Water Quality Monitoring Report

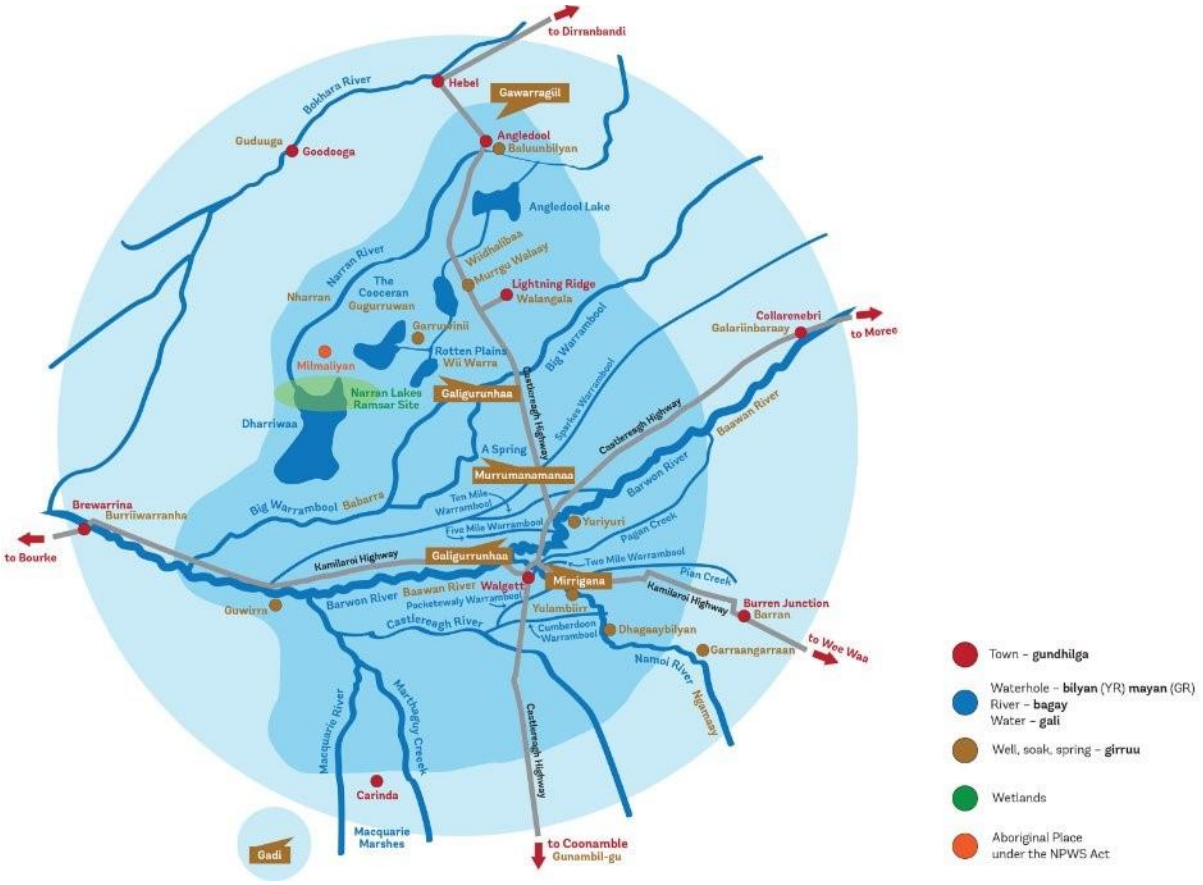
28th April 2026

DHARRIWAA ELDERS GROUP

Introduction

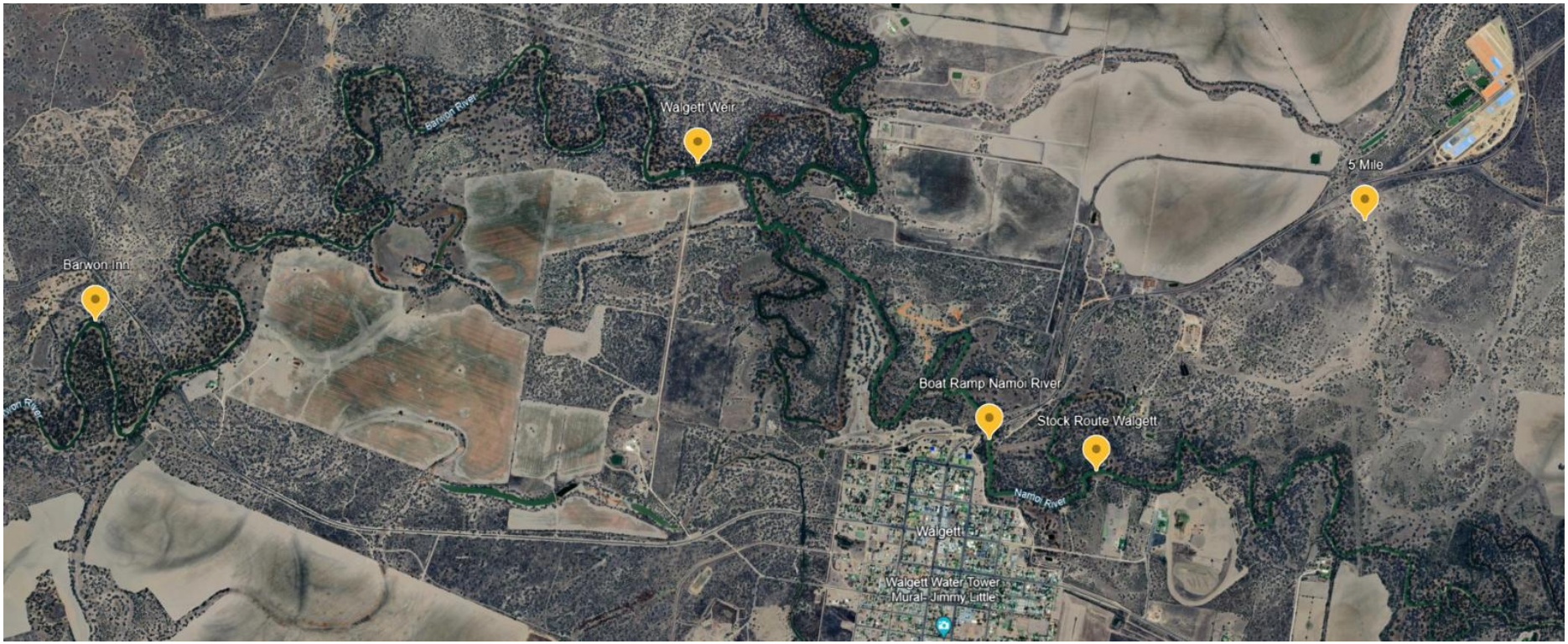
This data was collected on Tuesday 28th April 2026 between 10am and 1pm on the Ngamaay (Namoi) and Baawan (Barwon) River.

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.

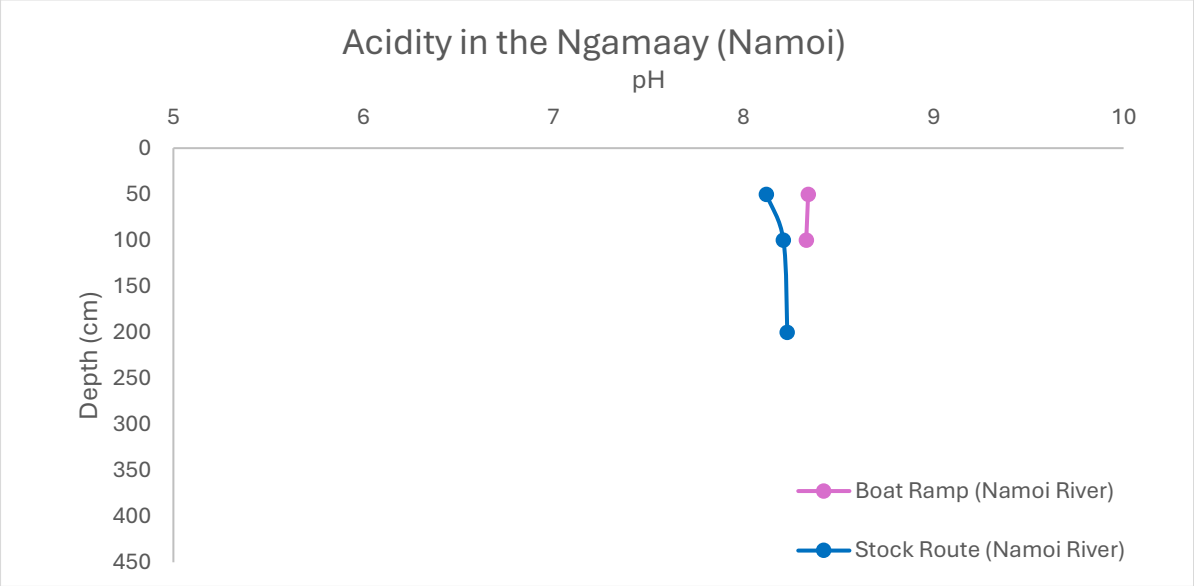


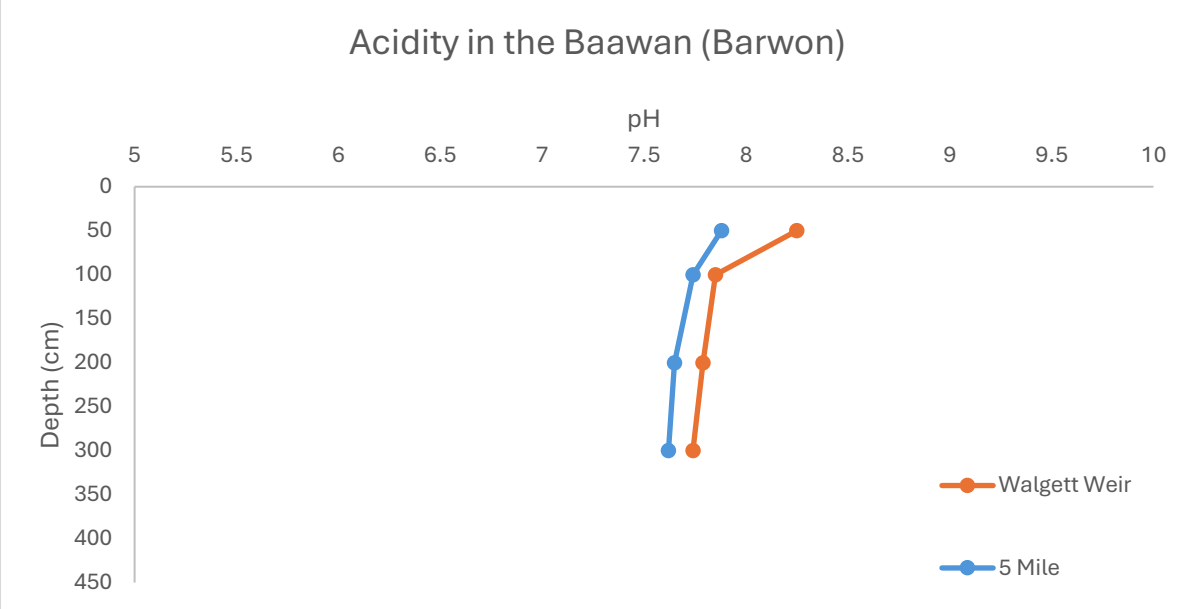
(Picture: Dharriwaa Elders Group area of interest)

