Brighton Reservation Monitoring Optimization Leader: Mike Wessel, Janicki Environmental Statistician: Mike Wessel, Janicki Environmental

Project Code: BRM

Type: Type II (with several Type 1 stations from Project X)

Mandate/Permit:

- 2000-Lake Okeechobee Protection Act (LOPA) Chapter 00-130;
- 1979-Lake Okeechobee Operating Permit (LOOP) (#50-0679349);
- 2004- Lake Okeechobee Protection Program (LOPP) Section 373.4595
- Agreement & Water Supply Plan for the Brighton Reservation, Implementing Section VI.B. of the Water Rights Compact & Subparagraph 3.3.3.2.A.3 of the Critical Manual (Agreement No. C4121);
- 1996- Agreement Providing for Water Quality, Water Supply and Flood Control Plans for the Big Cypress and Brighton Seminole Indian Reservations, Implementing Sections V.C and VI.D of the Water Rights Compact;
- FL Watershed Assessment Act (TMDLs/MFLs/PLRGs);
- TMDL Total Phosphorous Rule 62-304.700

Project Start Date: 05/23/2002

Division Manager: Okeechobee Division: Susan Gray

Program Manager: Robert Boney

Points of Contact: Robert Boney, Steffany Gornak, Patrick Davis

Field Point of Contact: Patrick Davis

Spatial Description:

The Brighton Seminole reservation is located near the northwest shore of Lake Okeechobee in Glades County. The reservation lies between the C-40 and C-41 canals which drain agricultural and marsh areas between the reservation and Lake Istopoga. Historically, the Seminole tribes' Water Reservation came from Lake Istopoga. As the population grew on the reservation, the tribe felt they were not receiving sufficient amounts of water from Lake Istopoga. Under federal law, the state (i.e., the District) needed to make certain that the Water Reservation for the Seminole tribe was met. To address this concern, the District put in structures (G207 and G208) to pump water from Lake Okeechobee back to the reservation, particularly in times of drought.

Two stations to be sampled for Project BRM (C40VMB and C41VMB) are located at the southeast border where the water exits the reservation and are considered Type 2 mandated stations. The structures G207 and G208 are sampled under Project X but the data should be included in optimization efforts for Project BRM. Additionally, structures on the L-60 levee (L-59W, L60E, L60W, L61E) are part of Project X, but should be included when evaluating data for Project BRM. These stations considered Type 1 mandated under Project X. Stations S71 and S72 also should be considered when evaluating data for Project BRM. Again, these stations are monitored under project X as Type 1 stations because they are major inflows into Lake Okeechobee.

Project Purpose, Goals and Objectives:

The primary purpose of Project BRM is to address the mandates specified above, particularly the agreement the SFWMD has with the tribes to address water quality issues. The Brighton Seminole Reservation has its own internal water quality monitoring program. Project BRM was instituted because the Reservation began detecting spikes in the water coming off their land and it did not appear to be from any internal practices. Therefore, one goal of the project is to determine the source (s) of total phosphorous measured by the Tribe at monitoring stations

in the primary and secondary canals of the Brighton Seminole Indian Reservation. Another goal for this project involves investigating potential water quality changes within the reservation boundaries, in response to the integration of water supplies from Lake Okeechobee. Specific objectives include assessing the quality and quantity of water delivered to the reservation from Lake Okeechobee via pump stations $G207 \& G208$, assessing the quality and quantity of water delivered to the reservation via the C-40 and C-41 canals, and assessing water sources entering and leaving the reservation.

Sampling Frequency and Parameters Sampled:

Samples are collected weekly from flow proportional autosamplers for total Kjeldahl nitrogen, nitrite+nitrate and total phosphorus. Autosamplers are located at sampling stations C40VMB, C41VMB, G207, G208, S71 and S72. Grab samples for the same parameters (total Kjeldahl nitrogen, nitrite+nitrate and total phosphorus) are sampled weekly when flowing from these same stations. Sampling also occurs at stations on the L-60 levee (L59W, L60E, L60W and L61E) on a bi-monthly basis when flowing. If the water is not flowing, sampling is conducted monthly.

Current and Future Data Uses:

The data from the BRM will be included in the annual Lake Okeechobee Watershed Assessment Report and the South Florida Environmental Report. Additionally, this information will be incorporated into a report for the Seminole Tribe under the Seminole Agreement.

In the future, data from several of the Project X stations that are sampled under Project BRM will also be used for TMDL development.

Identified Optimization Opportunities:

Discussions with District staff suggested that the data for this project may be limited due to the recent start date. However, some questions were generated that will provide useful for guiding the optimization.

- Are data sufficient both temporally and spatially to enable source identification?
- How well do data from Project X locations compare to the BRM stations?

Parameters Collected by Flow Proportional Autosamplers for Project BRM

w=weekly; gray shading indicates a Type 2 station. Note: S71 and S72 are Type I for Grabs under Project X

Parameters Collected by Grabs for Project BRM

wf = weekly when flowing; bwf/m = bi-weekly if flowing else monthly; gray shading indicates a Type 2 station; no shading indicates a Type 1 station. Note: Stations L59W, L60E, L60W, L61E, S71 and S72 are Type I mandate under Project X.

Figure 1. BRM Sampling Locations

Optimization analysis:

Optimization of the BRM water quality monitoring project was undertaken with respect to the specific tasks outlined above and detailed in the optimization plan modified and approved in September 2005. Briefly, the spatial and temporal adequacy of the BRM project was evaluated with respect to being able to detect changes between time periods, being able to detect trends in water quality parameters by station within the project, assessing information redundancies among stations and identifying stations located in proximity to potential point source discharges. The parameters identified for optimization for this project were:

- To estimate power and effect size detectable for the current monitoring program, Monte Carlo simulation using the nonparametric Sign Test was used to estimate the detectable change in median value for each parameter of interest across stations that would correspond to a significant shift in the distribution from current levels (i.e. long-term median condition) given the current sampling effort. Further, the test was constructed to establish whether or not a given magnitude of change would result in an detectable 20 % change in long term median.
- To estimate the power to detect a trend for a given water quality parameter, Monte Carlo simulations were performed using the Seasonal Kendall Tau Test for Trend. This procedure is being documented as a statistical evaluation tool for the SFWMD and the procedure will be outlined in detail in separate documentation. Briefly, the simulations result in an estimate of the slope (trend) that can be detected for a given monitoring routine using the current annual effort and under alternative sampling strategies. Again a 20% change in slope was used as a target change for detection.

The BRM project and the associated Project X monitor water quality in and around the Brighton Reservation including inflows to Lake Okeechobee. Several stations associated with this project are Type 1 stations sampled under project X as they are major inflows to Lake Okeechobee. The sampling stations directly associated with the BRM project include stations C40VMB and C41VMB which began sampling in 2002 with flow proportional autosamplers and grab sampling. Also associated with the optimization of this project were stations from project X which have a longer period of record for sampling and are collected by grab samples.

The first component of the optimization was to examine the project-wide distribution for each parameter of interest, calculate the long term median value for each parameter of interest and generate a simulation dataset that could be used to test the effectiveness of the current monitoring sampling design to estimate changes in water quality parameters of interest to the District. Details of the sign test methods are conveyed in the master document. Briefly, the sign test simulation exercise is meant to demonstrate the ability of a sampling program to detect changes from a baseline value under a given sampling frequency. The long term median value was used to represent a baseline value and the test was constructed as a one-sample test to estimate the power to detect a change in the median value for each water quality variable of interest. Since there is only variability associated with one group of data for the comparison, the test is more powerful than a two- sample test where uncertainty is expressed in the distribution of each comparison group. Further, the sign test simulations do not account for serial autocorrelation which can be present in monitoring data. The presence of significant auto correlation, if not accounted for, can yield unrealistically optimistic assessments of the sample size necessary to detect changes. However, from a regulatory perspective, auto-correlation is often not considered when assessing whether or not a water body is meeting or exceeding a given water quality target (e.g., Impaired Waters Rule F.A.C. 62-303.320). Auto-correlation is not considered in the sign test simulations but is considered in the test for trend analysis presented later in this document.

Table 1 provides a summary of the simulation results for pooled grab sampling stations using the Sign Test to estimate the effect size (i.e., the annual percent change from median value) that is detectable under the current monitoring strategy and identify the number of years of data required to detect a specified magnitude of change from current conditions. The sample size was based on the number of samples collected in 2002 (n=144). The Sign Test simulations estimated the detectable change in median for 1-5 years worth of sampling so that the increased sampling frequency in 2003 and 2004 was accounted for in the simulations.

Table 1. Results of Monte Carlo simulation using the Sign Test to determine the effect size and number of samples to detect a 20% change in long term median value (Target) with 80% power for grab sampling stations.

Parameter	Nobs/Year	Annual Percent Change Long Term		Number of Samples to	
		Median Value	Detected	Detect Shift to Target	
NO_x	144	0.20	62.3	>720	
TKN	144	1.50	12.3	90	
TPO ₄	144	0.14	21.0	150	

Results for grab samples suggest that the sampling frequency necessary to detect a 20% change from the median was adequate to detect annual changes in TKN concentrations, and adequate to detect bi annual changes of 20% in TPO4 concentrations but that the 20% change criterion for NOx was too restrictive suggesting even with extremely high sampling frequency would result in an inability to detect a 20% change in NOx. Indications are that only a change of approximately 0.15 mg/L would be detectable using an annual grab sampling frequency of 144 across stations.

Results for auto sampling stations suggested auto sampling yielded greater power to detect a 20% change in median for TPO4 and TKN and that a 20% change in NOx was detectable over a 4 year window (Table 2).

Table 2. Results of Monte Carlo simulation using the Sign Test to determine the effect size and number of samples to detect a 20% change in long term median value (Target) with 80% power for flow proportional auto-samplers.

Parameter	Nobs/Year	Long Term	Annual Percent Change	Number of Samples to	
		Median Value	Detected	Detect Shift to Target	
NO x	144	0.26	49.1	576	
TKN	144	.66	8.5	50	
TPO ₄	144	0.17	18.2	140	

The second component of the optimization was to assess power to detect trends in the water quality parameters of interest. For the BRM project, only the project X stations including L59W, L60E, L60W,S71 and S72 have a period of record long enough to warrant power analysis using the Seasonal Kendall Tau Test for Trend. For these stations, the time series of data was modeled to estimate the seasonal variability and autocorrelation in the data. A simulation dataset was generated from which samples could be pulled representing 5 year time series segments. For each replicate trial, the Seasonal Kendall Tau Test for Trend was used to estimate the annual percent change in slope that could be detected under the current sampling design and under alternative sampling frequencies.

+ indicates that increasing sampling frequency to bi-weekly would result in ability to detect a 20% change over 5 years.

Results of trend tests for individual stations within the project indicate that the current sampling frequency is sufficient to detect trends in TPO4 that would result in a 20% increase in slope over 5 years. For TKN additional sampling to consistent bi-weekly sampling would yield sufficient power for detecting a 20% change in slope at stations L60W and L59W. Interestingly, TKN appeared to be increasing at all stations except L60W and the slope estimates for TPO4 were also significantly increasing at several of the stations evaluated.

Distribution box plots for each parameter form 2002 -2004 by station (Appendix BRM-1) reveal that station C41VMB tended to record higher values for NOx than all other stations while for the other parameters of interest all the stations had similar distributions.

Recommendations:

The BRM project is an important part of the South Florida Water Quality Monitoring Network. The data are used to monitor water quality within the reservation and estimate nutrient concentrations into Lake Okeechobee. Since the BRM project has only been in operation for a short time, project X was included in this optimization study. In general it appears that this project is well suited to meet the goals and objectives established. Only with a longer time series of data can the power to detect trends for stations C40VMB and C41VMB be assessed. The target identified for assessing changes in the median value was a 20% change in magnitude. This change was reasonable for TPO\$ and TKN but seemed to be to strict a criterion for NOx given the variability in the data. Consideration should be given to identifying specific criterion for each parameter of interest (e.g. state water quality standards) to evaluate whether any changes in magnitude or time series trend will result in an adverse condition within the BRM project. This will be in line will future mandates associated with TMDL development for the area. Otherwise sampling effort should continue at current levels until sufficient data are available to evaluate trends at the BRM stations and compare them with trends in the adjacent project X.

Appendix BRM-1 Box Plots

Parameter=TPO4 Collection Method=G DBHydro Code=25

Parameter=NOx Collection Method=G DBHydro Code=18

Parameter=TKN Collection Method=G DBHydro Code=21

Collier County Water Quality Optimization Leader: Mike Wessel, Janicki Environmental Statistician: Mike Wessel, Janicki Environmental

Project Code: CCWQ

Type: Type III

Mandate/Permit:

- Site Permit for Corkscrew Swamp for DEP
- Prairie Canal Permit from DEP
- WRDA 2000, PL 106-541, Title VI, Section 601 (Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program)

Spatial Description:

The CCWQ project collects samples from southwest Florida in Collier County. Forty-eight locations are sampled for project CCWQ. Forty-three of the stations are within the Big Cypress Basin's inland and estuarine waterbodies. Five stations are located within the Fakahatchee Strand and Corkscrew Swamp area. In addition to these stations, the county also samples monthly at 5 designated stormwater outfalls within the city of Immokalee. These stations are registered under Project IMKS.

Discussions with District staff familiar with Project CCWQ relayed that several of the stations (BC7, BC8, BC12 in the Prairie Canal and BC 13, BC14, BC15, COCAT41, COCEOF31 and CORK@846 in Corkscrew Swamp are Type 1 under the Prairie Canal site permit with DEP and Corkscrew Swamp Permit with DEP.

Several District staff mentioned that there may be some areas that need to be added to Project CCWQ. There are several natural areas (i.e., middle of Fakahatchee strand and the west prairies) that are not, and have not been, monitored, and therefore no baseline information is available.

Project Purpose, Goals and Objectives:

Although no active mandates specify this monitoring, this project supports the District's commitment to a unified sampling program to provide data to address southwest Florida water quality issues. No other water quality monitoring is currently conducted in this area. This southwest region of Florida has experienced rapid growth and development in terms of agriculture and urban-suburban growth over the past 10 years. A concern of this growth is the impact it will have on water quality. Therefore, the goals and objectives of this program are to collect baseline data and information that can be used to develop water management strategies for the Big Cypress basin watershed and adjacent coastal waters of Collier County

Sampling Frequency and Parameters Sampled:

The forty-eight stations sampled for Project CCWQ are sampled (via grab) quarterly for alkalinity, calcium, chloride, fluoride, magnesium, silica, sulfate, and metals (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, iron lead and zinc). Monthly sampling is also conducted (via grab) for ammonia, dissolved inorganic nitrogen, total organic nitrogen, nitrate, nitrite, nitrate+nitrite, total nitrogen, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, total phosphorus, orthophosphrus, total dissolved solids, total suspended solids, turbidity, color, chlorophyll a, phaeophytin, fecal coliform, total coliform, total organic carbon and hardness.

In situ parameters are also measured at all sampling locations. These parameters include dissolved oxygen, pH, water temperature, salinity, and specific conductance.

Current and Future Data Uses:

Data from Project CCWQ are used in the development of water management strategies for the Big Cypress Basin watershed and adjacent coastal waters of Collier County and are critical to the Southwest Florida Feasibility Study. These data are used for District operations and the Districts Water Supply Plan for the Reservations. Data have been used in baseline discussions and will continue to be utilized in the monitoring requirements for Picayune Strand (Acceler8 Project). Data will also be used by the Belleglade RP. The Tamiami Trail project which is tied to the first phase of the Picayune Strand restoration project will also use data collected from Project CCWQ. In addition to use by CERP, several of the stations from CCWQ may be incorporated into the RECOVER Monitoring and Assessment Plan.

Several modeling activities are proposed for the southwest FL area and the data from CCWQ may feed into several of these models. For Collier County/Big Cypress Basin, proposed models include the MIKE SHE/MIKE 11 model be used for the watershed. The QUAL 2E model should be used for the non-tidally influenced streams, lakes and reservoirs water quality simulation whereas the WASP model is proposed for the tidally influenced streams/waterbodies.

Identified Optimization Opportunities:

Discussions with District staff identified some potential opportunities for optimization. Additionally, questions were generated that will provide useful for guiding the optimization.

- How comparable are stations within the Project area both spatially and temporally?
- Are any of the parameters measured highly correlated?

