



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

South Florida Habitat Assessment Benchmark Sites

Halls Branch E. @ Virgil Hall Rd

Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Water Quality Standards Program

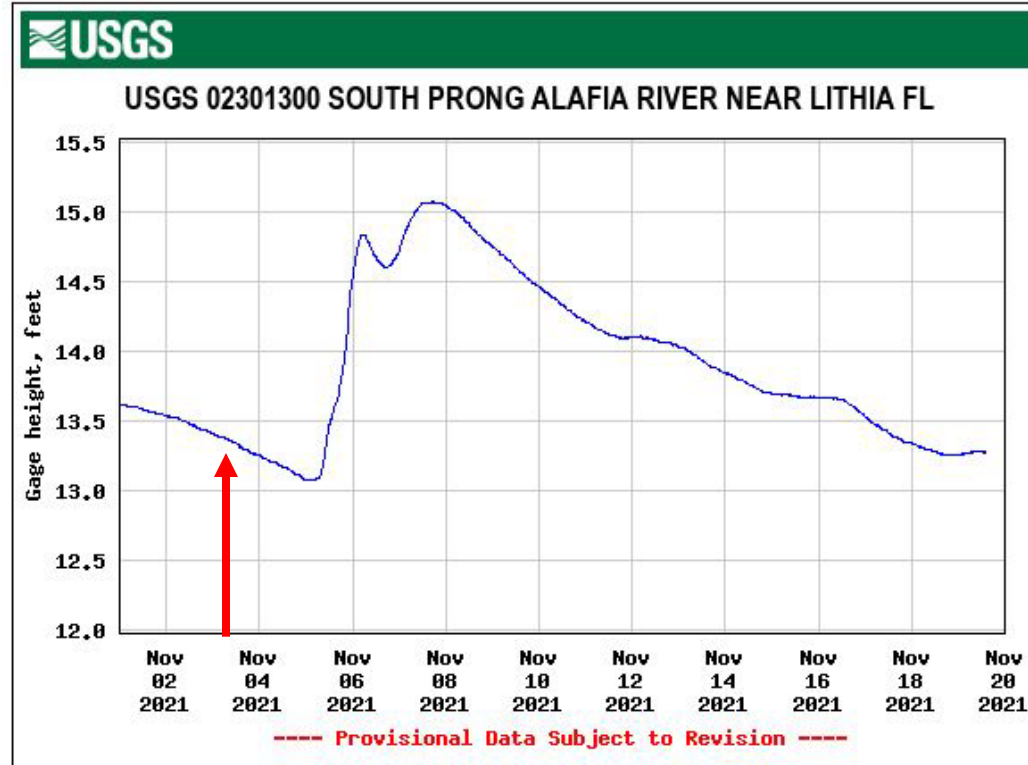


PROCEDURE

- Evaluate each site per SOP FT3100, "Stream and River Habitat Assessment", using forms FD9000-3, FD9000-4, and FD9000-5. It is recommended that you use the most current editions of the forms and the SOP.
- **Work independently.**
- Submit all completed forms to the FDEP Aquatic Ecology and Quality Assurance (AEQA) Section in Tallahassee.
- The range for a passing score is +/- 10 points from the predetermined consensus score. However, consideration will be given to scores outside this range if they were legitimately caused by different conditions at the time of sampling compared to conditions when the consensus score was decided (i.e., higher/lower water level, velocity).
- Analysts must pass 2 out of 3 Habitat Assessments every 5 years.
- Once scores have been reviewed, analysts will receive notice of passing or failing from the AEQA Section.
- Analysts should take photos to document stream conditions at the time of assessment. Photos may be submitted to AEQA after initial determination of passing/failing if an analyst believes his/her score for a given site is out of the +/- 10-point range due to justifiable reasons.



AREA HYDROGRAPH



The consensus score for this site was established on November 3rd, 2021, and was revisited on February 26th, 2026. The above graph shows the gage height data for a nearby Alafia River site during the original visit. If you conduct a habitat assessment at this site at different water levels, be sure to document the conditions.

