

Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

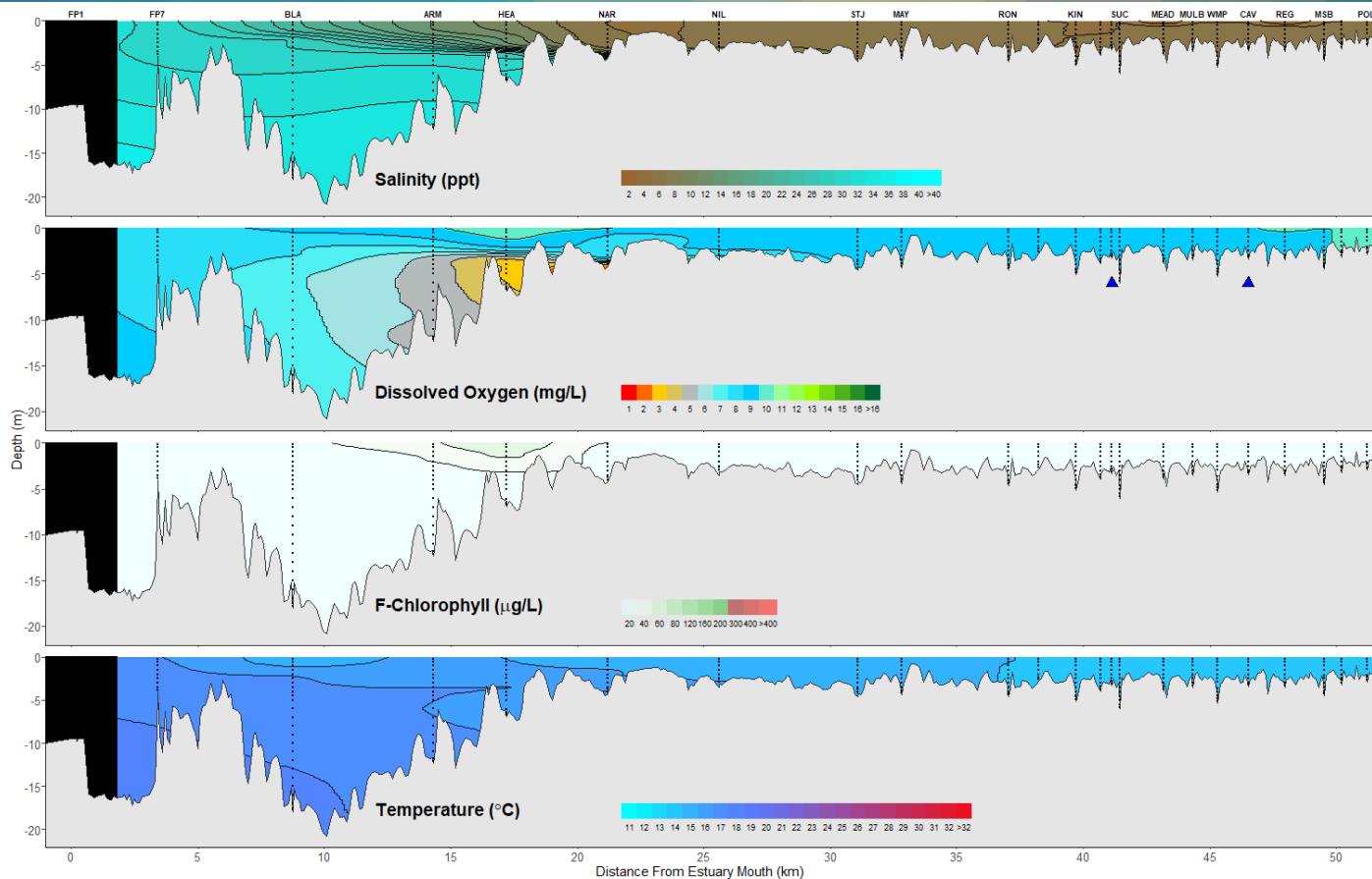
Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

