

Installation of U.S. Geological Survey Datasonde in Warm Mineral Springs, North Port Florida

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By

Rene A. Janneman (ESII) Stormwater

Cesar Rodriguez (ESIII) Public Utilities

Ashley Melton (ESII) Stormwater

Cliff Harrison (Technical Specialist III) Stormwater

Heather Bryen (ESIII) Public Utilities

Patricia Metz USGS



Overview: A team composed of Sarasota County personnel from Stormwater and Public Utilities collaborated with a U.S. Geological Survey Scientist on the installation of a water quality meter (sonde). The dive team consisting of county personnel installed the sonde on an existing decompression rack at a depth of 40ft. The meter will collect continuous temperature, conductivity.

A temperature reading was taken at depth next to the meter via thermometer for comparison with initial sonde reading. The thermometer temperature reading was 29 °C.

(2) 1 Liter bottles were used to collect samples at 40ft to test for Conductivity to be analyzed by the USGS Laboratory.

Equipment placement and local conditions were photographed and video documented for reference.



Observations: Surface visibility was around 10ft and water temperature was 27.7 Celsius.

After 10ft a milky white strata was present to a depth of 20ft.

The visibility improved to fair after a depth of 20ft to a distance of 20ft.

The 45ft ledge was covered by a reddish pink biological film, a fine layer of silt accumulation, and sand.

Next Steps: Future dive is tentatively scheduled for March 2, 2015 to recover meter, download data, and reinstall.