



Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

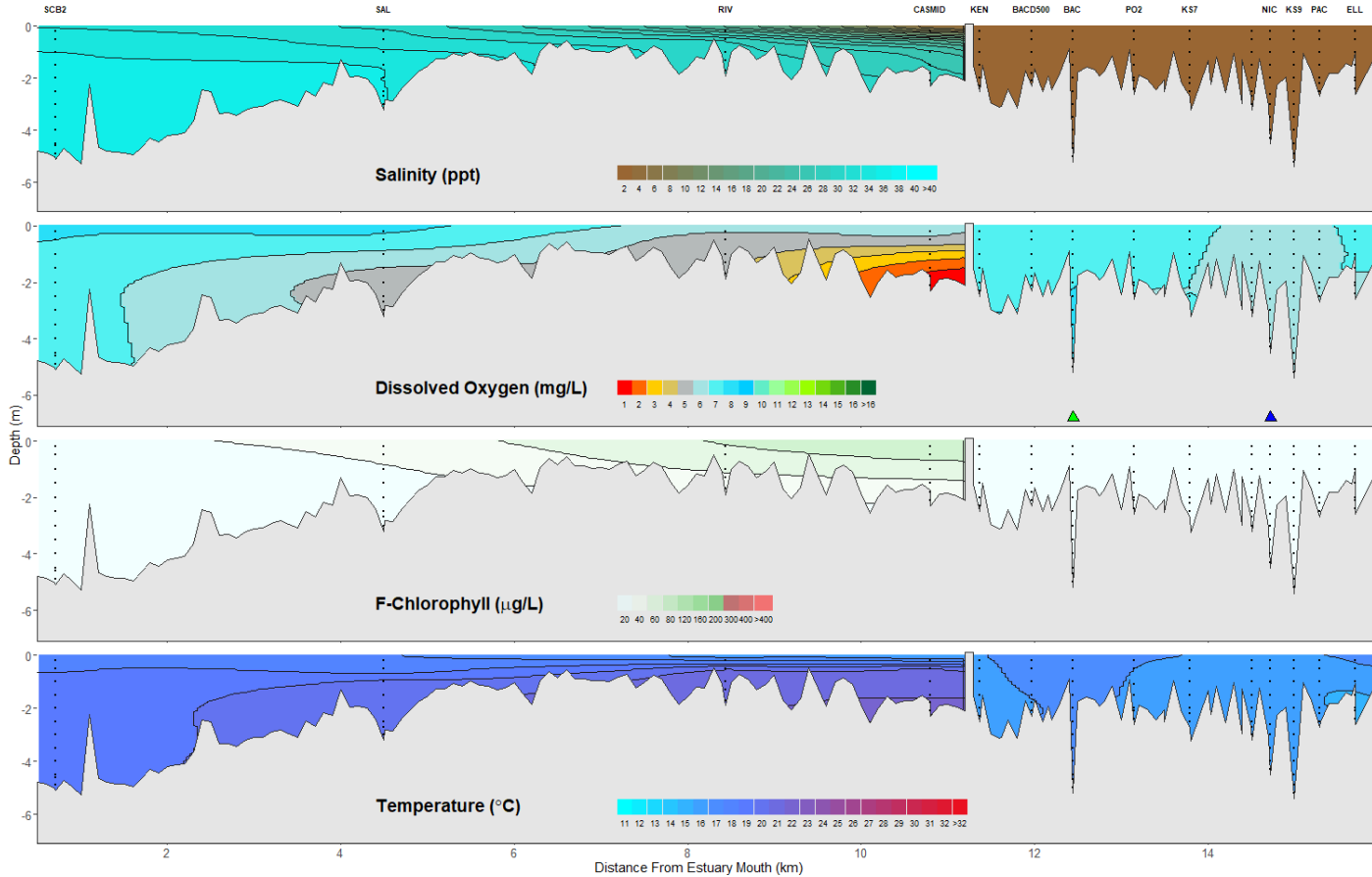
Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River

5 May 2026

Prepared by

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

Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River - Water Quality Profiles – 5 May 2026



Date: 5 May 2026

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with a breeze of up to 4.9 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 1.28 m at 12:53 pm (high tide) and 0.74 m at 11:42 pm (low tide). Perth recorded 3.6 mm of rainfall in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

Oxygenation: The Bacon St oxygenation plant was operating and providing oxygen and the Nicholson Rd oxygenation plant was operable but not triggered to provide oxygen in the 24 hours prior to sampling.

Canning Estuary (SCB2 to CASMID): The Canning Estuary was saline throughout except for brackish surface waters from RIV to CASMID. Waters were oxygenated to well oxygenated, except for hypoxic bottom waters at CASMID. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low, except for moderate levels detected at RIV. Water temperatures ranged from 16.7 to 21.8 °C.

Lower Canning River (KEN to ELL): The Lower Canning River was fresh and waters were oxygenated to well oxygenated throughout. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low and water temperatures ranged from 14.9 to 16.7 °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
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