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

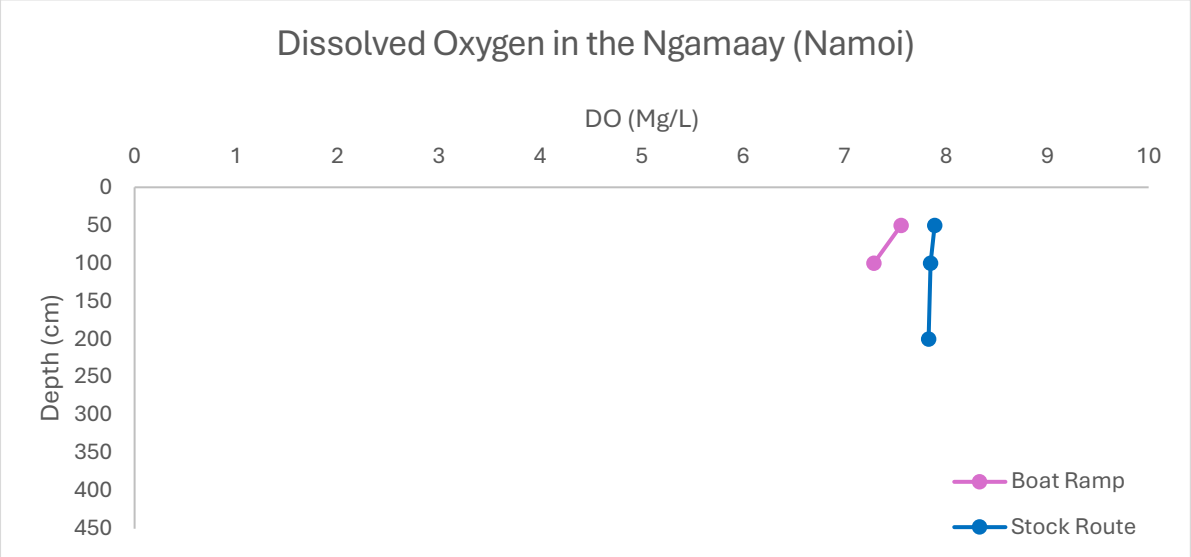


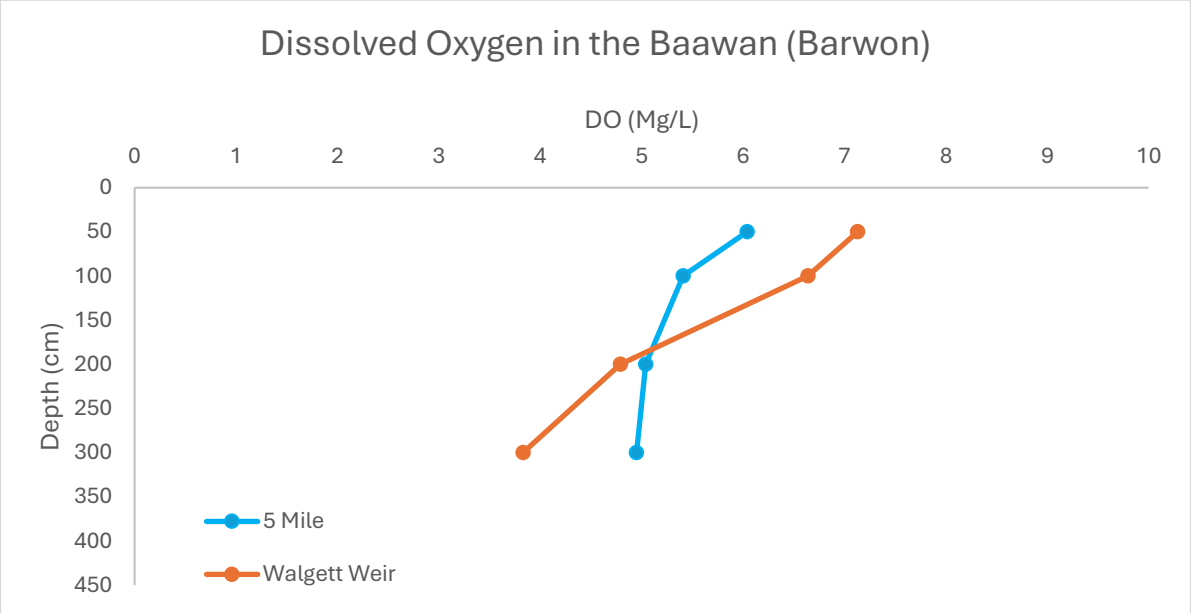


The pH levels in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers at all sites are within the healthy range. This means that the water is not too acidic or too alkaline. The highest reading is 8.25 and that was in the Baawan River at the Walgett Weir and the lowest reading is 7.62 and that was in the Baawan River at the 5 Mile.

