

Sapelo Island (SAP) NERR Water Quality Metadata
January through December 2021
Latest Update: October 12, 2023

I. Data Set and Research Descriptors

1) Principal investigator(s) and contact persons –

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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), EcoWatch Lite in a comma separated file (CSV) or KOR Software in an Excel File (.XLS) 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. 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. 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. Thompson Rose is primarily responsible for all data acquisition and management with consultations and assistance from Rachel Guy

3) Research objectives –

Hydrological studies (Ragotskie and Bryson, 1955; Imberger et al., 1983) have shown that there are three tidal excursions along the length of the Duplin River, resulting in three distinct water masses. The two monitoring sites in the Duplin River, called the Lower Duplin site and the Hunt Dock site, are located within the lower and upper water masses, respectively. Water passing the Lower Duplin site during flood tide has come from Doboy Sound, which receives input from the Altamaha River via the Intra-Coastal Waterway and from the Atlantic Ocean. The water in the lower water mass is pushed further up the Duplin or up smaller tidal creeks and some is pushed onto the marsh surface by the flood tide and recedes into the main channel during ebb tide. The water in the upper water mass, which passes the Hunt Camp station, is pushed up small creek channels and onto the marsh at each high tide. Thus the two stations monitor conditions in two hydrological separate water masses, one of which is heavily

influenced by exchanges with Doboy Sound and the other, which is influenced by its twice-daily contact with the marsh surface.

4) Research methods –

Before each YSI EXO2 data logger is deployed, calibration and maintenance is performed following the manufacturer's instructions and NERRS SWMP standard operating procedures. Calibration standards are only required for pH, conductivity, and turbidity, all other parameters are done as described in the manual. The conductivity, pH, and turbidity calibrations use a YSI produced traceable solution.

When deployed, the weather conditions and tidal stage are recorded in the field observation log. The datalogger is placed inside a length of PVC pipe attached to the dock. The data logger is attached to a non-floating dock by a steel cable and run down a PVC pipe to rest 0.5m above the surface bottom. Because of the large tidal range, water is continually flushed through 2" holes in the PVC pipes at the sonde location, thus eliminating the problem of creating a stagnant column of water with in the pipe with data logger. Every 15 minutes during the sampling period measurements are taken for temperature, specific conductance, salinity, pH, dissolved oxygen concentration, percent saturation, depth and turbidity. At the end of the sample period the data logger is retrieved and immediately replaced by another calibrated data logger. The data logger is then taken to the lab and runs QA/QC standards for pH, and conductivity, and dissolved oxygen, the data are uploaded, and the sonde is cleaned. Data are rejected if the post calibration standards fail or if technical problems are noted. All data rejected is noted in the metadata.

A Sutron Sat-Link2 transmitter was installed at the Lower Duplin station on 03/18/2007 and transmits data to the NOAA GOES satellite, NESDIS ID # 01 00 51 DE. The transmissions are scheduled hourly and contain four (4) data sets 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 Lower Duplin (LD) monitoring site (31 deg 25' 4" N, 81 deg 17' 46" W) is now located at 31° 25' 4.8792" N, 81° 17' 45.855" W on the Marsh Landing Dock in the Duplin River on Sapelo Island and consists of a muddy bottom habitat. Water passing the dock during flood tide originates from the Doboy Sound. The Doboy Sound receives input from the Atlantic Ocean, and the freshwater Altamaha River via the Intra-Coastal Waterway. The water is pushed up the river or up smaller tidal creeks and some is pushed onto the marsh surface by the flood tide and recedes into the main channel during ebb tide. Primary freshwater input consists of rainwater runoff. The Marsh Landing dock is used as the main dock to the island where the ferry makes several daily runs, with several small boats that are docked there. The surrounding area vegetation is dominated by salt marsh with *Spartina* being the predominate flora. Normal tidal range for the site is 3meters and the salinity range is 5-35 ppt. The depth at this sampling station ranges from 2.5 meters to 6.0 meters depending on tide.

The Hunt Dock (HD) monitoring site (31 deg 28' 43", 81 deg 16' 23" W) is located on the Duplin River, off of Moses Hammock, which is separated from Sapelo Island by a small tidal channel. The primary runoff at the site is from tidal creeks flowing through *Spartina* marsh and through the mud. Bottom habitat at this site includes soft mud and some oyster bed building along the shoreline with an average tidal range of 3meters and a salinity range of 5-35 ppt. Primary freshwater input consists of rainwater runoff. There is little human traffic this far up the Duplin and it is north of the people living on Sapelo. During the fall, the Hunt dock and Moses Hammock is the camping and docking site for deer hunters traveling to the island.

