

**Lower St Johns River  
River Field Brief**

**City of Jacksonville, Environmental Quality Division  
Monitoring Team**

**Date:** Tuesday, June 5, 2012

**Area of Coverage:** Lower St. Johns River, Duval County, from the river mouth at Mayport, upstream to Mandarin Point.

**Weather:** Warm, partly cloudy, breezy. Rain in the last 24 hours, heavy rain in last 7 days.

**Water appearance:** Very dark brown color except near the mouth which displayed the typical ocean green influence. A lot of solids were present in the water. Many ctenophores were present (looked like small jellyfish). There was a small amount of foam, nothing atypical.



***Small Amount of Foam***

***Solids / Particulates on Filter***

**Water quality:**

Dissolved oxygen averaged around 5.5 mg/l. Surface readings were: at the mouth = 5.95 mg/l (91% sat); at Main Street Bridge = 4.92 (69% sat); at Mandarin Point = 5.56 mg/l (75% sat).

Salinity = 36 ppt at the mouth, 20 ppt at Main Street, 11.5 ppt at Mandarin.

pH ranged between 7.3 and 7.7. Water temperature was approximately 27 degrees C.

**Phytoplankton Blooms/HAB:** None observed.

**Fish Kills:** None observed, one (partial) dead sea turtle at Dames Point, Green Marker 1.



*Partial sea turtle carcass*



*Scott & Jim checking pH for preservation*

**Wildlife:** Dolphins observed at several locations: two near the Acosta Bridge, six north of downtown near Jacksonville University, several east of the Dames Point Bridge, another group near Dames Point Bridge heading back in. Also, as a fisherman described it there were “many small jellyfish” in the water (ctenophores?). Part of a dead sea turtle was floating at Dames Point.

**Other Agency Information:**

**Other notes:**

**Projected areas of operation for next report:** Timucuan Preserve area, Nassau River in two weeks (June 19, 2012).

For questions, comments or suggestions please email [betsy@coj.net](mailto:betsy@coj.net).

Betsy Deuerling, COJ, EQD.



*Jim Collecting Meteorological Data*



*Scott Sampling with the Integrator Tube*