



# Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

## Weekly Water Quality Report

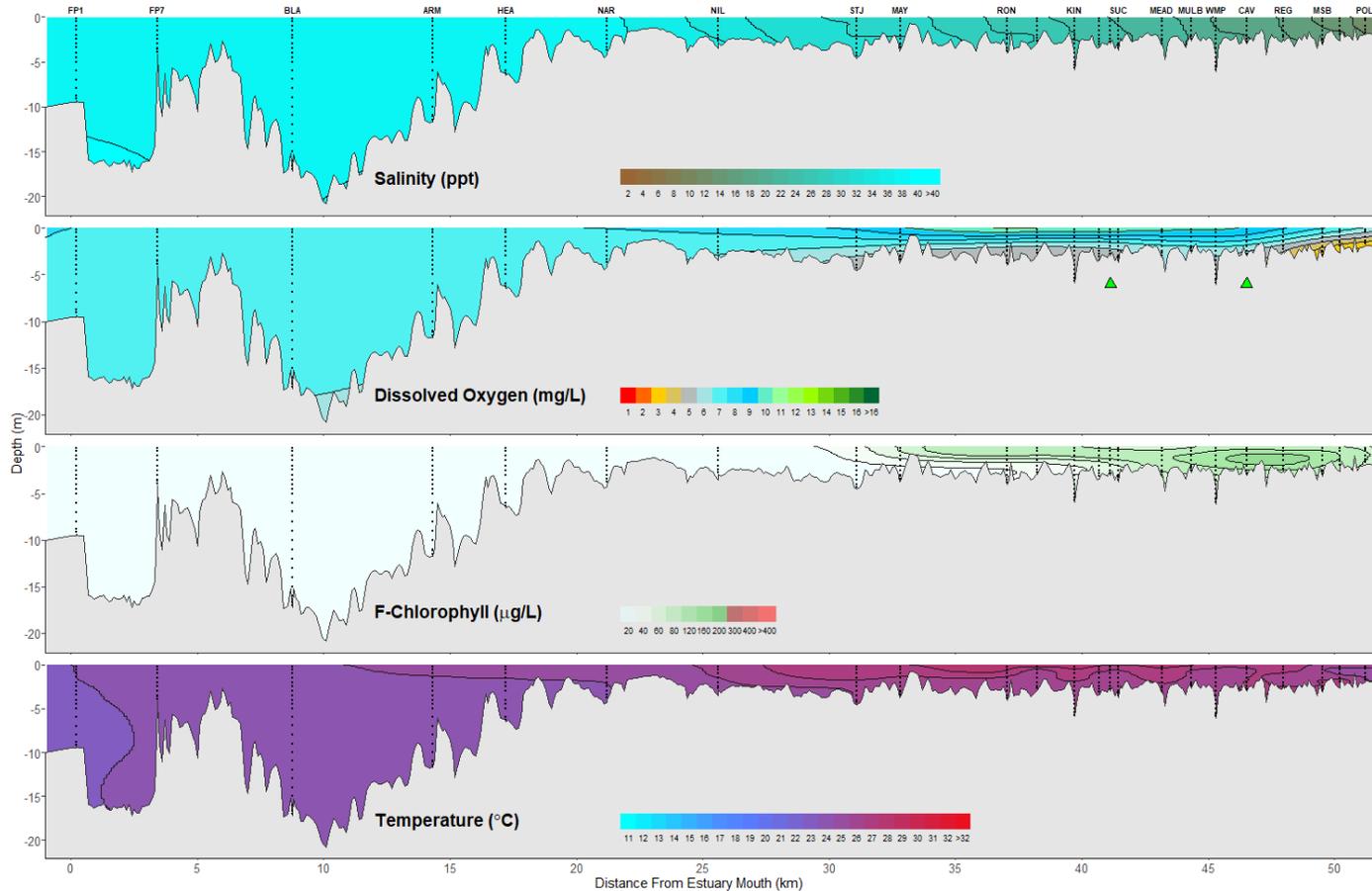
### Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

