

# Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## SEACAR Habitat Analyses

Last compiled on 18 March, 2024

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## Threshold Filtering

Threshold filters, following the guidance of Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (*FDEP*) Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration (*DEAR*) are used to exclude specific results values from the SEACAR Analysis. Based on the threshold filters, Quality Assurance / Quality Control (*QAQC*) Flags are inserted into the *SEACAR\_QAQCFlagCode* and *SEACAR\_QAQC\_Description* columns of the export data. The *Include* column indicates whether the *QAQC* Flag will also indicate that data are excluded from analysis. No data are excluded from the data export, but the analysis scripts can use the *Include* column to exclude data (1 to include, 0 to exclude).

Table 1: Continuous Water Quality threshold values

<i>Parameter Name</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Low Threshold</i>	<i>High Threshold</i>	<i>Sensor Type</i>
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	0	50	YSI EXOs
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	0	50	Analysis Only - 2022-04-04
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	0	50	6600 Series
Salinity	ppt	0	70	6600 Series
Salinity	ppt	0	70	YSI EXOs
Salinity	ppt	0	70	Analysis Only - 2022-04-04
Water Temperature	Degrees C	-5	45	YSI EXOs
Water Temperature	Degrees C	-5	45	Analysis Only - 2022-04-04
Water Temperature	Degrees C	-5	45	6600 Series
pH	pH	2	14	Analysis Only - 2022-04-04
pH	pH	2	14	6600 Series
pH	pH	2	14	YSI EXOs
Dissolved Oxygen Saturation	%	0	500	YSI EXOs
Dissolved Oxygen Saturation	%	0	500	6600 Series
Dissolved Oxygen Saturation	%	0	500	Analysis Only - 2022-04-04
Specific Conductivity	mS/cm	0	100	6600 Series
Specific Conductivity	mS/cm	0	200	YSI EXOs
Turbidity	NTU	0	4000	YSI EXOs
Turbidity	NTU	0	1000	6600 Series
Turbidity	NTU	0	4000	Analysis Only - 2022-04-04

Table 2: Discrete Water Quality threshold values

<i>Parameter Name</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Low Threshold</i>	<i>High Threshold</i>
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	0.000001	22
Salinity	ppt	0	70
Water Temperature	Degrees C	3	40
pH		2	13
Dissolved Oxygen Saturation	%	0.000001	310
Specific Conductivity	mS/cm	0.005000001	100
Turbidity	NTU	0	-
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	0	-
Chlorophyll a uncorrected for pheophytin	ug/L	0	-
Chlorophyll a corrected for pheophytin	ug/L	0	-
Secchi Depth	m	0.000001	50
Light Extinction Coefficient	$m^{-1}$	0	-
Colored dissolved organic matter, CDOM	PCU	0	-
Fluorescent dissolved organic matter, FDOM	QSE	0	-
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	0	-
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen TKN	mg/L	0	-
NO <sub>2</sub> +3 Filtered	mg/L	0	-
NH <sub>4</sub> Filtered	mg/L	0	-
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	0	-

Parameter Name	Units	Low Threshold	High Threshold
PO4 Filtered	mg/L	0	-
Ammonia- Un-ionized (NH3)	mg/L	0	-
Nitrate (N)	mg/L	0	-
Nitrite (N)	mg/L	0	-
Nitrogen, organic	mg/L	0	-

Table 3: Quality Assurance Flags inserted based on threshold checks listed in Table 1 & 2

SEACAR QAQC Description	Include	SEACAR QAQCFlagCode
Exceeds Maximum threshold. Not verified in raw data	No	2Q
Exceeds Maximum threshold. Verified in raw data	No	3Q
Below Minimum threshold. Not verified in raw data	No	4Q
Below Minimum threshold. Verified in raw data	No	5Q
Within threshold tolerance	Yes	6Q
No defined thresholds for this parameter	Yes	7Q

## Value Qualifiers

Value qualifier codes included within the data are used to exclude certain results from the analysis. The data are retained in the data export files, but the analysis uses the *Include* column to filter the results.

### STORET and WIN value qualifier codes

Value qualifier codes from *STORET* and *WIN* data are examined with the database and used to populate the *Include* column in data exports.

Table 4: Value Qualifier codes excluded from analysis

Qualifier Source	Value Qualifier	Include	MDL	Description
STORET-WIN	H	No	0	Value based on field kit determination; results may not be accurate
STORET-WIN	J	No	0	Estimated value
STORET-WIN	V	No	0	Analyte was detected at or above method detection limit
STORET-WIN	Y	No	0	Lab analysis from an improperly preserved sample; data may be inaccurate

### Discrete Water Quality Value Qualifiers

The following value qualifiers are highlighted in the Discrete Water Quality section of this report. An exception is made for **Program 476 - Charlotte Harbor Estuaries Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Network** and data flagged with Value Qualifier **H** are included for this program only.

**H** - Value based on field kit determination; results may not be accurate. This code shall be used if a field screening test (e.g., field gas chromatograph data, immunoassay, or vendor-supplied field kit) was used to generate the value and the field kit or method has not been recognized by the Department as equivalent to laboratory methods.

**I** - The reported value is greater than or equal to the laboratory method detection limit but less than the laboratory practical quantitation limit.

**Q** - Sample held beyond the accepted holding time. This code shall be used if the value is derived from a sample that was prepared or analyzed after the approved holding time restrictions for sample preparation or analysis.

**S** - Secchi disk visible to bottom of waterbody. The value reported is the depth of the waterbody at the location of the Secchi disk measurement.

**U** - Indicates that the compound was analyzed for but not detected. This symbol shall be used to indicate that the specified component was not detected. The value associated with the qualifier shall be the laboratory method detection limit. Unless requested by the client, less than the method detection limit values shall not be reported.

### Systemwide Monitoring Program (SWMP) value qualifier codes

Value qualifier codes from the *SWMP* continuous program are examined with the database and used to populate the *Include* column in data exports. *SWMP* Qualifier Codes are indicated by *QualifierSource=SWMP*.

Table 5: SWMP Value Qualifier codes

<i>Qualifier Source</i>	<i>Value Qualifier</i>	<i>Include</i>	<i>Description</i>
SWMP	-1	Yes	Optional parameter not collected
SWMP	-2	No	Missing data
SWMP	-3	No	Data rejected due to QA/QC
SWMP	-4	No	Outside low sensor range
SWMP	-5	No	Outside high sensor range
SWMP	0	Yes	Passed initial QA/QC checks
SWMP	1	No	Suspect data
SWMP	2	Yes	Reserved for future use
SWMP	3	Yes	Calculated data: non-vented depth/level sensor correction for changes in barometric pressure
SWMP	4	Yes	Historical: Pre-auto QA/QC
SWMP	5	Yes	Corrected data

## Water Column

The water column habitat extends from the surface of all water bodies to the bottom sediments and encompasses the different features found in the water at different depths (National Oceanographic Center, 2016). The water column habitat must be viewed in relation to its interconnectedness with other habitats. A healthy water column is an integral component in ensuring a healthy marine and coastal ecosystem. Having a flourishing marine and coastal ecosystem in Florida is necessary to support a strong economy. The health of the water column is dependent upon factors as diverse as land use (e.g., agriculture, mining, forestry practices); human population growth; emissions, (e.g., power plants, automobiles, wastewater); climate (e.g., rainfall, temperature, winds and currents); and decadal trends (e.g., El Niño/La Niña, Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation, climate change).

The water column is composed of various physical, chemical and biological features, and only a small number of them are adequately monitored. Features of the water column that are monitored are used as indicators of the water column health and help assess the status of other habitats. These indicators include nutrient concentrations (nitrogen and phosphorus); water quality (dissolved oxygen, temperature, salinity and pH); water clarity (Secchi depth, turbidity, chlorophyll-a and colored dissolved organic matter); and nekton (fish, macroinvertebrates and megafauna).

## Seasonal Kendall-Tau Analysis

Indicators must have a minimum of five to ten years, depending on the habitat, of data within the geographic range of the analysis to be included in the analysis. Ten years of data are required for discrete parameters, and five years of data are required for continuous parameters. If there are insufficient years of data, the number of years of data available will be noted and labeled as “insufficient data to conduct analysis”. Further, for the preferred Seasonal Kendall-Tau test, there must be data from at least two months in common across at least two consecutive years within the RCP managed area being analyzed. Values that pass both of these tests will be included in the analysis and be labeled as *Use\_In\_Analysis* = **TRUE**. Any that fail either test will be excluded from the analyses and labeled as *Use\_In\_Analysis* = **FALSE**.

## Water Quality - Discrete

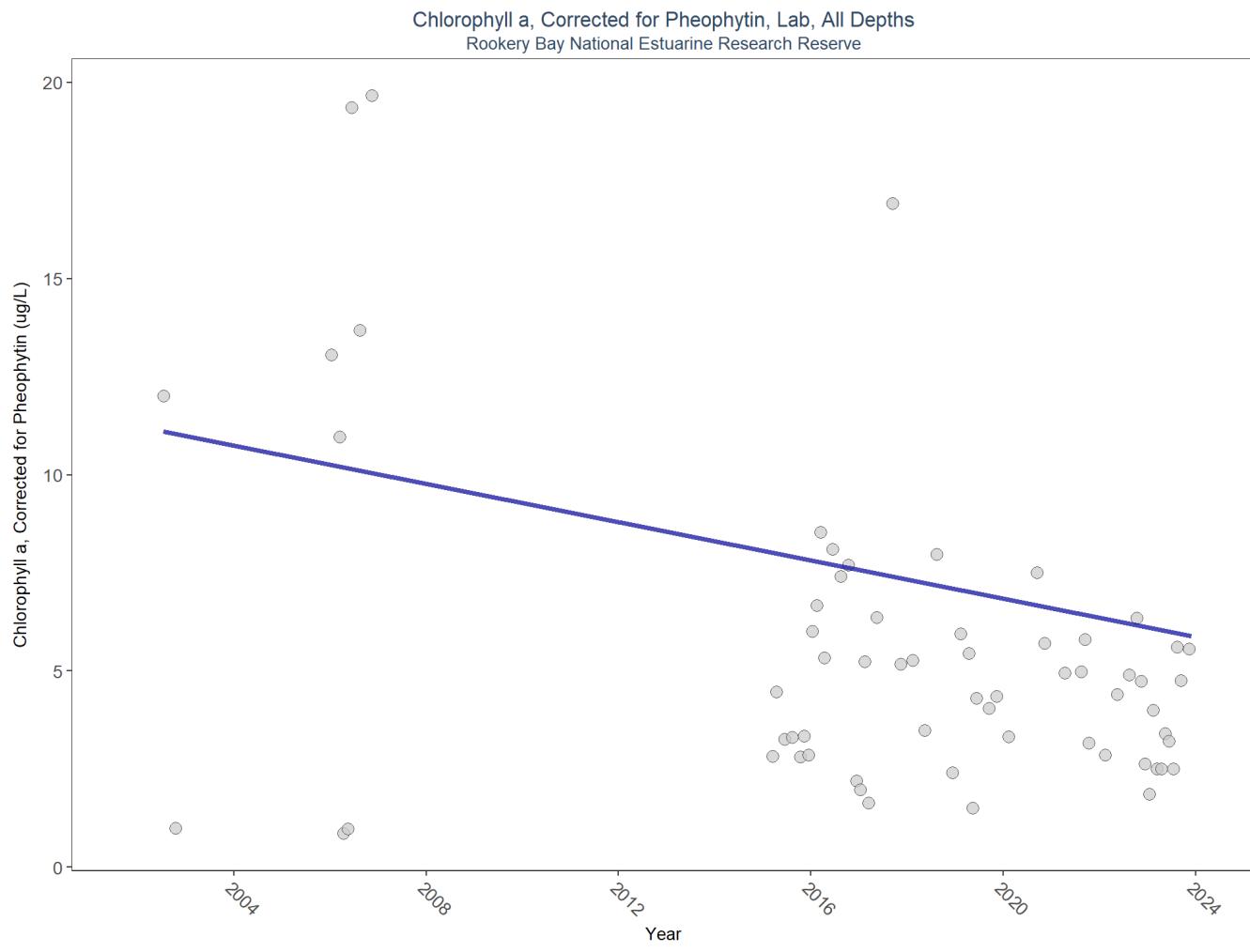
The following files were used in the discrete analysis:

- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Chlorophyll\_a\_corrected\_for\_pheophytin-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Chlorophyll\_a\_uncorrected\_for\_pheophytin-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Colored\_dissolved\_organic\_matter\_CDOM-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Dissolved\_Oxygen-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Dissolved\_Oxygen\_Saturation-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_pH-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Salinity-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Secchi\_Depth-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Total\_Nitrogen-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Total\_Phosphorus-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Total\_Suspended\_Solids\_TSS-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Turbidity-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_Water\_Temperature-2024-Feb-22.txt*

## Chlorophyll a, Corrected for Pheophytin - Discrete Water Quality

Chlorophyll-a is monitored as a measure of microalgae growing in the water. Algae are a natural part of coastal and aquatic ecosystems but in excess can cause poor water quality and clarity, and decreased levels of dissolved oxygen.

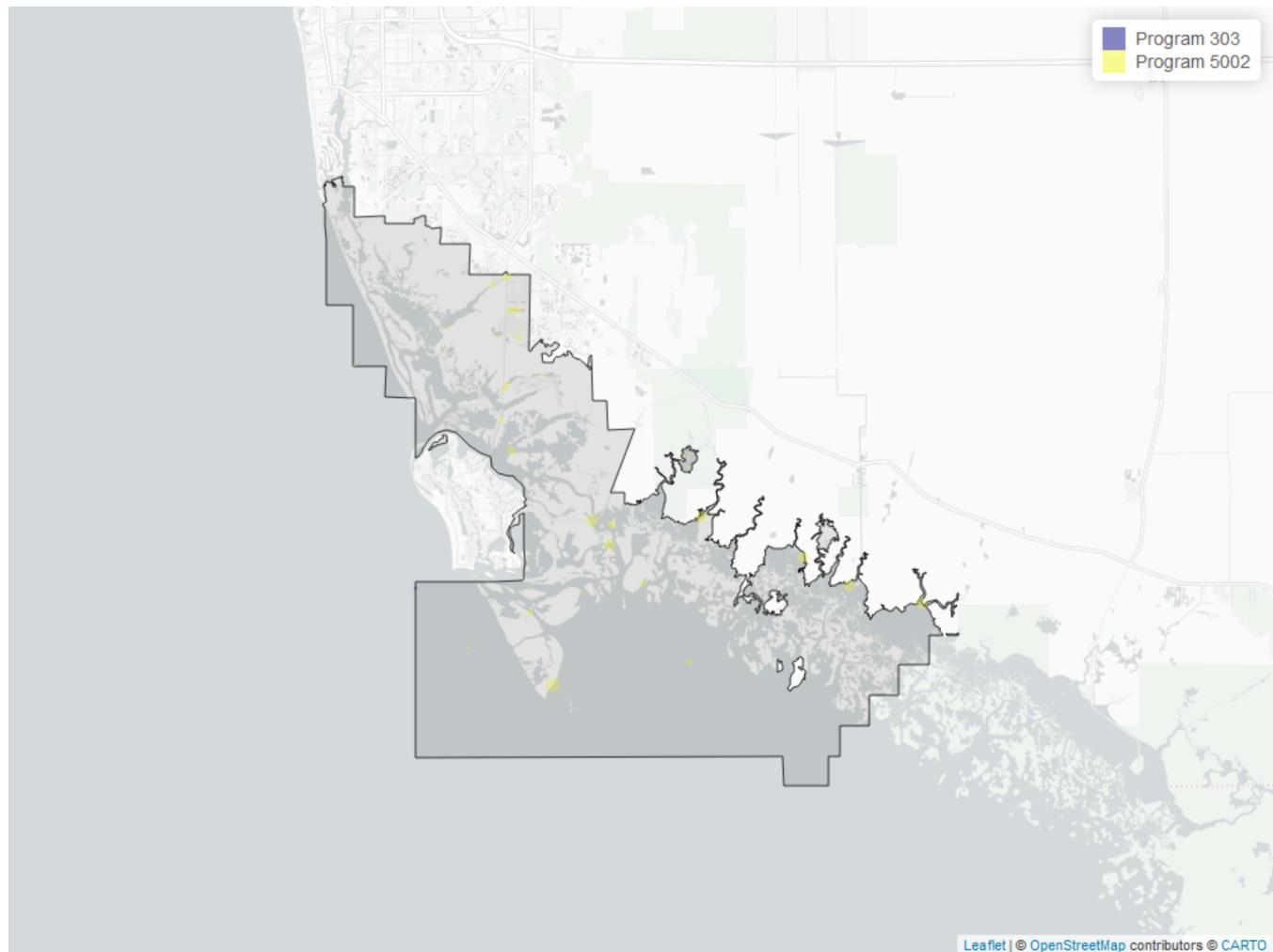
### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis



$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

*SennIntercept* is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Chlorophyll a, Corrected for Pheophytin



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 6: Programs contributing data for Chlorophyll a, Corrected for Pheophytin

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
5002	200	2002	2023
303	2	2022	2023

#### Program names:

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

303 - River, Estuary and Coastal Observing Network

#### Value Qualifiers

- $N_{Total}$  is total amount of data for a given year
- $N_{\_}$  is the total amount of values flagged with the respective value qualifier in a given year

- *perc\_* is the percent of data flagged with the respective value qualifier as a proportion of *N\_Total*

Table 7: Value Qualifiers for Chlorophyll a, Corrected for Pheophytin

<i>Year</i>	<i>N_Total</i>	<i>N_I</i>	<i>perc_I</i>	<i>N_Q</i>	<i>perc_Q</i>	<i>N_U</i>	<i>perc_U</i>
2002	6	1	16.7			3	50.0
2006	25					13	52.0
2015	25	2	8.0				
2017	24	4	16.7	5	20.8		
2019	25	5	20.0				
2020	12	2	16.7				
2021	18	4	22.2				
2022	14	1	7.1	2	14.3	1	7.1
2023	15	2	13.3			4	26.7

**Note:** <sup>1</sup>**I** - Reported value is greater than or equal to lab method detection limit, but less than quantitation limit <sup>2</sup>**Q**  
 - Sample held beyond the accepted holding time <sup>3</sup>**U** - Compound was analyzed for but not detected

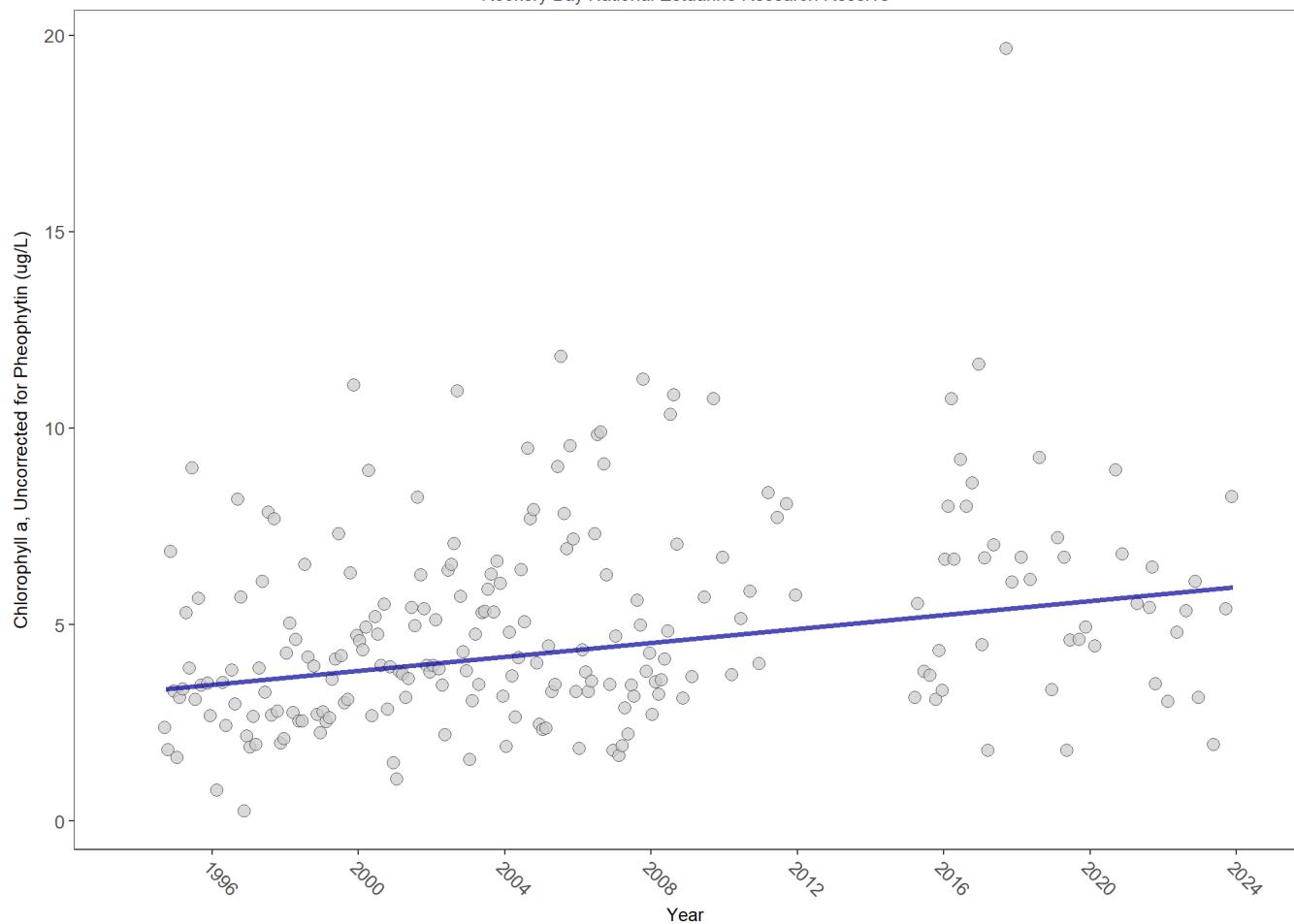
**Programs containing Value Qualified data:**

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

# Chlorophyll a, Uncorrected for Pheophytin - Discrete Water Quality

## Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

Chlorophyll a, Uncorrected for Pheophytin, Lab, All Depths  
Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

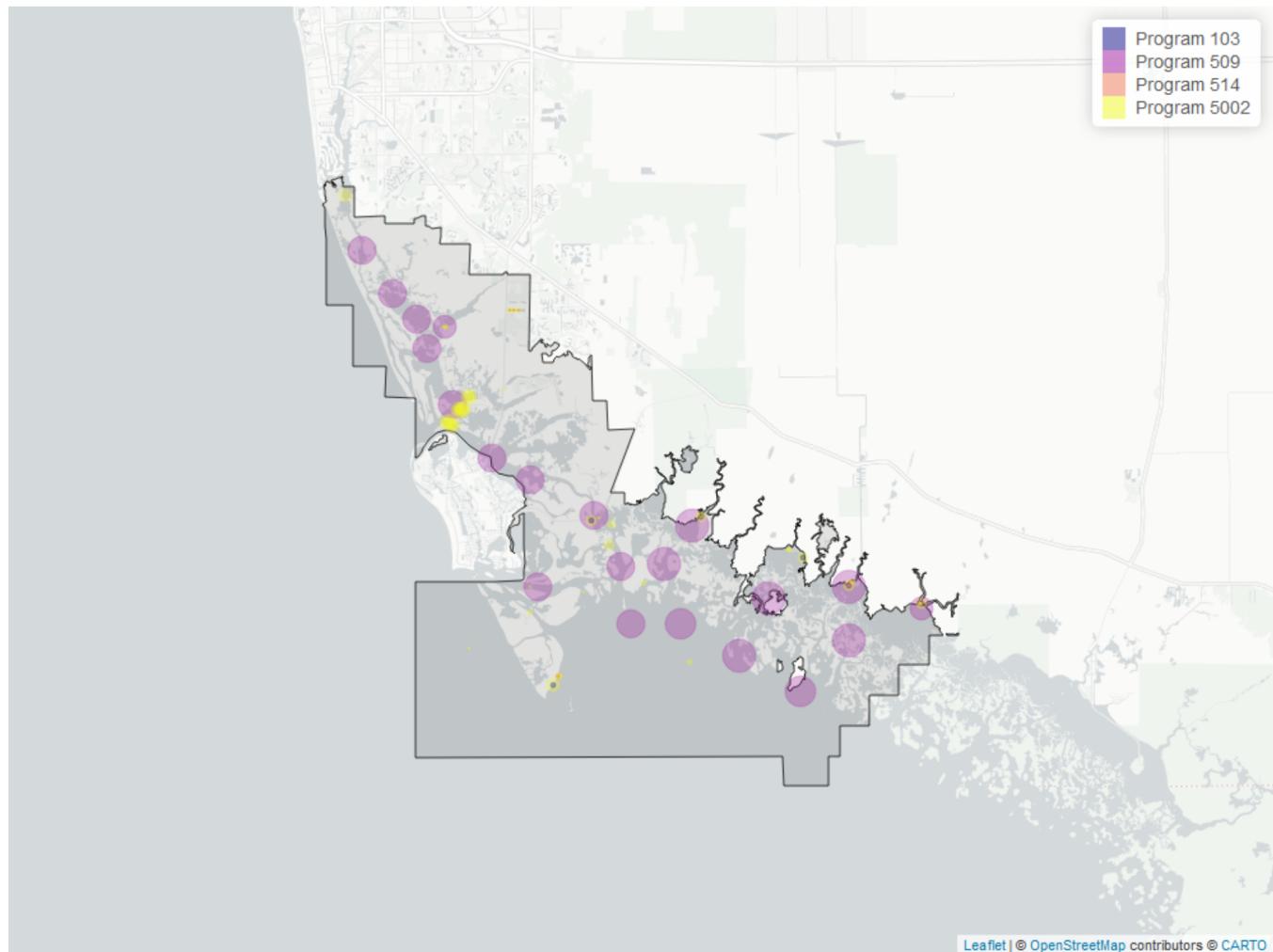


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	3345	27	3.91	TRUE	0.2201	0.0000	0.08881925	3.29101	7.2015	0.7825	1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Chlorophyll a, Uncorrected for Pheophytin



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 8: Programs contributing data for Chlorophyll a, Uncorrected for Pheophytin

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
509	2746	1994	2008
5002	551	2001	2023
103	35	2021	2021
514	17	2001	2017

#### Program names:

509 - SERC Water Quality Monitoring Network

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

103 - EPA STOrage and RETrieval Data Warehouse (STORET)

514 - Florida LAKEWATCH Program

## Value Qualifiers

- $N_{Total}$  is total amount of data for a given year
- $N_{}$  is the total amount of values flagged with the respective value qualifier in a given year
- $perc_{}$  is the percent of data flagged with the respective value qualifier as a proportion of  $N_{Total}$

Table 9: Value Qualifiers for Chlorophyll a, Uncorrected for Pheophytin

Year	$N_{Total}$	$N_I$	$perc_I$	$N_Q$	$perc_Q$
2015	25	1	4.0		
2017	27	1	3.7	5	18.5
2019	25	2	8.0		
2020	12	1	8.3		
2021	53	1	1.9		
2022	10	1	10.0	2	20.0
2023	6	1	16.7		

**Note:** <sup>1</sup>I - Reported value is greater than or equal to lab method detection limit, but less than quantitation limit <sup>2</sup>Q  
 - Sample held beyond the accepted holding time

## Programs containing Value Qualified data:

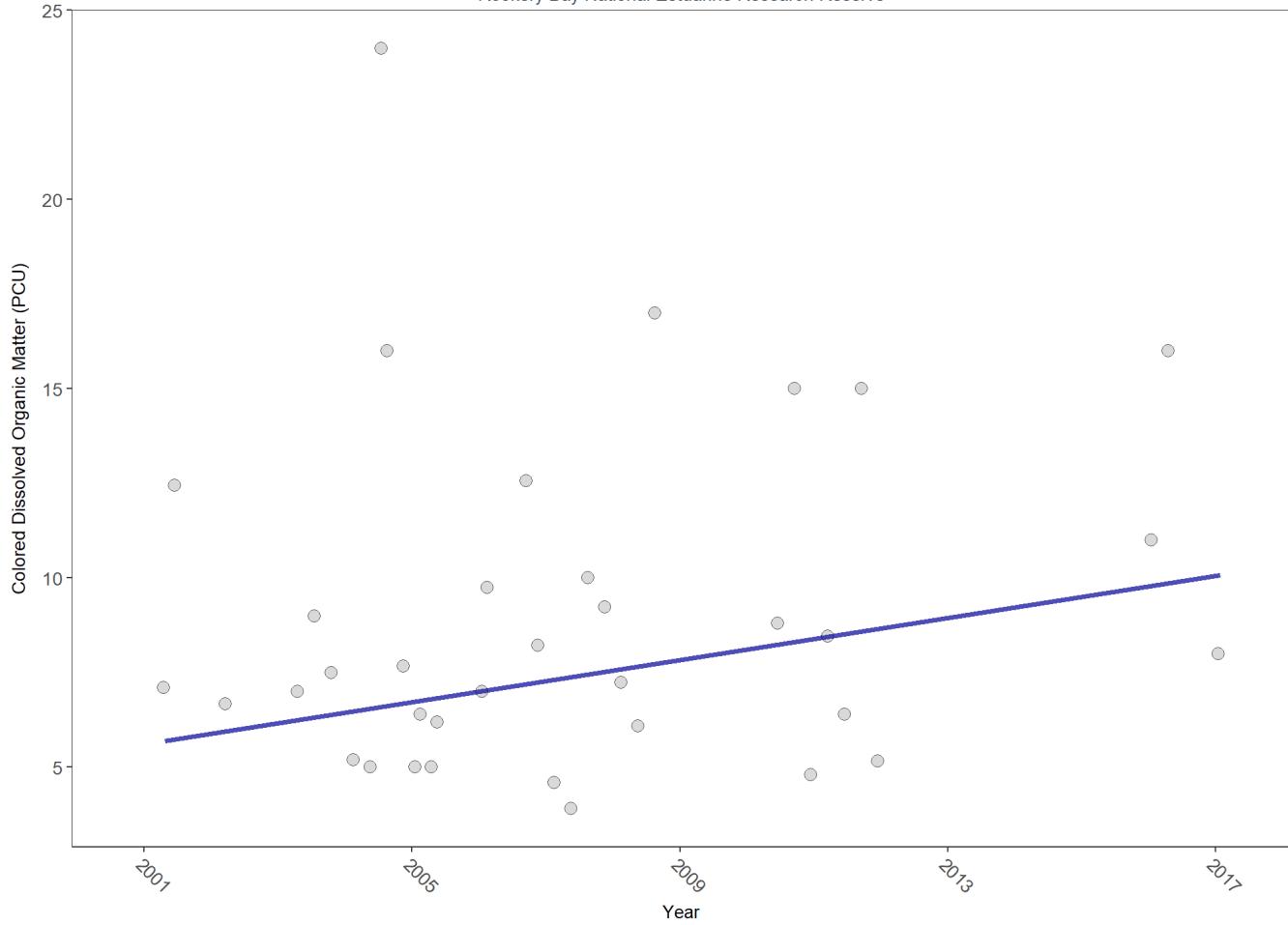
5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

## Colored Dissolved Organic Matter - Discrete Water Quality

**Colored Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM)** occurs naturally in every water body. It is made up of mainly plant material, algae and bacteria. The composition is determined by its source; plants, soil, algae, and wastewater are common sources.

## Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

Colored Dissolved Organic Matter, Lab, All Depths  
Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

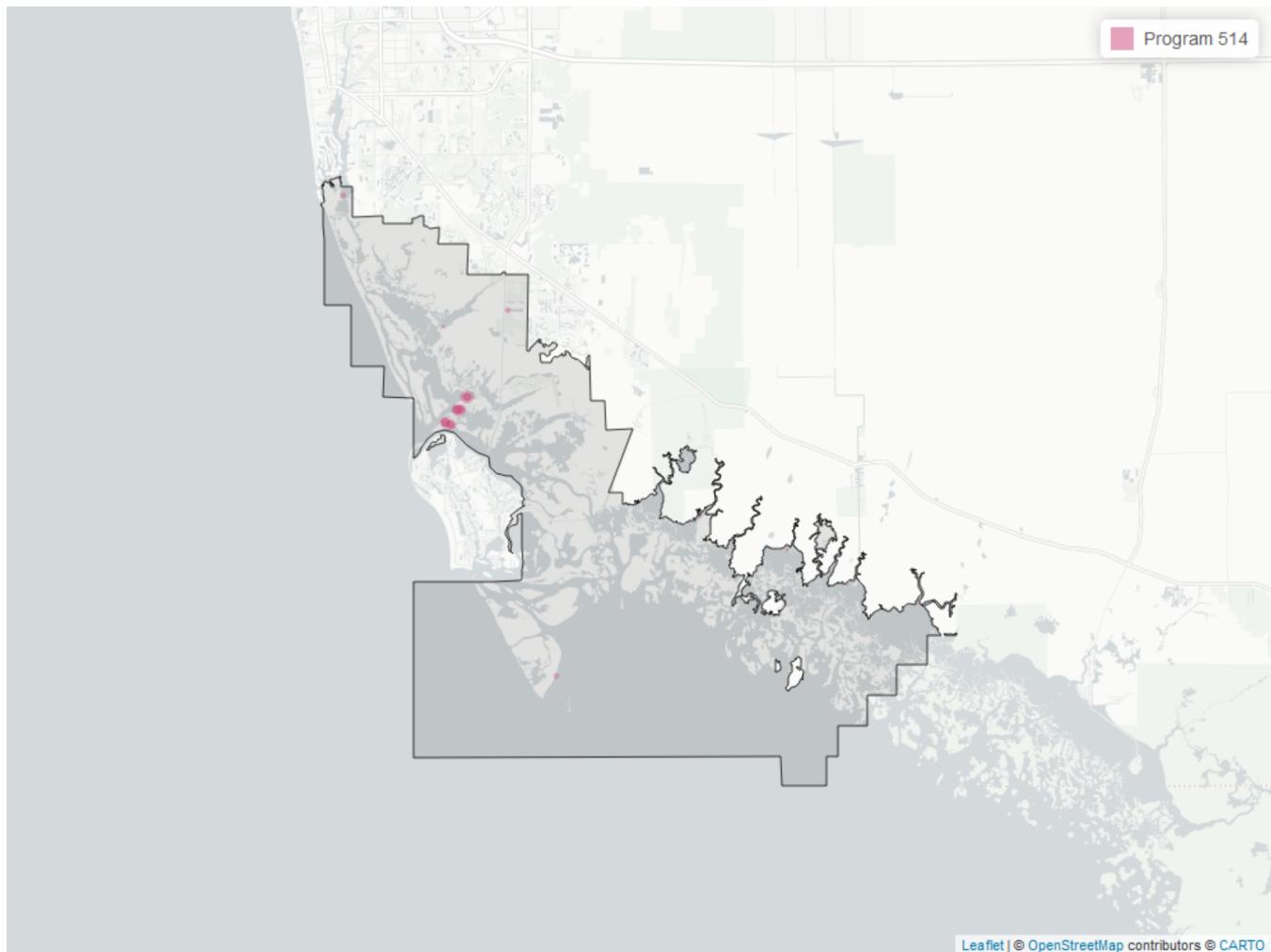


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	193	12	8	TRUE	0.3619	0.1533	0.2777778	5.615385	7.8132	0.6471	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Colored Dissolved Organic Matter



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 10: Programs contributing data for Colored Dissolved Organic Matter

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
514	193	2001	2017

**Program names:**

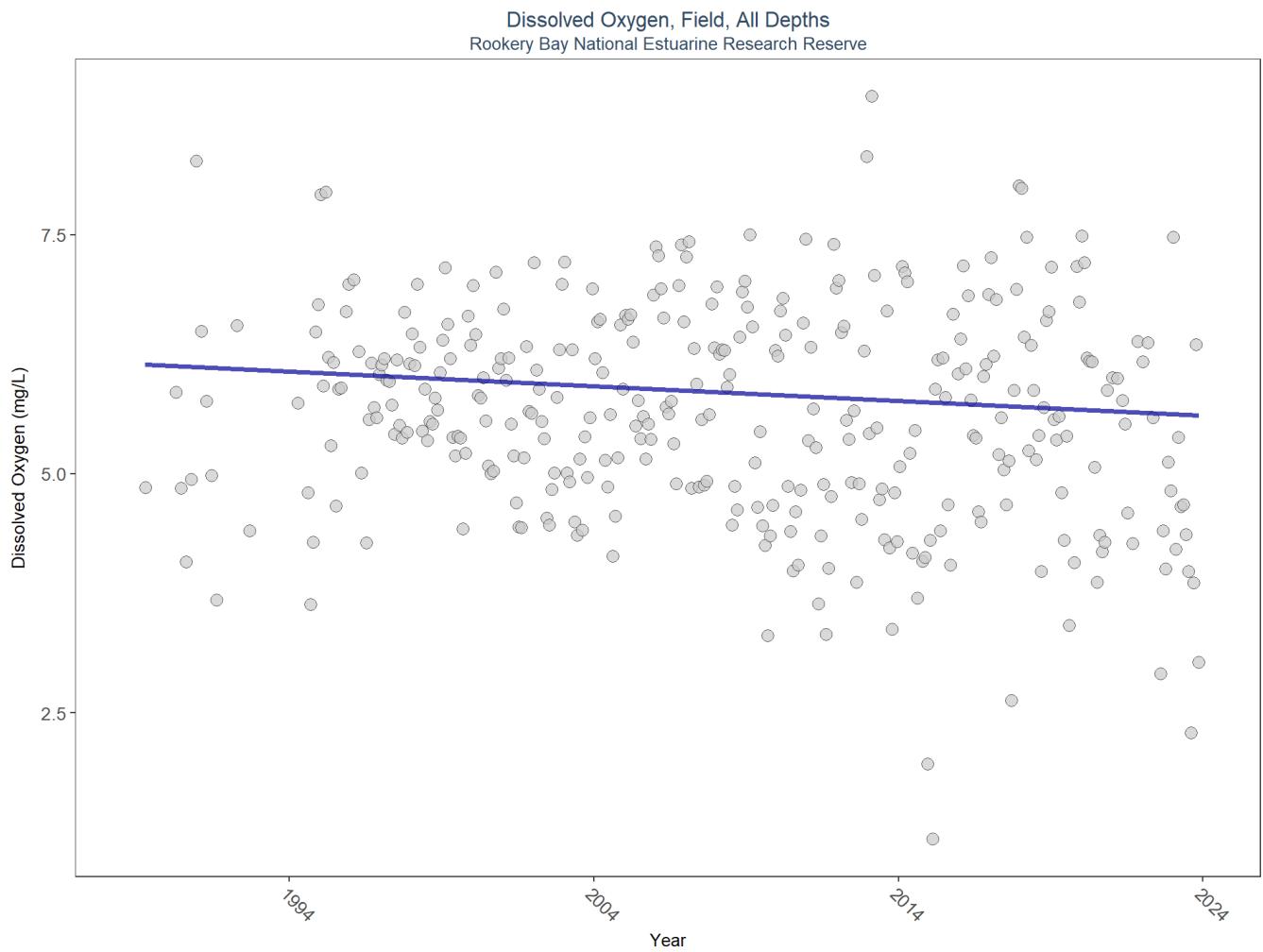
514 - Florida LAKEWATCH Program

There are no qualifying Value Qualifiers for Colored Dissolved Organic Matter in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## Dissolved Oxygen - Discrete Water Quality

**Dissolved Oxygen (DO)** is a key indicator of water quality. Oxygen enters surface waters by air-sea gas exchange, by wind action, or as a byproduct of aquatic plant photosynthesis. The actual quantity of DO in aquatic environments is dependent on the above processes as well as water temperature and salinity.

### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

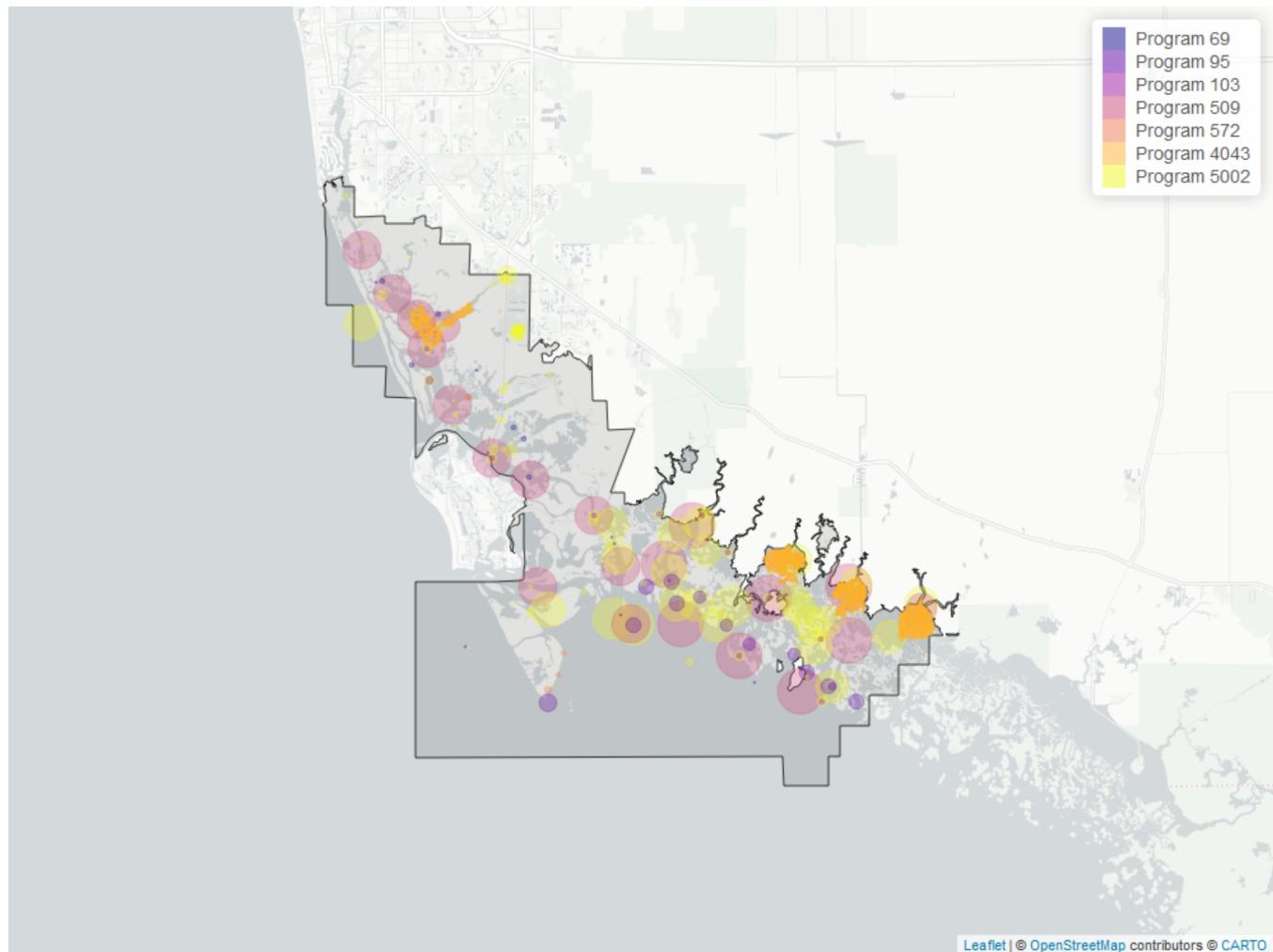


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	14009	34	5.8	TRUE	-0.1071	0.0041	-0.01538149	6.147454	13.5887	0.2566	-1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Dissolved Oxygen



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 11: Programs contributing data for Dissolved Oxygen

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
509	5403	1994	2008
5002	5094	1989	2023
4043	2972	1999	2020
95	412	1997	2018
103	80	2021	2021
572	27	1998	2005
69	22	2001	2001

**Program names:**

509 - SERC Water Quality Monitoring Network

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

4043 - RBNERR Fish Assessment

95 - Harmful Algal Bloom Marine Observation Network

103 - EPA STOrage and RETrieval Data Warehouse (STORET)

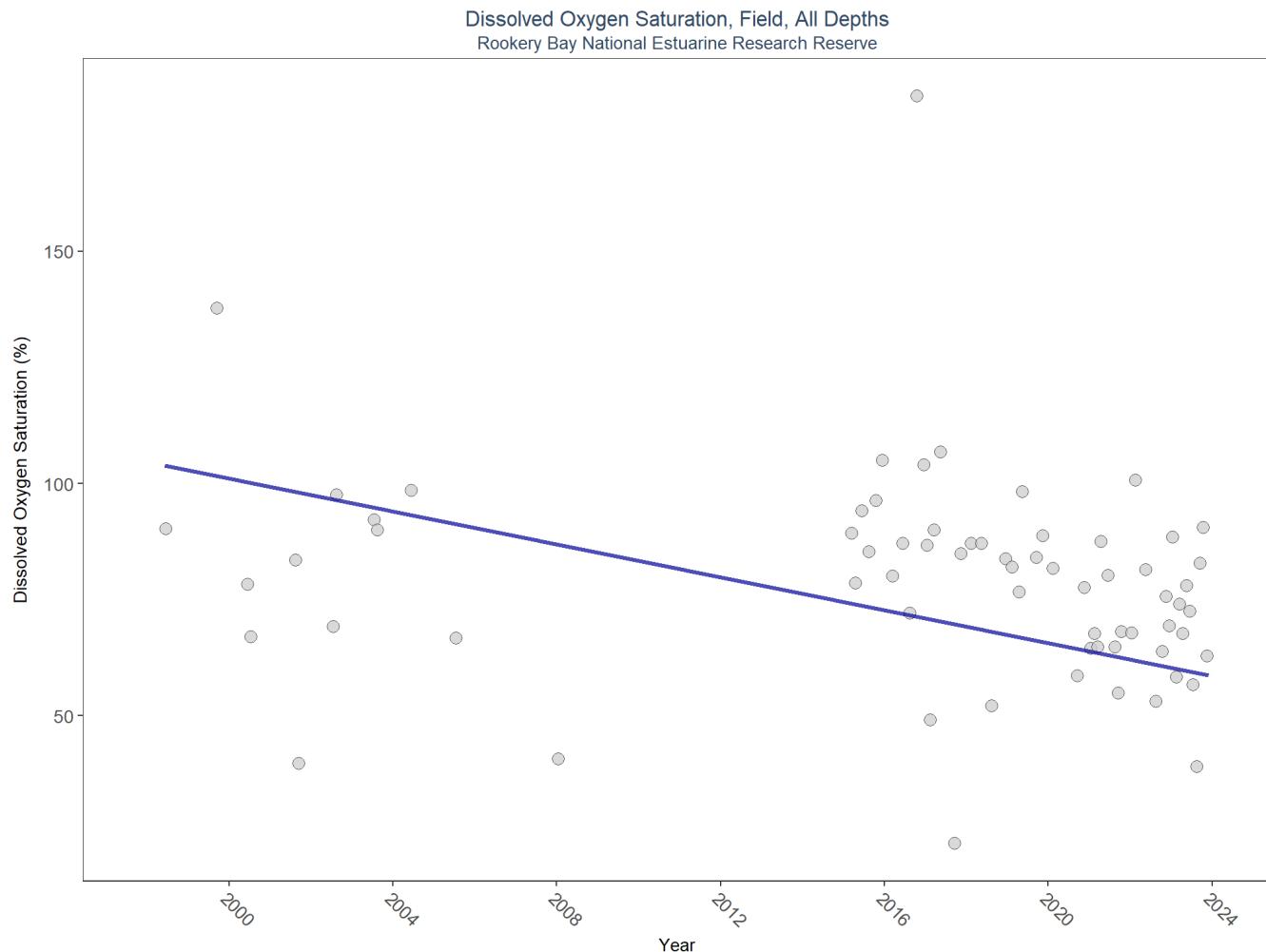
572 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Seagrass Monitoring

69 - Fisheries-Independent Monitoring (FIM) Program

There are no qualifying Value Qualifiers for Dissolved Oxygen in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## Dissolved Oxygen Saturation - Discrete Water Quality

### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

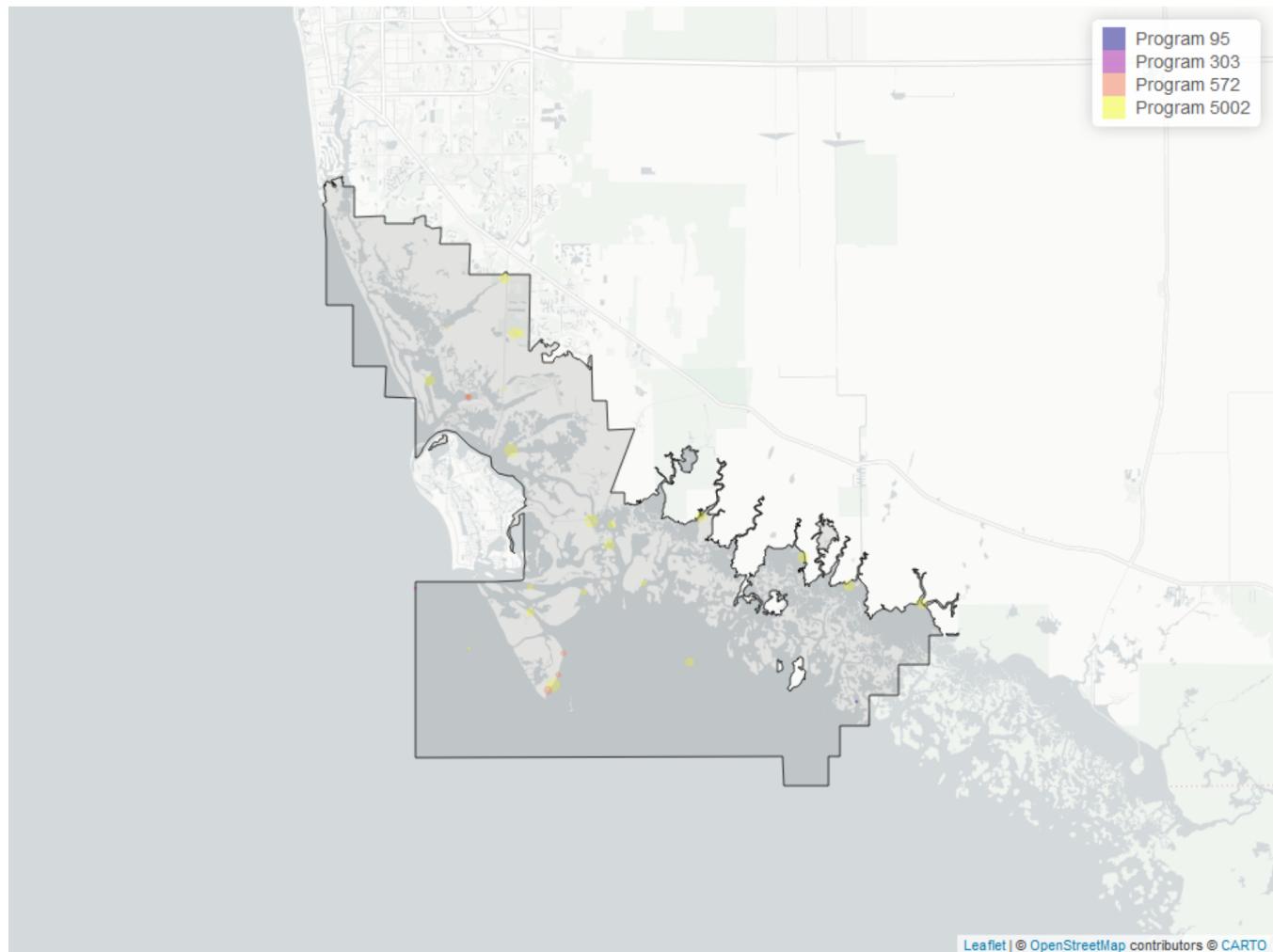


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	260	18	78.65	TRUE	-0.3897	0.0004	-1.7725	104.6656	13.5989	0.256	-1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Dissolved Oxygen Saturation



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 12: Programs contributing data for Dissolved Oxygen Saturation

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
5002	231	2015	2023
572	27	1998	2005
95	1	2008	2008
303	1	2023	2023

#### Program names:

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

572 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Seagrass Monitoring

95 - Harmful Algal Bloom Marine Observation Network

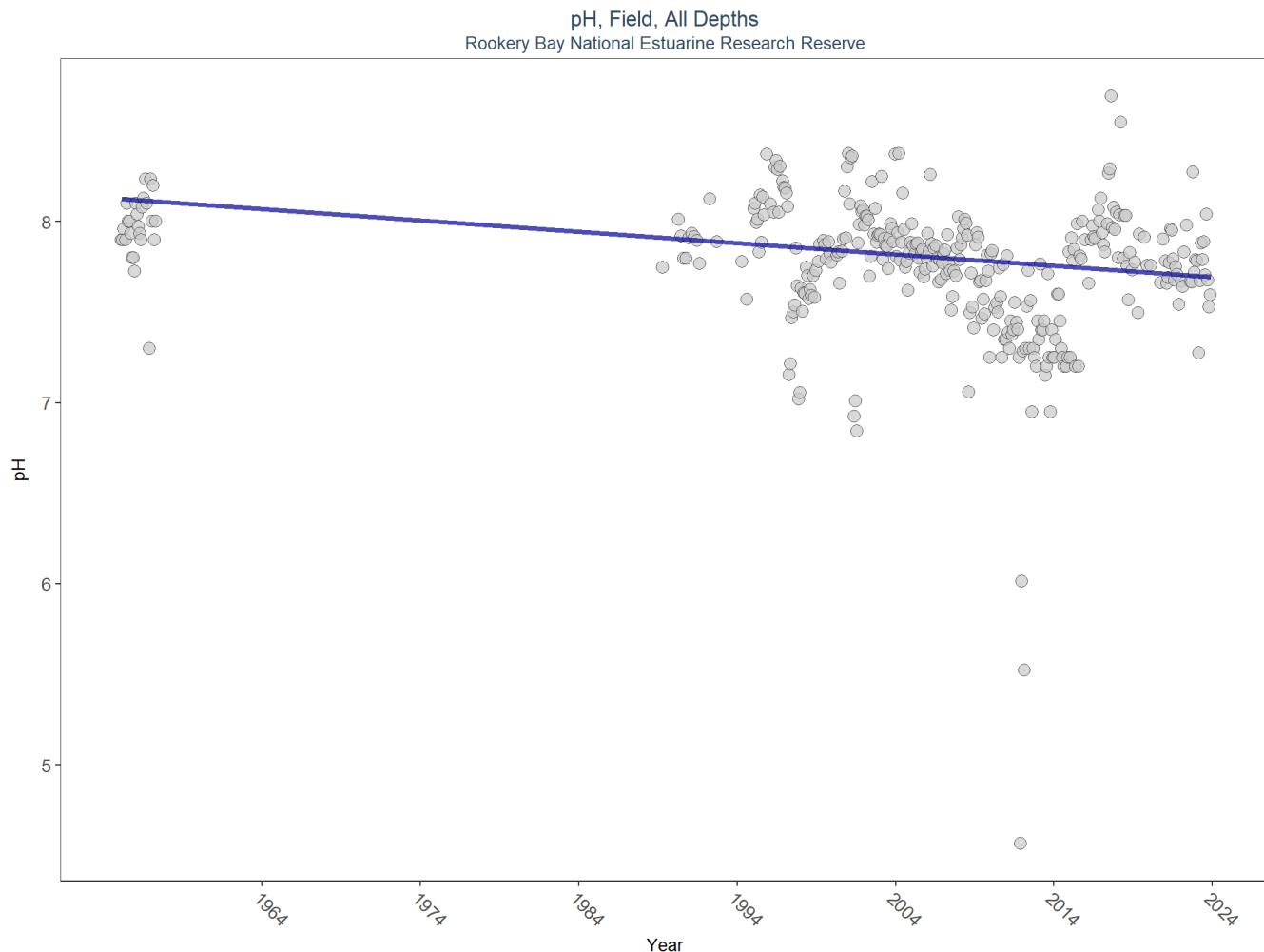
303 - River, Estuary and Coastal Observing Network

There are no qualifying Value Qualifiers for Dissolved Oxygen Saturation in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## pH - Discrete Water Quality

The **pH** of water is the measure of how acidic or basic the water body is on a scale of 0-14, with lower readings indicating acidic and higher readings indicating basic, and a pH of 7 being neutral. Florida's natural waters fall between 6.5 and 8.5 on this scale. A water body's pH can change due to precipitation, geology, vegetation, water pollution and air pollution.

### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

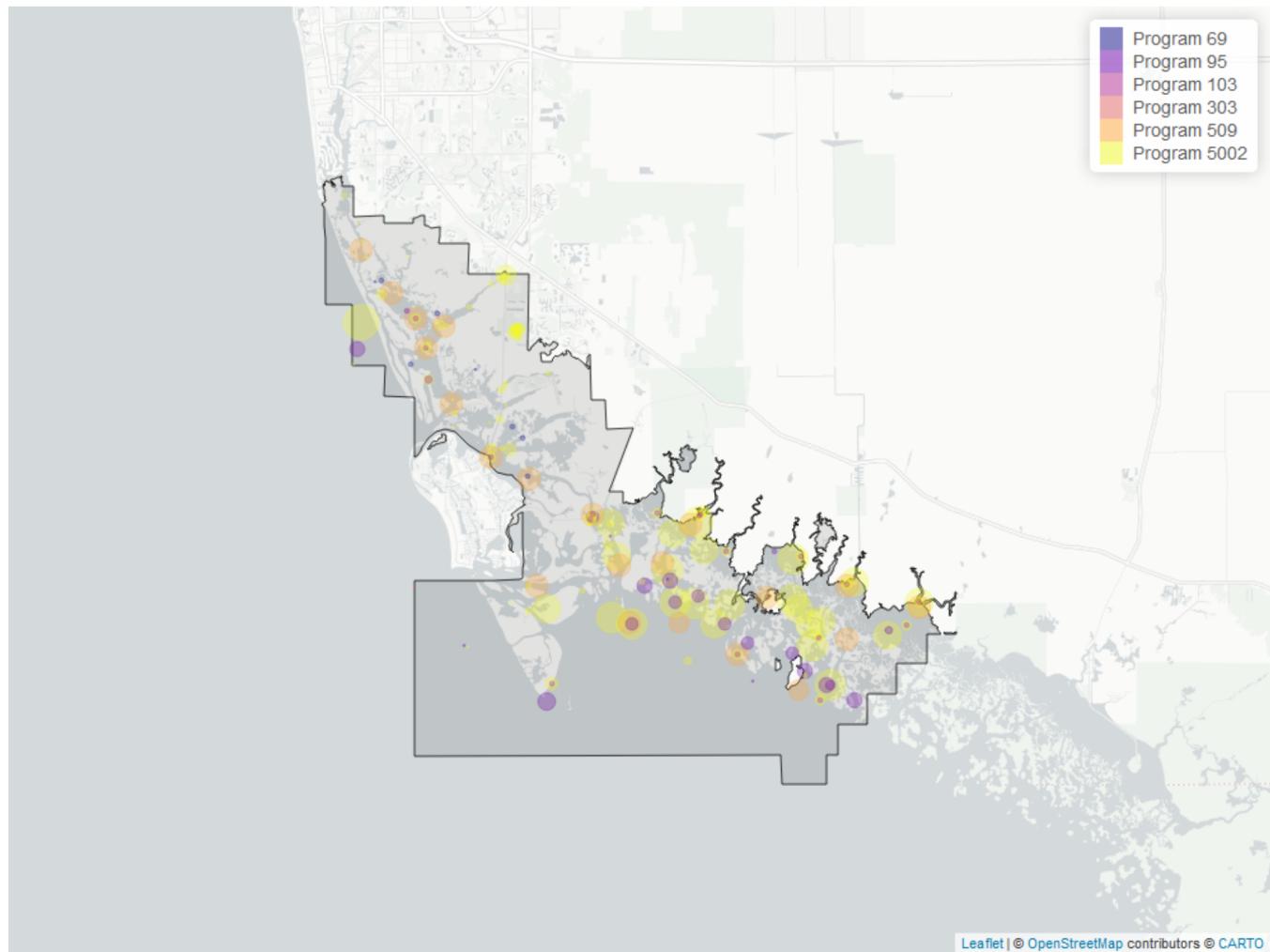


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	6352	37	7.885	TRUE	-0.2326	0.0000	-0.006313514	8.127766	16.14	0.136	-1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for pH



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 13: Programs contributing data for pH

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
5002	4043	1989	2023
509	1719	2001	2008
95	467	1955	2018
103	103	2021	2021
69	22	2001	2001
303	1	2023	2023

#### Program names:

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

509 - SERC Water Quality Monitoring Network

95 - Harmful Algal Bloom Marine Observation Network

103 - EPA STOrage and RETrieval Data Warehouse (STORET)

69 - Fisheries-Independent Monitoring (FIM) Program

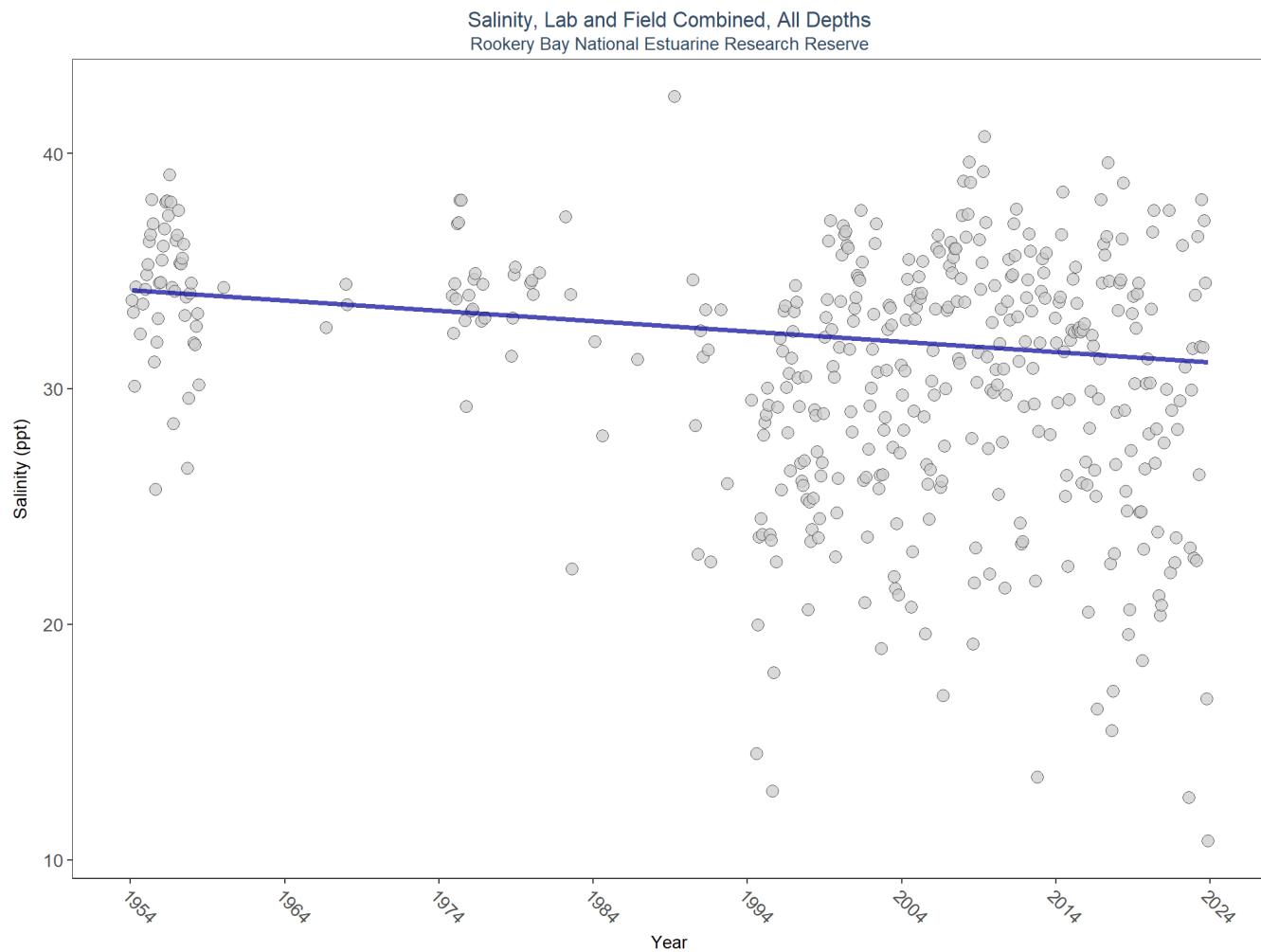
303 - River, Estuary and Coastal Observing Network

There are no qualifying Value Qualifiers for pH in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## Salinity - Discrete Water Quality

**Salinity** is a measure of the amount of salt in the water. In estuarine ecosystems, salinity is influenced by precipitation, evaporation, surface-water inputs, and exchange with coastal waters.

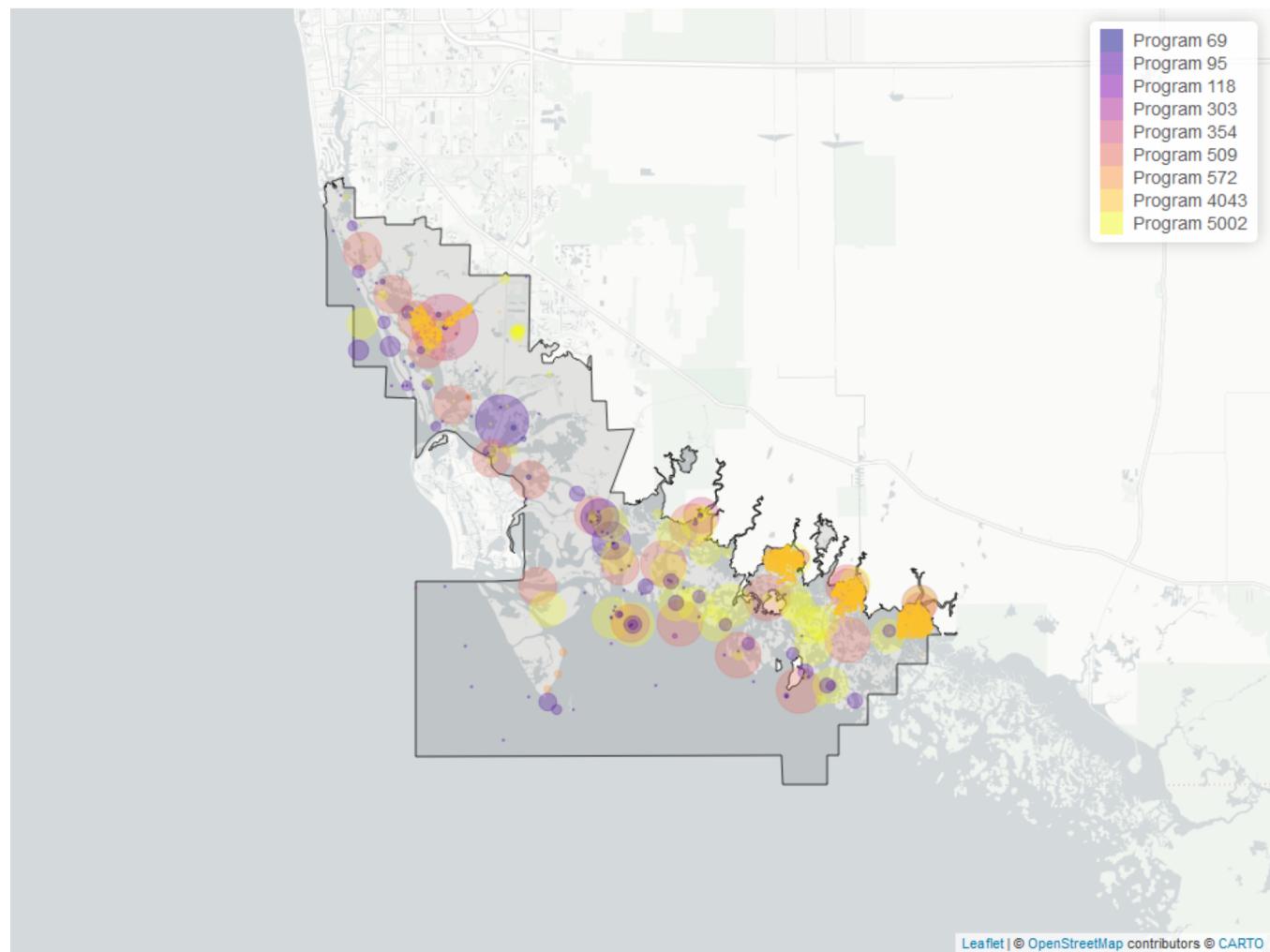
### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis



*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Salinity



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 14: Programs contributing data for Salinity

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
509	5387	1994	2008
5002	5088	1989	2023
4043	3042	1999	2020
95	1865	1954	2018
354	1286	2002	2015
572	31	1998	2005
69	22	2001	2001
118	8	2015	2021
303	1	2023	2023

**Program names:**

509 - SERC Water Quality Monitoring Network

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

4043 - RBNERR Fish Assessment

95 - Harmful Algal Bloom Marine Observation Network

354 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program

572 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Seagrass Monitoring

69 - Fisheries-Independent Monitoring (FIM) Program

118 - National Aquatic Resource Surveys, National Coastal Condition Assessment

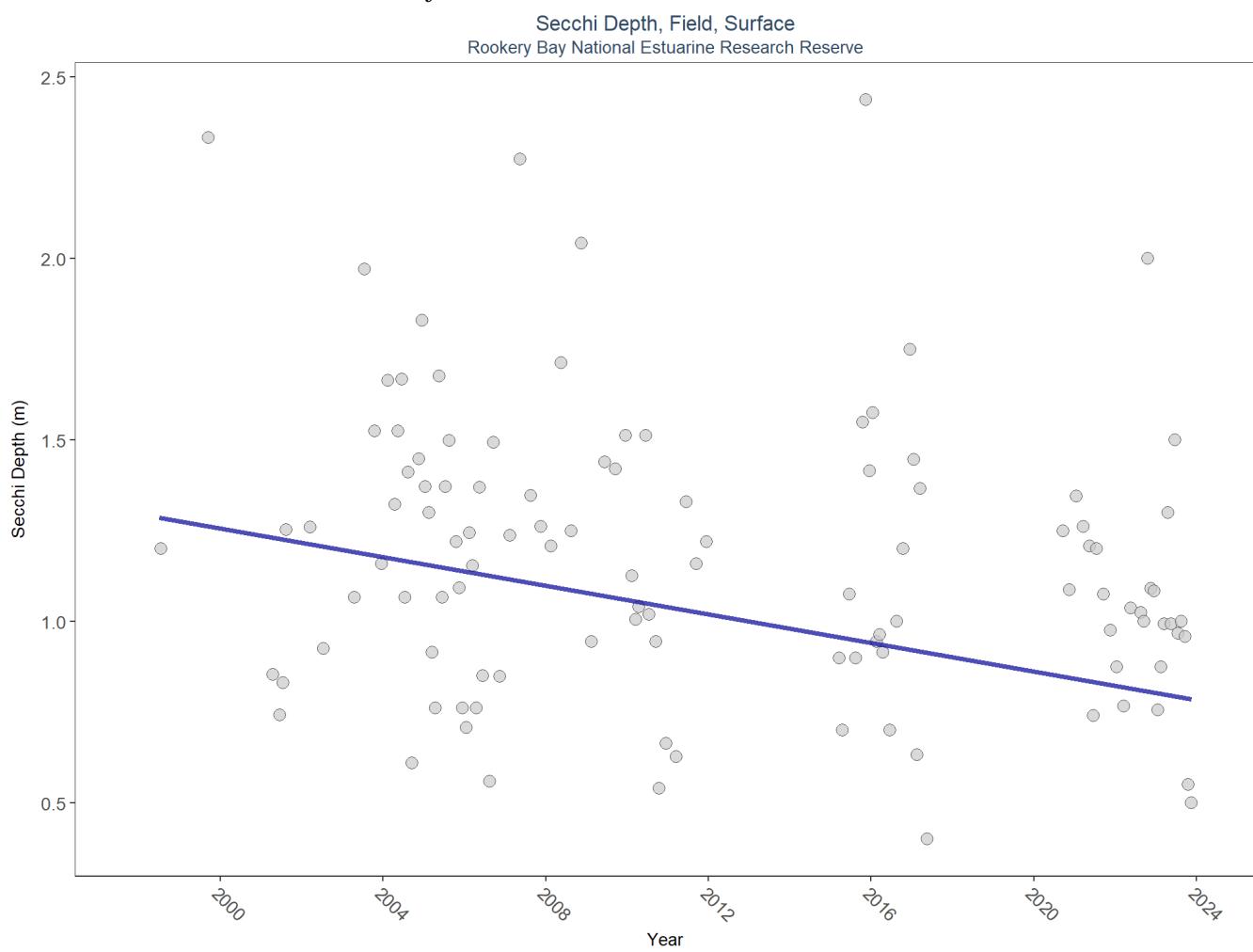
303 - River, Estuary and Coastal Observing Network

There are no qualifying Value Qualifiers for Salinity in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## Secchi Depth - Discrete Water Quality

**Secchi depth** is a measure of the transparency or clarity of the water by a device called a Secchi disk. A Secchi disk is a black and white disk that is lowered into the water on a cord. The Secchi depth is the depth at which the disk can no longer be seen. The deeper the Secchi depth, the greater the water clarity.

### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

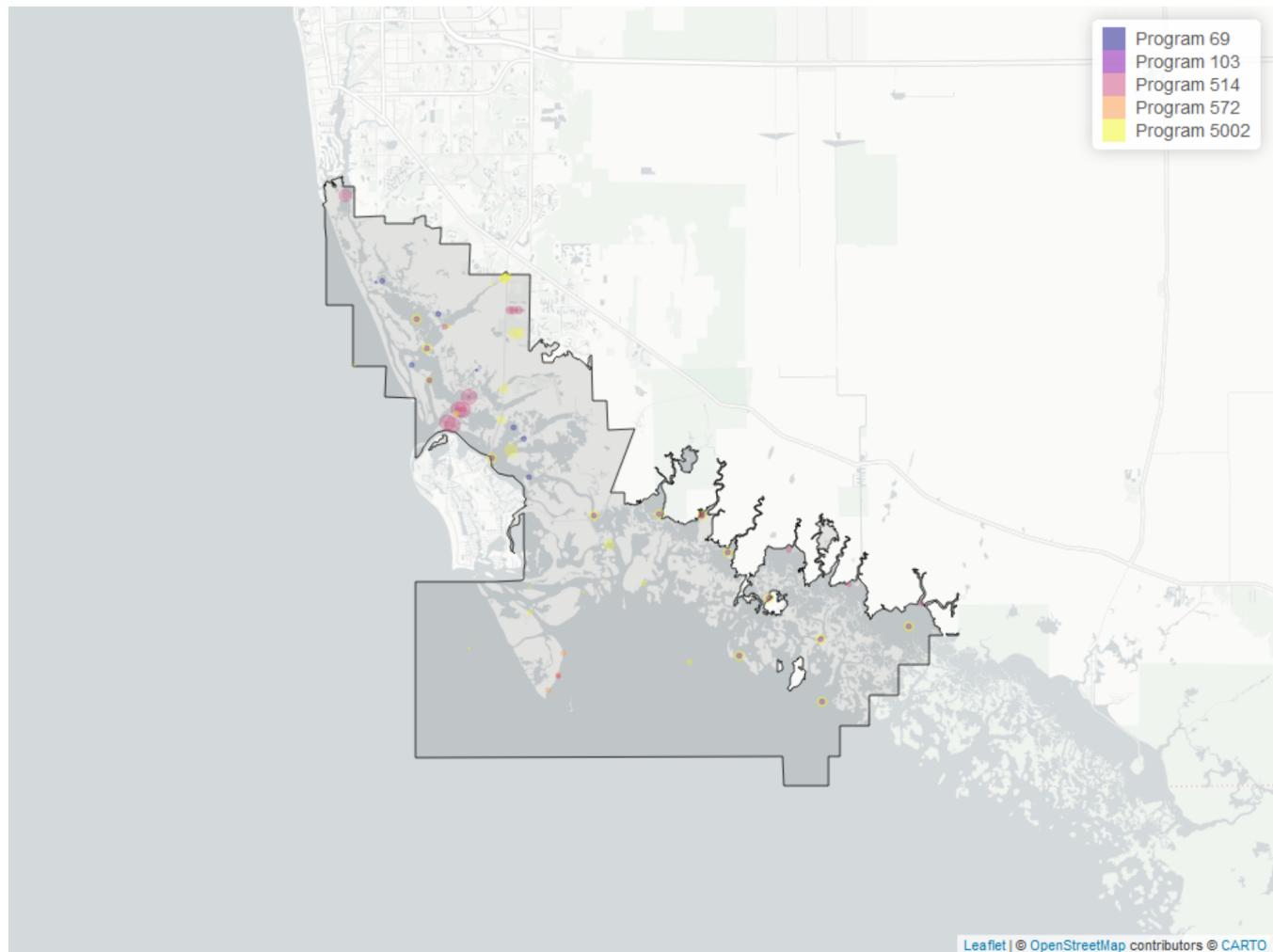


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
Surface	694	20	1.066813	TRUE	-0.2444	0.0011	-0.0196931	1.295322	12.3082	0.3409	-1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Secchi Depth



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 15: Programs contributing data for Secchi Depth

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
5002	335	2006	2023
514	252	2001	2017
103	76	2021	2021
69	22	2001	2001
572	9	1998	2003

#### Program names:

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

514 - Florida LAKEWATCH Program

103 - EPA STOrage and RETrieval Data Warehouse (STORET)

69 - Fisheries-Independent Monitoring (FIM) Program

## Value Qualifiers

- $N_{\_Total}$  is total amount of data for a given year
- $N_{\_}$  is the total amount of values flagged with the respective value qualifier in a given year
- $perc_{\_}$  is the percent of data flagged with the respective value qualifier as a proportion of  $N_{\_Total}$

Table 16: Value Qualifiers for Secchi Depth

Year	$N_{\_Total}$	$N_{\_S}$	$perc_{\_S}$
2015	23	5	21.7
2017	15	1	6.7
2020	12	1	8.3
2021	164	21	12.8
2022	78	12	15.4
2023	87	10	11.5

**Note:**  $^1S$  - Secchi disk visible to bottom of waterbody

## Programs containing Value Qualified data:

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

## Total Nitrogen - Discrete Water Quality

**Nitrogen** and **Phosphorous** are key nutrients that provide nourishment essential for the growth and maintenance of aquatic plants and animals; however, excess nutrients can cause harmful algal blooms and other water quality concerns. Nutrients enter water bodies several ways, including runoff from rain events and atmospheric deposition from natural and industrial sources.

### Total Nitrogen Calculation:

The logic for calculated Total Nitrogen was provided by Kevin O'Donnell and colleagues at FDEP (with the help of Jay Silvanima, Watershed Monitoring Section). The following logic is used, in this order, based on the availability of specific nitrogen components.

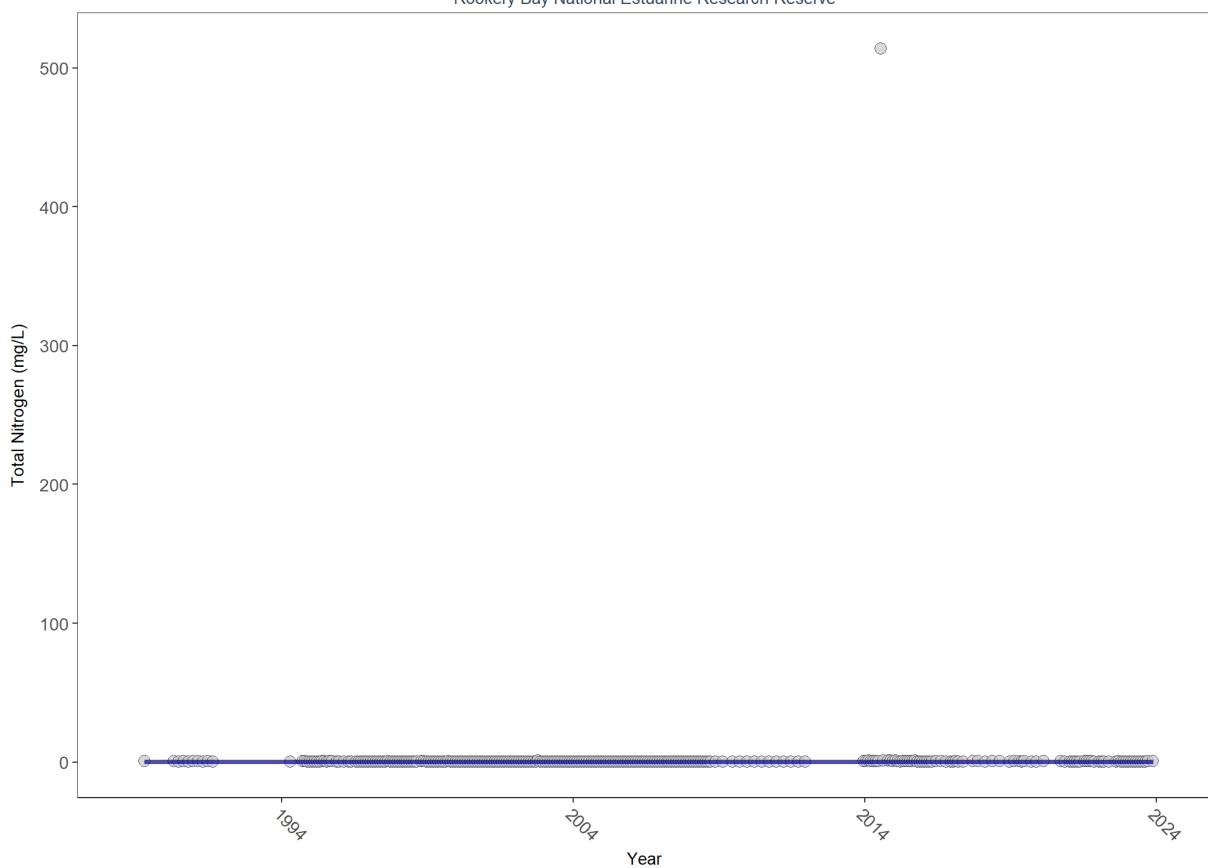
- 1)  $TN = TKN + NO_3O_2;$
- 2)  $TN = TKN + NO_3 + NO_2;$
- 3)  $TN = ORGN + NH_4 + NO_3O_2;$
- 4)  $TN = ORGN + NH_4 + NO_2 + NO_3;$
- 5)  $TN = TKN + NO_3;$
- 6)  $TN = ORGN + NH_4 + NO_3;$

### Additional Information:

- Rules for use of sample fraction:
  - FDEP report that if both “Total” and “Dissolved” are reported, only “Total” is used. If the total is not reported, they do use dissolved as a best available replacement.
  - An analysis of all SEACAR data shows that 90% of all possible TN calculations can be done using nitrogen components with the same sample fraction, rather than use nitrogen components with mixed total/dissolved sample fractions. In other words, TN can be calculated when TKN and  $NO_3O_2$  are both total sample fraction, or when both are dissolved sample fraction. This is important, because then the calculated TN value is not based on components with mixed sample fractions.
- Values inserted into data:
  - ParameterName = “Total Nitrogen”
  - SEACAR\_QAACFlagCode = “1Q”
  - SEACAR\_QAAC>Description = “SEACAR Calculated”

## Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

Total Nitrogen, Lab, All Depths  
Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

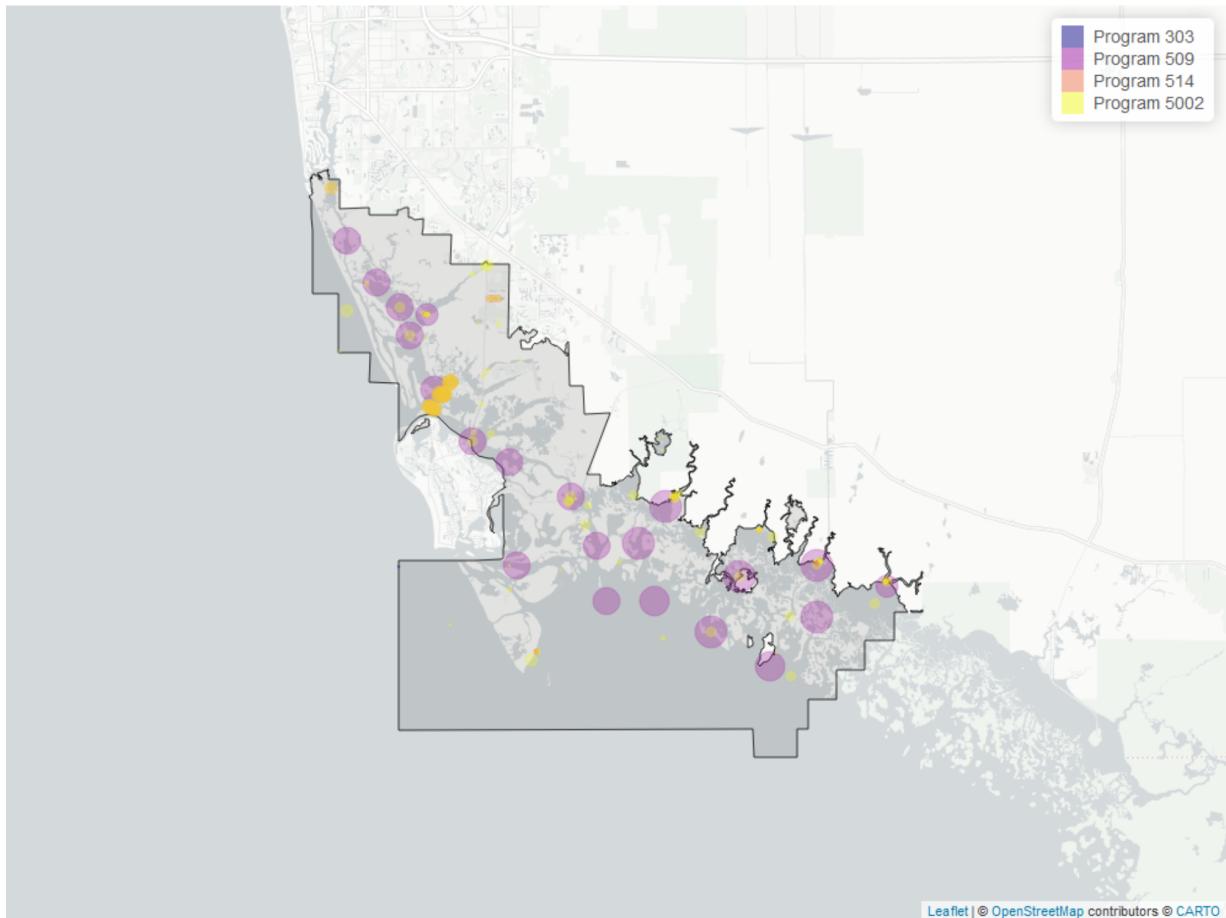


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	4433	32	0.3049	TRUE	-0.0492	0.2420	-0.001676636	0.4140532	9.5141	0.5745	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Total Nitrogen



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 17: Programs contributing data for Total Nitrogen

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
509	2758	1994	2008
5002	1068	1989	2023
514	605	2001	2017
303	2	2022	2023

#### Program names:

509 - SERC Water Quality Monitoring Network

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

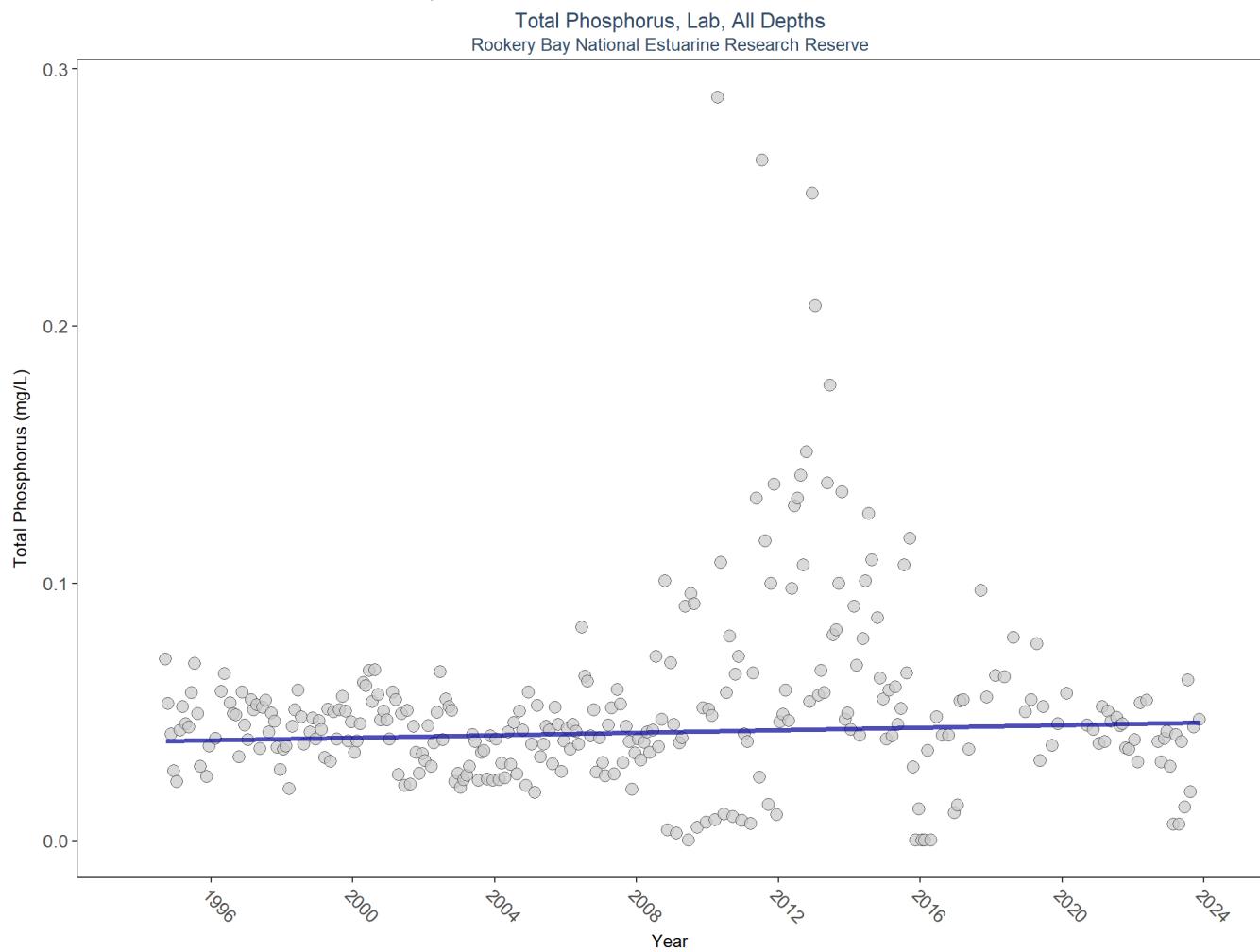
514 - Florida LAKEWATCH Program

303 - River, Estuary and Coastal Observing Network

There are no qualifying Value Qualifiers for Total Nitrogen in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## Total Phosphorus - Discrete Water Quality

