

**Chris Kelble - NOAA Federal** <[chris.kelble@noaa.gov](mailto:chris.kelble@noaa.gov)>

To

Barry J White

Aug 18 at 10:03 AM

Hi Barry,

Just as a summary for our discussion. Biscayne Bay has been shown to be a nursery ground for juvenile reef fish that live on the fringing reefs just outside of Biscayne Bay (i.e. east of Elliott Key). It is also an important habitat for other fish species. These juvenile fish are sensitive to high salinities often preferring salinities that are less than the open ocean, but higher than freshwater. It is my understanding that the area around Turkey Point, especially adjacent to the mainland, already experiences salinities greater than oceanic salinities at certain times of the year. If more freshwater is removed from this part of the ecosystem, it will increase salinities further in this area. I believe this will cause physiological stress on the fish, including these juvenile reef fish, in this area. This stress, I believe, will decrease the survivorship of fish in this area.

Cheers,  
Chris

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Dr. Christopher R. Kelble

Oceanographer **Chris Kelble - NOAA Federal** <[chris.kelble@noaa.gov](mailto:chris.kelble@noaa.gov)>

To

Barry White

Aug 18 at 1:26 PM

Hi Barry,

The 65 psu reading was in Florida Bay. At 100 psu, there would most likely be no native fish living in there. Toadfish are great osmoregulators and we see them die-off at around 60PSU and temperature of 35C.

Cheers,  
CHri

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Worrying is like a rocking chair. It gives you something to do but it doesn't get you anywhere.