25 August 2025

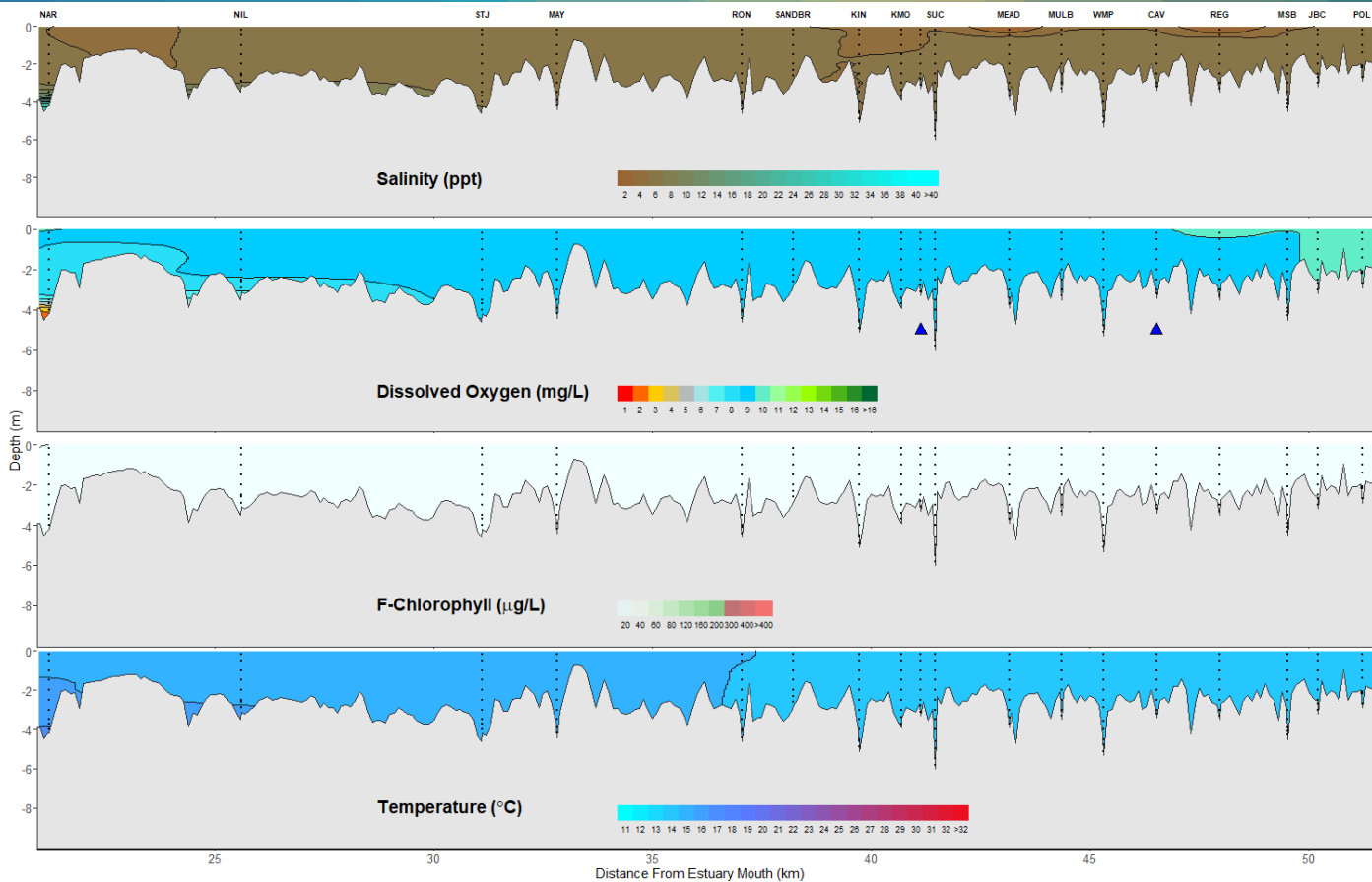
Prepared by

Rivers and Estuaries Science
Biodiversity and Conservation Science
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Swan Canning Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 25 August 2025



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Date: 25 August 2025

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were overcast with a variable breeze of up to 4 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.81 m at 5:10am (low tide), and 1.01 m at 12:10pm (high tide) and 0.79 m at 7:13pm (2nd low tide). Perth recorded 78 mm of rainfall in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

NB: FP1 was not sampled this week due to high swells.

Oxygenation: The Guildford and Caversham oxygenation plants were operable but not triggered to provide oxygen in the 24 hours prior to sampling.

Lower Swan Canning Estuary (FP7 to NAR): The Lower Swan Canning Estuary was saline at FP7, brackish over saline from BLA to HEA and fresh over brackish at NAR. Waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated except for bottom waters at HEA, which were low in oxygen. Chlorophyll fluorescence was moderate in surface waters at HEA and water temperatures ranged from 14.4 to 17.2 °C.

Middle Swan Estuary (NIL to RON): The Middle Swan Estuary was fresh over brackish at NIL, brackish from STJ to MAY and fresh at RON. Waters were well oxygenated, chlorophyll fluorescence was low and water temperatures ranged from 14 to 15.2 °C.

Upper Swan Estuary (SANDBR to POL): The Upper Swan Estuary was fresh and well oxygenated throughout. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low and water temperatures ranged from 13.5 to 13.9 °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 >36 ppt
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, Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary 25 August 2025*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)