Parameters measured In Situ for Project CCWQ

m = monthly; light gray shading indicates a Type 1 station; dark gray shading indicates a Type 2 station; no shading indicates a Type 3 station

Parameters measured from Grab samples for Project CCWQ

m = monthly; qtr = quarterly; light gray shading indicates a Type 1 station; dark gray shading indicates a Type 2 station; no shading indicates a Type 3 station

Figure 1. CCWQ Sampling Locations

Optimization analysis:

Optimization of the CCWQ water quality monitoring project was undertaken with respect to the specific tasks outlined above and detailed in the optimization plan modified and approved in September 2005. Briefly, the spatial and temporal adequacy of the CCWQ project was evaluated with respect to being able to detect changes between time periods and assessing information redundancies among stations. The parameters identified for optimization for this project were:

Note: CHL2 was unavailable in DBHydro for analysis for the CCWQ project. Note: More data were available for TN (code 80) in DBHyro than by calculating TN as the sum of NOx, NH4 and TKN.

- To estimate power and effect size detectable with the current monitoring program, Monte Carlo simulation using the nonparametric Sign Test was used to estimate the detectable change in median value for each parameter of interest across stations that would correspond to a significant shift in the distribution from current levels (i.e. long-term median condition) given the current sampling effort. Further, the test was constructed to establish whether or not a given magnitude of change would result in an observable exceedance of a water quality target defined as a 20 % change in long term median. The number of samples necessary to detect the defined change was also established through this simulation.
- To assess the monitoring program spatially, Principal Components Analysis (PCA) was used as a data reduction technique in an attempt to identify stations which co-vary significantly with respect to the parameters identified for optimization. The results of PCA were used to group stations into hypothetical strata from which differences in the distributions for each parameter of interest was assessed. PCA was also performed independently for each parameter of interest as a comparative tool.
- Spearmans rank correlation was used to compare stations that were spatially grouped in closest proximity against the results of PCA analysis.

The CCWQ project covers an expansive area of southwest Florida and samples structures on canals discharging from the lower everglades as well as relatively un-impacted natural areas. The monitoring program has been established to collect baseline information of water quality throughout the region and provide information necessary for water management strategies for the Big Cypress basin watershed and adjacent coastal waters of Collier County. Because the time series of data for CCWQ represents only three full years of sampling effort, power testing for trends in water quality was not performed.

The first component of the optimization was to examine the project-wide distribution for each parameter of interest, calculate the long term median value for each parameter of interest and generate a simulation dataset that could be used to test the effectiveness of the current monitoring sampling design to estimate changes in water quality parameters of interest to the district. Details of the sign test methods are conveyed in the project comprehensive report (Hunt *et. al*., 2006). Briefly, the sign test simulation exercise is meant to demonstrate the ability of a sampling program to detect changes from a baseline value under a given sampling frequency. The long term median value was used to represent a baseline value and the test was constructed as a one-sample test to estimate the power to detect a change in the median value for each water quality variable of interest. Since there is only variability associated with one group of data for the comparison, the test is more powerful than a two- sample test where uncertainty is expressed in the distribution of each comparison group. Further, the sign test simulations do not account for serial auto-correlation which can be present in monitoring data. The presence of significant auto

correlation, if not accounted for, can yield unrealistically optimistic assessments of the sample size necessary to detect changes. However, from a regulatory perspective, auto-correlation is usually not considered when assessing whether or not a water body is meeting or exceeding a given water quality target (e.g., Impaired Waters Rule F.A.C. 62-303.320). Auto-correlation is not considered in the sign test simulations. Once a 5 year time series of data is available, it is recommended that the District perform trend analysis using software provided as part of this optimization process (Rust, 2005). The software package is designed to provide a tool for estimating the power of trend detection at individual monitoring stations and accounts for the potential effects of serial autocorrelation.

Table 1 provides a summary of the simulation results using the Sign Test to estimate the effect size (i.e., magnitude change in median value) that is detectable annually under the current monitoring strategy and identify the samples size (number of years of data) required to detect a specified magnitude of change from current conditions. The sample size for each parameter was estimated using the average number of grab samples taken in years 2001-2003.

amples to detect a 20 % change in jong term inculant value (Target) with 60 % power for stations.								
Parameter	Average Number	Long Term	Annual Percent	Number of Samples to				
	of Samples/Year	Median Value	Change Detected	Detect Shift to Target				
CHLA	358	3.20	14.0	300				
D _O	382	4.62	16.7	300				
TN	276	0.69	9.9	160				
TPO4	277	0.02	19.7	277				
TSS	312	2.0	48.9	935				

Table 1. Results of Monte Carlo simulation using the Sign Test to determine the effect size and number of grab samples to detect a 20% change in long term median value (Target) with 80% power for stations.

Results suggest that the sampling frequency necessary to detect a given change from the basin-wide median was parameter dependent. For the parameters CHLA and TN there was sufficient power to detect a 20% change in the long term median value annually. The sampling frequency was close to optimal for detecting a 20% change in median for TPO4. However, for TSS the sampling frequency necessary to detect a 20% change in the median was extremely large. This was apparently due to most (90%) of TSS values being recorded at a value of 2 which seems to correspond to the minimum detection limit (Table 2).

Percentile	TSS	ΤN	TPO ₄	CHLA	DO
100%	76	5.98	0.47	246.3	16.1
99%	17	2.34	0.238	48.6	11.39
95%	4	1.51	0.121	23	9.2
90%	2	1.23	0.081	15	8.16
75%	2	0.94	0.044	6.9	6.43
50%	2	0.73	0.023	3.2	4.59
25%	2	0.55	0.011	3	2.97
10%	2	0.37	0.009	3	1.89
5%	2	0.27	0.007	3	1.34
1%	2	0.24	0.004	3	0.63
0%	2	0.01	0.0032	3	0.25

Table 2. Percentile distribution of values for each parameter of interest.

The second component of the optimization was to assess the spatial distribution of samples and the correlation among stations for each of the parameters of interest. The intent of using PCA was to identify stations within the basin that were highly correlated with respect to the parameter measurements over time indicating the potential that there may be some spatial redundancy in the sampling design. The PCA analysis requires no missing values so data were averaged quarterly for each station/ parameter set. Further, since fewer samples occurred for stations CORKN, CORKS, CORKSW, CORKSCRD, TAMBR90 and CHKMATE, these stations were not included in the PCA

analysis.

Four station groupings (strata) could be identified using the PCA analysis (Table 3). These groups were labeled strata A, B, C, D for convenience. Strata X includes stations that were not significantly correlated with any of the PCA factors identified in the analysis. The correlation of each station with the PCA factors is given in Appendix CCWQ-1 for all parameters combined and by parameter in Appendix CCWQ-2.

Strata A	Strata B	Strata C	Strata D	Strata X
BARRIVN	BC13	BC ₁	BC15	BC2
BC10	BC17	BC16	BC ₃	BC22
BC11	BC18	BC20	COCAT ₄₁	BC23
BC12	BC19	BC25	ECOCORIV	BC ₅
BC7	BC21	BC ₄	GGC 858	BC ₆
COCEOF31	BC24			COCPALM
FAKA	GATOR			CORK@846
FAKAUPOL				FAKA858
BC14				GGC@858
BC26				HALDCRK
BC ₈				LELY
BC ₉				MONROE
GGCAT31				

Table 3. List of strata identified using PCA on the CCWQ parameters of interest (TPO4, TN, TSS, CHLA, DO).

Stations located in strata B tended to be located along the Tamiami canal while Strata D stations were located in the upper NW corner of the Project area. Otherwise the PCA groupings did not strongly group stations, which were located in close spatial proximity. To further investigate spatial correlations, stations located in close proximity to one another were evaluated for each parameter of interest using Spearmans rank correlation. Two groups of stations: BC20,BC21, FAKA and FAKAUPOI in the SW project area; and, stations in the upper NW corner of the project area including BC13, BC14, BC15, COCEOF31, COCPALM, COCAT41, ECOCORIV were evaluated using Spearman rank correlation. From these analyses, BC20 andBC21 were significantly correlated with each other for all parameters of interest while the FAKA and FAKAUPOI stations were less correlated with each other than with BC20 and BC21 (Appendix 4). For parameters TN and TPO4, station COCEOF31 was highly correlated with BC14 and BC15 but only with BC13 for TN.

A final spatial correlation test was run on TYPE 1 stations against the other stations in the project to identify stations that may be providing information similar to that provided by a particular Type 1 station. Results of this comparison suggested that several stations were correlated with Cork_846 but the significance of these correlations was parameter dependent. (Appendix 5). In general, there were few consistencies across parameters to identify stations that appeared to be redundant with any of the Type 1 stations.

Recommendations:

The CCWQ project data has only been available since 2001 and the time series of data analyzed is not adequate to evaluate trends in water quality. Therefore, optimization was undertaken with respect to identifying the sampling frequency necessary to identify basin-wide changes in the long term median values for each parameter of interest and in identifying any stations that are providing redundant information. The CCWQ project is currently focused on providing baseline information on water quality in an area experiencing large scale residential and commercial development. Incorporating flow data was beyond the scope of this study, so inference regarding water quality parameters was assessed using nutrient concentration information. The CCWQ project covers an extremely large area of Southwest Florida including drainage basin canals and relatively un-impacted wetland areas. Attempts to identify contiguous station groupings using Principal Components Analysis resulted in four station groupings that though explained approximately 25% of the variation in the data across parameters of interest. Moreover, correlation tests suggested that those stations in close proximity were not necessarily correlated for all parameters

of interest.

From an optimization perspective, the CCWQ project presents several challenges including a short time series of data and temporally inconsistent data collection across the stations included in the project. Even so the, the sampling frequency appears adequate to assess basin-wide changes in median condition across all stations. However, given the large area, diversity of water types, and changes being experienced in the project area, it is unlikely that the entire area will be evaluated for basin-wide changes in median condition. It is more likely from a management perspective to evaluate changes for a particular sub-area within this project. Thus, consideration should be given to identifying these areas and defining a sampling frequency that evaluates stations within these areas in close temporal proximity (i.e. improve synoptic sampling).

Several of the stations within this project are designated as Type 1 stations that address specific mandates associated with permit requirements in the area. Several of the Type 2 and Type 3 stations appear to be co-located with these stations although sampling of these stations is not necessarily coordinated to minimize temporal differences in sampling with the Type 1 stations. This sampling design reduced the ability of this study to evaluate information redundancy between the Type II/II stations with the Type 1 stations. Even so, the PCA and correlation analysis suggested that close proximity stations BC20 and BC21 and BC9 and BC10 were providing similar information. The PCA analysis also identified several stations located along the Tamiami Canal (Strata B in Table 3) as co-varying similarly but not in close proximity as well as three stations (ECOCORIV, CACAT41, and BC15) in the NW corner of the study area (Strata D in Table 3) [].

Trend analysis was not conducted for this project as the time series of data was not long enough to evaluate trends over time. By 2006 enough data will have been collected to evaluate the power of the sampling program to evaluate trends in water quality at individual stations within the project area. These additional data will provide valuable insights into stations which may be providing redundant information with the project area and help to optimize the project. Identifying specific goals for the project such as determining changes from a specified baseline condition or evaluating data with respect to specific water quality targets would help refine the sampling program's objectives and enhance future optimizations. Further, identifying sub-areas within the project within which to make inferences about change would also be beneficial.

References

- Hunt, CD. Field, J, Rust, S. 2006. Surface Water Quality Monitoring Network Optimization Comprehensive Report. Final report to the South Florida Water Management District. February 2006.
- Rust SW. 2005. Power Analysis Procedure for Trend Detection with Accompanying SAS Software. Battelle Report to South Florida Water Management District, November 2005.

Appendix CCWQ-1

PCA based on all parameters of interest

Parameters of interest combined

Appendix CCWQ-2 PCA by Parameter

Parameter =CHLA

Parameter =Dissolved Oxygen

Parameter = Total Suspended Solids

Station	Factor1		Factor2		Factor3		Factor4	
BARRIVN	-0.15761		-0.15701		0.94258	\ast	-0.12953	
BC1	0.04391		-0.21386		-0.19041		0.93121	\ast
BC11	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
BC12	-0.10134		0.97950	\ast	-0.07197		-0.06372	
BC15	-0.23149		-0.18610		-0.17956		0.90294	\ast
BC16	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
BC17	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
BC18	0.99063	\ast	-0.08670		0.08706		0.03395	
BC19	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
BC ₂	0.16467		-0.21058		-0.18461		0.91005	\ast
BC20	0.97378	\ast	0.01286		0.20707		0.00906	
BC21	0.32696		-0.18360		0.89659	\ast	-0.10143	
BC22	0.99708	\ast	-0.04557		-0.02050		0.04660	
BC24	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
BC25	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
BC4	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
BC ₅	0.44987		-0.20707		-0.16901		0.81952	\ast
BC ₆	-0.12397		0.98253	\ast	-0.08763		-0.07912	
BC7	-0.10134		0.97950	\ast	-0.07197		-0.06372	
BC ₈	-0.15761		-0.15701		0.94258	\ast	-0.12953	
COCAT41	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
COCEOF31	-0.10134		0.97950	\ast	-0.07197		-0.06372	
COCPALM	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
FAKAUPOI	-0.15761		-0.15701		0.94258	\ast	-0.12953	
GATOR	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
GGCAT31	-0.10134		0.97950	\ast	-0.07197		-0.06372	
HALDCRK	-0.10134		0.97950	\ast	-0.07197		-0.06372	
LELY	0.92396	\ast	0.02676		-0.14243		0.14439	
MONROE	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	
OKALA858	0.99583	\ast	-0.06818		-0.01876		0.04792	

Appendix-3 PCA based box plots

Stationos assocaited with each strata

Parameter=CHLA

Parameter=TSS

Appendix -4 Station Correlations

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TSS

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TN

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TSS

7 Variables: BC13 BC14 BC15 COCEOF31 COCPALM COCAT41 ECOCORIV

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=CHLA

7 Variables: BC13 BC14 BC15 COCEOF31 COCPALM COCAT41 ECOCORIV

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=DO

7 Variables: BC₁₃ BC14 BC15 COCEOF31 COCPALM COCAT41 ECOCORIV

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TN

7 Variables: BC₁₃ BC14 BC15 COCEOF31 COCPALM COCAT41 ECOCORIV

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TPO4

7 Variables: BC13 BC14 BC15 COCEOF31 COCPALM COCAT41 ECOCORIV

Appendix-5 Correlations with TYPE 1 Stations

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TSS

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

$\ensuremath{\mathit{Parameter}}\xspace\text{-}TN$

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TN

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TN

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TSS

The CORR Procedure

Parameter=TSS

Caloosahatchee Estuary Water Quality Optimization Leader: Mike Wessel, Janicki Environmental Statistician: Mike Wessel, Janicki Environmental

Project Code: CESWQ

Type: Type II

Mandate or Permit:

- Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) of the South West Florida Regional Planning Council
- Surface Water Improvement and Management Act (Lake Okeechobee SWIM Plan) Chapter 373.451- 373.4595, F.S.
- FL Watershed Restoration Act (403.067 FS) (TMDLs/MFLs/PLRGs)
- WRDA 2000, PL 106-541, Title VI, Section 601 (Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program)

Spatial Description:

The Caloosahatchee River and Estuary extends approximately 70 miles from Lake Okeechobee to San Carlos Bay on Florida's southwest coast. The freshwater portion of the river (between structure S-77 and S-79) is monitored as part of the Caloosahatchee River Project (Project CR). The CESWQ project evaluates water quality in the tidal portion of the river (west of the S-79 structure) and into the lower Caloosahatchee Estuary. There is some overlap between CESWQ and CR in that CESWQ station CES01 is close to the S-79 sampling station from Project CR. The CESWQ Project began in 1998. Historically, up to 11 fixed locations have been sampled for CESWQ. CES01 is the easternmost station (at the S-79 structure). Stations CES02 through CES11 are located west of this station along the river and into the lower portions of the estuary with CES11 being the most western station. Four of the fixed eleven stations (CES01, CES03, CES04 and CES06) are being sampled monthly. Five additional stations are randomly selected using the EPA's EMAP stratified random sampling design with stations being selected randomly within a grid. These random stations are included in the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program's Water Quality Network.

Sampling location CES01 may overlap with sampling station S-79 from the CR project. Additionally, the Rookery Bay water quality monitoring project (ROOK) sampled by FIU may contain overlapping stations. In particular, CES08 is not sampled regularly for CESWQ, but this station is sampled monthly under Project ROOK. At the time Project ROOK began (1999), CES08 was being sampled regularly and was purposefully included in ROOK to allow some comparability between programs. Prior to optimization, a map showing the sampling stations for Project ROOK and CESWQ will need to be reviewed to identify additional stations containing data that may be used.

Project Purpose, Goals and Objectives:

Project CESWQ has two distinct components that are used to meet the requirements specified in the mandates above. One component of this program involves monthly water quality sampling from the 4 fixed stations and 5 randomly located stations to better understand how water quality issues are affecting the Caloosahatchee River and receiving estuaries. This information will also help to support the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program by establishing a baseline and long-term data set for the area from Estero Bay through the lower end of Charlotte Harbor. This component of the project is currently being collected by Lee County Environmental Laboratory.

