Warm Mineral Springs Sediment Sample Analysis Report

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January 30, 2015

<u>Statement of Purpose</u> - Analyze sediment grab samples and push cores from Warm Mineral Springs to determine the following:

- Can sand that occurs naturally in the spring be differentiated from any sand allegedly introduced from an outside source into the Springs?
- 2) Is there any evidence that foreign sand or plastic occurs within the soil located at the bottom of the Springs, around, or in the Springs' vents?

<u>Methodology</u> – Sediment samples were collected by the investigator and others from areas in and around the shallow bathing area of the spring basin at Warm Mineral Springs and from the deeper portions of the spring system as depicted in Figure 1. Samples were of two types. Grab samples (12), were collected by hand directly into plastic zip-seal storage bags. Push cores (16), were collected by pushing a clear, rigid plastic tube (1.25-inch diameter) by hand into the sediment, capping the tube to create a vacuum seal, then pulling the tube back and capping the bottom to retain the sample.

Samples were labeled and logged in the field immediately upon collection and retrieval, then stored in a secure climate-controlled facility at the Sarasota County History Center until such time as they were processed and analyzed. Each sample was processed in a similar fashion, according to the sample type. Grab samples were allowed to drain by gravity, then a random sample split was removed for standard geologic description of the lithologic properties of the sample. Push core samples were processed by first trimming the clear tube to the length of the retrieved sample. The samples were then either extruded by pushing the sample from the end of the tube or the tubes were split with a cutting tool to reveal the inner contents of the core; the process chosen was based upon



Figure 1 - sample collection locations (approximate)

the physical composition of the sample as observed by the investigator. The samples were then described using standard geologic terminology based on their lithologic composition. The use of standardized geologic descriptions allows for future comparison and contrast of the various types of sediments found in the samples without having to actually hold the samples in one's hands.

<u>Sample Descriptions</u> – Samples were of two basic types: grab samples, and push core samples. Within each type of sample, there were samples collected from specific areas within and around the spring basin. Tables 1 & 2 present the organization of the samples based on sample type and location. Photographic archival of the 12 grab samples is provided as Figure 2. Push cores were photodocumented for archival purposes as presented in Figures 3 - 19.

Sample ID	Sample Location	Notes/Comments
D1	Upstream side of rock dam	Spring discharge area – surface of
D2	10m in from D1, halfway to rope	sediment inside spring basin area
D3	10m in from D2, at rope	
G1	Random ledge sediment	45-ft ledge area samples collected by research diver (S. Koski).
G2	Random ledge sediment	
G3	Synthetic fiber (green)	
SR1	Downstream side of rock dam	
SR2	Under footbridge	
SR3	15m downstream from bridge	
SR4	30m downstream from bridge, 3m upstream from septic station	Spring run downstream of rock dam
SR5	25m downstream from septic station	
SR6	@ County gaging station @ fenceline	

Table 1 – Grab Samples

Table 2 – Push Cores

ID	Location	Notes/Comment
BB	Beach/bathing area	10ft out from seawall
сс	Discharge area	Halfway between rock dam & tall post
DD	Beach/bathing area	At rope
EE	Cyclorama side	At post/rope near east end of seawall
FF	Drop-off	Out from tall post in front of rock dam
к	Drop-off	Out from beach/bathing area
AA	Ledge	~36ft bls, top of sediment dune crest, east of deco stage rack (az=0deg)
В	Ledge	Grab/scoop of thin layer of sediment on top of plastic, left of barrel (az=85deg)
н	Ledge	~40ft bls behind dropzone/overhang @ back wall (az=20deg)
P	Ledge	Sediment accumulation no plastic present (az=180deg)
G	Cold vent	206ft bls, sediment accumulation in front of cold vent
I	Cold vent	208ft bls @ 3 rd largest vent (to right of hot vent)
J	Debris mound	Top of debris mound
Ν	Cold vent	206ft bls @ 2 nd largest vent (to left of hot vent)
0	Hot vent	210ft bls @ main spring vent - in flat area in front of hot vent (full current)
R	Hot vent	210ft bls main spring vent