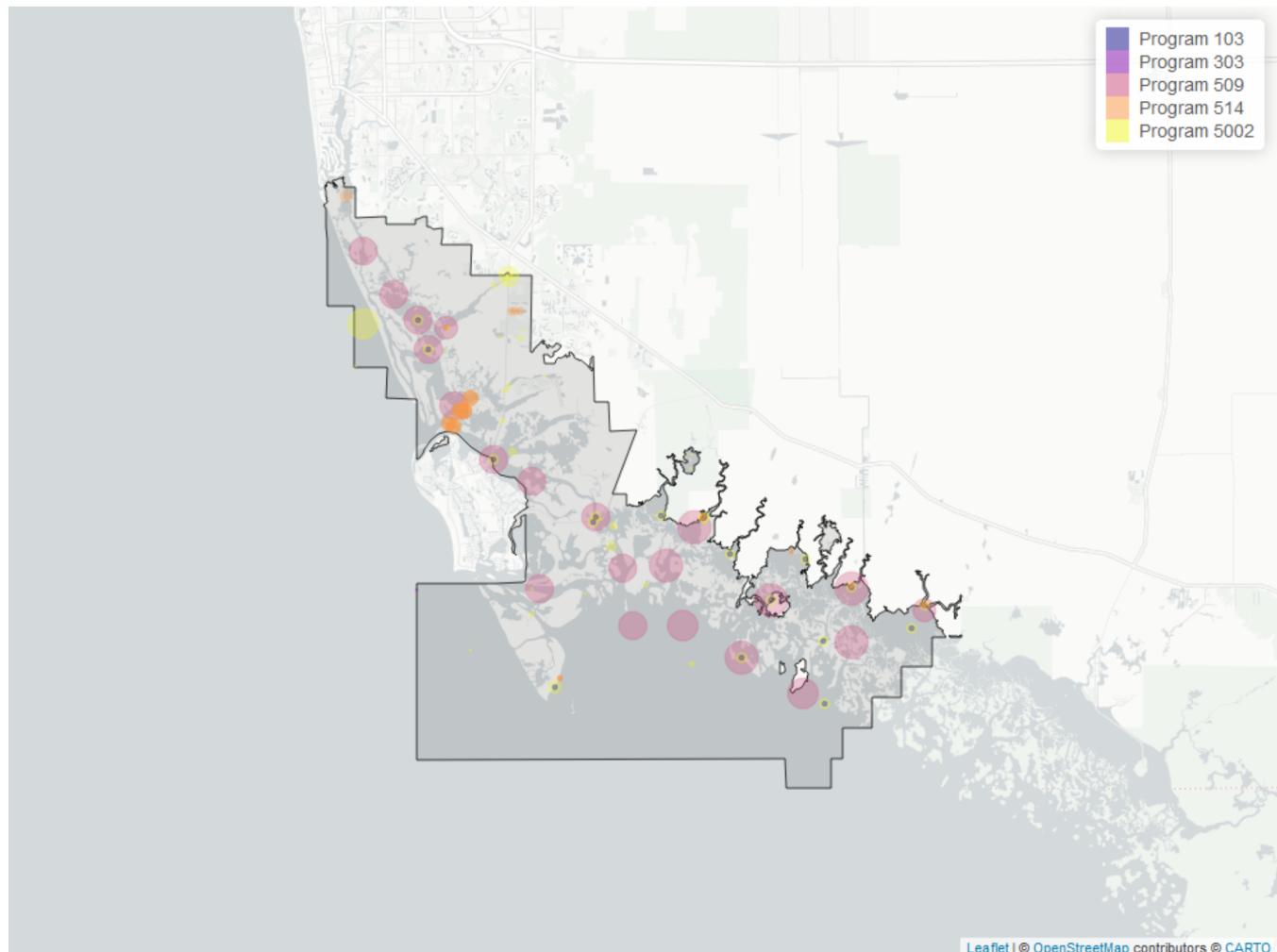
### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis



$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

*SennIntercept* is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Total Phosphorus



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 18: Programs contributing data for Total Phosphorus

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
509	2735	1994	2008
5002	608	2001	2023
514	597	2001	2017
103	96	2021	2021
303	2	2022	2023

#### Program names:

509 - SERC Water Quality Monitoring Network

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

514 - Florida LAKEWATCH Program

103 - EPA STOrage and RETrieval Data Warehouse (STORET)

### Value Qualifiers

- $N_{\text{Total}}$  is total amount of data for a given year
- $N_{\text{I}}$  is the total amount of values flagged with the respective value qualifier in a given year
- $\text{perc}_{\text{I}}$  is the percent of data flagged with the respective value qualifier as a proportion of  $N_{\text{Total}}$

Table 19: Value Qualifiers for Total Phosphorus

Year	$N_{\text{Total}}$	$N_{\text{I}}$	$\text{perc}_{\text{I}}$	$N_{\text{U}}$	$\text{perc}_{\text{U}}$
2006	338	10	3.0	2	0.6
2022	70	1	1.4		
2023	74	5	6.8	3	4.0

**Note:** <sup>1</sup>**I** - Reported value is greater than or equal to lab method detection limit, but less than quantitation limit <sup>2</sup>**U** - Compound was analyzed for but not detected

### Programs containing Value Qualified data:

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

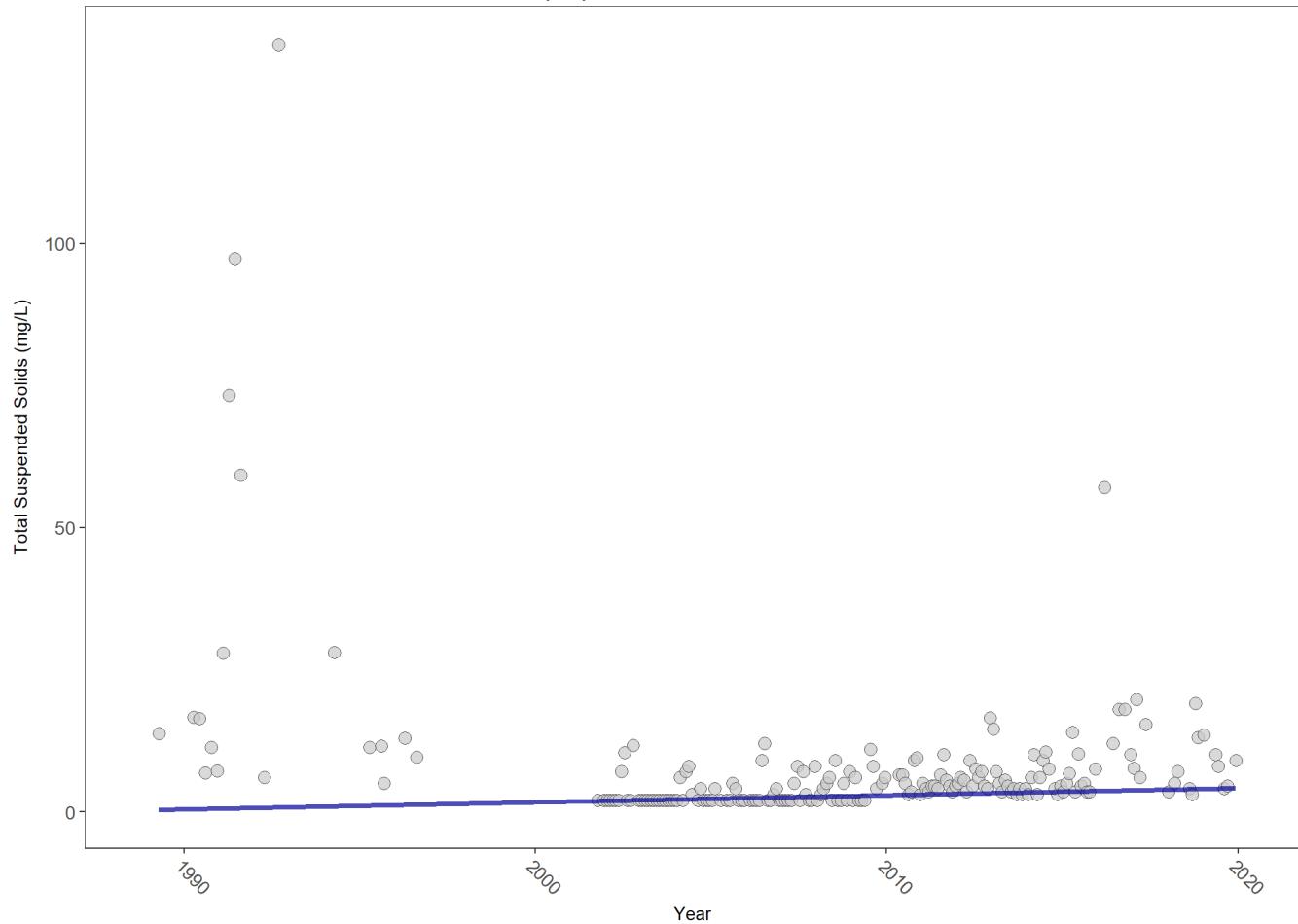
303 - River, Estuary and Coastal Observing Network

### Total Suspended Solids - Discrete Water Quality

**Total Suspended Solids (TSS)** are solid particles suspended in water that exceed 2 microns in size and can be trapped by a filter.

### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

Total Suspended Solids, Lab and Field Combined, All Depths  
Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

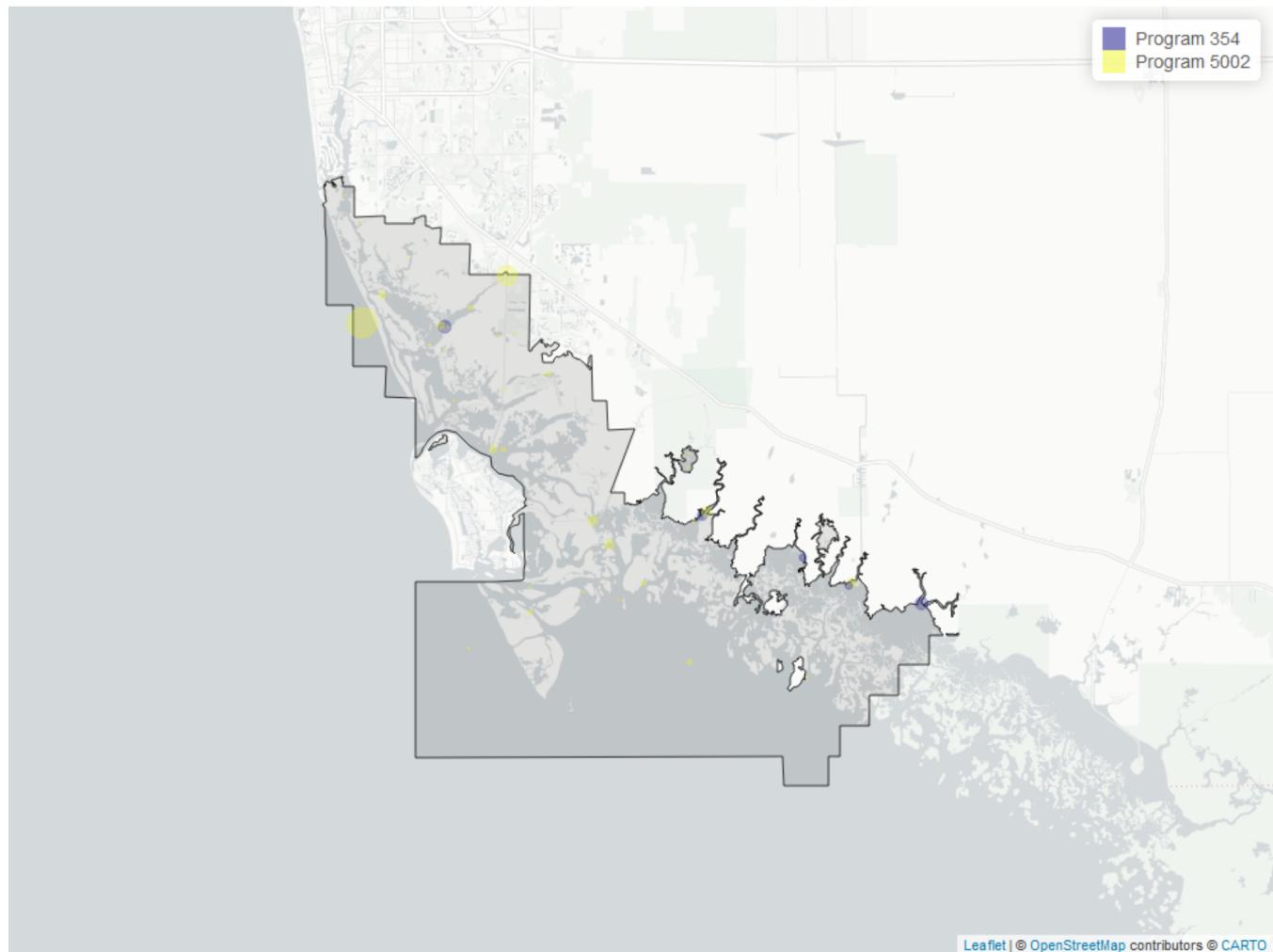


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	376	26	5	TRUE	0.2203	0.0002	0.125	0.284375	24.3282	0.0114	1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Total Suspended Solids



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 20: Programs contributing data for Total Suspended Solids

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
5002	358	1989	2017
354	79	2016	2019

#### Program names:

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

354 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program

#### Value Qualifiers

- $N_{Total}$  is total amount of data for a given year
- $N_{\cdot}$  is the total amount of values flagged with the respective value qualifier in a given year
- $perc_{\cdot}$  is the percent of data flagged with the respective value qualifier as a proportion of  $N_{Total}$

Table 21: Value Qualifiers for Total Suspended Solids

<i>Year</i>	<i>N_Total</i>	<i>N_I</i>	<i>perc_I</i>	<i>N_U</i>	<i>perc_U</i>
2001	2			2	100.0
2002	17	5	29.4	9	52.9
2003	12	1	8.3	11	91.7
2004	11	3	27.3	6	54.5
2005	10	3	30.0	6	60.0
2006	11	4	36.4	6	54.5
2007	12	6	50.0	6	50.0
2008	12	7	58.3	5	41.7
2009	12	7	58.3	4	33.3
2010	16	12	75.0	3	18.8
2011	24	18	75.0	5	20.8
2012	24	18	75.0	4	16.7
2013	23	15	65.2	7	30.4
2014	22	14	63.6	5	22.7
2015	37	22	59.5	6	16.2
2017	32	7	21.9		

**Note:** <sup>1</sup>**I** - Reported value is greater than or equal to lab method detection limit, but less than quantitation limit <sup>2</sup>**U**  
- Compound was analyzed for but not detected

#### Programs containing Value Qualified data:

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

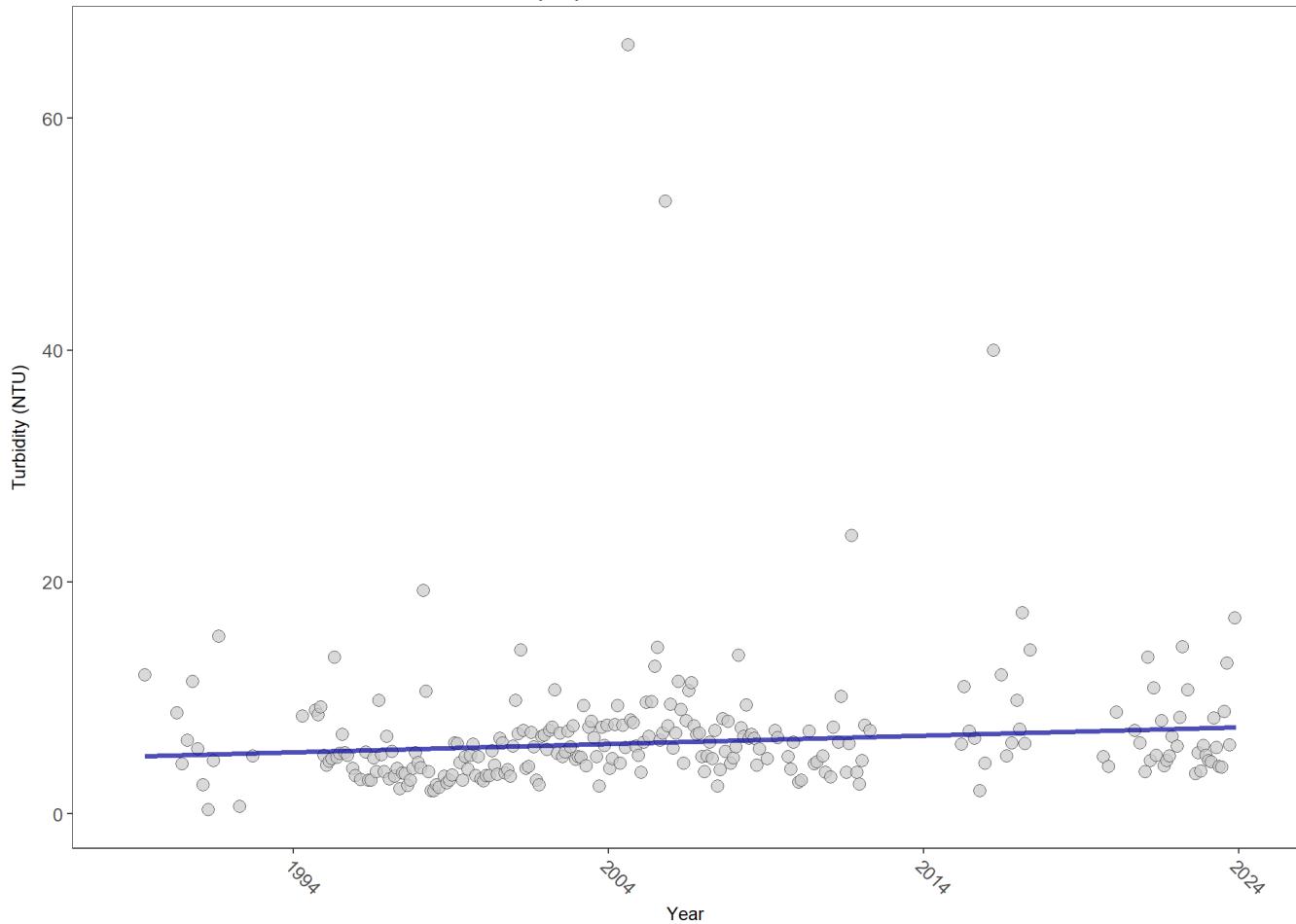
354 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program

### Turbidity - Discrete Water Quality

**Turbidity** results from suspended solids in the water, including silts, clays, tannins, industrial wastes, sewage and plankton, which are all factors that contribute to how clouded or murky a water column is. Turbidity is caused by soil erosion, excess nutrients, pollutants, and physical forces such as winds, currents and bottom feeders.

#### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

Turbidity, Lab and Field Combined, All Depths  
Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

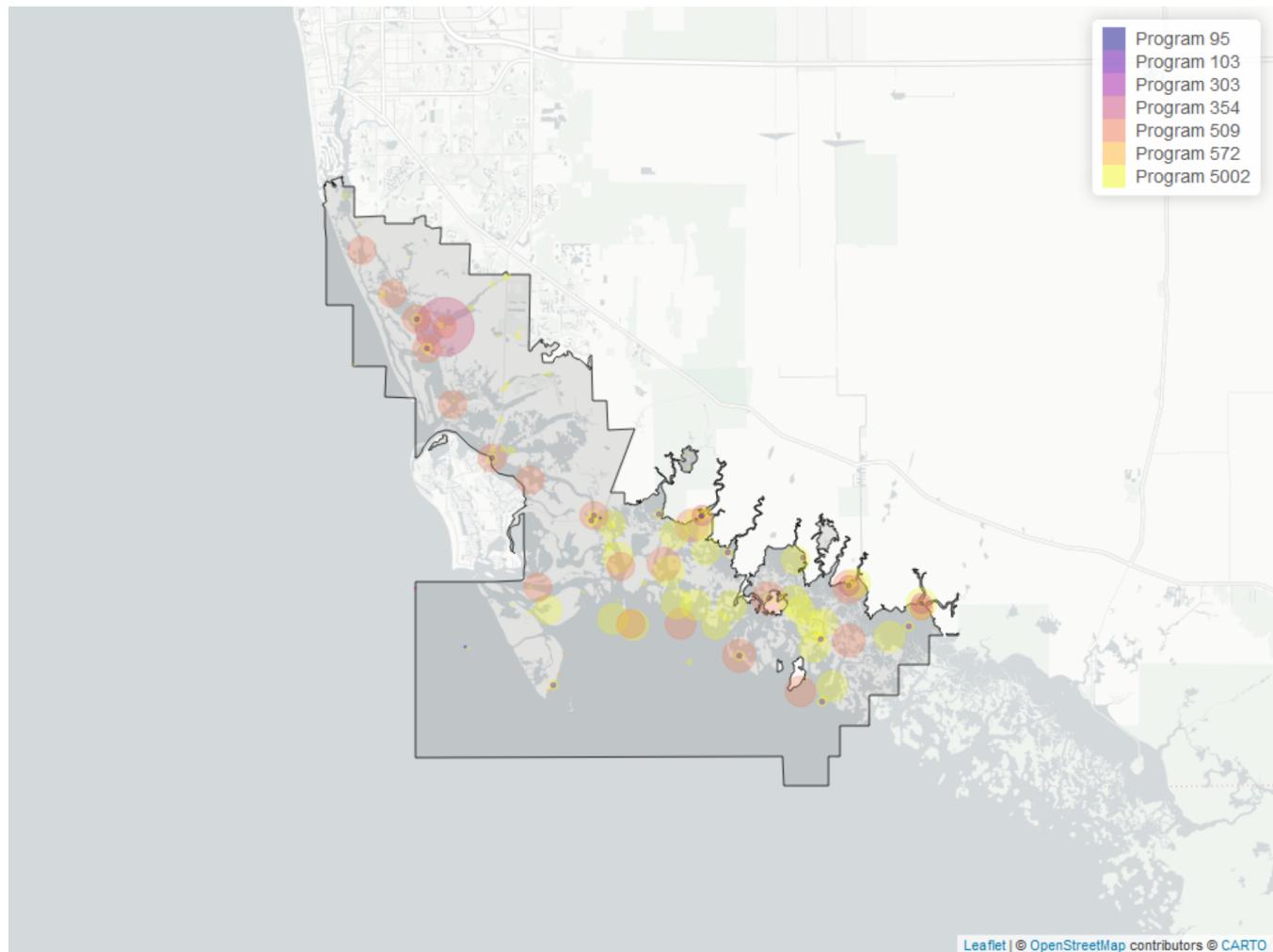


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	7160	31	4.645	TRUE	0.162	0.0004	0.07184464	4.93392	12.8374	0.3041	1

$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Turbidity



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 22: Programs contributing data for Turbidity

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
5002	3580	1989	2023
509	2746	1994	2008
354	734	2002	2006
103	92	2021	2021
572	4	2000	2003
95	3	2003	2011
303	1	2023	2023

**Program names:**

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

509 - SERC Water Quality Monitoring Network

354 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program  
103 - EPA STOrage and RETrieval Data Warehouse (STORET)  
572 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Seagrass Monitoring  
95 - Harmful Algal Bloom Marine Observation Network  
303 - River, Estuary and Coastal Observing Network

### Value Qualifiers

- $N_{Total}$  is total amount of data for a given year
- $N_Q$  is the total amount of values flagged with the respective value qualifier in a given year
- $perc_Q$  is the percent of data flagged with the respective value qualifier as a proportion of  $N_{Total}$

Table 23: Value Qualifiers for Turbidity

Year	$N_{Total}$	$N_Q$	$perc_Q$
2011	191	1	0.5
2017	12	3	25.0
2021	184	2	1.1
2022	69	2	2.9
2023	74	4	5.4

**Note:** <sup>1</sup>**Q** - Sample held beyond the accepted holding time

### Programs containing Value Qualified data:

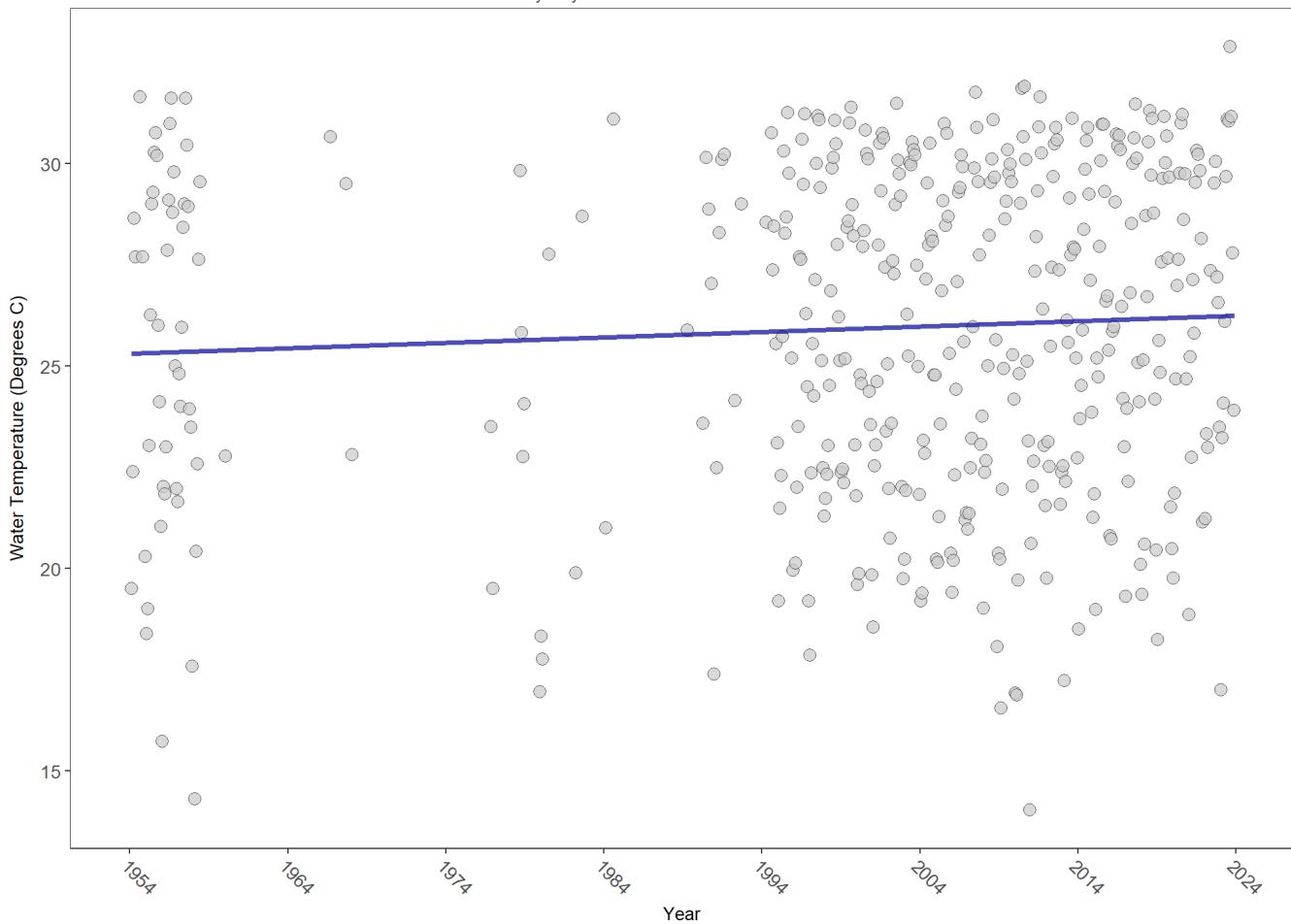
354 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program  
5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

## Water Temperature - Discrete Water Quality

**Temperature** determines the capacity of water to hold oxygen. Cooler water can hold more dissolved oxygen because water molecules are more tightly packed, making it harder for oxygen to escape. Additionally, as water temperature increases, fish and other aquatic organisms become more active and consume oxygen at a faster rate.

### Seasonal Kendall-Tau Trend Analysis

Water Temperature, Field, All Depths  
Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

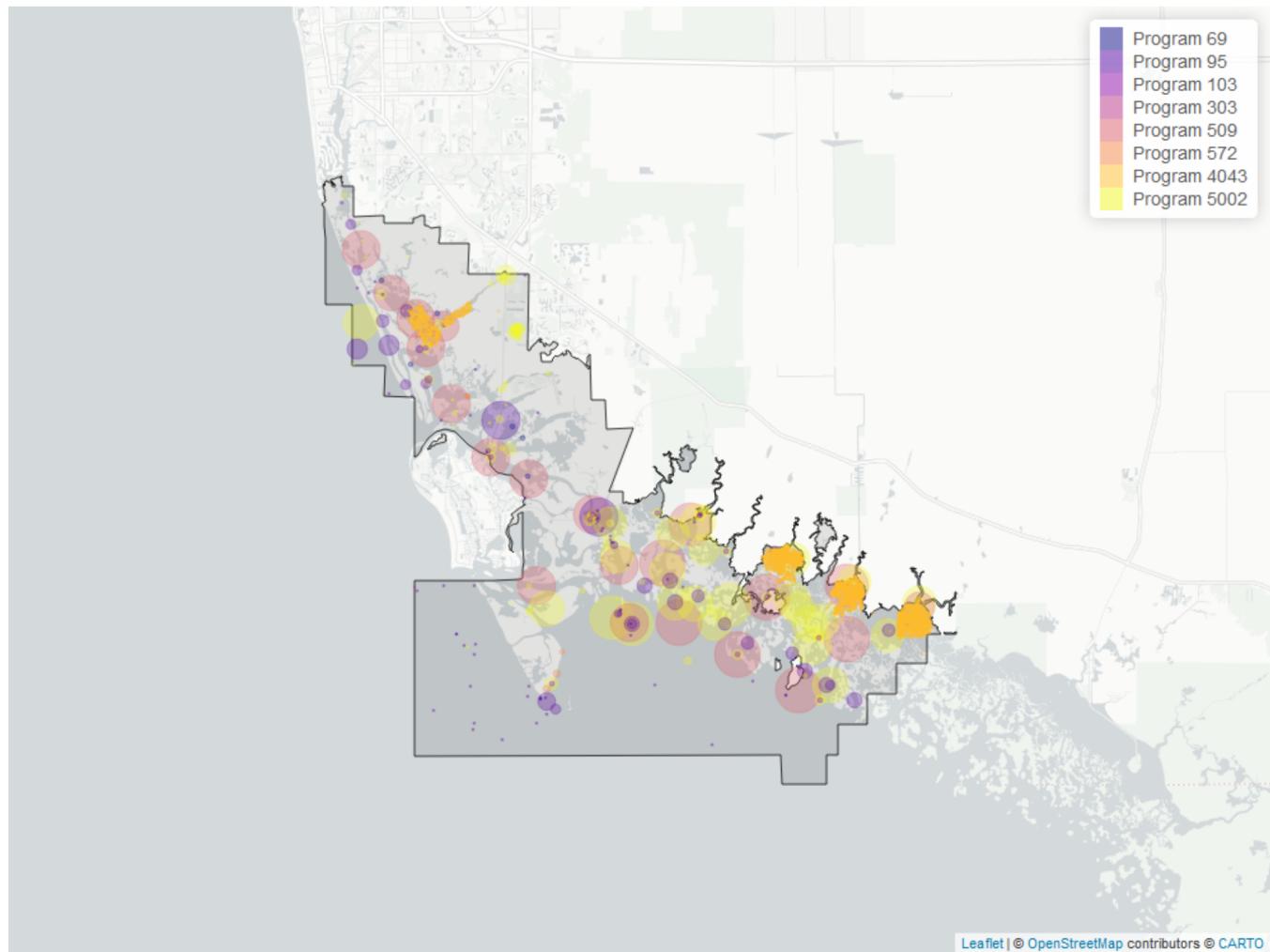


RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
All	15440	49	26.6	TRUE	0.1115	0.0009	0.01340524	25.31748	11.74	0.3835	1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

Map showing location of Discrete sampling sites for Water Temperature



The bubble size on the above plots reflects the amount of data available at each sampling site

Table 24: Programs contributing data for Water Temperature

ProgramID	N_Data	YearMin	YearMax
5002	5570	1989	2023
509	5387	1994	2008
4043	3036	1999	2020
95	1292	1954	2018
103	103	2021	2021
572	30	1998	2005
69	22	2001	2001
303	1	2023	2023

**Program names:**

5002 - Florida STORET / WIN

509 - SERC Water Quality Monitoring Network

4043 - RBNERR Fish Assessment

95 - Harmful Algal Bloom Marine Observation Network

103 - EPA STOrage and RETrieval Data Warehouse (STORET)

572 - Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Seagrass Monitoring

69 - Fisheries-Independent Monitoring (FIM) Program

303 - River, Estuary and Coastal Observing Network

There are no qualifying Value Qualifiers for Water Temperature in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

## Water Quality - Continuous

The following files were used in the continuous analysis:

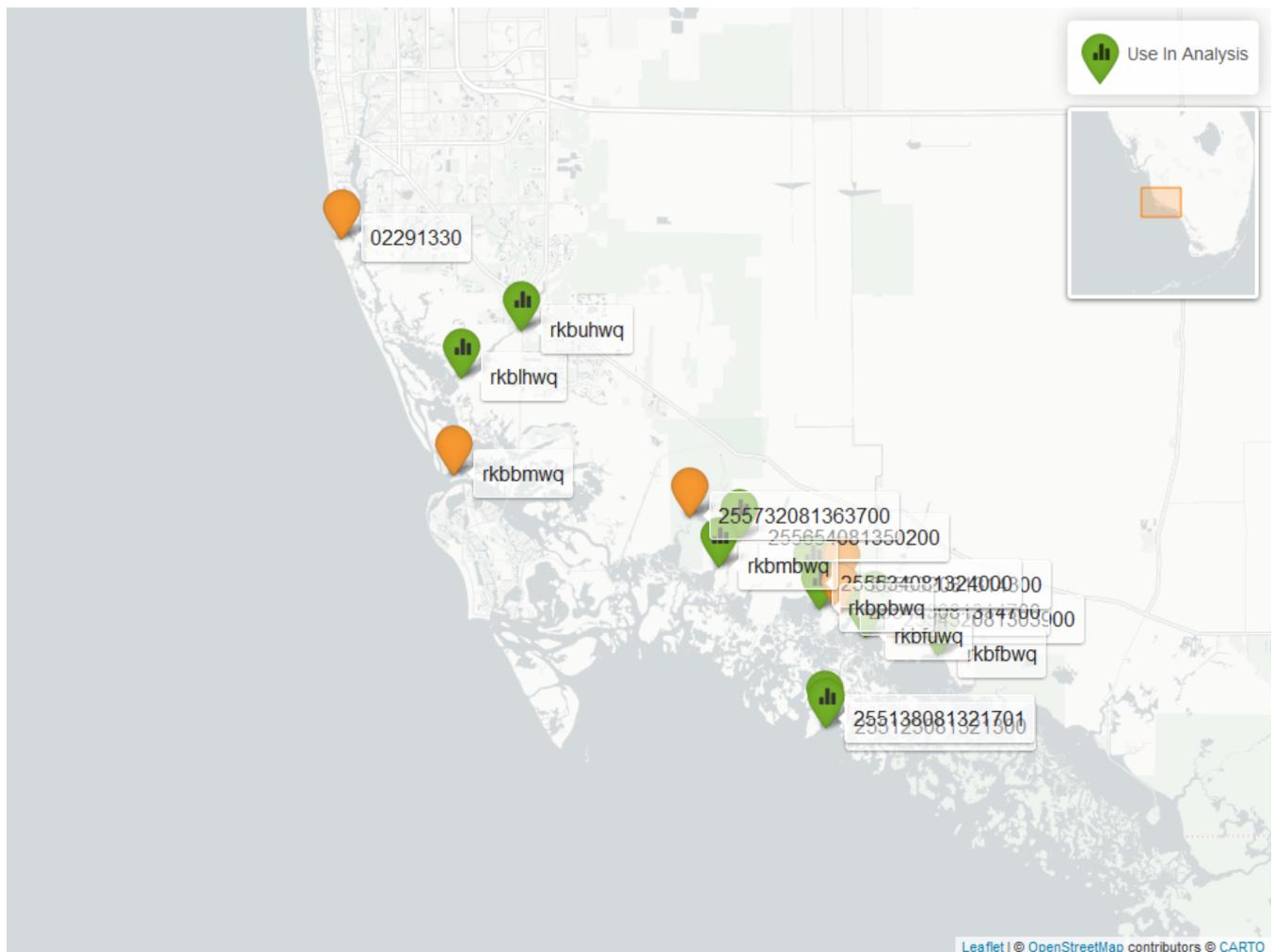
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_cont\_Dissolved\_Oxygen\_SW-2024-Feb-23.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_cont\_Dissolved\_Oxygen\_Saturation\_SW-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_cont\_pH\_SW-2024-Feb-23.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_cont\_Salinity\_SW-2024-Feb-23.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_cont\_Turbidity\_SW-2024-Feb-22.txt*
- *Combined\_WQ\_WC\_NUT\_cont\_Water\_Temperature\_SW-2024-Feb-23.txt*

Table 25: Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

<i>ProgramLocationID</i>	<i>Years of Data</i>	<i>Use in Analysis</i>	<i>Parameters</i>
rkbmhwq	2	FALSE	DO , DOS , pH , Sal , Turb , TempW
rkbfbwq	23	TRUE	DO , DOS , pH , Sal , Turb , TempW
rkbfuwq	23	TRUE	DO , DOS , pH , Sal , Turb , TempW
rkbllhwq	24	TRUE	DO , DOS , pH , Sal , Turb , TempW
rkbmbwq	25	TRUE	DO , DOS , pH , Sal , Turb , TempW
rkbpbwq	9	TRUE	DO , DOS , pH , Sal , Turb , TempW
rkbuhwq	5	TRUE	DO , DOS , pH , Sal , Turb , TempW

Table 26: National Water Information System (7)

<i>ProgramLocationID</i>	<i>Years of Data</i>	<i>Use in Analysis</i>	<i>Parameters</i>
02291330	3	FALSE	Sal , TempW
255123081321300	10	TRUE	Sal , TempW
255138081321701	3	FALSE	Sal
255138081321701	7	TRUE	TempW
255432081303900	18	TRUE	Sal , TempW
255443081314700	5	FALSE	Sal , TempW
255532081314300	2	FALSE	Sal , TempW
255534081324000	17	TRUE	Sal , TempW
255654081350200	17	TRUE	Sal , TempW
255732081363700	4	FALSE	Sal , TempW



Map showing Continuous Water Quality Monitoring sampling locations within the boundaries of Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Sites marked as *Use In Analysis* are featured in this report.

## Dissolved Oxygen - Continuous Water Quality

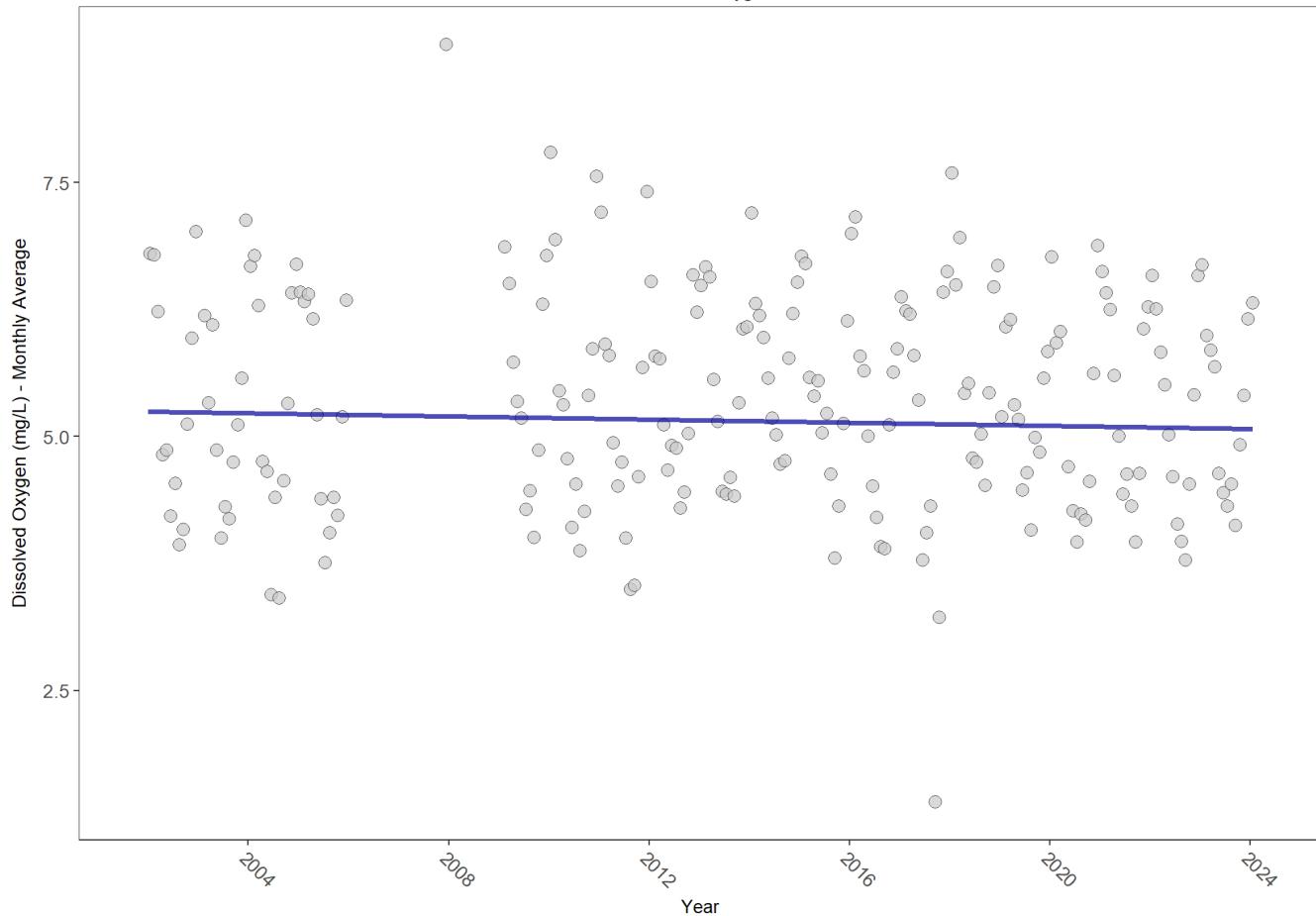
rkbfbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbfbwq

Dissolved Oxygen



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	533408	21	5.4	TRUE	-0.061	0.2007	-0.007723325	5.245141	13.7234	0.2487	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

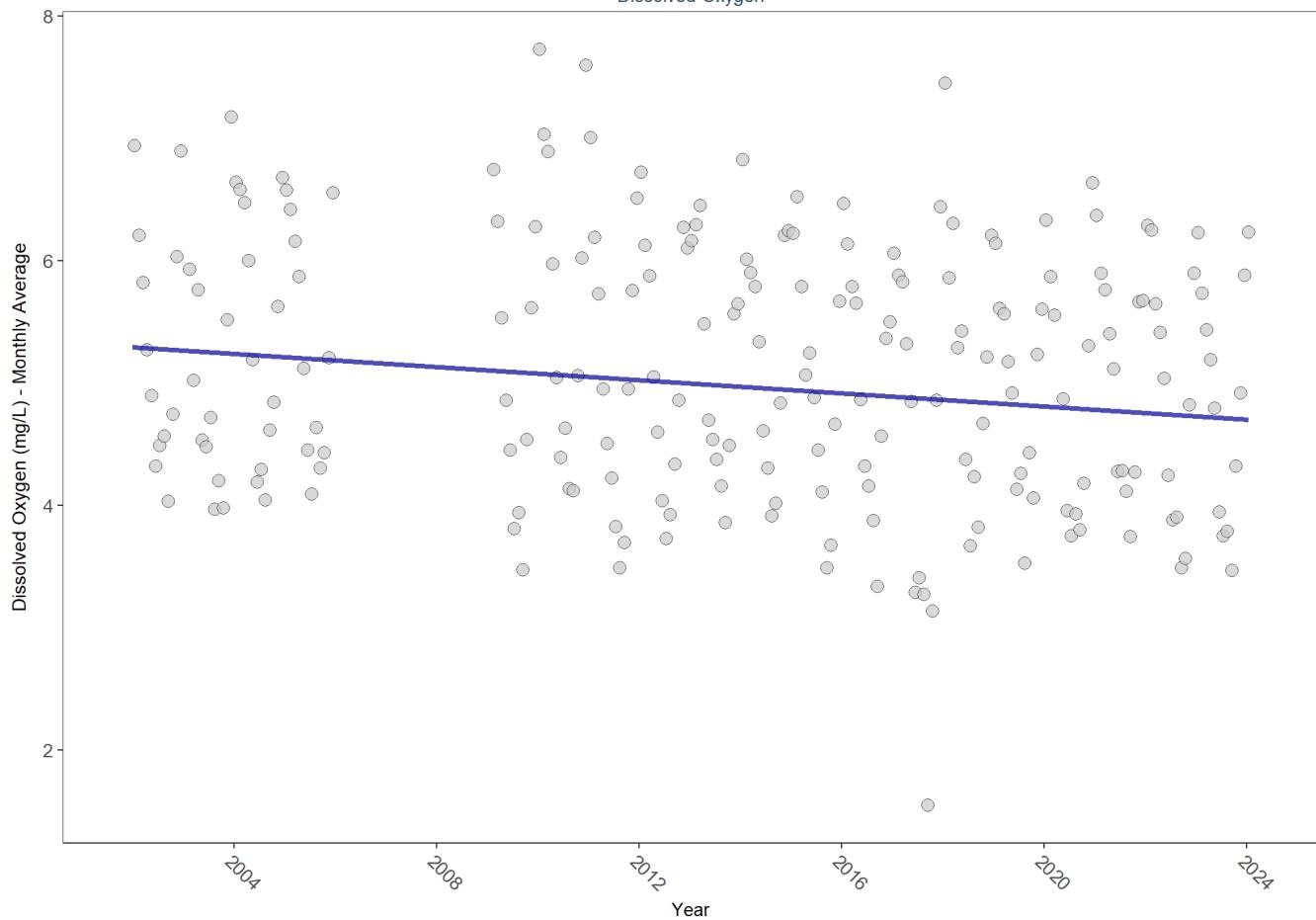
## rkbftuwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbftuwq

Dissolved Oxygen



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	568567	20	5.1	TRUE	-0.3134	0.0000	-0.02688907	5.292392	7.7285	0.7374	-1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

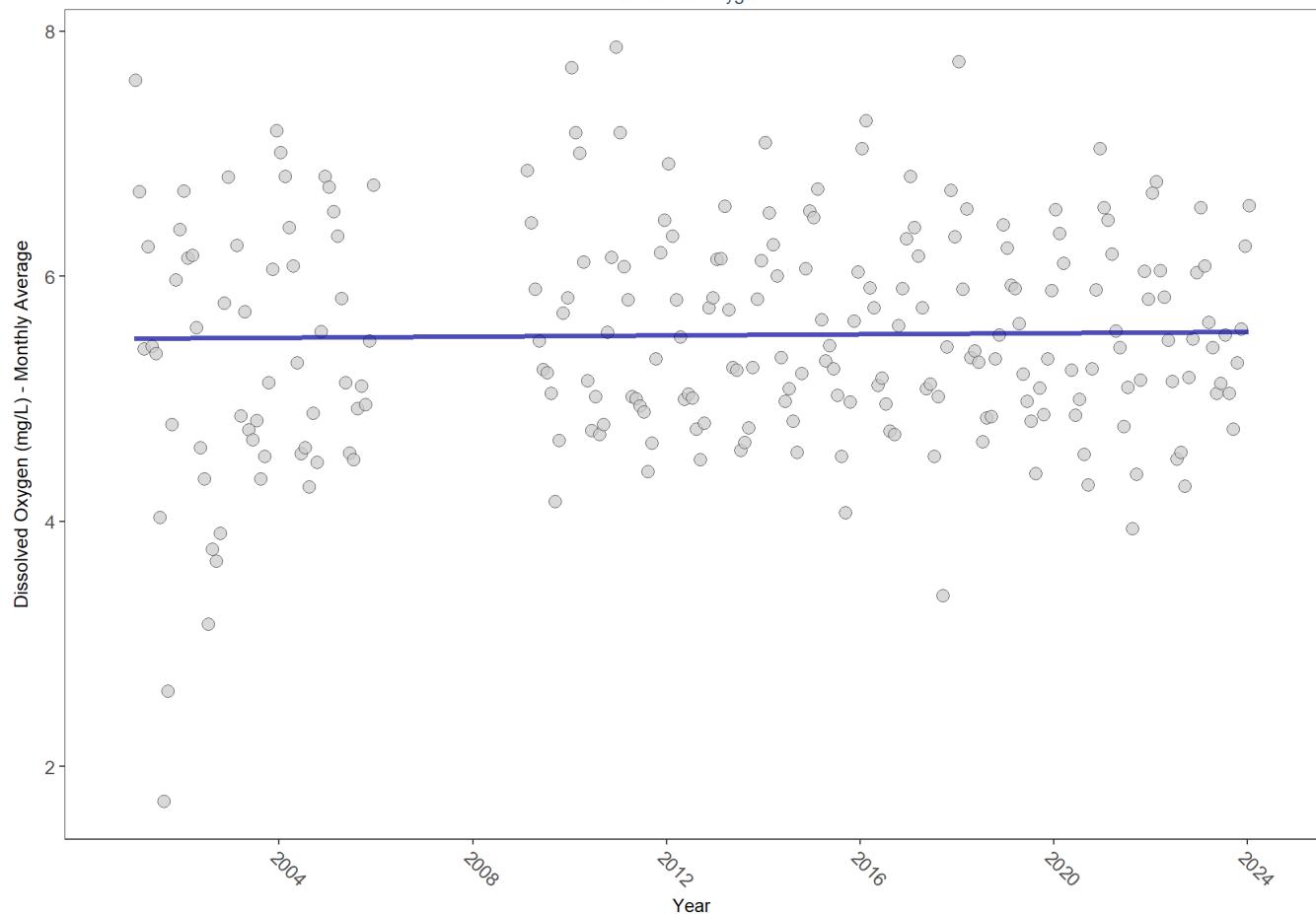
## rkbhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbhwq

Dissolved Oxygen



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	549144	21	5.5	TRUE	0.0191	0.6560	0.002343171	5.491005	20.7278	0.0363	0

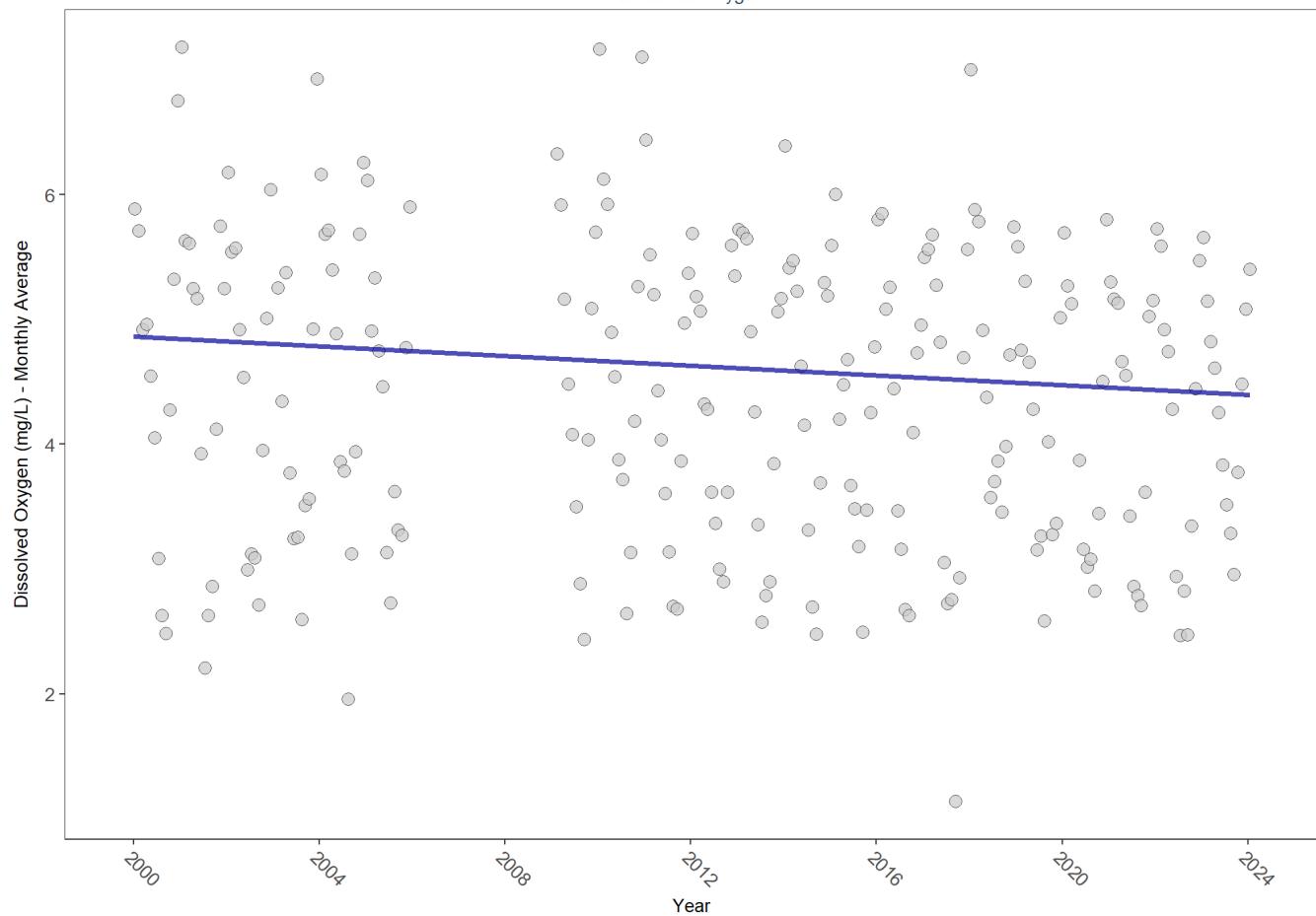
$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## rkbmbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbmbwq  
Dissolved Oxygen



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	587313	22	4.4	TRUE	-0.2213	0.0000	-0.01941125	4.862686	19.9079	0.0466	-1

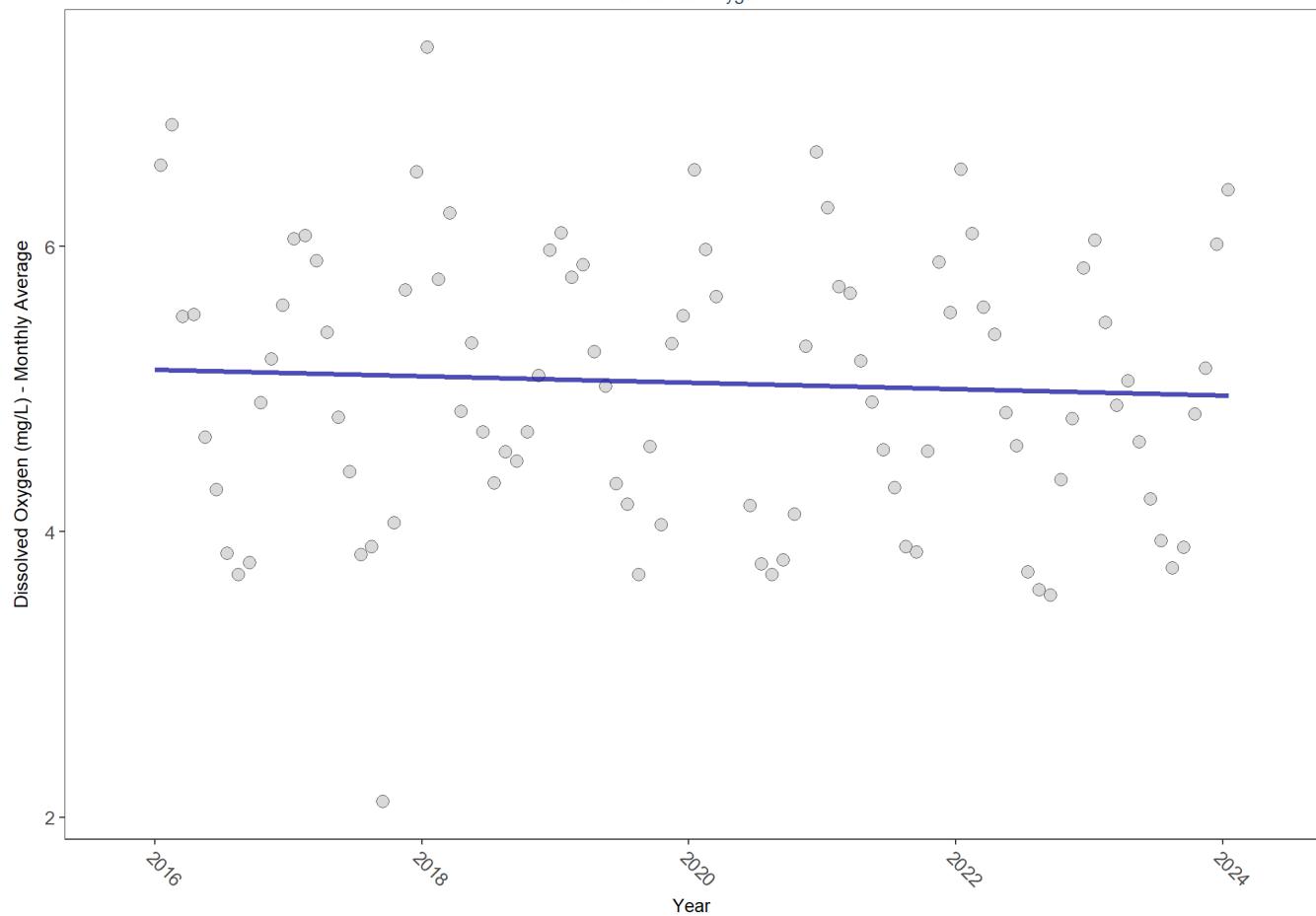
$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## rkbpbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbpbwq  
Dissolved Oxygen



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	264817	9	5	TRUE	-0.1361	0.1209	-0.02269027	5.137504	5.0929	0.9266	0

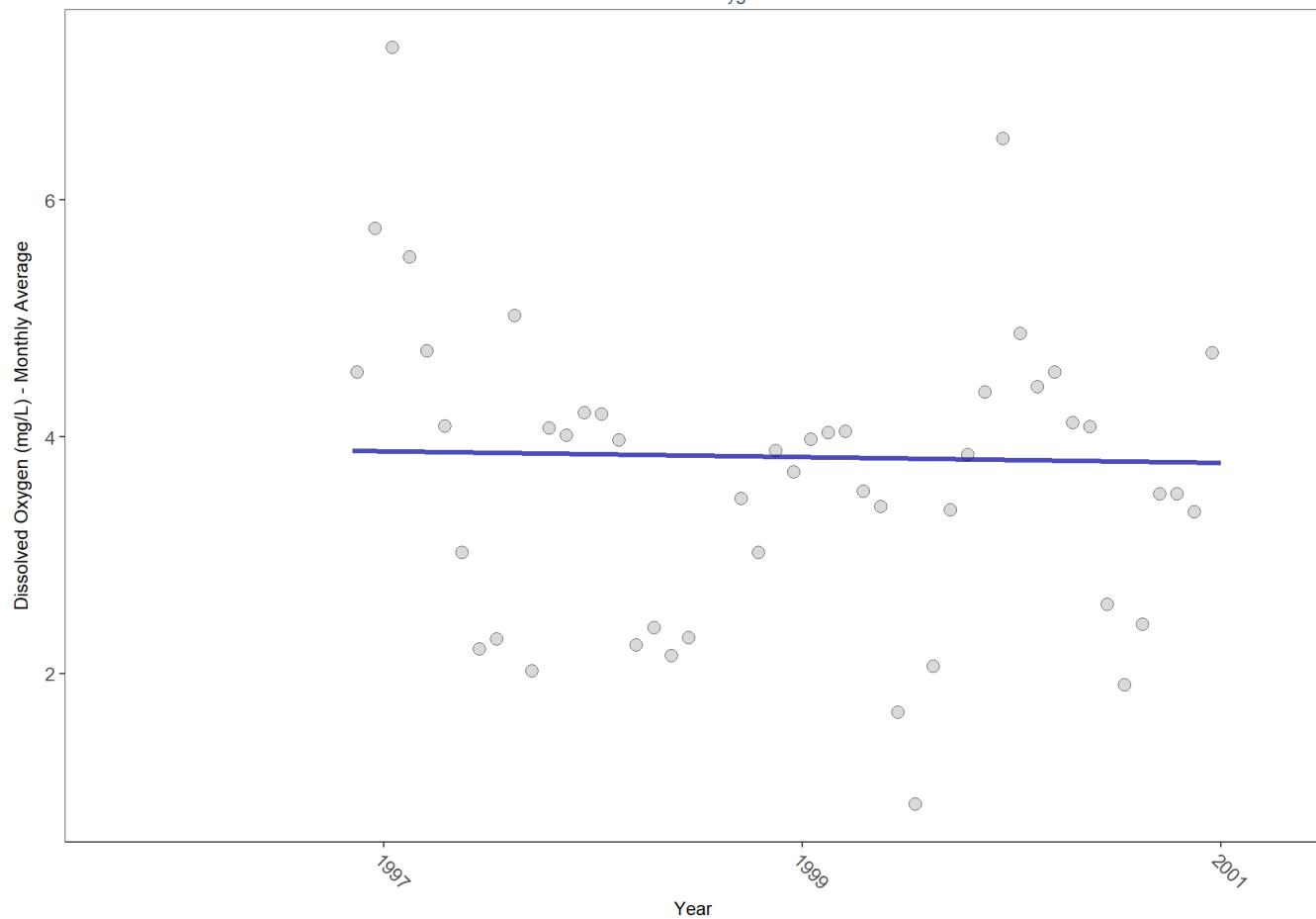
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbuhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbuhwq  
Dissolved Oxygen



## All Stations Combined

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
All Stations  
Dissolved Oxygen - Continuous

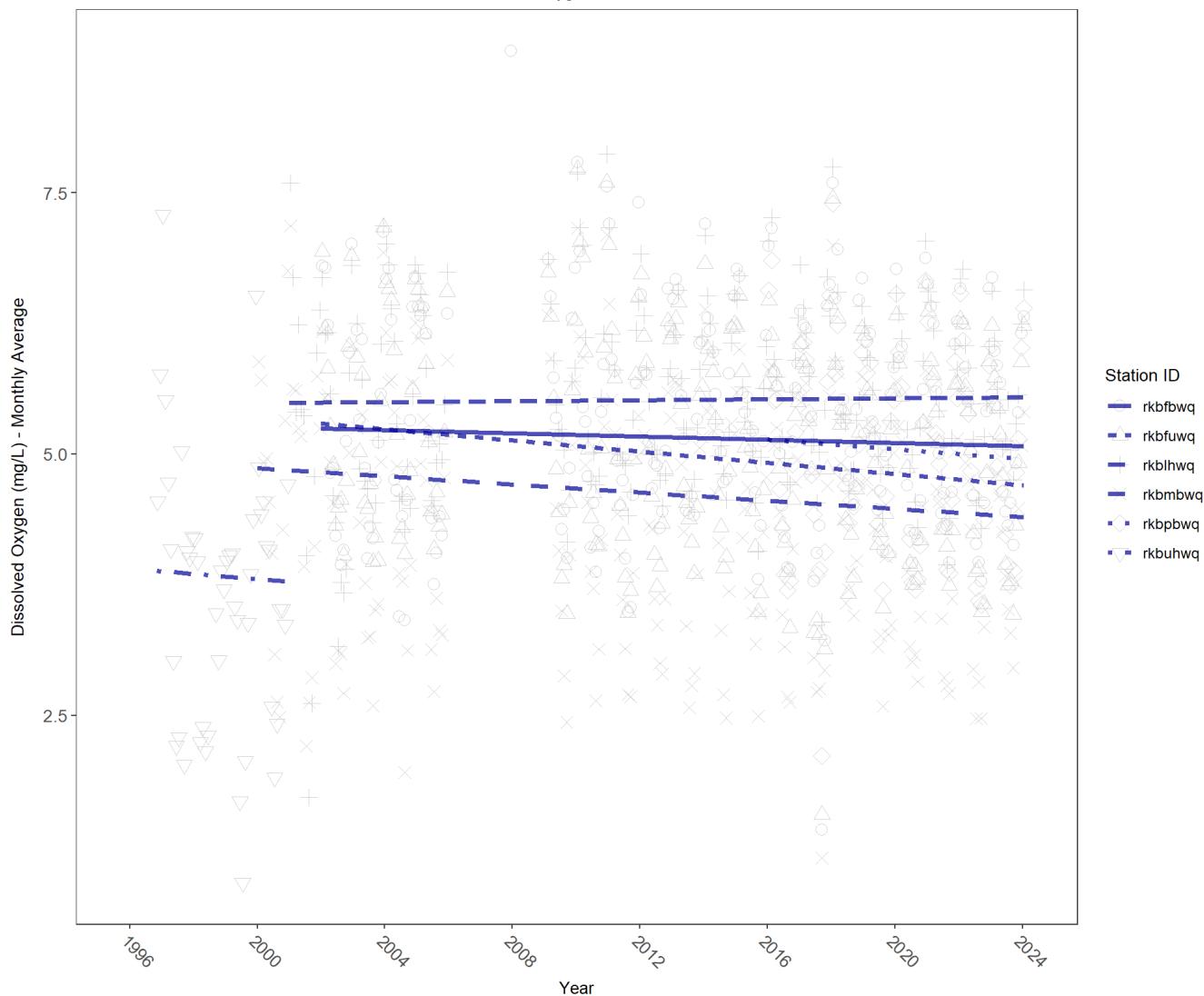


Table 27: Seasonal Kendall-Tau Results for All Stations - Dissolved Oxygen

Station	N_Data	N_Years	Period of Record	Median	tau	SennIntercept	SennSlope	p
rkbmbwq	10441	2	1997 - 1998	7.2	-	-	-	-
rkbfbwq	533408	21	2002 - 2024	5.4	-0.06	5.25	-0.01	0.2007
rkbfuwq	568567	20	2002 - 2024	5.1	-0.31	5.29	-0.03	0.0000
rkbhwq	549144	21	2001 - 2024	5.5	0.02	5.49	0	0.6560
rkbmbwq	587313	22	2000 - 2024	4.4	-0.22	4.86	-0.02	0.0000
rkbpbwq	264817	9	2016 - 2024	5.0	-0.14	5.14	-0.02	0.1209
rkbuhwq	58050	5	1996 - 2000	3.6	0.01	3.9	-0.02	1.0000

## Dissolved Oxygen Saturation - Continuous Water Quality

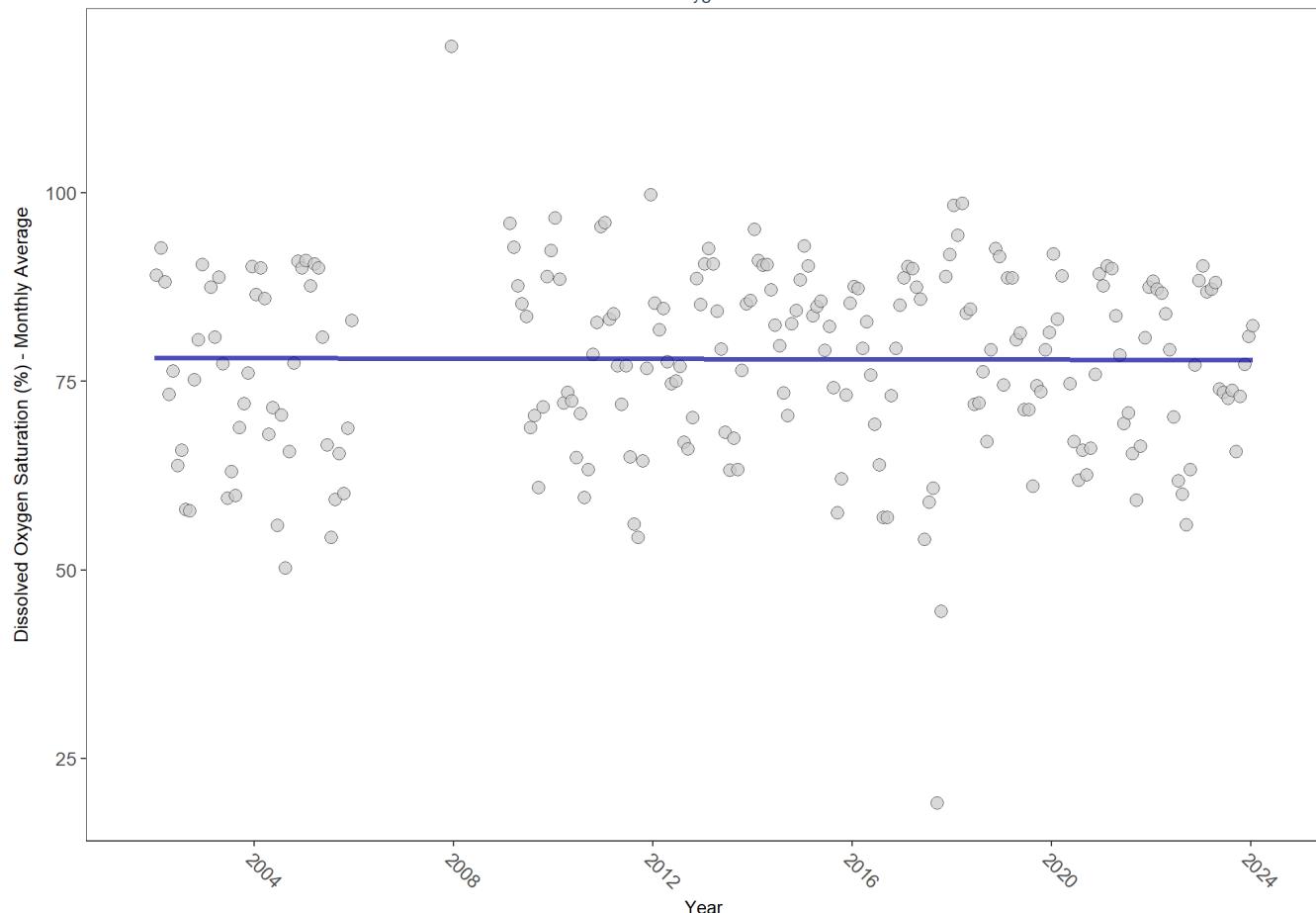
rkbfbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbfbwq

Dissolved Oxygen Saturation



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	537699	21	78.6	TRUE	-0.002	0.9514	-0.01294134	78.13503	13.3462	0.2713	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

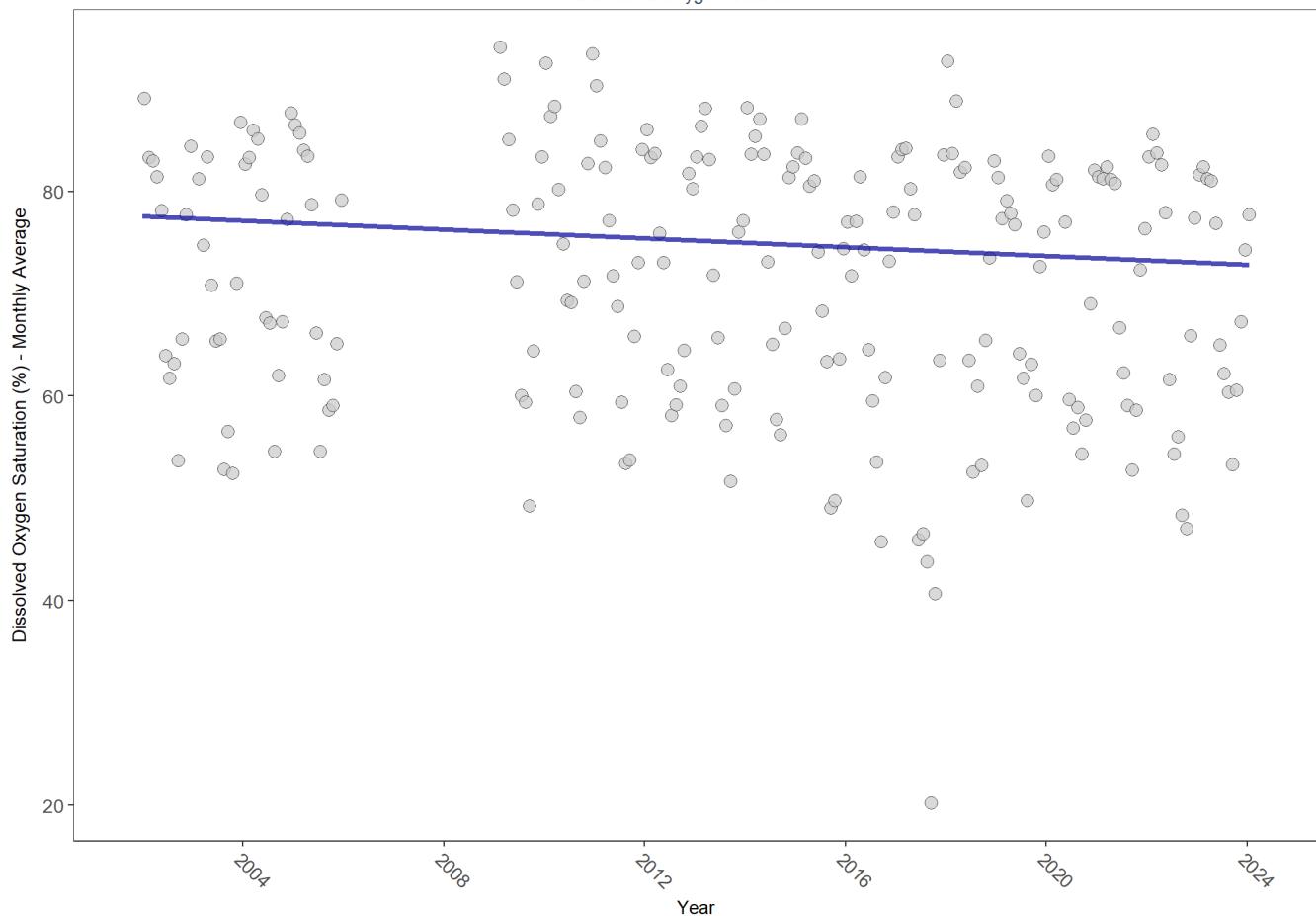
## rkbftuwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbftuwq

Dissolved Oxygen Saturation



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	568826	20	72.5	TRUE	-0.2238	0.0000	-0.2137134	77.54466	9.3021	0.594	-1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

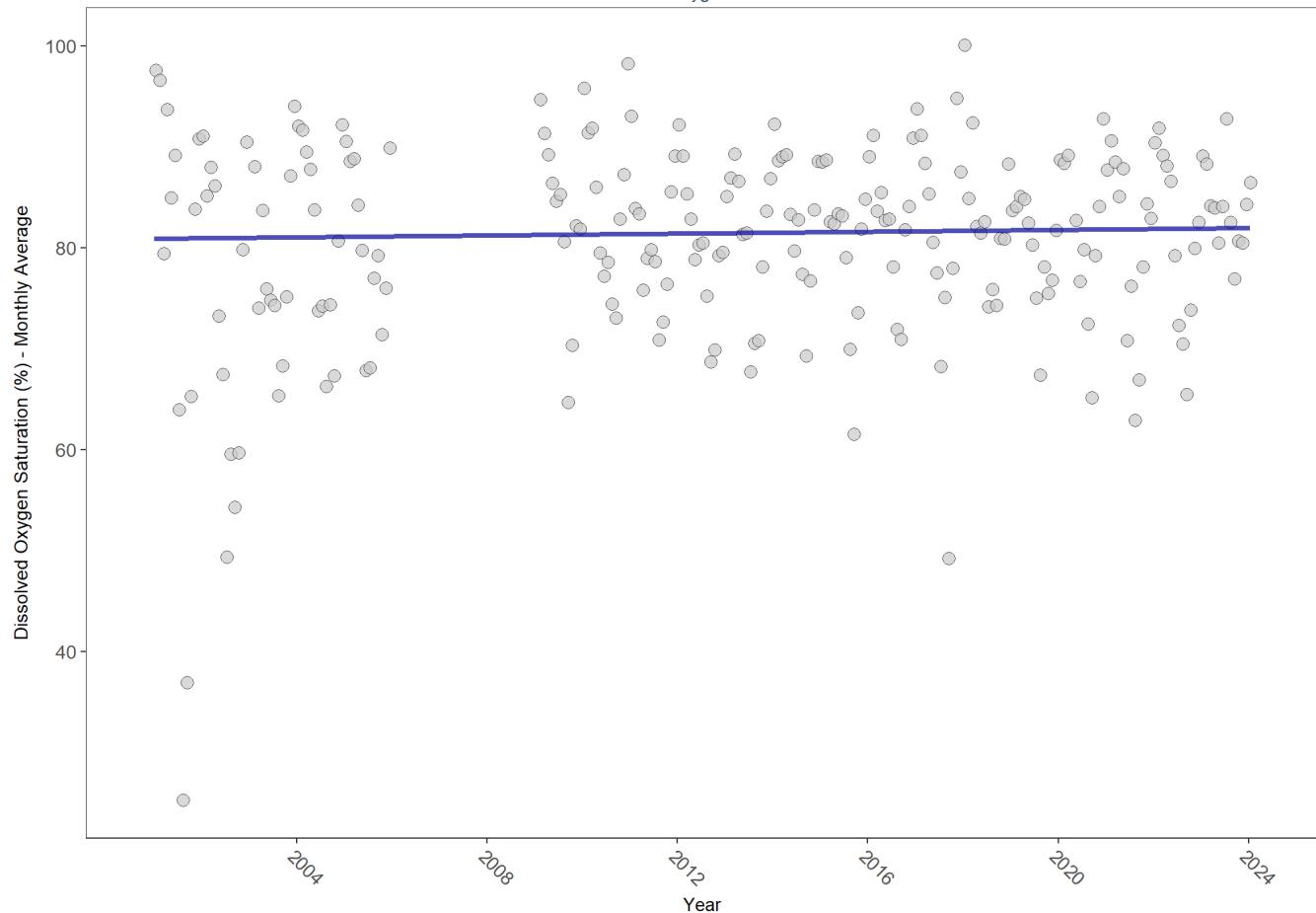
## rkbhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbhwq

Dissolved Oxygen Saturation



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	561462	21	81.9	TRUE	0.0411	0.3580	0.04493568	80.92275	23.55	0.0148	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

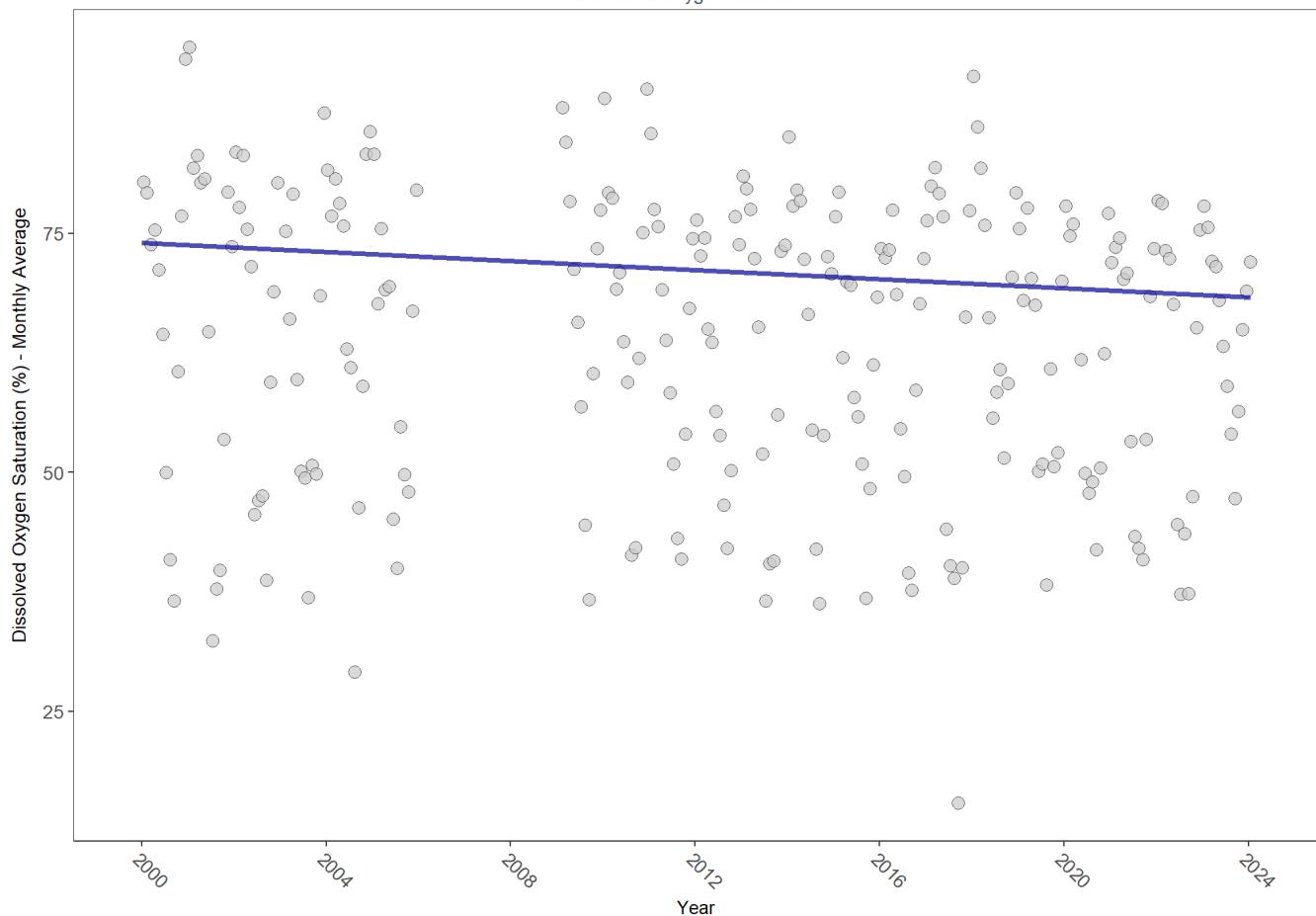
## rkbmbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbmbwq

Dissolved Oxygen Saturation



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	593607	22	65.4	TRUE	-0.1926	0.0000	-0.2366685	73.98255	18.5399	0.0699	-1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

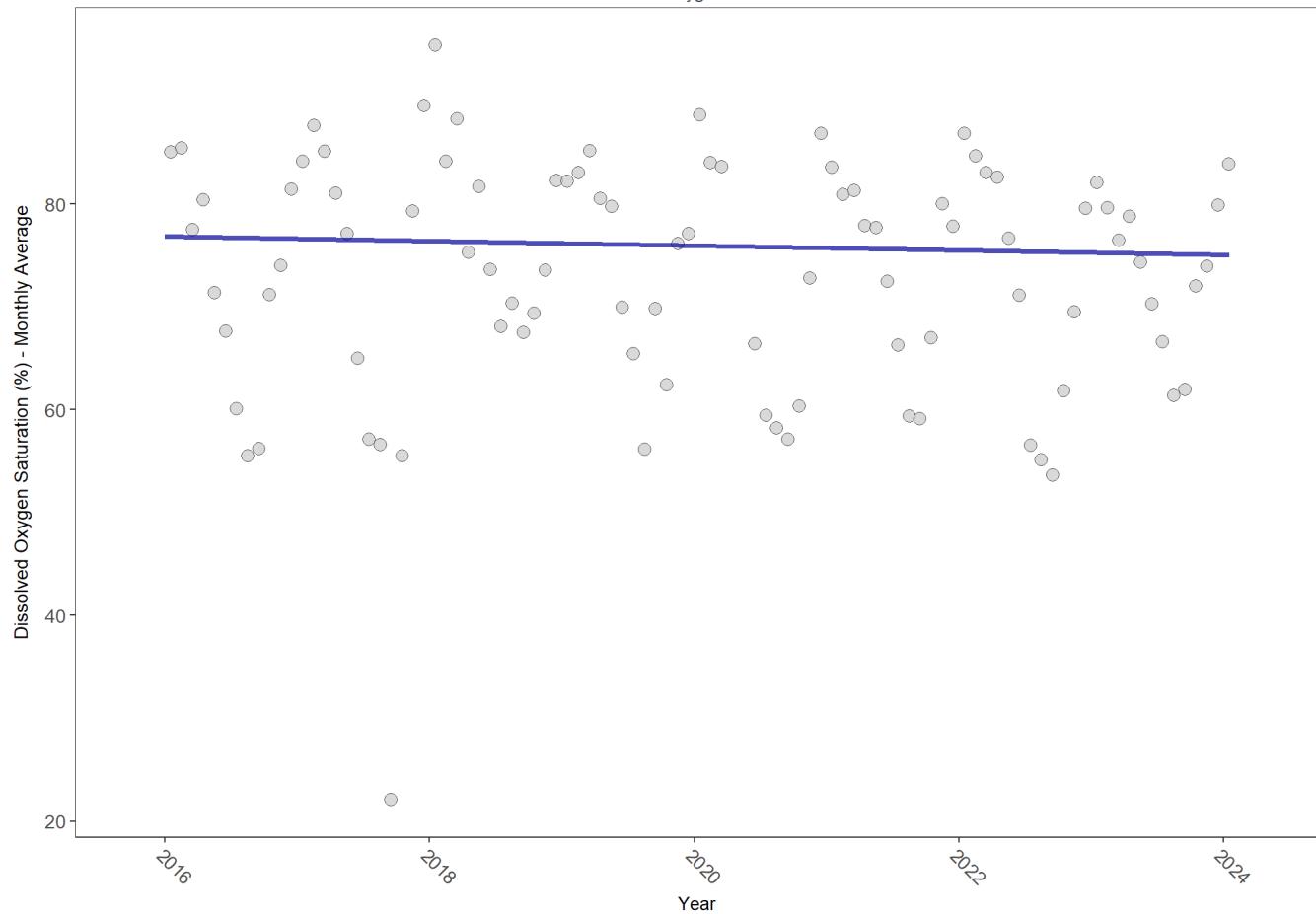
## rkbpbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbpbwq

Dissolved Oxygen Saturation



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	266877	9	72.8	TRUE	-0.0875	0.2956	-0.2261626	76.83201	8.2709	0.6888	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

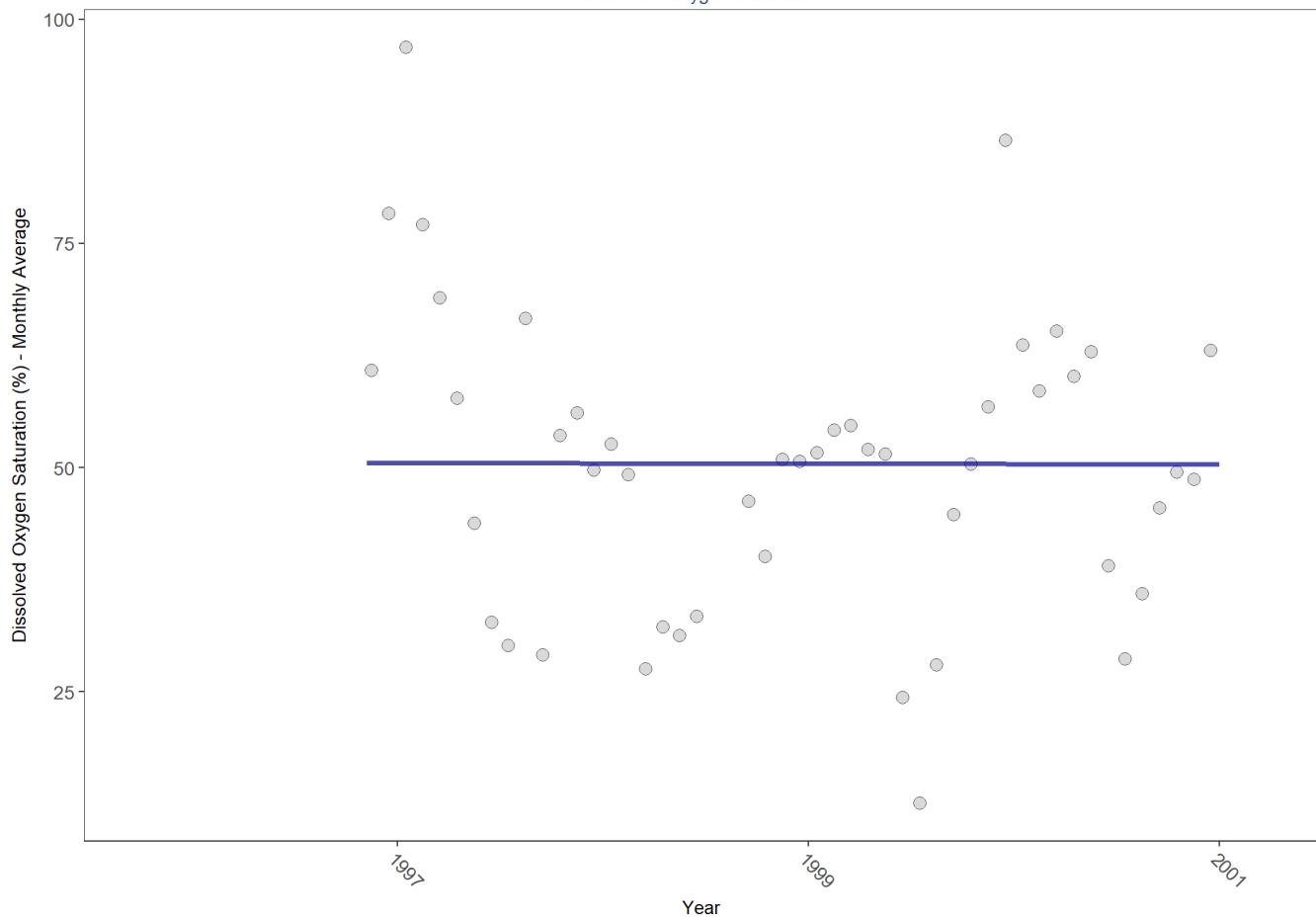
## rkbuhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbuhwq

Dissolved Oxygen Saturation



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	58157	5	49.7	TRUE	0	1.0000	-0.02392129	50.52867	7.0993	0.791	0

$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## All Stations Combined

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
All Stations  
Dissolved Oxygen Saturation - Continuous

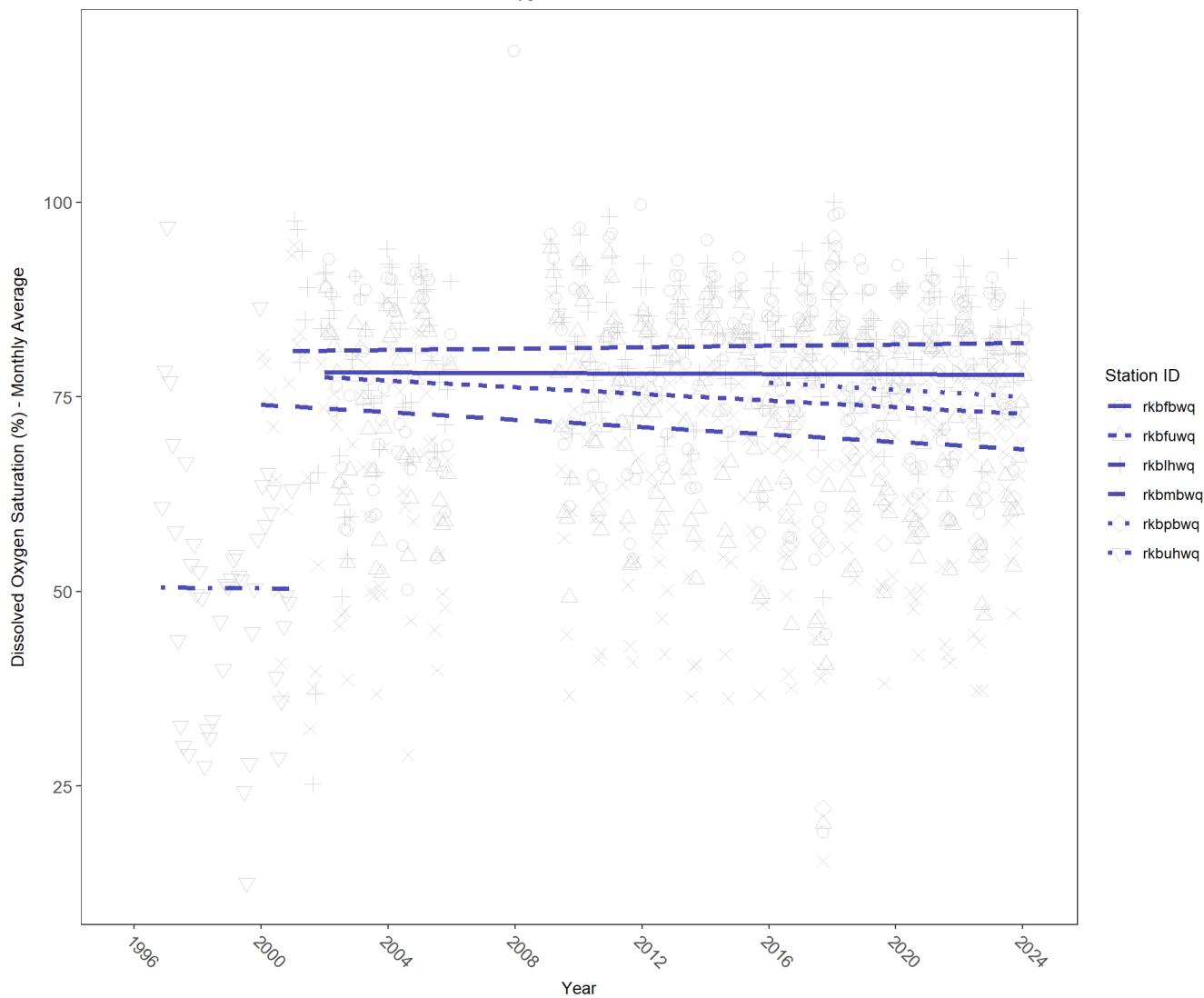


Table 28: Seasonal Kendall-Tau Results for All Stations - Dissolved Oxygen Saturation

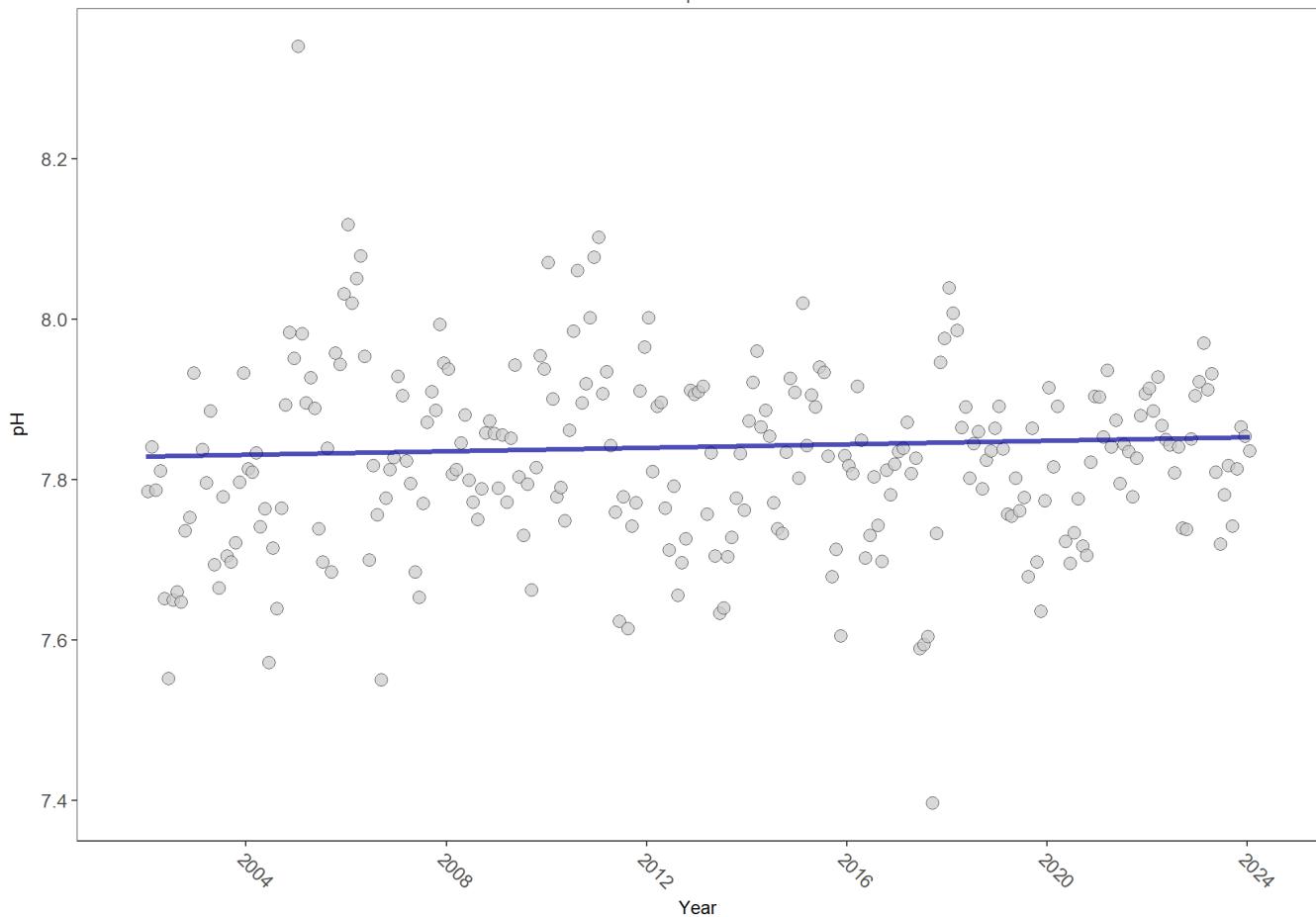
Station	N_Data	N_Years	Period of Record	Median	tau	SennIntercept	SennSlope	p
rkbmbwq	10441	2	1997 - 1998	102.4	-	-	-	-
rkbfbwq	537699	21	2002 - 2024	78.6	0	78.14	-0.01	0.9514
rkbfuwq	568826	20	2002 - 2024	72.5	-0.22	77.54	-0.21	0.0000
rkbhwq	561462	21	2001 - 2024	81.9	0.04	80.92	0.04	0.3580
rkbmbwq	593607	22	2000 - 2024	65.4	-0.19	73.98	-0.24	0.0000
rkbpbwq	266877	9	2016 - 2024	72.8	-0.09	76.83	-0.23	0.2956
rkbuhwq	58157	5	1996 - 2000	49.7	0	50.53	-0.02	1.0000

## pH - Continuous Water Quality

rkbfbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbfbwq  
pH



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	600183	23	7.8	TRUE	0.0535	0.2322	0.00106079	7.82921	14.627	0.2002	0

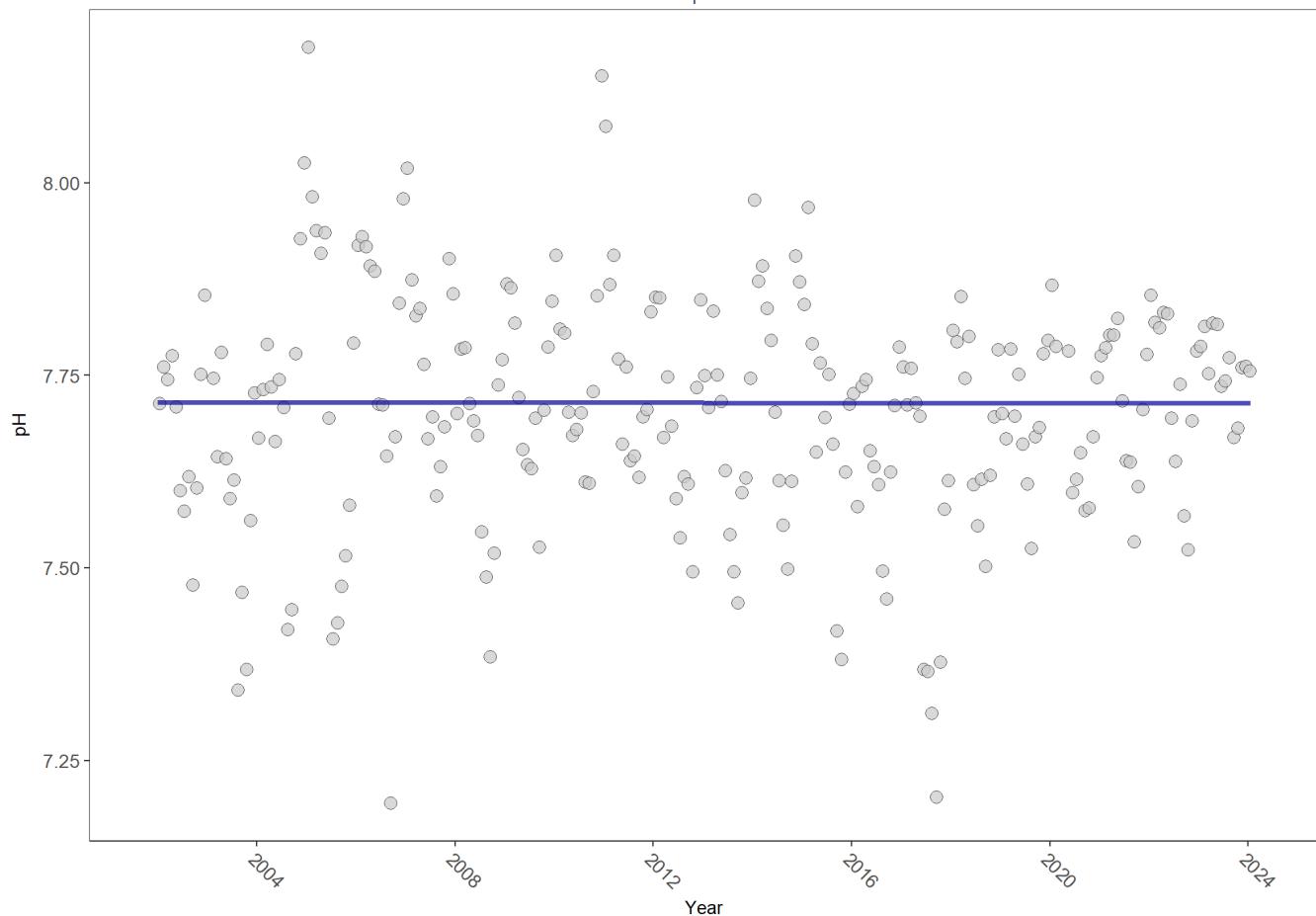
$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## rkbftuwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbftuwq  
pH



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	623866	23	7.7	TRUE	-0.0021	0.9803	-0.0000416198	7.715122	18.8823	0.0632	0

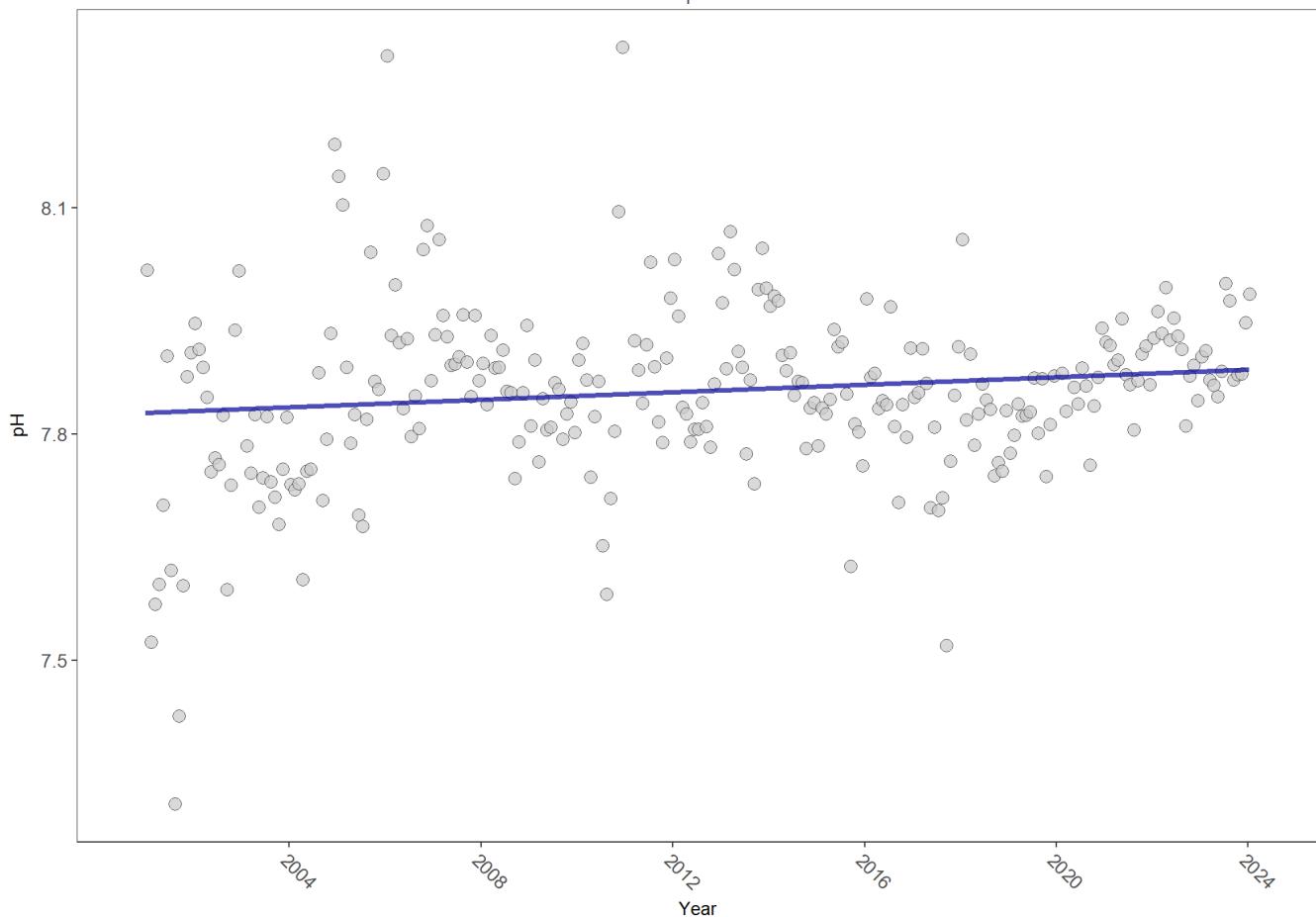
$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## rkbhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbhwq  
pH



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	608282	24	7.9	TRUE	0.1249	0.0042	0.002492506	7.827925	17.0101	0.1076	1

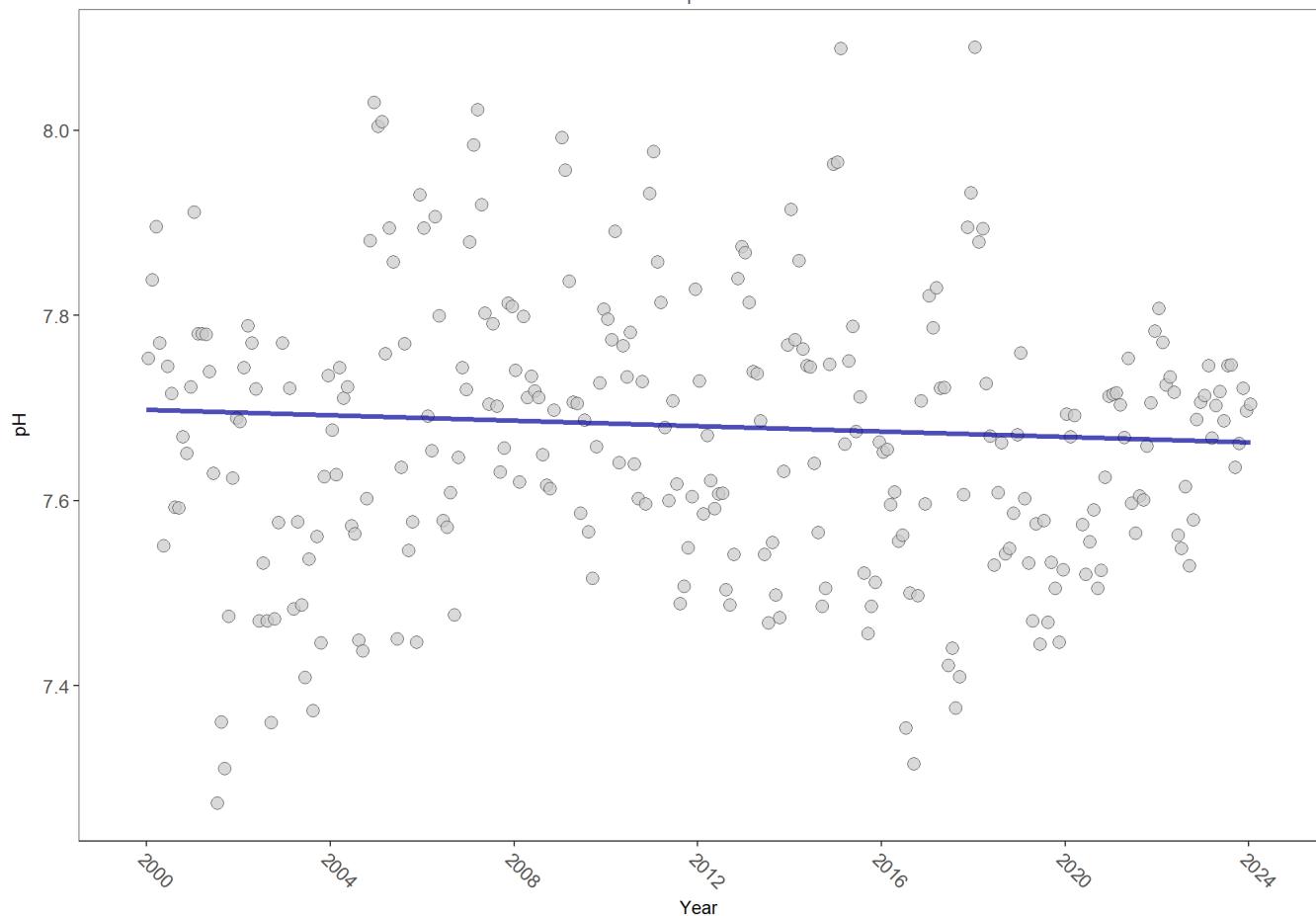
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbmbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbmbwq  
pH



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	657568	25	7.7	TRUE	-0.066	0.1270	-0.001481863	7.698423	8.2436	0.6913	0

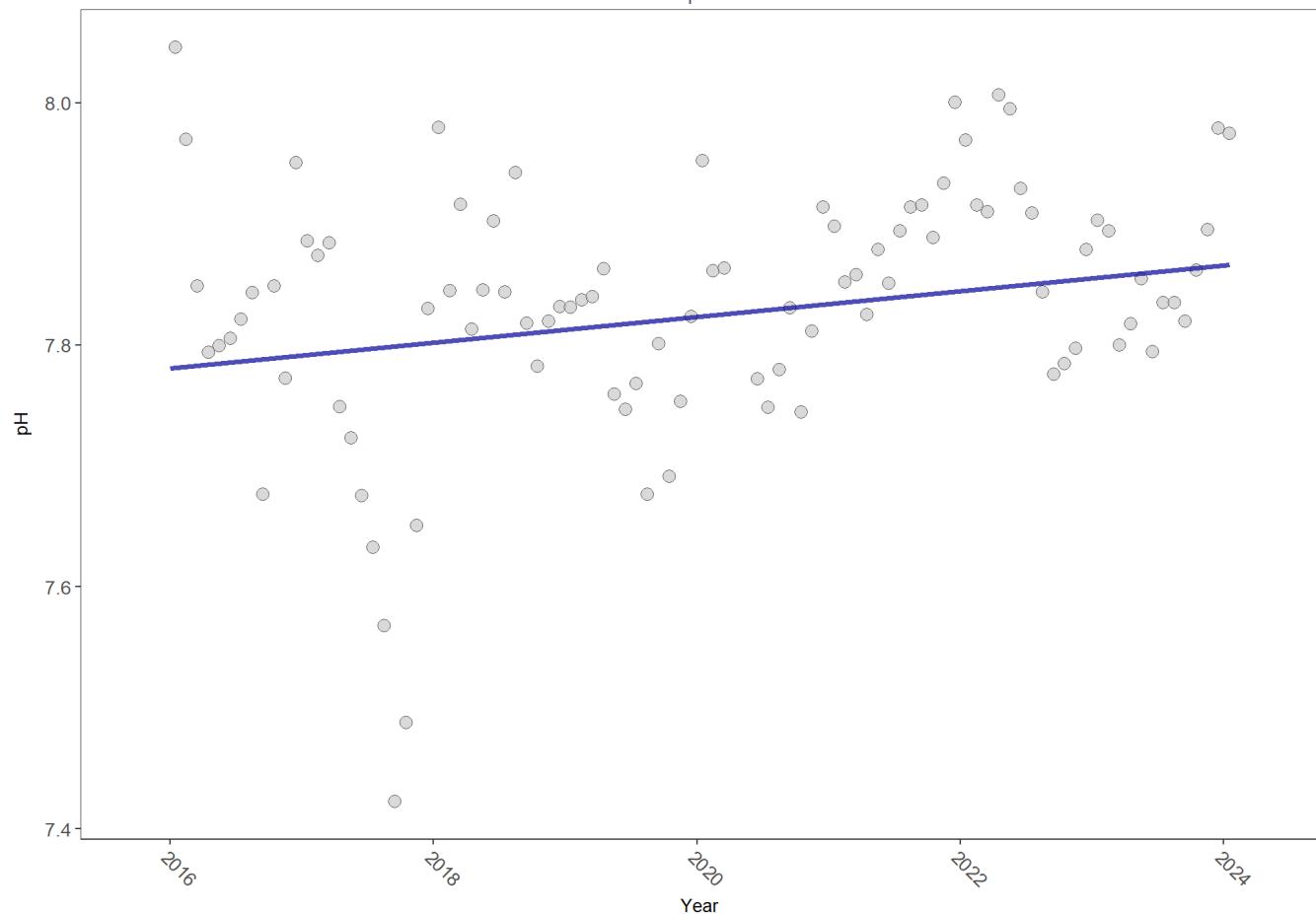
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbpbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbpbwq  
pH



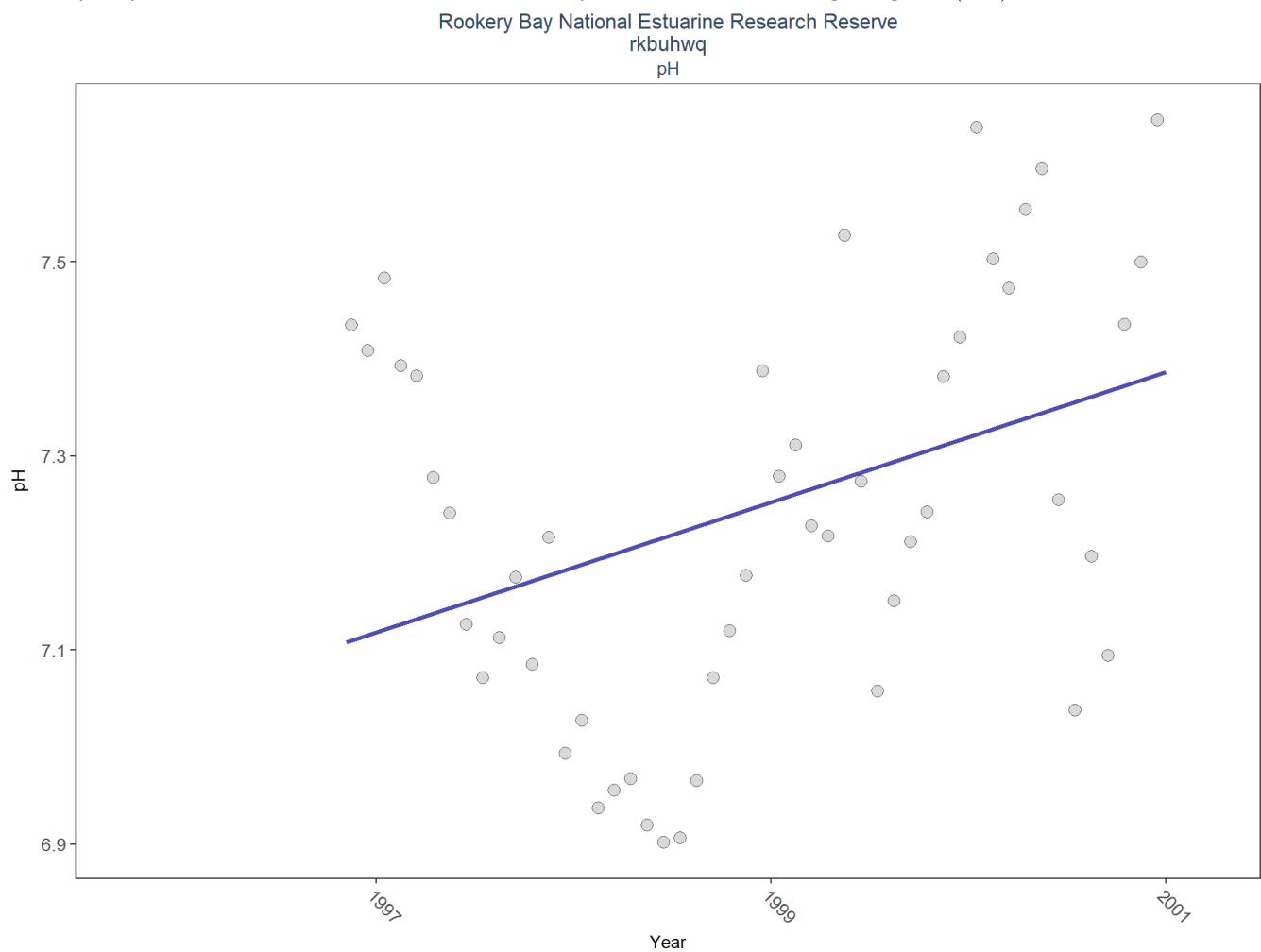
RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	258730	9	7.8	TRUE	0.2576	0.0035	0.01059503	7.780725	5.7876	0.8872	1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

rkbuhwq

## Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)



$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

*SennIntercept* is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## All Stations Combined

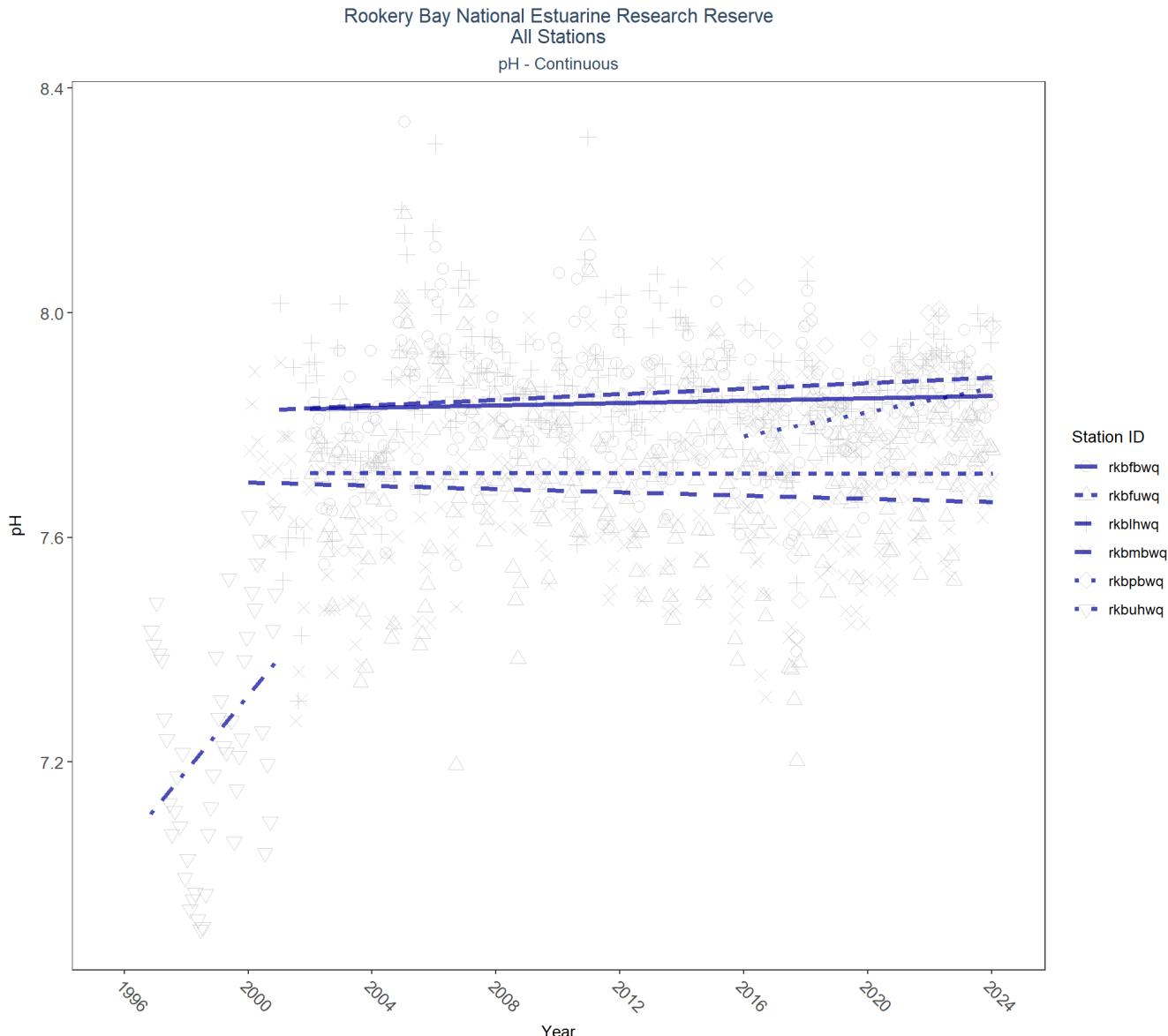


Table 29: Seasonal Kendall-Tau Results for All Stations - pH

Station	N_Data	N_Years	Period of Record	Median	tau	SennIntercept	SennSlope	p
rkbbmwq	12610	2	1997 - 1998	8.0	-	-	-	-
rkbfbwq	600183	23	2002 - 2024	7.8	0.05	7.83	0	0.2322
rkbfuwq	623866	23	2002 - 2024	7.7	0	7.72	0	0.9803
rkbhwq	608282	24	2001 - 2024	7.9	0.12	7.83	0	0.0042
rkbmbwq	657568	25	2000 - 2024	7.7	-0.07	7.7	0	0.1270
rkbpbwq	258730	9	2016 - 2024	7.8	0.26	7.78	0.01	0.0035
rkbuhwq	65814	5	1996 - 2000	7.2	0.37	7.05	0.07	0.0081

## Salinity - Continuous Water Quality

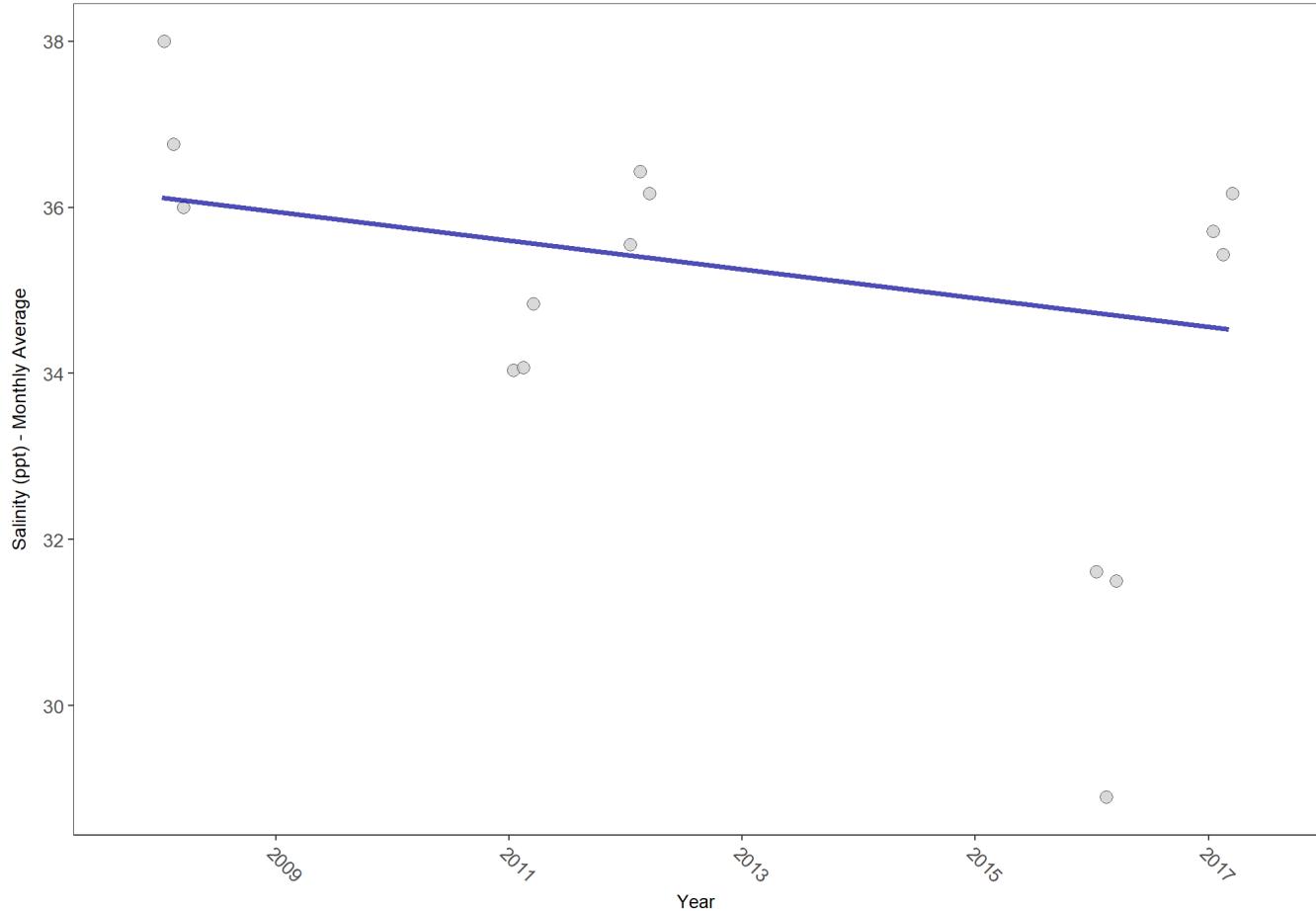
255123081321300

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

255123081321300

Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	319	5	35	TRUE	-0.1667	0.5677	-0.1738916	36.12414	0.7701	0.6804	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

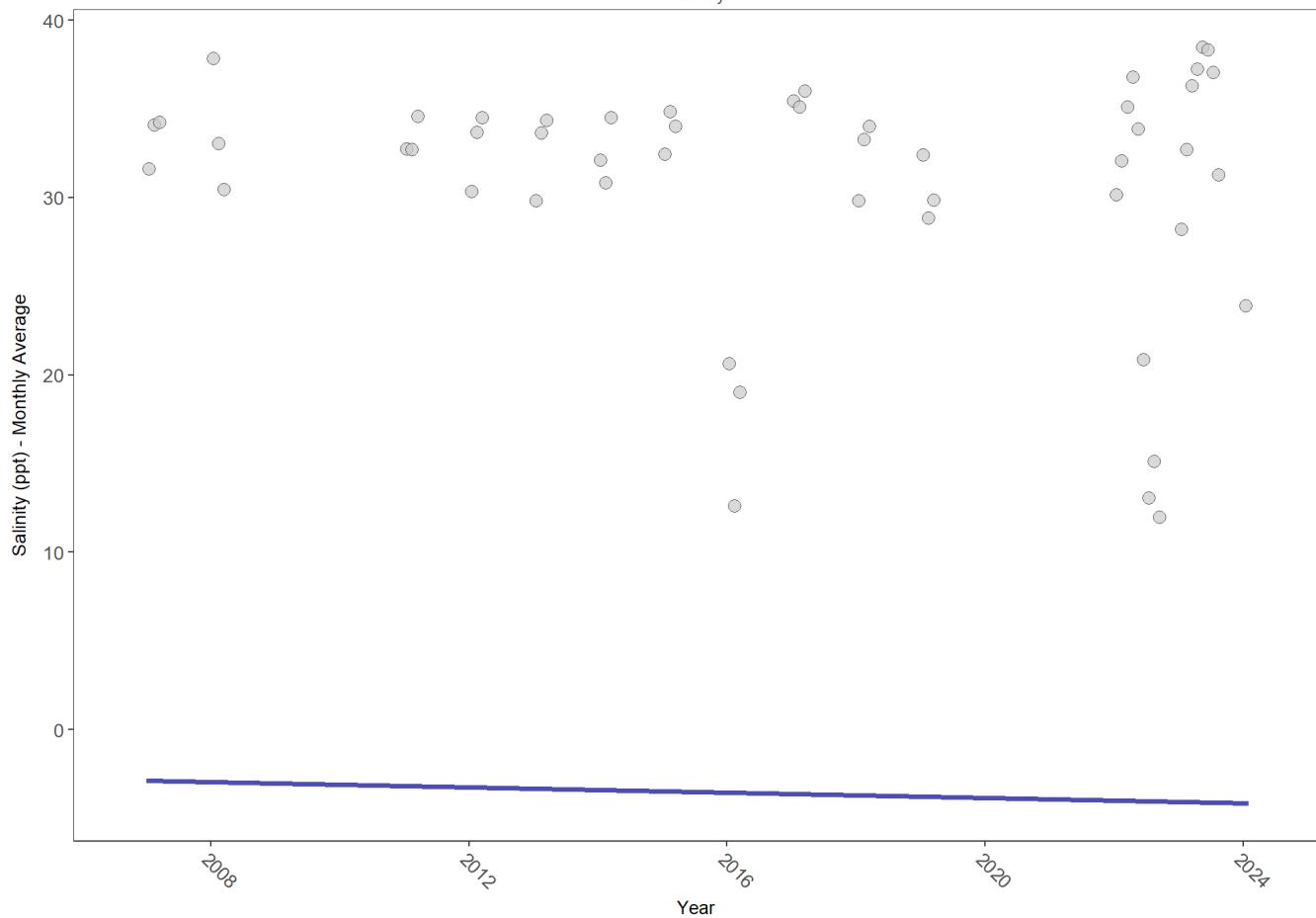
**255432081303900**

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

255432081303900

Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	1332	14	33	TRUE	0.0687	0.2231	-0.07388994	-2.902957	9.178	0.2401	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

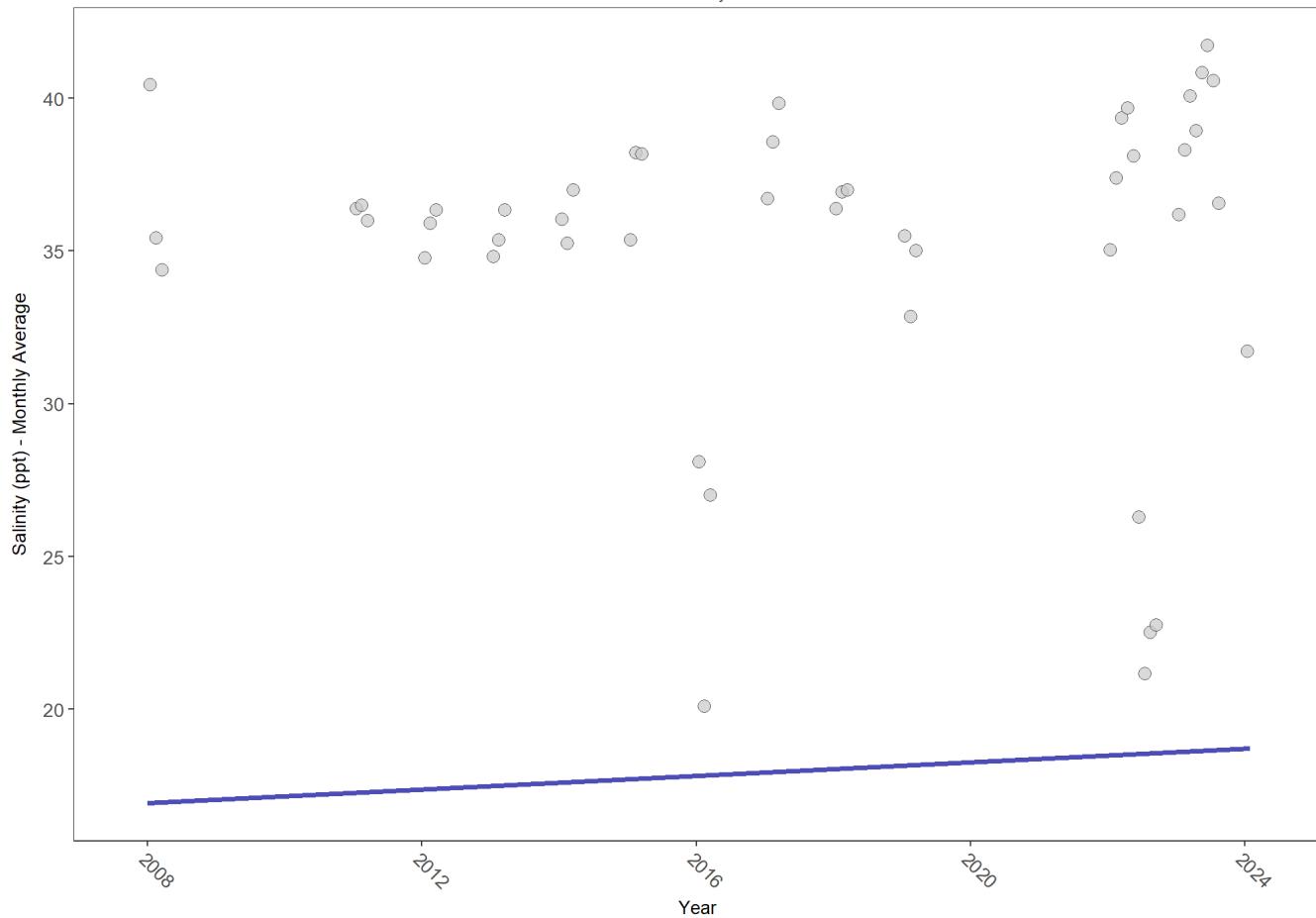
**255534081324000**

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

255534081324000

Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	1251	13	36	TRUE	0.2411	0.2558	0.1111111	16.93369	8.3011	0.3068	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

