

Light Penetration

Site	25% Iz	Target Values	Turbidity	Target Values
	meters		NTU	
Fort Myers	1.2	> 1	2.0	< 18
Shell Point	2.0	>2.2	1.2	< 18
Causeway	4.4	> 2.2	1.7	< 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 was over 10 psu for **137 days** and was **15 psu**, **above the suitable range for tape grass**. The weekly average was 14 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 small diatoms, few *Pseudo-nitzschia* and no *Karenia*.

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	2.5 - 13 [2.4 - 11]	----	110	6.0	77.6 - 86.8
Fort Myers Yacht Basin	10 - 17 [8.2 - 18]	5.0 - 7.5	75	3.3	73.9 - 82.9
Shell Point	26- 36 [23- 36]	4.3 - 7.7	25	1.1	74.7 - 82.5
McIntyre Creek	33.0 - 35.2 [32.6 - 35.7]	3.7 - 8.2	12.6 - 22.5	0.8 - 1.4	73.6 - 83.5
Tarpon Bay	34.0 - 35.8 [32.2 - 36.0]	4.4 - 8.1	13.1 - 26.9	0.5 - 2.9	73.6 - 82.2
Wulfert Flats	33.7 - 35.2 [----]	4.1 - 8.3	----	1.2 - 6.3	75.2 - 82.6

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

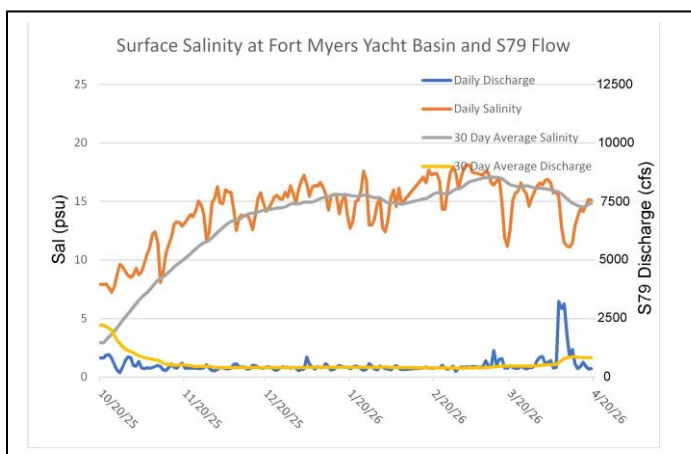
^f Temperature target values: < 90

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

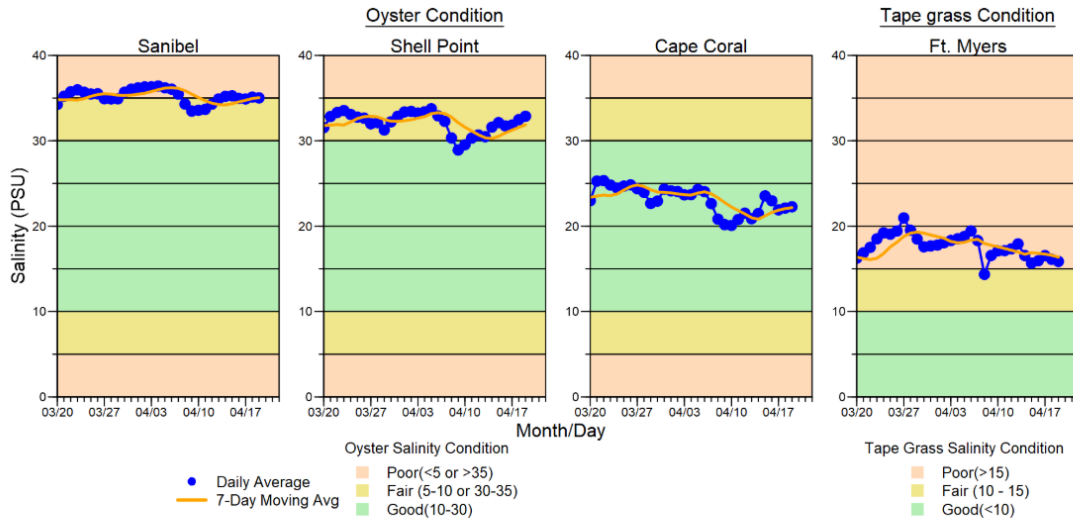
ND: no data

Wildlife Impacts: In the past week, the CROW wildlife hospital on Sanibel admitted **1 patient** for suspected red tide/toxicosis: 1 adult little blue heron (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). SHA #6222 (North Matlacha Pass) and SHA #6232 (South Matlacha Pass) are also **OPEN**.



USACE Daily Reports			
Date	S79 Flow (cfs)	S78 Flow (cfs)	S77 Flow (cfs)
4/14/26	358	277	550
4/15/26	448	321	515
4/16/26	630	216	504
4/17/26	452	175	482
4/18/26	343	246	497
4/19/26	355	338	592
4/20/26	498	110	493
7-day avg	441	240	519



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 4-20-26 at 2:55 PM on a falling tide (3.1 ft.)

Red drift algae at Gulfside City Beach Park, Sanibel Island on 4/20/26.