



Wednesday, January 25, 2006

Media Statement

Swan River sampling returns healthy results

The Swan River Trust's Incident Response Team is continuing to monitor the Swan Estuary following algal bloom alerts resulting from recent Wheatbelt rainfall.

Trust General Manager Rod Hughes said additional monitoring carried out by the Swan River Trust and the Department of Health indicates that the water quality in the Swan Estuary is satisfactory.

"Sampling has indicated that current oxygen levels in the river are acceptable and there does not appear to be any troublesome algae in the estuary," Mr Hughes said.

Department of Health bacterial sampling has indicated that levels are not of a concern at this time, however further heavy rainfall and hot weather may cause bacterial levels to rise.

Members of the public are reminded of the Department of Health's standing warning not to eat shellfish from the rivers.

Mr Hughes said brownish discolouration of the water may still be evident throughout the estuary due to sediment being washed into the river system by recent rains.

The public is asked to be "fertilise wise" and to help keep our rivers healthy by taking their litter home with them.

The Swan River Trust encourages the community to report any activities that may be harmful to the rivers and shorelines by calling 9278 0900 or the emergency after-hours hotline on 0419 192 845.

ends

Media contact: Gary McHugh 6364 6499.