# Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

## Weekly Water Quality Report

## Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River

**23 June 2026**

**Prepared by**

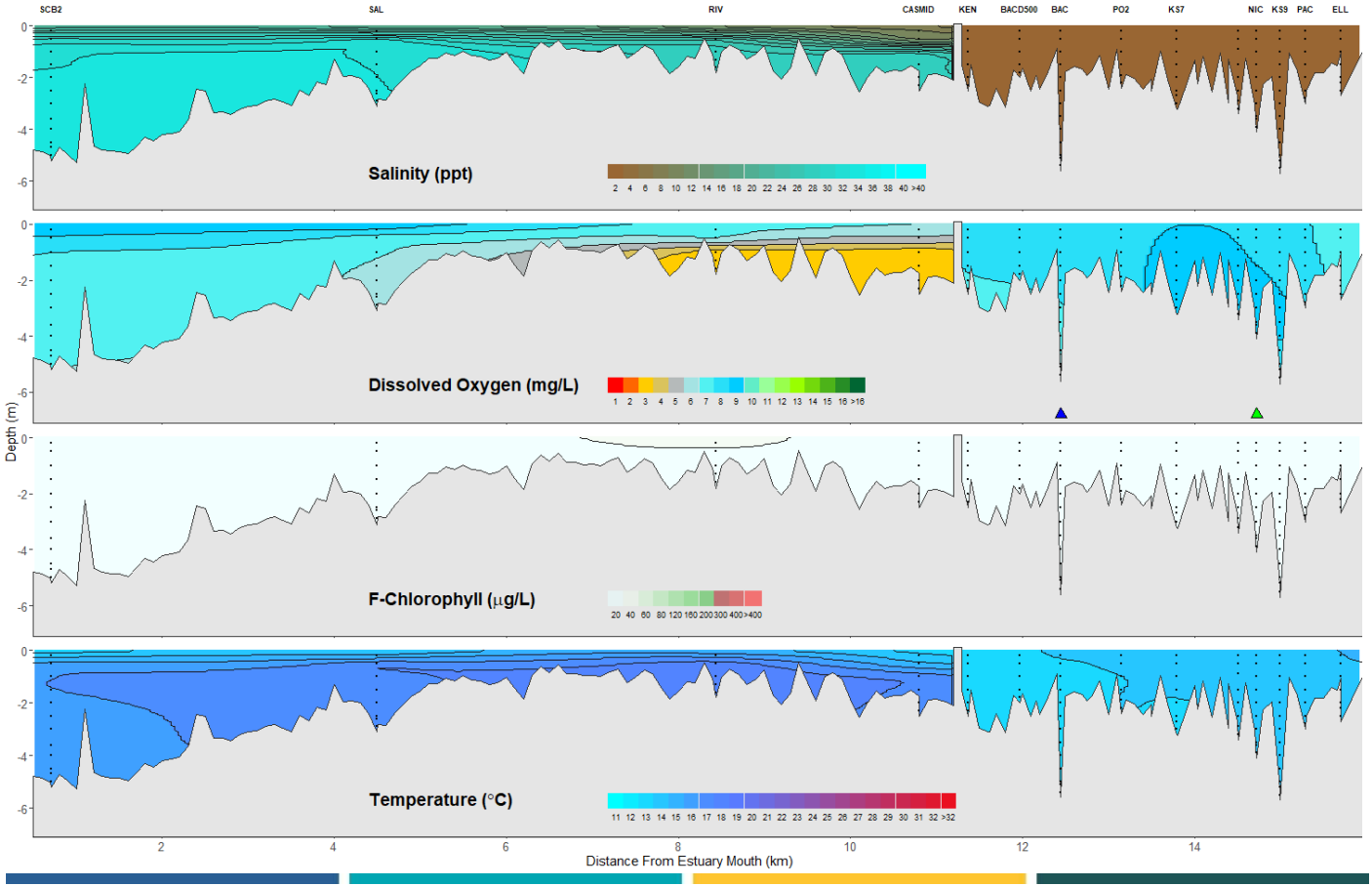
**Rivers and Estuaries Science**
**Biodiversity and Conservation Science**
**Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions**

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Biodiversity and Conservation Science

# Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River - Water Quality Profiles – 23 June 2026



*Date*: 23 June 2026

*Weather & tide conditions*: Conditions were clear with a variable breeze up to 2.5 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 1.13 m at 7:47 am (high tide) and 0.83 m at 8:13 pm (low tide). Perth recorded 0.6 mm of rain in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

*Oxygenation*: The Nicholson Rd was operable and triggered to provide oxygen during the 24 hours prior to sampling, whereas the Bacon St oxygenation plant was operable but not triggered to operate during this period.

*Canning Estuary (SCB2 to CASMID)*: The Canning Estuary was saline with brackish surface waters. Waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, except for bottom waters of RIV and CASMID, which were low in oxygen. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low throughout and water temperatures ranged from 13.4 to 17.6 °C.

*Lower Canning River (KEN to ELL)*: The Lower Canning River was fresh and waters were oxygenated to well-oxygenated. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low and water temperatures ranged from 12.6 to 14 °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 $L^{-1}$

**Recommended reference:** Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions 2026. *Swan Canning Estuary water quality profile report, Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River 23 June 2026.* Rivers and Estuaries Science (https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark)