



Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

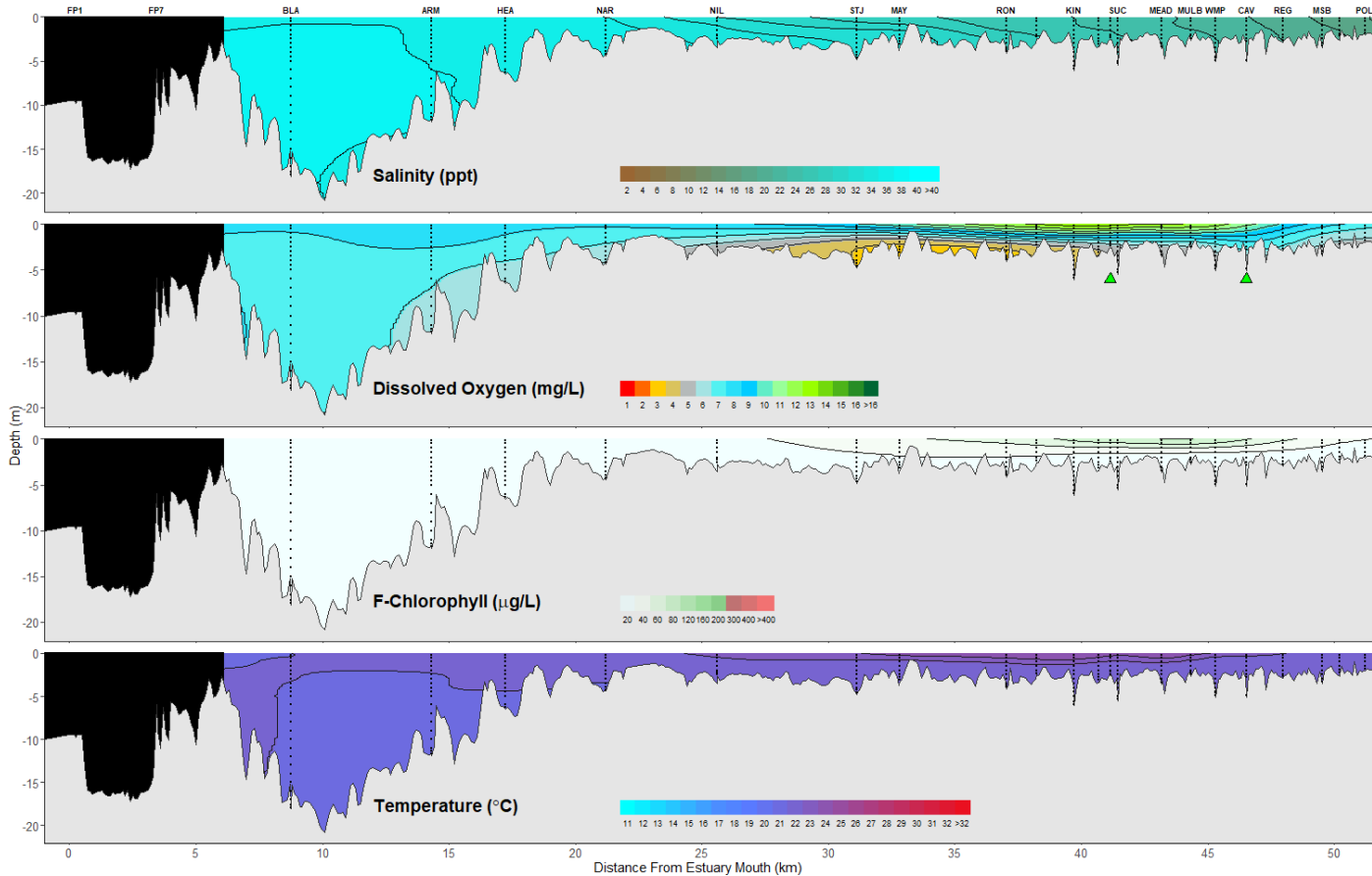
Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

