



GOFISH-20 AFTER COVID-19 JULY UPDATE

Impact of COVID-19 on recreational fishing

Recaptures of tagged fish are being used as a random sample of the fishing population to get a sense of the impact of COVID-19 on recreational fishing in Queensland.

Recaptures are correlated to the level of fishing effort so any change in the number of recaptures is likely to reflect a change in fishing effort. Location of recaptures and the address or postcode of the fisher is another measure providing an approximation of how far fishers are travelling to go fishing. The changes observed provide support for recaptures being sensitive to changes in fishing effort.

Some figures shown in past months have been refined to better reflect the data. Some inconsistent recaptures have been removed and addresses have replaced postcodes for assessing distance where available (this process is incomplete but should be completed at the next update).

Summaries for locations 2019-2020

- Statewide
- South East Queensland (Sunshine Coast to Gold Coast)
- Fitzroy River
- South East Queensland impoundments

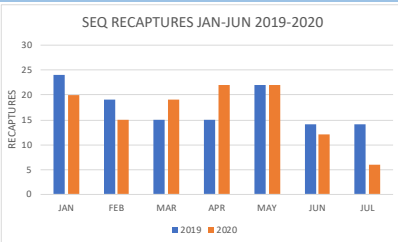
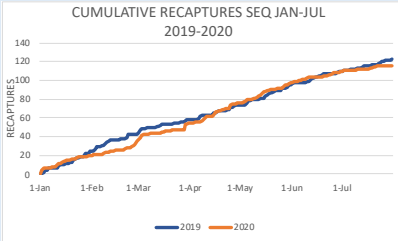
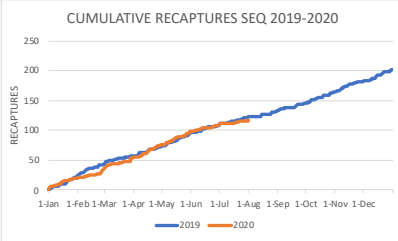
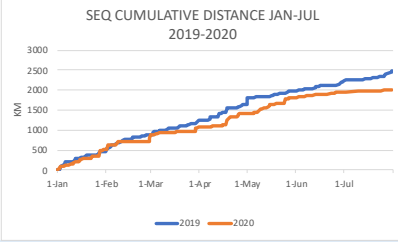
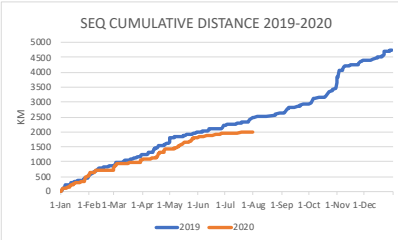
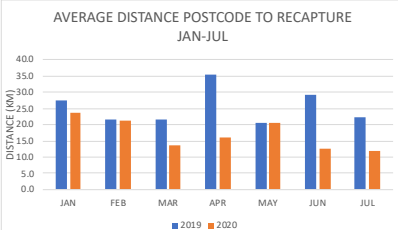
Observations

- There are currently no restrictions on recreational fishing related to Covid-19
- Statewide recaptures rebounded in May-Jun but fell back in Jul suggesting an easing in fishing effort after a bounce following the lifting of restrictions
- Just 1 recapture recorded by an NSW fisher and none from other states from May-Jul this year suggesting interstate travel for fishing is low
- There were 10 interstate recaptures prior to that time and 36 in 2019
- There has been little change in rate of recaptures in SEQ suggesting there has been little impact from Covid-19 although travel distance is down slightly due to earlier travel restrictions
- Impoundments were closed in Apr so the rebound in fishing has been strong and already around the same overall level as in 2019
- Recaptures remain at a low level in the Fitzroy River for May-Jul however numbers are traditional low over winter months
- For Fitzroy River average distance travelled in 2020 was 255km in Feb coinciding with the opening of the Barramundi season compared with 27km in Jul
- Impact on distance between address or postcode and recapture location was greater than on fishing effort due mostly to travel restrictions

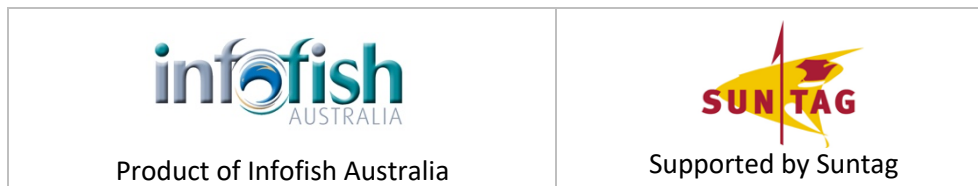
Infofish Australia
July 2020

MEASURE	ACTUAL	GRAPH																																									
QUEENSLAND		STATEWIDE PERSPECTIVE																																									
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Number of recaptures	2020 2019 May 7 7 Jun 8 2 Jul 4 7 YTD 81 109	
Cumulative recaptures Jan-Jul 2019-2020	Jul 2020-2019 -42.9% Jun +300% May 0%	
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Cumulative recaptures based on local and non-local postcodes 2019-2020	Local trips 2019 68.9% Jan-Mar 2020 71.7% Apr-Jul 2020 91.3%	
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Average distance (km) address or postcode to recapture location Jan-Jul 2020-2019	<table><tr><td>Average distance 2020</td><td>20.6</td></tr><tr><td>May</td><td>20.6</td></tr><tr><td>Jul</td><td>12.0</td></tr></table>	Average distance 2020	20.6	May	20.6	Jul	12.0	 <table><caption>AVERAGE DISTANCE POSTCODE TO RECAPTURE JAN-JUL</caption><tr><th>Month</th><th>2019</th><th>2020</th></tr><tr><td>JAN</td><td>25.0</td><td>20.0</td></tr><tr><td>FEB</td><td>20.0</td><td>20.0</td></tr><tr><td>MAR</td><td>20.0</td><td>20.0</td></tr><tr><td>APR</td><td>35.0</td><td>20.0</td></tr><tr><td>MAY</td><td>20.0</td><td>20.0</td></tr><tr><td>JUN</td><td>20.0</td><td>20.0</td></tr><tr><td>JUL</td><td>20.0</td><td>12.0</td></tr></table>	Month	2019	2020	JAN	25.0	20.0	FEB	20.0	20.0	MAR	20.0	20.0	APR	35.0	20.0	MAY	20.0	20.0	JUN	20.0	20.0	JUL	20.0	12.0									
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MEASURE	ACTUAL	GRAPH																																							
SOUTH EAST QLD	FRESHWATER	IMPOUNDMENTS																																							
Impoundments In a circle inland of SEQ	All stocked with Australian Bass	Lake Somerset Lake Wivenhoe Lake Moogerah Lake Maroon Lake Advancetown Lake Borumba																																							
Number of recaptures	<table> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>2020</th><th>2019</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>May</td><td>20</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr> <td>Jun</td><td>24</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>Jul</td><td>8</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr> <td>YTD</td><td>77</td><td>70</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		2020	2019	May	20	15	Jun	24	2	Jul	8	10	YTD	77	70	<table> <caption>IMPOUNDMENT RECAPTURES JAN-JUL 2019-2020</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>JAN</td><td>7</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>FEB</td><td>8</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>MAR</td><td>12</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>APR</td><td>15</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>MAY</td><td>18</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>JUN</td><td>2</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>JUL</td><td>10</td><td>8</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Month	2019	2020	JAN	7	6	FEB	8	10	MAR	12	8	APR	15	10	MAY	18	20	JUN	2	24	JUL	10	8
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Data sources

Data used in the GOFISH-20 Crystal Bowl are:

- Tag and recapture records for Queensland from Infofish Suntag database from http://crystalbowl.infofishaustralia.com.au/infofish/f_infofish.htm
- Postcodes data from Australia Postcode Location Data at Corra at <https://www.corra.com.au/australian-postcode-location-data/>
- River flow data from Water Monitoring Information Portal Station 130005A the Gap on the Fitzroy River at <https://water-monitoring.information.qld.gov.au/>

Data analysis

- Effort proxy is based on daily number of recreational recaptures each year
- Distance based on straight line distance between centroid of grid in which the fish was recaptured and their residential address, or town or suburb or centroid of their postcode, whichever is provided
- Fitzroy River includes Infofish maps FRR, PAR and CIS
- SEQ is from Sunshine Coast to Gold Coast including Infofish maps SC23, SC22, SC21, SC20, PPB, CAB, MB01, MB02, MB03, MB05, GC22, GC23 and TWR
- SEQ impoundments include Infofish maps ADV, LMM, LMH, LWH, LS01 and LBY