These are controlled hunts and dates are available from the SAP NERR office if needed. The maximum depth at the Hunt Dock site is 4.27 meters.

Dean Creek (DC), (N 31 23 22.5W 81 16 44.2) is located on a small wooden bridge spanning Dean Creek, in close proximity to the adjacent Nannygoat Beach causeway. Dean Creek is a small tidal basin fed from the waters of Doboy Sound, which is located on Sapelo Island's south end. The creeks' salinity normally ranges between 5 and 30 ppt. Primary freshwater input consists of rainwater runoff. The benthic community consists of a sandy-mud substrate with occasional, small, intertidal oyster reef community and mean tidal amplitude of approximately 3meters. The small creek feeds approximately 150 acres of *Spartina alterniflora* dominated salt marsh, which is interspersed with small 0.5-1 acre hammocks and salt pans. Fringe community components range from Loblolly pine forests with a sub-canopy of Yaupon holly to Wax myrtle and Sable Palm.

The Cabretta Creek (CA) site coordinates are N 31 26 37.3W 81 14 23.7. The station is located on a small (one-lane), wooden, roadway bridge spanning Cabretta creek located on the island's extreme eastern side, bordering the Atlantic Ocean. The creek is fed directly from waters of the Atlantic Ocean. Cabretta experiences an average tidal range of approximately 3 meters. Salinity ranges with exception to major, long-term precipitation events, varies from 15-36 ppt., seasonally. Primary freshwater input consists of rainwater runoff. The benthos is composed primarily of sand substrate with small, intertidal oyster reef conglomerate communities. Adjacent to the site is extensive, intertidal, bank stabilization (armoring) in the form of woven rip-rap fencing and granite rocks. This manipulation is slowly becoming stabilized via oyster reef community colonization. The adjacent marshes are dominated by *Spartina alterniflora* with occasional *Juncus roemerianus* in the nearby fringe community habitat. The creek has very little adjacent uplands due to: 1) the low elevational gradient and 2) the areas geologically recent accretion genesis (Holocene) resulting in sandy soils; of which neither conditions allow for extensive floral colonization or stabilization.

There are no current studies on pollutants in this area. Sapelo Island is typically considered a pristine environment, with minimal pollutant input.

SWMP Station Timeline

Station Code	SWMP Status	Station Name	Location	Active Dates	Reason Decommissioned	Notes
CA	P	Cabretta	N 31 26 37.3W 81 14 23.7	4/2004-current	NA	NA
DC	P	Dean Creek	N 31 23 22.5W 81 16 44.2	5/2004-current	NA	Dean Creek site move due to construction of new bridge that sonde housing is attached to
HD	P	Hunt Dock	31 deg 28' 43", 81 deg 16' 23" W	7/1999-current	NA	NA
LD	P	Lower Duplin	31 deg 25' 4" N, 81 deg 17' 46" W	1/1999-current	NA	Lower Duplin site move due to ferry dock construction
ML	S	Marsh Landing	31deg 25' 04.23" N, 81deg 17' 46.30" W	5/1995-12/1998	Site character	near surface deployment and the fouling with such a setup was too severe to harvest reliable data

FL	S	Flume Dock	31deg 28' 53.85"N, 81deg 16"12.37"W	1/1995- 12/1998	NA	NA

6) Data collection period –

Cabretta

Deploy Date	Deploy Time	Retrieve Date	Retrieve Time
12/17/2020	12:15	1/27/2021	15:30
1/27/2021	15:45	3/9/2021	11:00
3/9/2021	11:15	4/27/2021	10:45
4/27/2021	11:00	6/8/2021	10:30
6/8/2021	10:45	7/19/2021	14:00
7/19/2021	14:15	8/27/2021	13:30
8/27/2021	13:45	9/30/2021	14:00
9/30/2021	14:15	10/29/2021	11:30
10/29/2021	12:00	11/19/2021	10:45
11/19/2021	11:00	12/16/2021	13:00
12/16/2021	13:15	1/19/2022	15:15

Dean Creek

Deploy Date	Deploy Time	Retrieve Date	Retrieve Time
12/30/2020	11:00	1/28/2021	14:00
1/28/2021	15:15	2/26/2021	16:15
2/26/2021	16:30	5/3/2021	10:30
5/3/2021	10:45	6/11/2021	8:45
6/11/2021	9:00	7/28/2021	13:45
7/28/2021	14:00	8/31/2021	11:45
8/31/2021	12:00	10/6/2021	14:45
10/6/2021	15:00	10/29/2021	14:15
10/29/2021	14:45	11/22/2021	13:30
11/22/2021	13:45	1/6/2022	12:00

