

Light Penetration				
Site	25% Iz	Target Values	Turbidity	Target Values
	meters		NTU	
Fort Myers	1.2	> 1	3.2	< 18
Shell Point	2.2	>2.2	2.1	< 18
Causeway	3.8	> 2.2	1.6	< 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 102 days and was 17 psu, above the suitable range for tape grass. The weekly average was 18 psu.

**Lower Estuary Conditions:** The weekly average salinity at the Shell Point RECON was 33 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 *Skeletonema*, *Thalasionema*, other small diatoms and ciliates, few *Pseudo-nitzschia* and no *Karenia*.

**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	7.1- 12 [6.6- 10]	----	110	7.2	75.9 - 86.0
Fort Myers Yacht Basin	14- 19 [12- 20]	4.8 -7.3	75	3.8	72.9- 81.2
Shell Point	29- 35 [27- 35]	5.0 - 7.1	20	1.1	71.2 - 79.7
McIntyre Creek	34.0 - 35.2 [34.5 - 36.7]	3.5 - 7.8	10.0 - 21.4	1.0 - 1.8	73.5 - 81.8
Tarpon Bay	34.2 - 35.4 [33.8 - 36.0]	5.1 - 7.2	12.0 - 24.8	1.0 - 3.8	72.3 - 80.7
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

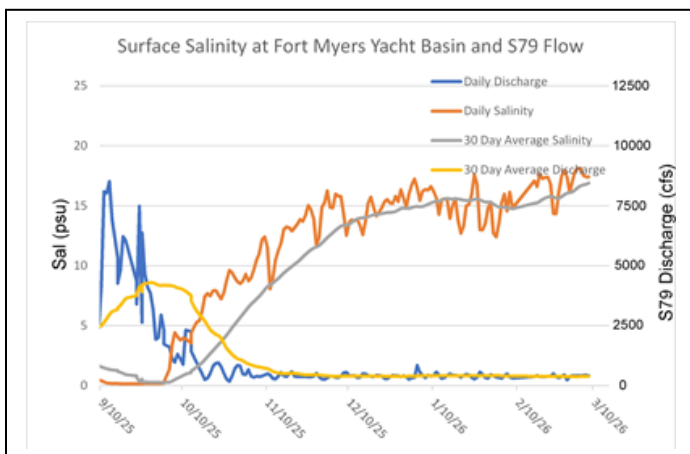
<sup>d</sup> Chlorophyll target values: BI < 11, FM < 11, SP < 11

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

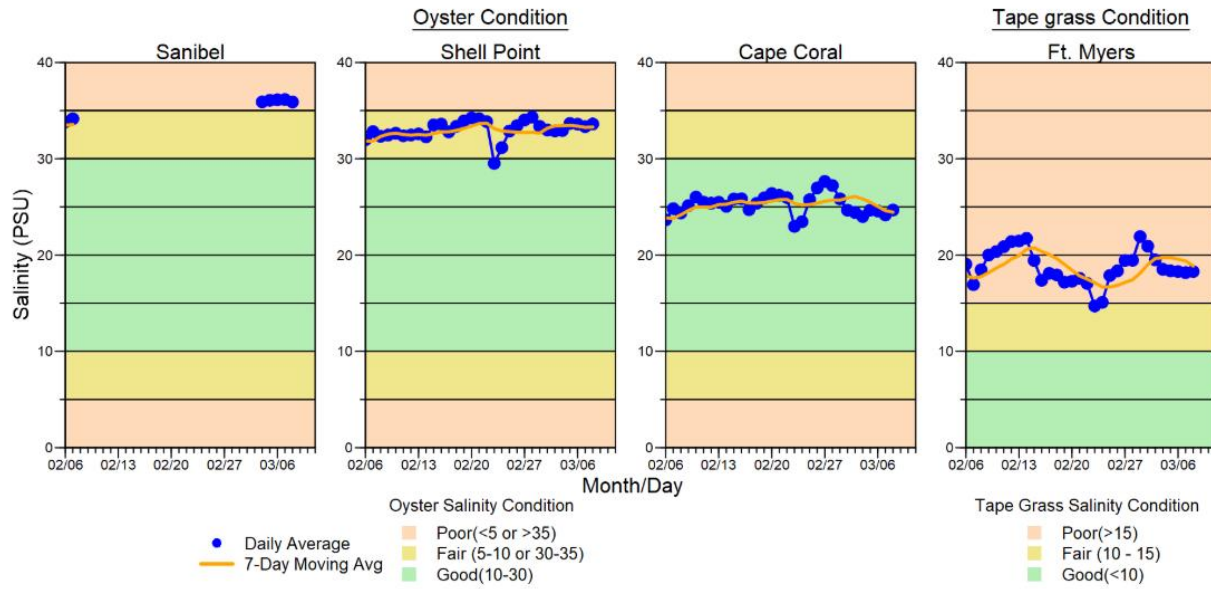
<sup>s</sup> Single sonde lower and surface layer or surface grab lab measurement  
ND: no data

**Wildlife Impacts:** In the past week, the CROW wildlife hospital on Sanibel admitted 8 patients for suspected red tide/toxicosis: 1 adult snowy egret (still in care), 5 adult royal terns (2 still in care, 3 deceased), 1 juvenile laughing gull (still in care) and 1 juvenile brown pelican (deceased). SCCF documented 2 sea turtle strandings in the past week, 1 loggerhead on the Sanibel causeway (deceased) and 1 green turtle on Sanibel (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)
3/3/26	413	323	415
3/4/26	429	317	538
3/5/26	422	314	584
3/6/26	434	263	602
3/7/26	445	172	565
3/8/26	419	174	394
3/9/26	420	173	326
<b>7-day avg</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>489</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 3-9-26 at 2:01 PM on a rising tide (2.4 ft).