The sondes are then placed in a bucket with 100% air-saturated water, continuing to log data every 15 minutes. DO post-calibration record is taken from this logged data the following morning, using the current barometric pressure reading from a mercury barometer. Logging is then stopped, and YSI sondes are post calibrated using the same standards as used in the calibration.

Deployment data are collected and data are uploaded onto a PC, archived, and then visually examined. Efforts are made to relate sensor conditions to any apparent outliers or anomalies (eg. battery charge status, or normal DO data at the beginning of a deployment may be distinguished from erroneous data resulting from a known malfunction, such as an electrical short in an optical sensor). Data loggers and sensors are cleaned, serviced and calibrated according to the methods described in the YSI Operating Manual and SWMP Operating Procedures. Laboratory calibration procedures are carried out in accordance with the YSI Operating Manual methods. Standards for turbidity are purchased from YSI. Standards for pH and Chlorophyll are purchased from Fisher Scientific, a YSI approved vendor. Specific conductance standards are prepared in-house, from A.C.S. certified KCl. Data are reviewed and edited according to the YSI Data Review and Editing Protocol in Appendix B of the CDMO manual. The pH, specific conductance, depth, turbidity, and chlorophyll sensors are calibrated using the following methods: 2-point pH 7 and 10, specific conductance standard to the nearest concentration of river (with following standards 6.668 mS/cm and 24.82 mS/cm), pressure-dependant depth in the air, 2-point turbidity standards of 0 (deionized water) and 126 NTU's, 2-point chlorophyll standards of 0 (deionized water) and temperature-dependent Rhodamine WT standard. The DO sensor is calibrated using the YSI recommended aerated water in a bucket method. As a quality assurance check, YSI datalogger records during sonde deployment and retrieval are compared to the series 3 or 4a Hydrolab instrument. Post-deployment measurements of all the parameters are recorded before cleaning the data loggers. Sensors are immersed in the appropriate standard solutions (e.g., pH) and readings recorded using discreet sampling.

Because chlorophyll fluorescence data is collected *in vivo* there is an inherent loss of accuracy due to lack of disruption of the cells and subsequent extraction of chlorophyll, possible interference from other fluorescent organisms, and the inverse effects of temperature and light. Chlorophyll data should be used only as estimates of chlorophyll activity, not as accurate quantitative measurements. These limitations are reduced by following calibration and Rhodamine WT standard protocol according to the YSI Operating Manual. Chlorophyll data are considered as accurate as possible when matchup readings correlate and post-calibration is within range of the temperature-dependent standard, suggesting there was no sensor drift in readings during the deployment. For more accurate chlorophyll measurements contact the Research Coordinator for the extractive analysis data obtained from field grab samples.

A Sutron Sat-Link2 transmitter was installed at the Railroad Bridge (RR) station on 11/18/05 and transmits data to the NOAA GOES satellite, NESDIS ID # 3B00629C. A Sutron Sat-Link2 transmitter was also installed at the Otter Point Creek (OC) station on 09/25/2006 and transmits data to the NOAA GOES satellite, NESDIS ID # 3B03D61C. The transmissions are scheduled hourly and contain four (4) datasets reflecting fifteen minute data sampling intervals. Upon receipt by the CDMO, the data undergoes the same automated primary QAQC process detailed in Section 2 above. The "real-time" telemetry data become part of the provisional dataset until undergoing secondary and tertiary QAQC and assimilation in the CDMO's authoritative online database. Provisional and authoritative data are available at <http://cdmo.baruch.sc.edu>.

5) Site location and character

The Chesapeake Bay Maryland NERR is comprised of three components, Otter Point Creek, Jug Bay, and Monie Bay, which are scattered throughout the Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay. All three components are thought to represent the diverse semi-diurnal estuarine environments of the Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay.

Otter Point Creek is a shallow, open water embayment located in the tidal headwaters of the Bush River on the Upper Western Shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Otter Point Creek is the smallest and proportionately shallowest of the three components and consists of 672 acres of open water, tidal marshes, forested wetlands and upland hardwood forests surrounded by major highways, large residential communities, and heavy commercial and industrial development. The watershed draining into Otter Point Creek is rapidly being developed and urbanized. As a result, sediments are rapidly accreting into the marsh and are very fine and flocculent resulting in typically high turbidity when submerged macrophytes are not present. The non-native *Hydrilla verticillata* submerged macrophyte invaded the marsh in 2002 and has colonized most bottom substrates less than one half meter depth at low tide. There is one station (OC) located at the Otter Point Creek component.

Jug Bay is located in the upper tidal reaches of the Patuxent River and represents a river dominated by tidal freshwater marsh with expansive emergent vegetation communities. The Patuxent River is located on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay and drains highly urbanized areas of the Washington Metropolitan area. Jug Bay is a 722-acre tidal estuary providing a narrow transition zone between brackish marshes and upland freshwater wetlands. The broad, shallow waters of Jug Bay support a profusion of freshwater plants and animals. Emergent and submerged vegetation crowd the river channel and form an interlaced pattern of tidal and nontidal marshes, swamps and forested wetlands surrounded by upland woods and fields. The component has deep water river dominated areas (>10m depth) as well as an extensive shallow water (<1m depth) network of tidal creeks and flooded mud flats. Submerged macrophytes are persistent along the shoreline of these creeks and are extensive within the flooded mud flats and the emergent marshes. There are three stations (MC, RR, IP) located at the Jug Bay Component.

