



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



Biodiversity and
Conservation Science

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Swan Canning Estuary Water Quality Monitoring Project

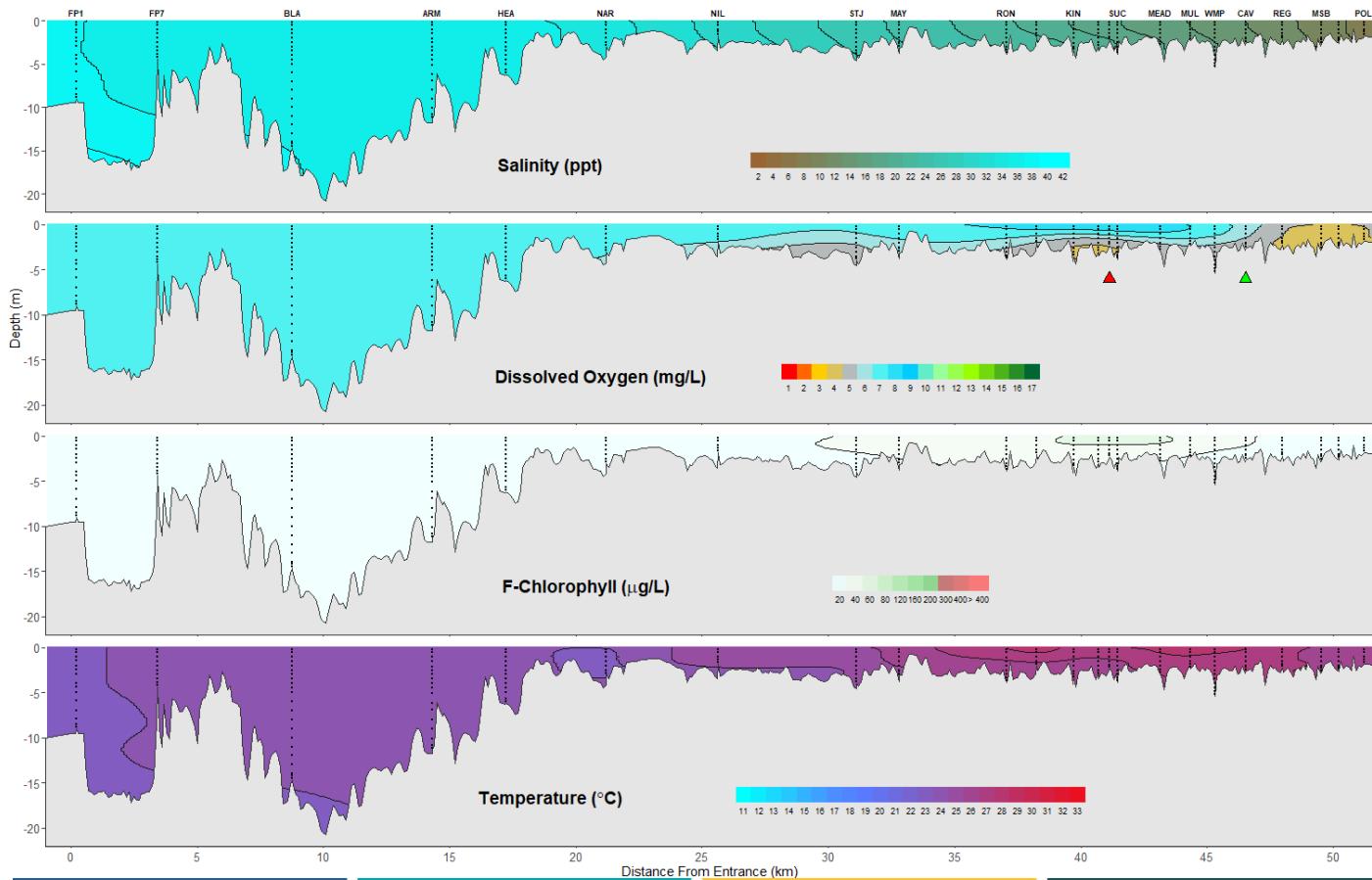
Weekly Water Quality Report

Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary

4th January 2021

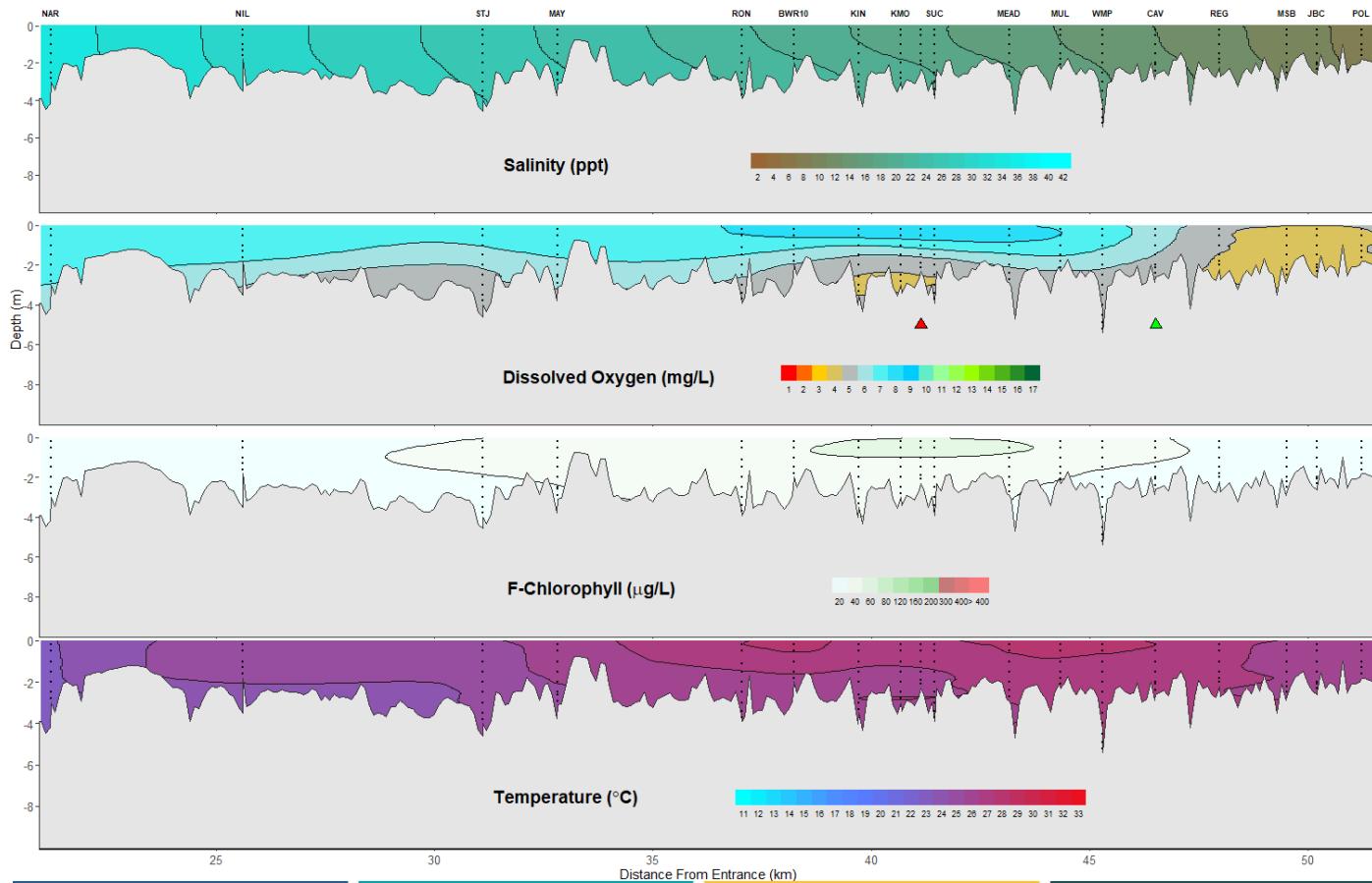
Prepared by

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

Swan Canning Estuary- Water Quality Profiles- 4th January 2021




Middle and Upper Swan Estuary- Water Quality Profiles- 4th January 2021





Date: 4th January 2021

Weather & tide conditions: Conditions were clear with predominantly easterly breeze of up to 15 knots. The predicted tides at Barrack St were 1.02 m at 12:58 am (high tide overnight) and 0.60 m at 10:43 am (low tide). Perth recorded no rainfall during the week prior to sampling (Bureau of Meteorology).

Oxygenation: The Guildford oxygenation plant was not operational and Caversham oxygenation plant was triggered to provide oxygen during the 24 hours prior to sampling.

Lower Swan Canning Estuary (FPI to NAR): The Lower Swan Canning Estuary was saline, waters were well oxygenated and chlorophyll fluorescence was low throughout this zone. Water temperature ranged from 22.6 to 23.6 °C.

Middle Swan Estuary (NIL to RON): The Middle Swan Estuary was saline at NIL, brackish over saline at STJ and brackish from MAY to RON. Waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated. Chlorophyll fluorescence was elevated between MAY and RON indicating higher microalgal activity in that area. Water temperature ranged from 24.1 to 26.9 °C.

Upper Swan Estuary (BWR10 to POL): The Upper Swan Estuary was brackish. Surface waters were oxygenated or well oxygenated, except between REG and JBC where they were low in oxygen. Bottom waters were low in oxygen from KIN to VIT and between REG and JBC. Chlorophyll fluorescence was elevated between KIN and VIT indicating higher microalgal activity in that area. Water temperature ranged from 25.2 to 27.4 °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 >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

Recommended reference: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions 2021. *Swan Canning Estuary water quality profile report, Lower Swan Canning Estuary to Upper Swan Estuary 4th January 2021. Rivers and Estuaries Science* (<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/swan-canning-riverpark>)