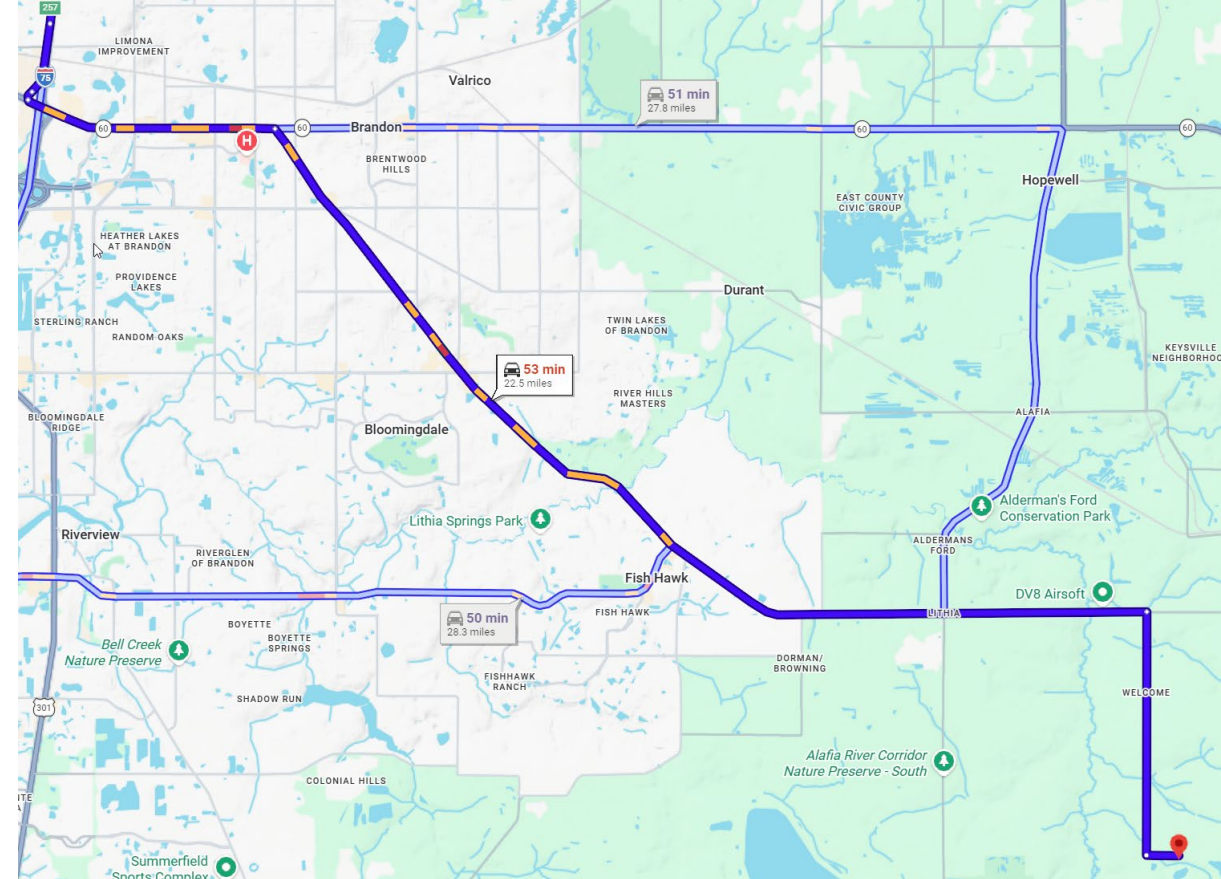
Graph courtesy of the US Geological Survey.



HALLS BRANCH E. @ VIRGIL HALL RD

- **Region:** South
- **County:** Hillsborough
- **Lat/Longs:**

Parking:	27.806777, -82.097617
0m	27.8054, -82.09832
100m	27.80576, -82.09763
- **Directions:** From I-75 going south, take exit 257 and turn left onto FL-60 E/Brandon. Go E for 3.1 miles, turn right onto Lithia Pinecrest Rd, and continue for 13.5 miles. Turn right onto Walter Hunter Rd and continue for 3.0 miles, then turn left onto Virgil Hall Rd and the site will be on the right in 0.4 mi. Park along the right side of the road.





HALLS BRANCH E. @ VIRGIL HALL RD

Accessing the site: Park on the south side of the road and enter to the left of the fence. Walk along the fence line to the creek, this will bring you to about the 80m flag. Go downstream and look for double flags at the 0m.



Park along the south side of the road.



Walk along fence until you come to the creek, go to your left (head downstream) about 80m to reach the 0m flags.



HALLS BRANCH E. @ VIRGIL HALL RD



0m flags: 27.8054, -82.09832



100m flags: 27.80576, -82.09763