Monie Bay is located on the lower Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay at the mouth of the Wicomico River. The Monie Bay Component represents a mesohaline bay with primarily three tidal creeks representing a variety of agricultural input. The local area is largely undeveloped with varying agriculture and rural residential land use. The component is dominated by salt marshes with tidal fresh marshes in the upper tidal reaches of the tributaries. Shallow water habitats give way to fringing submerged macrophyte communities. One monitoring site is located within this component though the data are not submitted to the CDMO as SWMP compliant. These data may be obtained directly from the reserve.

The following is a list of the 4 sites as well as site characteristics

Mataponi Creek (MC)

38° 44.599'N, 76° 42.446'W (NAD83)

38.74331667, -76.70743333 (GIS format)

Site MC is located in a small tributary off the upper tidal headwaters of the Patuxent River, Maryland. MC is 2.4 km upstream of the mouth, midchannel in the creek, which is approximately 7m wide. The southern bank is steep and covered mainly with hardwood trees while the northern bank is tidal marsh. The sonde is deployed vertically in a perforated PVC pipe. Average depth at this site is roughly 0.7 meters with a mean tidal fluctuation of approximately 0.6 m. The YSI is deployed 0.25m off of the creek bottom. Salinities at this site rarely exceed 0.1 ppt. The bottom habitat is soft sediment, and SAV grassbeds are abundant during the summer months. Because this site is located along the main channel of Mataponi Creek, water quality is reflective of the general quality of water flowing along the main portion of the creek. The SAV community at this site is seasonally very dense and thus water quality is thought to be strongly influenced by the presence of SAV during the summer months. Freshwater inputs are not quantified. Any pollutants would most likely be due to agricultural runoff. No USGS gauge for streamflow is available.

Railroad Bridge (RR)

38° 46.877'N, 76° 42.822'W (NAD 83)

38.78128333, -76.7137 (GIS format)

Site RR is located in the mainstem of the upper tidal headwaters of the Patuxent River, Maryland. The site is slightly upstream (roughly 0.3km) from Jackson's Landing at the Patuxent River Park (previous PR site 2002). This section of the Patuxent River is approximately 70m wide and average depth at the site is 1.4m. The YSI is deployed 0.25 m off of the river bottom. Bottom habitat is soft sediment, and grassbeds are evident in the area during summer

months. Mean tidal fluctuation is approximately 0.6 m. Salinities are typically less than 1 ppt at this site throughout the year. In 2003 this site was moved from 38° 46' 50.6" N, 76° 42' 29.1" W (Jug Bay) to its present location because of the shallow nature of the old site. The new site location (RR) is at the end of the old railroad bed and is deployed vertically in a perforated PVC pipe near midchannel of the Patuxent River. Because this site is located along the main channel of the Patuxent River, water quality is reflective of the general quality of water flowing along the main portion of the river. The site is roughly 1km downstream of the confluence of the Western Branch tributary and the Patuxent River Mainstem, thus water quality is influenced by Western Branch. A large wastewater treatment plant (averaging 20 mgd) discharges directly into the Western Branch tributary of the Patuxent River just upstream of IP. USGS streamflow for the closest gauge (Latitude 38°57'21.3"N, Longitude 76°41'37.3"W NAD83): yearly mean of approximately 350 – 430 cfs.

Iron Pot Landing (IP)
38° 47.760'N, 76° 43.248' W (NAD 83)
38.796, -76.7208 (GIS Format)

Site IP is located 2.09km from the mouth of Western Branch. IP is attached vertically off of a small pier near midchannel of the river and has an average depth of 1.6m. The YSI is deployed 0.25 m off of the river bottom. The site is roughly 1km downstream of a large (20 mgd) wastewater treatment plant effluent. The river is approximately 15m wide and flows through extensive riparian buffers. Both banks of the river are flanked by hardwood flora. Mean tidal fluctuation is approximately 0.6 m. Salinity at this site is generally 0.1 ppt. Bottom habitat is soft sediment, and grassbeds are evident during the summer months. USGS streamflow for the closest gauge (Latitude 38°48'51.2"N, Longitude 76°44'55.4"W NAD83): yearly mean of approximately 100 – 130 cfs. In addition, a wastewater treatment plant discharges about 15 – 30 cfs about 1 km upstream of site.

Otter Point Creek (OC)
39° 27.047'N, 76° 16.474'W (NAD 83)
39.45078333, -76.27456667 (GIS Format)

Site OC is located approximately 0.3km from the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center. OC is deployed vertically in a perforated PVC pipe and has an average depth of 0.7m. The YSI is deployed 0.25 m off of the creek bottom. Bottom habitat is extremely soft sediment, and grass beds inundate the site during summer months. Salinity at this station rarely rises above 0.1 ppt. Mean tidal fluctuation is about 0.3 m. The average water levels are generally lower in the winter due to north and northwest winds that increase the egress from Chesapeake Bay. The sonde is periodically exposed to very low tides, and sediments at the site are extremely fine and flocculent. Because of the shallowness of the tidal marsh, coupled with the dramatic daily changes in the depth and width of the stream, deployments at the site present many problems. These problems include periodic exposure of the sonde, very high turbidity, sedimentation rates associated with tidal infiltration, and wind and wave generated resuspension that causes severe fouling of the probes. Water quality at the site represents extreme shallow water habitats. Thus it is not uncommon to see very large fluctuations in temperature and dissolved oxygen at this site ranging from complete anoxia to full saturation, due in part to the shallow nature of the site and the effects of marsh processes on water quality. Additionally, the site is seasonally dominated by dense SAV communities from June-October and thus water quality conditions during this time are likely influenced by the presence of these macrophytes. USGS streamflow for the closest gauge (Latitude 39°26'21.4"N, Longitude 76°18'21.7"W NAD83): yearly mean of approximately 90 cfs. Site is in substantially urban environment which accounts for its flashiness. Pollutants are mostly urban run-off, with some industrial discharge possible.

