Solution for 2.5 Estuaries (Answer = LANINA)

Each group of five words has a common prefix/suffix. By traversing down the tree using each numbered group's prefixes/suffixes as indicators for left/right, you'll get the message COMBINEWATER. If you then combine water to each of the prefix/suffixes that you found and traverse down the tree again in a similar manner, you get the message ELNINOCOUSIN. The answer is lanina.