Figure 2 – Grab Samples



Figure 3 – Push Core BB



Figure 4 – Push Core CC

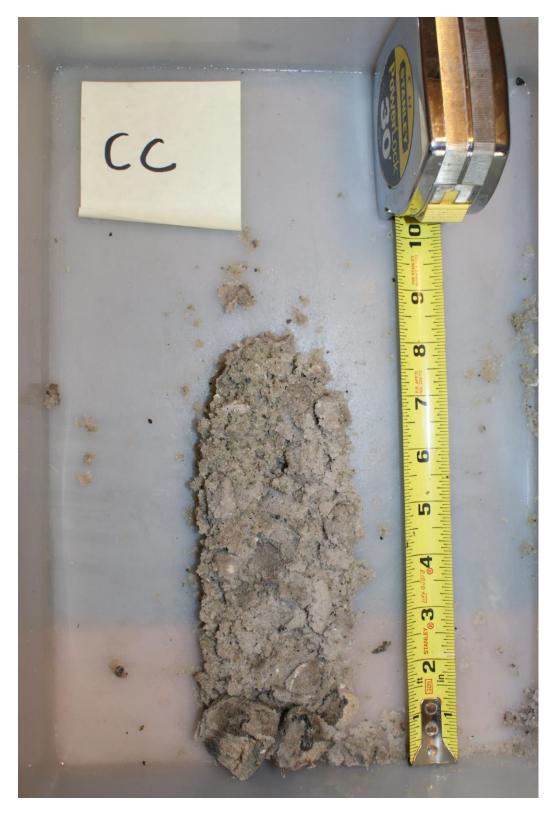


Figure 5 – Push Core DD



Figure 6 – Push Core EE



Figure 7 – Push Core FF



Figure 8 – Push Core K



Figure 9 – Push Core AA

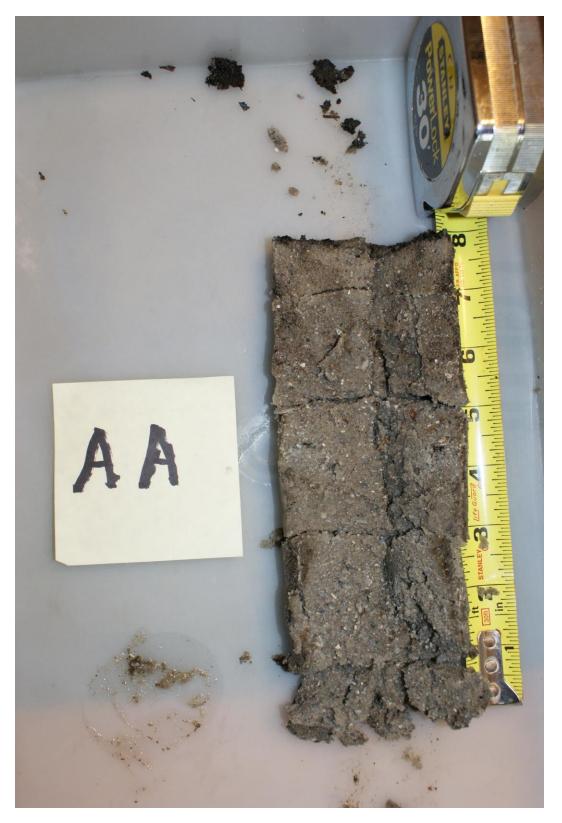


Figure 10 – Push Core B



Figure 11 – Push Core H



Figure 12 – Push Core P



Figure 13 – Push Core G



Figure 14 – Push Core I

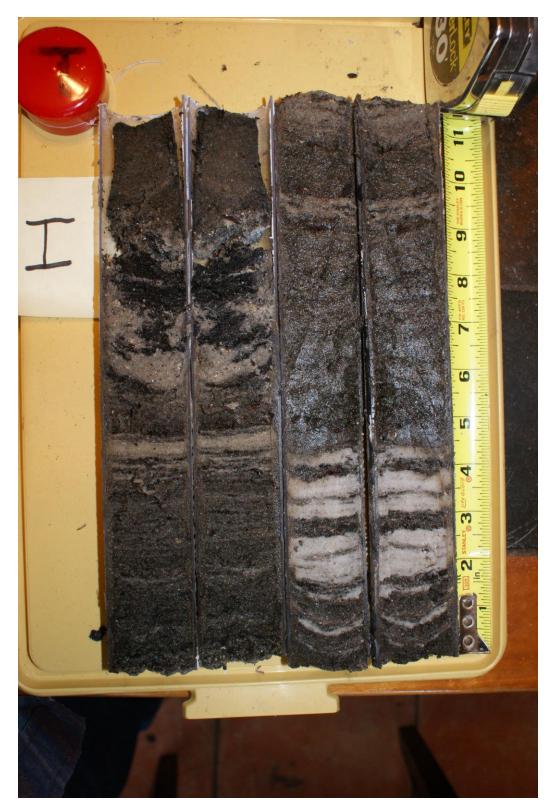


Figure 15 – Push Core J



Figure 16 – Push Core N



Figure 17 – Push Core O



Figure 18 – Push Core R



<u>Visual Comparison of Sediment Samples</u> - Initial visual comparison of the sediment samples provided obvious similarities and differences among and between the samples. The following general observations were made:

- the grab samples and push core samples from the discharge area and beach/bathing area of the shallow portion of the spring basin are primarily composed of relatively clean quartz sand with varying concentrations of phosphatic grains and shell fragments;
- the samples collected from deeper areas within the spring basin are more likely to contain significant quantities of organic-laden silt;
- although the samples collected from deeper areas within the spring basin do contain layers of quartz sand, without exception these core samples all contain silt and organic deposits overlaying any layers of quartz sand.

<u>Lithologic Description of Sediment Samples</u> – The samples were all described using standard geologic terminology for hand sample description. No acid was used to digest mineral samples, and no graduated sieve equipment was used to quantify the sediment grain size distributions. The descriptions provided herein are based solely on hand sample descriptions using a low-power hand lens. Detailed lithologic descriptions may be found in Appendix A.

Observations -

Shallow samples - Grab samples and push core samples from within the beach/bathing and discharge areas of the shallow portion of the spring basin were compared and contrasted. The following samples were considered to be representative of the sediments currently occurring in these areas: D1, D2, D3, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF, and K. All of these samples exhibited similar sandy sediments either in the upper-most layers or completely through the sampled interval. These sandy sediments are present as a homogeneous or slightly

