



Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions



Biodiversity and  
Conservation Science

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# Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

## Weekly Water Quality Report

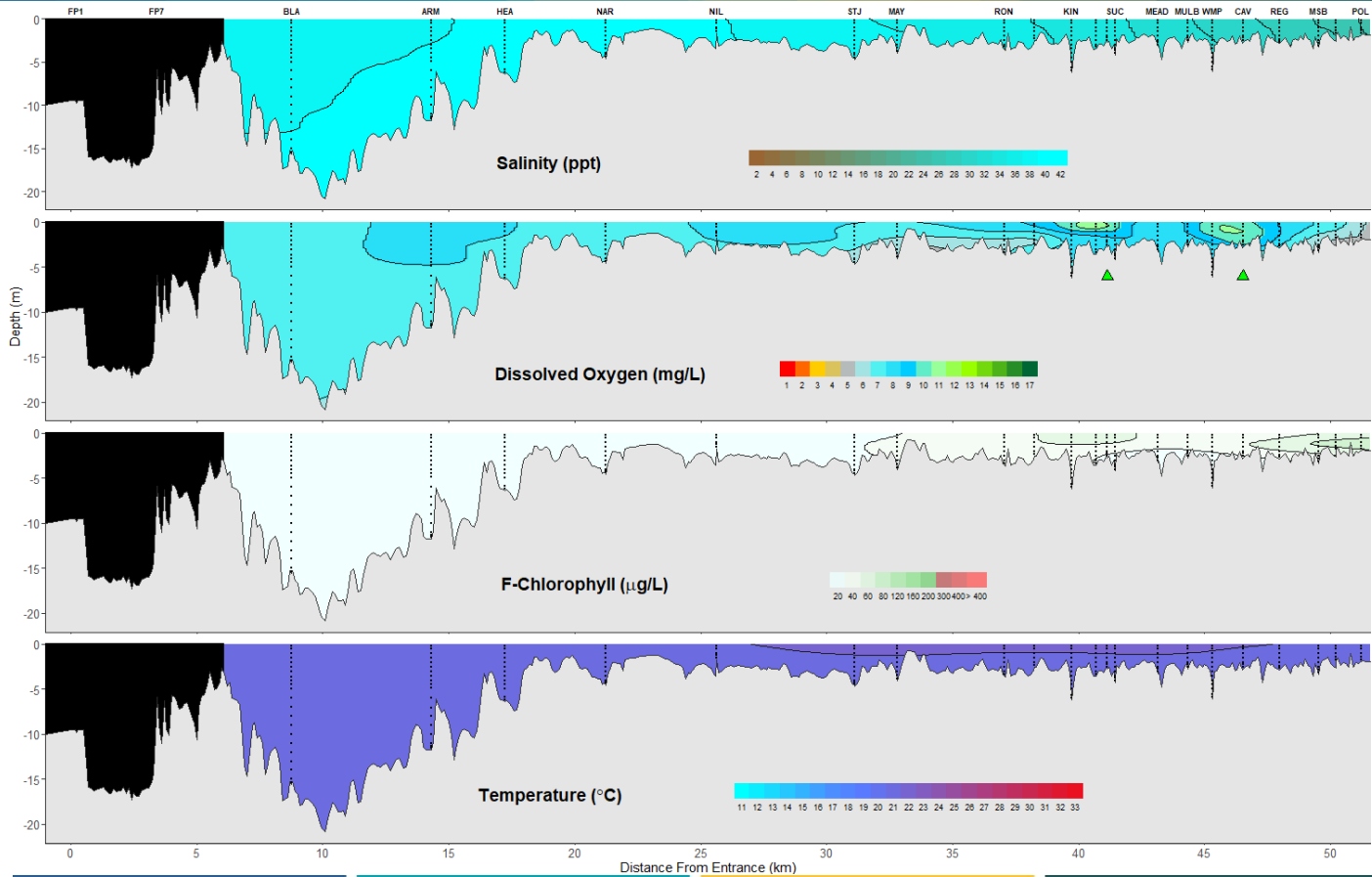
### Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

