South Carolina Department of Environmental Services

OFFICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT AREA 10B

2025 ANNUAL UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

Shellfish Sanitation Program
Office of Law Enforcement
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

SC DEPARTMENT *of* ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT AREA 10B 2025 ANNUAL UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

SC DEPARTMENT *of* ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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Shellfish Management Area 10B

Data Inclusive Dates:
No Data / Not Applicable

Classification Change:
___Yes __X__ No

Shoreline Survey Completed: No

(I)ncreased/(D)ecreased/(N)one:
__N__ Approved
__N__ Conditionally Approved
__N__ Restricted
__N__ Prohibited

Prior Report & Date: 2024 Annual Update Comprehensive Report

SUMMARY

Shellfish Management Area 10B (SFMA 10B) will remain Administratively Prohibited in its entirety. Historical and current uses of the upland areas within close proximity to Cooper River, Ashley River, and Charleston Harbor are not conducive for the sanitary harvest of molluscan shellfish for human consumption. The numerous point source discharges and miscellaneous activities that occur throughout the area prevent the Department from screening for all potential deleterious substances that could be present. Because of the large number of municipal and industrial discharges, the Shellfish Sanitation Program no longer monitors fecal coliform bacteria concentrations in SFMA 10B. Molluscan shellfish harvest for human consumption will not be allowed in SFMA 10B.

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This sanitary survey evaluates the current harvesting classification of shellfish growing waters designated as Shellfish Management Area 10B. SFMA 10B consists of approximately 25,266 acres of shellfish growing area habitat located partially in both Berkeley and Charleston Counties, South Carolina. SFMA 10B consists of the Charleston Harbor and all creeks emptying into the harbor, the Cooper River from the harbor upstream to Woods Point and the Ashley River from the harbor upstream to Drayton Hall. The harbor is approximately four miles wide (northwest to southeast) and three miles long (southwest to northeast). Depths range from approximately 40 feet in the harbor's shipping channel to two feet near the shoreline. Due to minimal shoaling in the Ashley River, dredging occurs on an infrequent basis. The Cooper River, however, is routinely dredged due to occurrence of moderate to heavy shoaling. Freshwater flows into the area from both the Ashley and Cooper Rivers as well as from the Francis Marion National Forest via the Wando River. Overland runoff from rainfall also introduces additional freshwater into the area. High salinity ocean water enters the area from the mouth of the Charleston Harbor. The entire area is approximately 15 miles wide (northwest to southeast) and eight miles long (southwest to northeast).

There are no designated shellfish grounds within SFMA 10B. The shellfish-harvesting season in South Carolina normally extends from October through May. SCDNR has the authority to alter the shellfish-harvesting season for resource management purposes and grant permits for year-round mariculture

operations. Additionally, the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) has the authority to prohibit shellfish harvesting when necessary to ensure that shellfish harvested in South Carolina waters are safe for human consumption.

Numerous municipal and industrial point source discharges are throughout SFMA 10B. Because of the large number of discharges, the Department no longer monitors fecal coliform bacteria concentrations for shellfish harvest classification purposes within this growing area.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Shellfish Management Area 10B is not monitored for fecal coliform bacteria for shellfish harvest classification purposes due to the large number of municipal and industrial point source discharges within the area. The harvest of molluscan shellfish for human consumption should not be allowed in SFMA 10B. The shoreline survey review of SFMA 10B indicates that the classification boundary descriptions are appropriate.

PROHIBITED

1. The Charleston Harbor and all associated marshlands.
2. The Ashley River and all associated marshlands northward to Drayton Hall.
3. The Cooper River and all associated marshlands northward to Woods Point.

RESTRICTED

None

CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

None

APPROVED

None

Station Addition/Deactivation/Modification: None

REFERENCES

National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP), Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish, 2017 Revision. Model Ordinance. United States Food and Drug Administration. https://www.fda.gov/media/117080/download

South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES), Bureau of Water, 2017, Regulation 61-47, Shellfish. p. 9-12. https://www.des.sc.gov/sites/des/files/Library/Regulations/R.61-47.pdf

United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, 1971. *Soil survey of Charleston County, South Carolina*. In cooperation with South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station and South Carolina Land Resources Conservation Commission, National Cooperative Soil Survey, Washington, D.C. p. 78. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_MANUSCRIPTS/south_carolina/charlestonSC1971/charlestonSC1971.pdf

United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, 1980. *Soil survey of Berkeley County, South Carolina*. In cooperation with South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station and South Carolina Land Resources Conservation Commission, National Cooperative Soil Survey, Washington, D.C. p. 95. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_MANUSCRIPTS/south_carolina/berkeleySC1980/berkeley.pdf.

