



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



Biodiversity and
Conservation Science

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Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

Weekly Water Quality Report

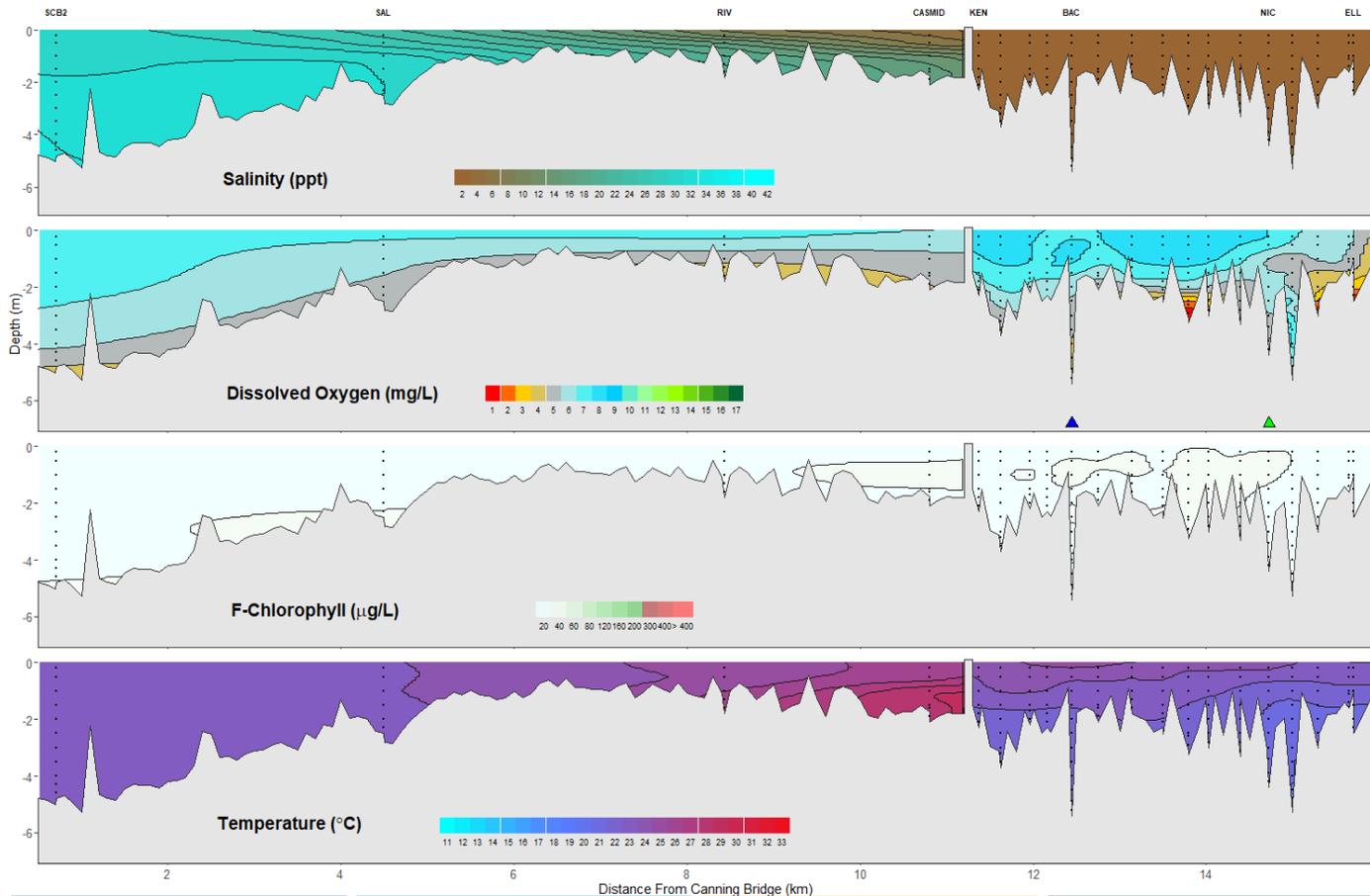
Canning Estuary and Lower Canning River

8th December 2020

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 – 8th December 2020



Date: 8th December 2020

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with a variable breeze of up to 7 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 0.88 m at 1:26 am (high tide overnight), 0.60 m at 12:30 pm (low tide) and 0.84 m at 10:14 pm (second high tide). Gosnells recorded 0.2 mm of rainfall during the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

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

Canning Estuary (downstream of Kent St Weir): The Canning Estuary was saline at SCB2, brackish over saline at SAL, brackish at RIV and fresh over brackish at CASMID. Waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated except bottom waters at RIV which were low in oxygen. Chlorophyll fluorescence was highest at CASMID indicating higher microalgal activity in that area. Water temperature ranged from 22.2 to 27.9 °C.

Lower Canning River (upstream of Kent St Weir): The Lower Canning River was fresh. Surface waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated. Bottom waters were low in oxygen at KENU300, BAC and NIC and hypoxic at KS7, MASD50, PAC and ELL. Chlorophyll fluorescence was highest at KS7 indicating higher microalgal activity in that area. Water temperature ranged from 19.9 to 24.3 °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 >35
Dissolved oxygen – well oxygenated >6mg/L, oxygenated >4-6mg/L, low oxygen >2-4mg/L, hypoxic 0.5-2mg/L, anoxic <0.5mg/L