

Site	Light Penetration		Turbidity NTU	Target Values
	25% Iz meters	Target Values		
Fort Myers	1.0	> 1	2.0	< 18
Shell Point	1.7	>2.2	2.0	< 18
Causeway	3.4	> 2.2	4.1	< 5

25% Iz 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 has been over 10 psu for **39 days** and was **15 psu**, above the suitable range for **tape grass**. The weekly average was 16 psu.

**Lower Estuary Conditions:** The weekly average salinity at the Shell Point RECON was **31 psu**, in the optimal range for seagrass but **above optimal for oysters**. The dominant phytoplankton in SCCF samples from Sanibel beaches during the two weeks were diatoms and no *Karenia* cells were found.

**Water Quality Conditions:**

Monitor Site	Salinity (psu) <sup>a</sup> [previous week]	Diss O <sub>2</sub> (mg/L) <sup>b</sup>	FDOM (qsde) <sup>c</sup>	Chlorophyll (µg/L) <sup>d</sup>	Temperature (°F)
Beautiful Island	7.7- 11 [7.7- 11]	4.0 – 7.3	115	7.5	67.5 - 79.4
Fort Myers Yacht Basin	14 – 18 [13 – 17]	3.9- 7.4	100	4.4	62.1 – 73.9
Shell Point	25 – 34 [23 – 34]	6.0 - 7.5	40	2.0	63.0 – 73.0
McIntyre Creek	32.5 -34.8 [32.7 – 33.4]	4.0 – 8.9	18.8 – 38.1	1.2 – 3.1	57.8 – 72.3
Tarpon Bay	31.9 – 35.6 [32.0 – 33.8]	6.3 – 7.8	18.3 – 53.6	1.1 – 2.6	60.4 – 73.0
Wulfert Flats	---- [----]	----	----	----	----

Red values are outside of the preferred range.

<sup>a</sup> Salinity target values: BI < 5, FM < 10, SP = 10 – 30

<sup>b</sup> Dissolved O<sub>2</sub> target values: all sites > 4

<sup>c</sup> FDOM target values: BI < 70, FM < 70, SP < 11

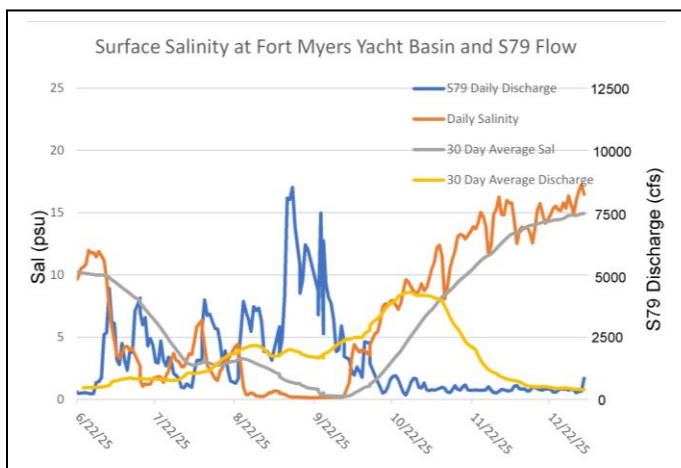
<sup>d</sup> Chlorophyll target values: BI < 11, FM < 11, SP < 11

<sup>f</sup> Temperature target values: < 90

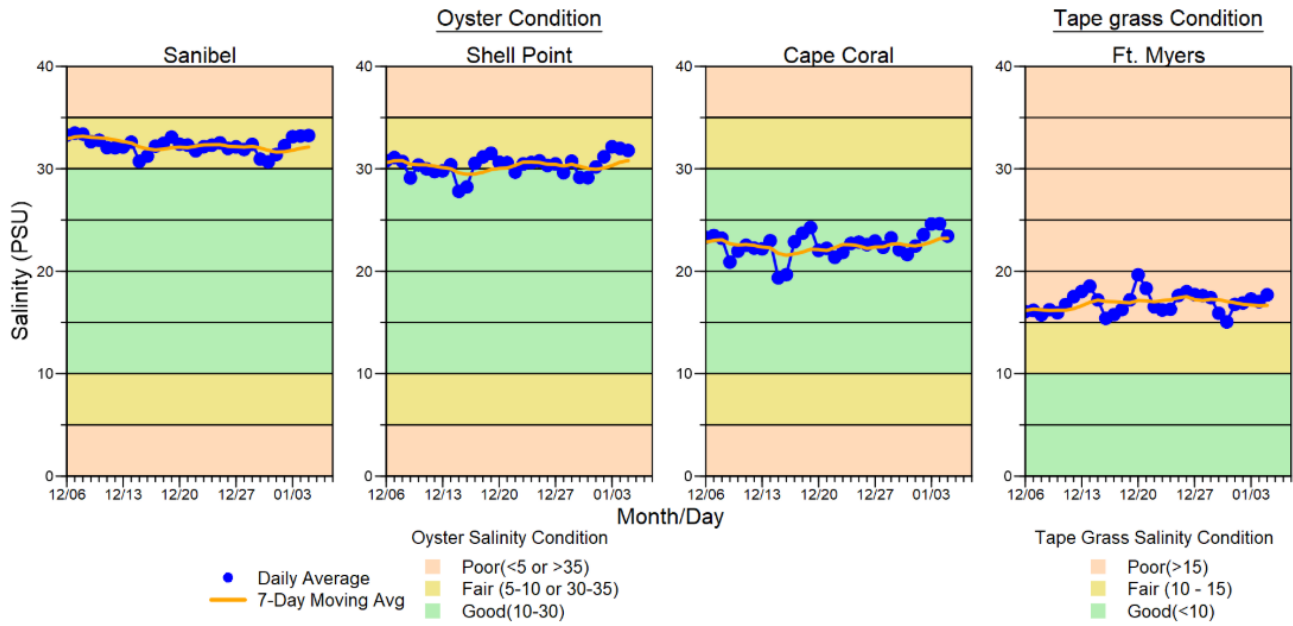
<sup>s</sup> Single sonde lower and surface layer or surface grab lab measurement  
ND: no data

**Wildlife Impacts:** In the past week, the CROW wildlife hospital on Sanibel admitted **3 patients** for suspected red tide/toxicosis: 1 adult snowy egret (deceased), 1 juvenile brown pelican (still in care) and 1 adult great blue heron (still in care).

**Shellfish Advisory:** Shellfish harvest area #6212 (Pine Island Sound Section 1); Aquaculture Lease and Public Reef is **OPEN** by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) as of 9/24/25. SHA #6222 (North Matlacha Pass) and SHA #6232 (South Matlacha Pass) are **OPEN** as of 12/6/25.



USACE Daily Reports			
Date	S79 Flow (cfs)	S78 Flow (cfs)	S77 Flow (cfs)
12/30/25	420	171	489
12/31/25	378	170	685
1/1/25	270	371	942
1/2/25	324	459	930
1/3/25	342	254	631
1/4/25	853	167	474
1/5/25	550	171	463
<b>7-day avg</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>659</b>



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 1-7-26 at 2:32 PM on a rising tide (1.4 ft).