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# Water Quality Monitoring Project for Demonstration of Canal Remediation Methods Florida Keys- Preliminary Report #3: Assessment of Canal Remediation Methods Canal using Water Quality Data Before and After Remediation

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**FLORIDA  
INTERNATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY**

**Southeast  
Environmental  
Research Center**

**WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROJECT FOR  
DEMONSTRATION OF CANAL REMEDIATION METHODS  
FLORIDA KEYS**

**Preliminary Report #3: Assessment of Canal  
Remediation Methods Canal using Water Quality Data  
Before and After Remediation**

May 6, 2016

Presented to:

Water Quality Program Canal Restoration Advisory Committee



**Henry O. Briceño, Alexandra Serna,  
Michael Absten, Sandro Stumpf, James Duquesnel**

## **Objective**

- To provide data needed to make unbiased, statistically rigorous statements about the status and temporal trends of water quality parameters in the remediated canals

## **Conceptual model**

The execution of the project includes two phases:

- 1) Before remediation
- 2) After remediation

## Water quality testing parameters

- Vertical profiles
- Continuous 24-hour recording (Diels) of physical-chemical data:



%DO (Dissolved Oxygen) sat exceedances calculations: % readings below 42% saturation in a full day of diel data

- Water sampling for total nutrients analysis

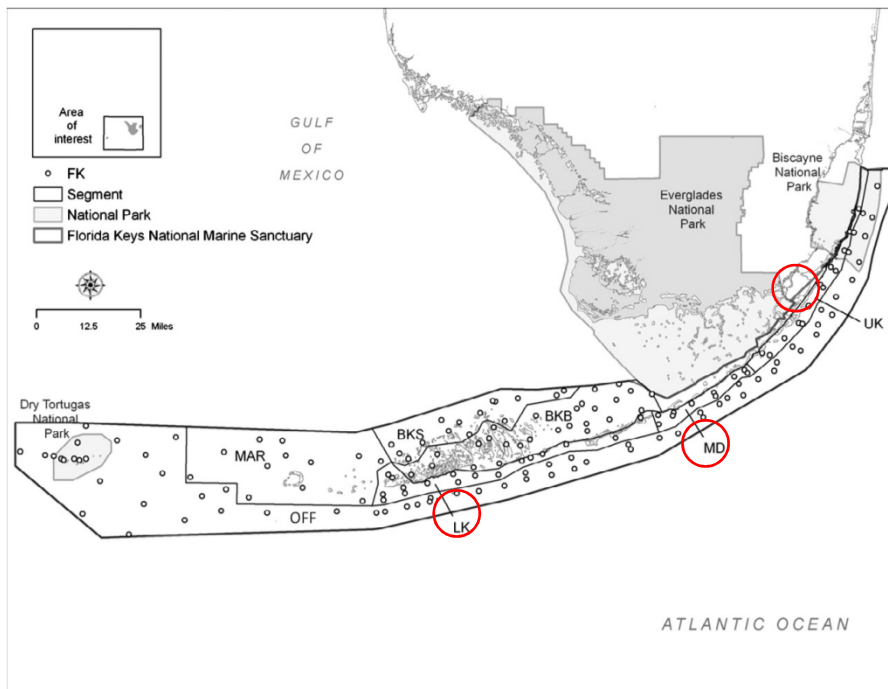
## Demonstration canals included in this report



- Canal #29 in Key Largo. Backfilled to reduce canal depth
- Canal #137 in Plantation Key. A weed barrier was installed to prevent input of wrack
- Canal #472 in Geiger Key. A culvert was installed to enhance circulation

## Water quality criteria

- 62-302.533 DO (Dissolved Oxygen) criteria for Class III Waters
- 62-302.532 Estuary-Specific Criterion for Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), by biogeochemical subdivisions of South Florida coastal and estuarine waters (Briceno et al, 2013)



**Canal #29** Manatee Bay-Barnes Sound segment of Biscayne Bay

**Canal #137** Middle Keys

**Canal #472** Lower Keys

## Canal #29. Remediation technology: Backfilling. Completed Jul-15

CRITERIA	Depth	SHORT TERM		LONG TERM		
		Pre-remediation		Post-remediation		
		31-Mar-14	16-Oct-14	4-Feb-16	28-Apr-16	
No more than 10% of the daily measured values should fall below 42 %DO saturation	S	0%	0%	0%	0%	<b>No definitive improving trend yet</b>
	B	43%	100%	0%	0%	

LEGEND

	Stable within favorable range		Stable within negative range	Depth	Water sample depth
	Declining within favorable range		Declining within negative range	SHORT TERM	Relative position of last survey
	Improving within favorable range		Increasing within negative range	LONG TERM	Linear trend for whole period of record

S: Surface water      Measurements ~ 2 ft below water surface  
 B: Bottom water      Measurements ~ 1ft above canal bottom  
 † A full day of diel data consist of 24 hours of measurements collected every 10 min

- Surface waters in compliance during the whole monitoring period
- Post-remediation surveys showed %DO saturation in compliance in shallower new bottom waters

## Canal #29. Remediation technology: Backfilling. Completed Jul-15

CRITERIA	Depth	SHORT TERM			LONG TERM
		Pre-remediation		Post-remediation	
		31-Mar-14	16-Oct-14	4-Feb-16	
TP	S	0.021	0.004 ▼	0.043 ▲	No definitive improving trend yet
	B	0.030	0.003 ▼	0.045 ▲	
TN	S	0.28	0.62 ▲	0.51 ▼	
	B	0.39	0.59 ▲	0.51 ▼	

- Stable within favorable range
- Declining within favorable range
- Improving within favorable range

- Stable within negative range
- Declining within negative range
- Increasing within negative range

†Manatee Bay-Barnes Sound segment of Biscayne Bay

- First post-remediation survey rendered TP concentrations out of compliance
- Surface and Bottom TN concentrations in compliance after remediation



## Canal #137. Remediation technology: Weed gate installation. Completed Nov-14

CRITERIA	Depth	SHORT TERM				LONG TERM	
		Pre-remediation		Post-remediation			
		1-Apr-14	14-Sep-14	30-Jun-15	7-Feb-16		
No more than 10% of the daily measured values should fall below 42 %DO saturation†	S	83%	0% ▼	29% ▲	0% ▼	No definitive improving trend yet	
	B	100%	5% ▼	74% ▲	0% ▼		

### LEGEND

- Stable within favorable range
- Stable within negative range
- Declining within favorable range
- Declining within negative range
- Improving within favorable range
- Increasing within negative range

Second post-remediation survey showed both surface and bottom waters %DO saturation in compliance

## Canal #137. Remediation technology: Weed gate installation. Completed Nov-14

CRITERIA	Depth	SHORT TERM				LONG TERM	
		Pre-remediation		Post-remediation			
		1-Apr-14	14-Sep-14	30-Jun-15	7-Feb-16		
TP less than 0.007 ppm	S	0.028	0.010 ▼	0.019 ▲	0.020 ▲		
	B	0.027	0.010 ▼	0.018 ▲	0.019 ▲		
TN less than 0.22 ppm	S	0.12	0.35 ▲	0.20 ▼	0.37 ▲		No definitive improving trend yet
	B	0.12	0.34 ▲	0.19 ▼	0.28 ▲		

### LEGEND

- Stable within favorable range
- Stable within negative range
- Declining within favorable range
- Declining within negative range
- Improving within favorable range
- Increasing within negative range

- Post-remediation surveys rendered TP concentrations out of compliance
- Surface and Bottom TN concentrations returned to out of compliance in Feb-16

## Canal #472. Remediation technology: Culvert installation. Completed May-15 and was closed shortly after

CRITERIA	Depth	SHORT TERM				LONG TERM
		Pre-remediation		Post-remediation		
		22-May-14	25-Sep-14	4-May-15	7-May-15	21-Jul-15
				Culvert open		Culvert closed
No more than 10% of the daily measured values should fall below 42 %DO saturation†	S	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%
	B	91%	100%	0%	0%	100%

**No definitive improving trend yet**

### LEGEND

- |  |                                  |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
|  | Stable within favorable range    |  | Stable within negative range     |
|  | Declining within favorable range |  | Declining within negative range  |
|  | Improving within favorable range |  | Increasing within negative range |

Post-remediation surveys showed %DO saturation in compliance and a return to values out of compliance in bottom waters after the culvert was closed

## Canal #472. Remediation technology: Culvert installation. Completed May-15 and was closed shortly after

CRITERIA	Depth	SHORT TERM				LONG TERM		
		Pre-remediation		Post-remediation		Culvert open	Culvert closed	
		22-May-14	25-Sep-14	4-May-15	7-May-15			
TP	less than 0.008 ppm	S	0.019	0.004	0.014		0.015	No definitive improving trend yet
	B	0.020	0.004	0.012		0.013		
TN	less than 0.21 ppm	S	0.20	0.25	0.36		0.21	
		B	0.19	0.24	0.28		0.24	

### LEGEND

- Stable within favorable range
- Stable within negative range
- Declining within favorable range
- Declining within negative range
- Improving within favorable range
- Increasing within negative range

- Post-remediation surveys rendered TP concentrations out of compliance
- TN concentrations in bottom water have bounced in and out of compliance

## Score cards by canal

<http://serc.fiu.edu/wqmnetwork/Canals/index.htm>

Canal #29

Canal #137

Canal #472

Canal #29 (Key Largo): Backfilling		SHORT TERM				LONG TERM	COMMENTS
		Pre-remediation		Post-remediation			
		31-Mar-14	16-Oct-14	4-Feb-16	28-Apr-16		
CRITERIA	Depth						
		S	0%	0%	◀▶	0% ▶▶	0% ▶▶
		B	43%	100%	▲	0% ▼	0% ▶▶
TP	less than 0.007 ppm	S	0.021	0.004	▼	0.043	▲
		B	0.030	0.003	▼	0.045	▲
TN	less than 0.58 ppm	S	0.28	0.62	▲	0.51	▼
		B	0.39	0.59	▲	0.51	▼

Criteria	Based on 62-302.533 Dissolved oxygen (DO) criteria for Class III Waters and on 62-302.532 Estuary-Specific Criterion for Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), Manatee Bay-Barnes Sound segment of Biscayne Bay	<b>LEGEND</b>	◀▶ Stable within favorable range
LONG TERM	Linear trend for whole period of record		▼ Declining within favorable range
SHORT TERM	Relative position of last survey		▲ Improving within favorable range
Depth	Water sample depth		◀▶ Stable within negative range
S: Surface water	Measurements ~ 2 ft below water surface		▼ Declining within negative range
B: Bottom water	Measurements ~ 1ft above canal bottom		▲ Increasing within negative range

† A full day of diel data consist of 24 hours of measurements collected every 10 minutes

Update: May 5, 2016

**No definitive improving trend yet**