South Carolina Department of Environmental Services

SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT AREA 06B

2024 ANNUAL UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

Shellfish Sanitation Program Office of Law Enforcement 2600 Bull Street Columbia, SC 29201



SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT AREA 06B 2024 ANNUAL UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

[Data Through December 2023]



Prepared By:

Ryan Reed, Regional Shellfish Program Manager Office of Law Enforcement 1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 300 Charleston, South Carolina 29405

Reviewer:

Mike Marshall, State Shellfish Program Manager Office of Law Enforcement 927 Shine Avenue Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29577

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2024 ANNUAL UPDATE Shellfish Management Area 06B

Data Inclusive Dates: 01/01/21 thru 12/31/23	Classification Change: _X_Yes No
Shoreline Survey Completed: Yes	(I)ncreased/(D)ecreased/(N)one:
Prior Report & Date: 2023 Annual Update	I Approved N Conditionally Approved
Thor Report & Bate. <u>2023 Annual Spaate</u>	D Restricted N Prohibited

SUMMARY

After review of the bacteriological water quality during this annual review period for Shellfish Management Area 06B (SFMA 06B), there are several classification changes recommended for the upcoming 2024-2025 shellfish harvesting season. Stations 06B-06 (Alligator Creek at Cape Romain Harbor), 06B-19A (Casino Creek, midway between stations 06B-19 and 06B-16, at unnamed creek), and 06B-21 (Alligator Creek at Ramhorn Creek) now meet the criteria for an Approved classification.

Adverse water quality within SFMA 06B other than rainfall appears to be related to the Santee Cooper Public Service Authority (Santee Cooper) Rediversion Project. This project, implemented in 1985 by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, rediverts a substantial portion of the freshwater from Lakes Marion and Moultrie into the Santee River that previously was released into the Cooper River. The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) is the conduit for freshwater entering Area 06B from the Santee Rivers.

An additional contributor to fecal coliform concentrations in the Area continues to be attributable to the extensive waterfowl and wildlife population of the Area. The majority of waters in SFMA 06B lies within the protected boundaries of the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge and the Santee Coastal Reserve Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The Santee Coastal Reserve WMA operates impoundments, which are managed for migratory waterfowl.

Annual rainfall totals in 2023 were above the 10-year mean average for SFMA 06B, major storm events and heavy rainfalls have continued to impact the area. On December 18th, 2023, SFMA 06B received 9.83 inches of rain in a 24-hour period due to a Nor'easter storm event. Due to this storm event, SFMA 06B was closed for several weeks until water quality samples were within Approved standards. In September of 2022, Hurricane Ian made landfall in the Charleston area and although SFMA 06B did not exceed the 24-hour rainfall threshold, this area has historically been prone to adverse storm events.

INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The authority to regulate the harvest, sanitation, processing, and handling of shellfish is granted to the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services by Section 44-1-140 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The Department promulgated Regulation 61-47, which provides the rules used to implement this authority and outlines the requirements applied in regulating shellfish sanitation in the State. This regulation specifically addresses classification of shellfish harvesting areas and requires that all areas be examined by sanitary and bacteriological surveys and classified into an appropriate shellfish harvesting classification.

The United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) uses The National Shellfish Sanitation Program's (NSSP) *Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish* to evaluate state shellfish sanitation programs. The NSSP Model Ordinance requires that a sanitary survey be in place for each growing area prior to its use as a source of shellfish for human consumption and prior to the area's classification as Approved, Conditionally Approved, Restricted, or Conditionally Restricted. Each sanitary survey shall be updated on an annual basis and accurately reflect changes which have occurred within the area. Requirement of the annual reevaluation include, at a minimum, field observations of pollution sources, an analysis of water quality data consisting of the past year's data in combination with appropriate previously collected data, review of reports and effluent samples from pollution sources, and review of performance standards for discharges impacting the growing area. A brief report documenting the findings shall also be provided.

The following criteria consistent with the NSSP Model Ordinance and S.C. Regulation 61-47 are used in establishing shellfish harvesting classifications:

Approved Area - Growing areas shall be classified approved when the sanitary survey concludes that fecal material, pathogenic microorganisms, and poisonous or deleterious substances are not present in concentrations that would render shellfish unsafe for human consumption. Approved classifications shall be determined upon a sanitary survey that includes water samples collected from stations in the designated area adjacent to actual or potential sources of pollution. For waters sampled under adverse pollution conditions, the median fecal coliform Most Probable Number (MPN) or the geometric mean MPN shall not exceed fourteen per one hundred milliliters, nor shall more than ten percent of the samples exceed a fecal coliform MPN of forty-three per one hundred milliliters (per five tube decimal dilution). For waters sampled under a systematic random sampling plan, the geometric mean fecal coliform MPN shall not exceed fourteen per one hundred milliliters, nor shall the estimated ninetieth percentile exceed an MPN of forty three per one hundred milliliters (per five tube decimal dilution). Computation of the estimated ninetieth percentile shall be determined using the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish methodology.

Conditionally Approved Area - Growing areas may be classified conditionally approved when they are subject to temporary conditions of actual or potential pollution. When such

events are predictable, as in non-point source pollution from rainfall runoff or discharge of a major river, a management plan describing conditions under which harvesting will be allowed shall be adopted by the Department prior to classifying an area as conditionally approved. Where appropriate, the management plan for each conditionally approved area shall include performance standards for sources of controllable pollution (e.g., wastewater treatment and collection systems), evaluation of each source of pollution, and means of rapidly closing and subsequently reopening areas to shellfish harvesting. Memorandums of agreements shall be a part of these management plans where appropriate. Shellfish shall not be directly marketed from a conditionally approved area until conditions for an approved classification have been met for a period of time likely to ensure the shellfish are safe for consumption. Shellstock from conditionally approved areas that have been subjected to temporary conditions of actual or potential pollution may be relayed to Approved areas for purification or depurated through controlled purification operations only by special permit issued by the Department.

Restricted Area - Growing areas shall be classified restricted when sanitary survey data show a moderate degree of pollution or the presence of deleterious or poisonous substances to a degree that may cause the water quality to fluctuate unpredictably or at such a frequency that a conditionally approved classification is not feasible. Shellfish may be harvested from areas classified as restricted only for the purposes of relaying or depuration and only by special permit issued by the Department and under Department supervision. The suitability of restricted areas for harvesting of shellstock for relay or depuration purposes may be determined through the use of comparison studies of background tissue samples with post-process tissue samples, as well as other process verification techniques deemed appropriate by the Department. For restricted areas to be utilized as a source of shellstock for depuration, or as source water for depuration, the fecal coliform geometric mean MPN of restricted waters sampled under adverse pollution conditions shall not exceed eighty-eight per one hundred milliliters nor shall more than ten percent of the samples exceed a MPN of two hundred and sixty per one hundred milliliters for a five tube decimal dilution test. For waters sampled under a systematic random sampling plan, the fecal coliform geometric mean MPN shall not exceed eighty-eight per one hundred milliliters nor shall the estimated ninetieth percentile exceed an MPN of two hundred and sixty (five tube decimal dilution). Computation of the estimated ninetieth percentile shall be obtained using the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish methodology.