6) Data collection period

Long-term data collection using sondes at Railroad Bridge (Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary) (RR) began on April 4, 2003; Mataponi Creek (MC) began April 22, 2003; Iron Pot Landing (IP) began April 4, 2003; and Otter Point Creek (OC) began April 15, 2003.

2014 collection dates and times are as follows. All times are in Eastern Standard Time (EST).

Datalogger deployments:

Railroad Bridge
RR

Deployment		Retrieval	
Date	Time	Date	Time
12/04/13	09:45	02/26/14	08:45
02/26/14	09:00	03/13/14	07:30
03/13/14	07:45	04/02/14	09:30
04/02/14	09:45	04/14/14	07:15
04/14/14	07:30	04/29/14	08:15
04/29/14	08:30	05/14/14	08:30
05/14/14	08:45	05/29/14	08:15
05/29/14	08:30	06/26/14	07:45
06/26/14	08:00	07/10/14	07:45
07/10/14	08:00	07/24/14	07:30
07/24/14	07:45	08/07/14	07:30
08/07/14	07:45	08/26/14	08:00
08/26/14	08:15	09/09/14	08:00
09/09/14	08:15	09/23/14	08:00
09/23/14	08:15	10/08/14	07:30
10/08/14	07:45	10/23/14	07:45
10/23/14	08:00	11/13/14	11:45
11/13/14	12:00	12/18/14	11:30
12/18/14	11:45	01/21/15	08:30

Iron Pot Landing
IP

Deployment		Retrieval	
Date	Time	Date	Time
12/04/13	00:00	02/26/14	10:00
02/26/14	10:15	03/13/14	09:00
03/13/14	09:15	04/02/14	10:45
04/02/14	11:00	04/14/14	08:15
04/14/14	08:30	04/29/14	09:30
04/29/14	09:45	05/14/14	09:30
05/14/14	09:45	05/29/14	09:30
05/29/14	09:45	06/11/14	09:30
06/11/14	09:45	06/26/14	09:15
06/26/14	09:30	07/10/14	09:00
07/10/14	09:15	07/24/14	08:30
07/24/14	08:45	08/07/14	09:00
08/07/14	09:15	08/26/14	09:15
08/26/14	09:30	09/09/14	09:30
09/09/14	09:45	09/23/14	09:30
09/23/14	10:30	10/08/14	08:45
10/08/14	09:00	10/23/14	09:00
10/23/14	09:15	11/10/14	10:00
11/10/14	10:15	12/18/14	10:15
12/18/14	10:30	01/21/15	10:15

Mataponi Creek

MC

Deployment		Retrieval	
Date	Time	Date	Time
04/02/14	11:30	04/14/14	09:15
04/14/14	09:30	04/29/14	10:30
04/29/14	10:45	05/14/14	10:45
05/14/14	11:00	05/29/14	10:45
05/29/14	11:00	06/11/14	10:30
06/11/14	10:45	06/26/14	10:45
06/26/14	11:00	07/10/14	09:30
07/10/14	09:45	07/24/14	09:45
07/24/14	10:00	08/07/14	10:15
08/07/14	10:30	08/26/14	10:45
08/26/14	11:00	09/09/14	10:45
09/09/14	11:00	09/23/14	11:00
09/23/14	11:15	10/08/14	09:30
10/08/14	09:45	10/23/14	10:15
10/23/14	10:30	11/10/14	11:15
11/10/14	11:30	12/18/14	09:00

Otter Point Creek

OC

Deployment		Retrieval	
Date	Time	Date	Time
04/09/14	12:45	04/22/14	10:00
04/22/14	10:15	05/06/14	10:00
05/06/14	10:15	05/20/14	09:15
05/20/14	10:15	06/03/14	09:15
06/03/14	09:30	06/18/14	09:30
06/18/14	09:45	07/02/14	10:00
07/02/14	10:15	07/15/14	10:00
07/15/14	10:15	07/31/14	10:00
07/31/14	10:15	08/13/14	09:45
08/13/14	10:00	08/27/14	10:00
08/27/14	10:15	09/11/14	10:00
09/11/14	10:15	09/25/14	09:30
09/25/14	09:45	10/08/14	10:00
10/08/14	10:15	10/21/14	09:45
10/21/14	10:00	11/05/14	10:45
11/05/14	11:00	12/02/14	09:30

7) Distribution

NOAA retains the right to analyze, synthesize and publish summaries of the NERRS System-wide Monitoring Program data. The NERRS retains the right to be fully credited for having collected and process the data. Following academic courtesy standards, the NERR site where the data were collected should 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. The Federal government does

not assume liability to the Recipient or third persons, nor will the Federal government reimburse or indemnify the Recipient for its liability due to any losses resulting in any way from the use of this data.

