



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

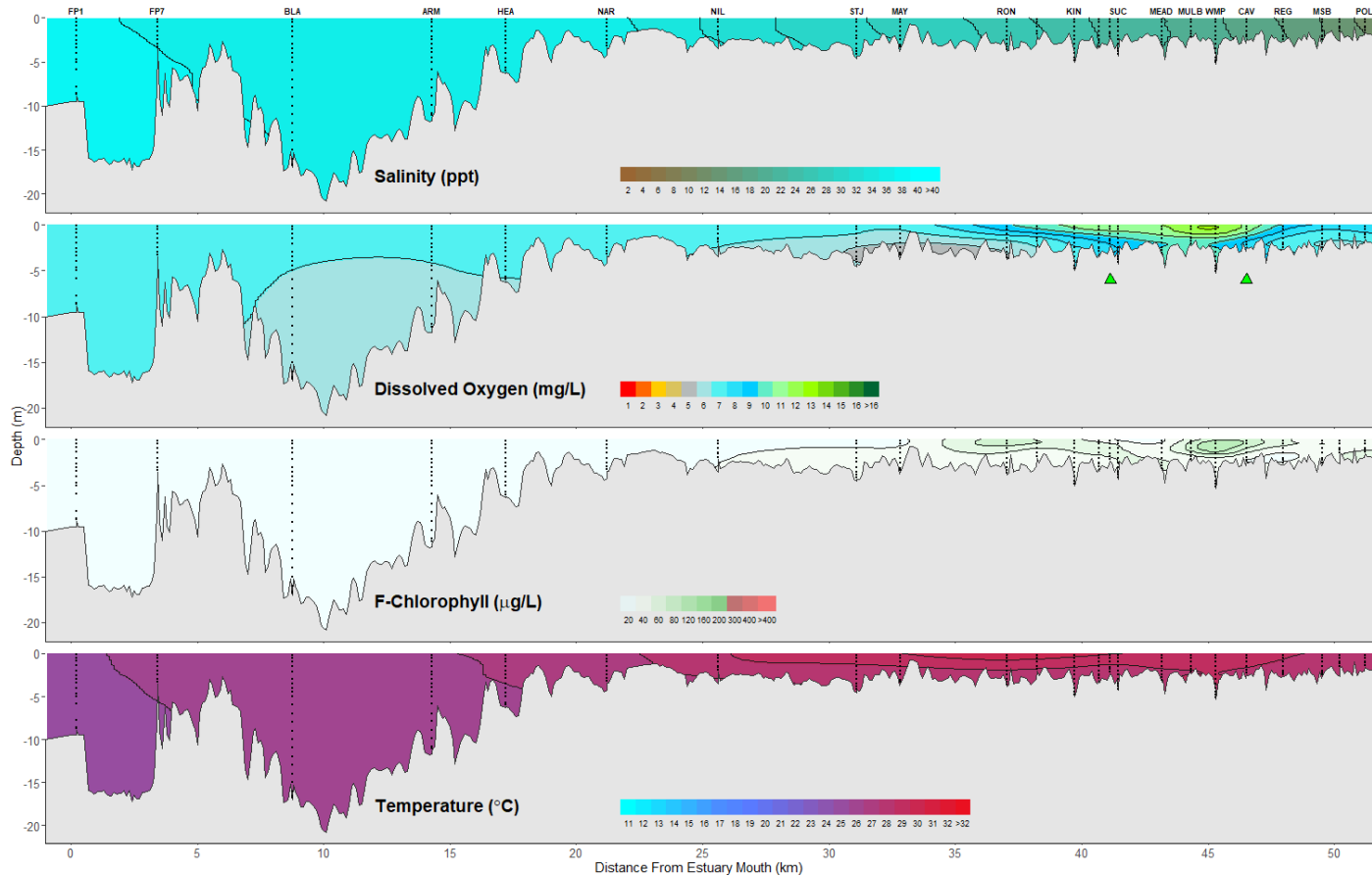
Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

