

## **BENTHIC RESOURCE SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT**



### **PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW – FLAGLER MUSEUM**

**TCG PROJECT NO. 09-0032.002**

**AUGUST 2018**

**PREPARED FOR:  
YACHTING PROMOTIONS, INC.  
1650 SE 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET SUITE 412  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33316**

## **I. Introduction**

The proposed project site is located at 52 Cocoanut Row in Section 22, Township 43, Range 50 in the Palm Beach County, Florida (Figure 1). The project site is located on the east side of the Intracoastal Waterway (ICWW).

These waters are tidal waters with the nearest direct connection to the Atlantic Ocean approximately 4 miles to the northwest at Palm Beach Inlet. The incoming tidal waters (flood) at the site move southeast, and the outgoing waters (ebb) move northwest.

The proposed project includes the temporary installation and subsequent removal of floating docks and piles for the use of the Palm Beach International Boat Show. Due to environmental permitting regulations related to the installation of docking facilities, the investigation of the presence and location of marine seagrass and other benthic resources within the submerged bottoms is warranted.

## **II. Purpose**

The purpose of this benthic resource study is to identify and locate any seagrass species (*Halophila decipiens*, *Halophila johnsonii*, *Thalassia testudinum*, *Halodule wrightii*, *Ruppia maritima*, etc.) or other benthic resources that may be present within the property boundaries of the subject site. Environmental regulatory agencies require representative data to be acquired from any site that has potential seagrass habitat.

## **III. Method**

The field work for the benthic resource survey was conducted on August 22, 2018 by four (4) qualified biologists from The Chappell Group, Inc. This work was performed at low tide (outgoing). Line transects were conducted parallel to the shoreline within the ICWW. The survey area was approximately 450' along the shoreline and extended  $\pm 500'$  waterward of the shoreline. Each diver conducted ten (10) line transects along the length of the property to ensure complete coverage of the survey area (Figure 2). The biologists traversed each line along the bottom of the ICWW to determine the presence of any seagrass species and/or other submerged benthic resources. In addition to the line transects, each diver conducted a meandering transect to ensure complete visual coverage and that no additional benthic resources were present adjacent to the subject site.

#### **IV. Findings**

The benthic community of the subject site consisted of sand, crushed shell and rock material (Appendix A). Depths within the survey area varied from 2'-10', with depths increasing towards the center of the Intracoastal Waterway. No seagrasses were observed within the survey area. Macroalgae was observed in shallower depths closer to the shoreline, and no wildlife was observed within the survey area.

#### **V. Conclusions**

Due to the absence of seagrass and/or benthic resources within the project survey area, modifications to the project and mitigation for potentially impacted resources are not anticipated to be necessary. Permit issuance may entail a similar investigation by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE).

This report is submitted in partial completion of the regulatory requirements anticipated to be required in the processing of the applicable environmental permits for the proposed project. This report and the information contained herein is based on the existing site conditions observed at the time of the survey inspection. Please note that while not anticipated, site conditions, including the presence, absence, location and/or coverage of seagrass or other benthic resources within the project vicinity is subject to change based on varying environmental conditions. Should you have any questions or comments regarding the report or the information contained herein, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at your convenience.

Sincerely,

**THE CHAPPELL GROUP INC.**

Handwritten signature of Hayley De Marchis in black ink.

Hayley De Marchis  
Project Biologist

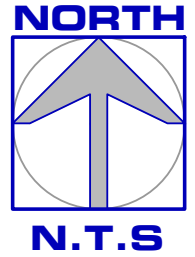
Handwritten signature of Sarah Chappell in blue ink.