23 February 2026

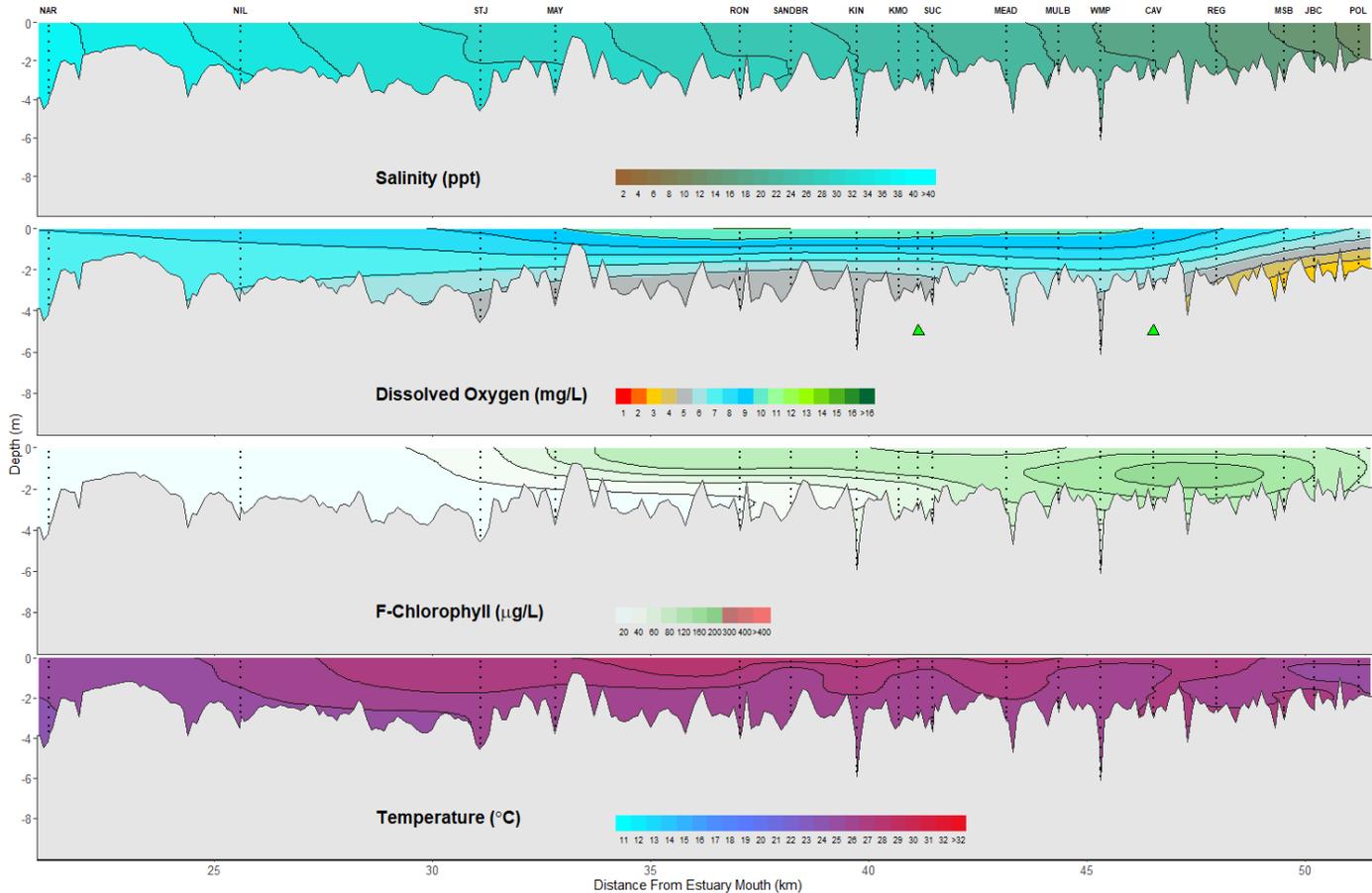
Prepared by

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

# Swan Canning Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 23 February 2026



# Middle and Upper Swan Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 23 February 2026



Date: 23 February 2026

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with a south westerly breeze up to 10.2 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.69 m at 6:04 am (low tide) and 1.12 m at 3:41 pm (high tide). Perth recorded no rainfall in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

Oxygenation: The Guildford and Caversham 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 and well-oxygenated. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low and water temperatures ranged from 22.7 to 24.8 °C.

Middle Swan Estuary (NIL to RON): The Middle Swan Estuary was saline. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, except for low oxygen bottom waters at RON. Chlorophyll fluorescence was generally low, with moderate levels in surface waters of MAY, and high levels in surface waters of RON. Water temperatures ranged from 24.6 to 27.3 °C.

Upper Swan Estuary (SANDBR to POL): The Upper Swan Estuary was brackish over saline at SANDBR and brackish elsewhere. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, except for low oxygen bottom waters at SANDBR, KMO and POL, and hypoxic bottom waters at MSB and JBC. Most sites had low to moderate chlorophyll fluorescence, with high levels detected at KMO and from MULB to JBC. Water temperatures ranged from 24.8 to 27.3 °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 23 February 2026*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)