

Derbal Yirragan

Swan waterway

Weekly water quality report

7 September 2026

Monitoring conducted on Whadjuk Noongar Country

Prepared by:

Rivers and Estuaries Science

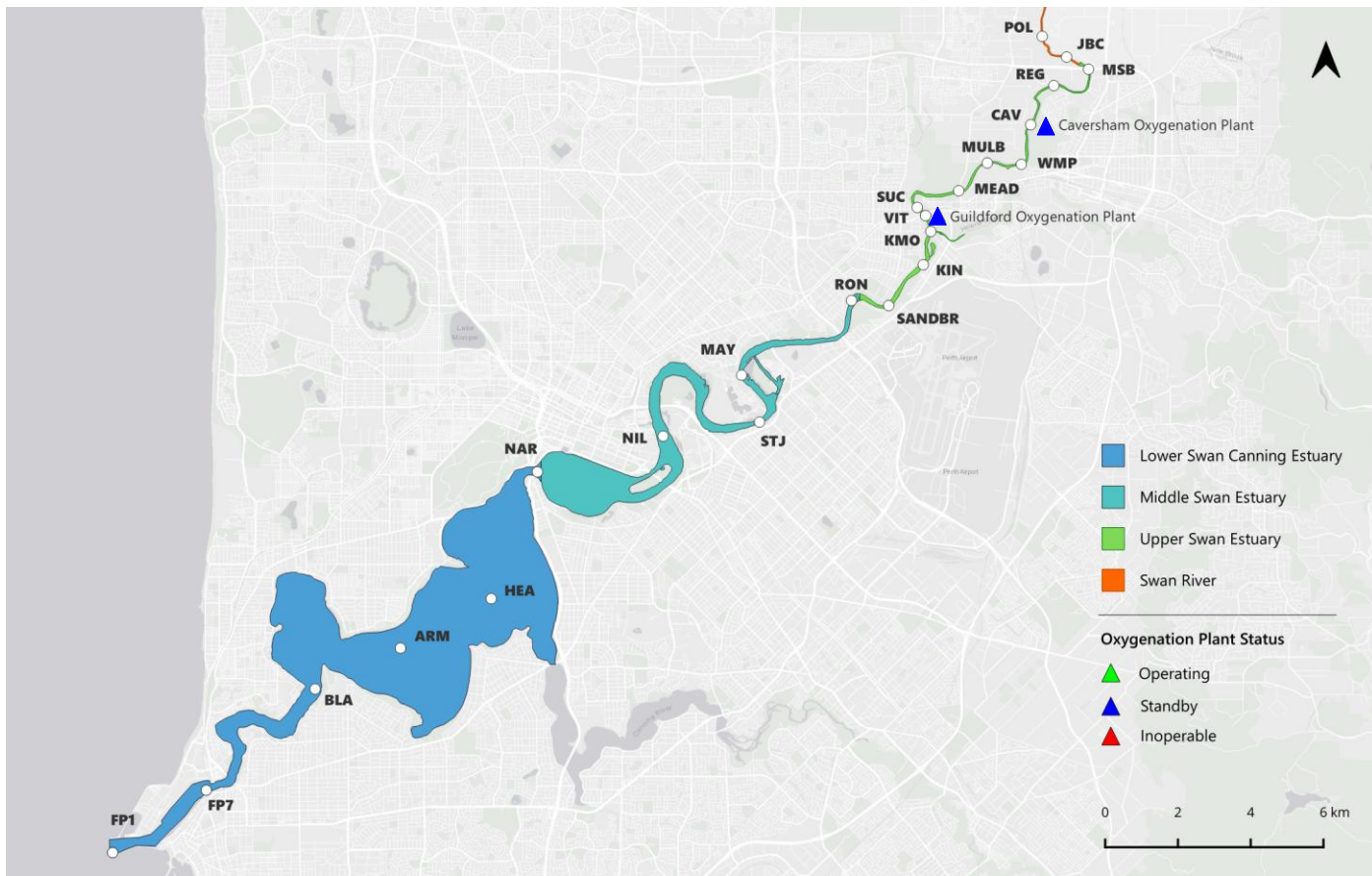