Sarah Chappell  
President

**FIGURE 1  
LOCATION MAP**

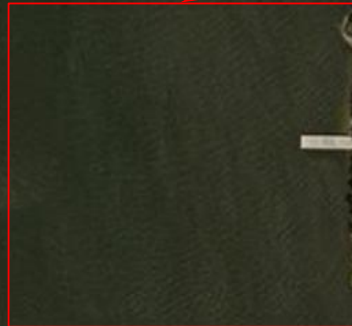


# FLAGLER MEMORIAL BRIDGE



INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

SUBJECT SITE



**THE Chappell GROUP INC.**  
714 East McNab Road  
Pompano Beach, Florida 33060  
tel. 954.782.1908  
fax. 954.782.1108 [www.thechappellgroup.com](http://www.thechappellgroup.com)

- Environmental Consultants
- Marina & Wetland Permitting
- Mitigation Design & Monitoring
- T&E Species Surveys
- Phase I ESAs

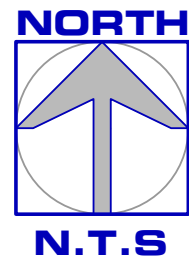
PALM BEACH BOAT SHOW-FLAGLER MUSEUM

PREPARED FOR:  
YACHTING PROMOTIONS, INC.

FIGURE 1 - LOCATION MAP

Date: 8/27/18	Sheet : <b>1</b>	of : <b>1</b>
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**FIGURE 2**  
**SURVEY AERIALS**



# INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY



## LEGEND:

- SUBJECT SITE
- ↕ TRANSECTS

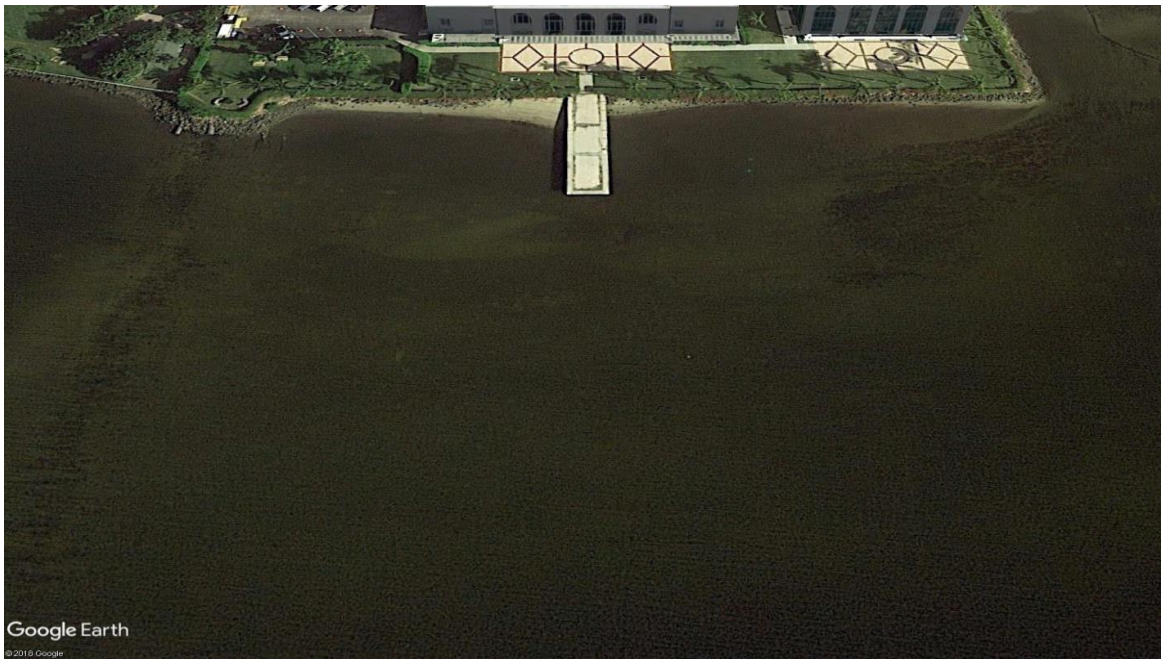


## **APPENDIX A**

### **SITE PHOTOGRAPHS**



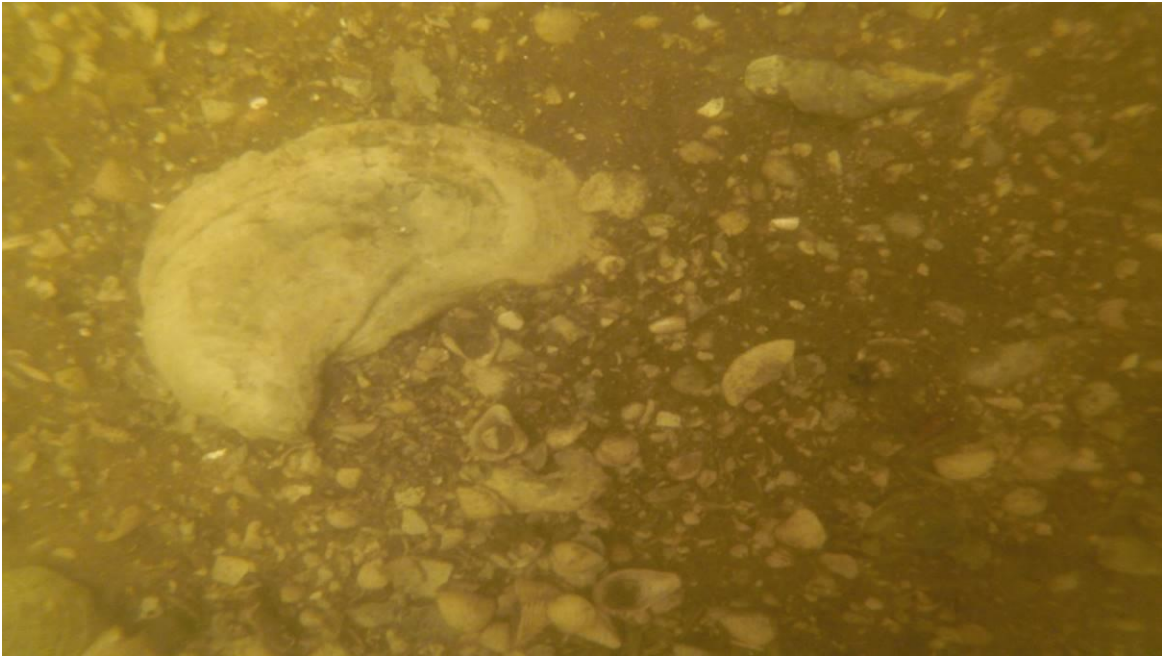
**1. Aerial image taken from google earth depicting entire project site, facing north.**



**2. Aerial image taken from google earth depicting entire project site, facing east.**

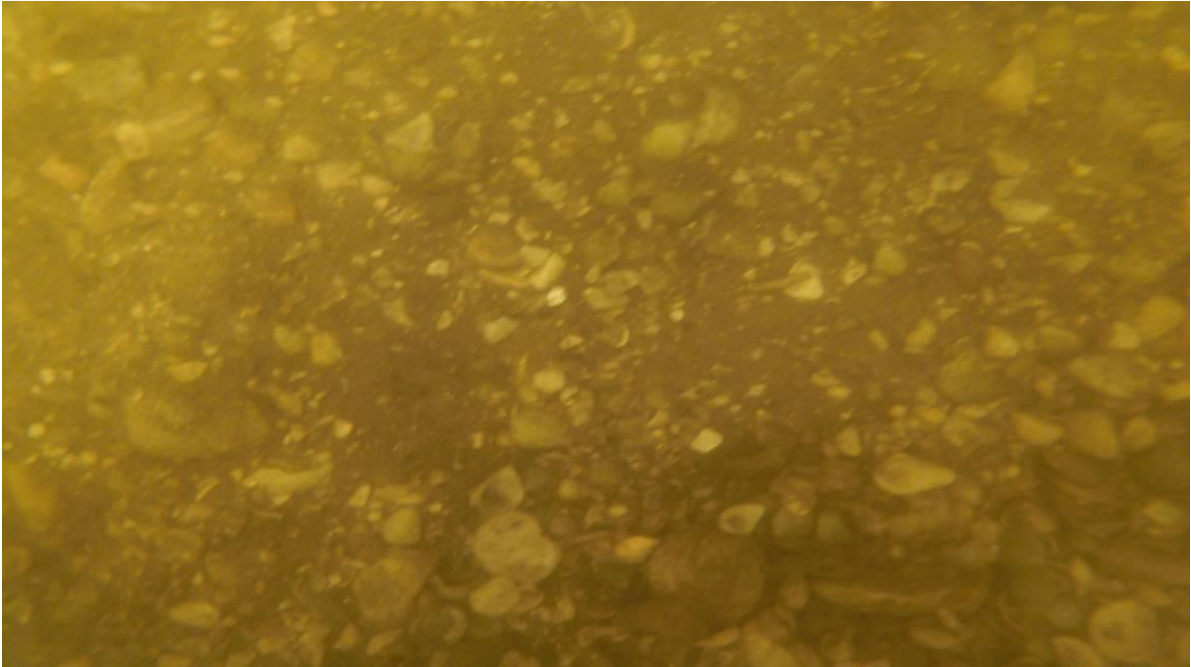


**3. Western portion of the property, facing northeast.**

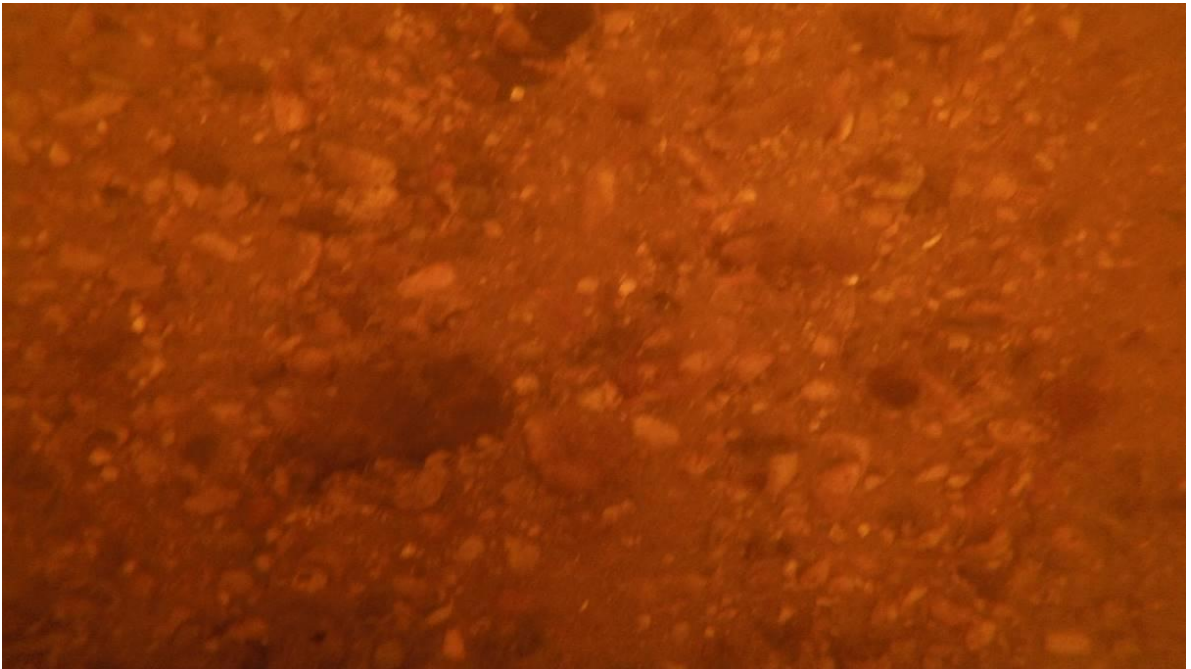


**4. Northeastern portion of the subject site,  $\pm 5'$  waterward of the existing shoreline. Note sand, rock, and shell substrate.**