 The second component of the CESWQ project is an event driven sampling effort to quantify the effects of freshwater releases from Lake Okeechobee into the Caloosahatchee River Estuary. During the drought of 2001, essential tape grass habitat in the Upper Caloosahatchee Estuary was lost due to elevated salinity. In an effort to restore this habitat and maintain healthy salinity levels within the system, the Corps and District have been conducting freshwater releases through the S-79 structure if salinity is determined to be detrimental. Large volumes of freshwater are also released through the structure in response to events (storms) which require movement of water out of the watershed and Lake Okeechobee for flood control. Therefore, the specific goal of the project is to quantify spatial and temporal changes in salinity and other indicative water quality parameters, which are altered by freshwater releases through the S-79 structure to the Caloosahatchee River Estuary. Sampling is conducted upon request of the District's program manager at up to eleven sampling locations (CES01 through CES11).

Sampling Frequency and Parameters Sampled:

Currently, Lee County collects monthly samples for Project CESWQ. The four fixed stations (CES01, CES03, CES04 and CES06) for project CESWQ are sampled monthly (via grab samples) for total Kjeldahl nitrogen, ammonia, nitrate+nitrite, total phophorus, orthophosphate, silicate, turbidity, total suspended solids, total organic carbon, color and chlorophyll a. Samples are collected at 0.5 meters from the surface and 0.5 meters from the bottom. In situ measurements are taken at both surface and bottom and include: pH, dissolved oxygen, salinity, conductivity, and temperature. A secchi depth measurement is also recorded for the sampling station.

The five random stations sampled by Lee County for Project CESWQ are sampled monthly (via grab samples) for total Kjeldahl nitrogen, total dissolved Kjeldahl nitrogen, ammonia, nitrate+nitrite, total phophorus, orthophosphate, silicate, turbidity, total suspended solids, total dissolved solids, total organic carbon, color, chlorophyll a and photosynthetically active radiation. For locations where sample depth is greater than 3 meters, samples are collected at 0.5 meters from the surface and 0.5 meters from the bottom. For locations less than 3 meters total depth, a single sample at 0.5 meters from the surface is collected. In situ measurements, including salinity, temperature, conductivity, pH and dissolved oxygen are also collected both at the surface and bottom. A secchi depth measurement and light attenuation coefficients are taken at each sampling location.

The event-driven sampling for the CESWQ project is conducted at designated stations within a single day timeframe. Grab samples at 0.5 meter from the surface are used to collect total nitrogen, total phosphorus and chlorophyll a. However, total nitrogen and total phosphorus are only collected at station CES01 whereas chlorophyll a is collected at all sampling locations. In situ vertical profiles of temperature, salinity, pH, dissolved oxygen, and photosynthetically active radiation are also collected at all stations. The District sub-contracts the event-driven Caloosahatchee release monitoring. This effort is currently being conducted by TetraTech.

The CESWQ program manager did not believe any additional parameters would be necessary in the future for this monitoring program.

Current and Future Data Uses:

These data are often used together with those from Project CR since the stations for CESWQ are directly downstream of the CR project. The data from the CESWQ project are used in many of the same District reports, models and operations that reference data from the CR projects. Current reports/models which rely on data collected from the Caloosahatchee Estuary Water Quality project include:

- South Florida Environmental Report (SFER)
- CERP update and design/assessment of CERP projects in the C-43 basin and surrounding area
- Southwest Florida Feasibility Study
- DHI watershed model of the C-43 basin
- CH3D Hydrodynamic model of the Caloosahatchee
- MIKE SHE/MIKE II Model of the Tidal Caloosahatchee

The event-driven data from this project are reported directly to operations at weekly manager meetings. This information is also critical and is used to alert the crab fishing industry of low dissolved oxygen events.

Because the C-43 Basin is a CERP Project and has been listed as an Acceler8 project, data from the CESWQ Project will play a major role in the design and assessment of the CERP projects in the C-43 Basin and surrounding areas. The RECOVER Monitoring and Assessment Plan (MAP) has also identified sampling stations within the boundaries of the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary System to be monitored on a long-term basis.

In addition to CERP and RECOVER related activities, future data from the Caloosahatchee River Estuary Monitoring Program will be used to support critical loads for the C43 basin, water quality targets, and TMDL development. Outside of the District, EPA's Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program is a key end-user of this information.

Identified Optimization Opportunities:

Discussions with District staff identified some potential opportunities for optimization. Additionally, questions were generated that will provide useful for guiding the optimization.

- Are the data from S-79 (Project CR) and CES01 (Project CESWQ) similar? Can one of these stations be used for both projects?
- What is the spatial and temporal variability in salinity and other water quality parameters in the estuary? Do stations represent redundant sampling from a gradient perspective?
- Where in the estuary does the influence of water released from S-79 end?

Parameters Measured During Routine Monitoring of Project CESWQ

*Fixed sampling station; $m =$ monthly; gray shading indicates a Type 2 station

Parameters Measured During Event-based Monitoring for Project CESWQ

req = upon request of the District Program manager; gray shading indicates a Type 2 station

Optimization analysis:

Optimization of the CESWQ water quality monitoring project was undertaken with respect to the specific tasks outlined above and detailed in the optimization plan modified and approved in September 20005. Briefly, the spatial and temporal adequacy of the CESWQ project was evaluated with respect to being able to detect changes between time periods, being able to detect trends in water quality parameters by station within the project, assessing information redundancies among stations and identifying stations located in proximity to potential point source discharges. The parameters identified for optimization in this project were:

- To estimate power and detectable effect size of the current monitoring program, Monte Carlo simulation using the nonparametric sign test was used to estimate the detectable change in median value for each parameter of interest across stations corresponding to a significant shift in the distribution from baseline levels (i.e. long-term median condition) given the current sampling effort. Further, the test was constructed to establish whether or not a given magnitude of change would result in an observable 20% change in long term median value.
- To estimate the power to detect a trend for a given water quality parameter, Monte Carlo simulations were performed using the Kendall Tau Test for Trend. This procedure is being documented as a statistical evaluation tool for the SFWMD and the procedure will be outlined in detail in separate documentation. Briefly, the simulations result in an estimate of the slope (time series trend) that can be detected for a given monitoring routine using the current annual effort and under alternative sampling strategies. Again a 20% change in slope was used as a target change for detection.
- The binomial test was used to identify stations where the probability of encountering a value larger than the long term median (for all stations combined) was significantly greater than 50 percent. A significant result using the one tailed binomial test may signify an area of increased parameter concentration associated with a possible point source discharge. For dissolved oxygen, the left-sided binomial test was used to test for a significantly greater than 50 percent chance of collecting a dissolved oxygen value lower than the long term median.

The CESWQ project has undergone a series of sampling design changes related to the establishment of a Minimum Flow and Level (MFL) for the Caloosahatchee Estuary. Low level freshwater releases from the S79 structure are now being conducted at the request of the District to regulate the upstream incursion of a 10 ppt salinity isohaline. Event based monitoring is now being conducted in conjunction with these low level releases from S79. This shift in the sampling strategy was evidenced in the dataset during 2003. Further, a reservoir is scheduled to be constructed between monitoring stations S78 and S79 in the CR project to facilitate low level releases and minimize the need for flood control releases during periods of heavy rainfall. Incorporating flow data into the analysis was beyond the scope of this study. Therefore, the focus of this optimization was on optimizing the sampling frequency necessary to detect changes in water quality parameters with respect to a 20% change from long term median and estimating the ability to detect changes in slope over 5 year time frame. However, long term (i.e. 5 years) data only exist for station CES01, CES03, CES04 and CES06 from the fixed grab sampling component of the sampling program. Other stations are sampled on an event based sampling frequency which began in 2003. Therefore, trend detection

will be performed only for grab sample data with a five year sampling frequency which included the 4 stations mentioned previously and the parameters: Dissolved Oxygen, Salinity, TPO4, TKN, TNc and corrected Chla.

