



Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

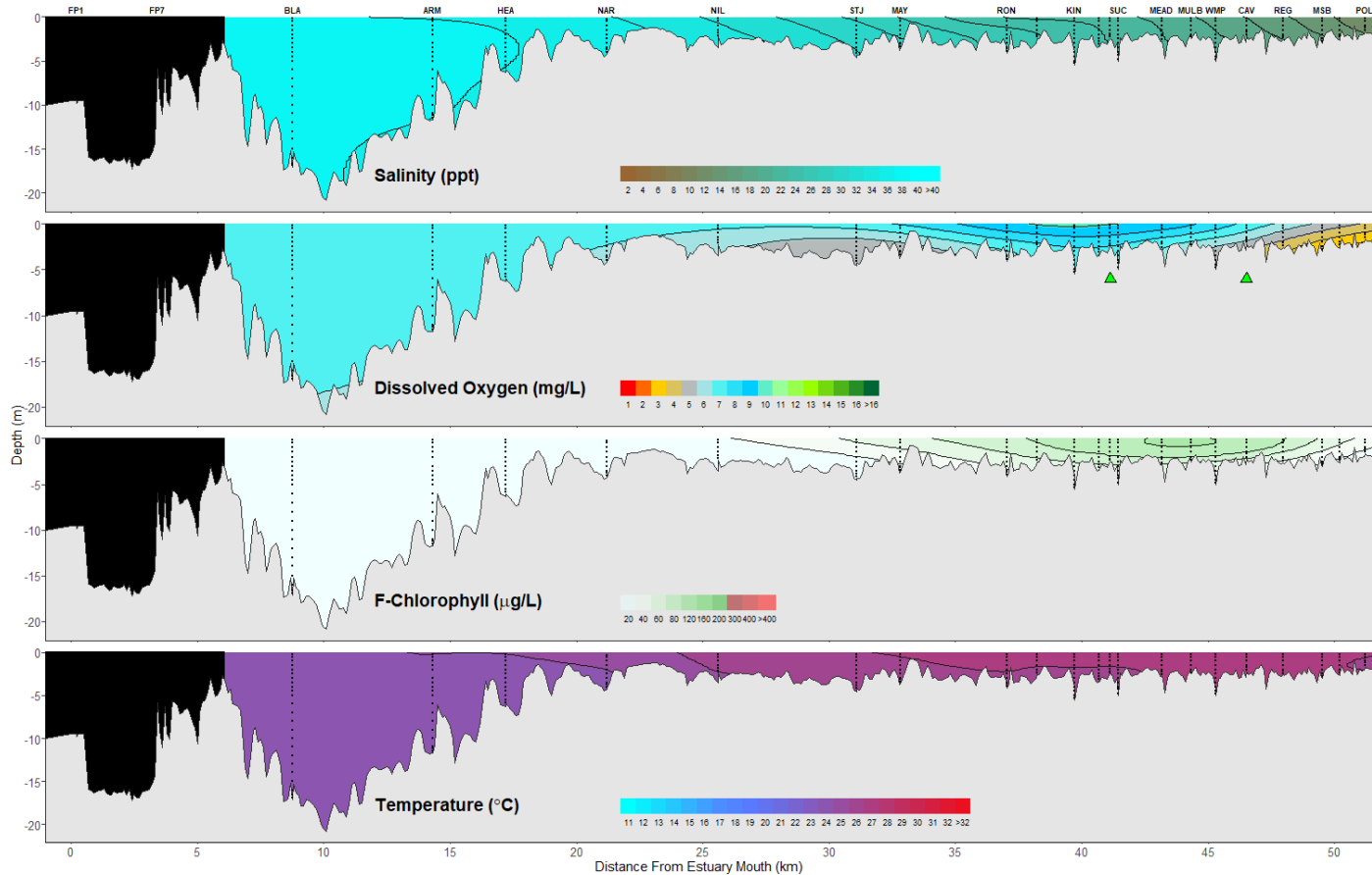
Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

