

Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

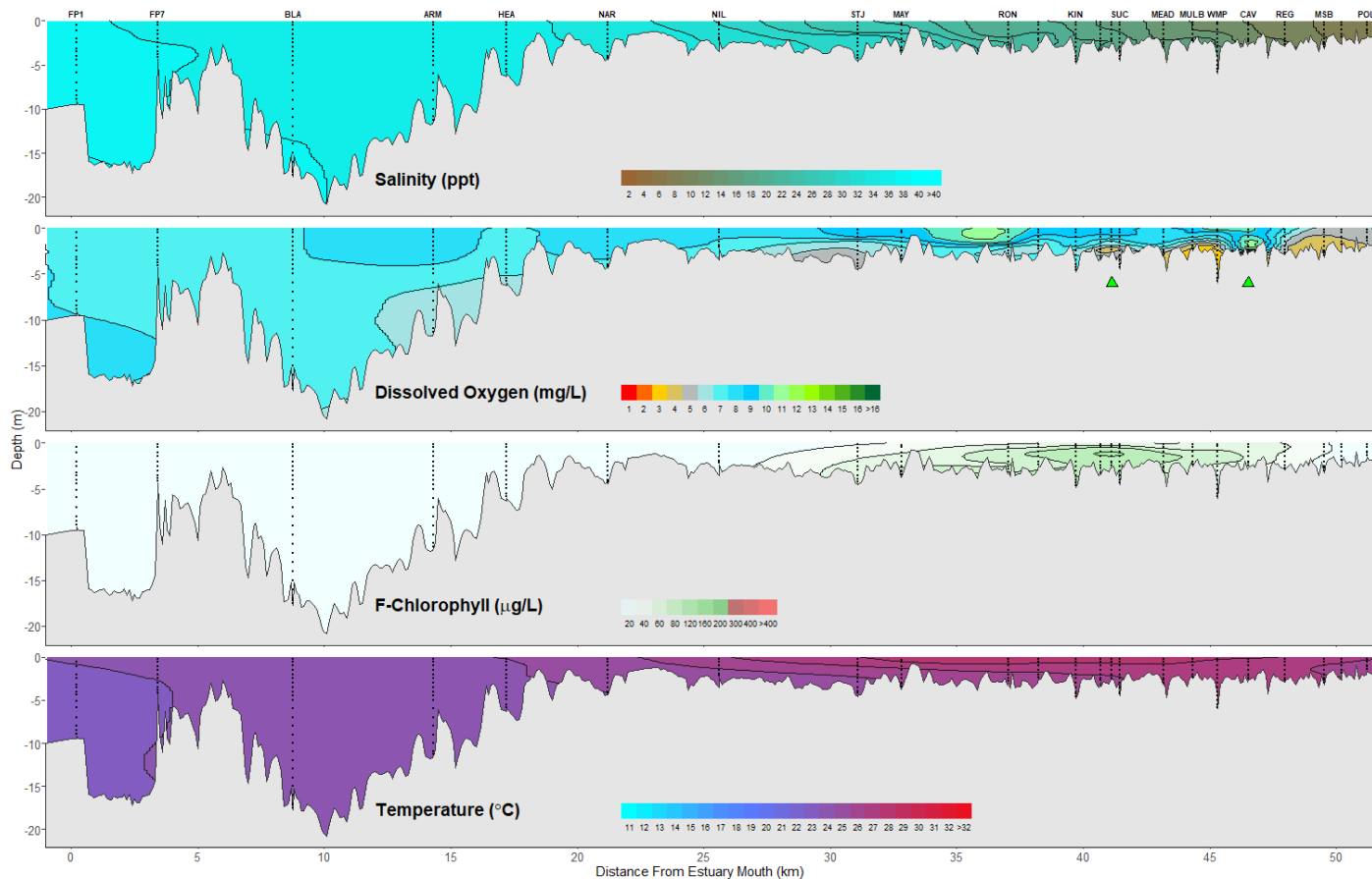
Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