Hunt Dock

Deploy Date	Deploy Time	Retrieve Date	Retrieve Time
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12/18/2020	12:15	1/27/2021	11:45
1/27/2021	12:00	2/18/2021	13:15
2/18/2021	13:45	4/5/2021	13:00
4/5/2021	13:15	6/3/2021	14:00
6/3/2021	14:30	7/16/2021	14:00
7/16/2021	14:30	8/26/2021	9:00
8/26/2021	9:30	9/23/2021	13:15
9/23/2021	13:45	10/28/2021	13:30
10/28/2021	14:00	11/17/2021	10:00
11/17/2021	10:30	12/20/2021	10:15
12/20/2021	10:45	1/19/2022	14:45

Lower Duplin

Deploy Date	Deploy Time	Retrieve Date	Retrieve Time
12/29/2020	13:45	2/1/2021	15:00
2/1/2021	15:15	3/9/2021	13:15
3/9/2021	13:30	4/29/2021	13:30
4/29/2021	13:45	6/17/2021	12:45
6/17/2021	13:00	7/9/2021	13:15
7/9/2021	13:30	8/11/2021	10:45
9/13/2021	14:15	10/22/2021	13:30
10/22/2021	13:45	11/22/2021	11:30
11/22/2021	11:45	12/28/2021	12:15
12/28/2021	12:30	1/21/2022	14:15

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.nerrdata.org/>; accessed 12 October 2018.

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 www.nerrdata.org. Data are available in comma delimited format.

8) Associated researchers and projects (link to other products or programs) –

As part of the SWMP long-term monitoring program, SAP NERR also monitors 15-minute meteorological along with monthly grab samples and diel sampling for nutrient data which may be correlated with this water quality dataset. These data are available at www.nerrdata.org. Furthermore, Sapelo Island has a long history of maintaining research. In 1953, the University of Georgia Marine Institute (UGAMI) was formed and the island became a working laboratory for many. The research continues today with SAP NERR and UGAMI creating a unique partnership with much of the current research being done facilitated by SAP NERR and UGAMI together. Given UGAMI's long history on Sapelo, a bibliographic list of over 800 articles of current and previous research can be found on the UGAMI website: <http://www.uga.edu/ugami> and on the Sapelo Island NERR site: <http://www.sapelonerr.org>.

II. Physical Structure Descriptors

9) Sensor specifications –

SAP NERR deployed YSI EXO2 sondes at all sites for the entirety of 2021

YSI EXO2 Sonde:

Parameter: Temperature

Units: Celsius (C)

Sensor Type: Wiped probe; Thermistor

Model#: 599827

Range: -5 to 50 C

Accuracy: ± 0.2 C

Resolution: 0.001 C

Parameter: Conductivity

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

Sensor Type: Wiped probe; 4-electrode cell with autoranging

Model#: 599827

Range: 0 to 100 mS/cm

Accuracy: $\pm 1\%$ of the reading or 0.002 mS/cm, whichever is greater

Resolution: 0.0001 to 0.01 mS/cm (range dependent)

Parameter: Salinity

Units: practical salinity units (psu)/parts per thousand (ppt)

Model#: 599827

Sensor Type: Wiped probe; Calculated from conductivity and temperature

Range: 0 to 70 ppt

Accuracy: $\pm 2\%$ of the reading or 0.2 ppt, whichever is greater

Resolution: 0.01 psu

Parameter: Dissolved Oxygen % saturation

Sensor Type: Optical probe w/ mechanical cleaning

Model#: 599100-01

Range: 0 to 500% air saturation

Accuracy: 0-200% air saturation: $\pm 1\%$ of the reading or 1% air saturation, whichever is greater 200-500% air saturation: $\pm 5\%$ 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 probe w/ mechanical cleaning

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: $\pm 5\%$ 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 33 ft (10 m)

Accuracy: ± 0.013 ft (0.004 m)

Resolution: 0.001 ft (0.001 m)

Parameter: pH

Units: pH units

Sensor Type: Glass combination electrode

Model#: 599701(guarded) or 599702(wiped)

Range: 0 to 14 units

Accuracy: +/- 0.1 units within +/- 10° of calibration temperature, +/- 0.2 units for entire temperature range

Resolution: 0.01 units

Parameter: Turbidity

Units: formazin nephelometric units (FNU)