Biodiversity and Conservation Science

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Photo – DBCA

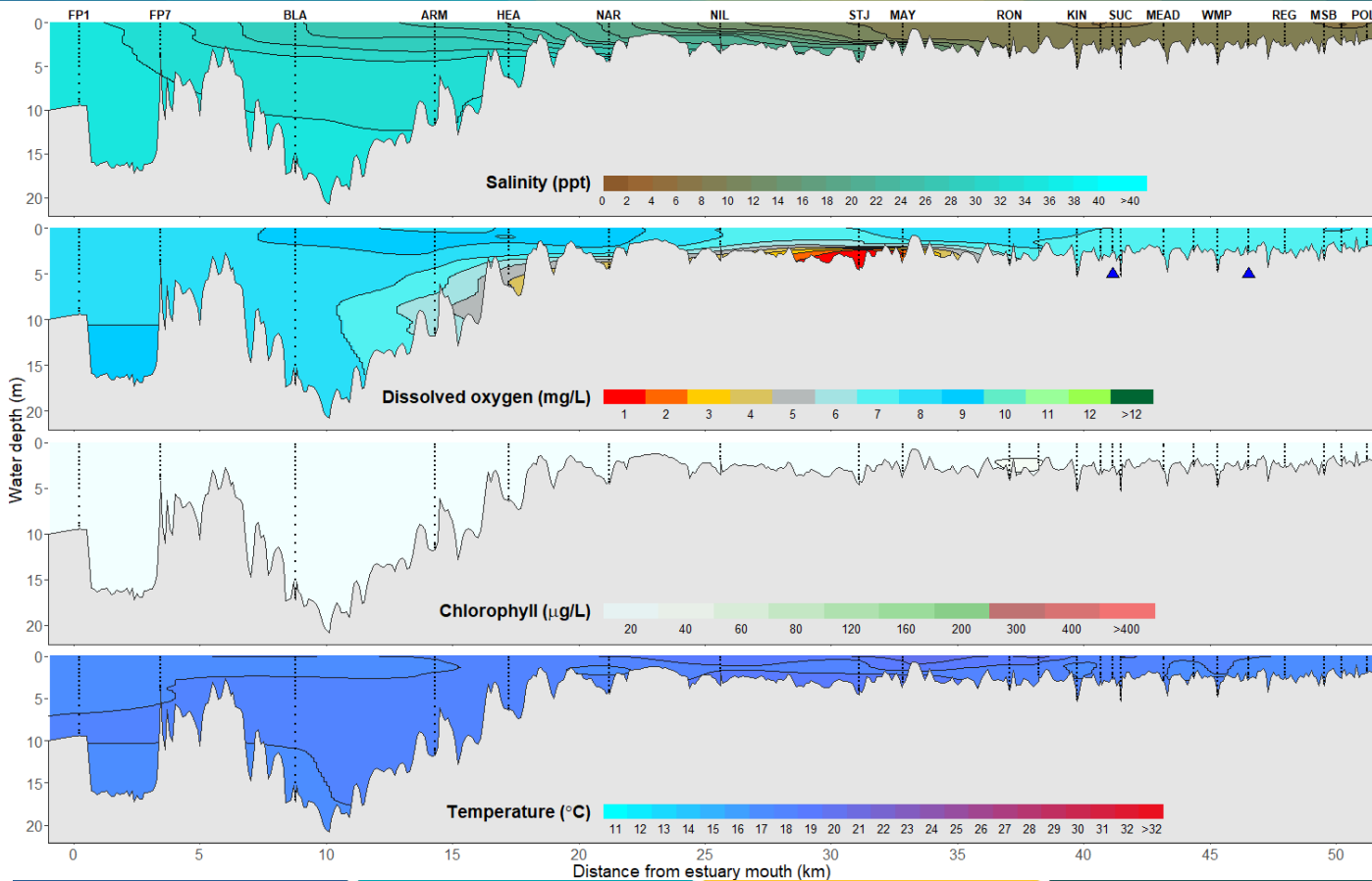
Derbal Yirragan water quality monitoring sites