Requested citation format:

NOAA National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS). System-wide Monitoring Program. Data accessed from the NOAA NERRS Centralized Data Management Office website: <http://www.nerrsdata.org/>; accessed 12 October 2012.

NERR water quality data and metadata can be obtained from the Research Coordinator at the individual NERR site (please see Principal Investigators and Contact Persons), from the Data Manager at the Centralized Data Management Office (please see personnel directory under the general information link on the CDMO home page) and online at the CDMO home page <http://cdmo.baruch.sc.edu/>. Data are available in comma delimited format.

8) Associated researchers and projects

In addition to collecting water quality data with dataloggers, CBNERR also collects water samples for nutrient analysis during each site visitation. These samples are obtained with an alpha bottle concurrently and at the same depth as the overlapping in situ datalogger matchup readings. Each month, the following NOAA/NERRS SWMP required nutrients are obtained and analyzed: orthophosphate (PO_4), ammonium (NH_4), nitrite (NO_2), nitrate (NO_3), and chlorophyll a. These data can be viewed and downloaded from the CDMO at www.nerrsdata.org. In addition to these required nutrient parameters, CBM NERR additionally collects total suspended solids/total volatile solids (TSS/TVS) and total dissolved nitrogen/total dissolved phosphorous (TDN/TDP) every two weeks April-October. Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR) measurements are also taken at each site visitation. These data can be obtained from the research technicians at the reserve (see section 1).

A meteorological station is also installed at the Railroad Bridge (RR) station, which measures air temperature, barometric pressure, relative humidity, wind speed, wind direction, PAR, and cumulative precipitation. These data are also available to view and download from the CDMO at www.nerrsdata.org.

The Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary staff collects weekly to monthly temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, and nutrient samples at four additional sites throughout the Jug Bay marsh in an effort to explore the effects of marsh processes on nutrient cycling. These data provide additional spatial coverage at this component. Additionally, the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center at Otter Point Creek, in conjunction with CBNERR/MD staff, collects bi-weekly temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, total suspended solids, chlorophyll a, and nutrient samples at the same location as datalogger OC, as well as 5 other sites throughout the OC marsh. The goal of this effort is to provide enhanced spatial coverage at this component as well as provide ancillary data useful for submerged macrophyte related research. YSI vented depth sondes were also installed at sites RR and OC during 2004. These data can be made available via contacting the Principal Investigator.

Additional spatially explicit data is available through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), who conducted 'dataflow' cruises throughout the Bush, Patuxent, and Wicomico Rivers (Otter Point, Jug Bay, and Monie Bay components, respectively) in support of their Continuous Monitoring Program. These cruises employ the same YSI 6600 sondes that provide high resolution spatial data within these tributaries and include areas around the four CBM NERR stations (RR, IP, MC, OC). Cruises are conducted once monthly from April-October. In addition, MDNR maintains nearly 35 other similar fixed stations throughout the Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay that are monitored and maintained biweekly from April-October in a similar fashion to CBM NERR sites. For more information about these additional sites or dataflow cruises, see www.eyesonthebay.net or contact the research technicians at the reserve.

II. Physical Structure Descriptors

9) Sensor Specifications

CBM NERR deployed only 6600EDS V2 data sondes with ROX DO sensors and non-vented depth in 2014 at all 4 stations (RR, IP, MC, OC).

YSI 6600V2 data logger:

Parameter: Temperature

Units: Celsius (C)

Sensor Type: Thermistor

Model#: 6560

Range: -5 to 50 °C

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 (range dependent)

Parameter: Salinity

Units: parts per thousand (ppt)

Sensor Type: Calculated from conductivity and temperature

Range: 0 to 70 ppt

Accuracy: +/- 1% of reading or 0.1 ppt, whichever is greater

Resolution: 0.01 ppt

Parameter: Dissolved Oxygen % saturation

Units: percent air 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% 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 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 (0.001m)

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

Parameter: Chlorophyll Fluorescence

Units: micrograms/Liter

Sensor Type: Optical probe w/ mechanical cleaning

Model#: 6025

Range: 0 to 400 ug/Liter

Accuracy: Dependent on methodology

Resolution: 0.1 ug/L chl a, 0.1% FS

Depth Qualifier:

The NERR System-Wide Monitoring Program utilizes YSI data sondes that can be equipped with either vented or non-vented depth/level sensors. Readings for both vented and 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.

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). To achieve this, each site calibrates their depth sensor with a depth offset number, which is calculated using the actual atmospheric pressure at the time of calibration and the equation provided in the SWMP calibration sheet or digital calibration log. This offset procedure standardizes each depth calibration for the entire NERR System. If accurate atmospheric pressure data are available, non-vented sensor depth measurements at any NERR can be corrected.

In 2010, the CDMO began automatically correcting depth/level data for changes in barometric pressure as measured by the Reserve's associated meteorological station during data ingestion. These corrected depth/level data are reported as cDepth and cLevel, and are assigned QAQC flags and codes based on QAQC protocols. Please see sections 11 and 12 for QAQC flag and code definitions.

NOTE: older depth data cannot be corrected without verifying that the depth offset was in place and whether a vented or non-vented depth sensor was in use. No SWMP data prior to 2006 can be corrected using this method. The following equation is used for corrected depth/level data provided by the CDMO beginning in 2010:

$((1013-BP)*0.0102)+\text{Depth/Level} = \text{cDepth/cLevel}$

Salinity Units Qualifier:

In 2013, EXO sondes were approved for SWMP use and began to be utilized by Reserves. While the 6600 series sondes report salinity in parts per thousand (ppt) units, the EXO sondes report practical salinity units (psu). These units are essentially the same and for SWMP purposes are understood to be equivalent, however psu is considered the more appropriate designation. Moving forward the NERR System will assign psu salinity units for all data regardless of sonde type.

Turbidity Qualifier:

In 2013, EXO sondes were approved for SWMP use and began to be utilized by Reserves. While the 6600 series sondes report turbidity in nephelometric turbidity units (NTU), the EXO sondes use formazin nephelometric units (FNU). These units are essentially the same but indicate a difference in sensor methodology, for SWMP purposes they will be considered equivalent. Moving forward, the NERR System 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.

Chlorophyll Fluorescence Disclaimer:

YSI chlorophyll sensors (6025 or 599102-01) are designed to serve as a proxy for chlorophyll concentrations in the field for monitoring applications and complement traditional lab extraction methods; therefore, there are accuracy limitations associated with the data that are detailed in the YSI manual including interference from other fluorescent species, differences in calibration method, and effects of cell structure, particle size, organism type, temperature, and light on sensor measurements.

10) Coded variable definitions

Water Quality Sampling station:	Sampling Site code:	Station code:
Railroad Bridge	RR	cbmrrwq
Mattaponi Creek	MC	cbmmcqw
Iron Pot Landing	IP	cbmipwq
Otter Point Creek.	OC	cbmocwq

11) QAQC flag definitions – This section details the automated and secondary 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 SWMP 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

12) QAQC code definitions – This section details the secondary QAQC Code definitions used in combination with the flags above.

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. 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 (marked with an * below) 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

Corrected Depth/Level Data Codes

GCC	Calculated with data that were corrected during QA/QC
GCM	Calculated value could not be determined due to missing data
GCR	Calculated value could not be determined due to rejected data
GCS	Calculated value suspect due to questionable data
GCU	Calculated value could not be determined due to unavailable data

Sensor Errors

SBO	Blocked optic
SCF	Conductivity sensor failure
SCS	Chlorophyll spike
SDF	Depth port frozen
SDG	Suspect due to sensor diagnostics
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
SQR	Data rejected due to QAQC checks
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
CWE*	Significant weather event
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 (<28% sat)
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

13) Post Deployment Information

End of deployment post-calibration readings in standard solutions:

NA = no data available for that particular standard

Railroad Bridge

Deployment Date	SpCond	DO	pH		Turb		Depth		Chl		
	(6.668)	(100%)	(7)	(10)	(0)	(126)	Sonde	Pressure-determined Offset	(0)	Meter in Rhodo Sol'n	Temp-determined Stnd
mm/dd/yy	mS/cm	sat			NTU		m		µg/L		
02/26/14	6.560	101.3	6.72	6.69	-0.5	125.0	0.054	0.095	0.0	121.4	115.0
03/13/14	6.591	100.5	7.25	10.15	0.6	123.9	0.042	0.054	1.0	117.7	116.0
04/02/14	6.463	96.7	6.59	9.13	-1.9	121.3	-0.122	-0.082	0.0	114.9	115.0
04/14/14	6.324	100.5	7.17	10.17	-0.5	126.4	0.028	0.068	0.1	114.1	116.0
04/29/14	4.758	99.9	6.87	9.79	-0.4	143.4	0.063	0.054	0.1	107.5	110.0
05/14/14	6.404	100.5	7.05	10.05	-1.9	123.5	0.051	0.054	0.3	111.3	109.0
05/29/14	6.667	98.9	7.15	10.12	-2.0	104.8	0.023	0.027	-1.3	108.1	108.0

06/26/14	4.916	100.1	7.03	10.02	-0.1	123.4	0.065	0.068	-0.3	109.3	111.0
07/10/14	1.760	100.0	7.13	10.10	1.8	124.7	0.028	0.014	2.1	118.2	112.0
07/24/14	6.197	99.4	7.04	10.03	3.4	126.5	0.012	0.014	0.6	108.5	109.0
08/07/14	6.001	97.6	6.97	9.95	-0.9	129.5	0.062	0.082	-0.8	114.0	112.0
08/26/14	6.326	99.7	6.98	9.91	-0.6	120.4	0.048	0.059	0.3	115.4	113.0
09/09/14	6.469	99.4	7.05	10.04	1.8	126.0	0.134	0.136	0.4	56.6	113.0
09/23/14	6.278	99.0	6.76	9.98	9.4	154.6	-0.020	-0.014	2.6	102.7	112.0
10/08/14	6.629	99.0	7.27	10.32	2.1	144.0	-0.042	-0.054	1.4	112.1	116.0
10/23/14	6.601	101.0	7.03	10.06	1.0	133.6	0.082	0.054	0.7	120.9	117.0
11/13/14	6.633	98.8	7.30	10.33	-0.2	126.0	0.062	0.054	0.5	117.4	116.0
12/18/14	6.553	0.0	7.03	10.03	0.5	124.1	-99.990	0.109	0.5	125.0	115.0

