

Alden Bank

Annual Shellfish Growing Area Review



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Area: Alden Bank

Year Ending: December 31, 2023

Classification: Approved, Restricted, Prohibited

Activities in the Growing Area in 2023

Marine water stations 32 and 33, located in the Approved portion of the growing area, were sampled two times using the Adverse Pollution Condition (APC) criteria. This area is in Remote status. Stations 403, 404, 405, 406, and 427 were only sampled five times due to boat issues. These stations are sampled using the Systematic Random Sampling (SRS) criteria. There is an approved relay from the Restricted portion of the growing area to the Shoal Bay Growing Area for scallop harvest. No additional activities have been documented in the growing area.

Analytical Results of Water Samples

Table 1 summarizes the results of the last 30 samples collected from the area. This summary shows that all stations pass the NSSP water quality standard. Station 427 has 24 samples and remains unclassified.

Change in Actual Pollution Sources that Impact the Growing Area

We currently have no information indicating that the area has any 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 and 2 shows that the stations meet the NSSP water quality standard for an Approved classification and the area is correctly classified.

TABLE 1. Summary of Marine Water Data (SRS) for the Alden Bank Growing Area

Sampling Event Type: Regulatory

Maximum Number of Samples: 30

Tides Included: All

Station Number	Classification	Date Range	Range (FC/100mL)	Geomean (FC/100mL)	Est. 90 th Percentile (FC/100mL)	Meets Standard
403	Approved	9/19/2018 - 12/12/2023	1.7 - 350.0	2.3	8.2	Y
404	Approved	9/19/2018 - 12/12/2023	1.7 - 6.8	1.9	2.9	Y
405	Approved	9/19/2018 - 12/12/2023	1.7 - 7.8	1.8	2.6	Y
406	Approved	9/19/2018 - 12/12/2023	1.7 - 7.8	1.9	3.1	Y
427	Unclassified	10/23/2019 - 12/12/2023	1.7 - 7.8	1.8	2.7	*N/A

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. Summary of Marine Water Data (APC) of the Alden Bank Growing Area

Sampling Event Type: Regulatory

Maximum Number of Samples: 30

Tides Included: All

Station Number	Classification	Date Range	Range (FC/100mL)	Geomean (FC/100mL)	% of Samples >43 FC/100mL	Meets Standard
32	Approved	3/24/2010 - 12/12/2023	1.7 - 2.0	1.7	0.00	Y
33	Approved	3/24/2010 - 12/12/2023	1.7 - 2.0	1.7	0.00	Y

The standard for approved shellfish growing waters is fecal coliform geometric mean not greater than 14 organisms / 100 mL with not more than 10 percent greater than 43 organisms / 100 mL. The above table shows bacteriological results in relation to program standards.

MAP 1. Alden Bank Growing Area

