

Visit to Lake Worth Beach Water Plant February 9, 2023.

Last Thursday afternoon, I had an opportunity to visit the Lake Worth Beach water treatment facility with a small group of Civic Association directors and senior staff. Bryan Shields, City Engineer and Water utility Director for the past 7 years, conducted the tour. Prior to joining Lake Worth Beach, Mr. Shields was the Deputy Director of the Palm Beach County Water Utility. Mr. Shields was extremely knowledgeable about membrane technology and specifically about the Lake Worth membrane system he operates, and how their plant could add the capacity to serve Palm Beach with water of the highest quality. He showed us the building and the expansion space already built that would accommodate the equipment to increase the capacity to provide a state-of-the-art RO water system to Palm Beach.

As the Public Works Chair, I believe it was important for me to tour the West Palm Beach water plant (as well as the Jupiter facility to better understand how a membrane-based plant functions). It is also important to give the same attention to Lake Worth Beach's plant.

Important takeaways that I left with are:

- As Palm Beach County does, LWB currently blends their membrane-filtered water with traditionally filtered water, but the upgrades they are contemplating to accommodate Palm Beach would convert their system to solely membraned-based NANO and RO systems like Jupiter. 
- LWB's plant uses groundwater only and already has the permits and well locations from SFWMD to tap into 10 additional wells in the Floridan aquifer. The wells are located adjacent to John Prince Park, west of the plant. Those permits are good until 2042 and would be renewed at that time. In comparison, WPB does not yet have permits to switch to ground water, except for emergencies.
- The LWB plant is at 21 feet of elevation. It has two large, independent generators, each one of which could run the upgraded facility for a week.
- The water plant building where the filtration equipment is located has the extra space ready for adding the additional filtration equipment (skids) needed to increase the GPD processing capacity to service Palm Beach.
- The improvements needed to establish pipeline interconnections at C-51 (just north of Ibis Island) and at Lake Worth Rd were shown to Council in December. (see below)
- If we decided to proceed this year with LWB, the Director believes they can be ready to accommodate us in 2029.
- I highly encourage my colleagues to make the trip to the LWB water plant. Director Shields expressed a strong willingness to accommodate all of us, individually, at your convenience. His contact information is below.
- Director Shields went out of his way to impress upon our group that the City is very interested in working with our Town Manager and Mayor to provide Palm Beach with safe, quality drinking water.

Items for Discussion and possible further study re: LWB option.

Consider how to reduce construction impacts of south to north transmission pipes from the two interconnects at Lake Worth Road and C-51 (near Sloan's curve.)

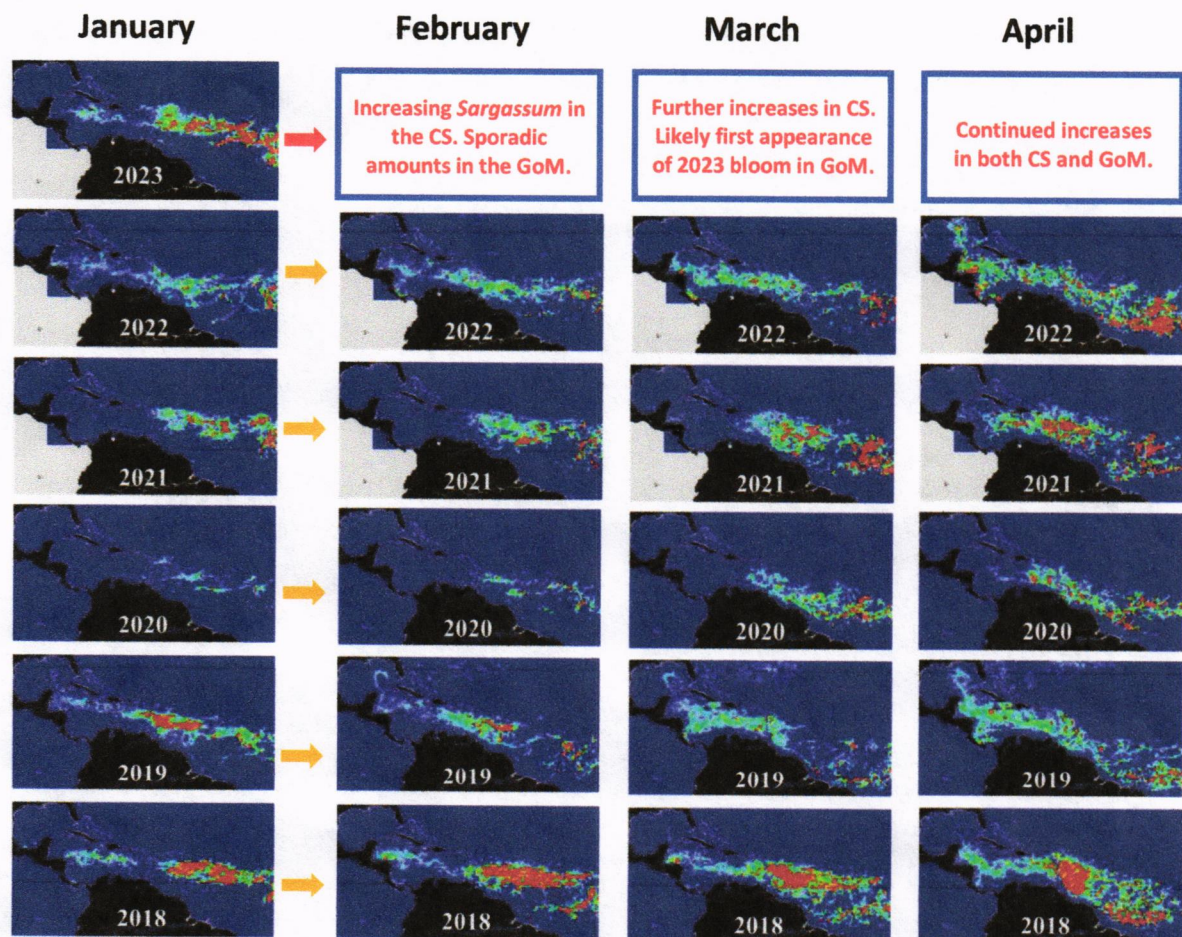
- Should our consultants take a deeper dive to study whether we might use the newer, existing pipes south of Sloan's Curve for transmission in the south end near the interconnects?
- It was suggested that transmission pipe-laying work could start earlier in smaller sections that could be completed during the summer months when many people are away.
- It was suggested that transmission pipe-laying work could be accomplished while closing only one lane.
- Should we determine cost of laying another pipe next to the main transmission pipe for future use of irrigation quality water?

BLindsay 2/13/2023

The maps below show *Sargassum* abundance, with warm colors representing higher values. The overall *Sargassum* quantity in the Atlantic Ocean doubled from December to January (8.7 million tons), again setting a new record (previous January record was 6.5 million tons in 2018). Sporadic *Sargassum* patches appeared in the Lesser Antilles near the month's end, with larger aggregations passing south of Martinique. Within the Caribbean Sea (CS), most patches were south of Jamaica, moving westward over the course of the month. Essentially no *Sargassum* was observed in the Gulf of Mexico (GoM).

Looking ahead, this is the second consecutive monthly doubling of *Sargassum*, previously observed only in 2018. All indications are that this biomass will continue to accumulate and migrate westward over the next several months. We will continue to closely monitor *Sargassum* coverage, with more updates provided by the end of February 2023. More information and near real-time imagery can be found under the *Sargassum* Watch System (SaWS, <https://optics.marine.usf.edu/projects/saws.html>).

Processing note: For this and future bulletins, we have transitioned to a new *Sargassum* detection algorithm which leverages machine learning. Relative to the previous method, this new approach shows near-identical sensitivity in detecting *Sargassum*, while reducing false positives and false negatives near clouds and shorelines. While overall quantities slightly differ, relative trends noted in this (and previous) bulletins are the same for both systems.



Disclaimer: The information bulletin is meant to provide a general outlook of current bloom condition and future bloom probability for the Caribbean Sea. By no means should it be used for commercial purpose, or used for predicting bloom conditions for a specific location or beach. The authors of this bulletin, as well as USF and NASA, take no responsibility for improper use or interpretation of the bulletin.

TOWN OF PALM BEACH
PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
TOWN MANAGER KIRK BLOUIN
February 14, 2021 - February 13, 2022

CATEGORY	Moore	Ziedman	Araskog	Cooney	Crampton	Lindsay	Average
Leadership with Council	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.97
Leadership with Employees	4.5	4.6	4.9	3.5	5.0	4.5	4.50
Leadership in Community	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	4.83
Strategic Leadership	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.0	4.5	4.75
Fiscal Management	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.00
Management of the Organization	4.8	4.5	5	4.0	5.0	4.0	4.55
Individual Qualities	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	4.82
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.2	5.0	4.7	4.77