28 January 2025

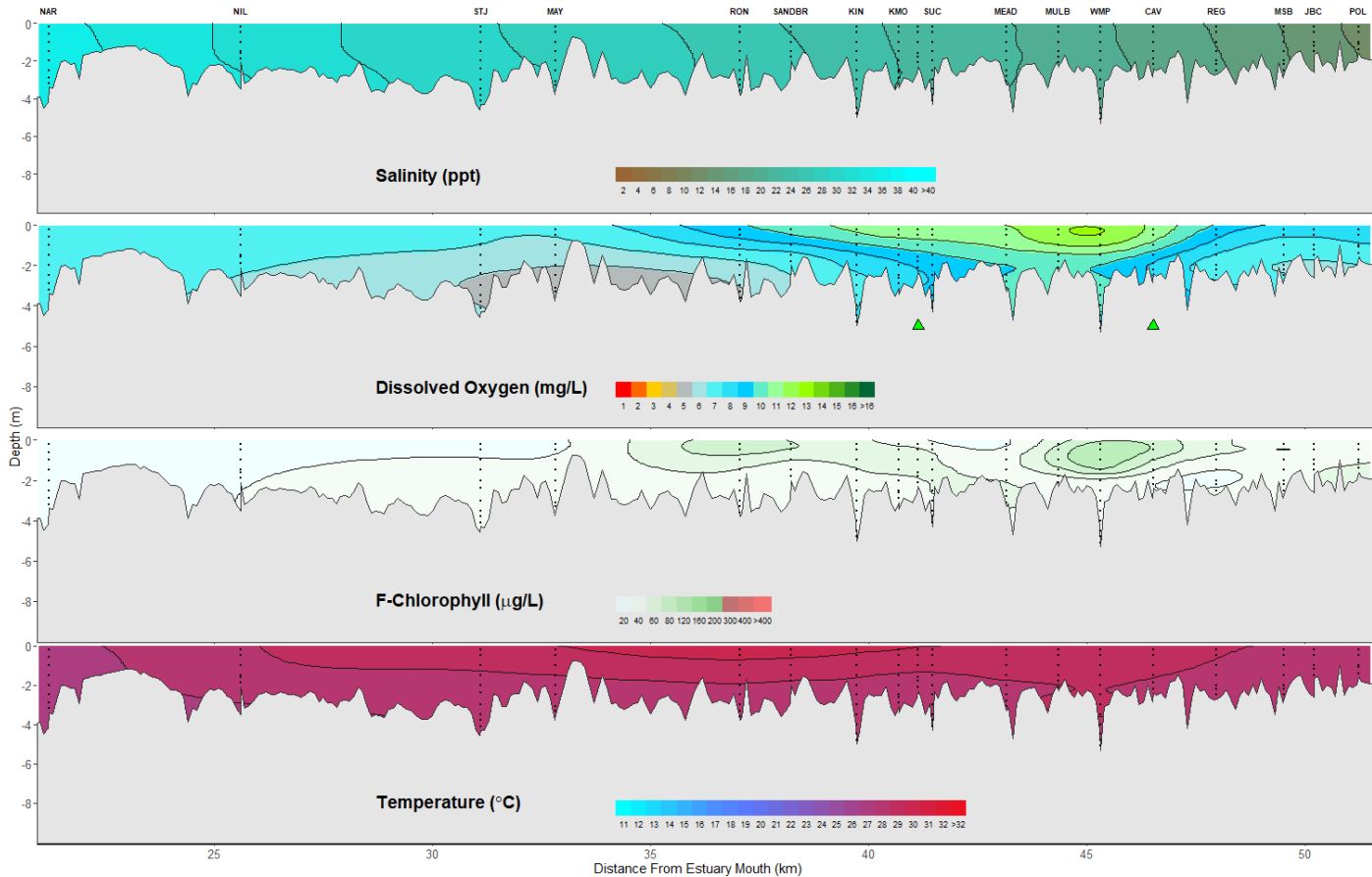
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Swan Canning Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 28 January 2025



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Date: 28 January 2025

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with a variable breeze up to 9.8 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.50 m at 8:24 am (low tide) and 1.21 m at 10:28 pm (high tide). Perth recorded 2.6 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 (FPI to NAR): The Lower Swan Canning Estuary was hypersaline at FP1, saline over hypersaline at FP7 and saline from BLA to NAR. Waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated, chlorophyll fluorescence was low and water temperatures ranged from 24.4 to 26.4°C at the time of sampling.

Middle Swan Estuary (NIL to RON): The Middle Swan Estuary was saline from NIL to MAY and brackish over saline at RON. Waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated. Chlorophyll fluorescence was moderate in the surface waters at RON. Water temperatures ranged from 27.1 to 29.8 °C at the time of sampling.

Upper Swan Estuary (SANDBR to POL): The Upper Swan Estuary was brackish and waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated. Chlorophyll fluorescence was moderate in surface and/or subsurface waters from SANDBR to SUC and MULB to CAV and in bottom waters at POL. Water temperatures ranged from 27.3 to 29.6 °C at the time of sampling.

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

Recommended reference: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 2025. *Swan Canning Estuary water quality profile report, Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary 28 January 2025*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)