

Light Penetration

Site	25% I _z Target Values		Turbidity Target Values	
	meters		NTU	
Fort Myers	0.7	> 1	3.6	< 18
Shell Point	1.4	>2.2	1.2	< 18
Causeway	3.1	> 2.2	1.7	< 5

25% I_z is the depth (z) where irradiance (I) is 25% of surface irradiance. Target values indicate the depth of light penetration needed for healthy seagrass.

Upper Estuary Conditions: The 30-day moving average surface salinity at the Fort Myers Yacht Basin was **3.3 psu**, within the suitable range for tape grass. The weekly average was 3.5 psu.

Lower Estuary Conditions: The weekly average salinity at the Shell Point RECON was **25 psu**, in the optimal range for seagrass and oysters.

Water Quality Conditions:

Monitor Site	Salinity (psu) ^a [previous week]	Diss O ₂ (mg/L) ^b	FDOM (qsde) ^c	Chlorophyll (µg/L) ^d	Temperature (°F)
Beautiful Island	0.2 – 0.4 [0.2 – 0.3]	1.4 - 4.2	170	8.1	84.5 – 93.0
Fort Myers Yacht Basin	1.0 – 6.4 [0.6 – 5.7]	2.7 - 6.0	160	4.1	82.1 – 95.6
Shell Point	14 – 33 [13 – 32]	2.3 – 5.8	65	2.3	79.2 – 92.6
McIntyre Creek	27.0 – 29.8 [25.2 – 30.9]	0.4 – 5.9	29.8 – 42.7	1.2 – 2.2	83.7 – 93.8
Tarpon Bay	27.5 – 31.2 [27.7 – 32.7]	2.8 – 8.6	30.0 – 71.3	1.2 – 4.8	84.1 – 93.2
Wulfert Flats	28.9 – 31.3 [29.2 – 31.0]	1.4 – 7.1	----	4.0 – 18.7	84.2 – 92.8

Red values are outside of the preferred range.

^a Salinity target values: BI < 5, FM < 10, SP = 10 – 30

^b Dissolved O₂ target values: all sites > 4

^c FDOM target values: BI < 70, FM < 70, SP < 11

^d Chlorophyll target values: BI < 11, FM < 11, SP < 11

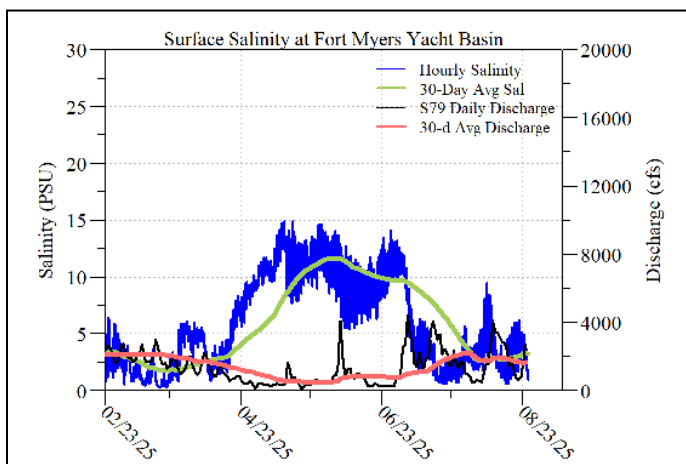
^f Temperature target values: < 90

^s Single sonde lower and surface layer or surface grab lab measurement

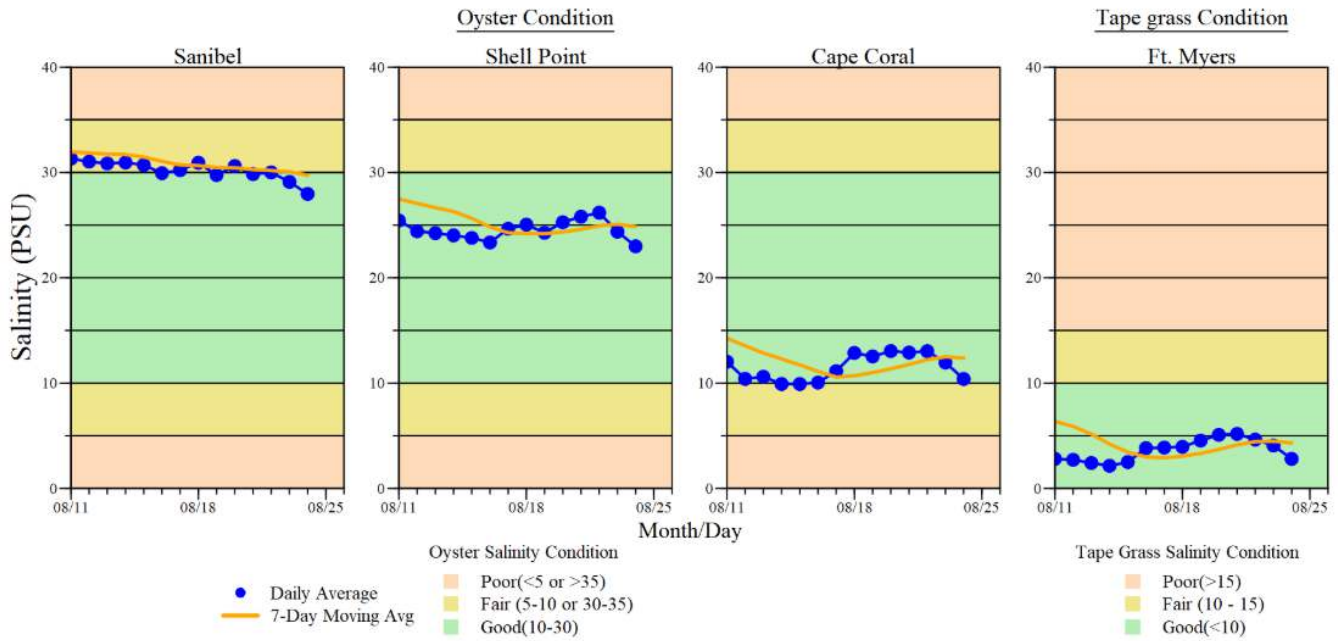
ND: no data

Shellfish Advisory: Shellfish harvest area #6212 (Pine Island Sound Section 1; Aquaculture Lease and Public Reef) is **CLOSED** by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) as of 8/7/25 due to the presence of *Pyrodinium bahamense*. SHA #6222 (North Matlacha Pass) and SHA #6232 (South Matlacha Pass) are **OPEN** but closing at sunset as of 8/25/25.

Wildlife Impacts: In the past week, the CROW wildlife hospital on Sanibel admitted 4 patients with suspected red tide/toxicosis: 1 juvenile sandwich tern (deceased), 1 adult sandwich tern (deceased), 1 adult white ibis (still in care) and 1 adult ruddy turnstone (still in care). SCCF documented 1 sea turtle stranding within the last week, a deceased loggerhead on Captiva.



Date	S79 Flow (cfs)	S78 Flow (cfs)	S77 Flow (cfs)
8/19/25	1202	401	0
8/20/25	751	152	0
8/21/25	649	0	0
8/22/25	835	130	0
8/23/25	1573	324	0
8/24/25	2703	322	0
8/25/25	3939	774	0
7-day avg	1665	300	0



Daily average bottom salinity data for the last 14-days from sampling locations within the tidal Caloosahatchee River Estuary relative to oyster health (Sanibel, Shell Point and Cape Coral) and tape grass (*Vallisneria americana*) health (Ft. Myers only) conditions.

*Ft. Myers sensor is in the lower strata



Water clarity at Lighthouse Beach Park on 8-26-25 at 11:57 AM on a rising tide (1.7 ft).