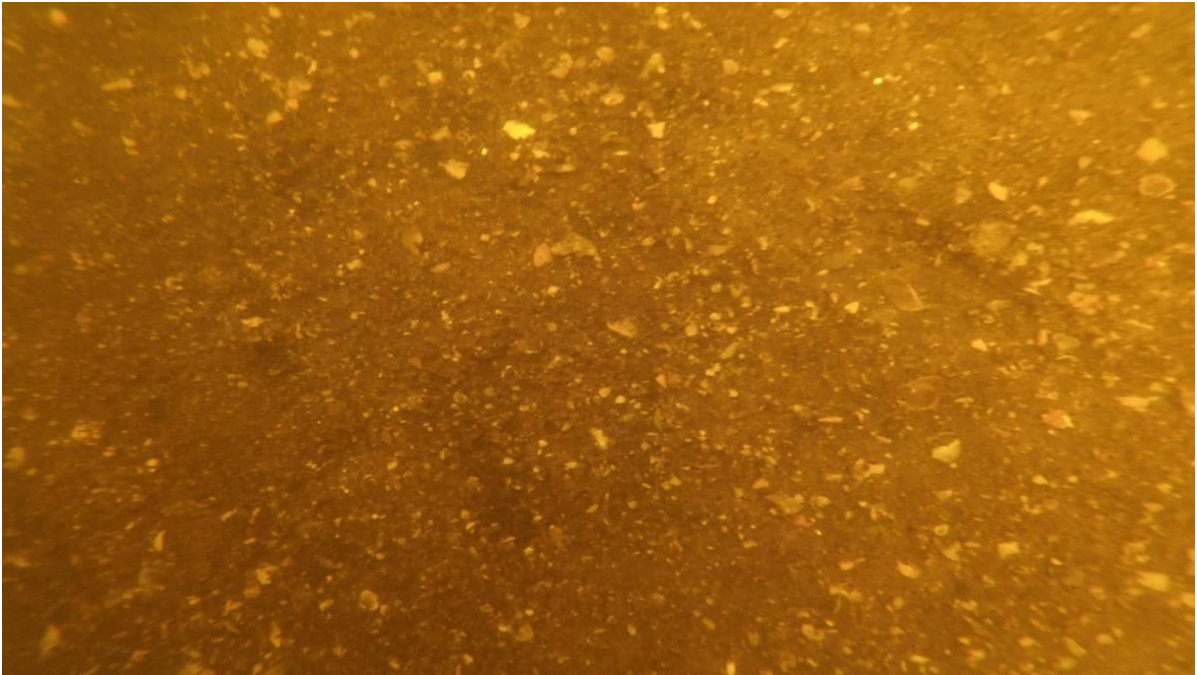




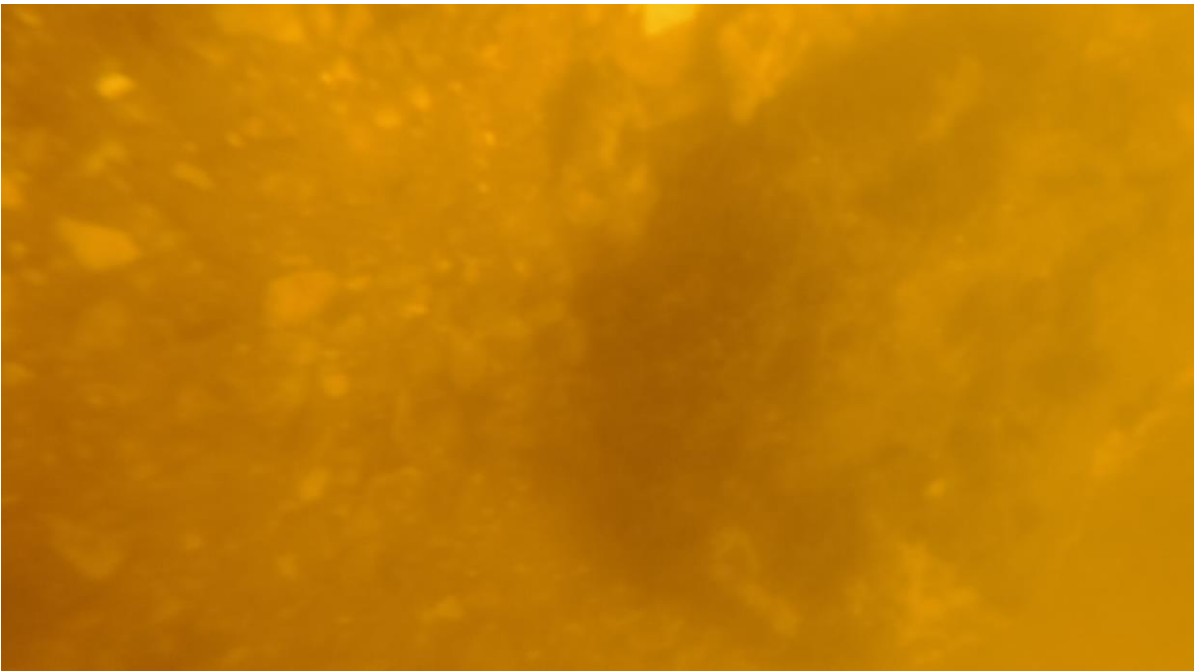
**5. Central portion of the subject site,  $\pm 10'$  waterward of the existing shoreline. Note sand, rock, and shell substrate.**



**6. Southwestern portion of the subject site,  $\pm 50'$  waterward of the existing shoreline. Note sand, rock, and shell substrate.**