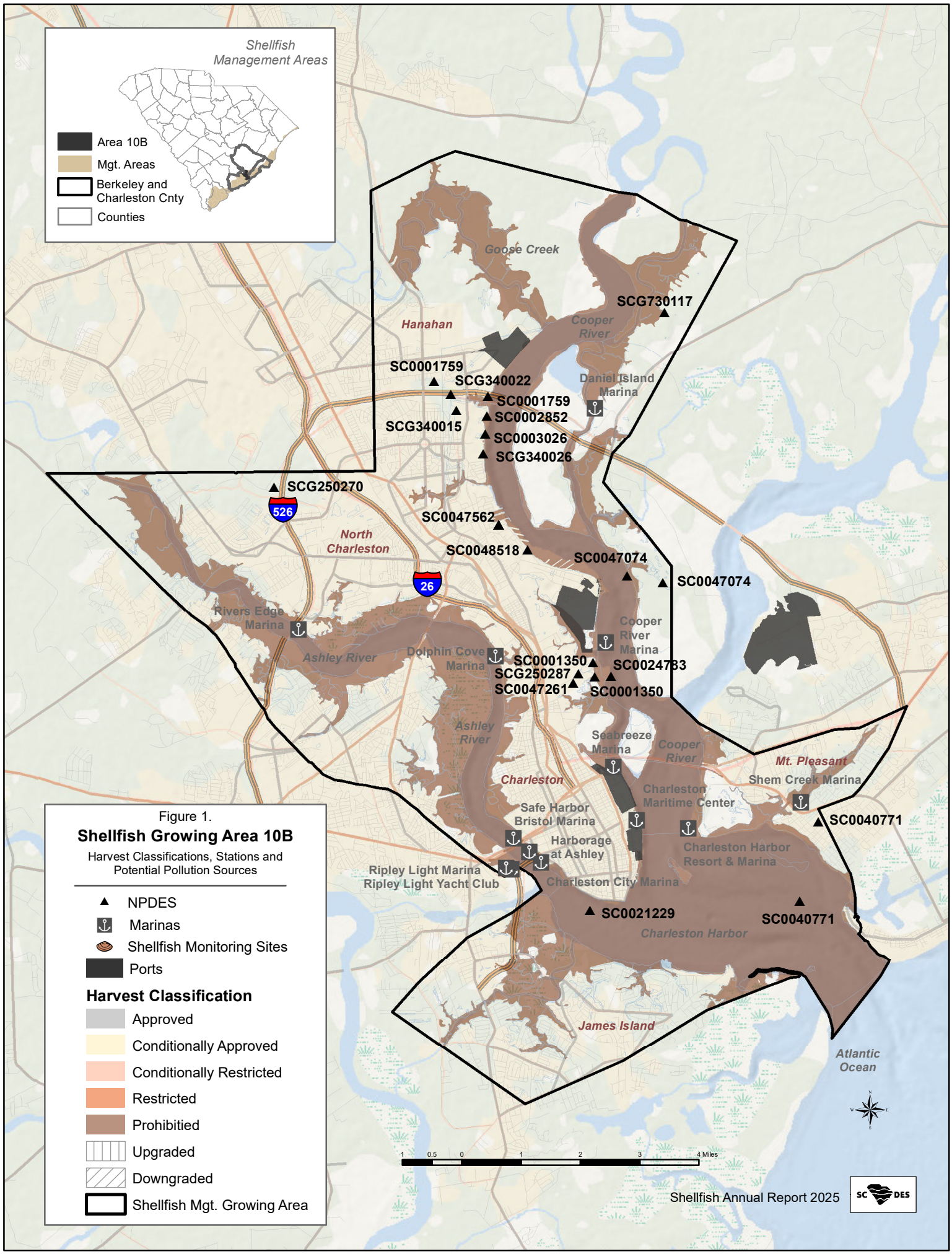

Shellfish Management Areas
Area 10B
Mgt. Areas
Berkeley and Charleston Cnty
Counties
Goose Creek
Hanahan
Cooper River
Daniel Island Marina
SCG730117
SC0001759
SCG340022
SC0001759
SC0002852
SCG340015
SC0003026
SCG340026
SCG250270
526
SC0047562
North Charleston
SC0048518
SC0047074
SC0047074
26
Rivers Edge Marina
Ashley River
Dolphin Cove Marina
Cooper River Marina
SC0001350
SC0024783
SCG250287
SC0047261
SC0001350
Ashley River
Seabreeze Marina
Cooper River
Mt. Pleasant
Shem Creek Marina
Charleston
Charleston Maritime Center
SC0040771
Safe Harbor Bristol Marina
Harborage at Ashley
Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina
Ripley Light Marina
Ripley Light Yacht Club
Charleston City Marina
SC0021229
SC0040771
Charleston Harbor
James Island
Atlantic Ocean
1 0.5 0 1 2 3 4 Miles
Figure 1.
Shellfish Growing Area 10B
Harvest Classifications, Stations and Potential Pollution Sources
NPDES
Marinas
Shellfish Monitoring Sites
Ports
Harvest Classification
Approved
Conditionally Approved
Conditionally Restricted
Restricted
Prohibitied
Upgraded
Downgraded
Shellfish Mgt. Growing Area
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SC DES

Figure 2. - Shellfish Management Area 10B - Point Source Map

