

Lower St Johns River

Weekly River Field Brief

2011 April 29-May 5

Areas of Coverage: *Limited range and scope due to scheduled temporary District laboratory closure.* SJR main stem at limited sites at Mayport, Hastings RSTs. Other work performed from Palatka to Lake George, The Landing to Mayport, Doctors Lake, Buckman area. Dates: April 29, 30, and May 2, 3, 4, 5.

Water quality: Collected fractions limited to Cl, FC, FSC, SC.

Weather/Rainfall events: Near seasonal temps during day (+2 F total for week) and below normal at night (-34 F total for week). Storm system passed through late on April 28. Rainfall recorded at 0 .47 inches. Strong winds along front.

Algal/HAB: No significant blooms or scum formations observed at sampling locations (note disclaimer at end).

Foam: Observations of foam areas that ranged significantly in size and pattern. Foam does appear to be “stacking” in select pockets from Julington Creek to just east of Jacksonville at Lions Club BR.

Fish Kills: None observed.

Wildlife: Dolphin activity observed near Lions Club BR, Mill Cove, Dames Point Bridge, Clapboard Creek, and Mayport. Heavy least tern courtship/feeding activity continues off Mill Cove and Metropolitan Park. Manatee observed at Palatka BR.

Other notes: Radiometer readings collected for Doctors Lake and SJR south of Buckman.

Projected areas of operation for next week: **NOTE: Normal sampling resumes.** Entire SJR main stem from Astor to Mayport. RST/Agricultural streams near Hastings. North tributaries, shorelines w/ FFWC.

Disclaimer: Field events are at scheduled areas during sampling events. Shoreline surveys are usually not logistically feasible, as our main stem range is approximately 110 miles.

For questions, comments or suggestions on improving the usefulness of these weekly updates, please email me @ rburks@sjrwmd.com. Your input is appreciated.

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