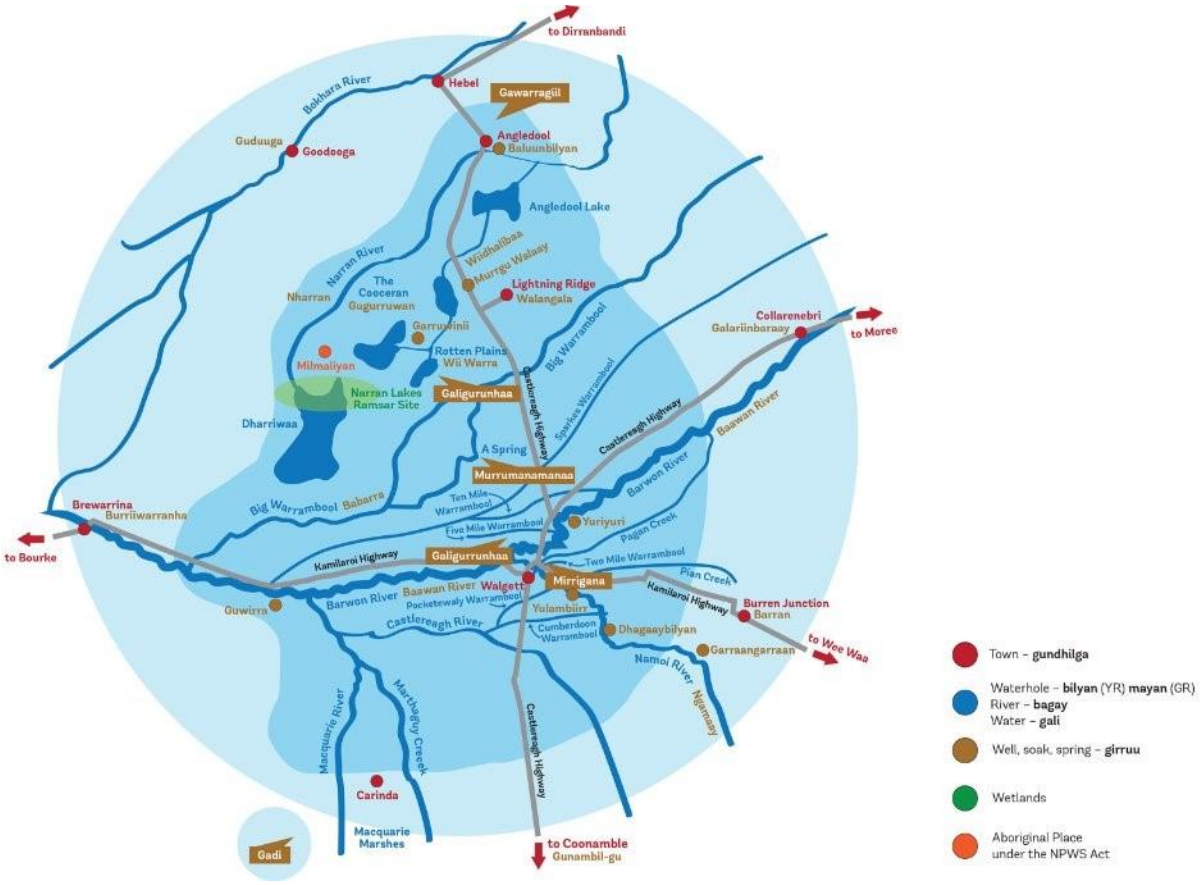
Water Quality Monitoring Report

13th May 2026

Introduction

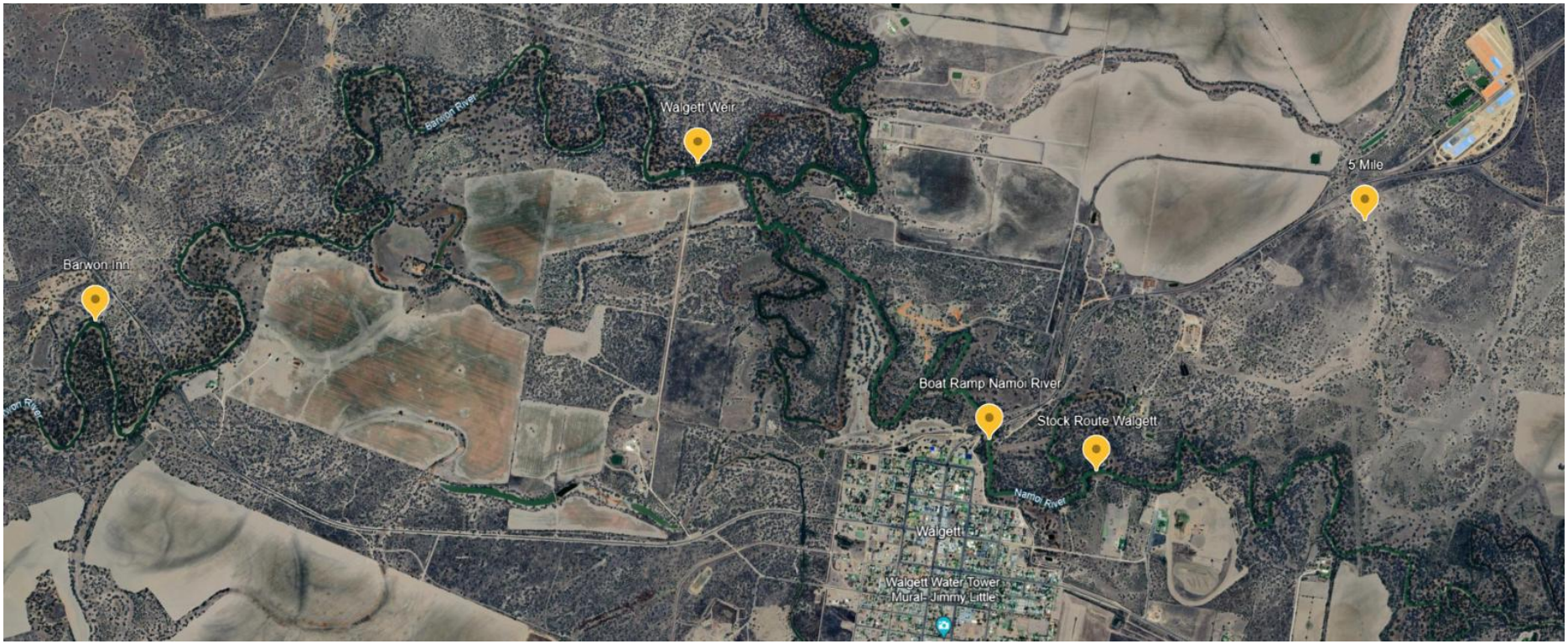
This data was collected on Wednesday 13th May 2026 between 10am and 1pm on the Ngamaay (Namoi) and Baawan (Barwon) River.

The Dharriwaa Elders Group River Rangers are conducting weekly water quality testing, measuring a range of factors that affect the quality of the river water. Different results affect the health of native animals and plants, and the health of the people that rely on the river for food and water.