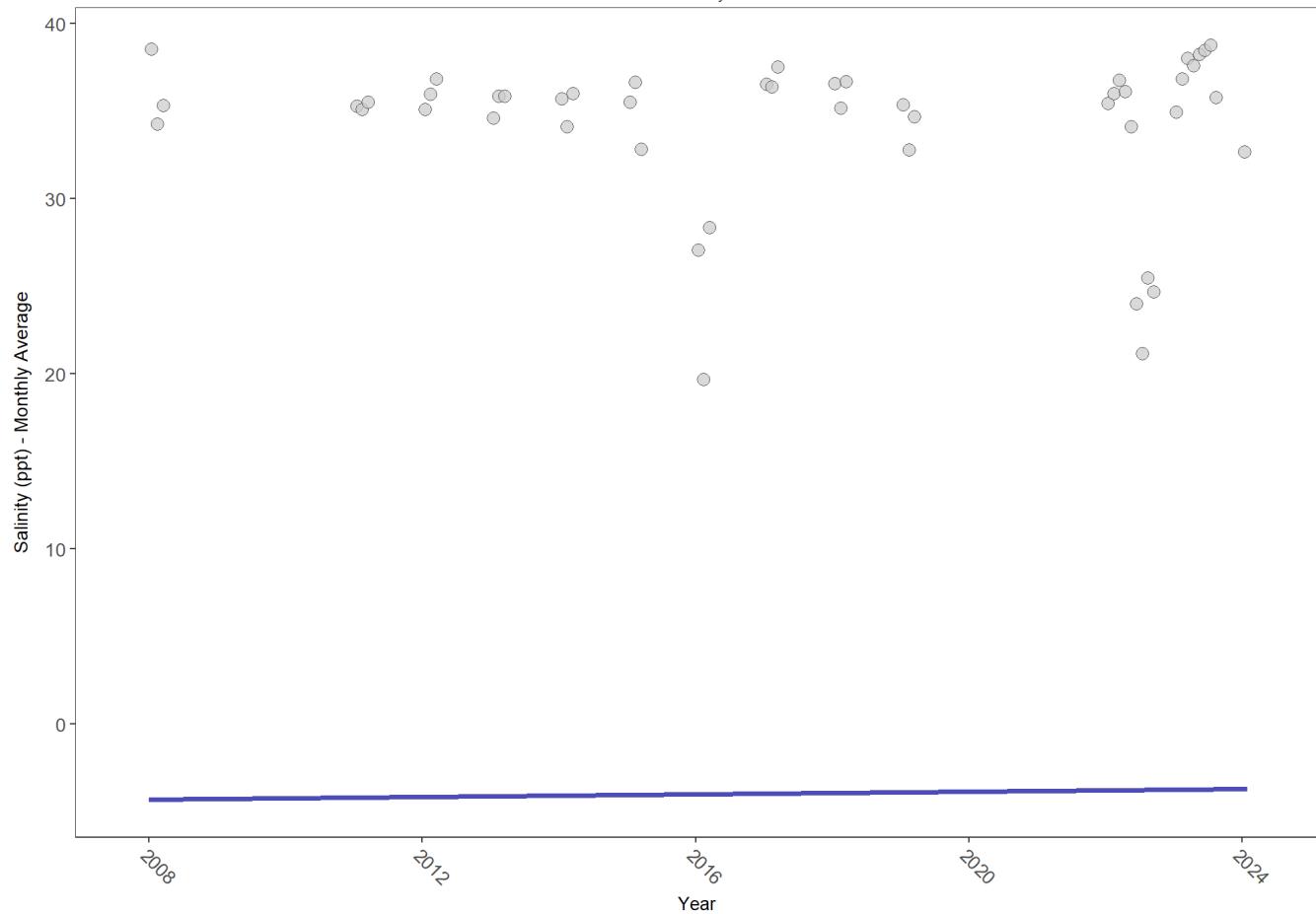
**255654081350200**

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

255654081350200

Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	1232	13	36	TRUE	0.2798	0.4494	0.03686636	-4.304839	3.5648	0.8283	0

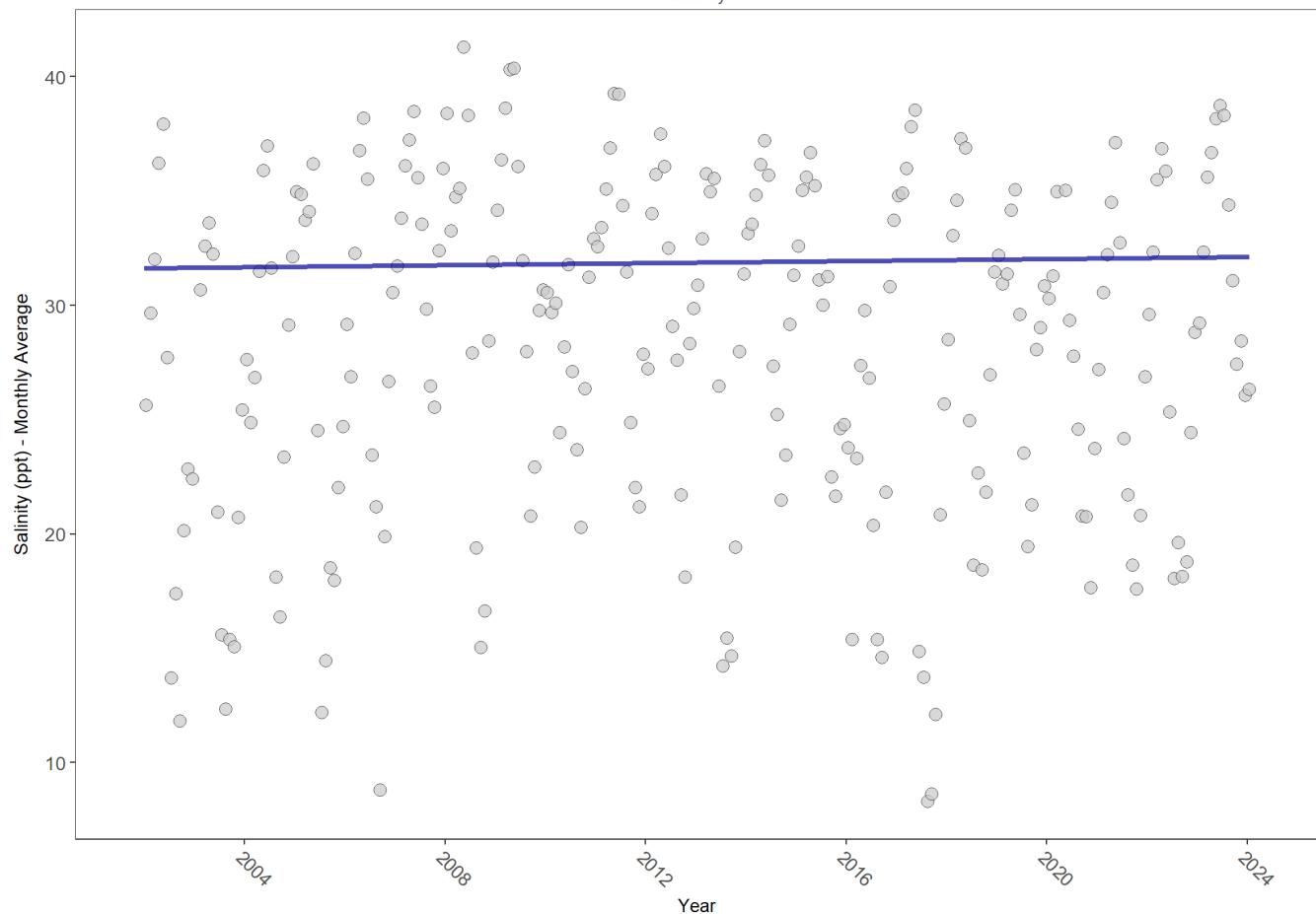
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbfbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbfbwq  
Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	632681	23	29.9	TRUE	0.024	0.6004	0.02121711	31.63733	6.8237	0.8132	0

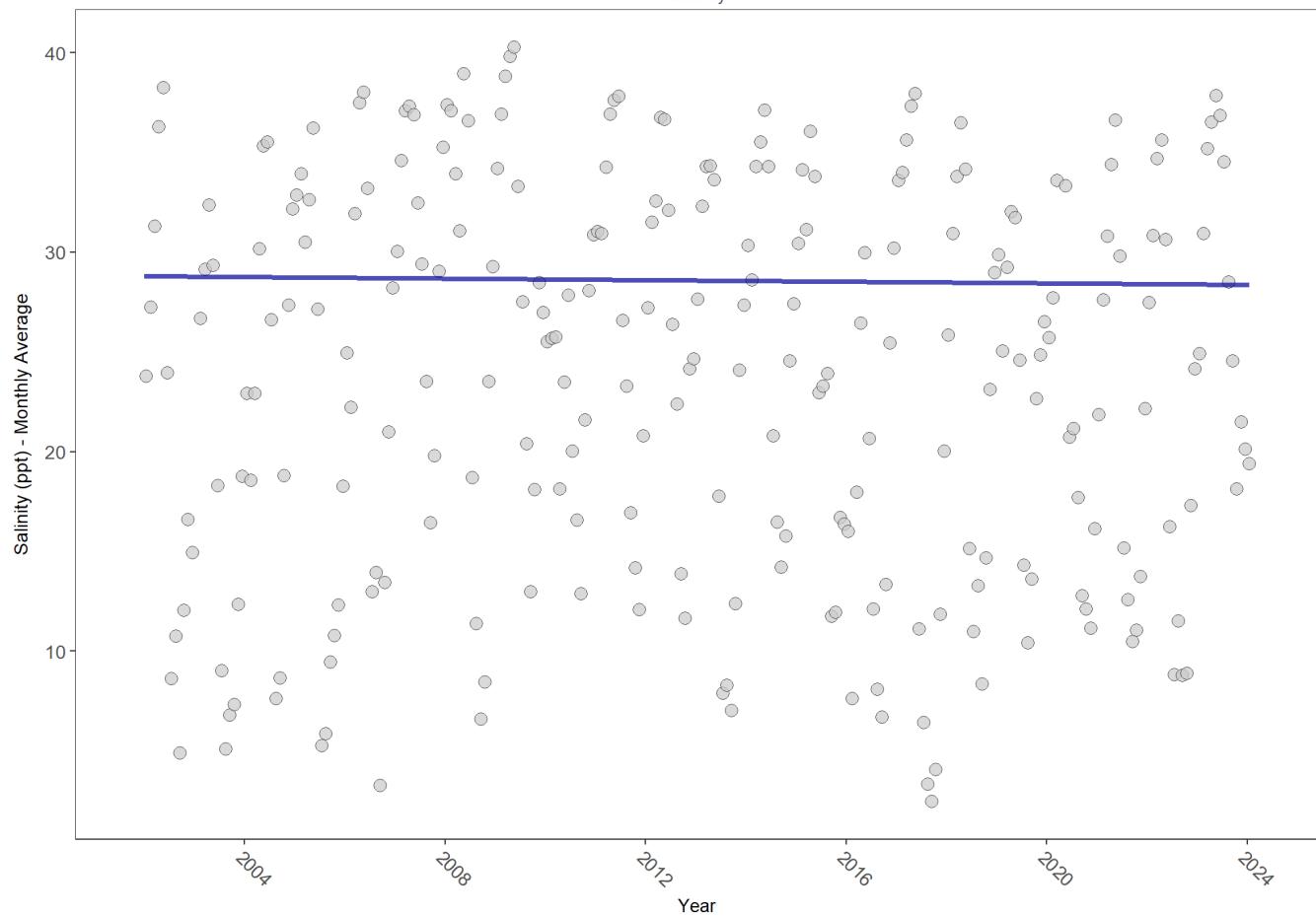
$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## rkbftuwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbftuwq  
Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	649119	23	26.3	TRUE	-0.0162	0.7188	-0.01908569	28.79302	8.9425	0.6272	0

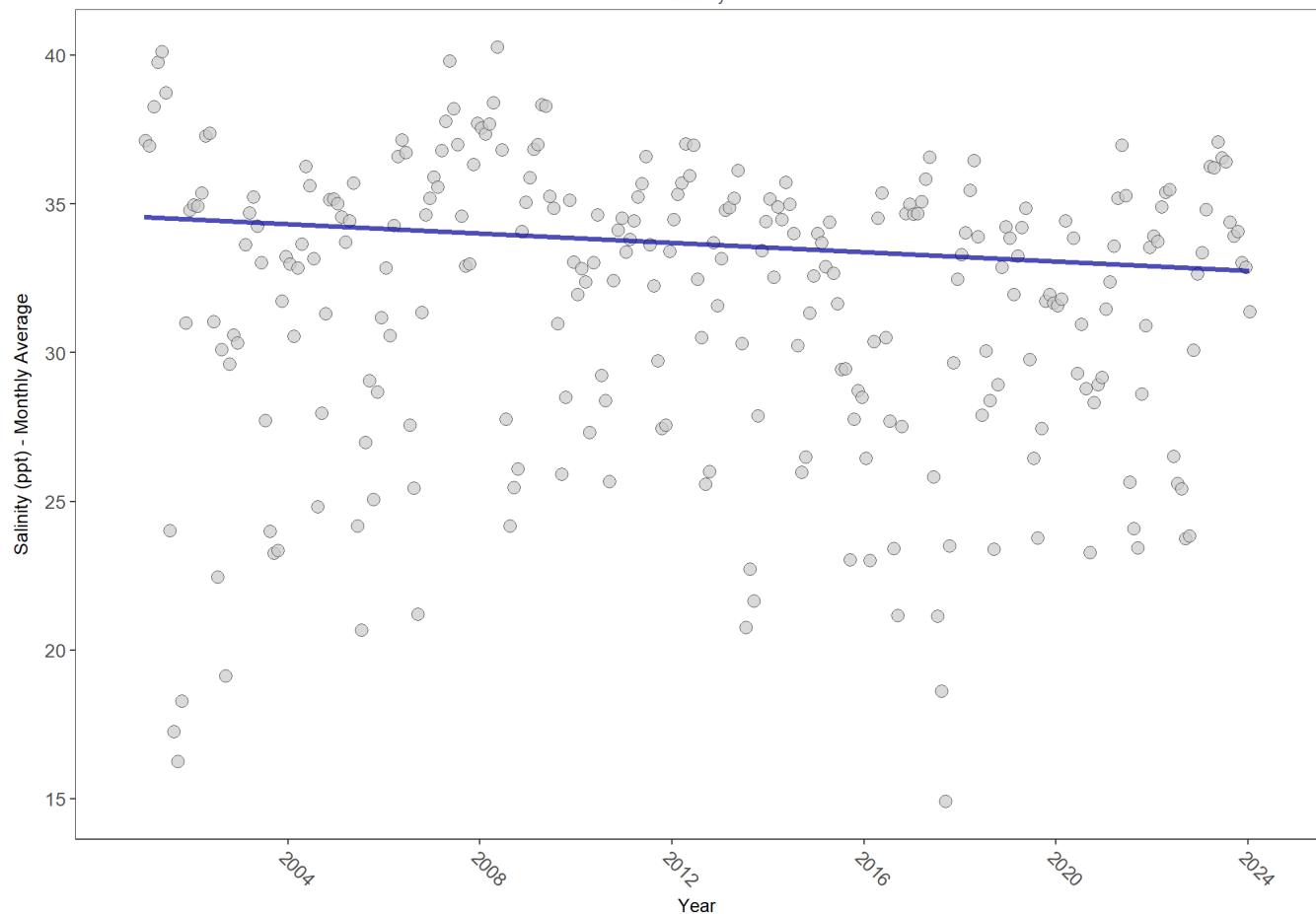
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbhwq  
Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	636274	24	33.2	TRUE	-0.1223	0.0049	-0.07850985	34.55144	13.2242	0.2789	-1

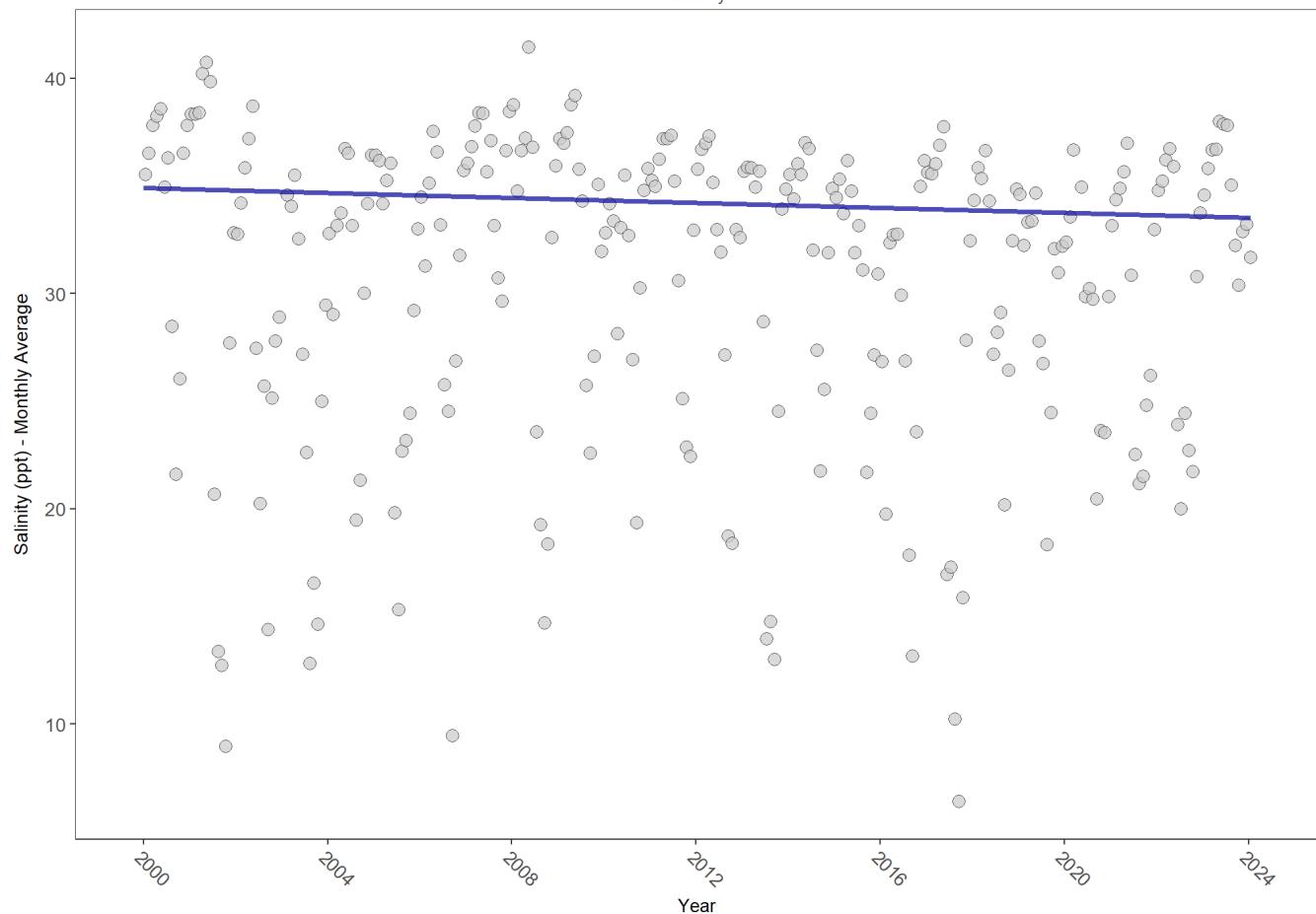
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbmbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbmbwq  
Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	668918	25	33.4	TRUE	-0.0817	0.0556	-0.05712366	34.8987	12.5693	0.3224	0

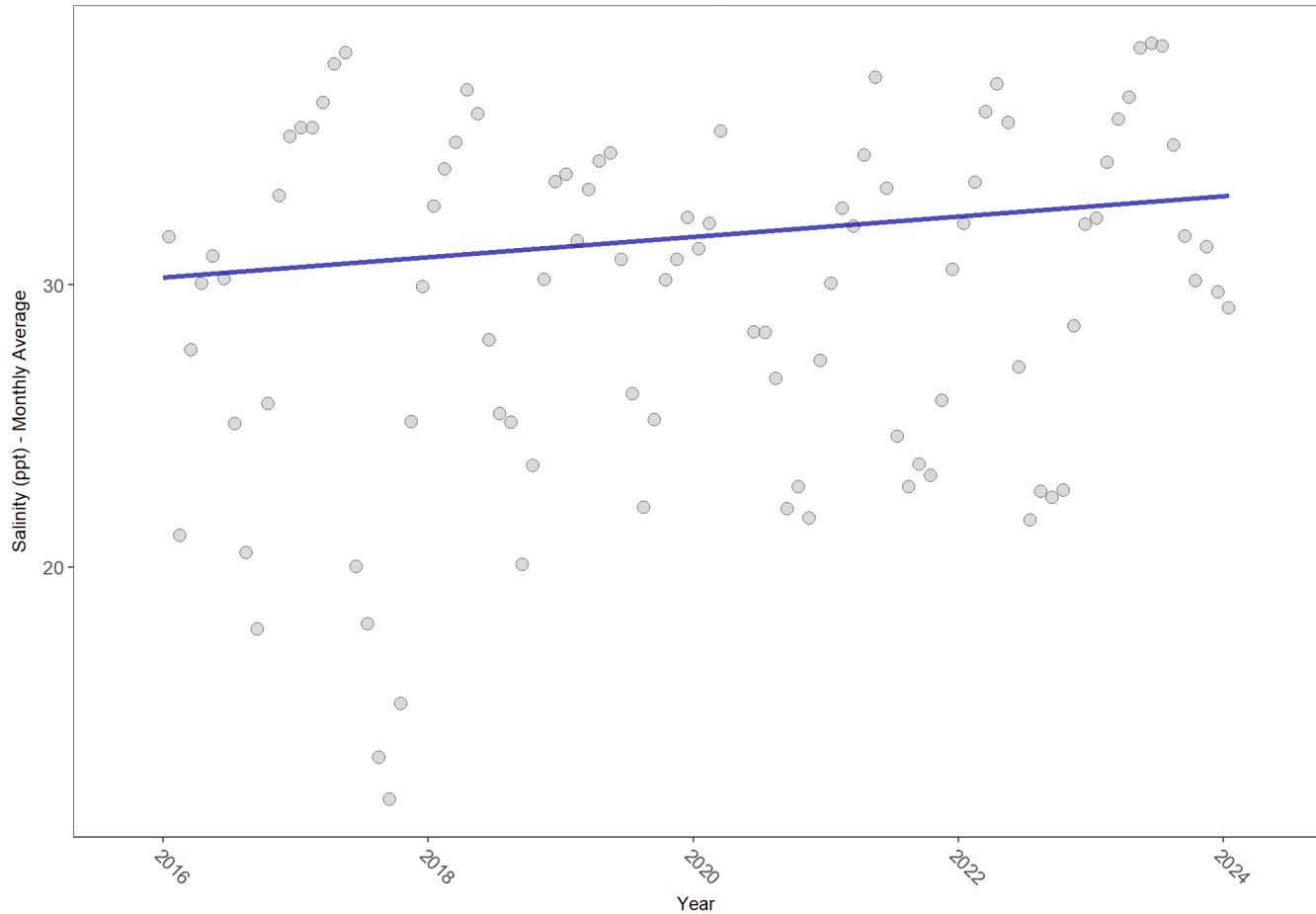
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbpbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbpbwq  
Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	265504	9	30.5	TRUE	0.1546	0.0900	0.3607148	30.25735	14.1483	0.2249	0

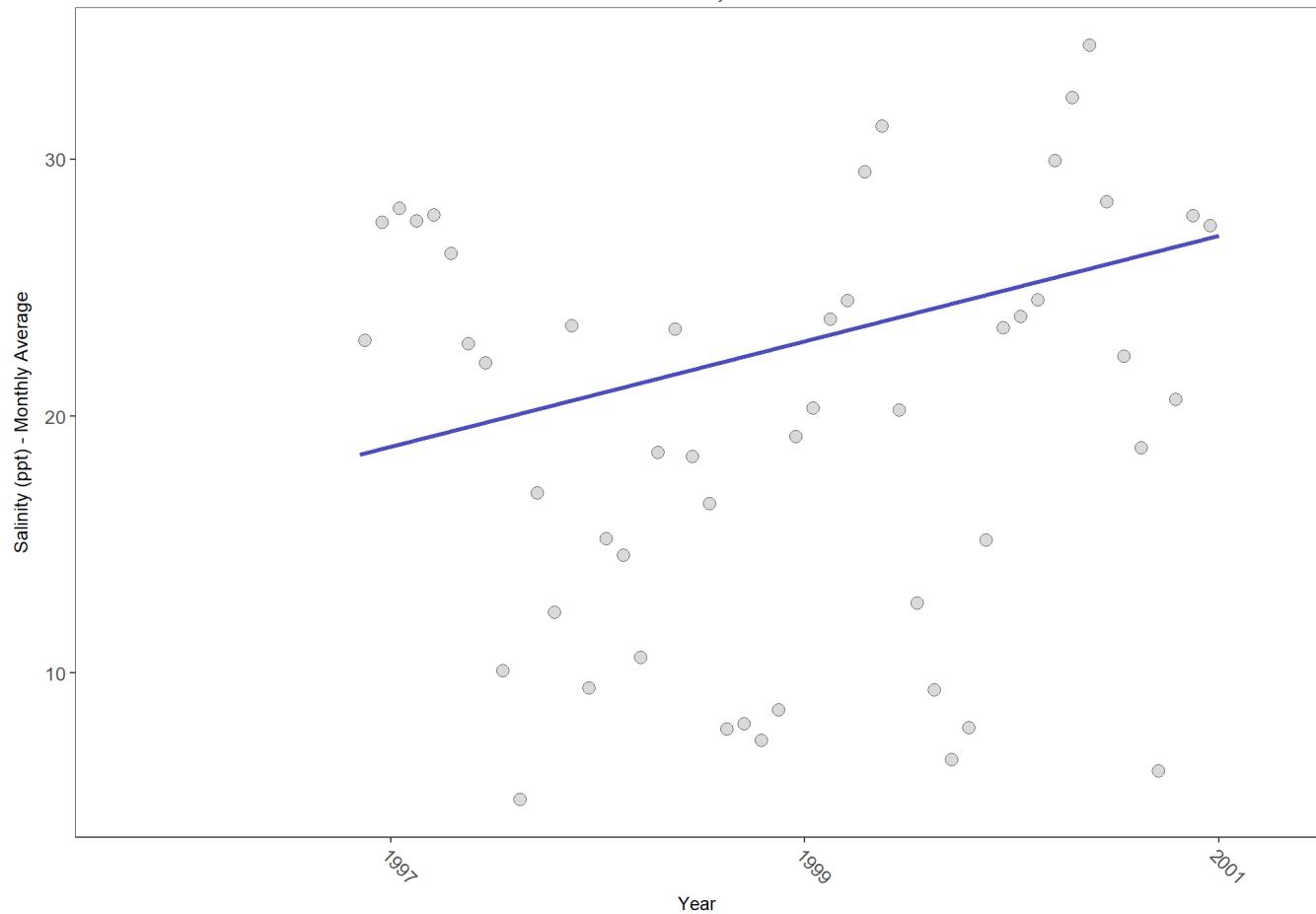
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbuhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbuhwq  
Salinity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	68446	5	21.1	TRUE	0.3067	0.0358	2.056651	16.74151	12.9829	0.2944	1

$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## All Stations Combined

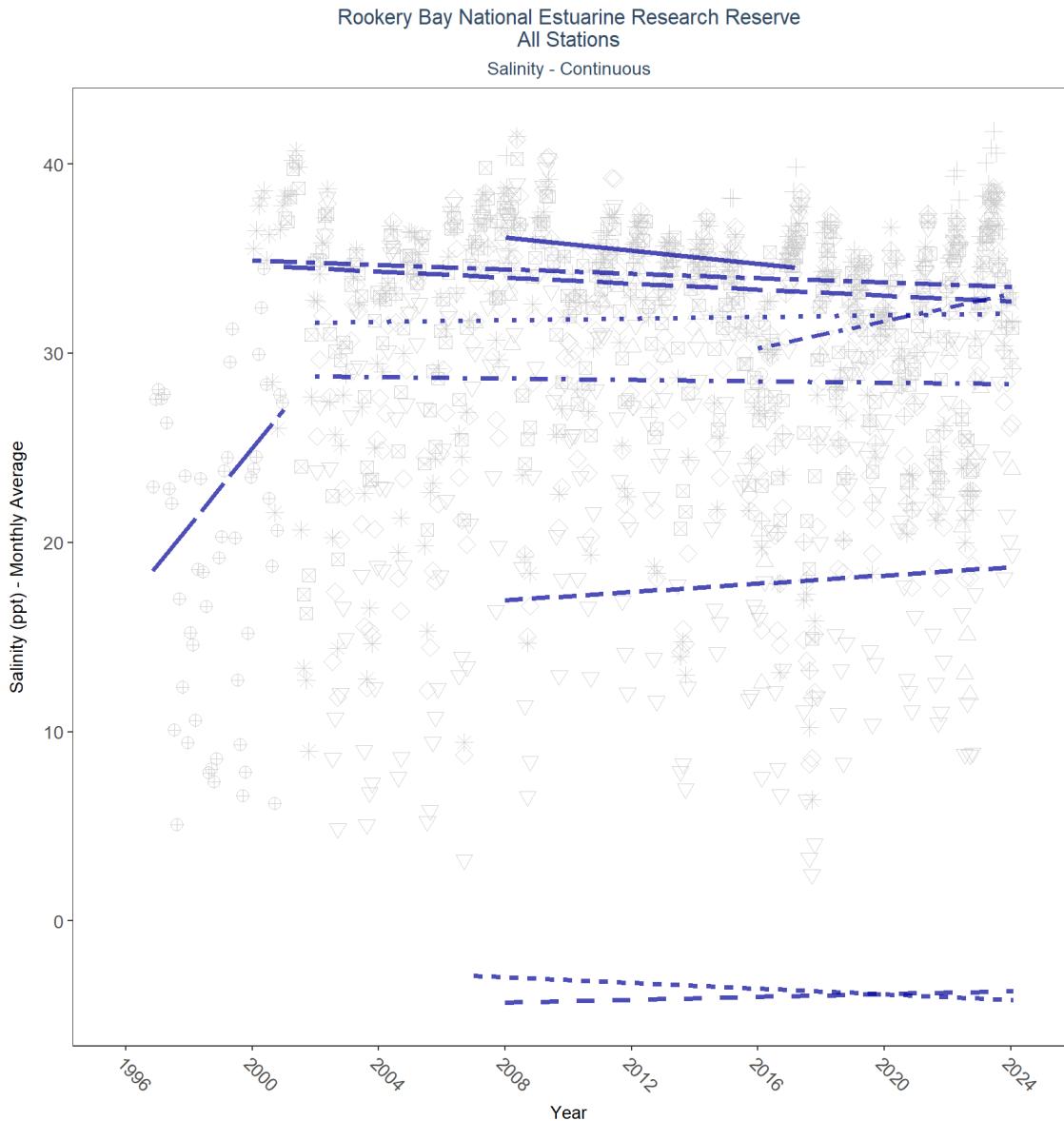


Table 30: Seasonal Kendall-Tau Results for All Stations - Salinity

Station	N_Data	N_Years	Period of Record	Median	tau	SennIntercept	SennSlope	p
02291330	273	3	2012 - 2014	34.0	-	-	-	-
255123081321300	319	5	2008 - 2017	35.0	-0.17	36.12	-0.17	0.5677
255138081321701	541	3	2022 - 2024	35.0	-	-	-	-
255432081303900	1332	14	2007 - 2024	33.0	0.07	-2.9	-0.07	0.2231
255443081314700	173	3	2007 - 2011	34.0	-	-	-	-
255532081314300	130	2	2010 - 2011	33.0	-	-	-	-
255534081324000	1251	13	2008 - 2024	36.0	0.24	16.93	0.11	0.2558
255654081350200	1232	13	2008 - 2024	36.0	0.28	-4.3	0.04	0.4494
255732081363700	261	4	2012 - 2015	35.0	-	-	-	-
rkbmbwq	12256	2	1997 - 1998	34.5	-	-	-	-
rkbfbwq	632681	23	2002 - 2024	29.9	0.02	31.64	0.02	0.6004
rkbfuwq	649119	23	2002 - 2024	26.3	-0.02	28.79	-0.02	0.7188
rkbhwq	636274	24	2001 - 2024	33.2	-0.12	34.55	-0.08	0.0049

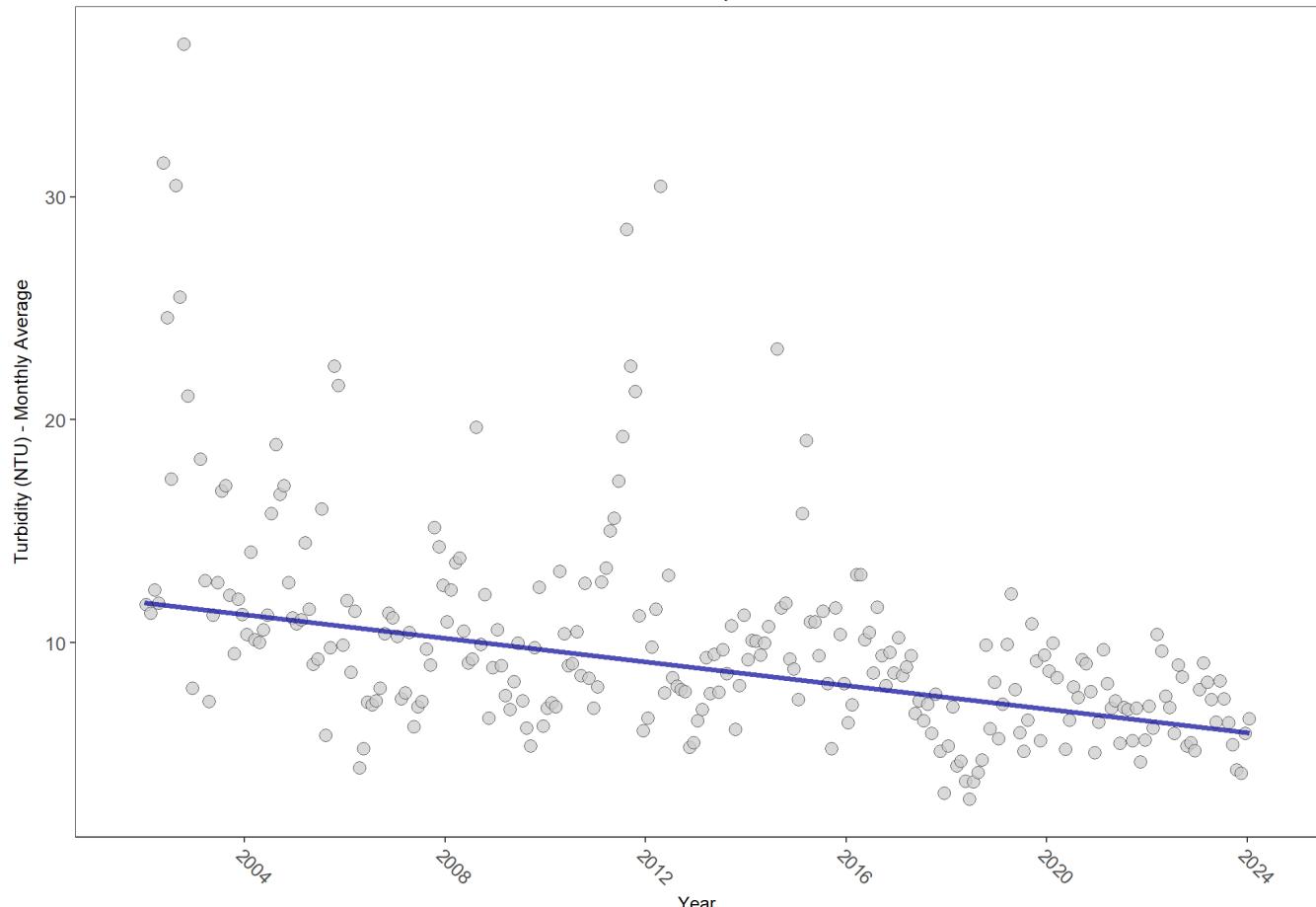
Station	N_Data	N_Years	Period of Record	Median	tau	SennIntercept	SennSlope	p
rkbmbwq	668918	25	2000 - 2024	33.4	-0.08	34.9	-0.06	0.0556
rkbpbwq	265504	9	2016 - 2024	30.5	0.15	30.26	0.36	0.0900
rkbuhwq	68446	5	1996 - 2000	21.1	0.31	16.74	2.06	0.0358

## Turbidity - Continuous Water Quality

rkbfbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbfbwq  
Turbidity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	612062	23	7	TRUE	-0.4019	0.0000	-0.2658098	11.79978	10.1303	0.5187	-1

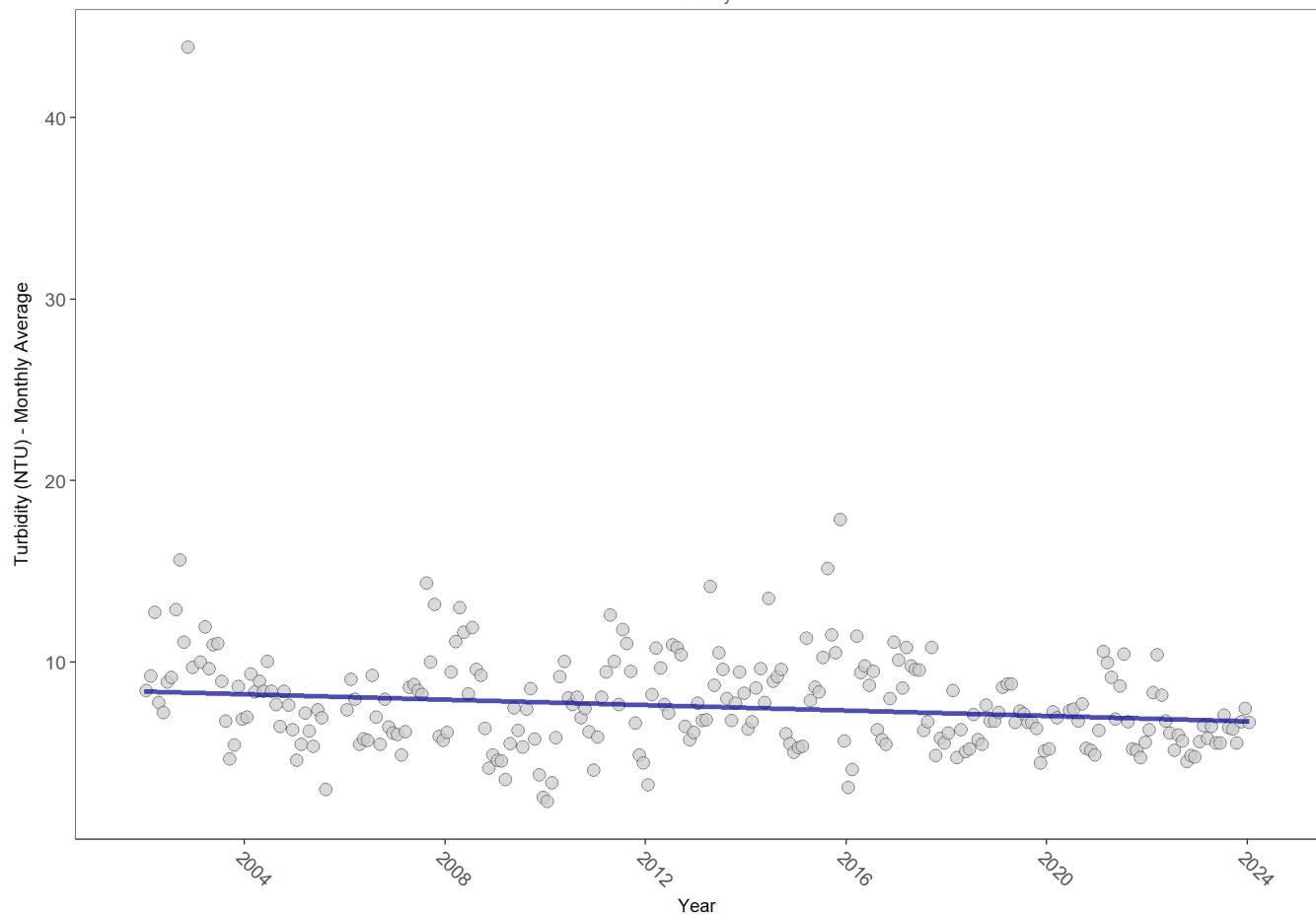
$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## rkbftuwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbftuwq  
Turbidity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	587076	23	6	TRUE	-0.1713	0.0001	-0.07404334	8.368672	7.0367	0.7961	-1

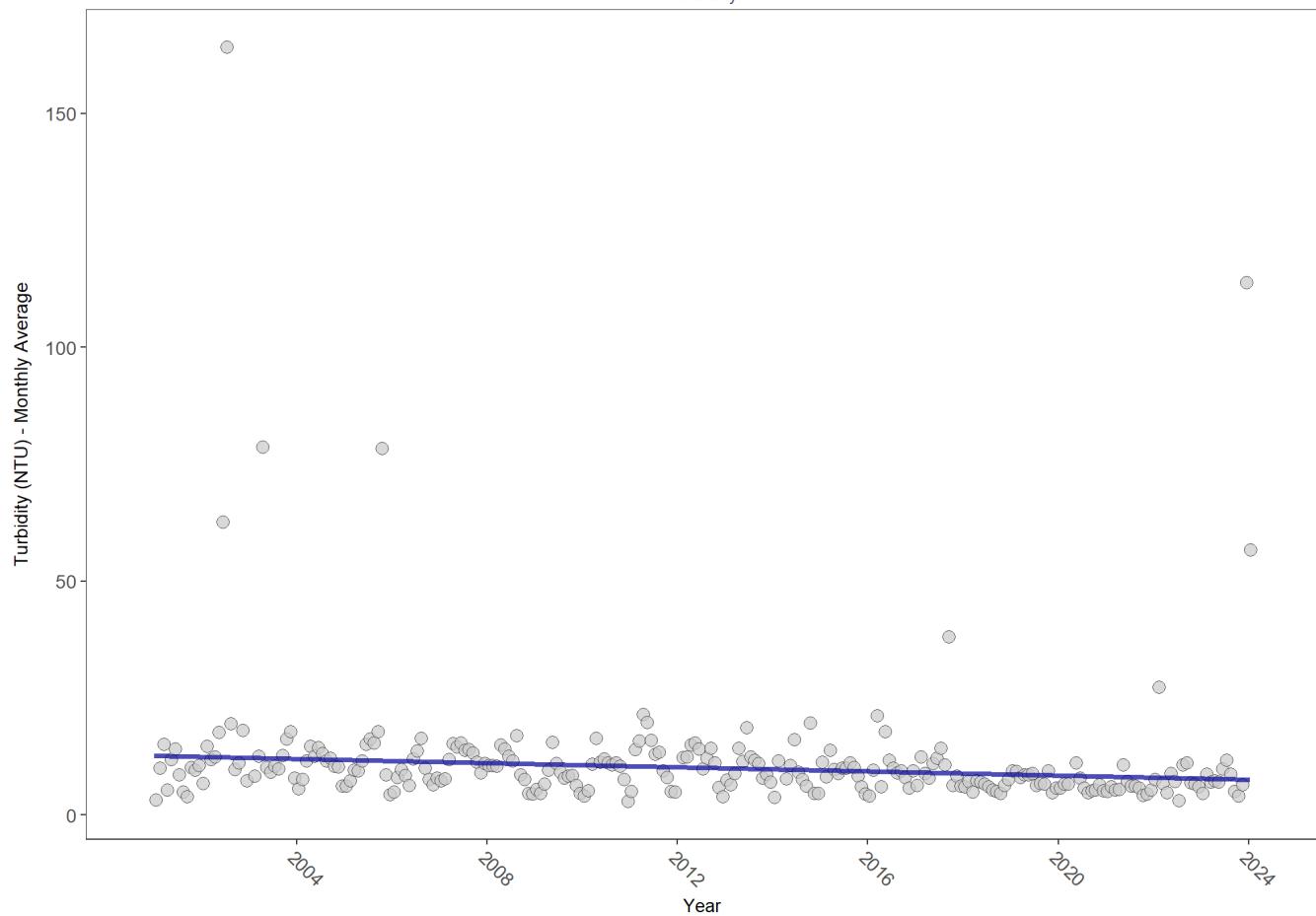
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbhwq  
Turbidity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	582924	24	8	TRUE	-0.2767	0.0000	-0.2203721	12.61183	19.4507	0.0535	-1

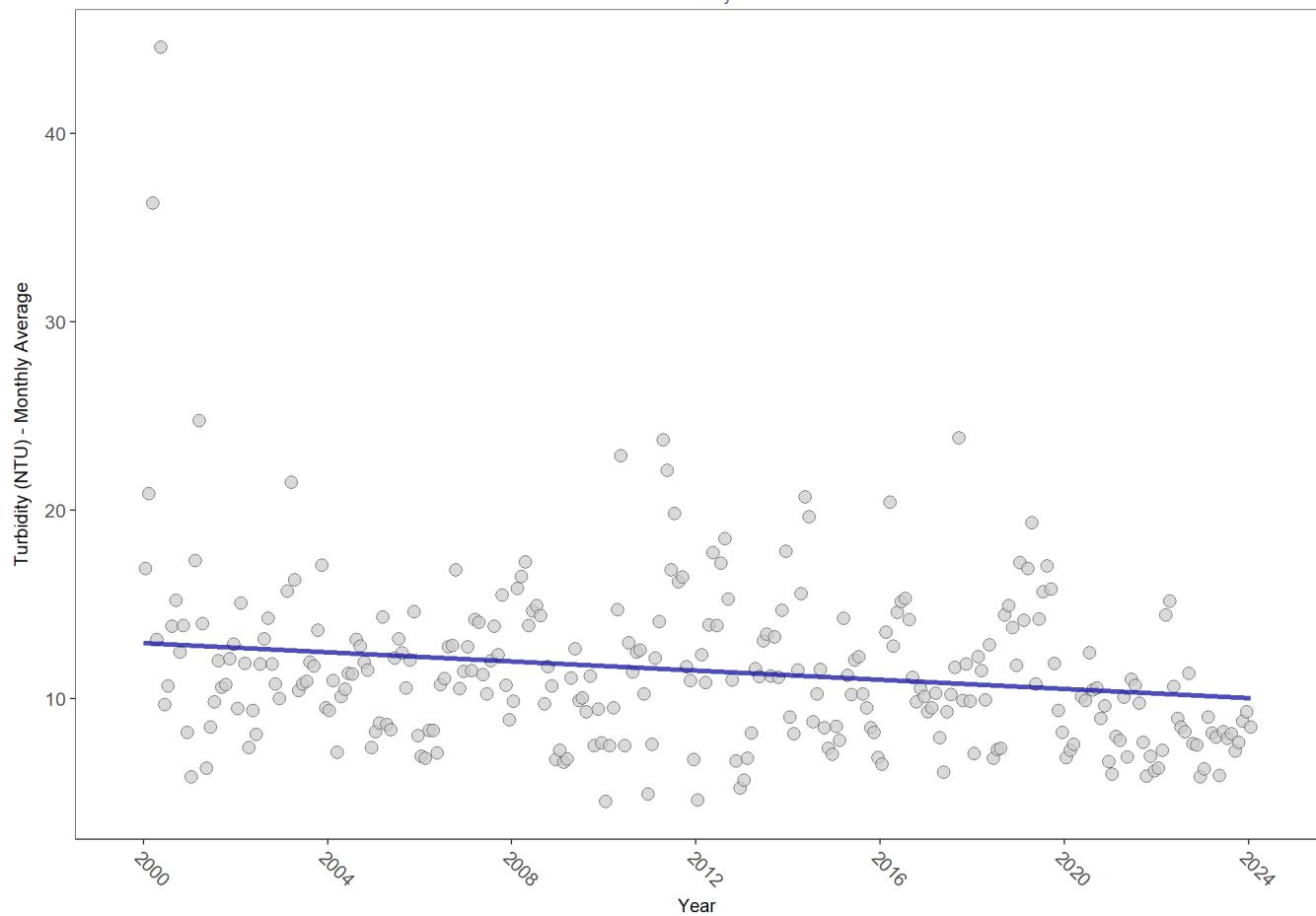
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbmbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbmbwq  
Turbidity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	644676	25	10	TRUE	-0.1973	0.0000	-0.1214602	12.94327	10.6418	0.4737	-1