Conditionally Restricted Area - Growing areas may be classified conditionally restricted when they are subject to temporary conditions of actual or potential pollution. When such events are predictable, as in the malfunction of wastewater treatment facilities, non-point source pollution from rainfall runoff, discharge of a major river or potential discharges from dock or harbor facilities that may affect water quality, a management plan describing conditions under which harvesting will be allowed shall be prepared by the Department prior to classifying an area as conditionally restricted. Where appropriate, the management plan for each conditionally restricted area shall include performance standards for sources of controllable pollution, e.g., wastewater treatment and collection systems and an evaluation

of each source of pollution, and description of the means of rapidly closing and subsequent reopening areas to shellfish harvesting. Memorandums of agreements shall be a part of these management plans where appropriate. Shellfish may be harvested from areas classified as conditionally restricted only for the purposes of relaying or depuration and only by permit issued by the Department and under Department supervision. For conditionally restricted areas to be utilized as a source of shellstock for depuration, the fecal coliform geometric mean MPN of conditionally restricted waters sampled under adverse pollution conditions shall not exceed eighty-eight per one hundred milliliters nor shall more than ten percent of the samples exceed a MPN of two hundred and sixty per one hundred milliliters for a five tube decimal dilution test. For waters sampled under a systematic random sampling plan, the fecal coliform geometric mean MPN shall not exceed eighty-eight per one hundred milliliters nor shall the estimated ninetieth percentile exceed an MPN of two hundred and sixty per one hundred milliliters (five tube decimal dilution). Computation of the estimated ninetieth percentile shall be obtained using the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish methodology.

Prohibited Area - Growing areas shall be classified prohibited if there is no current sanitary survey report or if the sanitary survey report or monitoring data show unsafe levels of fecal material, pathogenic microorganisms, or poisonous or deleterious substances in the growing area or otherwise indicate that such substances could potentially reach quantities that could render shellfish unfit or unsafe for human consumption.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This sanitary survey evaluates the current harvesting classification of shellfish growing waters designated as Shellfish Management Area 06B (SFMA 06B). SFMA 06B consists of approximately 15,223 acres of shellfish growing area habitat located in Charleston County, South Carolina. SFMA 06B consists of the waters of Cape Romain Harbor, the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW), portions of Muddy Bay, and Alligator, Casino, Clubhouse, Congaree Boat, DuPree, Horsehead, Mill, Ramhorn and Skrine Creeks. The northern boundary of the area is the South Santee River, while US Highway 17 defines the western border. The area is bounded to the south by an imaginary line extending from AIWW Marker #32 southeastward to Cape Island and the southern portion of Cape Romain Harbor. The eastern boundary is the Atlantic Ocean.

The shellfish industry in South Carolina is based primarily on the harvest of the eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) and hard clams, which include both the northern clam (*Mercenaria mercenaria*) and several small populations of the southern clam (*Mercenaria campechiensis*). The ribbed mussel (*Geukensia demissa*) is also harvested in South Carolina on a small scale, primarily recreationally. Areas in South Carolina designated for commercial harvest by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) include State Shellfish Grounds, Culture permits, Mariculture permits and Kings Grant areas.

There are four (4) State Shellfish Grounds (SSGs), S-295, S-295 Subtidal, S-328, and S-336 within SFMA 06B. There are five (5) Culture Permits (C), eight (8) Mariculture Permits (M), and one (1) Kings Grant (G) within the SFMA 06B. The Kings Grant lease, G-318, is located along Jeremy

Island and includes portions of DuPree Creek. There are no Recreational Grounds (R) located within SFMA 06B.

The shellfish harvesting season in South Carolina typically extends from October 1 through May 31. The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) has the authority to alter the shellfish harvesting season for resource management purposes and grant permits for year-round mariculture operations. Additionally, the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) has the authority to prohibit shellfish harvesting when necessary to ensure that shellfish harvested in South Carolina waters are safe for human consumption.

The harvesting classification of SFMA 06B **prior** to this sanitary survey was as follows:

PROHIBITED

None

RESTRICTED

- 1. The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, including adjacent marshlands, from its confluence with the South Santee River to Station 06B-10 (Marker #32 on the AIWW) south to Station 06B-18 (DuPre Creek at Clubhouse Creek).
- 2. Station 06B-18 to Station 06B-20 (Clubhouse Creek) to Station 06B-23 (Shrine Creek at Congaree Boat Creek) to Station 06B-27 (Congaree Boat Creek at the first creek on the left south of Station 23) northeast to Station 06B-22 (Ramhorn Creek at Mill Creek).
- **3.** Station 06B-22 (Ramhorn Creek at Mill Creek) southeast including Station 06B-06 (Alligator Creek at Cape Romain Harbor) to Station 06B-06A (North end of Cape Romain Harbor).

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

None

APPROVED

All other waters in SFMA 06B.

Station Addition/Re/Deactivation/Modification: None

POLLUTION SOURCE SURVEY

SURVEY PROCEDURES

Shoreline surveys in Shellfish Management Area 06B are conducted by the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services, Lowcountry – Charleston, Shellfish Sanitation Staff, by watercraft, vehicle, and on foot, during the survey period and are ongoing.

The Department's Bureau of Coastal Management (BCM) developed GIS shape files that documented rural, non-MS4 (Municipal separate storm sewer system) areas in Charleston County serviced by septic tanks. A one-mile buffer was drawn around all impaired shellfish water bodies in the county. County parcel data was cross-referenced with Department septic tank permit data in those areas to develop shape files of all parcels on septic tanks, to include the number of tanks on the property and the property owner's names(s) and address(s). A physical shoreline survey of these same areas was also conducted, including GPS coordinates of any observed animal farms, type and number of animals observed, and their distance from shellfish harvesting waters. Together, the septic data and animal farm data should provide focus for future shoreline survey efforts in locating and evaluating potential non-point source impacts near impaired shellfish harvesting waters.

POINT SOURCE POLLUTION

- **A.** Municipal and Community Waste Treatment Facilities There are no wastewater treatment facilities or discharges within the boundaries of SFMA 06B.
- **B.** Industrial Waste (Discharges) There are no industrial wastewater discharges located within the boundaries of SFMA 06B. However, Santee Cooper's spillway at Wilson Dam and the St. Stephens hydroelectric generating station near St. Stephens regulate freshwater flow into the Santee River system.
 - In order to prevent flooding during periods of high flow into Lake Marion, freshwater is discharged from the Lake Marion spillway to the Santee River. Freshwater from Lake Moultrie enters the Santee River by way of the Rediversion Canal. The amount of fresh water released into the Santee River negatively impacts water quality within SFMA 06B.
- C. Marinas In 2007, prompted by the Department's Bureau of Coastal Management (BCM and formally known as the Office of Coastal Resource Management-OCRM) marina definition change, the Shellfish Sanitation Program incorporated the following marina definition. S.C. Regulation 61-47, Shellfish defines Marina as any of the following: (1) locked harbor facility; (2) any facility which provides fueling, pump-out, maintenance or repair services (regardless of length); (3) any facility which has effective docking space of greater than 250 linear feet or provides moorage for more than 10 boats; (4) any water area with a structure which is used for docking or otherwise mooring vessels and constructed to provide temporary or permanent docking space for more than ten boats, such as a mooring field; or (5) a dry stack facility. There are no marinas located in SFMA 06B.

D. Radionuclides - Sources of radionuclides have not been identified within SFMA 06B and no other sources of poisonous or deleterious substances have been identified within the area.

NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION

A. Urban and Suburban Stormwater Runoff - Stormwater runoff impacts water quality by transporting fecal coliform bacteria from land to the shellfish growing area. Lack of urban development within SFMA 06B precludes this as a likely factor impacting shellfish harvesting waters.

The uplands surrounding the shellfish growing waters of SFMA 06B consist of various soil textures defined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Conservation Service (1971) utilizing general classifications and descriptions. Although lands within SFMA 06B consist of numerous soil types, the area is generally comprised of Seewee-Rutlege soils, nearly level and gently sloping woodland and cropland loamy fine sand. The USDA (1971) further describes these soils as "somewhat poorly drained to moderately well drained, nearly level, sandy soils on ridges and poorly drained to very poorly drained, sandy soils in depressions."