stratified well sorted quartz sand, containing varying quantities of phosphatic grains and broken shell fragments. Push cores BB, DD, and FF all showed interbedded layers of sand and organic silts towards the bottom of the samples; push cores CC and EE both appear to have terminated in undisturbed clayey sediments; push core K contains a consistent deposit of well sorted quartz sand, similar to the sediments found in grab samples D1, D2, and D3 and in the upper portions of all of the other core samples from this group.

Deep samples - Push core samples from the 45-ft ledge area and deeper areas of the spring basin were compared and contrasted. The following samples were considered to be representative of the sediments currently occurring in these areas: 45-ft ledge - AA, B, H, and P; deep – G, I, J, N, O, and R. All but one of the samples from the 45-ft ledge exhibit fairly homogenous deposits of moderately well sorted quartz sand, containing as great or greater concentrations of phosphatic grains and shell fragments than the shallow samples from the beach/bathing and spring discharge areas. Sample H was intentionally taken from an area back under the overhang of the 45-ft ledge with the intent of having a basis of comparison between Sample H, which is unlikely to have received direct deposition of sand migrating from the shallow areas of the spring, and Samples AA, B, and P, which were collected from areas where sediment (from whatever source) has clearly accumulated. Whereas Samples AA, B, and P exhibit fairly homogeneous deposits of moderately well sorted phosphatic shelly quartz sand, similar sand in Sample H is only found in thinly stratified layers overlying a thicker, more homogeneous deposit of organic detritus and silt.

All of the samples from the deep zones exhibited significantly increased amounts of organic silts and actual woody/leafy debris than were found in the samples from the shallower levels (beach/bathing area and ledge area). The organic silts were thick and homogenous in the sample from the top of the debris mound (Sample J), but in the other deep zone samples the organic silts were periodically interrupted by relatively thin layers of cleaner quartz sands, only to be subsequently followed by additional organic silts. Well sorted quartz sand similar to that which was observed in the samples from the beach/bathing and discharge areas of the shallow portion of the spring basin did not occur at the top of any of the push core samples collected from the deeper portions of the spring basin. While such sand did occur near the top of the core in Sample G, there was still a layer of organic silt overlying the sand indicating that an additional input of organic silt had occurred since the deposition of the sand that was observed near the top of Sample G.

<u>Discussion/Analysis</u> - The questions put forth at the outset of this investigation are two-fold: 1) can sand that occurs naturally in the spring be differentiated from any sand allegedly introduced from an outside source into the Springs?; and 2) is there any evidence that foreign sand or plastic occurs within the soil located at the bottom of the Springs, around, or in the Springs' vents?

To address the issue of whether or not the sand that occurs naturally in the spring can be differentiated from imported sand, it is necessary to consider the general nature of all springs and the specific nature of the sediments surrounding Warm Mineral Springs. In general, all springs can be expected to contain naturally-occurring sediments, including silts, sands, gravels, etc.. The investigator is unaware of any springs in Florida that do not contain significant amounts of native sand and other sediments. Therefore, it can be expected that at least some of the sand that is found in Warm Mineral Springs today is of natural origin; such native sand is likely derived from the shallow surficial aquifer in the immediate vicinity of the springs. The surficial soils in the immediate vicinity of Warm Mineral Springs consist of Pomello Series soils, described in the "Soil Survey of Sarasota County, Florida – USDA Soil Conservation Service" as "moderately well drained soils that formed in thick beds of sandy marine sediments". The underlying sediments of the surficial aquifer in the vicinity of the springs contain fossil shells, phosphatic grains, and guartz sand, as described by the US Geological Survey:

"The SAS consists of permeable, unconsolidated, clastic sediments and some locally consolidated basal carbonates that range in age from Holocene to Pliocene. The sediments are composed of fine to medium quartz and phosphatic sand, clayey sand, clay, sandy clay, shells, limestone, and dolostone, and become increasingly phosphatic and clayey with depth. ...the SAS ranges in thickness from a few feet to more than 60 ft.".

Lithology of surficial aquifer in Sarasota County as described <u>in</u> Barr, G.L., (1996); Hydrogeology of the Surficial and Intermediate Aquifer Systems in Sarasota and Adjacent Counties, Florida. USGS Water Resources Investigations Report 96-4063).

When one walks away from the springs, following the discharge creek along its course towards the Myakka River, numerous opportunities exist to observe the natural sediments in the vicinity, as the creek has cut down into the surrounding soils and exposed the shallow sediments along its banks. Most noticeable are shelly sands, most likely of the late Pleio-Pleistocene Ft. Thompson/Bermont formations. Unlike the deeper shell beds that occur throughout the area containing hundreds of varieties of fossil shells, these shelly sands are notable for the predominance of a single type of fossil bivalved mollusk of the genus *Chione sp.*. The most common identifiable shell fragments found in the samples collected from Warm Mineral Springs during this investigation are identified as *Chione sp.*. The ubiquitous presence of quartz sands and marine shell fragments in the immediate vicinity of Warm Mineral Springs and in the surrounding areas makes it virtually impossible to tell whether or not the sands observed in the spring basin today are naturally-ocurring or if the sands were imported into the area by others in the past.

From the investigator's experience working with sand borrow pits, the likelihood is that any sand that was allegedly imported into the spring area in the past came from the nearest borrow pit supplying sand for construction purposes in the area. If this supposition were to hold true, then an applicable analogy would be as if one were to walk out on the beach and try to differentiate between the sand that had naturally occurred on the beach from sand that was pumped in from a mile offshore in a beach renourishment project; it would be essentially impossible to tell the difference between sand from the two sources.

All evidence collected and analyzed indicates that is it impossible to differentiate sand that occurs naturally in the spring from any sand allegedly introduced from an outside source into the Springs.

The second questions posed to the investigator was whether there any evidence that foreign sand or plastic occurs within the soil located at the bottom of the Springs, around, or in the Springs' vents. To the part of the question regarding plastic, there was no plastic observed in any of the samples collected from the bottom of the springs or in the springs' vents. Cores were taken from the top of the central debris cone within the deep portion of the spring and from areas directly in front of the spring vents. No plastic was observed in any of the samples. Regarding evidence of foreign sand occurring within the soil located at the bottom of the springs, around, or in the springs' vents, the presence of organic silt layers on top of the shallowest layers of sand suggest that natural processes have deposited organic silt in the time period following the latest deposition of sand. From a geologic perspective, there is no evidence that foreign sand occurs at the bottom of the springs, around, or in the springs, around, or in the springs, around, or in the springs is no evidence that spring sand occurs at the bottom of the springs, around, or in the springs, around, or in the springs, around, or in the springs' vents.

<u>Conclusion</u> – this investigation was conducted with the express intent of addressing two specific questions: 1) can sand that occurs naturally in the spring be differentiated from any sand allegedly introduced from an outside source into the Springs?; and 2) is there any evidence that foreign sand or plastic occurs within the soil located at the bottom of the Springs, around, or in the Springs' vents? Based on the observations and analyses made by the investigator the following conclusions have been reached:

 Sand that occurs naturally in the spring CANNOT be differentiated from any sand allegedly introduced from an outside source into the Springs; and, 2) There is NO EVIDENCE that foreign sand or plastic occurs within the soil located at the bottom of the Springs, around, or in the Spring's vents.

Sincerely,

H. Cliff Harrison, P.G.

Florida Professional Geologist #1926

1/3\$/15 Warm Mineral Springs Sediment Sample Analysis Samples Collected - 11/4/14 + 11/5/14 Types - Grab (Ziploc) - 12 Sample Push corres - 6 short 10 long · Sample Inventory - Grab Samples : Location Notes/Comments ID (Spring Discharge Area) Surface of sandt 11/5/14 - Da D3 Upstream side of rock dam 10 m "in" from DI, 12 way to rope mud inside spring 10 m"in" from D2, at rope basin area. 11/4/14 - G1 G3 random ledge sediment (Ledge area samples by SK) Synthetic Fiber -green SR1 (Spring Run downstream of rock dam) Downstream side of rock dam SR2 Under foot bridge 11/5/14 -SR3 15 m downstream from bridge SR4 30 m downstream frambridge, 3 m upstream from septic station SRS 25 m downstream from septic station SR6 @ County gaging station & fence line

Sample Descriptions - Grab Samples:

Lithologic Description Sample 1D D1 SAND, quartz, very light gray, fine to medium fine grains, subangular to rounded, well sorted, clear to frosted; with minor to trace phosphatic grains, fine to coarse, subrounded to rounded, black; and trace shell fragments (chione sp. + venericardia sp.), white to gray. D2 SAND quartz, very lightgray, fine to medium fine grains, subangular to rounded, well sorted, clear to frosted; with minor to trace phosphatic grains, fine to coarse and few phosphatic gravel fragments, sub rounded to rounded, black to rare medium brown; and trace shell fragments (chione sp. = tenericardia sp.), white to gray . D3 SAND, quartz, medium greenish-gray, fine to coarse grains, subangular to subrounded, poorly sorted, clear to frosted; with common phosphatic grains, fine to coarse, and commen, st sub round de rounded, black, and granot and occasional granules to gravel fragments sub rounded to rounded black to dark brown; and occasional shell fragments (chione sp.), white to gray.

1/3\$/15

Sample Descriptions - Grab Samples:

Sample ID Lithologic Description G1 SAND, quartz medium brownish-gray fine to medium fine grains, subrounded well sorted, clear to frosted; with common organic silt, dark to medium brown; and abundant phosphatic silt to grains to granules, black to dark brown, and trace shell fragments (chione spi), gray to white, and rare organic (wood) fragments, soft, fibrous G2 SAND, quartz, medium brownish-gray, fine to gravery fine grains subrounded well sorted, clear to frosted, with common organic silt, dark to medium brown; and abundant phosphatic silt, black to dark brown; and commoccasinal small shell fragments, white to gray. Synthetic fiber, bluish-green, coarse, matted G3

3

1/30/15

Sample Descriptions - Grab Samples:

(4) 1/3\$/15

Sample ID Lithologic Description SR1 SAND, quartz, medium gray, fine grained, sub angular to stoubrounded, well sorted, clear to frosted; with common organic detritus, brown to black, and common shell fragments, grayish-white. SR2 SAND, quartz, light gray, fine grained subangular to subrounded, well sorted, clear to frosted; with trace organic detritus brown to black; and trace shell fraquents, white to gray. SR3 SAND, quartz, # light to mediourgray, fine grained, subargular to subvounded well sorted, clear to frosted, with common MUD dark gray to brownish-black; and Occasional organic detritus brown to black, and trace shell fragments, white to gray. SR4 SILTY SANDESHET, dark brownish-gray to grayishbrown, silty to very fine grained sub-angular to sub-rounded, clear; with abundant MUD, dark brownish-gray to brownish-black, and common organic detritus, and common shell fragments, white to gray. MUDPY SAND, dark grayish-brown silty to Very fine grained sub rounded, frosted. with abundant MUD, dark gbrownish black; and abundant organic detritus; and trace shell fragments, white. SR5

Sample Descriptions - Grab Samples: 1/30/15 Sample 1D Lithologic Description SANDY MUD dark brownish-black, middy to silty to very fine grained. with abundant organic detritus, ad trace shell fragments yellowish-gray. SR6

Inventory - Push Cores (short) [1/30/15 - Sample 1D Location Notes/Comments 11/4/14 AA Ledge @36Ft bls azt/-p; top of dune crest; east of deco stage rack Beach/bathingarea Discharge area Beach/bathing area BB 10 ft out from seawall Vieway from dam to tall post at rope CC DD 11/5/14-Cyclorama side @ post/ pear near east end of sea wall EE FF Drop-off out from tall post in front of rock dam - Sample Inventory - Push Cores (long) Location Notes/Comments 10 n/5/14 B Ledge Grab/scoop of this layer of sediment on top of plastic - \$ az 85° Left of barrel 206 ft bis in front of cold vent sediment 11/5/14 G Cold Vent accumulation 11/5/14 H ~40ft bls az 20° behind dropzone Ledge @ back wall of overhang 208 Ft bls @ 3rd largest vent (to right of hot vent) Spring Vent 11/5/14 I 11/4/14 J Debris Mound Top of debris mound 11/5/14 K Beach/Bathing Area Dropoff out from beach / batting avea 11/4/14 N Secondary (cold) vent Cold Vent 210 ft bls in flat area (current) in front of hot vent 11/5/14 0 Hot vent Sediment accumulation no plastic az 180° 11/5/14 P Ledge 11/4/14 R Hot Vent Main Spring vent

Sample Descriptions - Push Cores

Stratified

(7) 1/30/15

1D Length (inclus) Lithologic Description

Homogeneis (no stratification) SAND, quartz, medium gray fine to medium grained subrounded to Subangular, well sorted, clear to frosted; with common organic silt, black to brown. ad occasional phosphatic silt grains, black and common shell fragments white ad occasional organic fragments, soft.

BB 0-bottom \$ -1.25 0-1.25

AA

 $1.25 - 1.75 \\ 1.75 - 3.00 \\ 3.00 - 4.00 \\ 4.00 - 5.50 \\ \end{array}$

8

5.5\$ 5.00 - 6.00 600-8.25

8.25-10.00

8

CC

ORGANIC SILF, layered SAND quartz fine grained with abundant black organics 14 ORGANIC SILT, layered SAND, quartz medium to fine grained Frace black organic silt ORGANIC SIIT layered and fibrous material (pine reedles?) SAND, quartz medion to fine grainel clean, interlayéred with black organic silt stringers SAND, quartz medium to fine grained clean, minimal organic material

SAND, fine grained guo SAND, quartz, Plight grave darkgray, fine grained well sorted with common black organic silt

Homogeneous (no stratification) SAND quartz, light grayish-white fine to medium fine grained subrounded to sup angular, well sorted, clear to frosted. with the common phosphetic grains fine to medium black; and occasional shell fragments, white to yellouish gray (chione sp.)

Lithologic Description (8) Length (inches) 10 DD \$ = bottom \$ - 1.5\$ Stratified SAND, quartz, medium to dark gray, fine grained, subrounded well sorted, mottled + layered with dark gray bands (gradational) SAND quartz lightgray to medium gray fine to medium grained clear to frosted subrouded to 1.50-6.50 515 anyalan moderately well sorted with several well-defined then dark gray bands and trace soft medium brown organic metter 6.50-7.50 SILTY SAND, quartz, dark gray to blacktish gray very five grained to silty very organic-rich. SAND quartz, light grayish while five to medium fine grained, subrounded to sup angular, well sorted clean to frosted. with common phosphatic grains, five to coarse, well rounded, prown to black; a d common 7.5\$-13.00 brown to black; ad common shell tragments, white togray. EE Sinches Stratified Ø-2.0 CLAY silty, medium gray to light yellowish gray, fairly dry, crumbly, 10 w to poor plasticity, poor schesion, SAND, quartz light gray fine to redionlyrained, subrounded to subagula, moderately well sorted, clear to frosted; 2.0 - 5.0 with occasional phosphatic grains fine to coarse, well rounded brown to black ad common shell fragments, white to gray.