Mataponi Creek

Deployment Date	SpCond	DO	pH		Turb		Depth		Chl		
								Pressure-determined		Meter in	Temp-determined
	(6.668)	(100%)	(7)	(10)	(0)	(126)	Sonde	Offset	(0)	Rhodo Sol'n	Std
mm/dd/yy	mS/cm	sat			NTU		m		µg/L		
04/02/14	7.013	97.7	6.98	9.92	0.0	121.9	-0.146	-0.082	-0.3	112.1	115.0
04/14/14	6.537	100.6	6.98	10.01	-0.2	125.7	0.056	0.068	-1.1	60.1	115.0
04/29/14	6.390	99.0	7.00	10.03	0.8	139.3	0.057	0.054	0.1	87.9	109.0
05/14/14	6.467	100.3	7.08	10.19	-1.2	123.3	0.040	0.054	-0.5	55.8	108.0
05/29/14	6.561	99.1	7.09	10.06	0.2	-126.0	-0.010	0	0.1	110.0	107.0
06/11/14	6.400	98.2	7.01	9.98	2.0	119.0	0.040	0.014	-0.1	105.4	106.0
06/26/14	6.608	99.4	6.99	10.04	-0.3	117.3	0.079	0.068	-0.2	86.6	112.0
07/10/14	5.633	99.7	7.12	10.07	1.2	126.0	0.017	0.014	0.4	118.0	112.0
07/24/14	6.972	98.6	7.07	9.96	1.3	126.3	0.008	0.014	0.3	109.4	108.0
08/07/14	5.806	97.3	6.96	10.00	0.4	126.1	0.077	0.082	-0.6	113.4	113.0
08/26/14	6.697	99.7	6.94	9.86	0.6	126.0	0.055	0.054	0.6	108.4	111.0
09/09/14	6.519	98.4	7.03	10.02	2.2	138.0	0.120	0.136	0.0	117.0	113.0
09/23/14	6.354	98.7	6.22	8.26	10.3	154.4	-0.020	-0.014	2.8	104.0	112.0
10/08/14	6.575	99.1	7.10	10.05	-1.5	134.9	-0.054	-0.054	0.5	113.5	116.0
10/23/14	6.864	100.6	7.26	10.37	-0.1	121.2	0.059	0.054	0.6	117.3	116.0
11/10/14	6.683	99.3	6.65	9.72	0.1	126.5	0.041	0.054	0.1	120.7	116.0

Iron Pot Landing

Deployment Date	SpCond	DO	pH		Turb		Depth		Chl		
								Pressure-determined		Meter in	Temp-determined
	(6.668)	(100%)	(7)	(10)	(0)	(126)	Sonde	Offset	(0)	Rhodo Sol'n	Std
mm/dd/yy	mS/cm	sat			NTU		m		µg/L		
02/26/14	6.594	100.6	6.95	9.96	-0.2	124.1	0.093	0.095	-1.3	121.8	115.0
03/13/14	6.459	101.2	6.87	9.87	0.9	125.2	0.046	0.054	1.1	117.4	116.0
04/02/14	6.484	100.4	7.15	10.14	-0.4	123.1	-0.118	-0.082	0.0	114.5	115.0
04/14/14	6.351	98.7	6.98	10.04	-0.1	127.3	0.050	0.068	0.1	112.3	115.0
04/29/14	6.506	96.7	6.80	9.74	3.0	143.7	0.029	0.027	0.3	105.8	110.0
05/14/14	6.489	100.3	7.13	10.20	0.0	122.7	0.041	0.054	0.2	105.7	109.0
05/29/14	6.512	99.0	7.05	10.04	0.7	-126.0	-0.005	0	0.8	107.2	107.0
06/11/14	6.433	98.4	6.92	9.93	-1.2	138.6	0.041	0.014	-0.2	90.1	110.0

06/26/14	6.448	99.3	7.01	10.02	0.2	123.5	0.070	0.068	-0.6	112.8	111.0
07/10/14	6.623	99.9	7.21	10.21	-2.1	126.2	0.028	0.014	0.0	115.9	113.0
07/24/14	6.686	99.2	6.97	9.84	0.5	127.0	-0.024	0.014	322.0	322.0	109.0
08/07/14	6.127	97.6	7.09	10.09	1.1	132.3	0.093	0.082	-1.0	105.9	112.0
08/26/14	7.118	97.8	6.93	9.90	0.0	124.1	0.130	0.054	0.4	109.3	111.0
09/09/14	6.612	100.8	7.09	10.11	1.8	139.2	0.115	0.136	-0.1	115.6	112.0
09/23/14	6.312	98.8	7.07	10.03	11.0	155.6	-0.005	-0.014	3.0	42.9	112.0
10/08/14	6.450	98.9	7.04	10.06	3.4	138.1	-0.053	-0.054	0.0	113.2	116.0
10/23/14	6.668	100.8	7.16	10.21	0.4	121.9	0.054	0.054	0.0	115.8	116.0
11/10/14	6.581	98.9	6.96	9.89	-0.2	126.2	0.026	0.054	0.0	118.5	116.0
12/18/14	6.523	101.2	7.06	10.08	0.1	118.4	0.113	0.109	0.4	102.9	111.0