- **B.** Agricultural Runoff There are no permitted agricultural facilities located in SFMA 06B. The lack of concentrated agricultural activity near the shoreline precludes contamination of shellfish waters from agricultural runoff. There were also no animal farms documented by BCM staff during their shoreline survey efforts in SFMA 06B. This supports the conclusion that impacts are not related to agricultural runoff.
- C. Individual Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems There has been no observed new residential construction adjacent to shellfish growing waters in this area. Existing homes utilize individual sewage treatment disposal (ISTD) systems. Each system requires inspection by the South Carolina Department of Environmental Service's, Lowcountry Charleston, On-site Wastewater Section and approval before final installation.
- D. Wildlife and Domestic Animals The majority of SFMA 06B's waters lies within the protected boundaries of the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge and the Santee Coastal Reserve Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The uplands of SFMA 06B from Casino creek north to the South Santee River are part of the Santee Coastal Reserve WMA. The Santee Coastal Reserve WMA operates impoundments, which are managed for use by migratory waterfowl. The water levels in the impoundments are managed using rice trunks and have set spillways that overflow at times of heavy rains to maintain consistent levels in the impoundments. The water levels in the impoundments are lowered in March through May. The impoundments are located primarily between the South Santee River and south Alligator Creek in the upper portion of the management area, draining into tidal creeks that flow to the AIWW. Dredge spoil areas along the AIWW used by the Army Corps of Engineers provide additional habitat for waterfowl and wildlife.

- **E. Boat Traffic** Recreational boat traffic is moderate throughout the area except during the winter months. Commercial traffic in the AIWW consists primarily of tugs and barges. Commercial fisheries boats, ranging in size from 16 to 50 feet, operate in the area as long as product demand exists.
- **F. Hydrographic and Habitat Modification** Hydrographic and habitat modification in estuarine areas requires both State and Federal approval. Portions of the AIWW require periodic maintenance dredging. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers utilizes designated tracts of land adjacent to the AIWW as dredge spoil sites.

The Army Corps of Engineers has not conducted any dredging projects in SFMA 06B during this annual review.

NATURALLY OCCURRING PATHOGENS

- A. Marine Biotoxins Bivalve shellfish contamination from marine biotoxins has not been shown to be a human health concern within SFMA 06B. During the winter and spring of 1988, South Carolina experienced an occurrence of "Red Tide", specifically *Ptychodiscus brevis* (*K. brevis*), which affected water quality in SFMA 01. There have been no documented reoccurrences of this organism at levels requiring emergency response in South Carolina waters subsequent to the 1988 event. Due to the vast media coverage of events related to *Pfiesteria pisicida*, the Department participates in a State Task Group on Toxic Algae and operates a toxic algae emergency response team. The Department also has a Marine Biotoxin Contingency Plan in place that must be evaluated and updated annually.
- **B.** *Vibrio Management Plan* Because State water temperatures exceed 81 degrees Fahrenheit (F) during June through September; *Vibrio* management controls must be implemented during these months. Management controls for permitted Aquaculture facilities are specifically addressed in R.61-47. The season for wild-stock harvest is currently closed from June 1 through September 30th. The Department is currently not opposed to the issuance of special harvest permits by SCDNR to Certified Shippers during the closed season, provided permit conditions include current NSSP requirements for temperature control. Special permit conditions must also include current NSSP temperature control requirements to be included in the Certified Shipper's HACCP plan.

HYDROGRAPHIC AND METEOROLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

PHYSIOGRAPHY

Shellfish Management Area 06B is comprised of salt and brackish marsh and includes shallow bays and meandering creeks protected by a series of offshore barrier islands. The creeks within the area range from 50 to 600 feet in width and average 3 to 9 feet in depth. Additionally, the AIWW

traverses the area's entire length in a northeast-southwest direction. The AIWW is maintained at a mean low water depth of 12 feet by the US Army Corps of Engineers and is the major conduit of low salinity water into SFMA 06B from the South Santee River. Cape Romain Harbor, a shallow water bay, is the major conduit of high salinity ocean water into the area. The entire system is approximately eight miles wide (northwest to southeast) and eight miles long (southwest to northeast).

The South Santee River defines the northern boundary of SFMA 6B. The South and North Santee Rivers are the two distributaries of the Santee River Estuary, a coastal plain, drowned river valley system. Prior to 1941, the Santee River had the fourth largest streamflow of any river on the U.S. Atlantic Coast. In 1941, upon completion of a massive hydroelectric project, the Santee River was dammed behind Wilson Dam to form Lake Marion. At the time Wilson Dam was the longest earthen dam in the world. An estimated 86 to 90 percent of the Santee River's flow was diverted at that time to the Cooper River, by way of Lake Marion through the Diversion Canal to Lake Moultrie (which was formed by damming the Cooper River). The annual mean discharge of the Santee River below the Wilson dam was reduced from 18,500 to 2,600 cubic feet per second (cfs). In the 1980's, excessive silting in the Charleston Harbor from the increased stream flow from the Cooper River prompted the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to begin work on the Rediversion Project. The Rediversion Project was completed in 1985 and much of the streamflow to the Cooper River was rediverted from Lake Moultrie back into the Santee River by way of the new Rediversion Canal. All inflow that enters the Lake Marion and Lake Moultrie system is now returned to the Santee River, except for a daily average of 4,500 cfs that goes into the Cooper River. A minimum of 600 cfs enters the Santee River at the Wilson Dam spillway to run a small turbine. Most additional discharge to the Santee River comes from the St. Stephen Dam near St. Stephens through the Rediversion Canal, and controlled spilling from Wilson Dam during periods of high flow into Lake Marion. The North Santee is the main channel of the two distributaries, transmitting an estimated 73 to 85 percent of the Santee River's flow. (SCDNR 2004)

Tides in SFMA 06B are semidiurnal, consisting of two low and two high tides occurring each lunar day. Mean tidal ranges in Casino Creek are 4.6 feet during normal tides, 5.3 feet during spring tides. Wind direction and intensity, as well as atmospheric pressure, typically cause variations in predicted tidal ranges.

Precipitation in SFMA 06B is heaviest during late summer and early autumn. Tropical storms and hurricanes occasionally produce extremely large amounts of rainfall. During winter months, heavy rainfall events are uncommon, yet occasional intense thunderstorms associated with rapidly moving low-pressure systems generate heavy rains. Precipitation rarely occurs in the form of snow or ice. Spring weather patterns may be dynamic with associated thunderstorms and severe weather conditions.

In 2017, the collection of rainfall data has been improved for a more consistent, accurate, and reliable data set that can be accessed directly from a shellfish staff member's computer or phone. With assistance from the National Weather Service's (NWS), Southeastern River Forecast Center, the development of the South Carolina Shellfish Rainfall Program was introduced and utilized. This new technology provides shellfish program staff with real-time daily updates for

rainfall accumulation in each of the South Carolina shellfish growing management areas, as well as providing critical triggers that alert staff to when rainfall thresholds for closures are exceeded.

The annual rainfall total in 2023 in SFMA 06B was 58.41 inches. The 10-year annual average is 51.19 inches. In December of 2023, SFMA 06B experienced a Nor'easter bringing 9.83 inches of rainfall within a 24-hour period. SFMA 06B was closed as a precautionary closure until water quality was back within the approved water quality range.

Prevailing winds along the central portion of the South Carolina coast are from the south and west during spring and summer and from the north during autumn and winter. Wind speeds are generally less than 15 miles per hour (mph); however, strong weather systems may generate winds in excess of 25 mph. Tropical storms and hurricanes occur occasionally.

The South Santee River is the major source of freshwater inflow into SFMA 06B. Flow from the Lake Marion spillway, the St. Stephens hydroelectric generating station, and Lake Marion hydroelectric generating station, which discharge into the Santee River, reaches the South Santee near the AIWW approximately three to four days from the time of release. Flow rates of water released by Santee Cooper into the Santee River correlate well with gauge height as observed downstream at the USGS Santee River Station 02171700, near Jamestown, available online at http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?02171700 (SCDNR 2004).

Analysis of routine shellfish water quality sampling data showed fecal coliform concentrations for impaired Stations 06B-07, 06B-08, 06B-09 and 06B-10, are negatively correlated with salinity, meaning higher fecal coliform concentrations occur with lower salinities. Fecal coliform 90th percentile concentrations also generally decrease progressing in a southern direction along the AIWW and decrease drastically in the tidal creeks from the AIWW to the ocean. This suggests source(s) of fecal coliform pollution near the confluence of the South Santee River and the AIWW and that the main source of contamination is from freshwater input, likely from the South Santee River and/or waterfowl impoundments (SCDHEC 2008 SFMA 06B TMDL).

Annual average flow rates for the Santee River were calculated from raw data provided by Santee Cooper and the U.S. Geological Survey and are included in this report (Table #6) to monitor annual flow trends and their correlation to fecal coliform concentration trends (Table #3) within SFMA 06B.

WATER QUALITY STUDIES

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

The Department currently utilizes a systematic random sampling (SRS) strategy within SFMA 06B in lieu of sampling under adverse pollution conditions. In order to comply with NSSP guidelines, a minimum of thirty samples are required to be collected and analyzed from each station during the review period. Sampling dates are computer generated prior to the beginning of each quarterly period thereby insuring random selection with respect to tidal stage and weather.

Day of week selection criteria is limited to Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays due to shipping requirements and laboratory manpower constraints. Sample schedules are rarely altered.

During July 1998, an updated shellfish water quality data scheduling and collection procedure was formalized. Samples utilized for classification purposes are limited to those samples collected in accordance with the SRS for a 36-month period beginning January 1 and ending December 31. This allows for a maximum of 36 samples per station, yet provides a six-sample 'cushion' (above the NSSP required 30 minimum) for broken sample bottles, lab error, breakdowns, etc. This also allows each annual report's water quality data to meet the requirements for the NSSP Triennial Review sampling criteria.

Seven hundred ninety-one (791) surface water quality samples (<1.0 ft. deep) were collected for bacteriological analyses and classification purposes from twenty-two (22) active water quality sampling stations in SFMA 06B during the period 01/01/21 thru 12/31/23. There were multiple special samples collected for non-classification purposes, associated with reopening following precautionary closures. Samples were collected in 120 ml amber glass bottles, immediately placed on ice and transported to the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services, Lowcountry – Charleston laboratory at North Charleston, South Carolina. An additional 120 ml water sample was included with each shipment as a temperature control. At the laboratory, sample sets exceeding a 30-hour holding time or containing a temperature control in excess of 10 degrees Celsius were discarded (APHA, 1970).

Surface water temperatures are measured utilizing hand-held, laboratory-quality calibrated centigrade thermometers. Salinity measurements were measured in the laboratory using an automatic temperature compensated refractometer. Additional field data include ambient air temperature, wind direction, tidal stage and date and time of sampling.

MONITORING RESULTS

Stations 06B-07 and 06B-08 exceeded a fecal coliform geometric mean MPN value of 14.

No station exceeded a fecal coliform geometric mean MPN value of 88.

Stations that exceeded a fecal coliform MPN estimated ninetieth percentile value of 43 are 06B-07, 6B-08, 06B-09, and 06B-10.

No station exceeds an estimated ninetieth percentile fecal coliform MPN value of 260.

CONCLUSIONS

Analysis of bacteriological water quality sampling data indicate that fecal coliform concentrations for impaired Stations 06B-07, 6B-08, 6B-09 and 06B-10 are correlated with lower salinity values. Fecal coliform 90th percentile concentrations also generally decrease progressing in a southern direction along the AIWW and decrease drastically in the tidal creeks from the AIWW to the

ocean. This suggests source(s) of fecal coliform pollution near the confluence of the South Santee River and the AIWW and that the main source of contamination is from freshwater input, likely from the South Santee River and/or waterfowl impoundments (SCDHEC 2008 SFMA 06B TMDL). Based on these findings, review of fecal coliform bacteriological data and the pollution source survey, SFMA 06B is impacted by two sources of actual or potential pollution.

Water quality in SFMA 06B appears to be negatively impacted by freshwater entering the Area via the AIWW from the South Santee River. This can be directly observed by comparing flow rates of water released by Santee Cooper into the Santee River and fecal coliform bacteriological data. In Table #8, as the river gauge height increases, we observe more stations exceeding the Approved fecal coliform limits, even with relatively low rainfall for the days prior to sampling. This suggests that river flow in the Santee River, and not localized rainfall, has a greater impact on water quality in SFMA 06B and explains the observed decrease in water quality.

Predictable pollution events like increased river flows, and the early warning system that the gauge at Jamestown provides, would potentially make SFMA 06B a candidate to be managed as Conditionally Approved, however, there is not enough correlated data to do so at this time. Gauge height data at Jamestown is available online, with historical data going back to May 2001. In looking at SFMA 06B water quality sampling data compared to maximum gauge height at Jamestown five days prior to sampling, for impaired stations in SFMA 06B, correlations when river stage height might impact growing area water quality. Table #8 is included at the end of this report, comparing river stage as well as rainfall with routine water sampling data from January 2019 to present.

NONPOINT SOURCE RUNOFF

Stormwater runoff is a contributing source of fecal coliform bacteria contamination in the area. SFMA 06B lies within the boundaries of the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge as well as the Santee Coastal Reserve Wildlife Management Area. Both provide suitable habit for abundant wildlife populations. The Santee Coastal Reserve operates multiple impoundments that are used by migratory waterfowl. The water levels in the impoundments are managed using rice trunks and have set spillways that overflow at times of heavy rains to maintain consistent levels in the impoundments. The water levels in the impoundments are lowered in March through May. The impoundments are located primarily between the South Santee River and south Alligator Creek in the upper portion of the management area, draining into tidal creeks that flow to the AIWW. Water released from these waterfowl impoundments is likely a significant contributor to fecal coliform concentrations in the Area. Dredge spoil areas along the AIWW used by the Army Corps of Engineers provide additional habitat for waterfowl and wildlife.

FRESHWATER INFLOW

A more significant contributor to adverse water quality within SFMA 06B than rainfall appears to be related to the Santee Cooper Public Service Authority (Santee Cooper) Rediversion Project. This project, implemented in 1985 by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, rediverts a substantial portion of the freshwater from Lakes Marion and Moultrie back into the Santee River that previously was released into the Cooper River. This was done to alleviate excessive shoaling of

the shipping channels in Charleston Harbor. The Santee River has two distributaries, the North Santee and South Santee. The South Santee defines SFMA 06B's northern boundary. The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) is the conduit for freshwater entering Area 06B from the South Santee River. Annual average flow rates for the Santee River are calculated from raw data provided by Santee Cooper and the U.S. Geological Survey are included in this report (Table #7) to monitor annual flow trends and their correlation to fecal coliform concentration trends (Table #3) in the Area.

Flow from the Lake Marion spillway, the St. Stephens hydroelectric generating station, and Lake Marion hydroelectric generating station, which all discharge freshwater into the Santee River, reaches the South Santee near the AIWW approximately three to four days from the time of release. Flow rates of water released by Santee Cooper into the Santee River correlate well with gauge height and flow rate as observed downstream at the USGS Santee River Station 02171700, near Jamestown, available online at http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?02171700.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Several classification changes are recommended for the upcoming 2024-2025 shellfish harvesting season. Below are the recommended classifications for SFMA 06B:

PROHIBITED

None

RESTRICTED

- 1. The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, including adjacent marshlands, from its confluence with the South Santee River to Station 06B-10 (Marker #32 on the AIWW) south to Station 06B-18 (DuPre Creek at Clubhouse Creek).
- 2. Station 06B-18; Station 06B-20 (Clubhouse Creek); Station 06B-19 (Casino Creek at Shrine Creek) & Station 06B-12 (Alligator Creek State Shellfish Ground) will now all be boundary stations.

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

None

APPROVED

1. Oceanside of the above boundary waters are now Approved: Stations 06B-06 (Alligator Creek at Cape Romain Harbor), 06B-06A (North end of Cape Romain Harbor), 06B-16 (Casino Creek at small, unnamed creek on right in bend south of Station 19), 06B-19A (Casino Creek, midway between stations 06B-19 and 06B-16, at unnamed creek), 06B-21 (Alligator Creek at Ramhorn Creek), and 06B-23 (Shrine Creek at Congaree Boat Creek) are all upgraded to Approved.

All other waters in SFMA 06B.

Station Addition/Re/Deactivation/Modification: None

Analysis of sampling data for SFMA 06B demonstrates the probability of a significant impact from rainfall exceeding 4.00" in a 24-hour period. Therefore, a precautionary closure of SFMA 06B will be implemented following rainfall events of greater than 4.00" in a 24-hour period, as measured by the National Weather Service's Southeastern River Forecast Center. This methodology is associated with the concept of the Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP). PMP estimates for the coastal United States have been published in a series of hydro-meteorological reports (HMRs) by the National Weather Service (*National Weather Service*). PMP estimates for South Carolina's growing areas are derived from HMRs 51, 52, and 53 (*National Research Council, 1985*).

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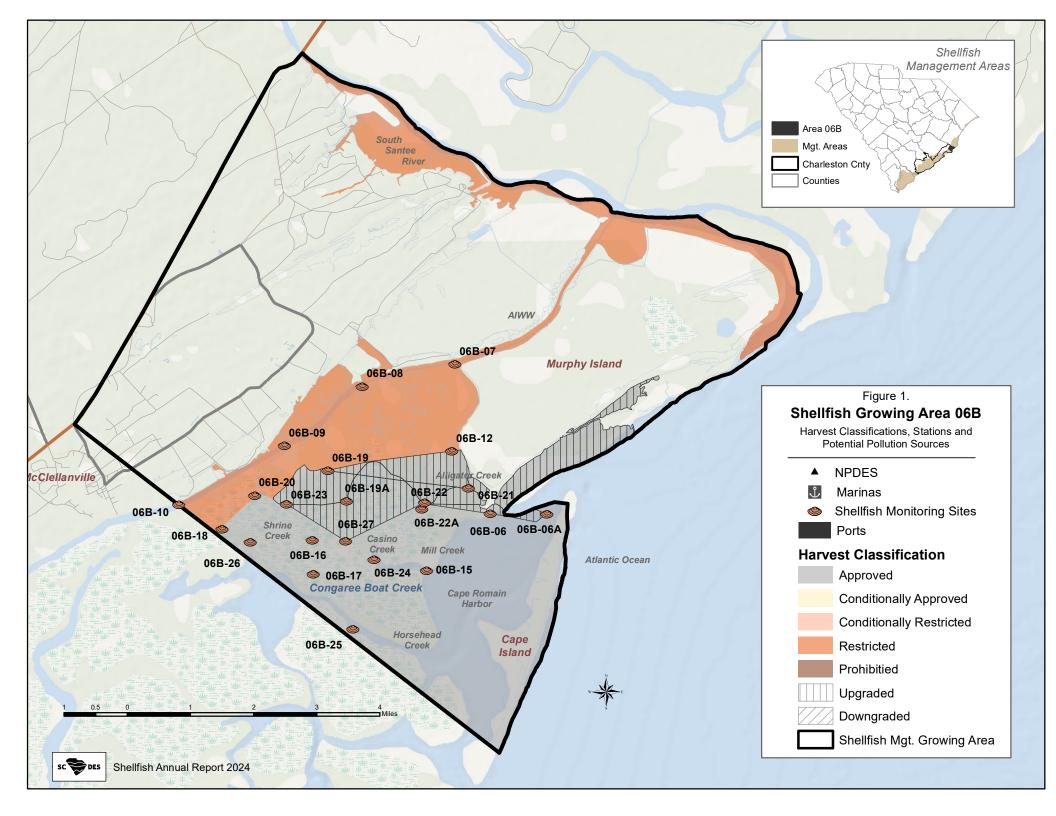


TABLE #1 Shellfish Management Area 06B Water Quality Sampling Stations Description

Station	Description
06B-06	Alligator Creek at Cape Romain Harbor
06B-06A	North end of Cape Romain Harbor
06B-07	Alligator Creek at Marker #26
06B-08	
06B-09	
06B-10	
06B-12	
06B-15	
06B-16	Casino Creek at small, unnamed creek on right in bend south of Station 19
06B-17	
06B-18	
06B-19	
06B-19A	Casino Creek, midway between stations 06B-19 and 06B-16, at unnamed creek
06B-20	DuPre Creek, 1,500 yards from Clubhouse Creek
06B-21	
06B-22	
06B-22A	
06B-24	
06B-25	
06B-26	Shrine Creek at DuPre Creek
06B-27	

(Total Active – 22)

Shellfish Management Area 06B FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIOLOGICAL DATA SUMMARY From Shellfish Water Quality Sampling Stations between

January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023

Station #	6	6A	7	8	9	10	12	15
SAMPLES	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
GEOMEAN	5.8	5.5	22.4	20.8	13.4	11.5	8.9	2.4
90TH %ILE	29	28	106	68	79	76	43	5
WATER QLTY	A	A	R	R	R	R	A	A
CLASSIFICATION	A	A	R	R	R	R	R	A

Station #	16	17	18	19	19A	20	21	22
SAMPLES	36	36	36	36	36	36	35	36
GEOMEAN	3.9	3	4.4	7	6.3	4.7	6.5	5
90тн %ісе	13	8	22	34	35	19	31	22
WATER QLTY	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
CLASSIFICATION	A	A	R	R	A	R	A	A

Station #	22A	23	24	25	26	27
SAMPLES	36	36	36	36	36	36
GEOMEAN	5.5	6.2	2.5	2.1	3.7	3.3
90TH %ILE	25	25	5	4	12	9
WATER QLTY	A	A	A	A	A	A
CLASSIFICATION	A	A	A	A	A	A

	Table #3 Fecal Coliform Historical Trend Sheet										
Aı	rea 06B S	tations 90	tho%ile Val	ues for Anı	nual Upda	tes relate	d to River	r Flow an	d Rainfall		
Station #	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
06B-06	29	49	54	62	34	30	21	27	33	29	18
06B-06A	28	38	37	34	20	17	12	14	15	13	10
06B-07	106	152	150	151	105	78	61	92	170	187	126
06B-08	68	102	99	121	76	79	54	71	85	89	62
06B-09	79	87	92	103	98	90	69	76	94	93	58
06B-10	76	95	112	94	69	62	51	75	77	57	27
06B-12	43	64	74	116	74	56	25	56	78	80	37
06B-15	5	11	15	21	11	8	4	6	6	5	4
06B-16	13	22	29	33	20	14	10	11	15	12	10
06B-17	8	12	14	17	9	8	8	11	10	7	3
06B-18	22	17	29	33	26	15	9	11	14	11	8
06B-19	34	48	59	73	51	42	26	37	38	35	18
06B-19A	35	50	66	75	51	33	20	25	29	21	11
06B-20	19	23	26	22	13	10	8	10	11	10	8
06B-21	31	53	57	74	48	41	29	39	43	39	21
06B-22	22	27	31	38	22	19	13	25	27	23	11
06B-22A	25	30	36	35	23	13	6	9	10	8	6
06B-23	25	33	40	44	31	24	14	20	18	16	7
06B-24	5	12	19	28	16	10	6	7	9	8	6
06B-25	4	5	7	10	7	5	3	3	3	3	3
06B-26	12	21	28	38	19	14	7	9	8	7	5
06B-27	9	15	21	30	21	16	8	10	9	6	5
Annual Rainfall (in inches)	58.41	36.76	35.17	53.06	36.16	61.41	44.49	58.63	72.29	55.52	49.34
Annual Average Daily River Flow (in CFS)	10,500	6,392	10,188	21,575	13,738	8,280	4,881	8,250	12,494	7,921	13,135
			ND = No	Data Rec	l=Impaire	ed Water	Quality				

WATER QUALITY SAMPLING STATIONS DATA

Shellfish Management Area 06B

Detailed data for each shellfish monitoring station listed in this report's "Fecal Coliform Bacteriological Data Summary Table" and in other shellfish reports, can be obtained by writing South Carolina's Department of Environmental Services – Freedom of Information office at the address below.

Freedom of Information SC Dept. of Environmental Services 2600 Bull Street Columbia, SC 29201

Any explanation or clarity needed on the report's content can be obtained by contacting the preparer(s), and/or reviewer(s) listed on the cover page.

RAINFALL DATA

Shellfish Management Area 06B

SOURCE:

2021 - 2023 Data

National Weather Service, Southeastern River Forecast Center Location: Charleston County, South Carolina

2021 Annual Rainfall Summary Source: National Weather Service - Southeastern River Forecast Center Location: Charleston County, South Carolina

2021	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
1	0.11	0.69		0.36				0.50	0.01			
2			0.05				0.01	0.37	0.26			
3	0.08		0.85				0.17	0.94				
4			0.20		0.26	0.88		0.38				
5					0.10	0.94		0.08				
6		0.08				1.04		0.21	0.04	0.02	0.16	
7		0.09				0.07	0.02	0.11		0.34	0.98	
8	0.64						1.19	0.35	0.01			0.03
9	0.01					0.03	0.04	0.69	0.32	0.01		0.85
10		0.02		0.01		0.08	0.27		0.53	0.01		
11				0.03		0.02						
12	0.06				0.23	0.06		0.02			0.02	0.13
13		0.11			0.15	0.76						
14	0.01	0.29				0.10	0.13					
15		1.23					0.06	0.16				
16	0.12	0.19	0.01			0.02	0.01	0.04				
17			0.02			0.02		0.15				
18								0.65	0.02			
19		0.34	0.75				0.33	0.39				
20		0.51				0.39	0.24					0.12
21			0.02			0.83	0.19	0.46	0.30			0.04
22			0.06			0.05		2.03	0.50			0.76
23		0.01				0.31	0.25	0.98	0.07			
24												
25				0.60						0.52		
26						0.08				0.07	0.01	
27	0.24					0.37	0.70				0.01	
28	0.26						0.04					
29			0.01			0.12	0.63			0.10		
30					0.67	0.02						
31												0.48
Total	1.53	3.56	1.97	1.00	1.41	6.19	4.28	8.51	2.06	1.07	1.18	2.41
									. Blank fie			
* Sample dates are indicated in blue.					ND	= No D	ata	ANNU	AL RAII	NFALL	35.17	

2022 Annual Rainfall Summary Source: National Weather Service - Southeastern River Forecast Center Location: Charleston County, South Carolina

2022	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
1				0.16			0.60		0.07	3.07		0.12
2						0.10	1.19	0.03				
3	0.01								0.05			
4						0.22			0.13			
5		0.26			0.04	0.32	0.18					
6				0.17			0.01	0.01				0.03
7		0.10		0.97			0.01	0.08				
8		0.05		0.01		0.01	0.05	0.01				
9			0.30			0.02	0.03	0.03	0.17			
10	0.10		0.41				0.16		0.66			0.12
11			0.01				0.88		0.52		1.24	
12			0.18			0.01		0.05			0.10	0.05
13		0.01	0.02			0.08	0.47	0.44	0.01	0.90		
14		0.03			0.20		0.02			0.06		
15					0.02	0.35	0.76					0.17
16	0.31						0.62	0.30			0.23	0.04
17	1.06		0.51	0.05	0.16	0.10	0.03	0.32				
18		0.02		0.39		0.06	0.02	0.06	0.04	0.01		
19		0.05	0.03	0.07			0.15	0.61	0.19			
20							0.22	0.89	0.01		0.03	
21	0.09						0.05					0.38
22	0.23					0.01		1.12				0.08
23					0.51		0.01	0.53				0.15
24			0.34				1.68	0.31				
25			0.58					0.16			0.08	
26								0.61				
27				0.06				0.02				
28		0.04			0.84	0.01					0.02	
29						1.12		0.04				
30						0.96		0.89	2.24			
31							0.15	0.02		0.21		
Total	1.80	0.56	2.38	1.88	1.77	3.37	7.29	6.53	4.09	4.25	1.70	1.14
					inches of							
* Sample dates are indicated in blue.							= No D	ata	ANNU	AL RAIN	IFALL	36.76

2023 Annual Rainfall Summary Source: National Weather Service - Southeastern River Forecast Center Location: Charleston County, South Carolina

