Forked Creek Condition Report for 2021

CAUTION

Chl-a N P DO

3 out of 4 indicators were rated as **PASS**.

All four indicators must pass for the creek to be rated as **PASS**.

Size: 5,863 acres
Location: South Sarasota County
Discharges into: Lemon Bay

For more information, please see: **Forked Creek Drainage Improvements, Preliminary Report Phase I (2000)**

View county-wide water quality trends »

Forked Creek



Water Chemistry Ratings | Freshwater Portion of the Creek

Creek Conditions Ratings are based on comparing nitrogen, phosphorus, chlorophyll and dissolved oxygen to water quality guidelines or regulations. Florida law defines a maximum allowable concentration of nitrogen, phosphorus, and chlorophyll *a*, and a minimum allowable concentration of dissolved oxygen in these streams.

Water quality data are not available for the freshwater portion of this creek.

Water Chemistry Ratings | Tidal Portion of the Creek

Creek Conditions Ratings are based on comparing nitrogen, phosphorus, chlorophyll and dissolved oxygen to water quality guidelines or regulations. Florida law defines a maximum allowable concentration of chlorophyll *a* and a minimum allowable

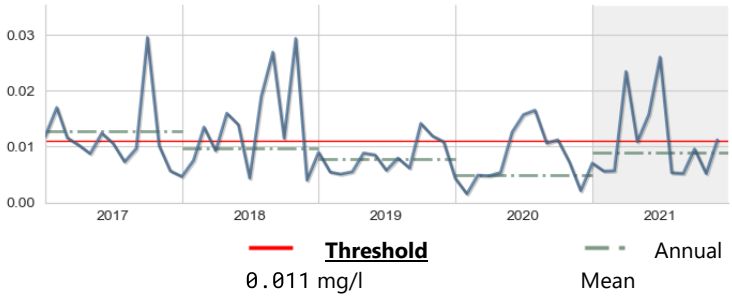
concentration of dissolved oxygen in these streams. Florida has no regulatory thresholds for nitrogen or phosphorus in tidal creeks so trends are used to rate the creeks.

Chlorophyll a

Score: Pass

Units: mg/l	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	0.0	0.2
Mean	0.0089	0.0135
Low	0.0006	0.0003
No. of Samples	34	1,091

Five-year Rolling Average



Nitrogen, Total

Units: mg/l	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	2.5	8.1
Mean	0.92	1.0505
Low	0.438	0.00
No. of Samples	26	776

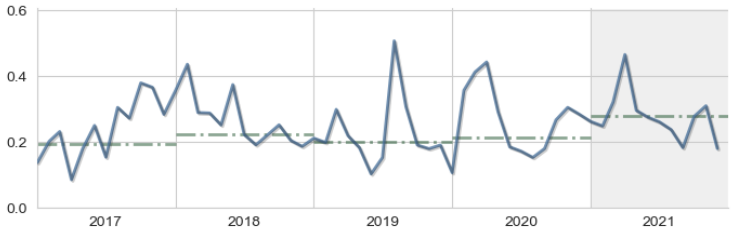
Five-year Rolling Average



Phosphorus, Total

Units: mg/l	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	0.6	3.8
Mean	0.2768	0.266
Low	0.136	0.004
No. of Samples	26	1,129

Five-year Rolling Average



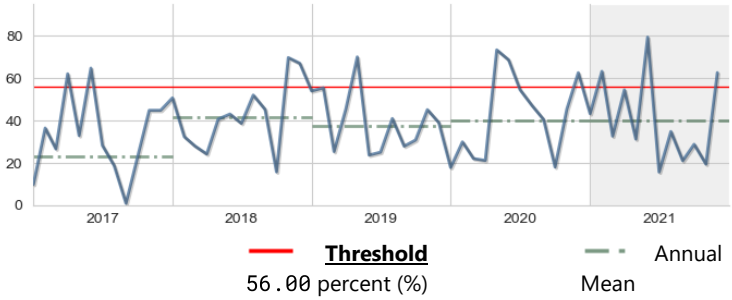
DO Dissolved Oxygen Saturation

Note: Low DO saturation also may be naturally influenced by inflows from nearby wetlands or groundwater sources

Score: Caution

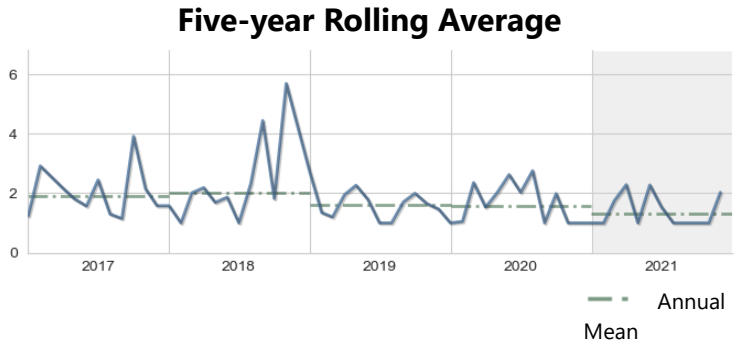
Units: percent (%)	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	100.0	169.7
Mean	39.92	61.54
Low	9.50	0.70
No. of Samples	27	843

Five-year Rolling Average



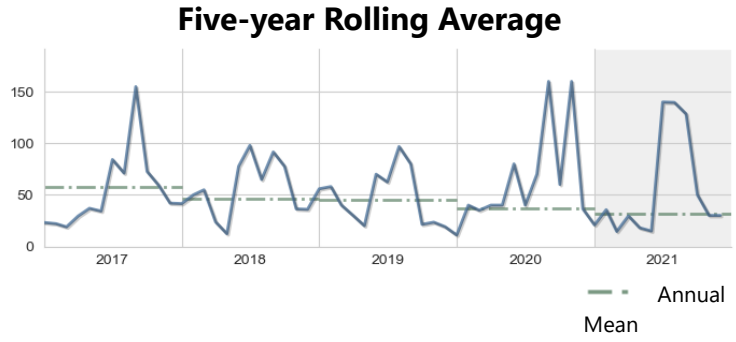
BOD, Biochemical oxygen demand

Units: mg/l	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	2.3	16.7
Mean	1.32	2.26
Low	1.00	0.50
No. of Samples	12	321



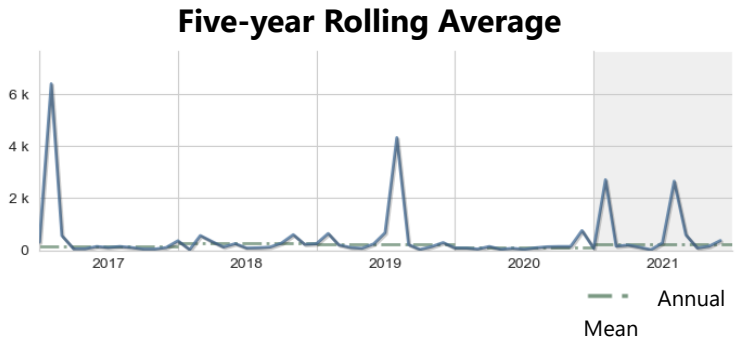
Color

Units: PCU	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	150.0	400.0
Mean	31.9	48.5
Low	9.10	2.50
No. of Samples	26	1,255



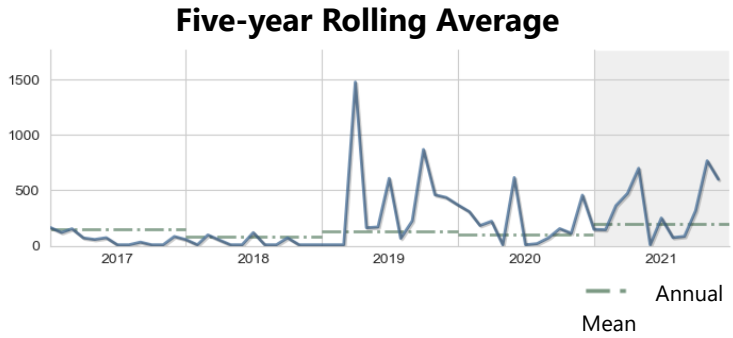
Enterococcus Group Bacteria

Units: cfu/100ml	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	14,100.0	17,300.0
Mean	208.88	157.54
Low	10.00	10.00
No. of Samples	26	153



