

Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

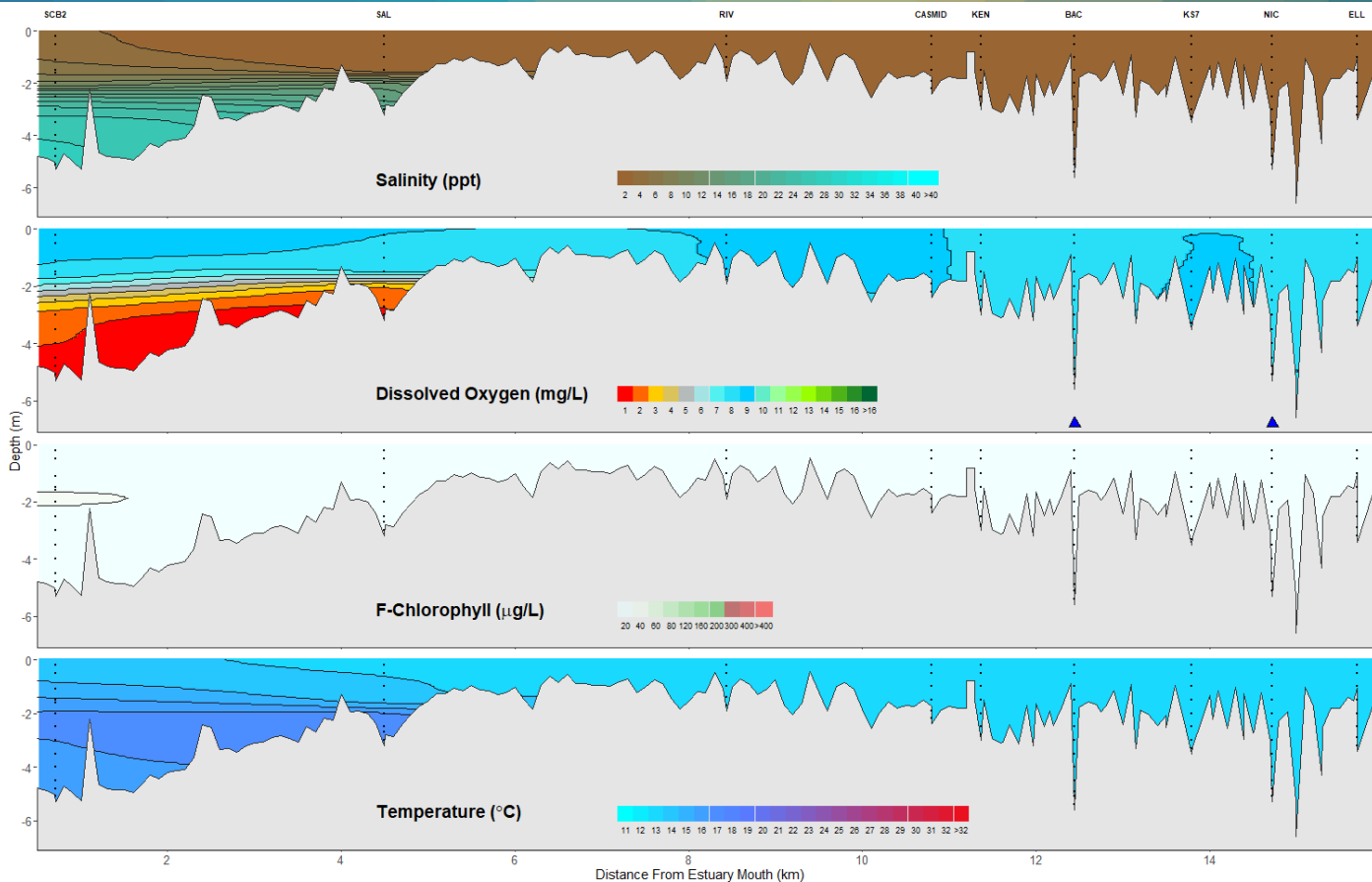
Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River

26 August 2025

Prepared by

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

Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River - Water Quality Profiles – 26 August 2025



Date: 26 August 2025

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were cloudy and rainy with a south-easterly breeze of up to 2.7 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.82 m at 6:04 am (low tide), 0.94 m at 12:10 pm (high tide), and 0.79 m at 6:30 pm (second low tide). Perth recorded 80.4 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 fresh over saline at SCB2, fresh over brackish at SAL, and fresh from RIV to CASMID. Waters were well-oxygenated except for bottom waters at both SCB2 and SAL, which were hypoxic. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low and water temperatures ranged from 12.5 to 16.5°C.

Lower Canning River (KEN to ELL): The Lower Canning River was fresh and well oxygenated with low chlorophyll fluorescence. Water temperatures ranged from 12.4 to 12.8 °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