1	2023	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
3	1	0.06	0.08			0.43			0.17				
4 0.18 0.01 0.07 0.03 1.16 0.01 5 0.09 0.07 0.03 1.16 0.01 6 0.77 0.06 0.02 0.02 0.03 8 0.01 1.27 0.03 0.24 0.05 9 0.49 0.41 0.25 0.04 0.05 10 0.04 0.01 0.11 0.04 0.04 11 0.5 0.16 1.19 0.68 0.02 0.09 12 1.77 0.46 0.64 0.16 0.44 0.21 13 0.04 0.05 0.31 0.01 0.11 0.04 0.24 14 0.03 0.51 0.01 0.15 0.94 0.04 15 0.26 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.02 0.04 16 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 0.08 0.02 17 0.16 0	2								0.13				
5 0.09 0.07 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.06 0.02 0.04 0.05 0.06 0.02 0.00 0.04 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.04 0.04 0.02 0.09 12 1.77 0.06 0.04 0.01 0.04 0.02 0.09 13 0.04 0.05 0.31 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.04 0.01 14 0.03 0.51 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.04 0.02 0.08 0.02 0.05 9.83 9.83 9.83 9.83 9.83	3		0.39	0.03									0.06
6 0.77 0.00 0.06 0.02 0.04 0.06 0.02 0.04 0.04 0.01 1.27 0.03 0.24 0.04 0.05 0.04 0.05 0.04 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.04 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.04 0.05 0.09 0.09 0.02 0.09 12 1.77 0.46 0.46 0.64 0.16 0.44 0.21 13 0.04 0.05 0.31 0.01 0.01 0.15 0.94 14 0.03 0.51 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.04 0.04 15 0.026 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.02 0.04 0.02 0.08 0.02 17 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 19 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 20 <t< th=""><th>4</th><th></th><th>0.18</th><th>0.01</th><th>0.07</th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th>0.44</th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th>0.01</th></t<>	4		0.18	0.01	0.07				0.44				0.01
7 8 0.01 0.06 0.02 0.04 0.05 9 0.04 0.01 0.49 0.41 0.25 0.04 0.05 0.02 0.09 10 0.04 0.01 0.1 0.11 0.04 0.04 0.02 0.09 11 0.5 0.16 0.46 0.64 0.16 0.44 0.21 13 0.04 0.05 0.31 0.01 0.01 0.037 0.04 14 0.03 0.51 0.01 0.01 0.15 0.94 15 0.26 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.04 16 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 0.05 0.02 17 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 0.05 0.05 19 0.24 1.63 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.01 0.05 21 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05	5	0.09						0.03	1.16				
8 0.01 1.27 0.03 0.24 0.05 10 0.04 0.01 0.1 0.11 0.04 0.04 11 0.5 0.16 0.1 0.11 0.04 0.02 0.09 12 1.77 0.46 0.64 0.16 0.44 0.21 13 0.04 0.05 0.31 0.01 0.01 0.37 0.04 14 0.03 0.51 0.01 0.15 0.94 0.04 15 0.26 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.04 0.04 16 0.06 0.06 0.02 0.08 0.02 0.04 0.02 17 0.06 0.06 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.07 0.04 19 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 19 0.024 1.63 0.05 0.02 0.05 0.03 0.02 21	6		0.77					1.45					
9	7						0.06	0.02					
10					0.01		1.27	0.03	0.24				
11	9				0.49	0.41		0.25	0.04	0.05			
1.77			0.04	0.01		0.1		0.11		0.04			
13 0.04 0.05 0.31 0.01 0.01 0.37 0.04 14 0.03 0.51 0.04 0.01 0.15 0.94 15 0.26 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.02 16 0.06 0.02 0.08 0.02 17 0.06 0.01 0.01 0.17 0.75 0.7 18 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 19 0.24 1.63 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 20 1.01 0.11 0.05 0.02 0.03 0.02 0.05 9.83 21 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 22 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.5 0.13 23 1.46 0.88 0.74 0.03 0.02 0.63 0.63 <			0.5	0.16				1.19		0.68		0.02	0.09
14 0.03 0.51 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.04 15 0.06 0.02 0.01 0.02 0.04 0.02 16 0.03 0.11 0.16 0.01 0.01 0.17 0.75 0.7 18 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 19 0.24 1.63 0.24 1.63 0.02 0.02 0.05 9.83 20 1.01 0.11 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 21 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 22 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.5 0.13 23 1.46 0.88 0.74 0.03 0.02 0.63 0.63 24 0.05 0.05 0.02 0.03 0.01 1.13 27 0.01 0.01 1.25			1.77				0.46		0.64	0.16	0.44	0.21	
15 0.26 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.04 16 0.06 0.02 0.08 0.02 0.08 0.02 17 0.03 0.11 0.16 0.01 0.01 0.17 0.75 0.7 18 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 19 0.24 1.63 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 20 1.63 0.24 1.63 0.26 1.36 0.02 0.13 0.02 21 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 22 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.63 0.63 23 1.46 0.88 0.74 0.03 0.02 0.63 0.63 24 0.05 0.05 0.02 0.03 0.01 1.13 27 0.01 0.01 0.13			0.05	0.31			0.01					0.04	
16 0.06 0.02 0.08 0.02 0.01 0.075 0.7 18 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 19 0.24 1.63 0.26 1.36 0.02 0.13 0.02 21 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 23 1.46 0.88 0.74 0.03 0.02 0.63 0.63 24 0.05 0.02 1.6 0.01 0.01 25 0.05 0.05 0.01 0.04 26 0.3 0.17 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.13 0.35 1.11 28 0.2 0.07 0.73 0.18 0.02 0.03 0.01 1.13 29 0.57 0.01 0.25 0.84 0.44 0.02 0.03 0.02 0.03 0.01 1.13 30 0.57 0.05		0.03							0.01		0.94		
17 0.03 0.11 0.01 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 19 0.24 1.63 0.26 1.36 0.02 0.02 0.13 0.02 21 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 23 1.46 0.88 0.74 0.03 0.02 0.63 0.63 24 0.05 0.02 1.6 0.01 0.01 25 0.05 0.05 0.02 0.03 0.01 1.13 27 0.01 0.01 1.25 0.08 0.13 0.35 1.11 28 0.2 0.07 0.73 0.18 0.02 0.35 1.11 28 0.2 0.07 0.73 0.18 0.02 0.35 1.11 28 0.2 0.07 0.73 0.84 0.44 0.02 30 0.57 0.01 0.02 0.03 0.01						0.04	0.11			0.04			
18 0.03 0.11 1.57 0.04 0.02 2 0.05 9.83 19 0.24 1.63 1.01 0.11 0.05 2 0.05 9.83 20 1.01 0.11 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 21 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.5 0.13 23 1.46 0.88 0.74 0.03 0.02 0.63 0.63 24 0.05 0.05 0.02 1.6 0.01 0.01 25 0.05 0.05 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.04 26 0.3 0.17 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.13 0.35 1.11 28 0.2 0.07 0.73 0.18 0.02 0.02 29 0.57 0.01 0.02 0.04 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.02 30 0.57 0.02 0.03							0.02						
19 0.24 1.63 0.11 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 21 0.06 0.68 0.07 0.28 0.05 0.02 0.13 0.02 23 1.46 0.88 0.74 0.03 0.02 0.63 0.63 24 0.05 0.02 1.6 0.01 0.01 25 0.05 0.01 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.04 26 0.3 0.17 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.13 0.35 1.11 28 0.2 0.07 0.73 0.18 0.02 0.02 29 0.57 0.01 0.25 0.84 0.44 0.02 30 0.57 0.02 0.02 0.72 2.71 1.88 2.25 12.93 *Days highlighted indicate 4 or more inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Blank fields indicate no rainfall.					0.16								
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26 0.3 0.17 0.02 0.03 0.01 1.13 27 0.01 0.01 1.25 0.08 0.13 0.35 1.11 28 0.2 0.07 0.73 0.18 0.02 29 0.57 0.01 0.25 0.84 0.44 31 0.18 0.72 2.71 Total 2.79 3.86 1.25 3.45 6.26 4.35 8.67 6.3 4.42 1.88 2.25 12.93 *Days highlighted indicate 4 or more inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Blank fields indicate no rainfall.							0.02	1.6					
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28 0.2 0.07 0.73 0.18 0.02 0.02 29 0.57 0.01 0.84 0.44 0.44 0.72 0.72 0.71 0.72 <th></th> <th>0.3</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>0.04</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>0.01</th> <th>0.40</th> <th></th> <th>0.05</th> <th></th>		0.3			0.04				0.01	0.40		0.05	
29 0.57 0.01 30 0.57 0.25 0.84 0.44 31 0.18 0.72 2.71 Total 2.79 3.86 1.25 3.45 6.26 4.35 8.67 6.3 4.42 1.88 2.25 12.93 *Days highlighted indicate 4 or more inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Blank fields indicate no rainfall.							0.08	0.40				0.35	1.11
30 0.57 0.25 0.84 0.44 31 0.18 0.72 2.71 Total 2.79 3.86 1.25 3.45 6.26 4.35 8.67 6.3 4.42 1.88 2.25 12.93 *Days highlighted indicate 4 or more inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Blank fields indicate no rainfall.				0.2	0.07	0.73			0.04	0.02			
31 0.18 0.72 2.71 Total 2.79 3.86 1.25 3.45 6.26 4.35 8.67 6.3 4.42 1.88 2.25 12.93 *Days highlighted indicate 4 or more inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Blank fields indicate no rainfall.		0.57			0.25		1						
Total 2.79 3.86 1.25 3.45 6.26 4.35 8.67 6.3 4.42 1.88 2.25 12.93 *Days highlighted indicate 4 or more inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Blank fields indicate no rainfall.					0.25								
*Days highlighted indicate 4 or more inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Blank fields indicate no rainfall.			2 00	4 25	2 45	6.26	4 2 F			4.42	4 00	2.25	42.02
* Sample dates are indicated in blue. ND = No Data ANNUAL RAINFALL 58.41							1						58.41

