



Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions



# Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

## Weekly Water Quality Report

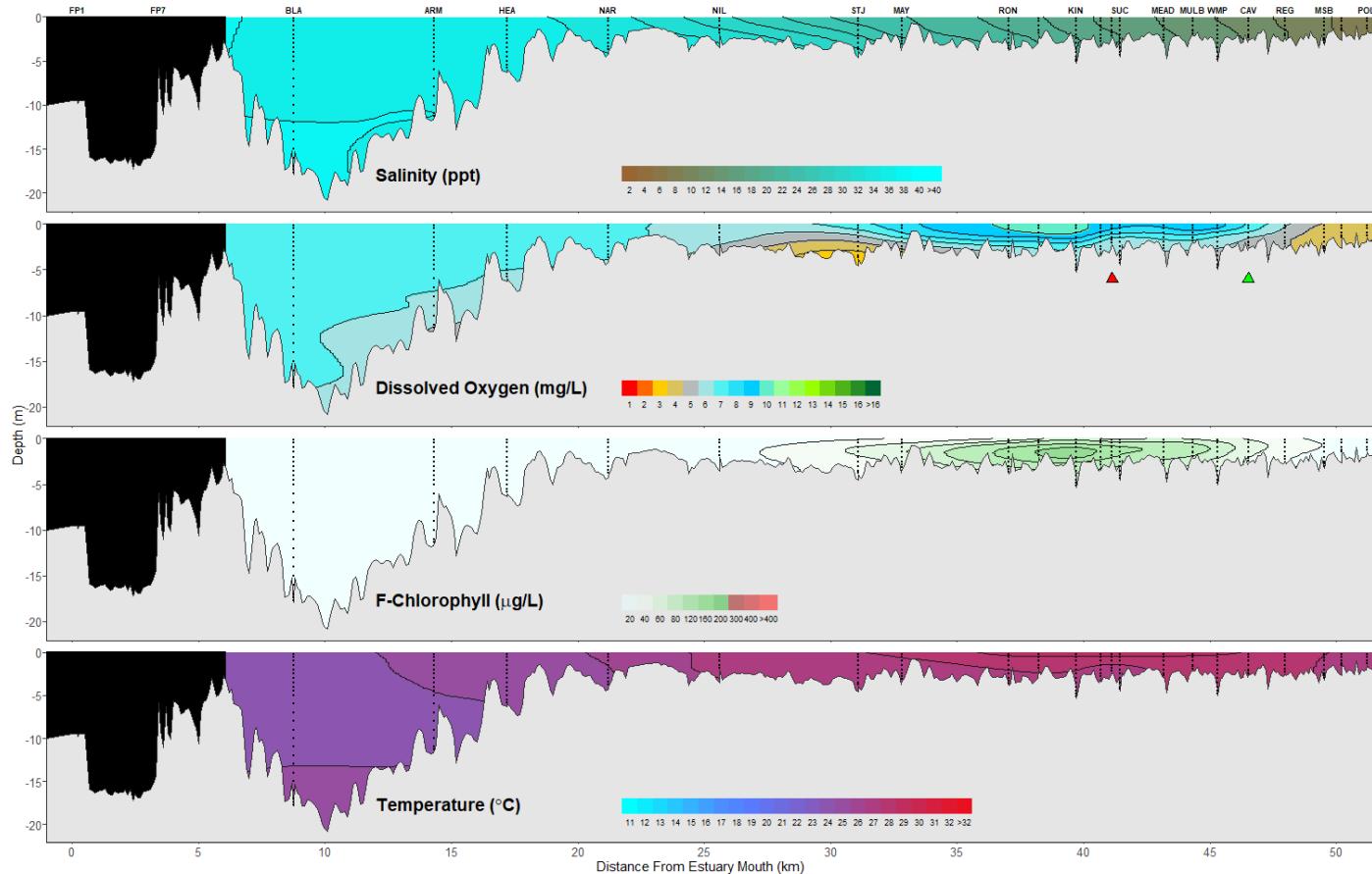
### Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