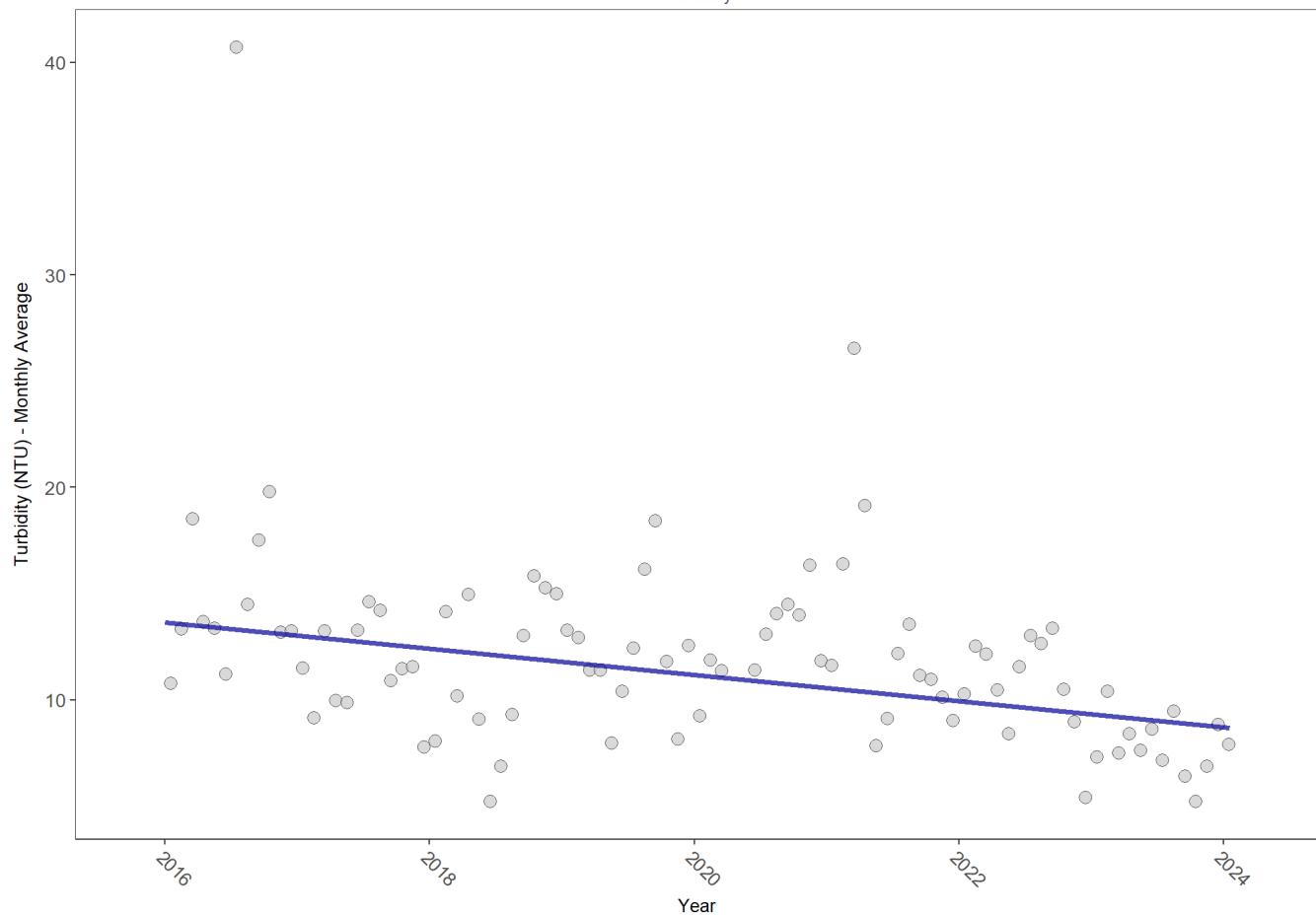
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbpbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbpbwq  
Turbidity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	261950	9	10	TRUE	-0.3975	0.0000	-0.6183176	13.64361	5.1262	0.9249	-1

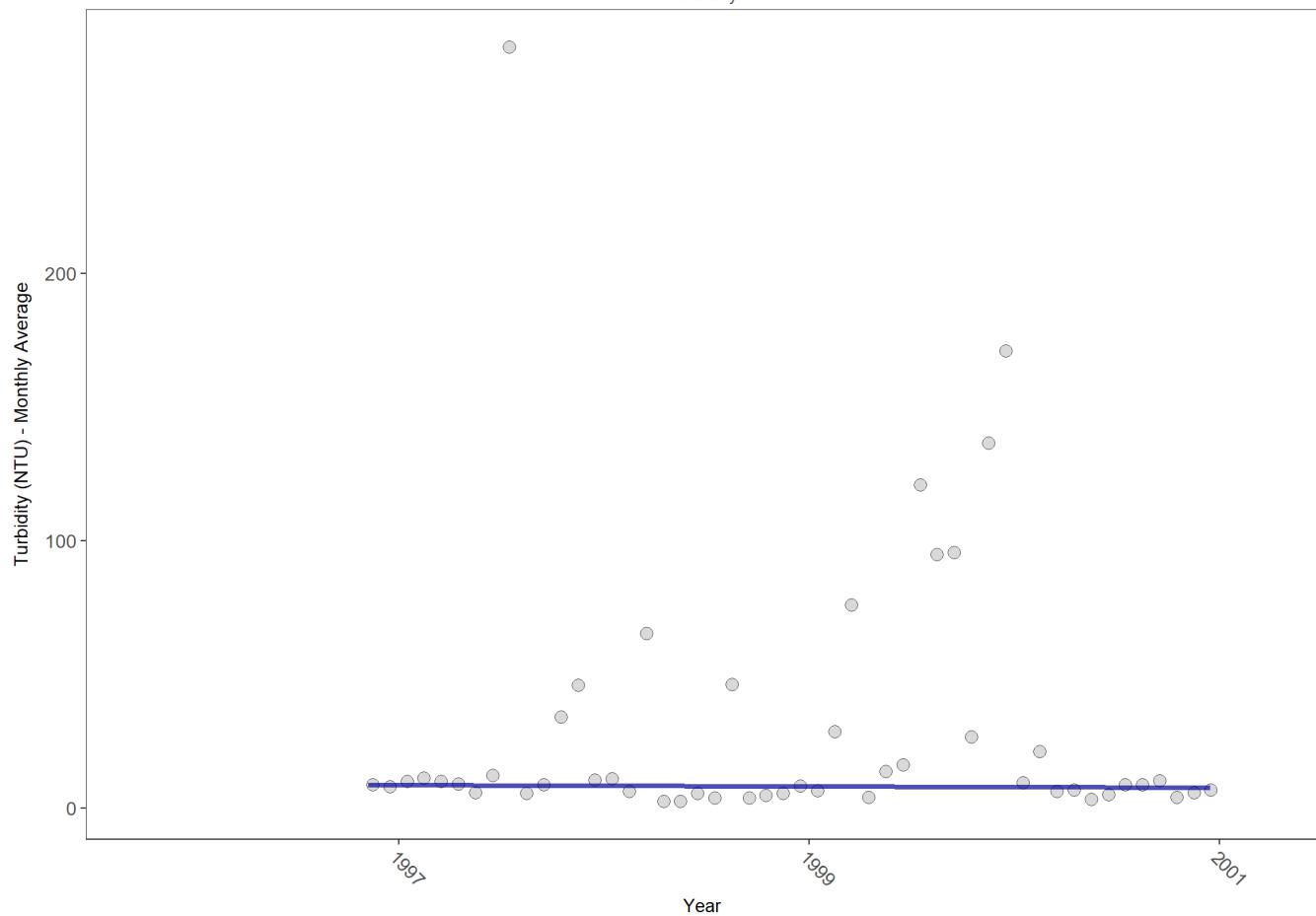
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbuhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbuhwq  
Turbidity



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	55427	5	6	TRUE	-0.0533	0.7842	-0.2302624	8.747836	4.4615	0.9544	0

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## All Stations Combined

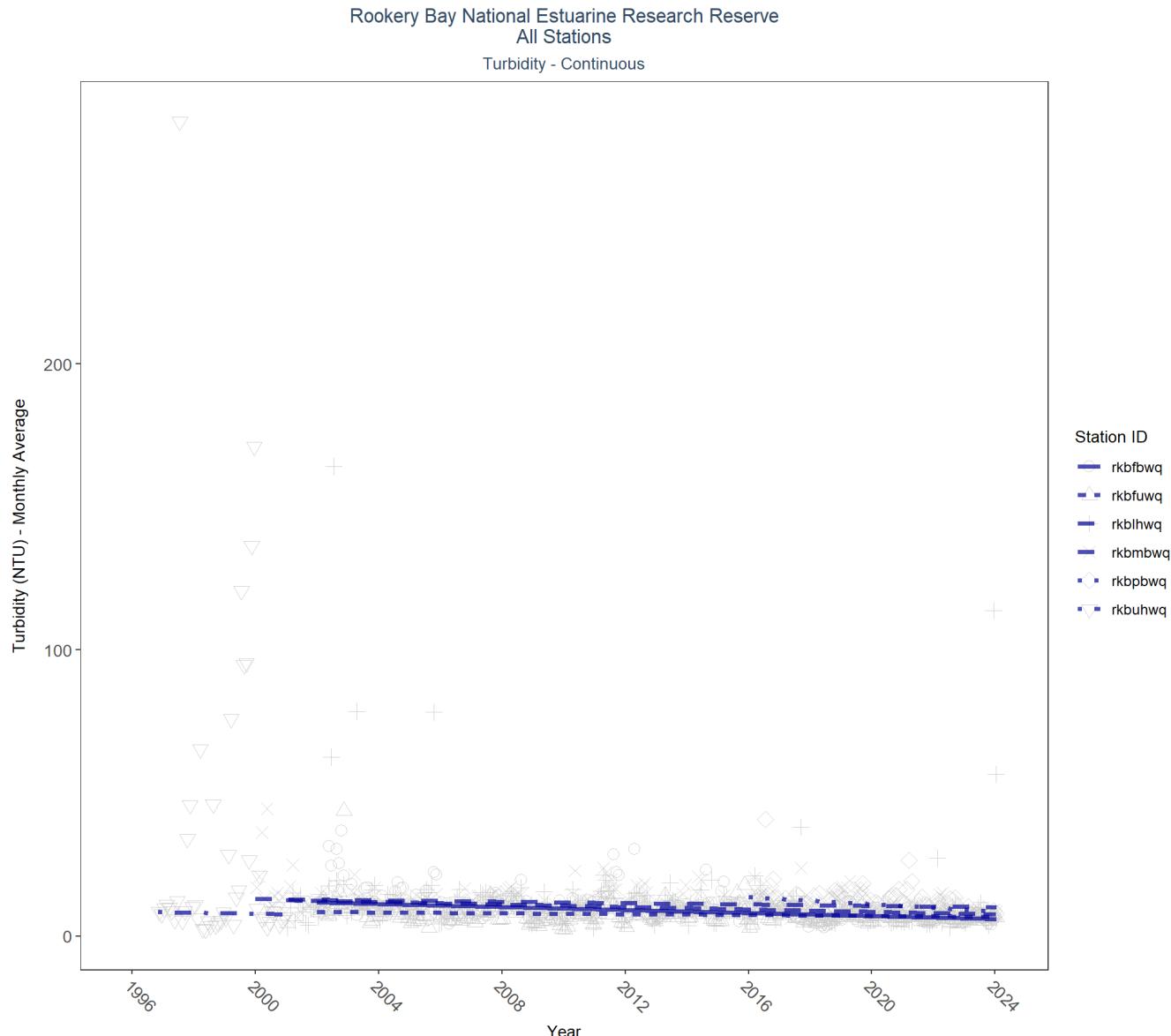


Table 31: Seasonal Kendall-Tau Results for All Stations - Turbidity

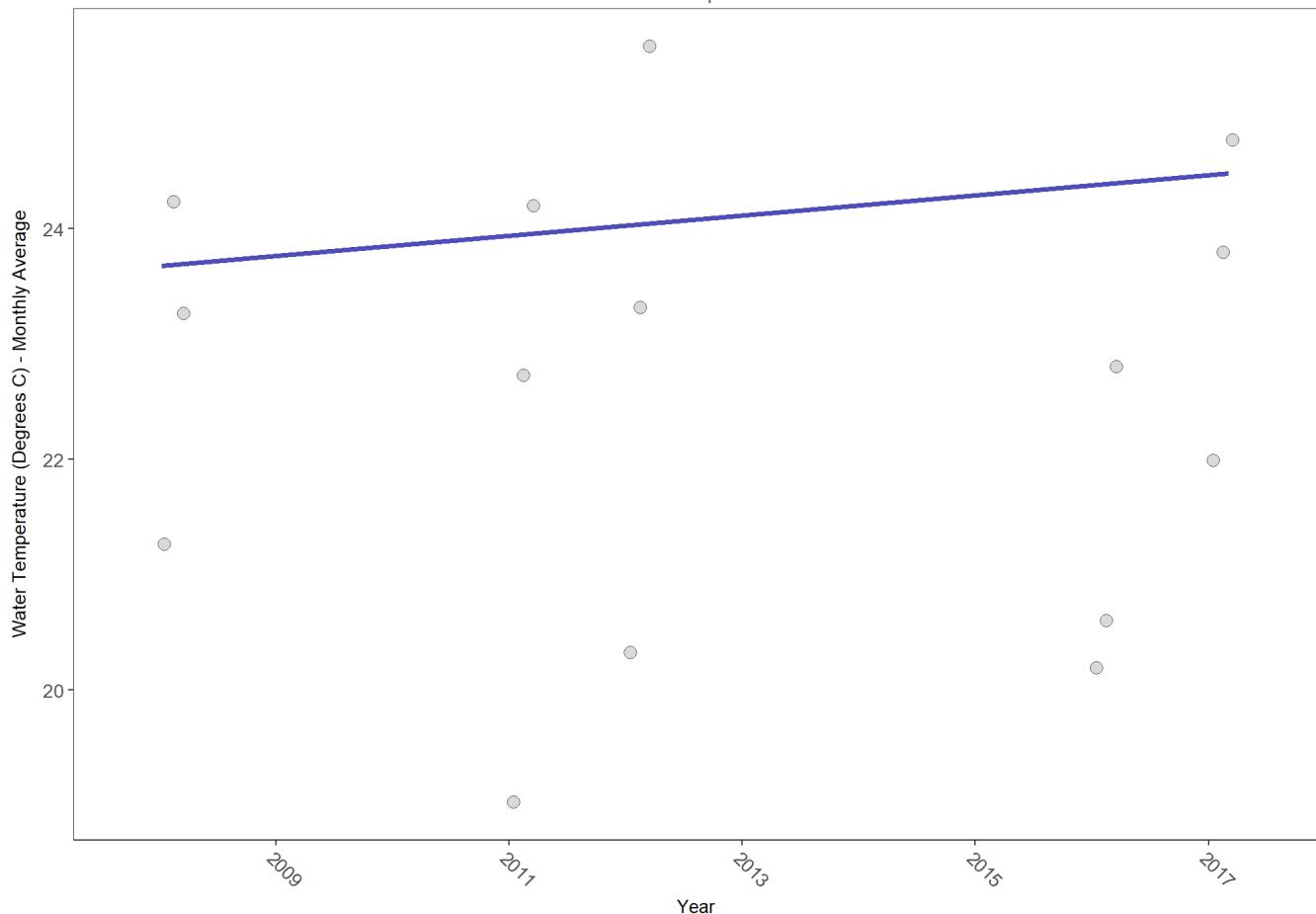
Station	N_Data	N_Years	Period of Record	Median	tau	SennIntercept	SennSlope	p
rkbmbwq	10374	2	1997 - 1998	11	-	-	-	-
rkbfbwq	612062	23	2002 - 2024	7	-0.4	11.8	-0.27	0.0000
rkbfuwq	587076	23	2002 - 2024	6	-0.17	8.37	-0.07	0.0001
rkbhwq	582924	24	2001 - 2024	8	-0.28	12.61	-0.22	0.0000
rkbmbwq	644676	25	2000 - 2024	10	-0.2	12.94	-0.12	0.0000
rkbpbwq	261950	9	2016 - 2024	10	-0.4	13.64	-0.62	0.0000
rkuhwq	55427	5	1996 - 2000	6	-0.05	8.75	-0.23	0.7842

## Water Temperature - Continuous Water Quality

255123081321300

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
255123081321300  
Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	320	5	22.2	TRUE	0.0667	0.8875	0.08732663	23.67778	0.64	0.7261	0

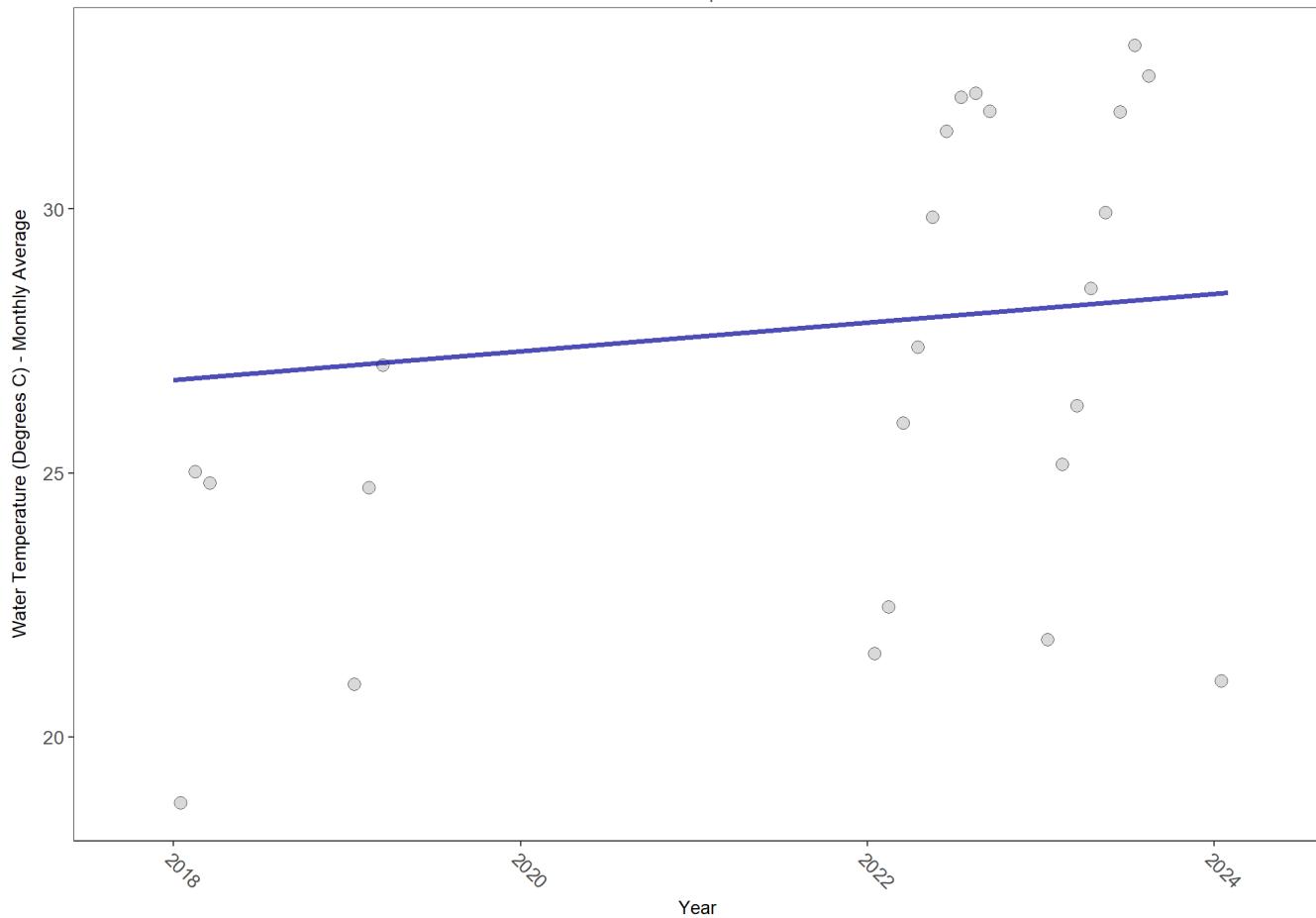
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

**255138081321701**

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
255138081321701  
Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	673	5	27.5	TRUE	0.6232	0.0547	0.2709677	26.76597	1.2329	0.9901	0

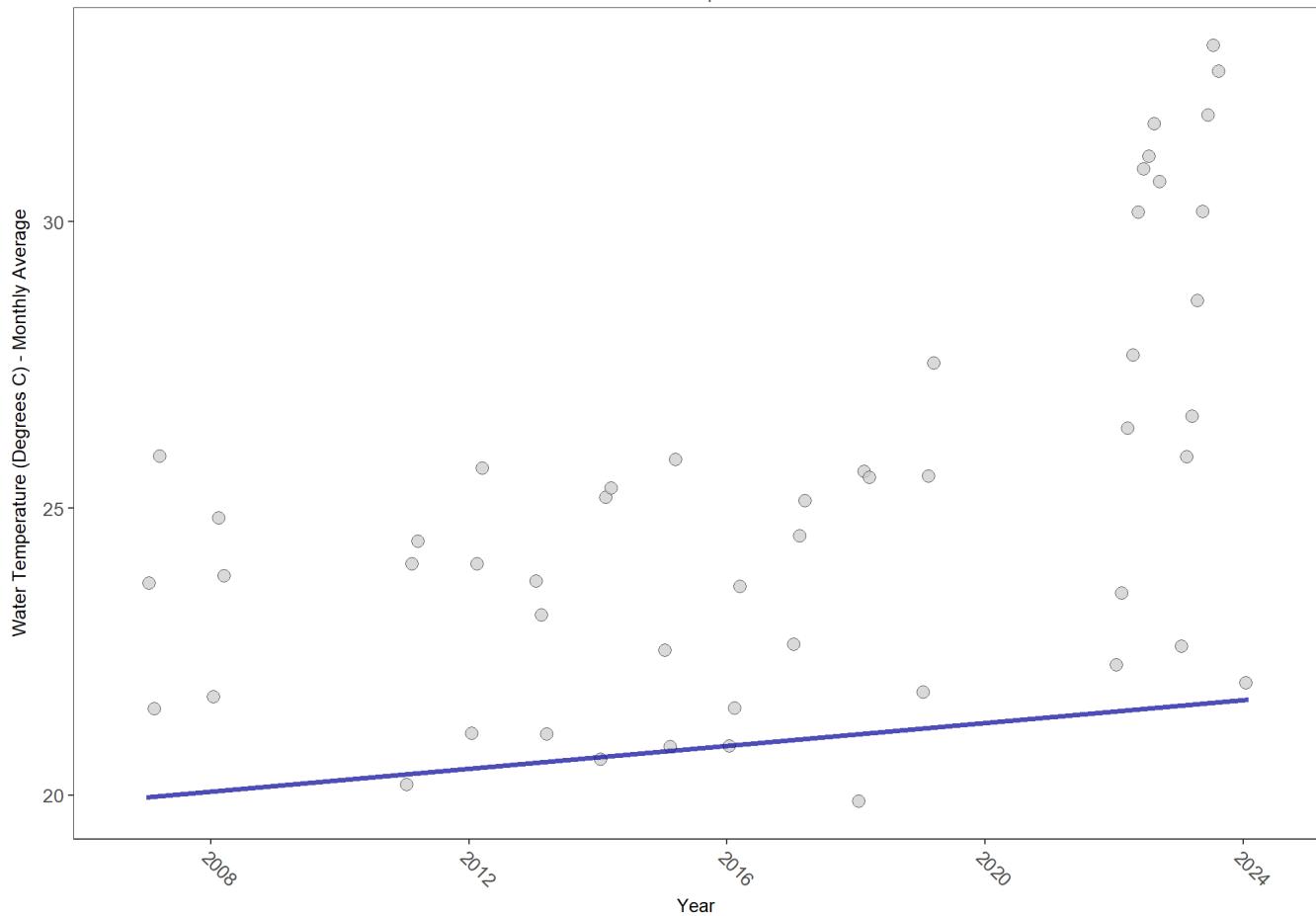
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

255432081303900

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
255432081303900  
Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	1336	14	24.5	TRUE	0.3826	0.0462	0.09970415	19.96268	1.4014	0.9855	1

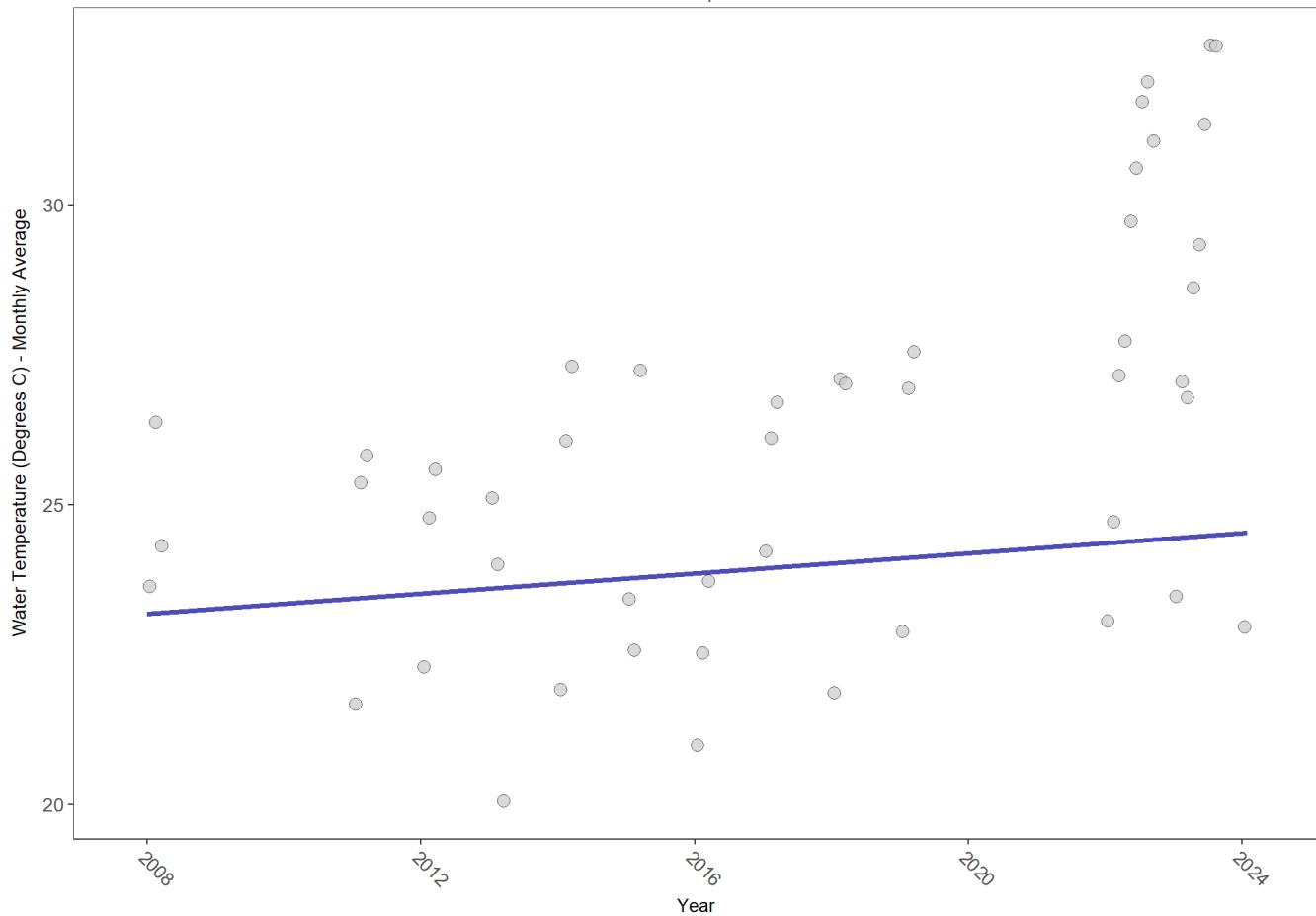
$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

**255534081324000**

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
255534081324000  
Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	1296	13	26	TRUE	0.2656	0.1506	0.0843318	23.17465	4.1087	0.7672	0

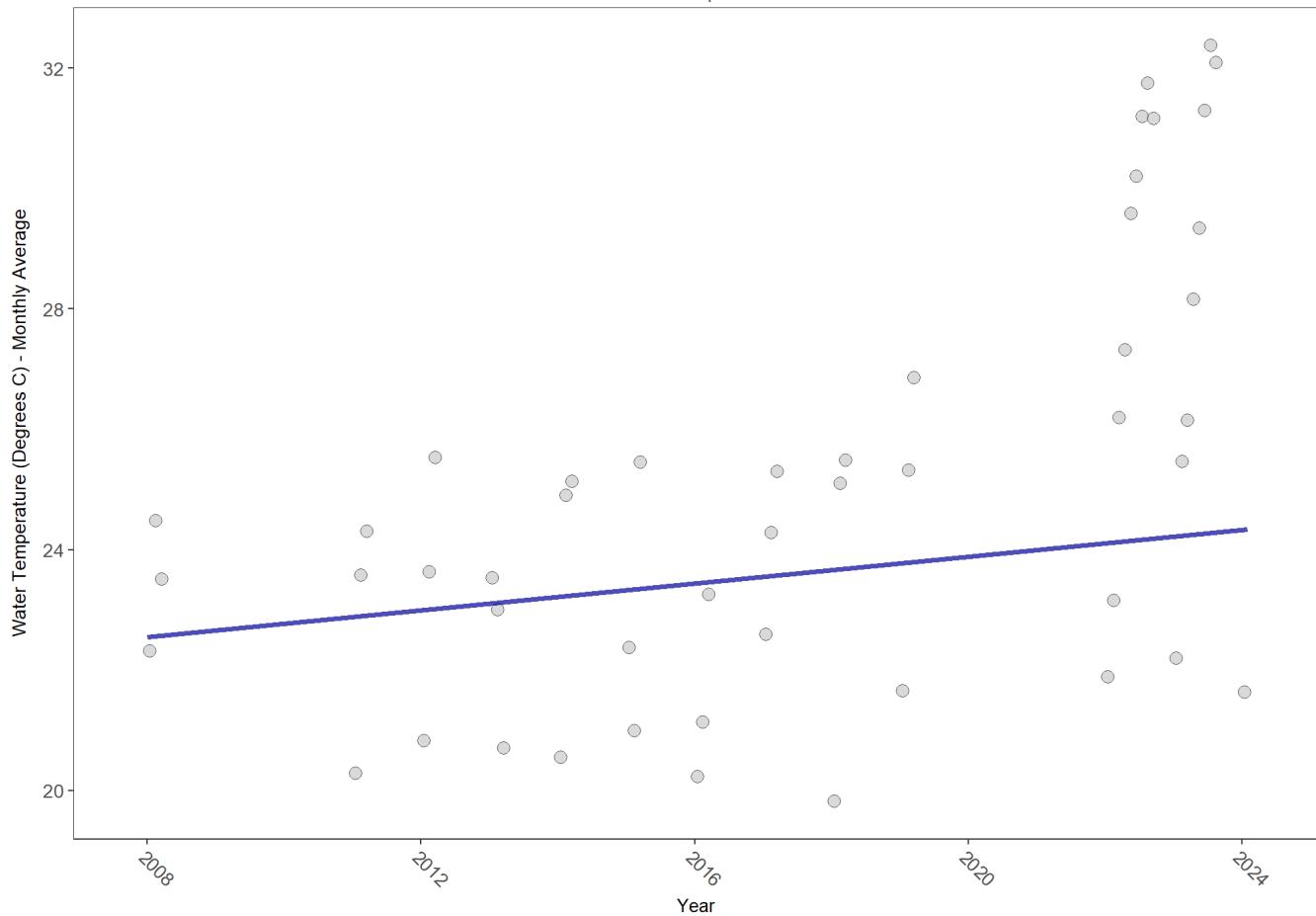
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

255654081350200

National Water Information System (7)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
255654081350200  
Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
surface	1298	13	24.4	TRUE	0.3217	0.0492	0.1111828	22.55213	6.7839	0.4517	1

$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

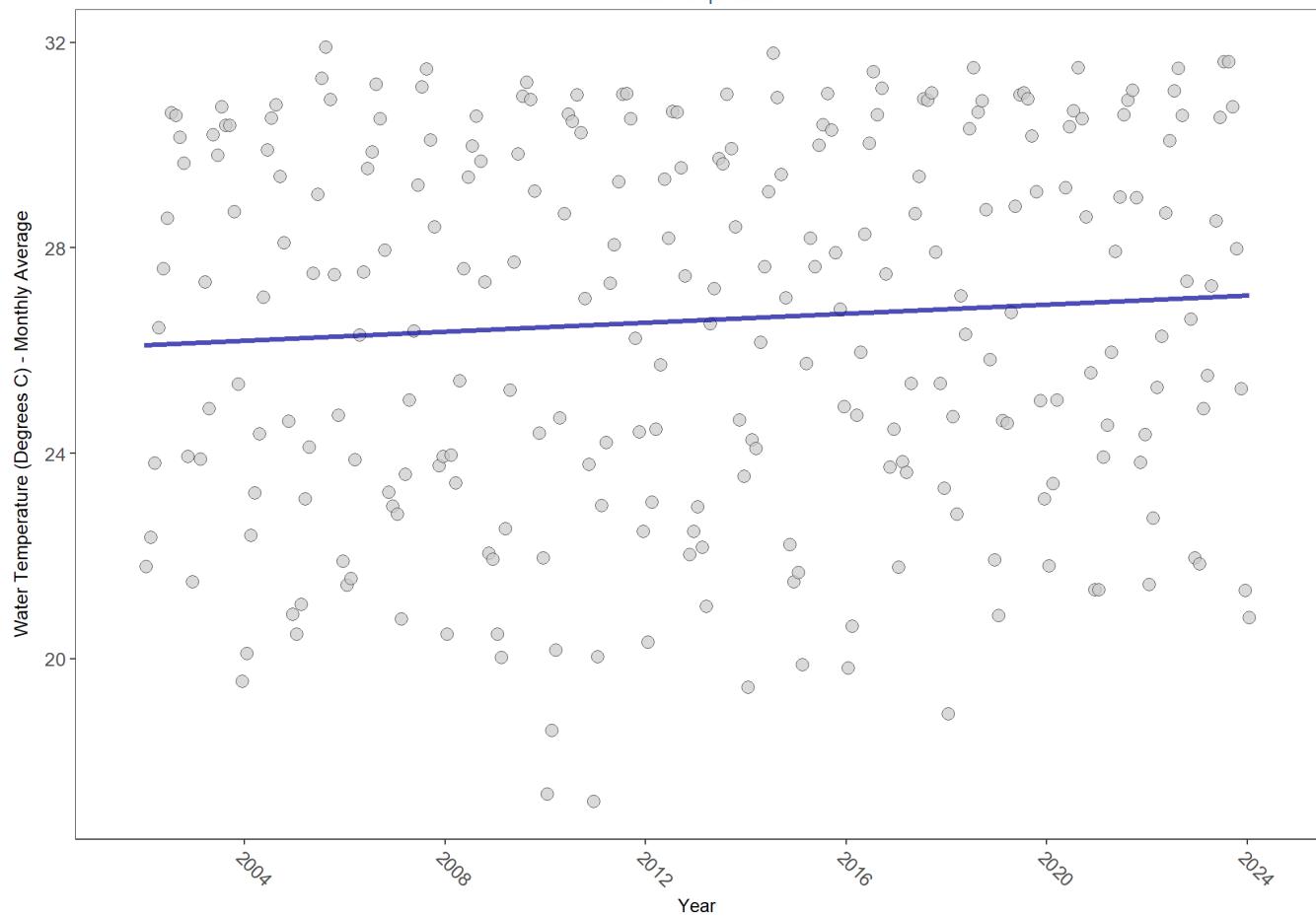
## rkbfbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbfbwq

Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	648515	23	27	TRUE	0.2278	0.0000	0.04416166	26.10841	5.379	0.9114	1

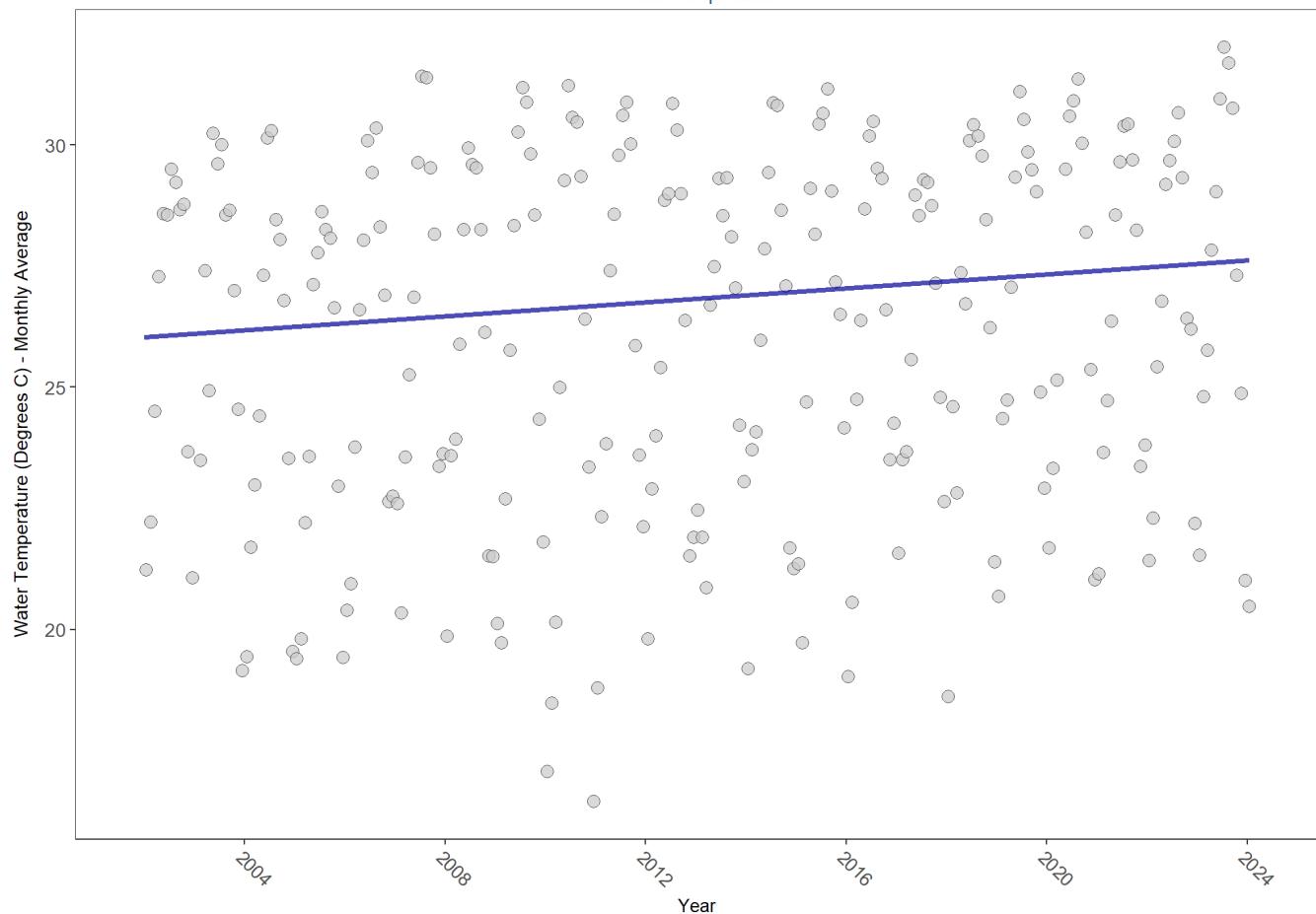
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbftuwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbftuwq  
Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	659552	23	26.9	TRUE	0.2756	0.0000	0.0722692	26.02745	3.5684	0.9809	1

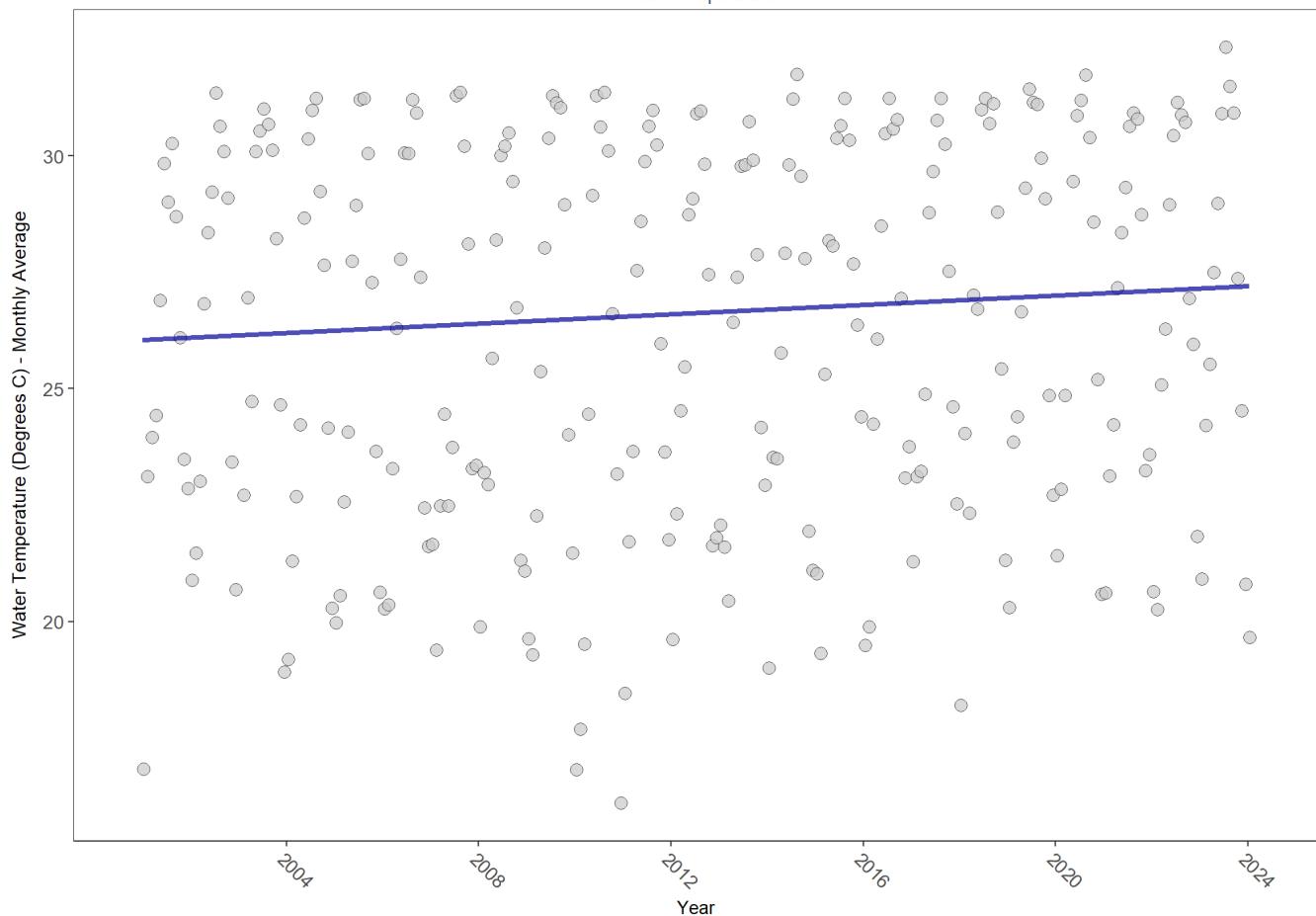
*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

## rkbhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
rkbhwq  
Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	667447	24	26.9	TRUE	0.2336	0.0000	0.04982675	26.05359	4.8776	0.9369	1