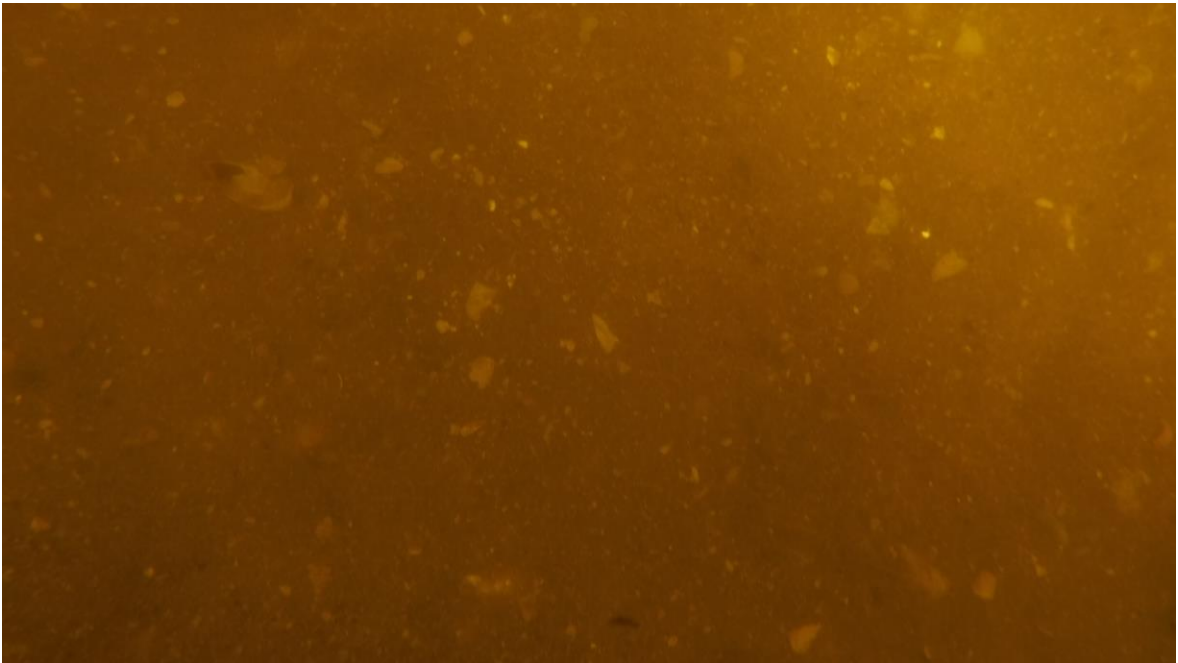


**7. Central portion of the subject site,  $\pm 100'$  waterward of the existing shoreline. Note sand and crushed shell substrate.**

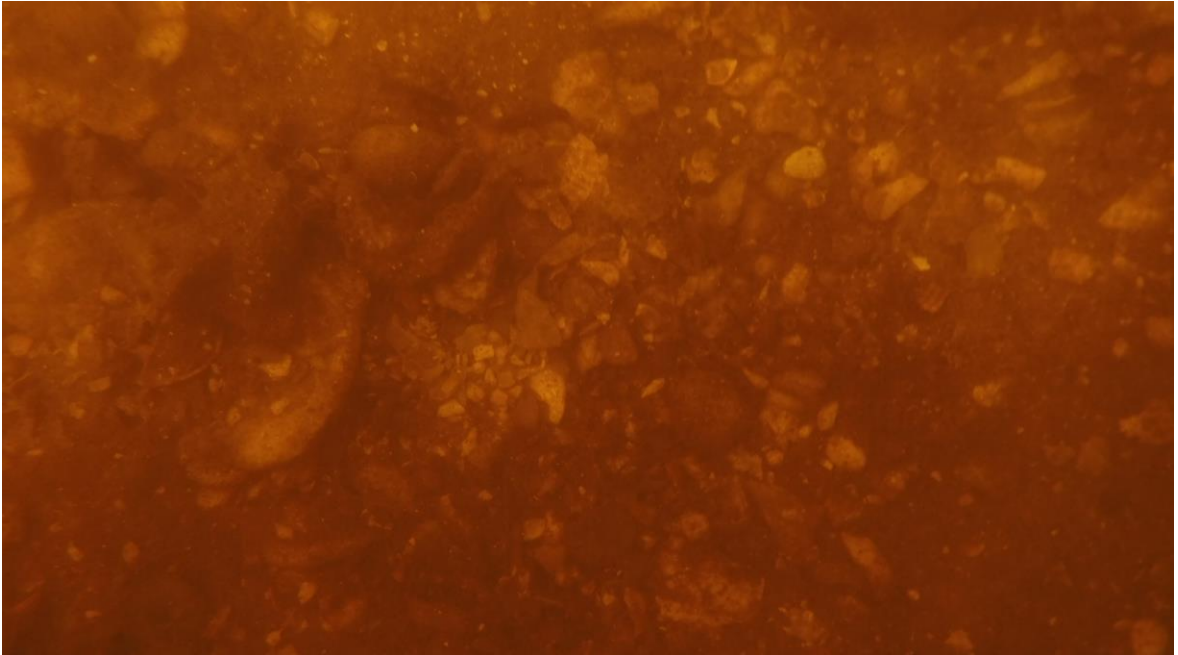


**8. Central portion of the subject site,  $\pm 200'$  waterward of the existing shoreline. Note sand, rock, and shell substrate.**





**9. Northeastern portion of the subject site,  $\pm 300'$  waterward of the existing shoreline. Note sand and crushed shell substrate.**



**10. Southwestern portion of the subject site,  $\pm 500'$  waterward of the existing shoreline. Note sand, rock, and shell substrate.**