7 September 2026



Derbal Yirragan water quality profile

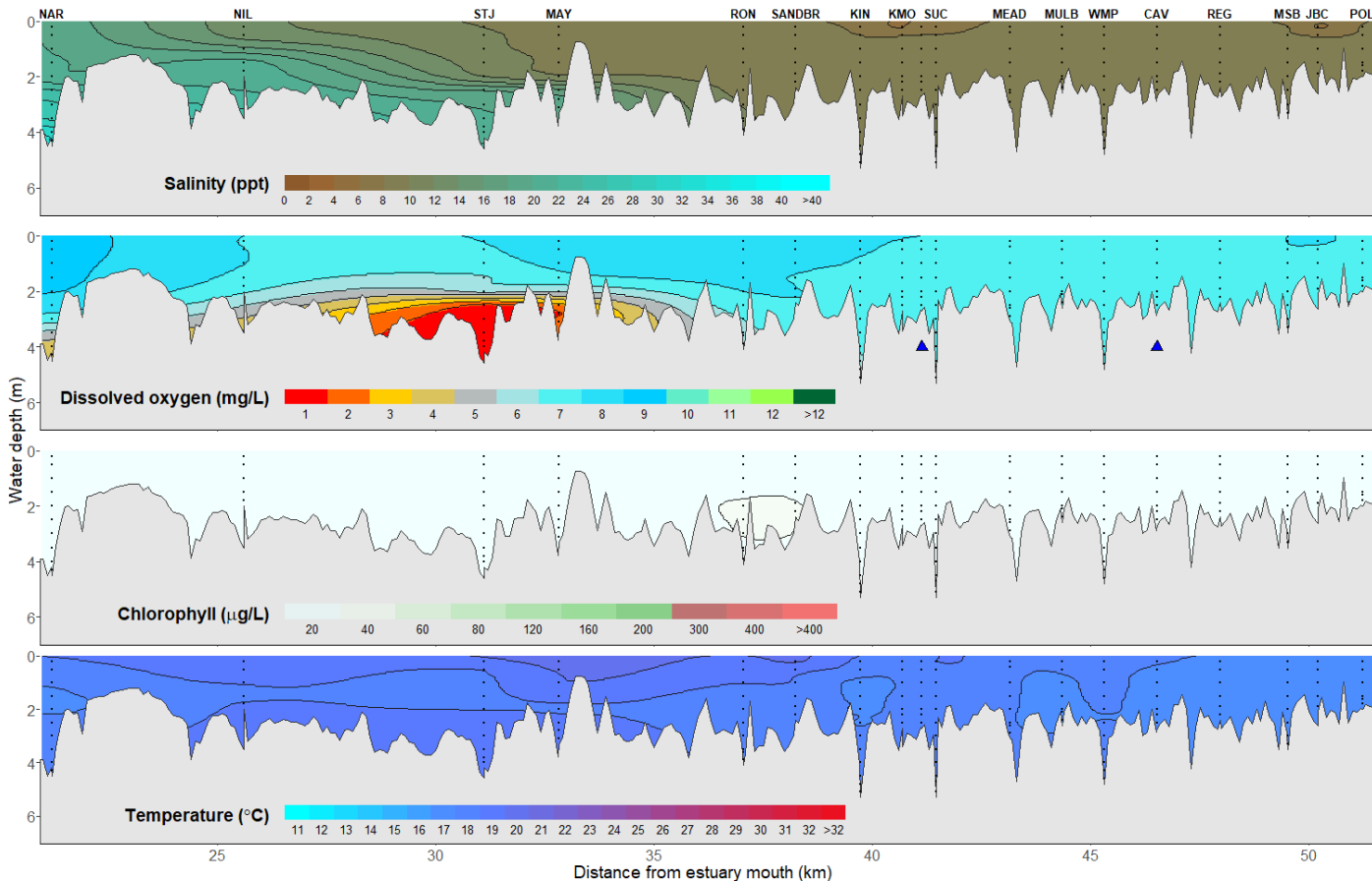
7 September 2026



Note: Profile plots are visual interpolations of measured parameters only. Detailed data are available at wir.water.wa.gov.au.

Derbal Yirragan water quality profile

7 September 2026



Note: Profile plots are visual interpolations of measured parameters only. Detailed data are available at wir.water.wa.gov.au.

Derbal Yirragan water quality summary

7 September 2026

Lower Swan Canning Estuary: Salinity in this zone was predominately euhaline, except for surface waters from BLA to NAR which were polyhaline. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low throughout, indicating low phytoplankton activity. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, except for bottom waters at NAR which were low oxygen. Water temperatures ranged from 16.7 to 17.9 °C.

Middle Swan Estuary: There was significant stratification across this zone from recent riverine flow. Waters were predominately mesohaline, except for bottom waters from NIL to MAY which were polyhaline. Waters were oxygenated to well oxygenated except for bottom waters from STJ to MAY which were hypoxic. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low throughout, indicating low phytoplankton activity and water temperatures ranged from 17.6 to 19.4 °C throughout.

Upper Swan Estuary and Swan River: The river was flowing and sites were predominately mesohaline and oxygenated to well oxygenated, except for the bottom waters at KIN which were polyhaline and low oxygen. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low throughout, and water temperatures ranged from 16.3 to 19.1 °C.

Season			
Djilba		First spring	
Predicted tides ¹			
High Tide		Low Tide	
1.12 m	8:04 am	0.58 m	6:39 pm

Recorded weather conditions	
Skies	Cloudy
Wind direction	SE
Wind speed (max)	6.8 knots
Air temperature ² (max)	22.9 °C
Rainfall ² (within week prior)	17.4 mm

Definitions

Salinity (ppt)³ – fresh: <0.5; oligohaline: 0.5 – 5; mesohaline: >5 – 18; polyhaline: >18 – 30; euhaline: >30 – 40; hyperhaline: >40.

Dissolved oxygen (mg/L)⁴ – anoxic: 0; hypoxic: >0 – 2; low oxygen: >2 – 4; oxygenated: >4 – 6; well oxygenated: >6.

Chlorophyll fluorescence (µg/L)⁵ – low: <50; moderate: 50 – 150; high: >150 - 400, very high: >400.

References

1. DTMI (Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure) (2025) [Tide predictions](#), DTMI, accessed 7 September 2026.
2. BOM (Bureau of Meteorology) (2026) [Perth Western Australia Daily Weather Observations](#), BOM, accessed 7 September 2026.
3. (2003) 'The Venice System for the Classification of Marine Waters According to Salinity', *Limnology and Oceanography*, 3, [doi: 10.4319/lo.1958.3.3.0346](#).
4. DWER (Department of Water and Environmental Regulation) (2018) [Oxygenating the Vasse estuary exit channel: the results of a two year trial 2025 - 2017](#), DWER, Government of Western Australian.
5. Chlorophyll definitions were internally developed from historical trends within the Swan Canning Riverpark.

Recommended reference for this report

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 2026. *Swan Water Quality Report, 7 September 2026*. Rivers and Estuaries Science (<https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark/swan-canning-riverpark-water-quality-monitoring>)