***FLORIDA SCIENTIST***

Reviewer's Report

**Author**: Marcus Beck, Maya Burke, Gary Raulerson, Sheila Scolaro, Edward Sherwood, and Joe Whalen

**Title**: Coordinated monitoring of the Piney Point wastewater discharge into Tampa Bay: Data synthesis and reporting

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1)Does this paper contain new knowledge, or new interpretation of existing knowledge?

The authors developed a rapid-response dashboard for the purposes of monitoring the effects of the Piney Point wastewater release in Summer of 2021. The collaborative, multi-organizational approach to the response, data collection, and subsequent dissemination of important information concerning the release and its effects on the health of Tampa Bay is certainly a novel and important product.

2) Does it duplicate in any substantial way material published elsewhere?

The paper does not duplicate material published. While data from the Piney Point response have been analyzed and published in other journals, this paper serves as a detailed roadmap for how the data were collected and wrangled into a useable, public-facing product.

3) Are technical terms used and spelled correctly?

Yes, all technical terms are used and spelled correctly.

4) Are there major flaws in the study design, execution or analysis?

There are no major flaws in the methods used to produce the Piney Point response dashboard.

5) Please list below any suggestions for improvement.

A brief review for grammar/spelling/punctuation may be warranted. For example, “e.g.” statements should never end in “etc” as the e.g. is intended for examples (e.g., page 6). I imagine that a copy-edit review prior to publication will catch most of these. However, the paper overall was well-written and structured in a logical, easy-to-follow manner.

Table 2 may need to be reformatted to adjust spacing (hanging ‘a’ in Pennsylvania).

**6)** **RECOMMENDATION**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| a) | Publish (as is) | ( ) |
| b) | Publish (with revision optional) | (x) |
| c) | Publish (with revision required) | ( ) |
| d) | Reject outright | ( ) |
| e) | Reject, but recommend referral to another journal | ( ) |
| f) | Other | ( ) |