Sensor Type: Optical, 90 degree scatter

Model#: 599101-01

Range: 0 to 4000 FNU

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

Resolution: 0 to 999 FNU: 0.01 FNU, 1000 to 4000 FNU: 0.1 FNU

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 1.02 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 –

Sampling station:	Sampling site code:	Station code:
Cabretta Creek	CA	sapcawq
Dean Creek	DC	sapdcwq
Hunt Dock	HD	saphdwq
Lower Duplin	LD	sapldwq

11) 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 –

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 data sonde, 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

13) Post deployment information – Cabretta

Deploy Date	Sonde Nickname	SpCond	ROXDO1	pH7	pH10	Turb	Turb	Depth
1/27/2021	Wassaw	50.04(50.0)	100.5	7.05	10.04	-0.61(0.0)	123.93(124.0)	0.098(0.148)
3/9/2021	simon	50.77(50.0)	95.8	7.07	10.02	-0.52(0.0)	122.86(124.0)	0.023(0.099)
4/27/2021	Wassaw	49.74(50.0)	96.5	7.05	10.03	-0.63(0.0)	121.8(124.0)	0.0(0.0)
6/8/2021	Amelia	30.93(50.0)	64.3	5.1	7.35	102.16(0.0)	329.6(124.0)	0.049(0.048)
7/19/2021	Blackbeard	-50				0	-124	0
8/27/2021	Amelia	2.57(50.0)	94.7	7.13	10.06	-0.25(0.0)	126.06(124.0)	0.081(0.058)
9/30/2021	Catherine	49.11(50.0)	101.8	7.06	10.05	0.82(0.0)	132.89(124.0)	0.095(0.099)
10/29/2021	Sapelo	48.99(50.0)	99.9	7.45	10.08	-0.43(0.0)	126.48(124.0)	-0.028
11/19/2021	Amelia	49.89(50.0)	99.3	7.04	9.94	0.01(0.0)	124.07(124.0)	0.055(0.059)
12/16/2021	simon	50.35(50.0)	99.5	7.06	10.03	-1.05(0.0)	122.74(124.0)	0.094(0.099)

Dean Creek

Deploy Date	Sonde Nickname	SpCond	ROXDO1	pH7	pH10	Turb	Turb	Depth
1/6/2021	Catherine	50.59(50.0)	102	6.99	10	0.23(0.0)	123.67(124.0)	0.232(0.212)
1/28/2021	simon	49.44(50.0)	99.7	7.07	9.96	-0.14(0.0)	124.92(124.0)	-0.012(0.065)
2/26/2021	Blackbeard	50.03(50.0)	99.3	7.07	10.1	0.92(0.0)	123.97(124.0)	0
5/3/2021	simon	50.41(50.0)	101.6	7.11	10.06	-2.11(0.0)	125.11(124.0)	0.032(0.038)
6/11/2021	Catherine	50.85(50.0)	99.9	7.15	10.15	-2.5(0.0)	126.42(124.0)	0.069(0.069)
7/28/2021	Ossabaw	50.934(50.0)	100.5	7.3	10.2	0.13(0.0)	124.79(124.0)	0.089(0.089)
8/31/2021	Blackbeard	51.1(50.0)	101.57	7.12	10.06	7.71(0.0)	100.04(124.0)	0.092(0.075)
10/6/2021	Amelia	49.33(50.0)	105.3	7.17	10.21	-0.99(0.0)	124.57(124.0)	0.105(0.099)
10/29/2021	simon	49.47(50.0)	102.1	7.02	10	0.56(0.0)	127.2(124.0)	0.109(0.12)
11/22/2021	Ossabaw	49.66(50.0)	100.6	6.98	9.96	-1.9(0.0)	124.019(124.0)	0.094(0.089)

Hunt Dock

Deploy Date	Sonde Nickname	SpCond	ROXDO1	pH7	pH10	Turb	Turb	Depth
1/27/2021	Catherine	49.366(50.0)	101.3	7.06	10.07	0.91(0.0)	122.31(124.0)	0.226(0.227)
2/18/2021	Ossabaw	50.12(50.0)	99.6	7.04	9.97	0.41(0.0)	122.86(124.0)	-0.099
4/5/2021	Sapelo	39470.0(50.0)	99.1	7.58	9.15	592.66(0.0)	595.29(124.0)	0.166(0.148)
6/3/2021	Blackbeard	50.69(50.0)	98.2	7.08	10.01	-0.43(0.0)	124.25(124.0)	0.083(0.069)
7/16/2021	simon	21.1(50.0)	97.5	7.77	7.77	0.08(0.0)	124.07(124.0)	-0.127(0.018)
8/26/2021	Catherine	50.93(50.0)	97.3	7.22	10.25	1.69(-2.59)	124.3(124.0)	-0.023(0.0080)
9/23/2021	Wassaw	49.25(50.0)	98.9	7.16	10.18	-1.35(0.0)	123.5(124.0)	-0.093(-0.105)
10/28/2021	Ossabaw	49.64(50.0)	102.6	7.03	10.01	0.28(0.0)	126.28(124.0)	0.134(0.12)
11/17/2021	Catherine	50.12(50.0)	99.1	7.04	9.88	-0.5(0.0)	124.21(124.0)	0.065(0.058)
12/16/2021	Blackbeard	52.64(50.0)	99.8	7.1	10.09	-0.98(0.0)	122.59(124.0)	0.141(0.14)