Shellfish Management Area 06B Precautionary & Pollution Event Closures 2021 – 2023

Event	Date(s)	Sample Date(s)	Opening Date	Comments
December 2023 Nor'easter	12/18/2023	12/27/2023	12/29/2023 & 1/4/2024	Due to excessive rainfall the SFMA 06B did not open until special sampling was conducted and data indicated an Approved classification.
Hurricane Ian	9/30/2022	N/A	10/2/2022	SFMA 06B was closed as a precautionary closure due to the Hurricane Warning. SFMA 6B was not affected by rainfall from the hurricane.

Annual Average Flow Rates Santee River

Data Source: U.S. Geological Survey – Santee River Station 02171700 (2020-2023)
Data Source: Santee Cooper Public Service Authority (1991-2018)

YEAR	Average Daily Flow Rate In Cubic Feet Second (CFS)
2023	10,500
2022	6,391
2021	10,188
2020	21,575
2019	13,738
2018	8,280
2017	4,881
2016	8,250
2015	12,494
2014	8,544
2013	13,135
2012	1,567
2011	8,406
2010	8,335
2009	8,174
2008	1,179
2007	5,004
2006	4,371
2005	10,660
2004	7,438
2003	14,806
2002	4,900
2001	2,547
2000	3,548
1999	3,703
1998	16,720
1997	10,323
1996	10,669
1995	15,978
1994	10,830
1993	14,337
1992	11,379
1991	11,541

TABLE #8

$\begin{array}{c} Shell fish\ Management\ Area\ 06B \\ Fecal\ Coliform\ Data\ Compared\ to\ River\ Gauge\ Height\ and\ Rainfall \\ 2019-2023 \end{array}$

Sample Date	06B-06	06B-07	06B-08	06B-09	06B-10	06B-12	06B-19	06B-21	Gauge Ht. (Ft)	Rainfall (Inches)
1/17/2023	33	49	79	49	33	23	33	N/A	13.41	0
2/21/2023	49	49	33	110	110	79	110	49	12.18	0
3/1/2023	1.7	17	7.8	4.5	7.8	17	13	4.5	8.20	0
4/26/2023	2	4.5	17	4	2	23	1.7	2	5.60	0
5/16/2023	33	49	17	2	17	14	11	17	7.09	0
6/26/2023	2	49	11	2	4.5	4	7.8	4.5	12.03	0.03
7/19/2023	2	23	17	2	2	1.7	7.8	1.7	2.30	0
8/2/2023	4.5	7.8	33	17	33	23	7.8	13	4.33	0.13
9/6/2023	1.7	17	7.8	2	1.7	2	1.7	1.7	2.16	0
10/30/2023	1.7	11	79	110	13	4.5	4.5	2	3.23	0
11/20/2023	2	17	11	4.5	1.7	2	2	2	2.13	0
12/13/2023	2	1.7	33	49	13	7.8	2	1.7	3.26	0
12/1/2022	2	23	23	11	6.8	3.7	1.7	1.7	5.38	0.12
11/29/2022	1.7	23	13	4.5	2	2	1.7	1.7	4.20	0
10/24/2022	2	14	23	23	7.8	2	7.8	1.7	2.94	0
9/6/2022	14	70	17	11	17	4.5	6.8	7.8	2.43	0
8/24/2022	7.8	33	49	22	23	49	23	23	1.93	0.31
7/6/2022	2	4	1.7	2	4.5	1.7	4.5	7.8	2.14	0.01
6/22/2022	1.7	2	4.5	1.7	2	2	1.7	1.7	2.82	0.01
5/18/2022	1.7	2	14	23	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.89	0
4/25/2022	7.8	110	33	7.8	11	4.5	2	2	10.55	0
3/28/2022	23	17	23	33	17	33	70	22	12.01	0
2/15/2022	2	23	13	2	1.7	17	1.7	7.8	5.20	0
1/5/2022	13	79	49	70	23	13	4	11	8.30	0
12/21/2021	49	540	70	350	130	49	7.8	49	5.29	0
11/2/2021	23	33	49	23	49	13	17	22	1.99	0
10/25/2021	1.7	49	46	17	7.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	3.33	0
9/14/2021	1.7	23	7.8	4.5	4.5	2	7.8	1.7	3.08	0
8/10/2021	4.5	22	2	7.8	1.7	6.8	2	33	2.40	0.11
7/20/2021	17	31	27	33	46	31	23	9.3	1.92	0
6/7/2021	33	33	33	23	540	22	13	46	2.24	0.88
5/12/2021	23	33	33	49	23	33	79	49	5.77	0
4/14/2021	14	4.5	13	33	31	33	17	13	13.61	0.03
3/17/2021	2	49	49	13	6.8	17	7.8	7.8	12.20	0
2/17/2021	33	130	49	79	130	49	33	23	10.69	0.29

1/25/2021	22	22	40	1.1	2.4	1.2	1.2	7.0	11 (1	Λ
1/25/2021	23	23	49	11	34	13	13	7.8	11.64	0
11/3/2020	11	79	70	46	23	33	4.5	17	10.09	0
10/5/2020	13	220	49	79	33	33	2	9.3	9.34	0
9/9/2020	4.5	79	33	49	6.8	2	13	4.5	5.63	1.37
8/11/2020	1.7	33	22	23	2	7.8	1.7	2	5.83	0.03
7/15/2020	23	23	33	33	49	32	33	70	5.04	0
6/1/2020	33	95	170	46	33	23	33	33	16.99	0
5/12/2020	17	13	110	23	17	49	13	11	12.97	0
4/21/2020	31	33	46	17	23	32	22	33	10.24	0
3/18/2020	17	33	17	13	33	22	7.8	33	14.1	0.07
2/19/2020	33	49	130	23	33	23	79	23	19.06	0.40
1/8/2020	280	170	64	95	110	180	170	130	13.08	0
12/18/2019	13	95	46	64	22	2	2	4.5	10.89	.12
11/5/2019	1.7	4.5	4.5	13	4.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.20	.01
10/23/2019	7.8	17	23	31	11	23	11	11	1.93	0
9/16/2019	2	33	33	33	4.5	7.8	1.7	7.8	2.73	0
8/13/2019	7.8	4.5	13	6.8	6.8	2	2	2	2.98	0
7/16/2019	4.5	11	17	4	6.8	17	7.8	6.8	3.06	0
6/3/2019	1.7	46	21	7.8	1.7	46	1.7	2	3.51	0
5/21/2019	4.5	13	13	17	4	7.8	2	11	6.81	0
4/16/2019	7.8	33	33	22	27	7.8	33	17	12.53	0
3/20/2019	13	170	64	70	95	17	13	17	13.70	0
2/20/2019	17	110	49	95	58	79	31	17	11.69	0
1/9/2019	70	23	21	70	70	64	170	70	17.85	0

Gauge Height is for Jamestown and is the maximum recorded height for 5 days prior to sampling.

Rainfall is the maximum 24hr rainfall event total for 3 days prior to sampling.

Red = Impaired Water Quality Green = >10.0ft. Gauge Height