13 April 2026

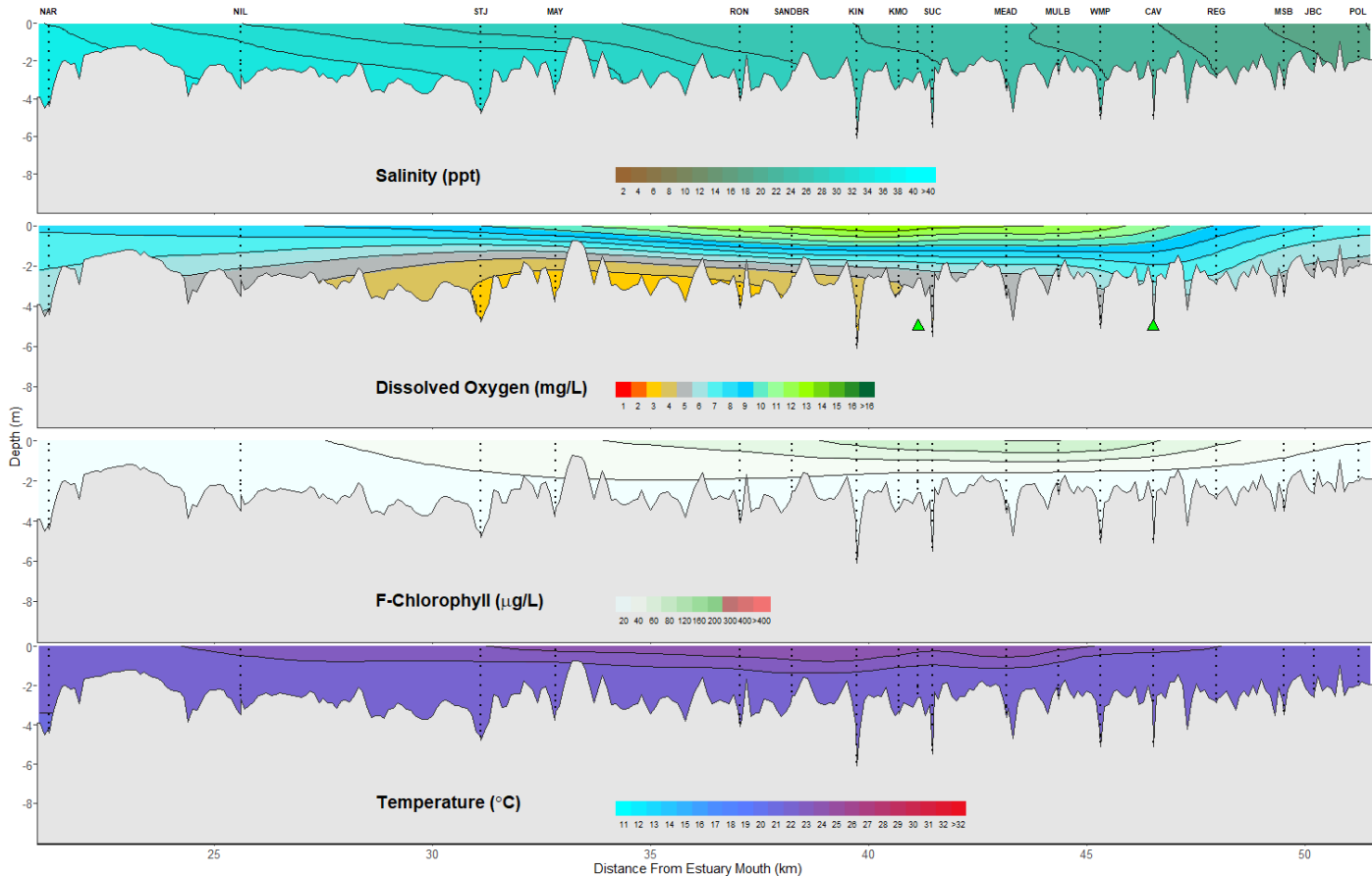
Prepared by

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

Swan Canning Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 13 April 2026



Middle and Upper Swan Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 13 April 2026



Date: 13 April 2026

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with a south westerly breeze of up to 5.8 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.74 m at 4:41 am (low tide) and 1.1 m at 8:34 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 (BLA to NAR): The Lower Swan Canning Estuary was saline with hypersaline bottom waters at BLA and ARM. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated throughout and chlorophyll fluorescence was low. Water temperatures ranged from 20.7 to 21.4 °C.

Middle Swan Estuary (NIL to RON): The Middle Swan Estuary was saline throughout with brackish surface waters at RON. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, except for low oxygen bottom waters from STJ to MAY. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low throughout and water temperatures ranged from 21.1 to 23.4 °C.

Upper Swan Estuary (SANDBR to POL): The Upper Swan Estuary was brackish with saline bottom waters from SANDBR to KMO. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, except for low oxygen bottom waters from SANDBR to KMO and at WMP. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low, with moderate levels detected in surface waters from KIN to CAV, and high levels presenting at WMP. Water temperatures ranged from 21.1 to 23.9 °C.

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 >36 ppt
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, 2026. *Swan Canning Estuary water quality profile report, Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary 13 April 2026*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)