The first component of the optimization was to examine the project-wide distribution for each parameter of interest, calculate the long term median value for each parameter of interest and generate a simulation dataset that could be used to test the effectiveness of the current monitoring sampling design to estimate changes in water quality parameters of interest to the district. Details of the sign test methods are conveyed in the master document. Briefly, the sign test simulation exercise is meant to demonstrate the ability of a sampling program to detect changes from a baseline value under a given sampling frequency. The long term median value was used to represent a baseline value and the test was constructed as a one-sample test to estimate the power to detect a change in the median value for each water quality variable of interest. Since there is only variability associated with one group of data for the comparison, the test is more powerful than a two- sample test where uncertainty is expressed in the distribution of each comparison group. Further, the sign test simulations do not account for serial auto-correlation which can be present in monitoring data. The presence of significant auto correlation, if not accounted for, can yield unrealistically optimistic assessments of the sample size necessary to detect changes. However, from a regulatory perspective, auto-correlation is usually not considered when assessing whether or not a water body is meeting or exceeding a given water quality target (e.g., Impaired Waters Rule F.A.C. 62-303.320). Auto-correlation is not considered in the sign test simulations but is considered in the test for trend analysis presented later in this document.

 Table 1 provides a summary of the simulation results using the Sign Test to estimate the effect size detectable under the current monitoring strategy and identify the number of years of data required to detect a twenty percent change in magnitude from the baseline condition. Data included all samples collected as part of the CESWQ project from 1998 through 2004. When present, vertical profile data were averaged for each station/collection date combination prior to creating the simulation pool for analysis. The sample size (Nobs) was then calculated as the average annual number of samples for collections from 2000-2004.

Parameter	Average	Long Term	Annual Percent Change	Number of Samples to
	Nobs/Year	Median Value	Detected	Detect Shift to Target
Chla corrected	74	6.3	53.5	380
Dissolved	124	6.05	16.2	100
Oxygen				
TKN	72	0.95	23.4	120
TN calculated	62	1.16	37.7	185
TPO ₄	70	0.11	29.9	280

Table 1. Results of Monte Carlo simulation using the Sign Test to determine the effect size and number of samples to detect a 20% change in long term median value (Target) with 80% power.

Results suggest that the basin-wide sampling frequency was sufficient to detect annual changes of 20% in the basinwide median value only for DO. The parameters TPO4, TKN, and TNc had more uncertainty resulting in a larger sample size required to detect a 20% change in median for this parameter but suggested that a 20% change in median could be detected in 5 years if autocorrelation was not present in the data. For corrected Chla the sampling frequency was insufficient to detect a 20% change in 5 years. While sampling frequency regarding basin-wide inferences on a 5 year window appears to be sufficient for all parameters except Chla, there was significant between station variability within the Caloosahatchee Estuary. (Appendix CR-1 box plots) that influenced the power of the sampling program.

To examine the sign test power analysis on a more refined spatial scale, a second analysis was performed using data collected only from stations CES03 and CES04 to identify sample sizes necessary to detect changes in median corrected Chla concentrations in an area of special concern regarding a Valued Ecosystem Component (i.e. a large area of tape grass, *Vallisneria Americana*) established under the MFL. Again, the sign test was used in a Monte Carlo simulation approach to estimate the power to detect a change in median for Chla. Results indicated that a

20% change from the median value of 6.89 would require more than 5 years worth of data collection at 30 samples/year. Between station Spearmans rank correlations suggested that Chla concentrations at upstream stations were correlated with the two stations downstream and one station upstream while the more estuarine stations downstream were only correlated with stations immediately adjacent to them (Table 2). The exception to this was station CES04 which was correlated significantly with two upstream stations and one downstream station.

								- -
Station	Corr CES ₀₁	Corr CES ₀₂	Corr CES ₀₃	Corr CES ₀₄	Corr CES ₀₅	Corr CES ₀₆	Corr CES ₀₇	Corr CES ₀₈
CES ₀₁	$1.00**$	$0.52*$	$0.62**$	0.39	0.50	0.10	0.05	-0.25
CES ₀₂	$0.52*$	$1.00**$	$0.79**$	$0.64***$	0.29	0.37	0.17	-0.17
CES ₀₃	$0.62**$	$0.79**$	$1.00**$	$0.76**$	0.40	0.09	0.05	-0.25
CES ₀₄	0.39	$0.64***$	$0.76**$	$1.00**$	$0.61***$	0.33	0.24	-0.29
CES ₀₅	0.50	0.29	0.40	$0.61***$	$1.00**$	$0.77**$	0.37	0.09
CES ₀₆	0.10	0.37	0.09	0.33	$0.77**$	$1.00**$	$0.71***$	0.29
CES07	0.05	0.17	0.05	0.24	0.37	$0.71***$	$1.00**$	$0.42*$
CES ₀₈	-0.25	-0.17	-0.25	-0.29	0.09	0.29	$0.42*$	$1.00**$

Table 2. Correlation table for Parameter Chla in the CESWQ project.

 $Prob > |r|$ Under HC: RHO=0 < 0.01

** $Prob > |r|$ Under HC: RHO=0 < 0.001

The second component of the optimization was to assess the power to detect time series trends for the water quality parameters of interest. Data collected from 1998 to 2003 at fixed station sampling sites were analyzed using the entire time series for each parameter which was first modeled to estimate the seasonal variability and autocorrelation in the data. A simulation dataset was then generated from which samples could be pulled representing a 5 year time series. For each replicate trial, the Kendall Tau Test for Trend was used to estimate the annual percent change in slope that could be detected under the current sampling design. Alternative sampling frequencies were assessed by selecting additional samples from the simulated time-series to increase the number of samples per year in the simulation trials while capturing the seasonal signal and serial auto-correlation aspects of the data. The all data were natural log transformed prior to analysis except for DO which exhibited a relatively normal distribution.

For parameters salinity and DO, the annual percentage change in slope detectable was in the 50 percent range except for station CES01 salinity which is predominantly freshwater. Trends in salinity and dissolved oxygen in the future will more likely be assessed from data collected using in situ profiles rather than grab samples but unfortunately a long term time series was unavailable for these parameters for collect methods other than grab samples. Corrected CHLa was consistently in the 30-40 percent APC range for stations CES01-CES03 and less powerful at the downstream station CES06 indicating it is highly unlikely that trends could be detected at this station. The APC values for TKN ranged from 7.6 -11.4 percent depending on station while the calculated TNc values were more difficult to model using the mixed model approach resulting in non-convergence in stations CES03 and CES04. When convergence of the mixed model was reached the APC estimates were very similar. Similarly, convergence for TPO4 was problematic at all stations but CES01.

 $NC^{**} =$ non convergence of the mixed model

To identify areas of potential concern with respect to point source discharges, the binomial test was used to identify stations which consistently recorded values for a specific parameter higher than the long term median value for that parameter when combining all stations. For DO, the binomial test was used to test for a significantly greater than 50% probability of collecting a value lower than the long term median for all stations.

Recommendations:

The Caloosahatchee Estuary project is an important part of the South Florida's Water Quality Monitoring Network. The estuarine portion of the Caloosahatchee connects the upstream C-43 basin and waters leaving Lake Okeechobee with the Charlotte Harbor Estuary. The data collected in this project are used to monitor water quality leaving the upstream C-43 basin, estimate nutrient concentrations within the estuary and detect exceedance of water quality targets as established by rule for MFL criteria. The data collection effort has become highly proactive over time to include assessments of controlled flow releases from the S79 structure and their impacts on downstream water quality. Since the C-43 basin will be undergoing major reconstruction with the incorporation of a reservoir between S78 and S79, continued water quality monitoring will be necessary to provide information on potential impacts of the reservoir on water quality at S79 and into the Caloosahatchee estuary. Incorporating flow data was beyond the scope of this study, reducing the ability of these efforts to identify the downstream limits of effects from S79. Further the limited time series of data under the new (2003) sampling design limited our ability to make inferences regarding possible water quality trends. The routine sampling conducted at stations CES01, CES03,

CES04, and CES06 suggested that only large rates of change in water quality targets would be detected under the current design. When examining basin-wide changes with respect to long term median values, the system had more power to detect changes in median condition but this may not be the aim of the study with respect to the specific criterion established for the MFL which is to protect a specific area of the river where a large bed of low salinity submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) exists. The criterion for the MFL is based on salinity and the salinity isohaline is managed using a flow control strategy.