Healthy range: 6.5 - 8.5 pH

Dissolved Oxygen in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers

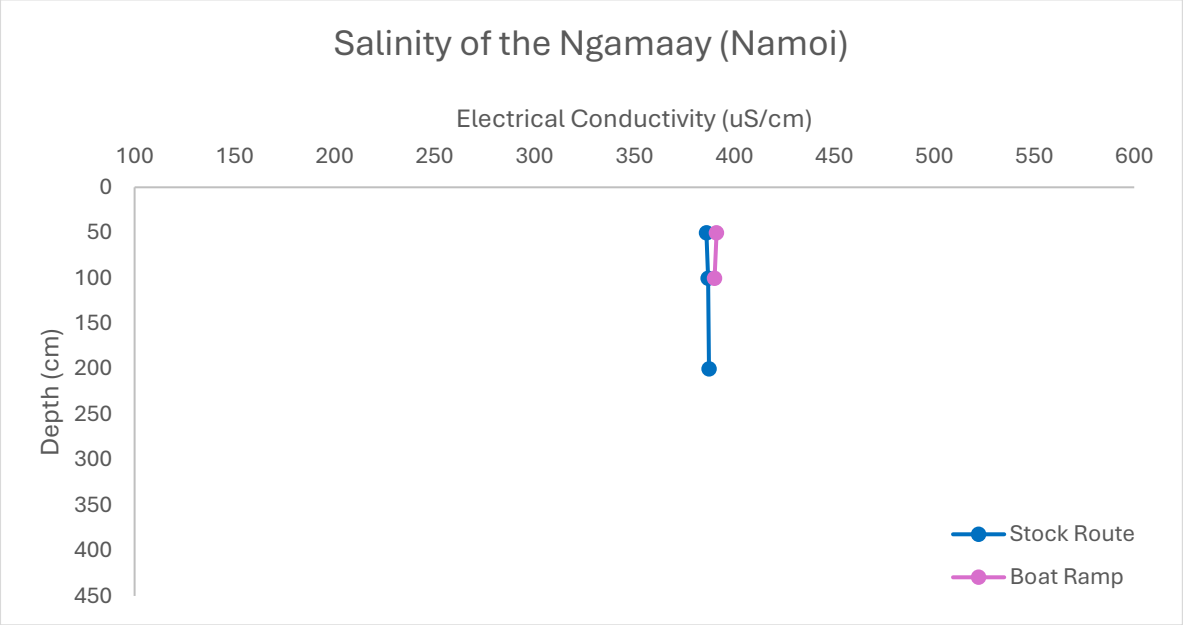


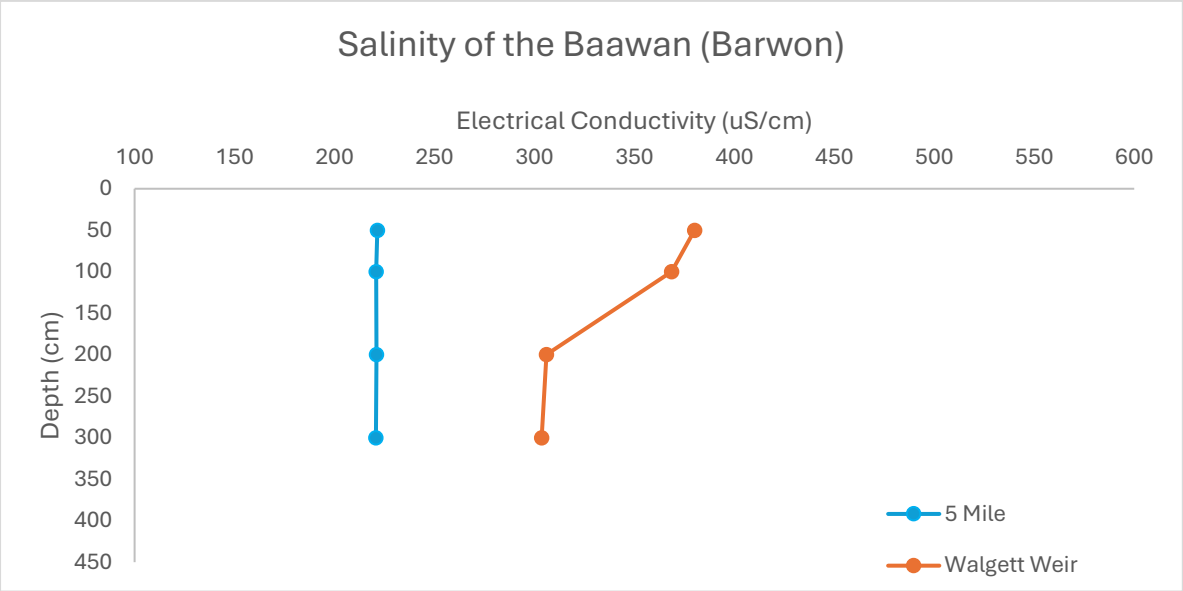


The dissolved oxygen is within the healthy range in the Ngamaay River at both sites. In the Baawan River at the 5 Mile site only the first reading is within the healthy range the rest of the readings are outside the healthy range. The first two readings at the Walgett Weir are within the healthy range, the last two readings are outside the healthy range. The highest reading is 7.89 in the Ngamaay River at the Boat Ramp, and the lowest reading is 3.83 in the Baawan River at the Walgett Weir.

Healthy Range: 6 - 8 (Mg/L)

