

Bay Center

Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



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Area: Bay Center

Year Ending: December 31, 2024

Classification: Approved, Prohibited

Activities in the Growing Area in 2024

The growing area was sampled six times in accordance with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Systematic Random Sampling (SRS) criteria. Station 216 was only sampled five times due to foul weather. This sample will be made up in 2025.

A routine three-year shoreline evaluation was completed, and the Department sampled ten drainages/discharges, evaluated OSS, and completed a drogue study as part of a water quality study prompted by a failing Marine Station within the Prohibited area surrounding the Bay Center Marina. No new or changes in pollution sources were identified that impact the growing area.

There was a growing area classification change from Prohibited to Restricted, resulting in a 230-acre upgrade. Northern Oyster Company plans to harvest oysters from the Restricted area (parcels 79001000291 and 79001000234) and move them to an Approved area (parcel 79005000103) for a minimum of 61 days.

Marine stations 114, 119 and 129 were dropped from routine sampling due to nearby station redundancy and good water quality.

No additional activities have been documented in the growing area.

Analytical Results of Water Samples

Table 1 summarizes results of the 30 most recent samples collected from the area. All stations in the Approved area meet NSSP water quality standards. Station 125 is categorized as Threatened with an estimated 90th percentile of 35.8 FC/100mL. Table 2 includes the last 30 individual sample results for Station 125.

Change in Actual Pollution Sources that Impact the Growing Area

We currently have no information indicating the area has new sources of pollution.

Classification Status

- Well within the classification standards
- Meets standards, but threatened with downgrade in classification
- Fails to meet current classification standards

Remarks and Recommendations

Table 1 shows that all stations meet the NSSP water quality standards for an Approved classification and the area is correctly classified.

TABLE 1. Summary of Marine Water Data (SRS) for the Bay Center Growing Area

Sampling Event Type: Regulatory

Maximum Number of Samples: 30

Tides Included: All

Station Number	Classification	Date Range	Range (FC/100 mL)	GeoMean (FC/100 mL)	E90th (FC/100 mL)	Meets Standard
112	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 33.0	4.1	13.4	Y
113	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 49.0	4.4	18.5	Y
116	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 23.0	3.7	10.9	Y
117	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 33.0	3.2	8.1	Y
118	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 33.0	3.3	10.0	Y
120	Approved	11/12/2019 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 23.0	2.8	7.7	Y
123	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 14.0	3.0	7.3	Y
124	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 49.0	4.8	17.5	Y
125	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 130.0	7.8	35.8	Y
126	Approved	11/12/2019 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 22.0	2.3	5.1	Y
127	Approved	11/12/2019 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 79.0	4.1	14.5	Y
128	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 31.0	2.9	8.0	Y
130	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 17.0	2.5	6.3	Y
132	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 33.0	3.6	11.5	Y
134	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 33.0	4.5	15.5	Y
135	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 7.8	2.3	4.3	Y
137	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 79.0	5.3	21.4	Y
138	Approved	11/12/2019 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 130.0	4.6	21.2	Y
190	Approved	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 11.0	2.1	3.9	Y
216	Approved	11/13/2019 - 10/2/2024	1.7 - 4.5	1.9	2.8	Y
110	Prohibited	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 170.0	11.9	66.2	N
111	Prohibited	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 79.0	7.6	35.8	Y
115	Prohibited	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 220.0	12.9	76.4	N
208	Unclassified	2/24/2020 - 12/16/2024	1.7 - 220.0	17.4	79.8	N

The standard for approved shellfish growing waters is fecal coliform geometric mean not greater than 14 organisms/ 100 mL with an estimated 90th percentile not greater than 43 organisms/ 100 mL. The above table shows bacteriological results in relation to program standards.

TABLE 2. Marine Water Quality Summary Threatened Station 125 in Bay Center

Station: 125

Classification: Approved

Method: SRS

Total Samples: 30 Range (FC/100 mL): 1.7 – 130.0 GeoMean (FC/100 mL): 7.8				Date Range: 04/20/2020 – 12/16/2024 E90th (FC/100 mL): 35.8 Meets Standard: Y		
Sample Date	Event Type	Time	Tide	SWT	Salinity	Fecal Coliform
02/24/2020	Regulatory	12:06	Flood	9	18	6.8
04/20/2020	Regulatory	11:25	Flood	14	25	2.0
06/15/2020	Regulatory	09:23	Flood	16	24	2.0
08/03/2020	Regulatory	12:14	Flood	21	28	17.0
10/26/2020	Regulatory	10:52	Flood	10	27	22.0
12/14/2020	Regulatory	11:12	Flood	9	25	4.5
03/09/2021	Regulatory	11:07	Ebb	8	20	1.7
05/24/2021	Regulatory	11:22	Flood	13	28	7.8
08/26/2021	Regulatory	15:34	Flood	19	29	7.8
09/20/2021	Regulatory	11:43	Flood	17	30	17.0
10/05/2021	Regulatory	13:13	Flood	14	30	11.0
11/01/2021	Regulatory	10:20	Flood	10	20	33.0
02/01/2022	Regulatory	10:45	Flood	7	19	4.5
04/25/2022	Regulatory	08:25	Flood	13	19	4.5
06/14/2022	Regulatory	12:55	Flood	16	19	23.0
08/09/2022	Regulatory	10:53	Flood	20	26	130.0
10/24/2022	Regulatory	10:51	Flood	13	29	13.0
12/05/2022	Regulatory	10:56	Flood	6	24	7.8
01/03/2023	Regulatory	10:32	Ebb	8	20	4.5
03/06/2023	Regulatory	10:36	Flood	8	19	1.7
05/01/2023	Regulatory	09:14	Flood	14	19	11.0
09/25/2023	Regulatory	09:40	Flood	16	30	17.0
10/12/2023	Regulatory	11:46	Flood	18	28	49.0
11/29/2023	Regulatory	14:23	Ebb	8	29	1.7
02/22/2024	Regulatory	12:12	Flood	10	21	4.0
04/08/2024	Regulatory	12:17	Flood	11	22	2.0
07/22/2024	Regulatory	13:56	Flood	21	29	2.0
08/19/2024	Regulatory	12:39	Flood	22	29	49.0
10/01/2024	Regulatory	11:33	Flood	17	29	1.7
12/16/2024	Regulatory	10:55	Flood	9	21	23.0

MAP 1. Bay Center Growing Area

