Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River

19 August 2025

Prepared by

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Department of **Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions**

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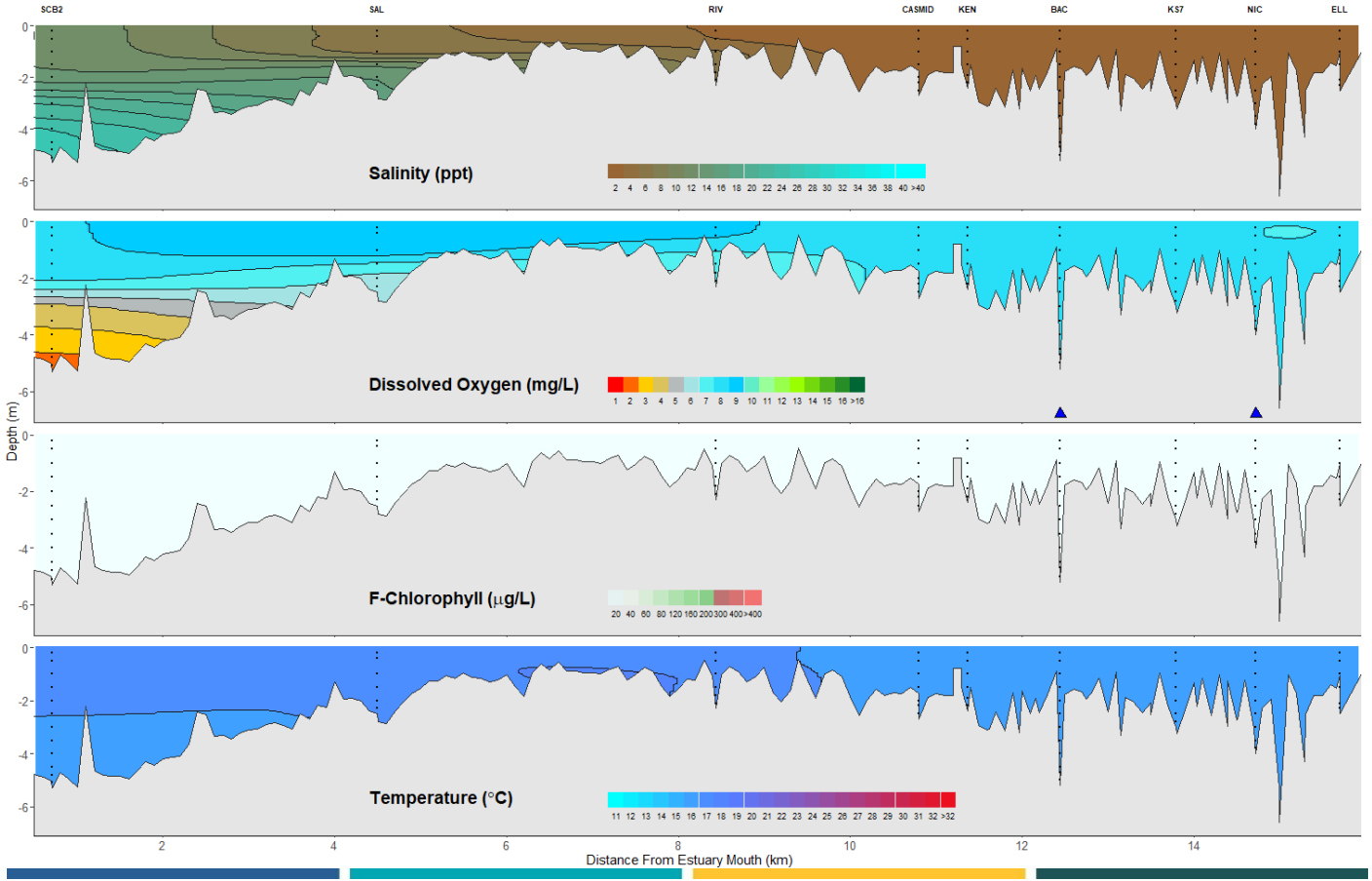
Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River - Water Quality Profiles – 19 August 2025



Date: 19 August 2025

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were cloudy and rainy with a north-westerly breeze of up to 6.7 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 1.17 m at 7:35 am (high tide) and 0.59 m at 7:00 pm (low tide). Perth recorded 22 mm of rainfall in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

Oxygenation: The Bacon St and Nicholson Rd oxygenation plants were operable but not triggered to provide oxygen in the 24 hours prior to sampling.

Canning Estuary (SCB2 to RIV): The Canning Estuary was brackish over saline at SCB2, brackish at SAL, fresh over brackish at RIV, and fresh at CASMID. Waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated except for bottom waters at SCB2, which were hypoxic. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low. Water temperatures ranged from 15.4 to 16.8°C.

Lower Canning River (KEN to ELL): The Lower Canning River was fresh and well oxygenated with low chlorophyll fluorescence. Water temperatures ranged from 15.4 to 15.7 °C.

NB: Profile plots are visual interpolations of measured parameters only. Detailed data are available at wir.water.wa.gov.au.

Oxygenation Plant Operational Status:
- Operating for part or all of the 24 hours prior to sampling
- Operable but not triggered to operate in the 24 hours prior to sampling
- Inoperable for part or all of the 24 hours prior to sampling

Definitions:
Salinity – fresh <5, brackish 5-25, saline 25-35, hypersaline >35
Dissolved oxygen – well oxygenated >6 mg L^{-1}, oxygenated >4-6 mg L^{-1}, low oxygen >2-4 mg L^{-1}, hypoxic 0.5-2 mg L^{-1}, anoxic <0.5 mg L^{-1}
Chlorophyll fluorescence (low flow): low < 50 µg L^{-1}, moderate 50-150 µg L^{-1}, high 150-400 µg L^{-1}, extreme > 400 µg L^{-1}

Recommended reference: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions 2025. *Swan Canning Estuary water quality profile report, Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River 19 August 2025.* Rivers and Estuaries Science (https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark)