



Tuesday, June 3, 2009

Media Statement

Canning River alga decreases

Weekly river monitoring has shown a reduction in *Karlodinium veneficum* levels along a two-kilometre stretch of the Canning River between Riverton Bridge and Castledare.

Swan River Trust scientists have been closely monitoring the free-floating microalgae since an increase in density was recorded in the area two weeks ago.

Trust principal scientist Dr Kerry Trayler confirmed the levels had dropped.

“Further monitoring has shown a significant collapse of the *Karlodinium* bloom that is most likely due to the effect of recent rain,” Dr Trayler said.

“However persistent low dissolved oxygen in this stretch of the river could still pose a risk, so we encourage the community to report any sluggish or dead fish to the Trust, by phoning 9278 0900 or after hours 0419 192 845.”

As a long-standing precaution, the Department of Health advises people not to eat mussels, cockles, or oysters from the Swan and Canning rivers.

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