Salinity in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers

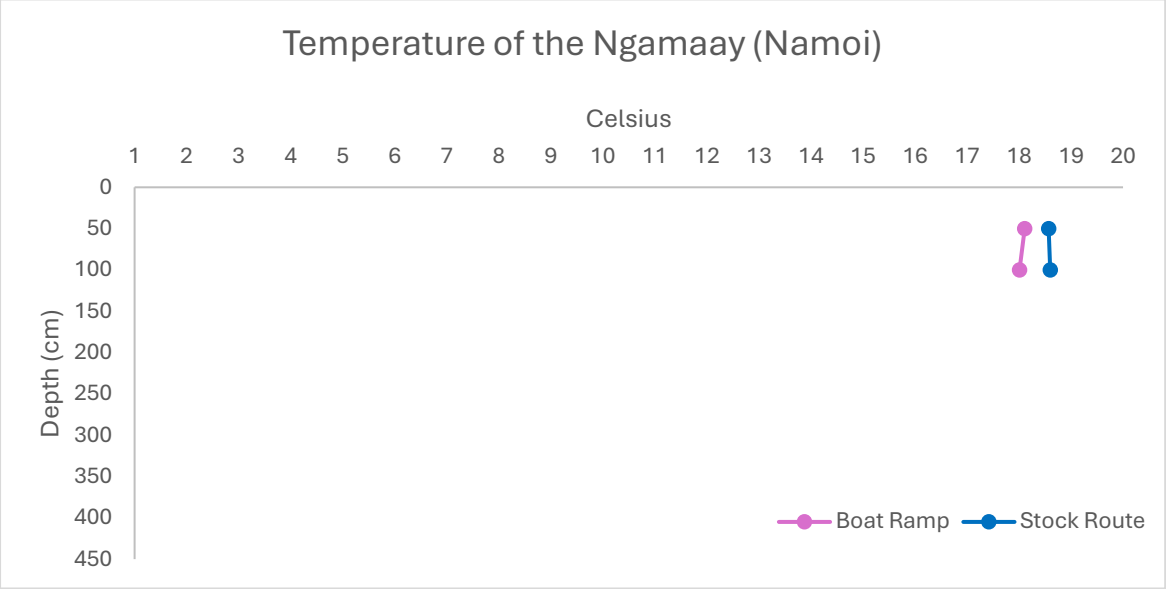


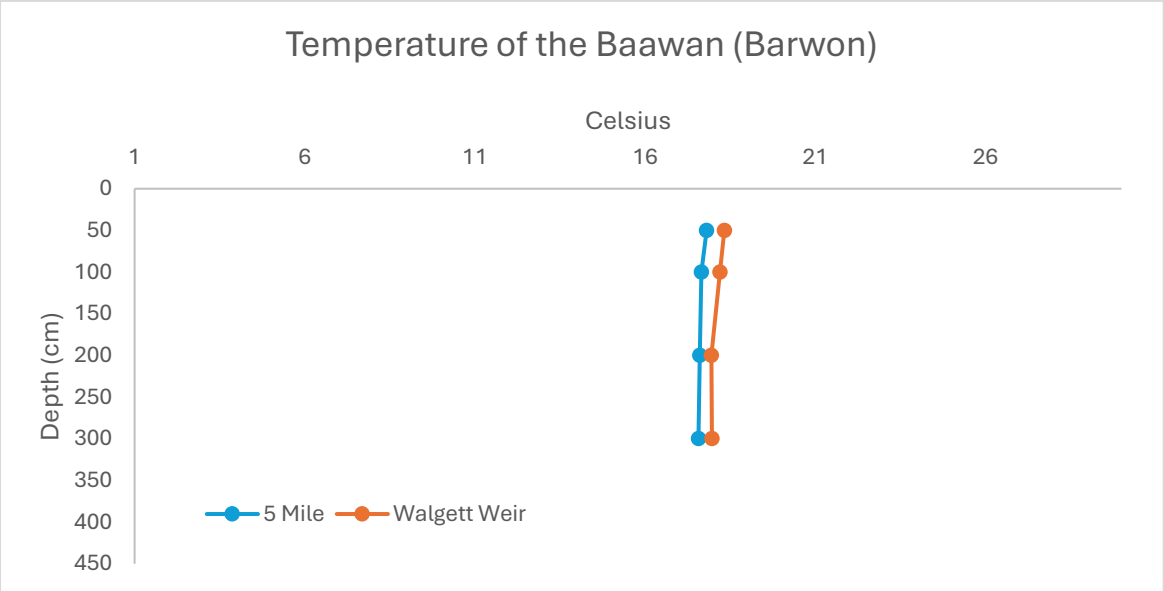


The salinity in both the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers at all sites are within the healthy range.

Healthy Range: 125 - 2,200 uS/cm

Temperature in the Ngamaay and Baawan Rivers





The temperature in the Ngamaay River is within the healthy range. The temperature in the Baawan River at both sites are just outside the healthy range.

Healthy Range: 18-28 degrees (Celsius)

Conclusion

Both the acidity (pH) and salinity are within the healthy range. This is great for freshwater fish.

The dissolved oxygen in the Ngamaay at both sites are within the healthy range. At both sites on the Baawan there are readings outside the healthy range, but nothing concerning at this moment.

The temperature in the Ngamaay at both sites are within the healthy range. The temperature in the Baawan is just outside the healthy range. This is not too concerning as the temperature is now starting to drop as we go into cooler months.