12 January 2026

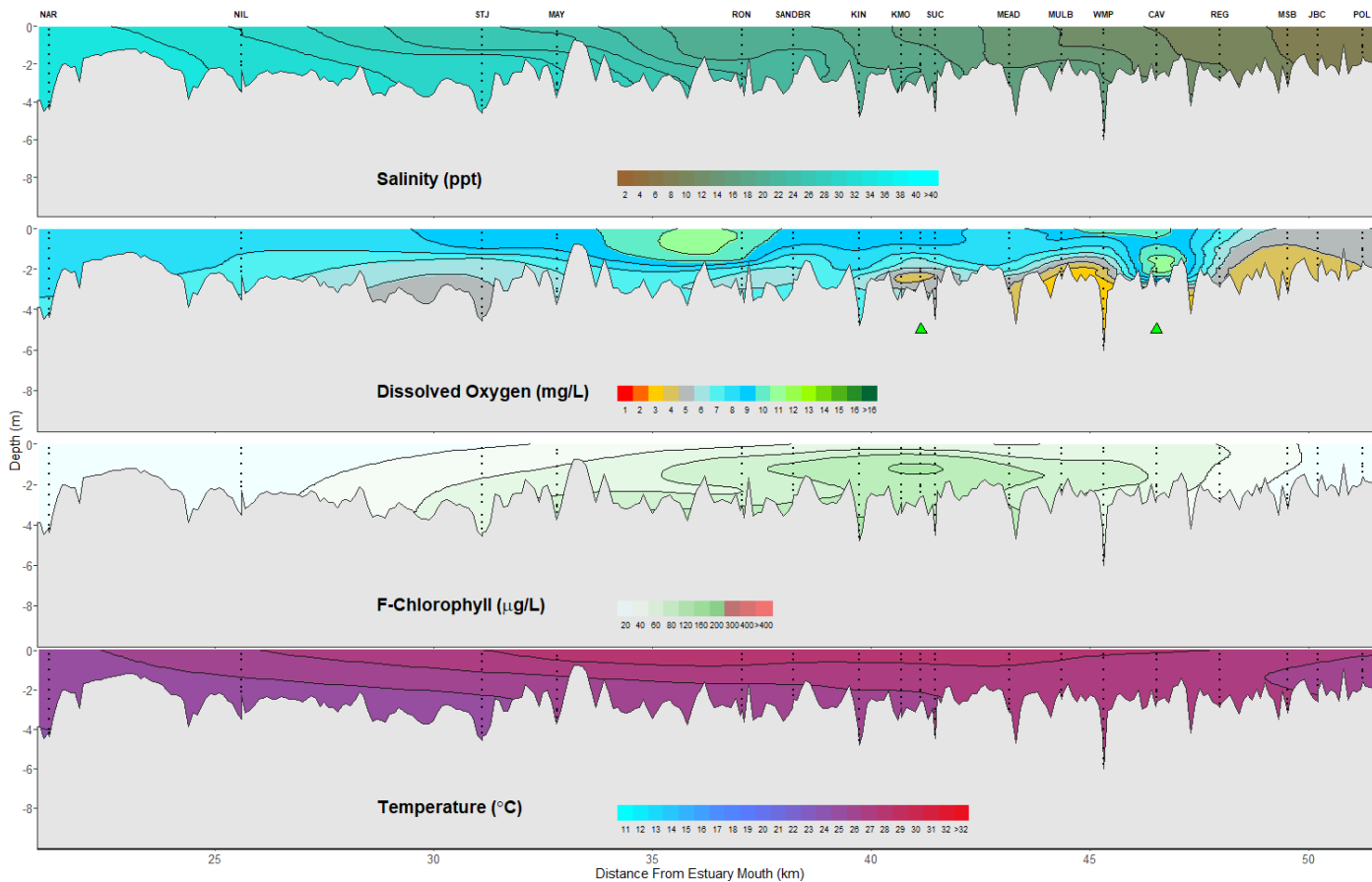
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Swan Canning Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 12 January 2026



Middle and Upper Swan Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 12 January 2026



Date: 12 January 2026

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with a south-westerly breeze up to 12.5 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.61 m at 7:25 am (low tide) and 1.09 m at 6:57 pm (high tide). Perth recorded 0.4 mm of rainfall in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

Oxygenation: The Caversham and Guildford oxygenation plants were operable and triggered to provide oxygen in the 24 hours prior to sampling.

Lower Swan Canning Estuary (FP1 to NAR): The Lower Swan Canning Estuary was hypersaline at FP1, saline over hypersaline from FP7 to NAR, and saline throughout the remainder of sites. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated with low chlorophyll fluorescence. Water temperatures ranged from 22.6 to 24.5 °C.

Middle Swan Estuary (NIL to RON): The Middle Swan Estuary was saline at NIL, brackish over saline through STJ - MAY, and brackish at RON. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated. Chlorophyll fluorescence was moderate throughout STJ to RON. Water temperatures ranged from 24.5 to 27.8 °C.

Upper Swan Estuary (SANDBR to POL): The Upper Swan Estuary was brackish throughout. Bottom waters were low in oxygen at the following sites: MULB, WMP, MSB, and JBC. High chlorophyll fluorescence was present at KMO, VIT, and SUC and moderate elsewhere from SANDBR to REG. Water temperatures ranged from 25.4 to 27.7 °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 >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, 2026. *Swan Canning Estuary water quality profile report, Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary 12 January 2026*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)