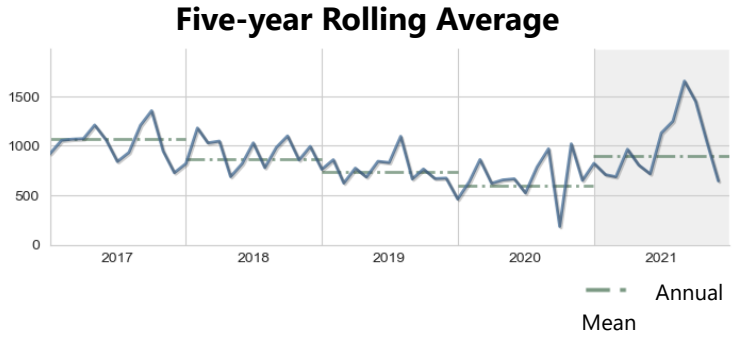
Nitrogen, Ammonia + Ammonium as N

Units: ug/l	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	768.0	1,480.0
Mean	201.65	15.48
Low	8.00	0.00
No. of Samples	12	495



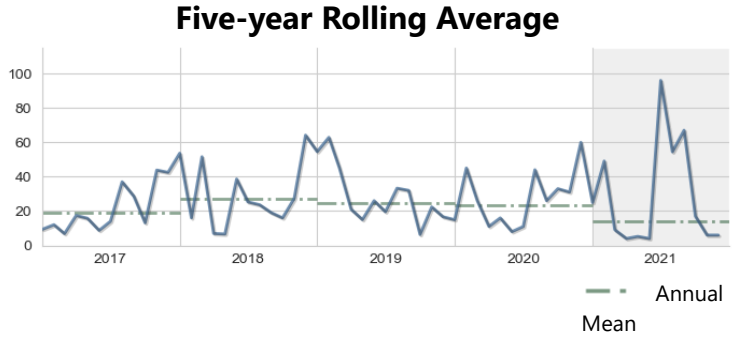
Nitrogen, Kjeldahl

Units: ug/l	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	2,490.0	4,340.0
Mean	892.12	1046.39
Low	434.00	50.00
No. of Samples	26	1,192



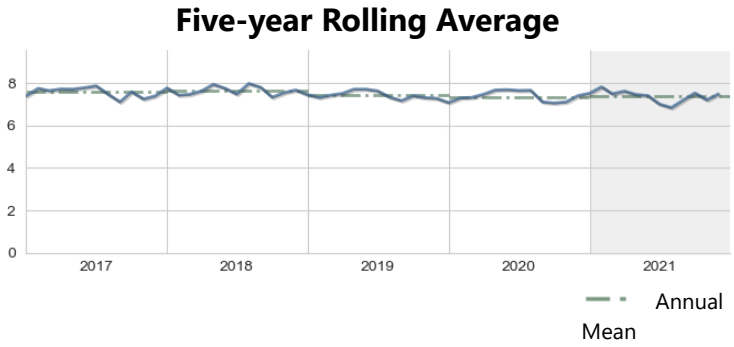
Nitrogen, Nitrite + Nitrate as N

Units: ug/l	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	130.0	882.0
Mean	14.01	16.47
Low	4.00	0.00
No. of Samples	26	914



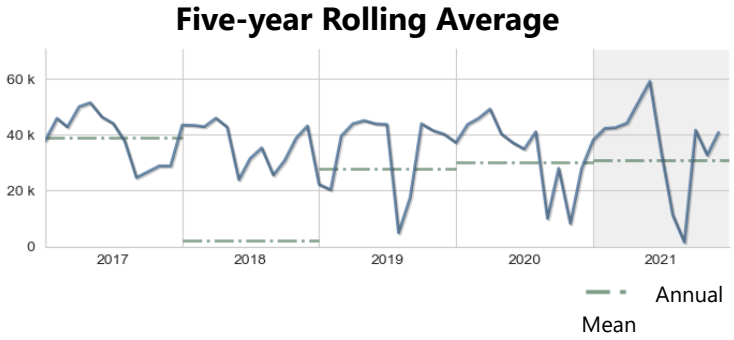
pH

Units: None	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	7.9	9.3
Mean	7.38	7.74
Low	6.82	4.90
No. of Samples	25	1,842