19 January 2026

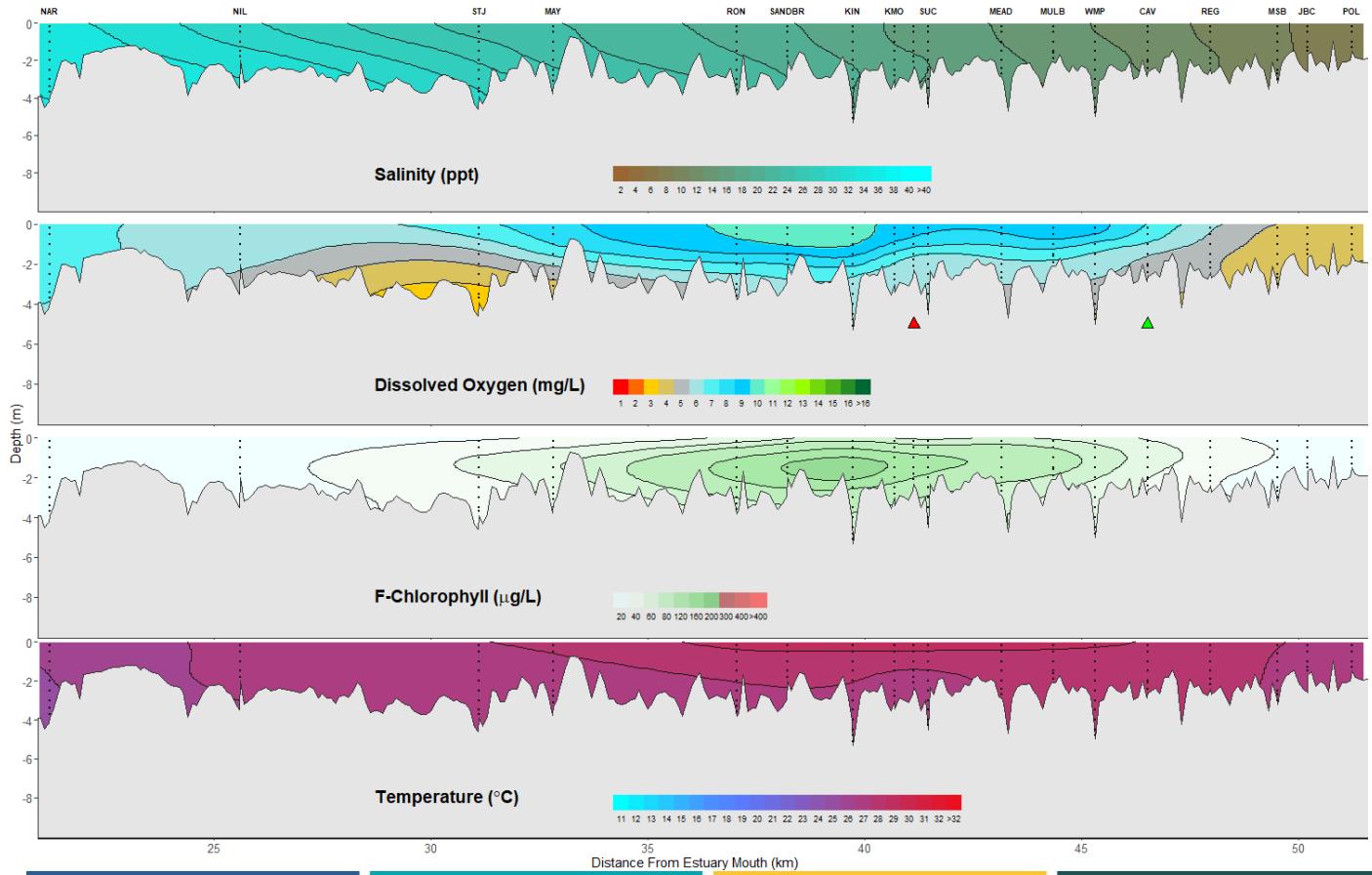
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## Swan Canning Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 19 January 2026



## Middle and Upper Swan Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 19 January 2026



Date: 19 January 2026

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with a south-easterly breeze up to 7.3 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.55 m at 9:16 am (low tide) and 1.19 m at 11:36 pm (high tide). Perth recorded 0 mm of rainfall in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

Oxygenation: The Guildford oxygenation plant was inoperable for the 24 hours prior to sampling. The Caversham oxygenation plant was operable and triggered to provide oxygen in the 24 hours prior to sampling.

Lower Swan Canning Estuary: The Lower Swan Canning Estuary was saline. Waters were oxygenated to well oxygenated with low chlorophyll fluorescence. Water temperatures ranged from 23.7 to 25.2 °C.

Middle Swan Estuary: The Middle Swan Estuary was saline at NIL, brackish over saline at STJ and brackish at MAY and RON. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, except for bottom waters of STJ and MAY which were low in oxygen. Chlorophyll fluorescence was high in sub-surface waters of RON and moderate in sub-surface waters of STJ and MAY. Water temperatures ranged from 26.2 to 28.4 °C.

Upper Swan Estuary: The Upper Swan Estuary was brackish throughout. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, with low oxygen levels in the bottom waters of WMP and throughout the water column of MSB to POL. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low from REG to POL, and moderate from SANDBR to CAV, with high levels detected mid-column at SANDBR, KIN, KMO, SUC and MEAD. Water temperatures ranged from 26.2.4 to 29.1 °C.

**NB:** Profile plots are visual interpolations of measured parameters only. Detailed data are available at [wir.water.wa.gov.au](http://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<sup>-1</sup>, oxygenated >4-6 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, low oxygen >2-4 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, hypoxic 0.5-2 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, anoxic <0.5 mg L<sup>-1</sup>  
Chlorophyll fluorescence (low flow): low < 50 µg L<sup>-1</sup>, moderate 50-150 µg L<sup>-1</sup>, high 150-400 µg L<sup>-1</sup>, extreme > 400 µg L<sup>-1</sup>

**Recommended reference:** Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 2026. *Swan Canning Estuary water quality profile report, Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary 19 January 2026*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)