# **Darwin Harbour**

#### **Summary**

Water quality at the outer and mid Harbour monitoring sites was in excellent condition.

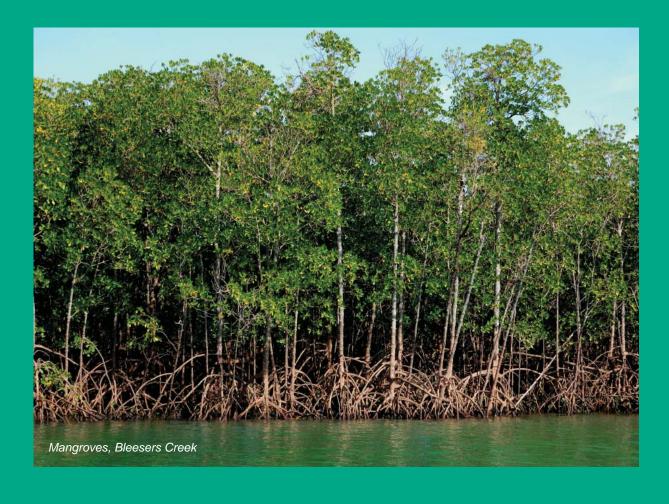
#### **Nature of system**

- Estuarine system with outer estuary well mixed via tidal inflows and outflows
- Maximum tidal range of nearly 8 m
- Perennial freshwater inflows from Howard River, Berry Creek and Darwin River
- Extensive mangrove habitat and inter-tidal mudflats



### Potential sources of pollution

- Sediment, nutrient, industrial and other human-related pollutants in stormwater runoff from rural, urban and industrial catchment diffuse sources during the wet season
- Sewage treatment plant wastewater discharges at several points in the Harbour
- Other licensed wastewater discharges at several points in the Harbour



## **Darwin Harbour marine water quality**

Indicator and units	Water quality objective outer area	Compliance outer area	Water quality objective mid area	Compliance mid area
рН	7.0-8.5	8.1–8.3	7.0-8.5	7.4-8.2
Chlorophyll a (μg/L)	<1	0.8	<2	1 🗸
NOx (μg N/L)	<10	2 🎸	<20	4 🗸
Ammonia (μg N/L)	<20	5 🎺	<20	5 🏑
Total nitrogen (μg N/L)	<440	170 🗸	<270	180 🗸
Total phosphorus (μg P/L)	<20	10 🗸	<20	10 🗸
Filterable reactive phosphorus (μg P/L)	<10	4 🎸	<5	4 🗸
Number of samples		15–16		19–20
2011 rating		A		A
<b>2010 rating</b> (2009 data)		А		В
<b>2009 rating</b> (2001–2008 data)		А		А