$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

*SennIntercept* is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

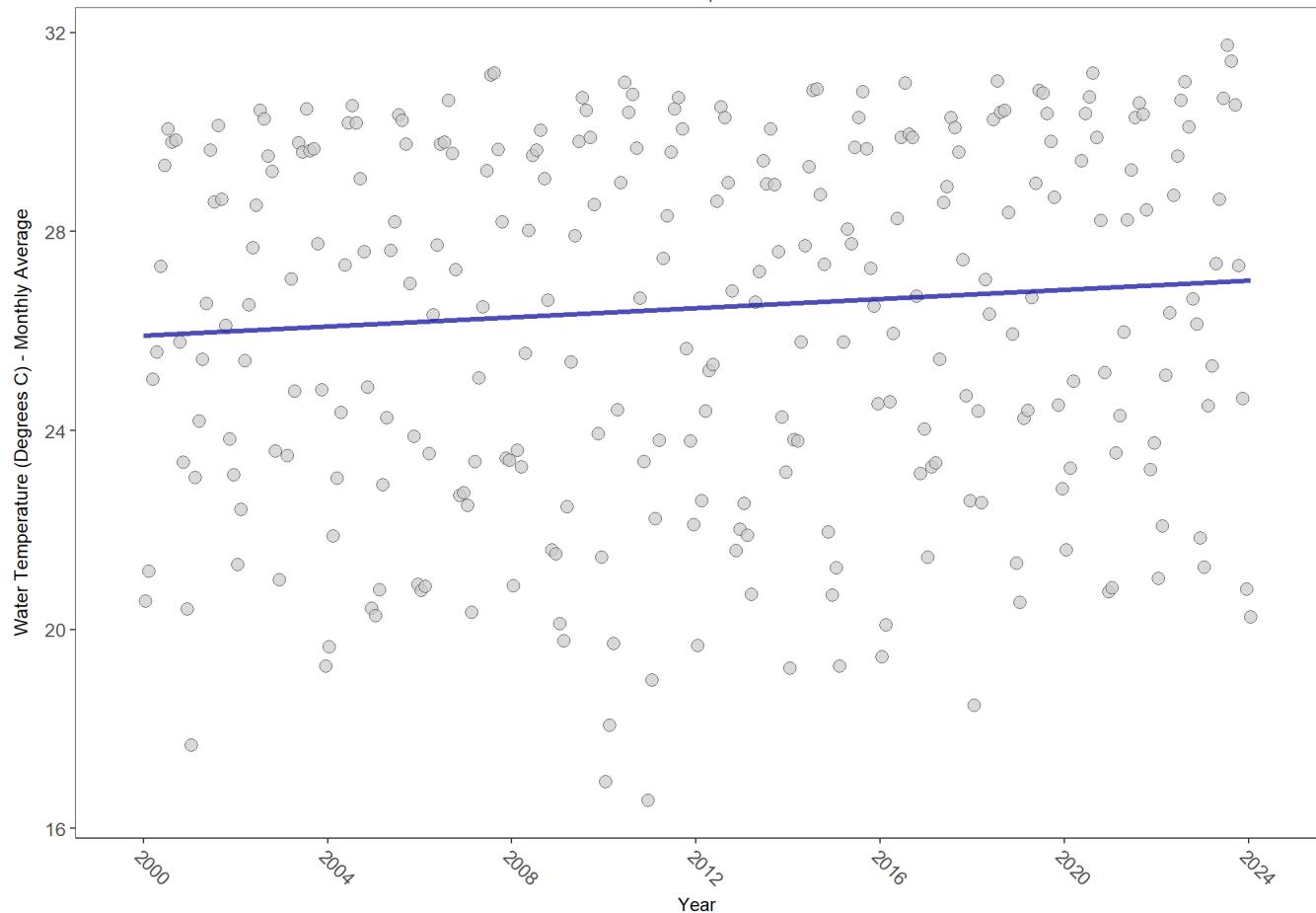
## rkbmbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbmbwq

Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	692233	25	26.8	TRUE	0.2506	0.0000	0.04640183	25.90599	5.3061	0.9154	1

*p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.*

*SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location*

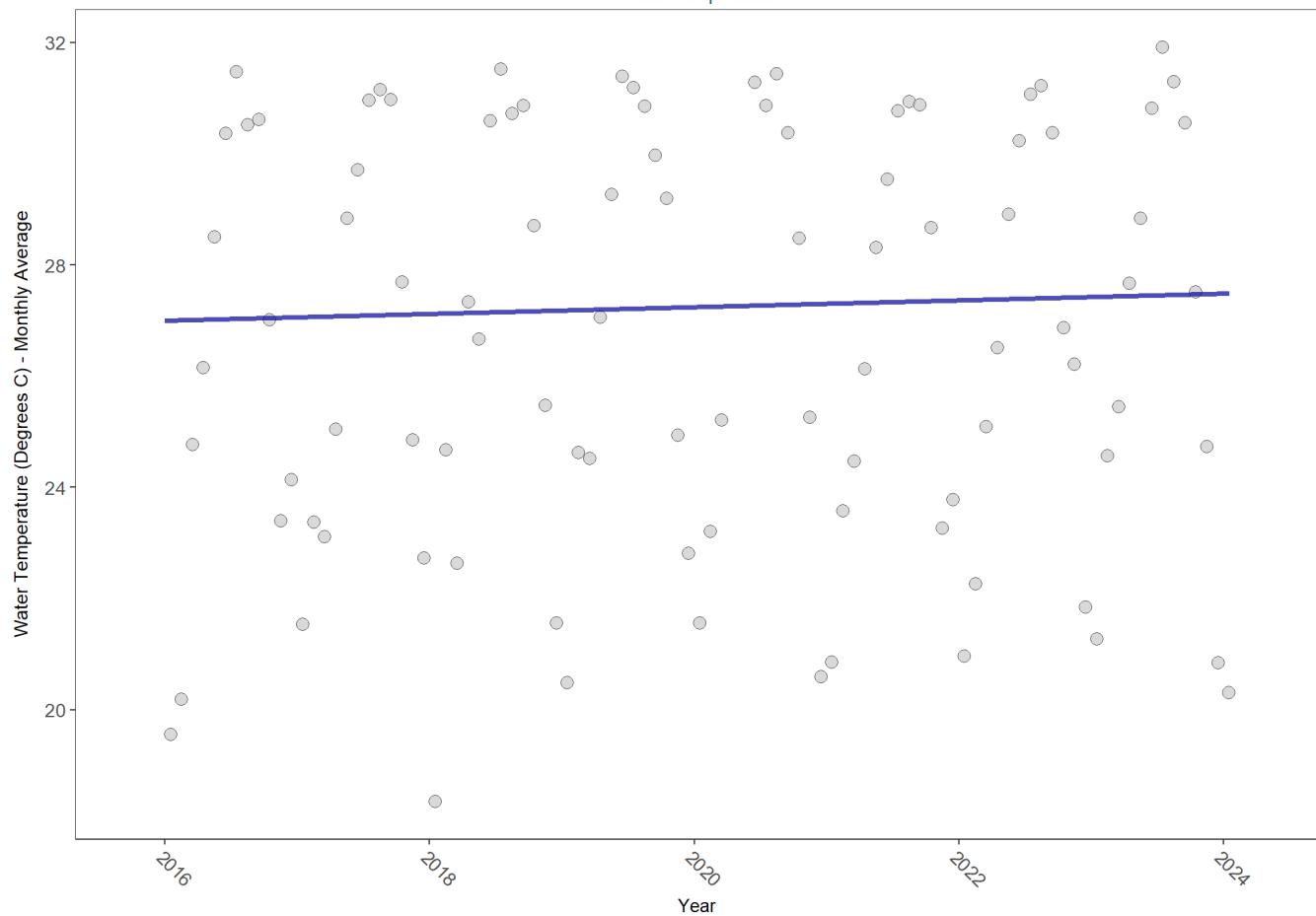
## rkbpbwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbpbwq

Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	268436	9	27.4	TRUE	0.112	0.2068	0.06074618	27.00063	8.6427	0.6548	0

$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

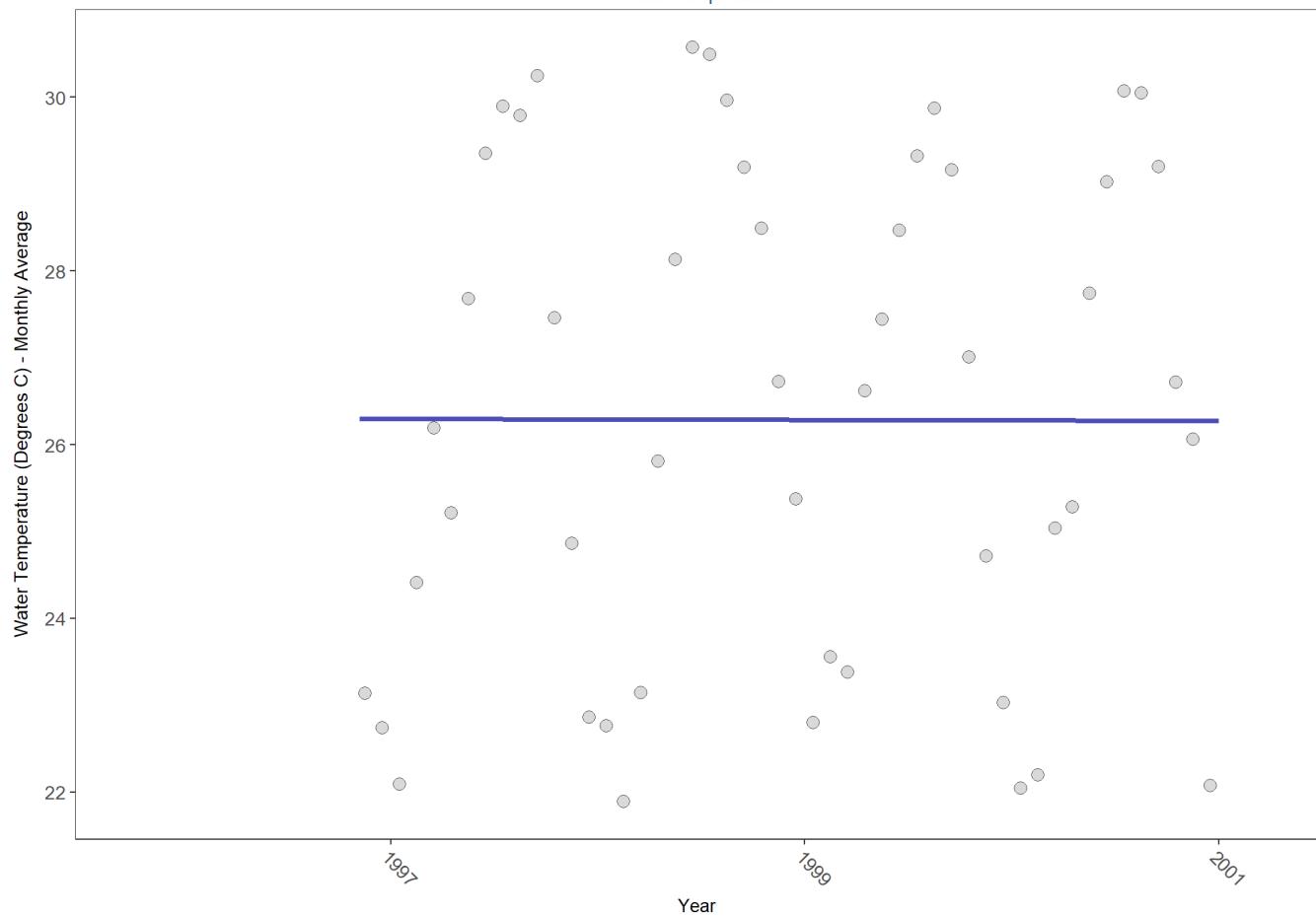
## rkbuhwq

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program (354)

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

rkbuhwq

Water Temperature



RelativeDepth	N_Data	N_Years	Median	Independent	tau	p	SennSlope	SennIntercept	ChiSquared	pChiSquared	Trend
bottom	68971	5	26.8	TRUE	-0.0133	1.0000	-0.005214494	26.30001	6.4865	0.839	0

$p < 0.00005$  appear as 0 due to rounding.

SennIntercept is intercept value at beginning of record for monitoring location

## All Stations Combined by Program

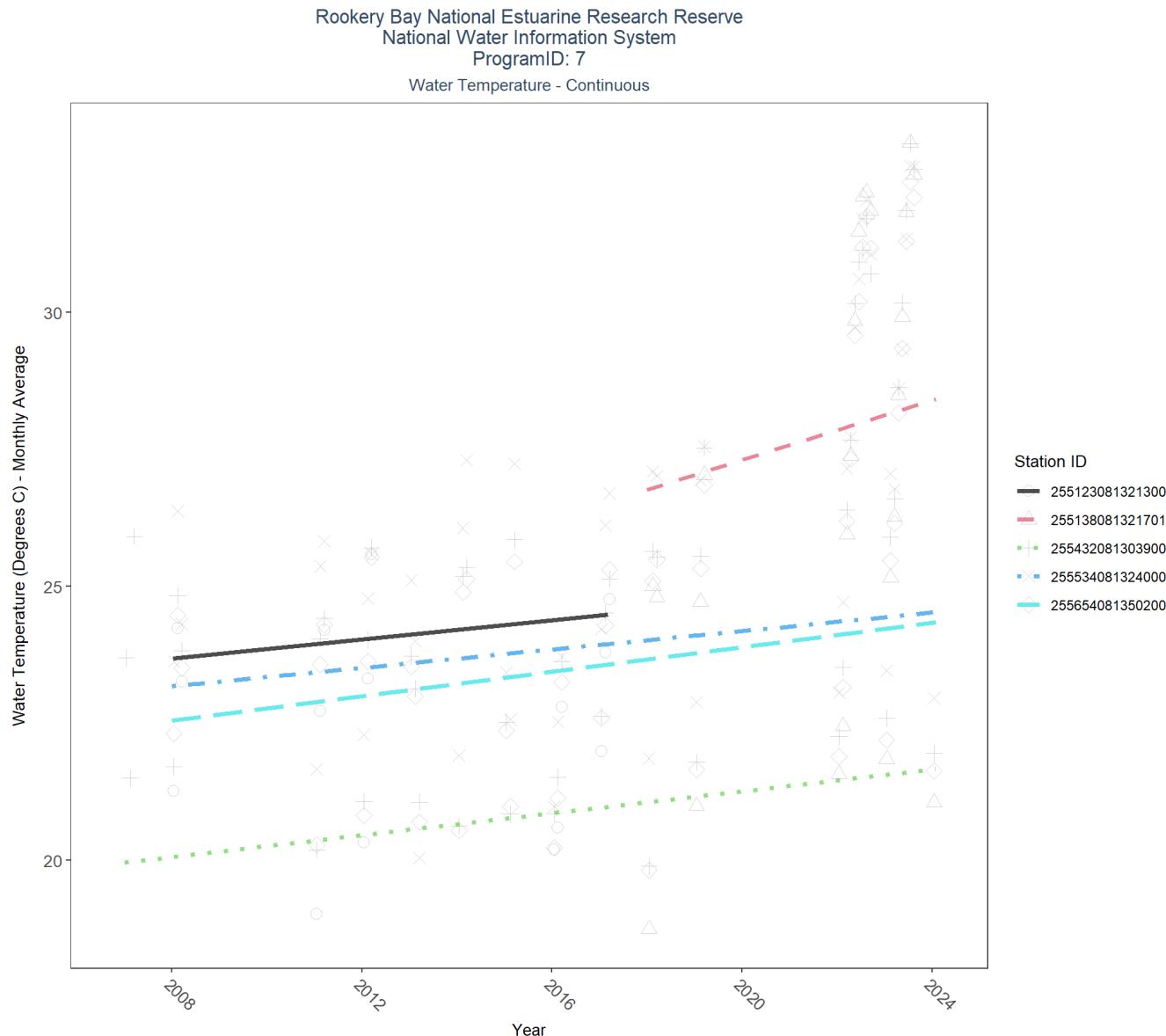


Table 32: Seasonal Kendall-Tau Results for All Stations - Water Temperature

Station	N_Data	N_Years	Period of Record	Median	tau	SennIntercept	SennSlope	p
02291330	307	3	2012 - 2014	21.6	-	-	-	-
255123081321300	320	5	2008 - 2017	22.2	0.07	23.68	0.09	0.8875
255138081321701	673	5	2018 - 2024	27.5	0.62	26.77	0.27	0.0547
255432081303900	1336	14	2007 - 2024	24.5	0.38	19.96	0.1	0.0462
255443081314700	252	3	2007 - 2011	23.2	-	-	-	-
255532081314300	130	2	2010 - 2011	20.7	-	-	-	-
255534081324000	1296	13	2008 - 2024	26.0	0.27	23.17	0.08	0.1506
255654081350200	1298	13	2008 - 2024	24.4	0.32	22.55	0.11	0.0492
255732081363700	261	4	2012 - 2015	23.6	-	-	-	-

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
 Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve System-Wide Monitoring Program  
 ProgramID: 354  
 Water Temperature - Continuous

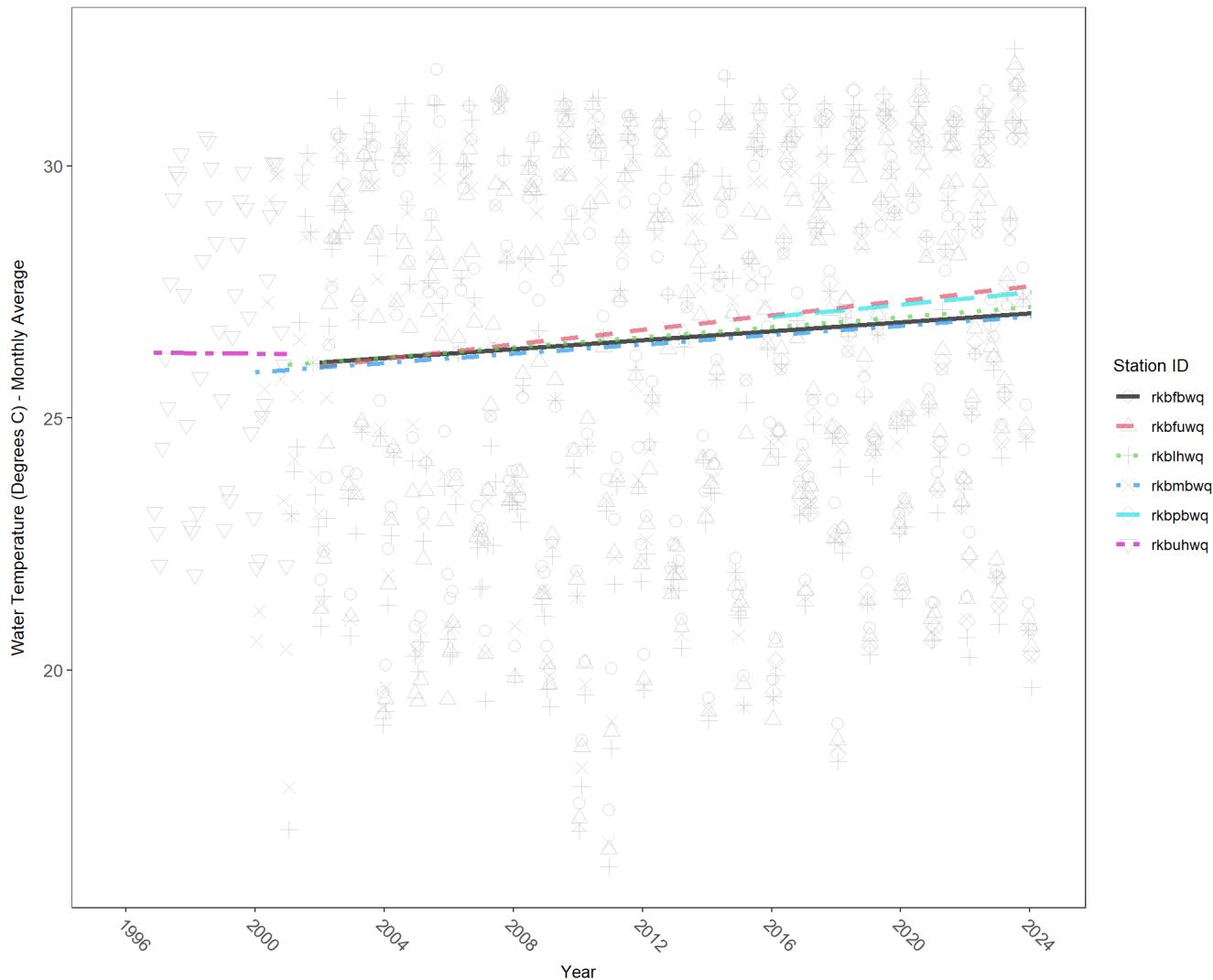


Table 33: Seasonal Kendall-Tau Results for All Stations - Water Temperature

Station	N_Data	N_Years	Period of Record	Median	tau	SennIntercept	SennSlope	p
rkbfbmwq	12610	2	1997 - 1998	23.8	-	-	-	-
rkbfbwq	648515	23	2002 - 2024	27.0	0.23	26.11	0.04	0.0000
rkbfuwq	659552	23	2002 - 2024	26.9	0.28	26.03	0.07	0.0000
rkbhwq	667447	24	2001 - 2024	26.9	0.23	26.05	0.05	0.0000
rkbmbwq	692233	25	2000 - 2024	26.8	0.25	25.91	0.05	0.0000
rkbpbwq	268436	9	2016 - 2024	27.4	0.11	27	0.06	0.2068
rkbuhwq	68971	5	1996 - 2000	26.8	-0.01	26.3	-0.01	1.0000

# Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

The data file used is: **All\_SAV\_Parameters-2024-Feb-23.txt**

**Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)** refers to plants and plant-like macroalgae species that live entirely underwater. The two primary categories of SAV inhabiting Florida estuaries are *benthic macroalgae* and *seagrasses*. They often grow together in dense beds or meadows that carpet the seafloor. *Macroalgae* include multicellular species of green, red and brown algae that often live attached to the substrate by a holdfast. They tend to grow quickly and can tolerate relatively high nutrient levels, making them a threat to seagrasses and other benthic habitats in areas with poor water quality. In contrast, *seagrasses* are grass-like, vascular, flowering plants that are attached to the seafloor by extensive root systems. *Seagrasses* occur throughout the coastal areas of Florida, including protected bays and lagoons as well as deeper offshore waters on the continental shelf. *Seagrasses* have taken advantage of the broad, shallow shelf and clear water to produce two of the most extensive seagrass beds anywhere in continental North America.

## Parameters

**Percent Cover** measures the fraction of an area of seafloor that is covered by SAV, usually estimated by evaluating multiple small areas of seafloor. Percent cover is often estimated for total SAV, individual types of vegetation (seagrass, attached algae, drift algae) and individual species.

**Frequency of Occurrence** was calculated as the number of times a taxon was observed in a year divided by the number of sampling events, multiplied by 100. Analysis is conducted at the quadrat level and is inclusive of all quadrats (i.e., quadrats evaluated using Braun-Blanquet, modified Braun-Blanquet, and percent cover.)

## Species

**Turtle grass** (*Thalassia testudinum*) is the largest of the Florida seagrasses, with longer, thicker blades and deeper root structures than any of the other seagrasses. It is considered a climax seagrass species.

**Shoal grass** (*Halodule wrightii*) is an early colonizer of vegetated areas and usually grows in water too shallow for other species except *widgeon grass*. It can often tolerate larger salinity ranges than other seagrass species. *Shoal grass* is characterized by thin, flat blades, that are narrower than *turtle grass* blades.

**Manatee grass** (*Syringodium filiforme*) is easily recognizable because its leaves are thin and cylindrical instead of the flat, ribbon-like form shared by many other seagrass species. The leaves can grow up to half a meter in length. *Manatee grass* is usually found in mixed seagrass beds or small, dense monospecific patches.

**Widgeon grass** (*Ruppia maritima*) grows in both fresh and salt water and is widely distributed throughout Florida's estuaries in less saline areas, particularly in inlets along the east coast. This species resembles *shoal grass* in certain environments but can be identified by the pointed tips of its leaves.

Three species of *Halophila spp.* are found in Florida - **Star grass** (*Halophila engelmannii*), **Paddle grass** (*Halophila decipiens*), and **Johnson's seagrass** (*Halophila johnsonii*). These are smaller, more fragile seagrasses than other Florida species and are considered ephemeral. They grow along a single long rhizome, with short blades. These species are not well-studied, although surveys are underway to define their ecological roles.

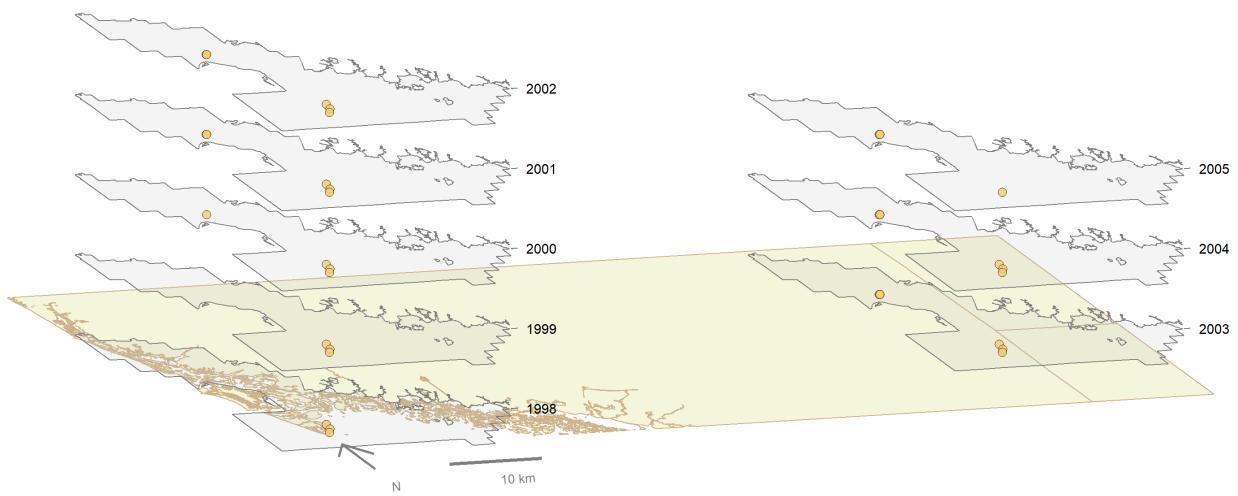
## Notes

*Star grass*, *Paddle grass*, and *Johnson's seagrass* will be grouped together and listed as **Halophila spp.** in the following managed areas. This is because several surveys did not specify to the species level:

- Banana River Aquatic Preserve
- Indian River-Malabar to Vero Beach Aquatic Preserve
- Indian River-Vero Beach to Ft. Pierce Aquatic Preserve
- Jensen Beach to Jupiter Inlet Aquatic Preserve
- Loxahatchee River-Lake Worth Creek Aquatic Preserve
- Mosquito Lagoon Aquatic Preserve

- Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve
- Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
SAV Percent Cover - Sample Locations

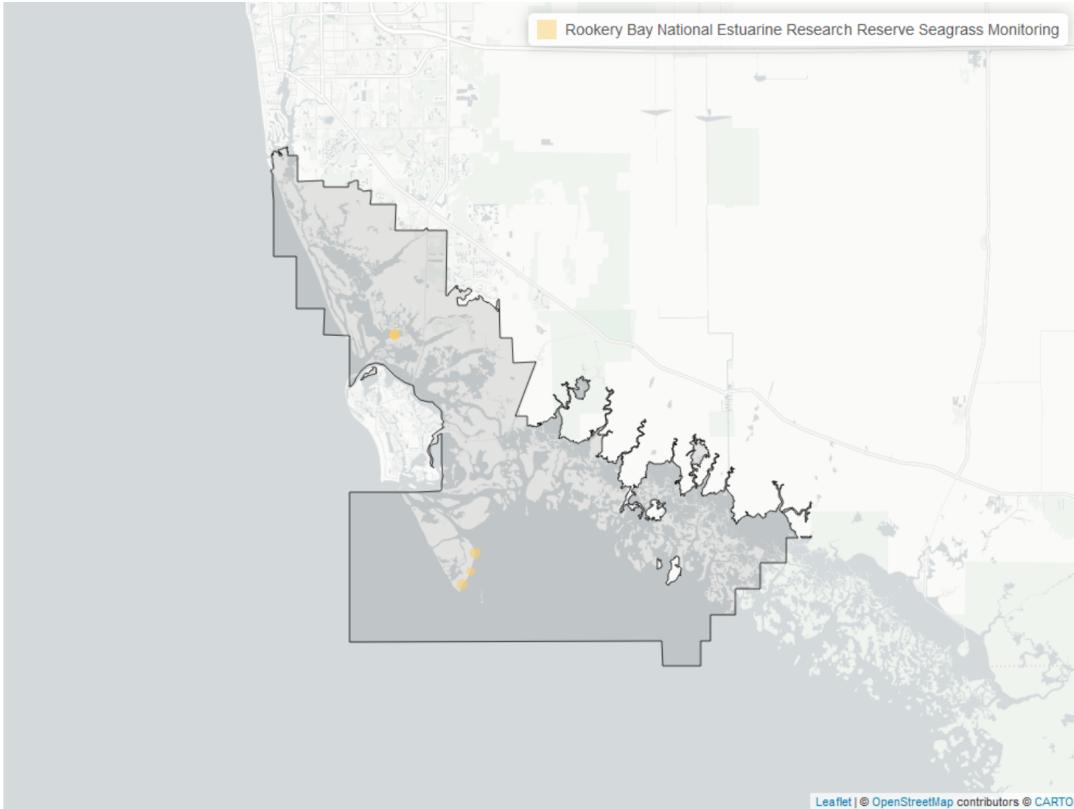


Program name

○ Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Seagrass Monitoring

Maps showing the temporal scope of SAV sampling sites within the boundaries of *Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve* by Program name.

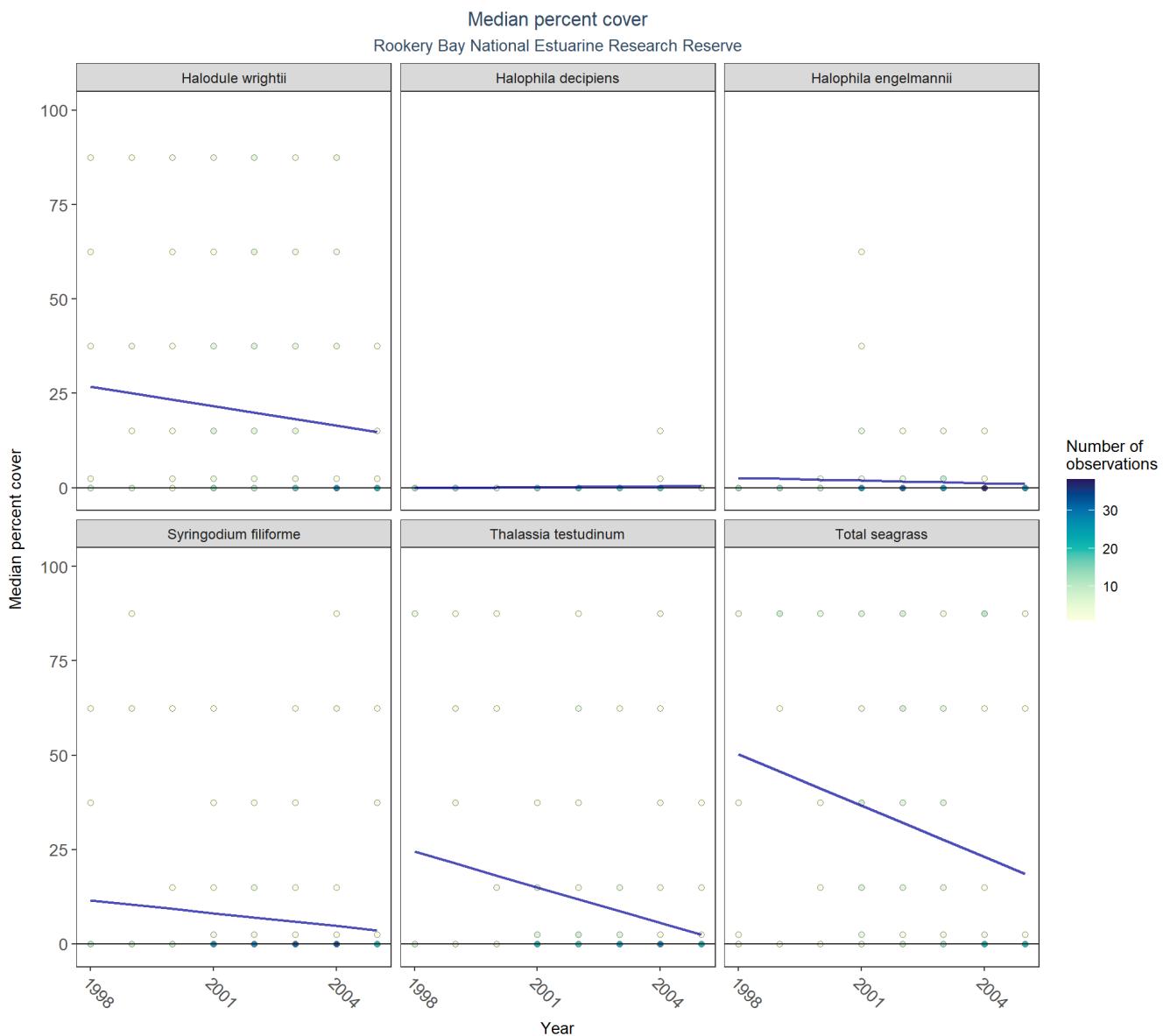
**Sampling locations by Program:**



Map showing SAV sampling sites within the boundaries of *Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*. The point size reflects the number of samples at a given sampling site.

Table 34: Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Seagrass Monitoring - Program 572

<i>N_Data</i>	<i>YearMin</i>	<i>YearMax</i>	<i>Collection Method</i>	<i>Sample Locations</i>
1220	1998	2005	Percent Cover	6



Median percent cover by species in *Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*. Linear mixed-effects models are applied to each species to produce species trends. The trendlines are then isolated and reproduced below for ease of viewing. The LME results are available in table form beneath the supplemental trendplot below.

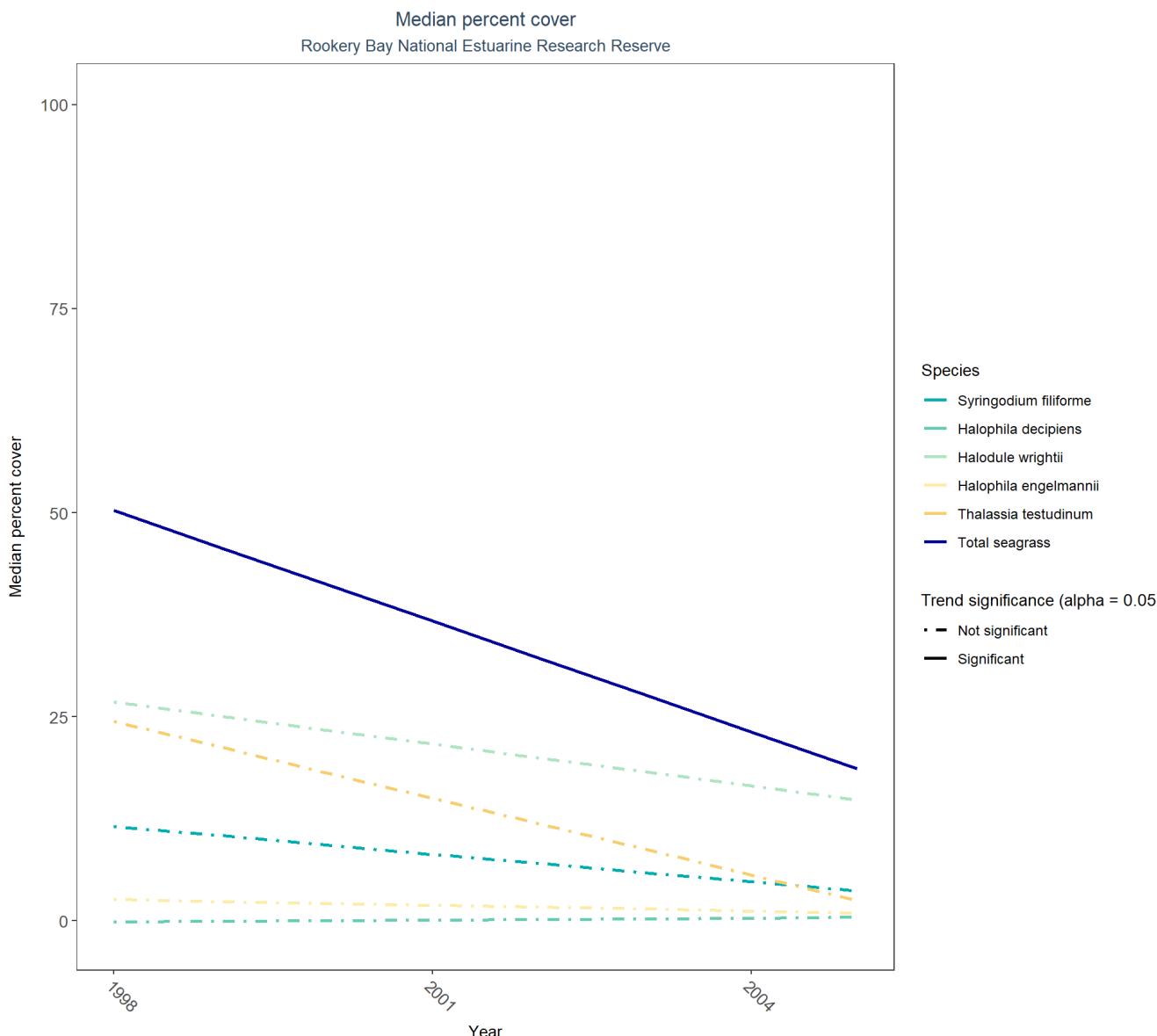
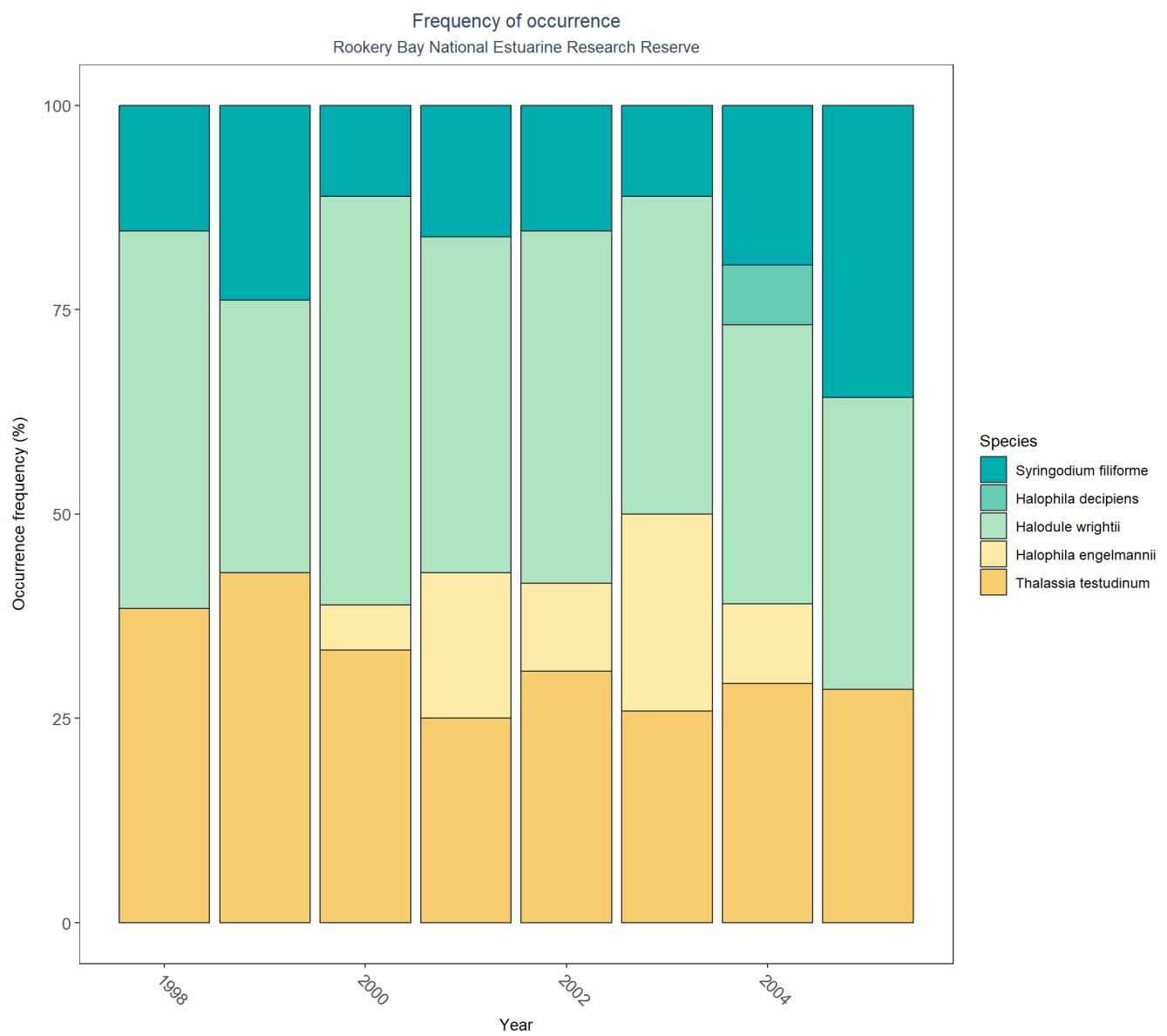


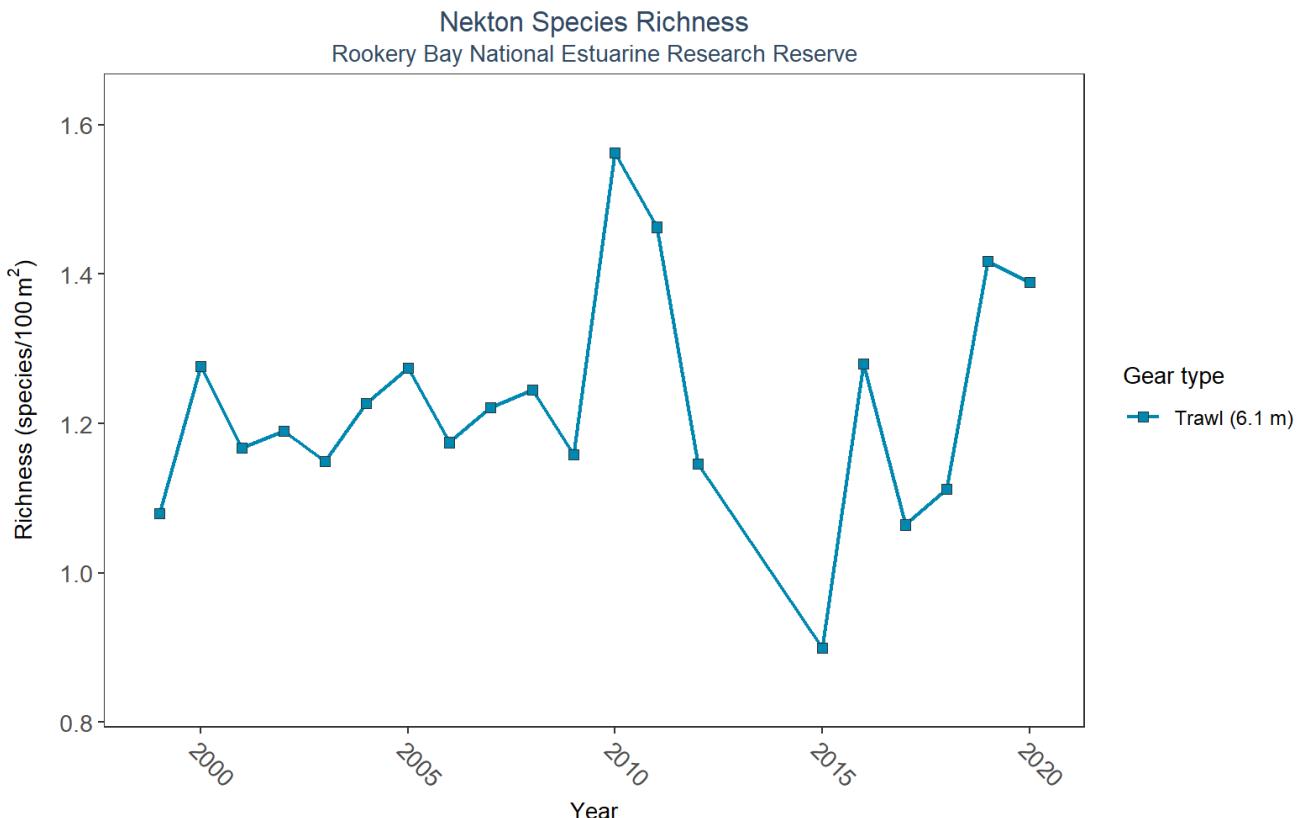
Table 35: Percent Cover Trend Analysis for Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Species	CommonName	Trend Significance (0.05)	Period of Record	LME-Intercept	LME-Slope	p
Halodule wrightii	Shoal grass	No significant trend	1998 - 2005	33.6286	-1.7091	0.2547
Halophila decipiens	Paddle grass	No significant trend	1998 - 2005	-0.4446	0.0784	0.3563
Halophila engelmannii	Star grass	No significant trend	1998 - 2005	3.5305	-0.2323	0.4437
Syringodium filiforme	Manatee grass	No significant trend	1998 - 2005	16.1048	-1.1344	0.4000
Thalassia testudinum	Turtle grass	No significant trend	1998 - 2005	36.9899	-3.1381	0.0667
Total seagrass		Significantly decreasing trend	1998 - 2005	68.3694	-4.5210	0.0166



## Nekton

The data file used is: All\_NEKTON\_Parameters-2024-Feb-23.txt



GearType	GearSize_m	N_Years	EarliestYear	LatestYear	N_Data	Min	Max	Median	Mean	StDev	Year_MinRichness	Year_MaxRichness
Trawl	6.1	20	1999	2020	3098	0	3.37	1.21	1.24	0.53	2015	2010