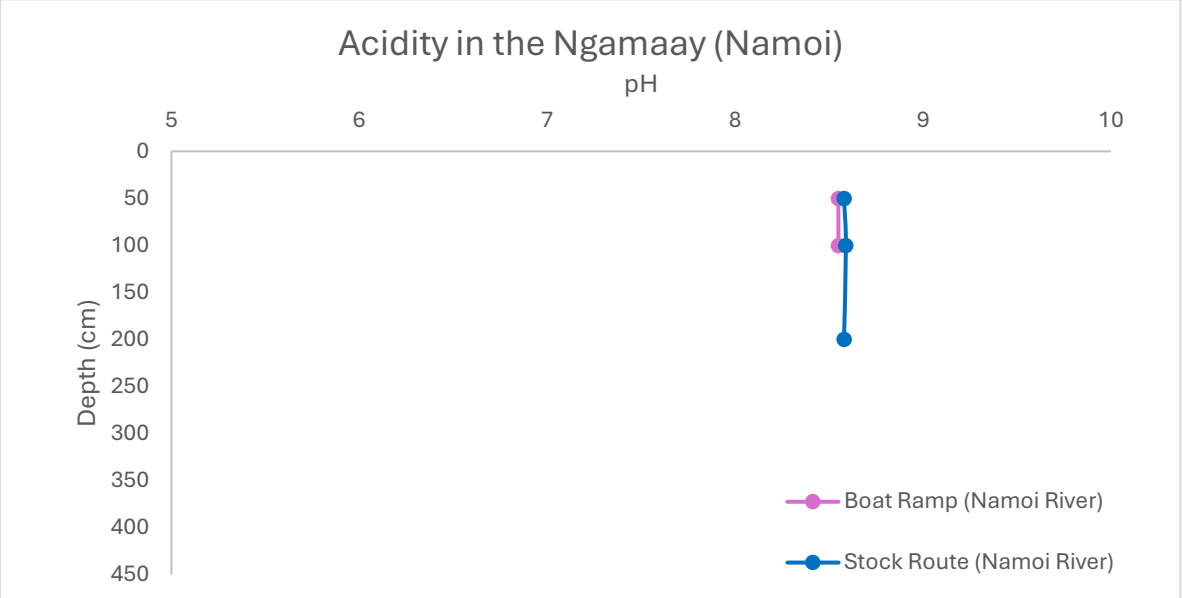


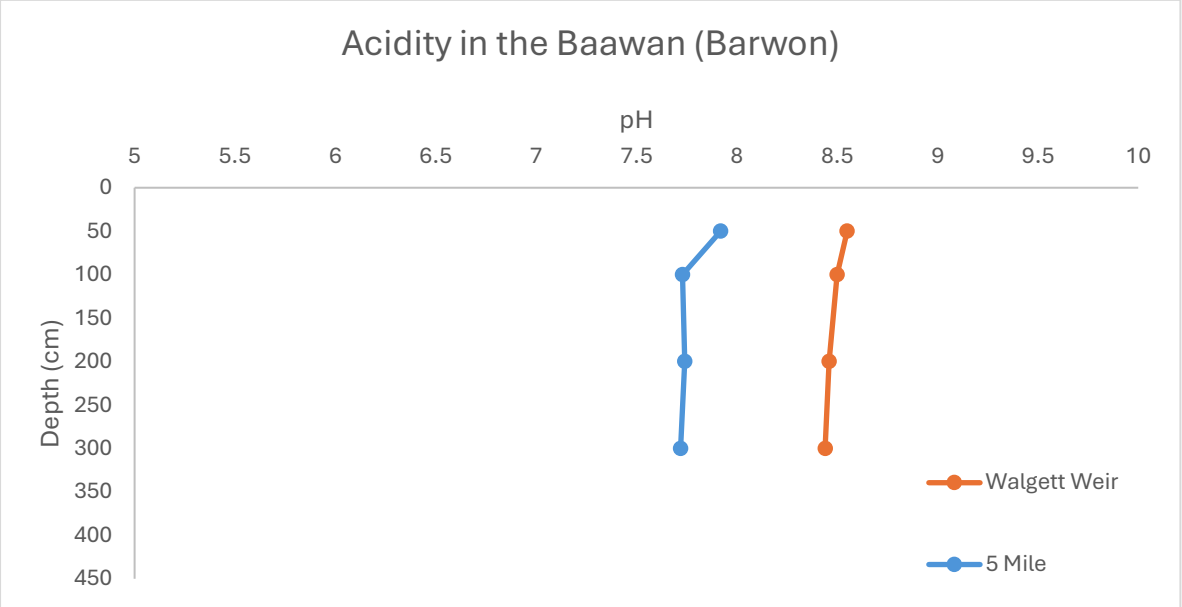
(Picture: Dharriwaa Elders Group area of interest)

Picture: Map of the Baawan (Barwon) River and Ngamaay (Namoi) River where the DEG River Rangers do their water quality monitoring.