Lower Duplin

Deploy Date	Sonde Nickname	SpCond	ROXDO1	pH7	pH10	Turb	Turb	Depth
2/1/2021	Sapelo	49.85(50.0)	100.6	7.13	10.13	-0.71(0.0)	125.99(124.0)	0.273(0.148)
3/9/2021	Catherine	-50	97.7	7.14	9.94	0.09(0.0)	125.2(124.0)	0.03(0.038)
4/29/2021	Ossabaw	50.12(50.0)	99.2	7.57	9.62	-0.3(0.0)	119.99(124.0)	0.025(0.035)
6/17/2021	simon	51.95(50.0)	100.7	7.02	9.99	6.88(0.0)	131.02(124.0)	0.073(0.089)
7/9/2021	Wassaw	50.44(50.0)	99.2	7.09	10.03	0.13(0.0)	124.15(124.0)	0
9/13/2021	Ossabaw	49.55(50.0)	97.8	7.18	9.67	5.61(0.0)	125.06(124.0)	-0.0060(-0.014)
10/22/2021	Blackbeard	49.83(50.0)	100.3	6.98	10	0.48(0.0)	124.34(124.0)	0.162(0.12)
11/22/2021	Sapelo	50.04(50.0)	101.2	6.97	9.99	-0.72(0.0)	123.34(124.0)	0.154(0.089)
12/28/2021	Amelia	51.0(50.0)	99.5	7.03	10.03	-0.15(0.0)	122.1(124.0)	0.059(0.048)

14) Other remarks/notes –

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.

The Lower Duplin site (originally 31 deg 25' 4" N, 81 deg 17' 46" W) was removed on August 11, 2021 when the ferry dock the sonde was attached to was removed. With the demolition of the dock happening in unpredictable intervals, there was no way to have the new and old site functioning at the same time. In comparing average depths previous and post construction, we find the new site is a little less than 1 meter deeper than the previous site. However, none of the other parameters showed significant differences from their previous average readings. The sonde then began collecting data at its new location (31° 25' 4.8792" N, 81° 17' 45.855" W) on September 13, 2021.

Specific conductance data is subject to occasional single ‘dips’ of reduced concentrations occurring anytime throughout a deployment. This decrease is most likely attributed to debris or organisms disrupting the signal being

sent between the electrodes on the Conductivity/Temperature sensor during sample collection. DO concentration may also be impacted as a dependent parameter during these times.

Due to the shifting hydrology of Dean Creek, the sonde no longer remains in the thalweg and experienced many out of water events throughout the year. The site is planned to be moved back into the channel in 2022. Sonde housing was attached to new bridge early 2022.

Dean Creek:

The 2/26/2021 deployment went over the 6-weeks allowed by the SOP ending on 5/3. Data appears to be minimally impacted by this.

Hunt Dock:

The 04/05/2021 deployment went over the 6-weeks allowed by the SOP ending on 6/3. The wiper brush snapped off during this deployment and there was fouling on all of the sensor faces when the sonde was retrieved. Specific parameters and how they are marked are noted below. All other data after the 6-week mark was marked 1 SWM CSM.

SpCond/salinity: 1 SPC CSM from 4/25 10:30 5/17 14:15 and -3 SPC CSM from 5/17 14:30 to 6/3

pH: 1 SPC CSM after the 6-week mark

Turbidity: -3 SPC CSM starting on 4/29 10:15 to 6/3

DO: -3 SPC CSM from 5/28 to 6/3

Lower Duplin:

Due to the new site being built and the change in depth at the LD site data starting 9/13 14:15 to 12/31 23:45 depth data are marked 1 GSM CWD and other parameters are marked 0 GSM CWD. As noted in the above statement while the new site is 1 meter deeper than the previous location of the LD site other parameters do not seem to be impacted by the change.