16 February 2026

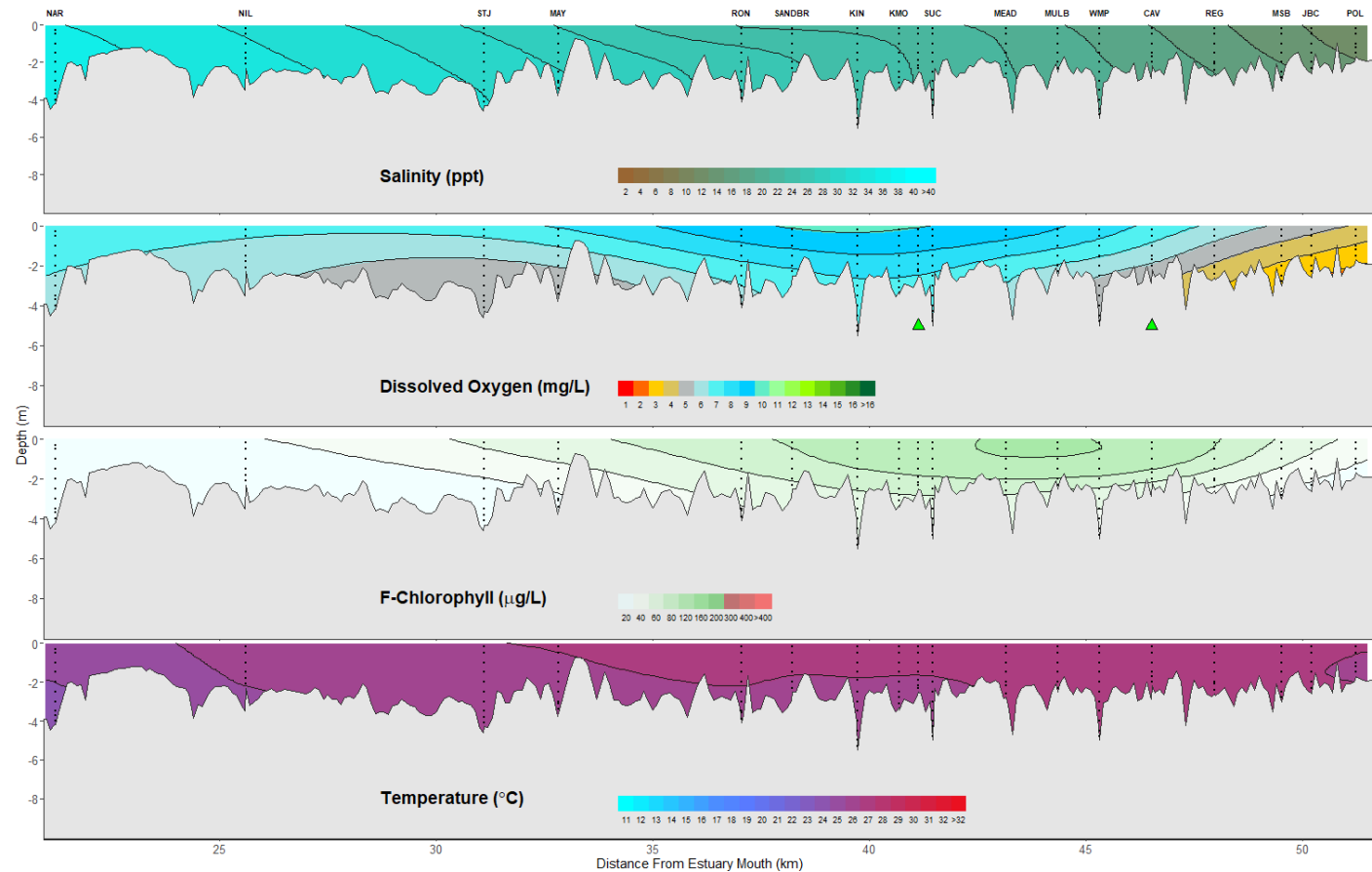
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Swan Canning Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 16 February 2026



Middle and Upper Swan Estuary - Water Quality Profiles – 16 February 2026



Date: 16 February 2026

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were cloudy with a southerly breeze up to 9.9 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.6 m at 8:11 am (low tide) and 1.19 m at 10:51 pm (high tide). Perth recorded 2.2 mm of 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 at BLA and ARM, saline over hypersaline at HEA, and saline at NAR. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated with low chlorophyll fluorescence. Water temperatures ranged from 23.7 to 24.4 °C.

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 to well-oxygenated, except for bottom waters of MAY, which were low in oxygen. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low, with moderate levels in surface waters from STJ to RON. Water temperatures ranged from 25.1 to 26.6 °C.

Upper Swan Estuary (SANDBR to POL): The Upper Swan Estuary was brackish throughout. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, except for low oxygen bottom waters from REG to POL, and hypoxic bottom waters at MSB. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low to moderate at most sites, with high levels detected at VIT, MEAD and MULB and extreme levels detected in the surface water of WMP. Water temperatures ranged from 25.7 to 27.2 °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 16 February 2026*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)