15<sup>th</sup> April 2024

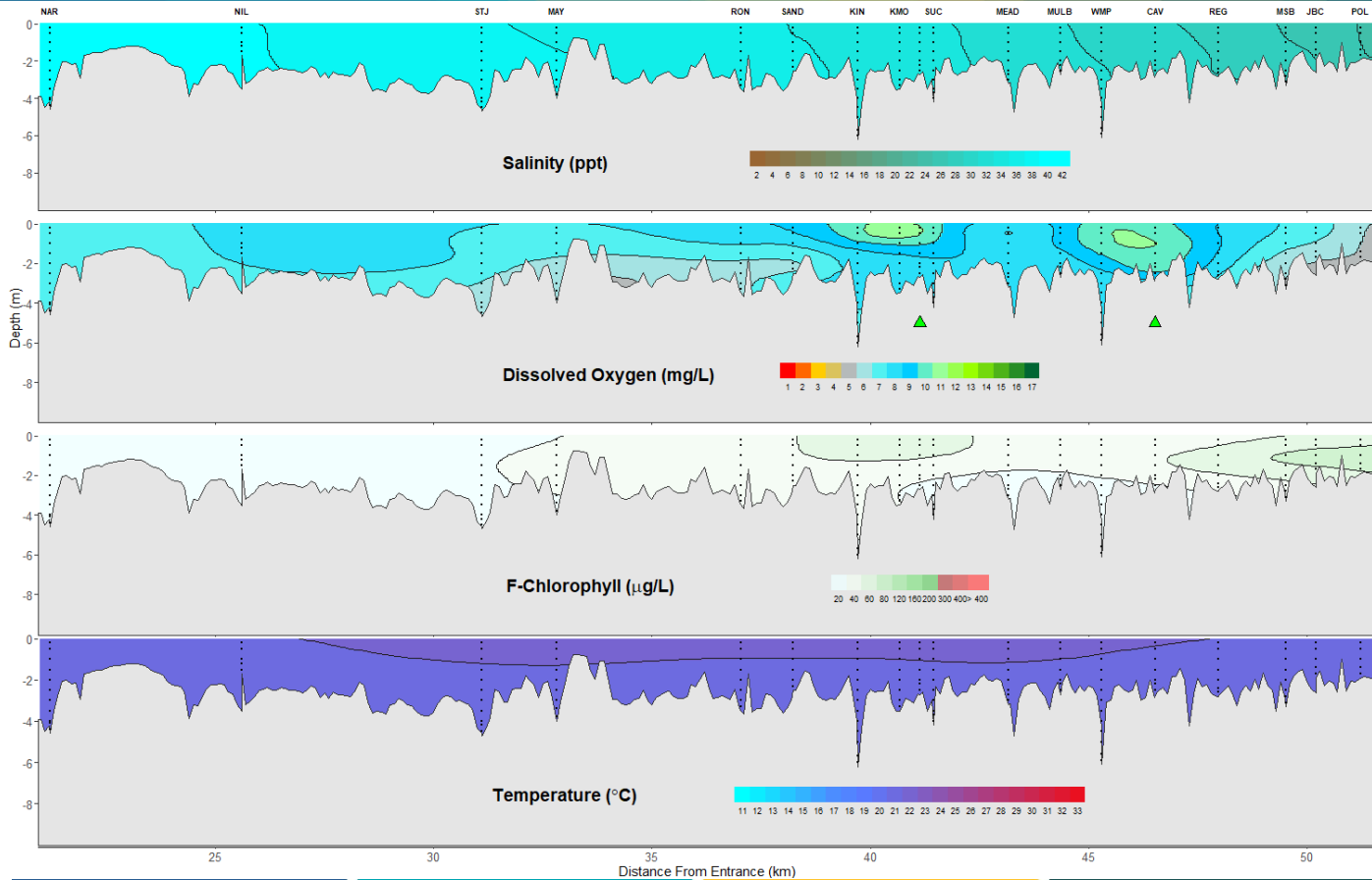
Prepared by

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

## Swan Canning Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024



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Date: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with easterly winds of up to 11 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.64 m at 3:18 am (low tide) and 1.16 m at 3:02 pm (high tide). Perth recorded 1.2 mm of rainfall in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

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

Lower Swan Canning Estuary (BLA to NAR): The Lower Swan Canning Estuary was hypersaline, waters were well oxygenated and chlorophyll fluorescence was low. Water temperatures ranged from 20.5 to 20.8 °C at the time of sampling.

Middle Swan Estuary (NIL to RON): The Middle Swan Estuary was hypersaline from NIL to MAY and saline at RON. Waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated and chlorophyll fluorescence was low. Water temperatures ranged from 20.4 to 21.5 °C at the time of sampling.

Upper Swan Estuary (SAND to POL): The Upper Swan Estuary was saline from SAND to JBC and brackish at POL. Waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated. Chlorophyll fluorescence was moderate in surface waters at KIN, VIT, MSB and POL, subsurface waters at KIN, MSB and POL and bottom waters of POL and high in surface waters at KMO. Water temperatures ranged from 20.3 to 22.3 °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 >35  
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 (mod/high 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, 2024. *Swan Canning Estuary water quality profile report, Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)