



Environmental Monitoring and Reporting
Canning River Estuary ~ Weekly profile

by
Water Science Branch, Department of Water

Date: Tuesday 14th April 2015

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were fine with 20 to 100% cloud cover and a easterly to north easterly breeze of up to 3 knots. The tide was flooding for the duration of the sampling period and water was flowing downstream over the Kent Street weir boards. Perth recorded 44.4 mm of rainfall during the week prior to the morning of sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

Oxygenation: The Bacon Street, Camsell Way and Nicholson Road oxygenation plants were operational the week prior to sampling.

Canning Estuary (downstream of Kent St Weir): The Canning Estuary was saline on the surface over hypersaline bottom water at SCB2, then brackish over hypersaline to saline bottom water at SAL and RIV. Water was well oxygenated on the surface at all sites. Bottom water was oxygenated at SCB2, low in oxygen at SAL, then hypoxic at RIV. Water temperature ranged from 18.9 to 22.8 °C.

Lower Canning River (upstream of Kent St Weir): The Lower Canning River was fresh throughout with the exception of brackish bottom water at KENU300. Surface water was well oxygenated at all sites. Bottom water was low in oxygen at KEN, near anoxic at KENU300 then oxygenated from BACD500 to ELL with the exception of BACD300 which was well oxygenated and KS7 which was hypoxic. Water temperature ranged from 19.1 to 22.9 °C.

Definitions:

Salinity – fresh <5ppt, brackish 5-25ppt, saline 25-35ppt, hypersaline >35ppt

Dissolved oxygen – well oxygenated >6 mg/L
oxygenated >4 to 6 mg/L, low oxygen >2 to 4 mg/L,
hypoxic >0.5 to 2.0 mg/L, near anoxic <0.5 mg/L

Canning River Estuary - Physical-chemical Profile - 14th April 2015

