

EFFECT ON THE POROSITY OF THE BISCAYNE AQUIFER DUE TO SEAWATER INTRUSION

“... Water, water, everywhere, Nor any drop to drink.”

- Samuel Taylor Coleridge, The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

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THE BISCAYNE AQUIFER OVERVIEW

- Located in Southeast Florida
- Provides water for 4 million people
- Sole Source aquifer
- 7770 km²
- Seawater Intrusions very common



GEOLOGY OF THE BISCAYNE AQUIFER

- Miocene to Holocene age siliciclastic and carbonate sediments
- 50 to 82 m thick
- Unconfined aquifer
- Transmissivity of 0.4 to 3.1 m^2/s

STRATIGRAPHY OF THE BISCAYNE AQUIFER

- Pamlico sand
- Miami Oolite
- Anastasia Formation
- Key Largo Limestone
- Fort Thompson Formation
- Tamiami Formation

Image Courtesy
of the USGS

Series	Geologic formation or lithostratigraphic unit			Lithology	Hydrogeologic unit	Approximate thickness, in feet			
Holocene to Pliocene	Holocene-age undifferentiated and Pleistocene-age formations ¹			Quartz sand; silt; clay; shell; limestone, sandy shelly limestone	Surficial aquifer system	Biscayne aquifer Confining beds Gray limestone aquifer			
	Tamiami Formation ²			Silt; sandy clay; sandy, shelly limestone; calcareous sandstone; and quartz sand; planktic foraminiferal limestone					
	Stock Island Formation ³								
Miocene to possibly Late Oligocene	Hawthorn Group	Peace River Formation			Intermediate confining unit	500–830			
		Arcadia Formation	Upper	Interbedded sand, silt, gravel, clay, carbonate, and phosphatic sand					
				Carbonate mudstone to grainstone; claystone; shell beds; dolomite; phosphatic and quartz sand; silt; and clay					
		Arcadia Formation	Lower	Sandy, molluscan limestone; phosphatic quartz sand, sandstone, and limestone					
				Fossiliferous, lime mudstone to packstone and grainstone; dolomitic limestone; and dolomite; abundant cone-shaped benthic foraminifera					
		Avon Park Formation	Upper						
			Middle	Upper	Rordan aquifer system	40–350 150–500 700–1,200			
			Middle	Upper					
				Middle					
				Lower					
				Lower					
				?					
				?					
				?					
				Early					
				Oldsmar Formation					
Paleocene		Cedar Keys Formation			Focus of this study	Micritic limestone, dolomitic limestone, and dolomite Dolomite and dolomitic limestone Massive anhydrite beds			

¹ Pleistocene-age formations in southeastern Florida (Pamlico Sand, Miami Limestone, Anastasia Formation, Fort Thompson Formation).

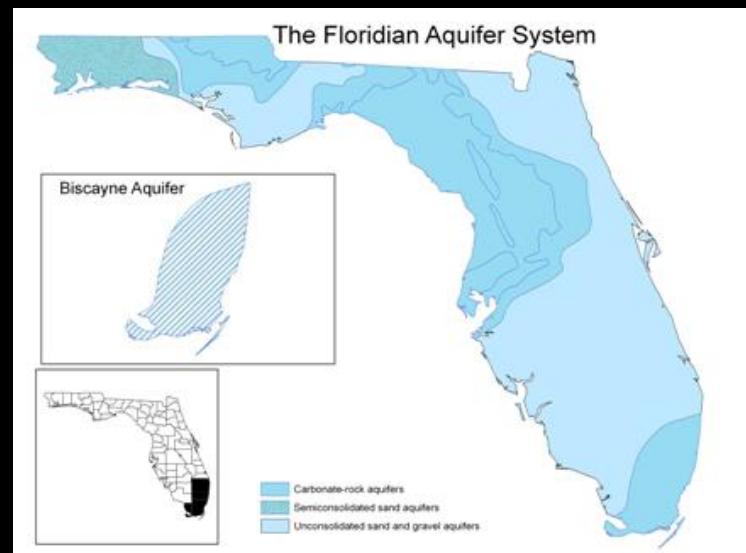
² Tamiami Formation (Pinecrest Sand Member, Ochoppee Limestone Member).

³ Stock Island Formation, after Cunningham and others, 1998.

EXPLANATION

LF1 Uppermost major permeable zone of the Lower Floridan aquifer

LOCATION OF THE SEAWATER INTRUSION IN THE BISCAYNE AQUIFER

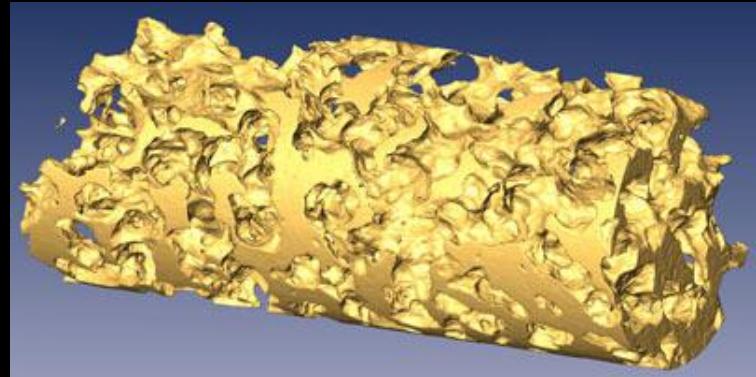


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Base maps are from South Florida Water Management District, Miami-Dade County, USGS and ESRI digital data

POROSITY AND PERMEABILITY

- Porosity Method:
 - Whole core measurement: 5.0 to 60% porosity
 - GPR on Miami Limestone: 40% to 50% porosity
- Permeability Method:
 - LBM $10^{4.18}$ to $10^{7.43}$ darcys



CT-scan of a core from an unspecified unit of limestone. Florea, Lee, through the USGS.



GROUNDWATER SAMPLING METHOD

- 34 monitoring sites used by Prinos, et al. (2014)
- Submersible pump, suction pump, and kenmerer water sampler
- Depths of 23.2 m to 61 m
- Sampled every 1.5 m
- Data collected from July to September used to constrain data
- Wells within 8.5km of Turkey Point Nuclear Plant's cooling canals excluded
- Data containing sewage markers exluded

WATER ANALYSIS OF SELECTED WELLS

Table 1 Water quality of wells selected in the study

Sample	Well depth (m)	Sample interval (m)	Temperature °C	pH	Ca mg/L	Mg mg/L	Na mg/L	K mg/L	Cl mg/L	SO ₄ mg/L	Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ mg/L	% SW ^a
G-3606	36.6	1.5	26.0	6.99	104	2.7	25.7	1.03	36.3	19.4	238	0.0
G-894	23.2	0.5	25.8	7.25	80	2.7	13	1.21	18.4	28.8	165	0.1
G-3600	61.0	1.5	25.5	6.95	487	1120	7820	312	15,400	1910	258	81.0
G-3601	57.9	1.5	24.6	6.85	165	61.4	676	16.3	1350	121	255	6.9
G-3602	48.8	1.5	25.3	6.90	264	199	1990	50.4	4050	423	256	21.2
G-3604	36.6	1.5	26.2	7.09	224	312	2600	87.9	5330	643	219	27.9
G-3605	33.5	1.5	26.7	6.93	182	90.5	955	26.1	1940	232	226	10.0
G-3611	30.5	1.5	25.3	7.08	97	4.8	88.3	2.52	175	24.2	192	0.7
G-3615	24.4	1.5	25.3	6.76	264	58.3	768	11.2	1780	111	180	9.2
G-3701	25.3	1.5	25.1	7.06	132	14.2	244	2.02	566	34.7	162	2.8
G-901	29.3	0.4	25.6	7.04	273	121	1200	19.2	2590	206	167	13.5

Data are extracted from Prinos et al. (2014)

^a %SW is seawater fraction in the sample calculated based on its chloride concentration

COMPOSITE WATER ANALYSIS

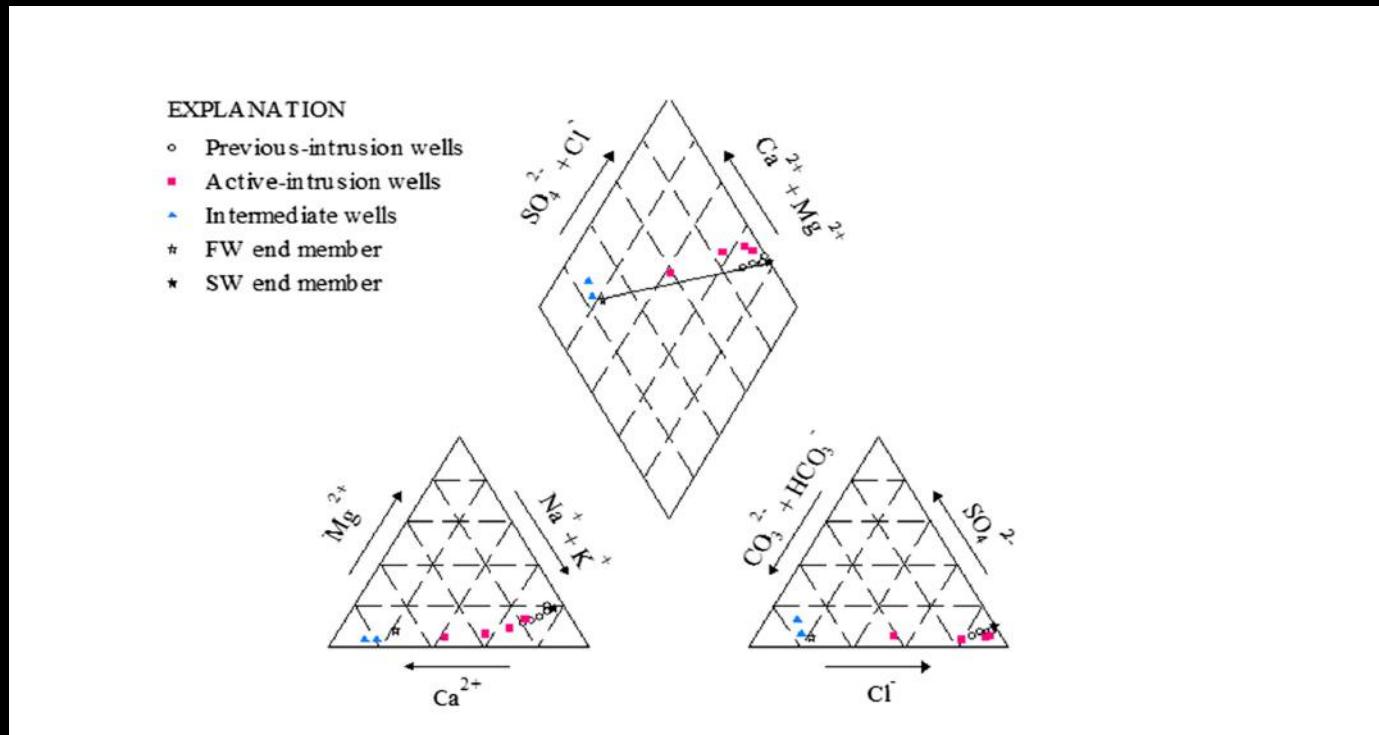
- Freshwater(FW) is an average of the selected data sets.
- Seawater(SW) is an average calculated by Hem (1985)
- pH 8 selected for SW to mirror Biscayne Bay.

Table 2 Temperature (T) and chemical compositions of the freshwater and saltwater end members used in modeling (Hem 1985)

	T (°C)	pH	Cl ⁻ mg/L	SO ₄ ²⁻ mg/L	Ca ²⁺ mg/L	Na ⁺ mg/L	Mg ²⁺ mg/L	K ⁺ mg/L	HCO ₃ ⁻ mg/L	Log(pCO ₂)
FW	28.5	7.4	39	11.6	75.4	24.9	5.3	3.6	234.2	-1.69
SW	25.0	8.0	19,000	2700	410	10,500	1350	390	66.6	-3.13

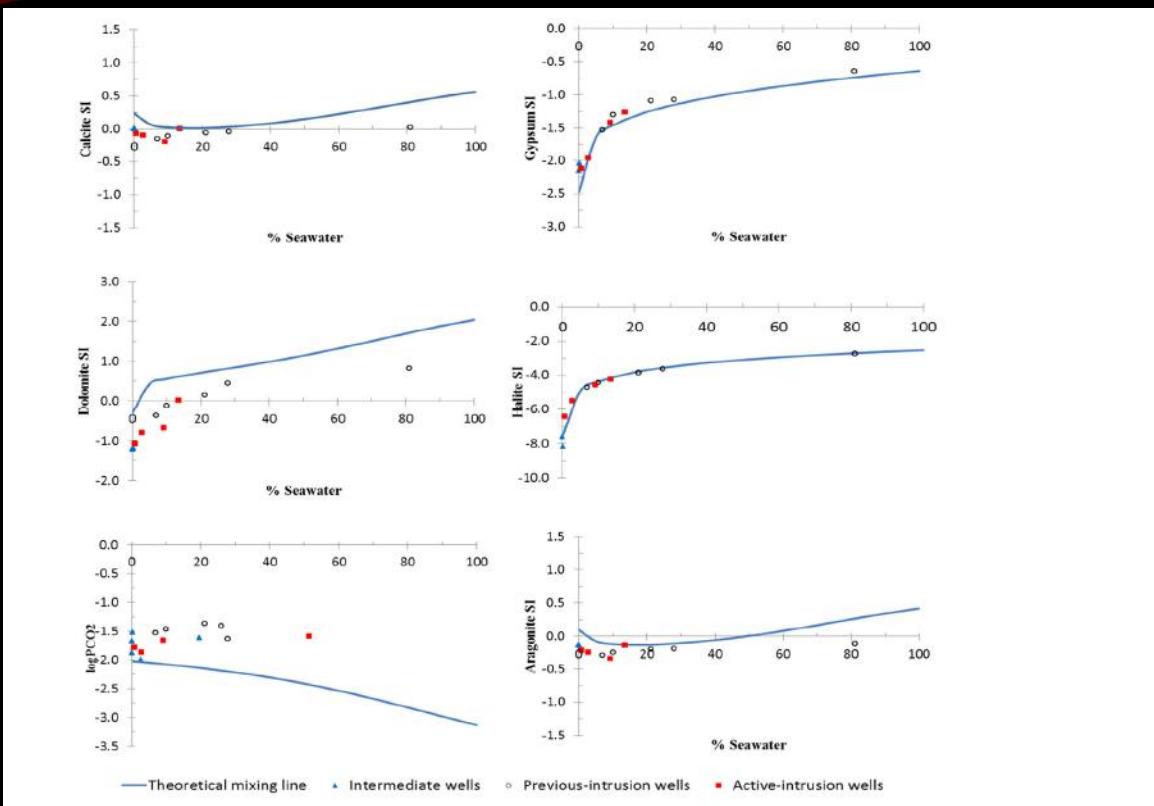
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PIPER DIAGRAM



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SI OF VARIOUS MINERALS



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GEOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS METHODS

- Input composite solutions into Phreeqc
- Mix the Solutions at a 20% FW to 80% SW to replicate the greatest seawater intrusion extent observed for trial 1.
- Trial 2 and 3 were individual analysis of sampling wells.
- Equilibrate the mix solution for calcium bearing minerals to determine changes in quantities in solution

OUTPUT OF MIXED SOLUTION – TRAIL 1

Phase	SI	Log IAP	Log K(298, 1 atm)	Formula
Anhydrite	-1.02	-5.31	-4.29	CaSO4
Aragonite	-0.56	-8.91	-8.34	CaCO3
Calcite	-0.42	-8.91	-8.48	CaCO3
Dolomite	0.05	-17.06	-17.11	CaMg(CO3)2
Gypsum	-0.74	-5.32	-4.58	CaSO4 * 2H2O
Halite	-2.69	-1.11	1.57	NaCl

EQUILIBRIUM PHASES – TRIAL 1

Precipitation only

Phase	SI	Log IAP	Log K	Initial	Final	Grams
Aragonite	-0.59	-8.93	-8.34	0 mol	0 mol	0 g
Calcite	-0.45	-8.93	-8.48	0 mol	0 mol	0 g
Dolomite	0.00	-17.11	-17.11	0 mol	1.45E-4 mol	2.7E-4 g
Gypsum	-0.75	-5.33	-4.58	0 mol	0 mol	0 g

SELECTED OUTPUT - TRAIL 2

Well G-3600

Phase	SI	Log IAP	Log K(298, 1 atm)	Formula
Anhydrite	-0.93	-5.22	-4.29	CaSO4
Aragonite	-0.24	-8.58	-8.34	CaCO3
Calcite	-0.09	-8.58	-8.48	CaCO3
Dolomite	0.57	-16.54	-17.11	CaMg(CO3)2
Gypsum	-0.65	-5.23	-4.58	CaSO4 * 2H2O
Halite	-2.72	-1.15	1.57	NaCl

EQUILIBRIUM PHASE – TRIAL 2

Precipitation only

Phase	SI	Log IAP	Log K	Initial	Final	grams
Aragonite	-0.52	-8.86	-8.34	0 mol	0 mol	0 g
Calcite	-0.38	-8.86	-8.34	0 mol	0 mol	0 g
Dolomite	0.00	-17.11	-17.11	0 mol	1.22E-4 mol	2.23E-2 g
Gypsum	-0.65	-5.23	-4.58	0 mol	0 mol	0 g

SELECTED OUTPUT – TRAIL 3

Increased HCO_3^- concentration

Phase	SI	Log IAP	Log K(298, 1 atm)	Formula
Anhydrite	-0.94	-5.22	-4.29	CaSO_4
Aragonite	0.07	-8.27	-8.34	CaCO_3
Calcite	0.21	-8.27	-8.48	CaCO_3
Dolomite	1.18	-15.92	-17.11	$\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$
Gypsum	-0.65	-5.23	-4.58	$\text{CaSO}_4 * 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Halite	-2.72	-1.15	1.57	NaCl

EQUILIBRIUM PHASES – TRIAL 3

Phase	SI	Log IAP	Log K	Initial	Final	Grams
Aragonite	-0.53	-8.87	-8.34	0 mol	0 mol	0 g
Calcite	-0.38	-8.87	-8.48	0 mol	0 mol	0 g
Dolomite	0.00	-17.11	-17.11	0 mol	5.5E-4 mol	0.10 g
Gypsum	-0.67	-5.25	-4.58	0 mol	0 mol	0 g



REFERENCES

- Habtemichael, Y. T. and Fuentes, H. R., 2016. Hydrogeochemical Analysis of Processes Through Modeling of Seawater Intrusion Impacts in Biscayne Aquifer Water Quality, USA. *Aquatic Geochemistry*: v. 22, p. 197-209
- Mount, G. J., and Comas X., 2014. Estimating porosity and solid dielectric permittivity in the Miami Limestone using high-frequency ground penetrating radar (GPR) measurements at the laboratory scale, *Water Resour. Res.*, 50, 7590–7605