The CESWQ project sampling design was changed in 2003 in an attempt to deal with specific issues related to flow control strategies from S79 and support the MFL established for the Caloosahatchee in 2002. The estuary is sampled currently with 3 sampling strategies including a fixed-station, stratified-random and event-based sampling protocol. Based on the analysis presented in this study, the fixed station sampling aspect of the program provides little information with respect to the ability to detect changes in water quality parameters over time. The sampling frequency is reportedly monthly but was found to be less than monthly in the year 2003 for several of the parameters identified. However, station CES01 is an important station to estimate the nutrient loading into the estuarine portion of the Caloosahatchee from S79. Therefore, one alternative to fixed station sampling would be to continue to sample CES01 as a fixed station and allocate the remaining fixed station effort into the stratified random sampling effort for the CESWQ project. The event based sampling is necessary to establish a relationship between flow releases and downstream water quality though the current time series of data is not long enough to evaluate its effectiveness. The C-43 basin alterations, including the construction of a reservoir designed to address downstream water quality issues in the Caloosahatchee estuary will necessitate future optimizations. Once the reservoir is completed and a year or two of sampling has been conducted, the CESWQ project should re-evaluated with respect to optimizing this aspect of the sampling program. While stations S79 and CES01 are in close proximity to one another, there are individual project requirements that reduce the potential for using only one station to estimate water quality for both projects. The S79 sampling station is required under a no degradation clause of the mandate for the C-43 basin while CES01 serves as an important station for estimating the nutrient concentrations entering the Caloosahatchee estuary and is sampled with greater frequency than the S79 structure.

Appendix CESWQ-1 Box Plots

Collection Method=G Parameter=CHL2 DBHydro Code=112

Collection Method=G Parameter=TPO4 DBHydro Code=25

Collection Method=FP Parameter=DO DBHydro Code=8

Collection Method=G Parameter=DO DBHydro Code=8

Collection Method=FP Parameter=Salinity DBHydro Code=98

Collection Method=G Parameter=Salinity DBHydro Code=98

Collection Method=G Parameter=TKN DBHydro Code=21

Collection Method=G Parameter=TNc DBHydro Code=Calculated

Caloosahatchee River Optimization Leader: Mike Wessel, Janicki Environmental Statistician: Mike Wessel, Janicki Environmental

Project Code: CR **Type:** Type II **Mandate/Permit:** • Lake Okeechobee Protection Act (LOPA) Chapter 00-130, • Surface Water Improvement and Management Act (Lake Okeechobee SWIM Plan) Chapter 373.451- 373.4595, F.S. • Florida Watershed Restoration Act (403.067 FS) – (TMDLs/MFLs/PLRGs), • WRDA 2000, PL 106-541, Title VI, Section 601 (Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program) **Project Start Date:** 1979 **Division Manager:** Coastal Ecosystems Division: Sean Sculley (Acting) **Program Manager:** Peter Doering Points of Contact: Dan Crean, Bob Chamberlain, Patrick Davis

Field Point of Contact: Patrick Davis

Spatial Description:

The Caloosahatchee River and Estuary extends approximately 70 miles from Lake Okeechobee to San Carlos Bay on Florida's southwest coast. The Caloosahatchee River water quality monitoring program (CR) extends from Lake Okeechobee west to the coastal structure (i.e., structure S-79) that releases fresh water to the Caloosahatchee Estuary. The CR project monitors the freshwater portion of the river (i.e., the C-43 canal between structure S-77 and S-79) whereas the CESWQ project monitors the tidal portion of the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary west of structure S-79. The sampling stations within the Project CR are located within the C-43 basin. Water from Lake Okeechobee flows west through the S-77 structure into the C-43 canal/Caloosahatchee River. Water quality is monitored at several structures along the length of the C-43/Calossahatchee River including the S-235, S-47D, S-78 and S-79. Sampling station CR-00.2T corresponds to structure S-235 which is a small culvert type structure on the southwest side of Lake Okeechobee on LD-1 near the S-77 structure. Sampling station CR-04.8T corresponds to structure S-47D which is a small spillway gated structure located on the C-19 canal. This structure serves as a major entry point to the Caloosahatchee River from the C-43 drainage basin/watershed. The remaining sampling locations correspond directly to the structures (i.e., S-78 and S-79), both of which are large spillway gates and boat lock structures.

Only one sampling location appears to have overlap with other monitoring programs. Sampling station S-79 corresponds to sampling station CES01 from Project CESWQ. Although not currently sampled for the CR project, the CR Program manager suggested that data from Station S-77 may be valuable in the optimization since this station is the structure releasing water directly from Lake Okeechobee into the C-43 canal/Caloosahatchee River.

Project Purpose, Goals and Objectives:

The purpose of the Caloosahatchee River water quality monitoring program is to implement long-term monitoring in the Caloosahatchee River to respond to the mandates presented above. The ultimate goal of this program is to protect and enhance the estuaries that receive freshwater regulatory releases from Lake Okeechobee through the Caloosahatchee River. Therefore several objectives of the project include:

1. assessing Lake Okeechobee, tributary and C-43 basin nutrient concentration inputs and loading to the Caloosahatchee River;

- 2. evaluating concentration inputs and loads to the Caloosahatchee River estuary from the river; and
- 3. determining long and short term trends in total phosphorus and other water quality parameters to identify potential problem areas in terms of water quality degradation and nutrient loadings.

Sampling Frequency and Parameters Sampled:

All stations for the Caloosahatchee River Monitoring Project are sampled on a bi-monthly basis and are collected regardless of flow. No autosamplers are used in this project and samples are collected via grabs. Parameters collected in the grabs include: alkalinity, ammonia, calcium, chloride, color, magnesium, nitrite, nitrite+nitrate, orthophosphate, potassium, sodium, silica, sulfate, total iron, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, total phosphorus, total suspended solids and turbidity. In-situ measurements of physical parameters (water depth, temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, and specific conductivity) are made simultaneously with the grab samples.

The CR program manager did not believe any additional parameters would be necessary in the future for this monitoring program.

Current and Future Data Uses:

Water quality data from the Caloosahatchee River are used to determine the effect of Lake Okeechobee discharges and tributary impacts on the Caloosahatchee River. The data from this project are used in a number of District reports, models, and operations. Current reports/models which rely on data collected from the Caloosahatchee River include:

- South Florida Environmental Report (SFER)
- CERP update
- Southwest Florida Feasibility Study
- DHI watershed model of the C-43 basin
- CH3D Hydrodynamic model of the Caloosahatchee

Because the C-43 Basin is a CERP Project and has been listed as an Acceler8 project, data from the CR Project will play a major role in the design and assessment of the CERP projects in the C-43 Basin and surrounding areas. The RECOVER Monitoring and Assessment Plan (MAP) has also identified sampling stations within the boundaries of the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary System to be monitored on a long-term basis.

In addition to CERP and RECOVER related activities, future data from the Caloosahatchee River Monitoring Project will be used to support critical loads for the C43 basin, water quality targets (i.e., Chlorophyll a target for the Caloosahatchee nutrient loading relationship with S-79), and TMDL development.

Identified Optimization Opportunities:

Discussions with District staff identified some potential opportunities for optimization. Additionally, questions were generated that will provide useful for guiding the optimization.

- Are the data from S-79 (Project CR) and CES01 (Project CESWQ) similar? Can one of these stations be used for both projects?
- Do the data from these sampling locations reflect changes along the river? How similar are the data spatially and temporally?
- Are the differences among each site sufficient to identify potential problem areas along the river?

Parameters Measured for Project CR

bm = bimonthly; gray shading indicates a Type 2 station

Figure 1. CR Sampling Locations

Optimization analysis:

Optimization of the CR water quality monitoring project was undertaken with respect to the specific tasks outlined above and detailed in the optimization plan modified and approved in September 2005. Briefly, the spatial and temporal adequacy of the CR project was evaluated with respect to being able to detect changes between time periods, being able to detect trends in water quality parameters by station within the project, assessing information redundancies among stations and identifying stations located in proximity to potential point source discharges. The parameters identified for optimization for this project were:

- To estimate power and effect size of the current monitoring program, Monte Carlo simulation using the nonparametric Sign Test was used to estimate the detectable change in median value for each parameter of interest across stations (i.e. CR-00.2T, CR-04.8T, S78, S79) that would correspond to a significant shift in the distribution from current levels (i.e. long-term median condition) given the current sampling effort. Further, the test was constructed to establish whether or not a given magnitude of change would result in an observable difference from a water quality target (e.g. DO standard of 5.0 mg/L) or when a target was unavailable a 20 % change in long term median was used as the target value.
- To estimate the power to detect a trend for a given water quality parameter, Monte Carlo simulations were performed using the Kendall Tau Test for Trend. This procedure is being documented as a statistical evaluation tool for the SFWMD and the procedure will be outlined in detail in separate documentation (Rust 2005). Briefly, the simulations result in an estimate of the slope (trend) that can be detected for a given monitoring routine using the current annual effort and under alternative sampling strategies. Again a 20% change in slope was used as a targeted change for assessment for trend detection.
- The binomial test was used to identify stations where the probability of encountering a value larger than the long term median (for all stations combined) was significantly greater than 50 percent. A significant result using the one tailed binomial test may signify an area of increased parameter concentration associated with a possible point source discharge.

