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Dissolved Oxygen (DO)

DO levels in Cat Creek at the Highway 122 bridge near the Lowndes County-Berrien County line are below 4.0 mg/L for most of the sampling period. Water flow conditions at the bridge are almost stagnant. The channel at this point is wide and shallow with low flow velocities. As the stream flows southward, water velocity and depth transition into more defined streambank conditions. There were three sampling events at the Highway 122 bridge for which DO levels exceeded 4.0. In all three cases, the sampling events were preceded by rainfall events in excess of 1.5" over several days. DO levels begin to increase and are at or near compliance levels +/- 2.7 miles downstream at the Cat Creek Bridge with the exception of early June. May and June of 2021 experienced below average precipitation levels with a 60% and 30% drop respectively resulting in below normal water velocity and depth for this period.

Low Level Mercury

Low level mercury levels are well below acute standards at all sampling points. Chronic standards were exceeded at the following locations for the indicated sampling events:

- Alapaha River at the Old State Rd Boat Ramp for September
- Withlacoochee River at the Staten Rd Bridge for September
- Withlacoochee River at the Hwy 133 Bridge for September

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Lead

Sampling results for 2021 indicate all samples to be below the detectable limit at all points sampled for lead with the exception of the Withlacoochee River Hwy 133 Bridge location in December. However, this result was still well below both acute and chronic standards.

BMP ASSESSMENT

Based on the data assessment above, Lowndes County does not propose implementation of any additional BMPs at this time.

