

# Trends in Temporal Seagrass Distribution in St. Joseph Sound and Clearwater Harbor

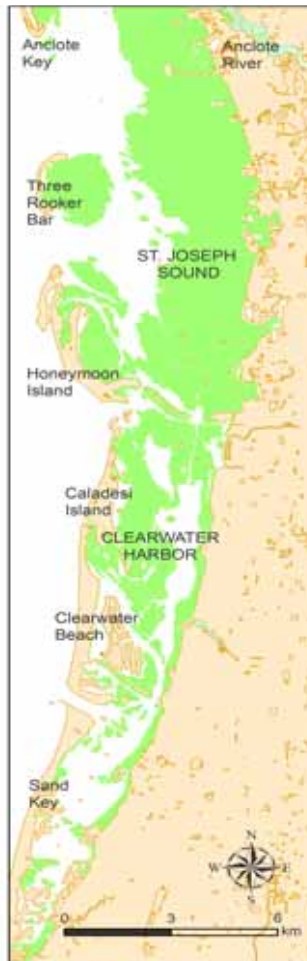
## Objectives:

- to examine the persistence of seagrasses in St. Joseph Sound and Clearwater Harbor
- to identify the most variable seagrass “hotspots” which should be considered in developing management plans

1999



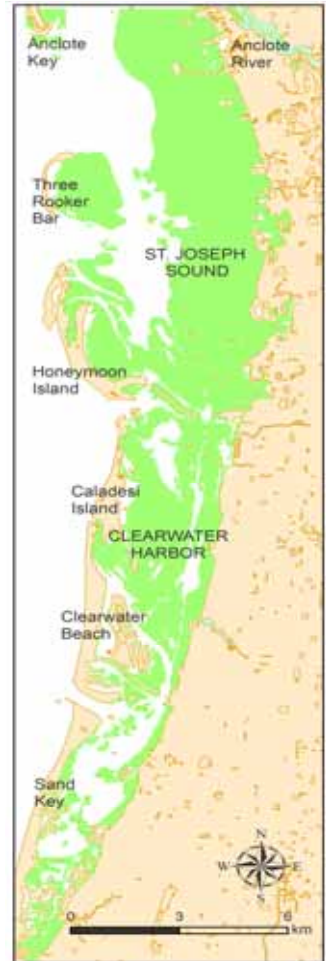
2001



2004



2006

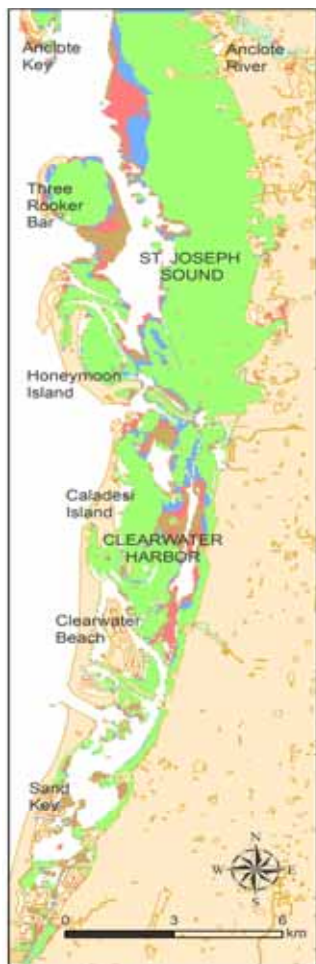


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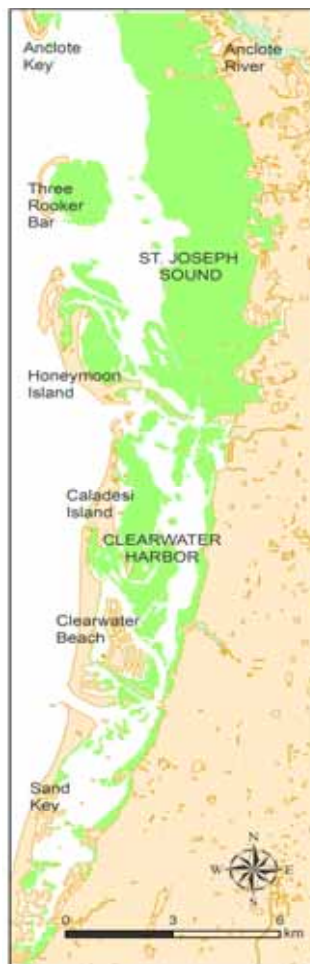
**Approach:**

- develop grid based on minimum mapping unit: 45m X 45m
- classify each grid cell as presence/absence of seagrass for each survey year
- define a "persistence class" for each cell based on number of "presences"

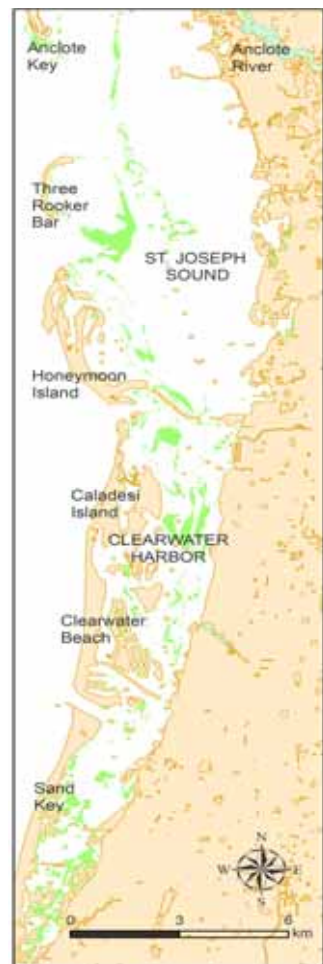
Four-Year Coverage



Most Persistent



Most Variable



**Seagrass Coverage**

- 1 Year
- 2 Years
- 3 Years
- 4 Years

**Data Sources**

Seagrass: Southwest Florida Water Management District  
Shoreline: USGS 1:24,000