The C-43 basin is undergoing changes to the hydrologic cycle as a reservoir is scheduled to be constructed between monitoring stations S78 and S79 and a no degradation clause in the permit will require that these sites remain active to assess water quality on either side of the reservoir. Therefore, the focus of this optimization was on optimizing the sampling frequency necessary to detect changes in water quality parameters with respect to a 20% change from long term median.

The first component of the optimization was to examine the project-wide distribution for each parameter of interest, calculate the long term median value for each parameter of interest and generate a simulation dataset that could be used to test the effectiveness of the current monitoring sampling design. The sign test simulation exercise is meant to demonstrate the ability of a sampling program to detect changes from a baseline value. The long term median value was used to represent a baseline value and the test was constructed as a one- sample test to detect a change in the median value for each water quality variable of interest. Since there is only variability associated with one group of data for the comparison, the test is more powerful than a two- sample test where variability is expressed in the distribution of each comparison group. Further, the sign test simulations do not account for serial or seasonal auto-correlation which can often be present in monitoring data. The presence of auto correlation if not accounted for can yield unrealistically optimistic assessments of the sample size necessary to detect changes. However, since

the CR project is only sampled bimonthly auto-correlation is not considered in the sign test simulations but is considered in the test for trend analysis presented later in this document.

Table 1 provides a summary of the simulation results using the Sign Test to estimate the effect size detectable under the current monitoring strategy and identify the number of samples required to detect a twenty percent change in magnitude from the baseline condition. Data included all samples collected as part of the CR project. When present, vertical profile data were averaged for each station/collection date combination prior to creating the simulation pool for analysis. The sample size (Nobs) was then calculated as the average annual number of samples for collections from 2000-2004. The annual percent change detected is the relative magnitude of change (i.e., relative to the long term median) that can be detected with 80% power given the average annual sampling frequency.

Table 1. Results of Monte Carlo simulation using the Sign Test to determine the effect size and number of samples to detect a 20% change in long term median value (Target) with 80% power for stations CR-00.2T, CR-04.8T, S78, and S79.

Parameter	Nobs/Year	Long Term	Annual Percent Change	Number of Samples to
		Median Value	Detected	Detect Shift to Target
Color (PCU)		82.00	29.6	
TNc (mg/L)		1.61	18.7	20
TPO ₄ (mg/L)		$0.11\,$	35.2	125
TSS (mg/L)		3.00		

Results suggest that the sampling frequency necessary to detect a given change from the median was parameter dependent. A relatively small magnitude of change could be detected for TSS while the variation in TPO4 resulted in many more samples being required to detect a 20% change in the long term median value. One objective of the optimization was to see if including data from S77 would increase the confidence of inference for the CR project with respect to detecting changes in WQ parameters. To do that another simulation was run including data from S77. The station S77 was sampled much more frequently for many parameters of interest. Results of simulation suggest that including S77 data into analysis of concentration data may not improve inference with regard to detecting changes in WQ concentrations (Table 2).

Table 2. Results of Monte Carlo simulation using the Sign Test to determine the effect size and number of samples to detect a 20% change in long term median value (Target) with 80% power for all CR stations and station S77.

Parameter		Nobs/Year	Long Term	Percent Change	Number of Samples to
			Median Value	Detectable in One Year	Detect Shift to Target
Color	(PCU)	50	70.00	23.5	65
TNc	(mg/L)	50	l.61	10.0	30
TPO ₄	(mg/L)	50	0.09	36.5	135
TSS	(mg/L)	50	4.00	27.5	85

The second component of the optimization was to assess the power to detect trends in the water quality parameters of interest at individual stations. For the CR project, samples have been routinely collected since 1992 so the entire time series was modeled to estimate the seasonal variability and autocorrelation for each station in the CR project. A simulation dataset was generated from which samples could be pulled representing 5 year time series segments. For each replicate trial, the Seasonal Kendall Tau test for trend was used to estimate the annual percent change in slope that could be detected under the current sampling design and under alternative sampling frequencies (Table 3). This procedure is described in detail in Rust (2005).

Table 3. Results of Monte Carlo simulation using the Seasonal Kendall Tau Test for Trend on a 5 year time series to determine the effect size for change in slope parameter.

** NC = non-convergence of mixed model

For the parameter TPO4, three stations in the CR project and station S77 showed that a change of less than 20% was detectable over a 5-year window. Station CR-04.8T was the exception to this with only an approximately 50% change detectable over the 5-year window. Not coincidently this station also recorded the highest average concentrations for TPO4 (Appendix CR-1 boxplot). A time series trend was evident only for TSS in Station CR-00.2T and S77. The positive slope indicated an increasing trend for these parameters over the 10+ years of sampling at these two stations. For most parameters, variability in the slope estimate was high indicating that only a large slope would be detectable for most parameters.

To identify areas of potential concern with respect to point source discharges the Binomial test was used to identify stations which consistent recorded values for a specific parameter higher than the long term median value for that parameter when combining all stations. These results are presented in Table 4.

Binomial test results and box plots (Appendix CR) suggest that TPO4 concentrations tended to be higher with progression west from Lake Okeechobee. Each of the other parameters was more evenly distributed across stations however, for TSS there was only one station where there was significant variation in TSS (See box plots: Appendix CR-1).

Recommendations:

The Caloosahatchee River project is an important part of the South Florida's Water Quality Monitoring Network. The data are used to calculate the loading inputs from the C-43 basin into the estuarine portion of the Caloosahatchee River. Since the C-43 basin will be undergoing major reconstruction with the incorporation of a reservoir between S78 and S79, continued water quality monitoring will be necessary to provide information on potential impacts of the reservoir on water quality at S79 and into the Caloosahatchee estuary. Incorporating flow data was beyond the scope of this study, so inference regarding nutrient loading was derived using nutrient concentration information. Station CR-04.8T consistently recorded higher than average Color and TPO4 concentrations suggesting that this station measures a significant source of nutrients inputs into the C-43 basin. Stations S77 and CR-00.2T recorded generally lower values than stations farther west except for station S77 for the parameter TSS. It was reported that S77 is not sampled as part of the CR project. While inclusion of S77 station in with the CR project would increase the number of samples for analysis, it does not appear to increase the precision of the estimate of nutrient concentrations in the basin as evidenced by no increase in power in the optimization analysis. Seasonal variation appeared to be the primary source of uncertainty in estimating TPO4 and for most stations, no time trend was evident.

From an optimization perspective, if the goal was only to estimate nutrient loading into the estuarine waters of the Caloosahatchee, sampling effort could be concentrated on the western portions of the basin at stations S78 and S79. However, to identify sources of nutrient inputs within the C-43 basin, the other stations are necessary and valuable as evidenced by the higher concentrations of TPO4 detected at the CR0.48T. Optimization of the CR project is dependent on the specific needs regarding calculating nutrient loading for the project area. This optimization has established that each station in the CR project provides valuable information with respect to identifying areas of increased nutrient concentration within the project. Sampling could be shifted to the western sampling stations if the goal were only to calculate nutrient loads leaving the basin into the estuarine portions of the Caloosahatchee River. Station S77 does not appear to contribute significantly to the assessment for the CR project and only influences the calculations for TSS. A further recommendation would be to discontinue measuring TSS at all stations other than S78 and S79 since a reservoir is to be constructed which will affect the TSS values leaving the C-43 basin. Lastly, in future optimizations NOx should be considered. Based on the Box plots it appears that NOx values increased at stations S79; however, TN and TKN appeared to be consistent with other stations or declining at S79. Because of the industrialized nature of the C-43 basin, the NOx parameter may be a valuable additional indicator of downstream water quality. The optimization opportunity regarding stations S79 and CES01 will be addressed in the CESWQ project update.

Appendix CR-1 BOX-PLOTS

Parameter=NOx DBHydro Code=18

Parameter=TNc DBHydro Code=Calculated

Parameter=TPO4 DBHydro Code=25

Parameter=TSS DBHydro Code=16