Acidity in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers

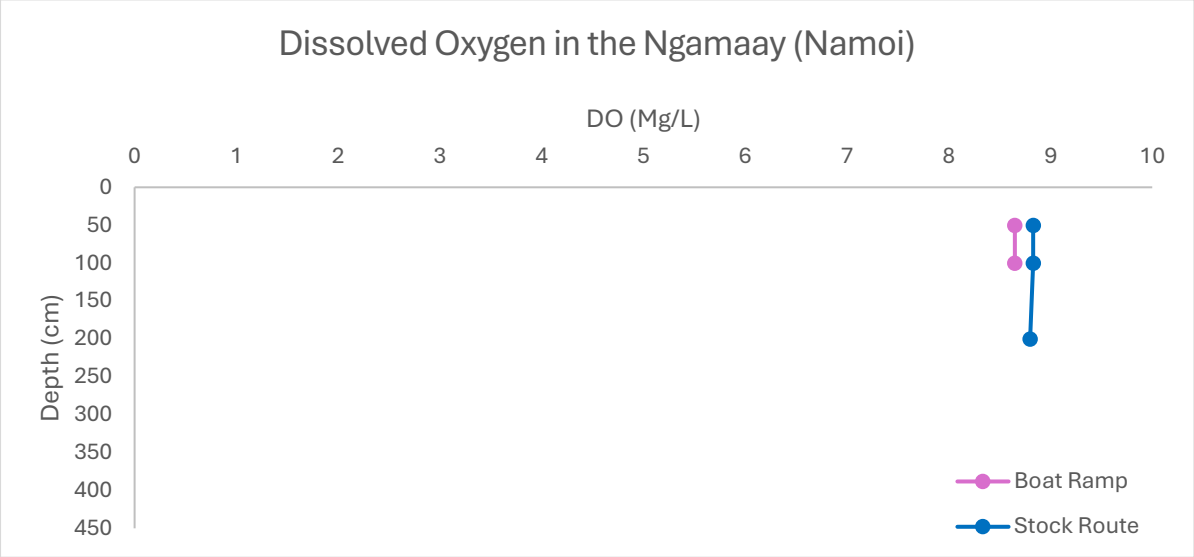


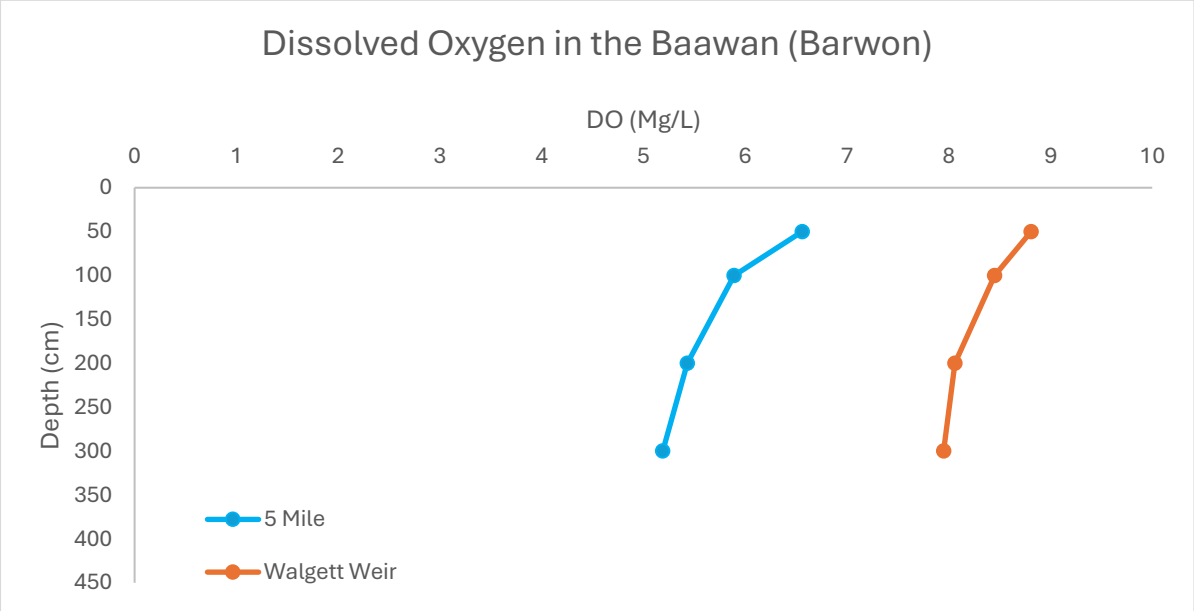


The acidity in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers at all sites the pH levels are within the healthy range. The highest reading is 8.59 in the Ngamaay River at the Stock Route. The lowest reading is 7.72 in the Baawan River at the 5 Mile.