Otter Point Creek

Deployment Date	SpCond	DO	pH		Turb		Depth		Chl		
								Pressure-determined Offset		Meter in Rhodo Sol'n	Temp-determined Std
	(6.668)	(100%)	(7)	(10)	(0)	(126)	Sonde		(0)		
mm/dd/yy	mS/cm	sat			NTU		m		µg/L		
04/09/14	6.516	97.6	7.39	10.23	-0.4	124.3	-0.051	-0.068	-0.1	114.1	112.0
04/22/14	6.527	98.1	6.63	9.15	-0.9	124.3	0.092	0.095	-0.6	114.1	113.0
05/06/14	6.418	97.6	6.99	10.04	1.8	110.7	0.010	0	-0.5	110.4	109.0
05/20/14	6.479	100.6	7.06	10.07	0.2	140.7	-0.015	-0.041	0.0	106.5	109.0
06/03/14	6.476	100.2	7.07	10.04	-2.8	127.9	0.026	0.014	-0.3	109.3	109.0
06/18/14	3.331	100.8	7.40	7.42	-2.5	129.8	-0.022	0	-0.4	111.7	111.0
07/02/14	6.400	98.6	7.07	10.15	-0.9	132.4	0.094	0.095	0.5	113.9	112.0
07/15/14	6.668	98.6	7.12	10.11	-3.6	130.8	0.066	0.068	-3.3	107.8	111.0
07/31/14	6.547	99.5	7.17	10.19	-0.1	126.6	0.030	0	0.5	61.4	113.0
08/13/14	3.542	99.8	7.08	10.09	4.3	132.8	-0.041	-0.014	3.1	107.5	112.0
08/27/14	6.409	97.6	15.10	15.36	-1.6	121.5	0.034	0.041	1.0	110.4	111.0
09/11/14	6.406	100.8	7.17	10.17	-1.6	125.7	0.098	0.095	-0.3	115.2	113.0
09/25/14	6.676	99.6	7.11	10.12	-1.3	136.6	0.045	0.054	-0.4	112.7	114.0
10/08/14	6.706	98.0	7.03	10.02	-1.3	119.4	-0.044	-0.027	-0.5	116.4	116.0
10/21/14	6.704	98.6	7.00	10.00	-3.0	123.4	-0.026	0	-0.6	109.8	116.0
11/05/14	6.712	101.5	7.21	10.29	-0.2	130.5	0.191	0.190	-0.5	122.8	115.0

14) Other Remarks/Notes

In addition to the sampling described above, several other data sets were collected. Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR) was also collected using a LiCor 1400 display two sensors: one underwater quantum sensor and one ambient quantum sensor along with Secchi depth. Additional nutrient samples were also collected during the months of April through October. These data are available through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Visit www.eyesonthebay.net for more information.

Data are missing due to equipment or associated specific probes not being deployed, equipment failure, time of maintenance or calibration of equipment, or repair/replacement of a sampling station platform. Any NaNs in the dataset stand for “not a number” and are the result of low power, disconnected wires, or out of range readings. If additional information on missing data is needed, contact the Research Coordinator at the reserve submitting the data.

QA/QC “See Metadata” (CSM) Comments

Railroad Bridge (RR)

Depth port likely froze then cracked due to duration of below freezing conditions and shallow water. Depth sensor permanently ruined.

01/28/14 07:00 to 02/26/14 08:45

pH data rejected because even after performing lots of maintenance on pH before deployment, steady decline in pH readings for first five days of deployment indicate improper functioning. Remaining pH data questionable because although the matchup at retrieval was good and well within range the probe post calibrated out of range.

04/02/14 09:45 to 04/07/14 11:45

pH data questionable because although the matchup at retrieval was good and well within range the probe post calibrated out of range. Probe appeared to malfunction first five days of deployment then appeared to work properly thereafter, so probe and data suspect.

04/07/14 12:00 to 04/14/14 07:15

pH data experiences drop by about 0.2 units at the top of the hour throughout data file due to improper wipe interval setting on sonde. Issue resolved for future deployments and data deemed still acceptable per conversation with Mike Lizotte of YSI since the drop in readings is still within the acceptable ± 0.2 units tolerance. Other parameters do not seem to be affected. Additionally the pH slope at calibration and post was reading below the YSI cut off of 155.

04/29/14 08:30 to 05/14/14 08:30

Although pH probe post calibrated almost perfectly, matchup at retrieval read low by about 0.5 units. Data marked suspect.

05/27/14 17:15 to 05/29/14 08:15

Although pH probe post calibrated almost perfectly with a good slope, data marked suspect because readings were low at both deployment and retrieval matchups.

06/26/14 08:00 to 07/10/14 07:45

Depth and dissolved oxygen data rejected based on NERR protocol to reject dependent data when specific conductivity/salinity probe post calibrates out of range. Deployment and retrieval matchups as well as post calibrations for both depth and dissolved oxygen sensors were well within range, however, and otherwise would not have been rejected. Data should be used at user's discretion.

07/06/14 15:30 to 07/10/14 07:45

pH probe post calibrated just barely out of range and readings were within range but high by about 0.3 units at both the deployment and retrieval matchups, data marked as suspect.

10/08/14 07:45 to 10/23/14 07:45

Iron Pot Landing (IP)

Extended deployment due to multiple snow storms and continuous treacherous conditions that prevented necessary off-road access to the station.

01/01/14 00:00 to 02/26/14 10:00

pH data suspect because matchup at retrieval was off by about 0.5 units from both the Hydrolab and following YSI deployment matchups. pH probes from both YSI's post calibrated within range, but because retrieval sonde's pH was the outlier from the retrieval matchup it is assumed that these data are the suspect data.

03/10/14 07:00 to 03/13/14 09:00

Although pH deployment and retrieval matchups as well as probe post calibration were all just within range, data marked suspect because matchups and post calibration were borderline out of range and matchups were slightly high at both deployment and retrieval. A note was written at post calibration that the probe was "slow to equilibrate", indicating that it may not have operated at peak performance in situ, likely due to age.

07/10/14 09:15 to 07/24/14 08:30

Although turbidity probe post calibrated within range and no fouling was noted at post calibration, readings become elevated, sporadic, and unreliable at the end of the deployment. Optical short in chlorophyll probe may have caused interference, therefore readings rejected.

08/04/14 12:15 to 08/07/14 09:00

Depth and dissolved oxygen data rejected based on NERR protocol to reject dependent data when specific conductivity/salinity probe post calibrates out of range. Deployment and retrieval matchups as well as post calibrations for both depth and dissolved oxygen sensors were well within range, however, and otherwise would not have been rejected. Data should be used at user's discretion.

08/07/14 09:15 to 08/26/14 09:15

Sonde found pulled up in deployment tube as far as possible and tied off upon retrieval servicing. Tampering of station appears to have occurred just hours after sonde was deployed. Sonde was therefore at the wrong depth throughout most of the deployment and was sometimes out of water during low tidal stages. All data rejected.

08/26/14 14:00 to 09/09/14 09:00

Sonde found pulled up in deployment tube as far as possible and tied off upon retrieval servicing. Sonde untied and returned to correct depth for two readings at retrieval matchup. Except for specific conductivity/salinity, all readings appear to coincide well with following deployment and deemed acceptable data. Depth and dissolved oxygen readings also rejected, however, based on NERR protocol to reject dependent data when specific conductivity/salinity data is rejected.

09/09/14 09:15 – 09:30

Sonde out of water for first two readings of deployment while taking measurements to gain vertical control.

09/23/14 09:45 – 10:00

Although pH probe post calibrated well within acceptable range, data marked suspect because matchup readings at both deployment and retrieval were low.

11/10/14 10:15 to 12/18/14 10:15

Mataponi Creek (MC)

SpCond/Sal reading just barely above acceptable range at post calibration and read high at retrieval matchup but not off significantly enough to affect other parameters. Depth and dissolved oxygen percent and mg/L marked as suspect per NERR protocol.

04/02/14 11:30 to 04/14/14 09:15

First deployment of new sonde. File duration was set to 2 days instead of the usual 365 days and wasn't noticed at calibration. Sonde only logged data for 2 days.

05/01/14 00:00 to 05/14/14 10:45

pH data experiences drop by about 0.2 units at the top of the hour throughout data file due to improper wipe interval setting on sonde. Issue resolved for future deployments and data deemed still acceptable per conversation with Mike Lizotte of YSI since the drop in readings is still within the acceptable ± 0.2 units tolerance. Other parameters do not seem to be affected.

05/29/14 11:00 to 06/11/14 10:30

Erratic pH and dissolved oxygen data a possible result of sonde power issue. Data unreliable and rejected.

06/26/14 12:45, 13:15, 14:15, 14:45, 15:15, 16:45,
17:15, 17:45, 18:15, 18:45, 19:15, 19:45

Depth and dissolved oxygen data rejected based on NERR protocol to reject dependent data when specific conductivity/salinity probe post calibrates out of range. Deployment and retrieval matchups as well as post

calibrations for both depth and dissolved oxygen sensors were well within range, however, and otherwise would not have been rejected. Data should be used at user's discretion.

07/10/14 09:45 to 07/24/14 09:45

Sudden increase in depth during low water event suggests depth port may have at least partially frozen, skewing data.

11/18/14 20:30 – 21:15

11/19/14 09:30 – 11:30

Otter Point Creek (OC)

Sedimentation in shallow embayment may have skewed and falsely elevated turbidity readings. Deployment tube was removed and repositioned accordingly on 5/20/14.

04/09/14 12:45 to 05/20/14 09:45

Although pH probe post calibrated within range, initial readings at deployment lower than matchup readings. Probe may require longer to equilibrate due to age and slower response time.

04/22/14 10:15 – 10:30

pH data marked suspect because first reading of deployment was about 0.5 units low compared to the last reading from the previous deployment. The overlapping matchup readings were within range, however, and probe post calibrated within range so data not rejected.

07/31/14 10:15 – 10:45

pH data marked suspect due to 0.6 units difference between deployments. Data not rejected, however, because both the pH probe from this deployment as well as from the following deployment post calibrated well within range and did not indicate having any malfunction. pH data from the end of this deployment deviates slightly from dissolved oxygen when graphed simultaneously, therefore these data were deemed suspect.

10/06/14 17:45 to 10/08/14 10:00

Sonde memory not deleted at calibration so sonde ran out of memory before end of deployment and stopped logging.

11/18/14 17:45 to 12/02/14 09:30