

# BENTHIC RESOURCE SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

125 Island Way  
Clearwater, FL 33767  
Pinellas County

Submitted by



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commencing the field work. The in-water field survey was to identify and locate any seagrass beds, macroalgae, corals, and oyster beds. Survey transects were established approximately 10 feet apart, through the two existing wet slips. Transects were monitored via free diving (mask, snorkel, and fins) to identify the benthic resources available. Organisms were identified via visual observation and captured with a high-resolution underwater camera. Two 200' transect tapes and a measuring stick (inches) were used to help approximate scale and location of the organisms. The transects, boundaries and locations of organisms were then established on AutoCAD to ensure accuracy.

Quantitative sampling methodology was utilized to collect data within 0.25 m<sup>2</sup> -(50cm by 50cm quadrats) at 20-foot intervals along each transect. The presence and density of benthic resources was then recorded into AutoCAD. Quadrats without any benthic resources were not recorded.

When classifying submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), a Braun-Blanquet Cover Class (BBCC) is used. Each Seagrass Species is scored in each quadrat according to this scale below (Fourqurean et al. 2001).

#### BRAUN-BLANQUET COVER CLASS

SCORE	INTERPRETATION
0	SPECIES ABSENT FROM QUADRAT
0.1	SPECIES REPRESENTED BY A SOLITARY SHOOT. < 5% COVER
0.5	SPECIES REPRESENTED BY A FEW (>5%) SHORT SHOOTS, <5% COVER
1	SPECIES REPRESENTED BY MANY (>5%) SHORT SHOOTS, <5% COVER
2	SPECIES REPRESENTED BY MANY (>5%) SHORT SHOOTS 5%-25% COVER
3	SPECIES REPRESENTED BY MANY (>5) SHORT SHOOTS. 25%-50% COVER
4	SPECIES REPRESENTED BY MANY (>5) SHORT SHOOTS. 50%-75% COVER
5	SPECIES REPRESENTED BY MANY (>5) SHORT SHOOTS. 75%-100% COVER

## 4. Results

The survey occurred on 10/16/2025, during a high tide, wind was 8-10 knots, and water visibility was approximately 2 feet. Sky was clear and sunny, ambient temperature was 84 degrees, and water temperature was 81 degrees. Within the existing wet slip areas, there were no notable benthic resources observed.

Survey concluded that there is present seagrass in the same location as identified in the ETC seagrass study, as shown on the Benthic Resource Map. The seagrass was sparse Turtle Grass (*Thalassia testudinum*) with a 5 – 25% coverage, BB 2. Small corals were observed along the base of the seawall attached to debris. The seagrass and corals do not extend into the existing

wet slip areas. All transect quadrats with benthic resources present were reported. Organisms are classified on the Observed Organism list. Photo documentation for quadrats with benthic organisms are labelled and mapped below.



Map of the Benthic Resource Survey for 125 Island Way



*Starlet Coral, (Siderastrea siderea)*



*Porites porites* (each polyp was about 1 to 2 cm each in diameter) about a 70-100 cm structure from top to bottom.



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Changed: 10/02/2025

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