Lithologic 1/30/15 Description Length (incles) 1 D Stratified FF 0- Lottom Ø- 8.Ø SANDY SILT, dark gray to graysh-black, tayered to motified very time grained to silty, apparent darkgap i It > black organic rich silt > Sandy layer repeated Semi-segularly note - high concentrations of recent Small gastigods in black organic layers SAND, quartz light gray, fine to medium 8.\$-10.\$ greined, subrounded to subargular moderately well sorted, clear to posted. with occasional phosphatic grains, fine to coarse well rounded, brown to black and Occasional stell fing ments white togray B Homogeneous (no stratification) SAND, quartz, medium to dark gray, fine 15 to medium coarse grained subrounded to subangular, we moderate to sorting clear to frosted; with occasional phosphatic grains, fine, to coarse, well rounded, brown to black and occasional organic detiritus. Overall gradational motting. K Homogeneous (no stratification), SAND, quartz, light gray to grayish white fine to medium grained well sorted course grasubangular to subrounded, clear to frosted. with occasional phosphatic 7 grains, fire to coarse, well rounded to sub rouded brown to black, ad occasional shell fragments, white togray.

1/30/15 Deservation Lithologic Description 1D Length (incles) P 7.5 intes Ø@bottom Ø-4 Gradational CLAYEY to SILLTY SAND quartz, fine grained, wellsorted wounded to sub rounded silly to clayer, with abundant clay clasts, bluish-green to gravish white to yellowish gray, varying consitery + plasticity 4 - 75 SILTY SAND, quartz Fine graned well sorted, rounded to subrounded silty with abunda to organic 31 It, black, + detritus; and common shell Prayments, white to gray H 14 Ø-9 Stratified SILTY ORGANIC DETRITUS black, fibrous, muddy, layeved, leaves, nuts, wood fragments, abundant fresh water 9 - 14 gastropods. SAND, quartz medium gray to dark gray, banded Mayered, fine grained, well Sorted, sub angular to sub rounded with interbedded layers of organic detritus and abundant shell fragments in single layer (fresh water gastropods) G 26 Gradational to microstratified SILTY SAND to SAND, to ORGANIC SILT, light gray to black, banded /layered, with dark layers containing increased organic silt & fine grained sand while light layers confain clean quartz sand and shell fragments

Lithologic 1/30/15 Description Length (inches) 1D 22 I Gradational to microstratified SILTY SAND to SAND to OBGANIC SILT light gray to black, banded / layered dark layers, contain increased organic silt & Arne grained sand light layers contain increased clean quartz sand and shell fragments. Gradational ORGANIC SILT, Soft, poorly consolidated, black, with significant organic detritus, Q-13 13 - 20SANDY SILT. dark gray micro-banded fine grained to silty, quarter with significant organic silt content. N 27 Gradational to microstratified SILTY SAND to SAND to ORGANIC SILT, light gray to black, banded/layered, dark layers contain increased organic silt + Fine grained sand, light layers contain increased clean quests sand and shell fragments 1

(12) 1/3\$115 Length (inches) Lithologic Description ID 21 0 Stratified ORGANIC SILT, soft, poorly consolidated, black, with significant minororganic detritus; one pea-sized woody clast, dark brown one spono 9.0-9.5 One finger-sized spongy woody clast, medium reddish brown to orangebrown ORGANIC SILTYSAMD with black 9.5-11.0 with mor shell fraquets, white. 11.0--18.0 SILTY SAND TOSTO SAND to ORGANK SILT, Isht gray to black banded/ layeved, dark layers contain increased Organic SIHH Fine grained soul light layer contain increased clein quartesal did shell frequents. ORGANIC SRICH SILT SOFF. 18.4-21.0 moderately consolidated black, notfled, with minor band including SANDY SILT R 18 Ø-9 STRATIFIED ORGANIC SILT, soft, poorly consolidated black, with occasional organic detritus, and thin (+0.25") later of medium gray silt/clay with organic detritus 9 - 18 ORGANIC SILT to SILTY SAND to SAND, light gray to black motflet to vaguely stratified, dark layers contain increased organic stilt + fine grained silt, light layers contain increased clean fine quartz sand with trace shell fragments (white to gray).