

Light Penetration				
Site	25% Iz	Target Values	Turbidity	Target Values
	meters		NTU	
Fort Myers	1.1	> 1	3.5	< 18
Shell Point	2.0	>2.2	1.7	< 18
Causeway	3.9	> 2.2	4.0	< 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 **88 days** and was **16 psu, above the suitable range for tape grass**. The weekly average was 17 psu.

Lower Estuary Conditions: The weekly average salinity at the Shell Point RECON was **32 psu**, in the optimal range for seagrass but **above optimal for oysters**. The phytoplankton in SCCF samples from Sanibel beaches during the week included mainly diatoms with *Skeletonema* dominant, low densities of *Pseudo-nitzschia* and no *Karenia* cells.

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	7.8-11 [6.6- 11]	4.6 – 8.4	125	6.3	70.2 - 81.2
Fort Myers Yacht Basin	13-19 [13- 20]	5.7 – 7.8	80	4.5	65.1– 77.4
Shell Point	27-35 [28- 35]	5.8 - 7.3	25	2.3	67.6 – 74.6
McIntyre Creek	34.9 – 36.3 [----]	4.0 – 7.9	9.2 – 23.5	0.9 – 3.3	60.1 – 75.6
Tarpon Bay	34.9 – 35.8 [----]	5.4 – 7.8	14.0 – 30.1	0.8 – 3.9	61.3 – 74.9
Wulfert Flats	---- [----]	----	----	----	----

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

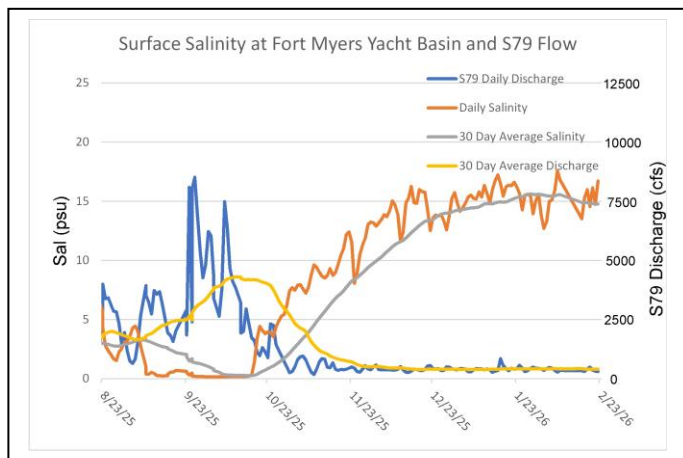
^f Temperature target values: < 90

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

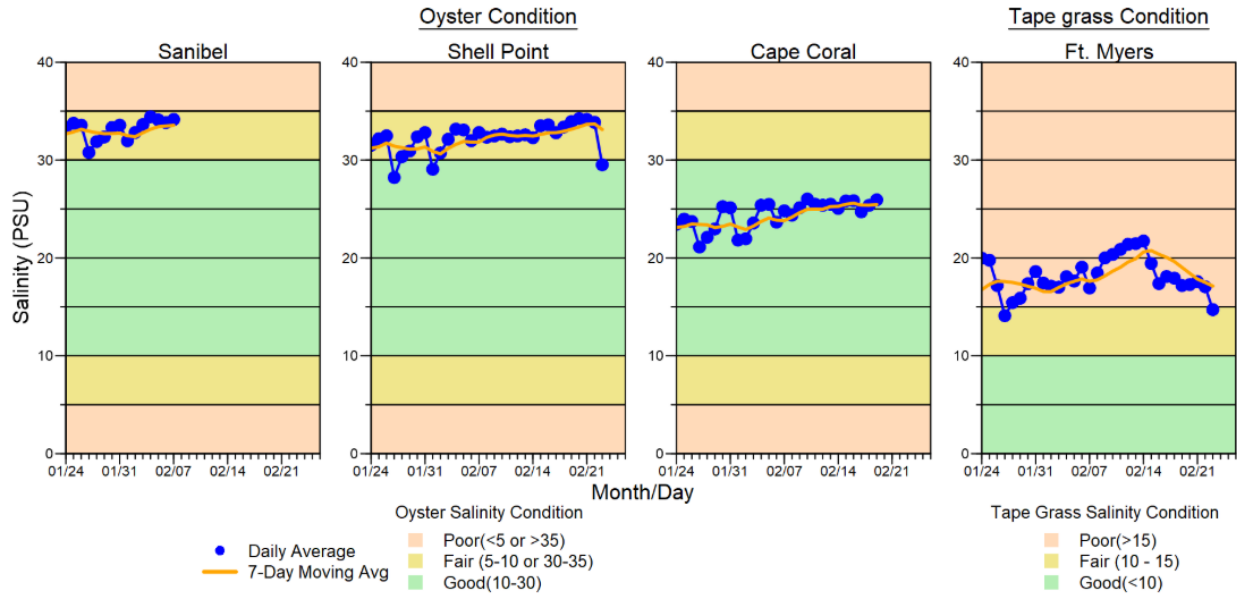
ND: no data

Wildlife Impacts: In the past week, the CROW wildlife hospital on Sanibel admitted **3 patients** for suspected red tide/toxicosis: 1 juvenile ring-billed gull (still in care), 1 adult American bittern (still in care) and 1 juvenile laughing gull (deceased).

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)
2/17/26	428	148	403
2/18/26	385	270	451
2/19/26	384	315	604
2/20/26	382	318	672
2/21/26	395	238	528
2/22/26	387	172	323
2/23/26	498	228	253
7-day avg	408	241	462



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 2-24-26 at 3:00 PM on a rising tide (2.6 ft).