Healthy range: 6.5 - 8.5 pH

Dissolved Oxygen in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers

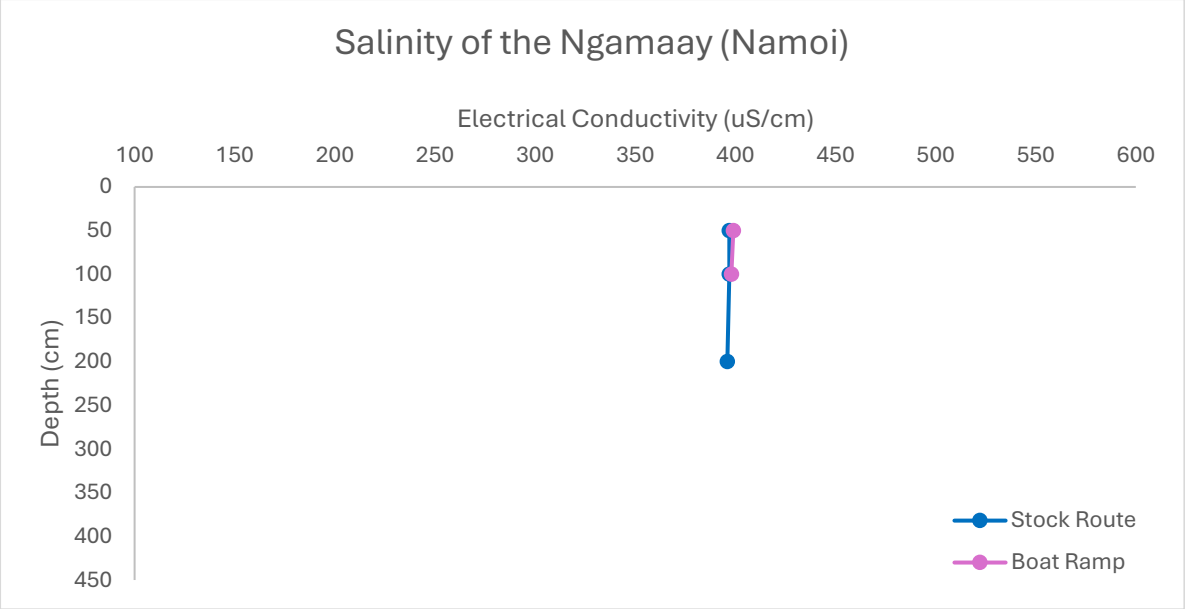


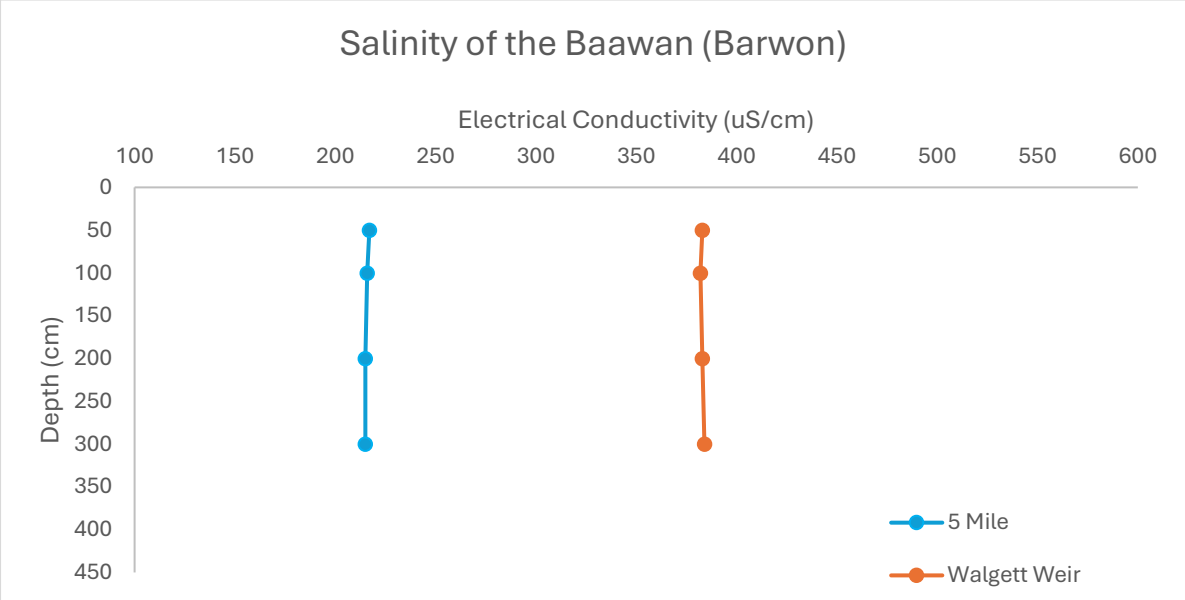


The dissolved oxygen at both sites in the Ngamaay River is within the healthy range. At the Walgett Wier (Baawan River) the dissolved oxygen is also within the healthy range. At the 5 Mile (Baawan River) the first reading is within the healthy range, but the last three readings are just outside the healthy range. The highest reading 8.83 in the Ngamaay River at the Boat Ramp. The lowest reading is 5.19 in the Baawan River at the 5 Mile.

Healthy Range: 6 - 8 (Mg/L)

Salinity in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers

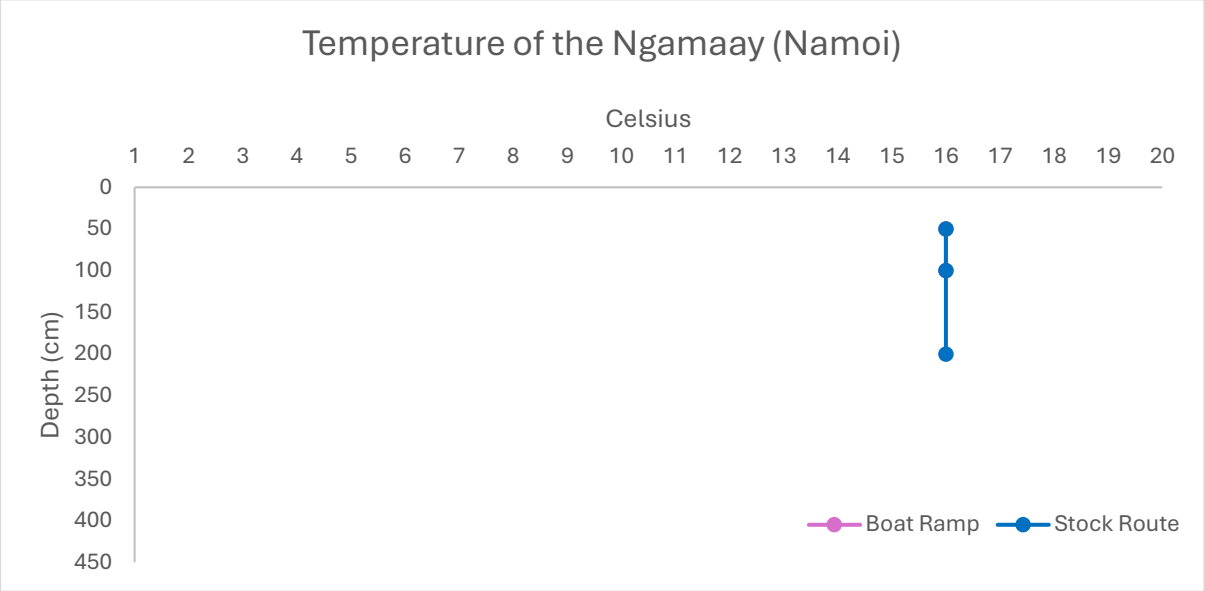


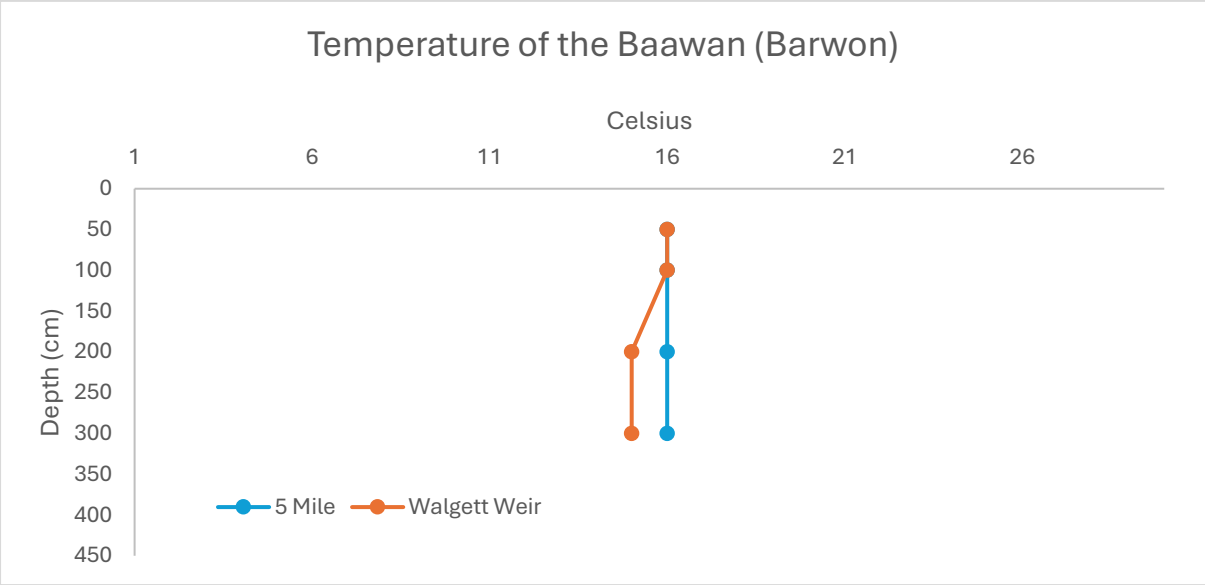


The salinity in both the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers at all sites are in the healthy range. The highest reading is 399 at the Boat Ramp (Ngamaay River). The lowest reading is 215 at the 5 Mile (Baawan River).

Healthy Range: 125 - 2,200 uS/cm

Temperature in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers





The temperature at all sites in both the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers are outside the healthy range. The temperature at all depths, sites and rivers are at 16 degrees Celsius.

Healthy Range: 18-28 degrees (Celsius)

Conclusion

The pH is within the healthy range in both the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers this means that the water is not too acidic or too alkaline. The salinity is within the healthy range in both rivers.

The dissolved oxygen is only outside the healthy range in the Baawan at the 5 Mile. It is not extremely low, but the Ngarrangarra-li Walaaybaa Rangers will continue to monitor the site.

The temperature is outside the healthy range, not dramatically low but it is common for the water to now be getting colder as we get into the cooler months.