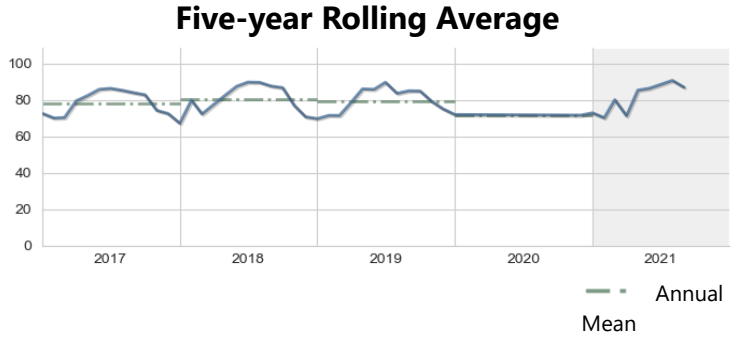
Specific conductance

Units: umho	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	63,471.0	63,471.0
Mean	31011.35	20222.53
Low	1524.39	0.941
No. of Samples	18	750



Temperature, water

Units: deg F	Year 2021	Historical period of record
High	192.1	197.9
Mean	112.59	77.46
Low	70.16	50.00
No. of Samples	27	1,543

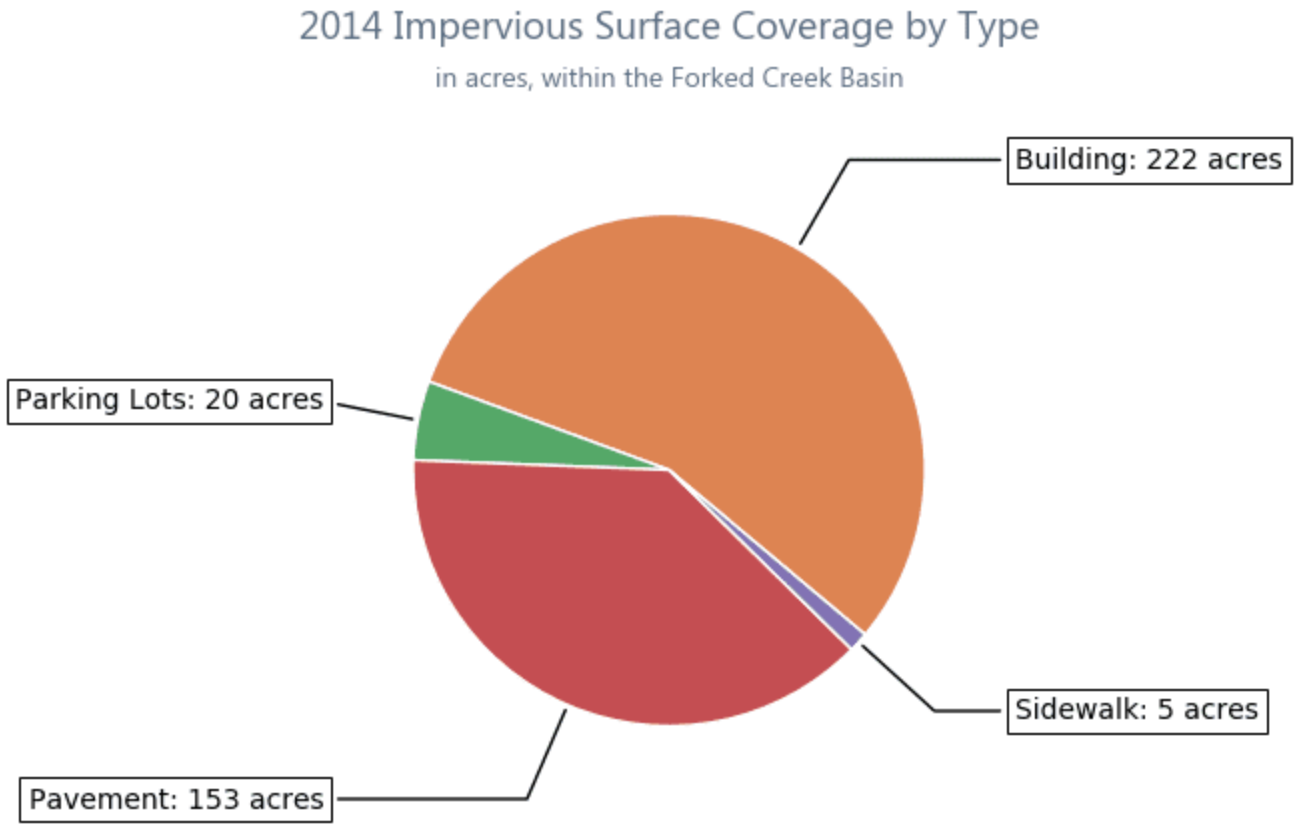


Impervious Features

Rain that falls on land that is in a natural state is absorbed and filtered by soils and vegetation as it makes it way into underground aquifers. However, in developed areas, "impervious surfaces" impede this process and contribute to polluted urban runoff entering surface waters. These surfaces include human infrastructure like roads, sidewalks, driveways and parking lots that are covered by impenetrable materials such as asphalt, concrete, brick and stone, as well as buildings and other permanent structures. Soils that have been disturbed and compacted by urban development are often impervious as well.



7% of the land area within the **Forked Creek Basin** is covered by impervious surfaces



Land Use / Land Cover

Land use within a creek's watershed has a major effect on its water quality. In general, less development means better water quality. Land Cover/Land Use classifications categorize land in terms of its observed physical surface characteristics (e.g. upland or wetland), and also reflect the types of activity that are taking place on it (agriculture, urban/built-up, utilities, etc.). Florida uses as its standard a set of statewide classifications which were developed by the Florida Department of Transportation.

Acreage and Percentage within each Land Use / Land Cover Category for Forked Creek Basin

Land Use Classification	1990	1995	1999	2005	2011	2014	2017	2020	Trend
Urban & Built-up	1,394 **23.8%**	1,570 **26.8%**	1,888 **32.2%**	1,859 **31.7%**	2,154 **36.7%**	2,154 **36.7%**	2,393 **40.8%**	2,418 **41.3%**	
Agriculture	1,055 **18%**	1,081 **18.4%**	1,064 **18.2%**	988 **16.8%**	619 **10.6%**	619 **10.6%**	533 **9.1%**	513 **8.7%**	
Rangeland	232 **4%**	688 **11.7%**	395 **6.7%**	552 **9.4%**	726 **12.4%**	726 **12.4%**	587 **10%**	515 **8.8%**	
Upland Forests	2,059 **35.1%**	1,322 **22.5%**	1,313 **22.4%**	1,187 **20.3%**	1,031 **17.6%**	1,031 **17.6%**	982 **16.7%**	935 **15.9%**	
Water	139 **2.4%**	390 **6.7%**	237 **4%**	229 **3.9%**	276 **4.7%**	276 **4.7%**	318 **5.4%**	375 **6.4%**	
Wetlands	905 **15.4%**	743 **12.7%**	904 **15.4%**	944 **16.1%**	948 **16.2%**	948 **16.2%**	943 **16.1%**	939 **16%**	
Barren Land	1 **0%**	0 **0%**	0 **0%**	0 **0%**	0 **0%**	0 **0%**	0 **0%**	6 **0.1%**	
Transportation and Utilities	78 **1.3%**	68 **1.2%**	61 **1%**	103 **1.8%**	107 **1.8%**	107 **1.8%**	108 **1.8%**	161 **2.8%**	

2020 Land Use / Land Cover for Forked Creek Basin

as a percentage of land area for this basin

