Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River

17 February 2026

Prepared by

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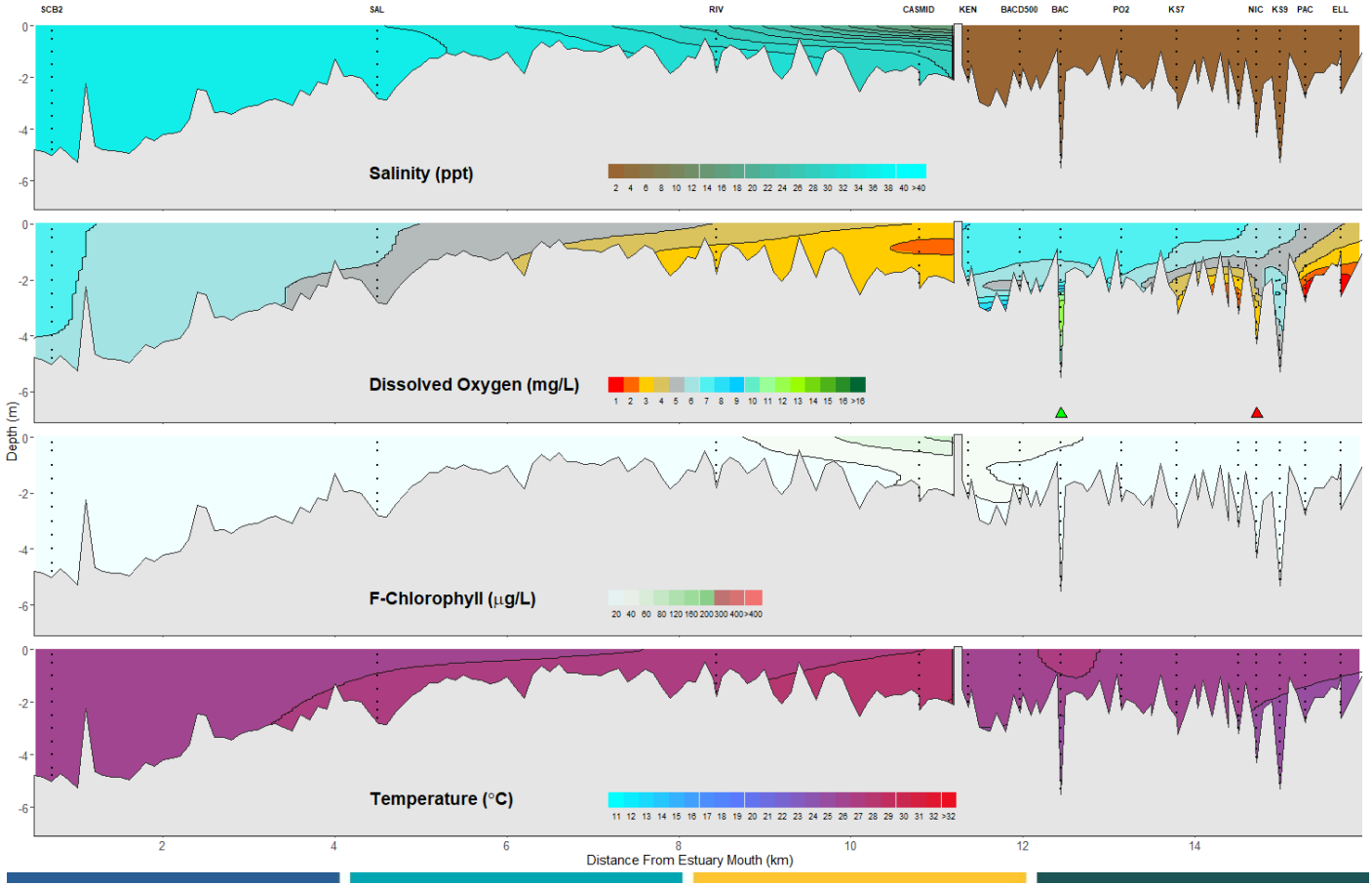
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Biodiversity and Conservation Science

Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River - Water Quality Profiles – 17 February 2026



Date: 17 February 2026

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with a variable breeze of up to 6 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.63 m at 8:26 am (low tide) and 1.16 m at 11:29 pm (high tide). Perth recorded no rainfall in the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

Oxygenation: The Bacon St and Nicholson Rd oxygenation plants were operating and providing oxygen in the 24 hours prior to sampling.

Canning Estuary (SCB2 to CASMID): The Canning Estuary was saline from SCB2 to RIV, and brackish over saline at CASMID. SCB2 and SAL were oxygenated to well-oxygenated, whereas bottom waters of RIV were low in oxygen, and those at CASMID were hypoxic. Chlorophyll fluorescence was low and water temperatures ranged from 23 to 28.1 °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 23 to 25.4 °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 17 February 2026.* Rivers and Estuaries Science (https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark)