



Project name: Suntag 2019-2020	Organisation: Suntag Australia Incorporated
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MILESTONE REPORT:	QUARTER 3 (Q3)
REPORT PERIOD:	JANUARY-MARCH 2020
MILESTONE DATE:	30 APRIL 2020
REPORT DATE:	15 APRIL 2020
REPORT PREPARED BY:	BILL SAWYNOK

MILESTONE REPORT REQUIREMENTS

Suntag

1. The number of registered taggers in the Queensland program
2. Number of new taggers in program
3. Number of fish tagged each quarter by species
4. Number of tag recaptures by species

Targets for 2019-20

1. Tag 20,000 fish
2. Record 1,500 recaptures
3. Registered taggers in range of 400-500
4. Upgrade database
5. Provide data to researchers and others

MILESTONE Q3 REPORT - SUMMARY

SUNTAG SUMMARY 2019-2020

SUMMARY OF YEAR NUMBERS

MEASURE	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2019-20
REGISTERED TAGGERS	439	430	436		436
NEW TAGGERS	27	23	14		64
ACTUAL TAGGERS	213	315	152		454
FISH TAGGED	3,961	5,017	3,150		12,128
FISH RECAPTURED	310	556	455		1,321

Suntag Q3 Highlights

Impact of COVID-19

Hardly a highlight but COVID-19 has impacted on all aspects of society and fishing has been no exception. Q3 results have been significantly impacted. Towards the end of Q3 boat ramps are being closed or use severely restricted so that will have a significant impact on fishing activities including tagging in Q4. What the impact of that will be in the longer term is largely unknown.

World Record for Australian Bass

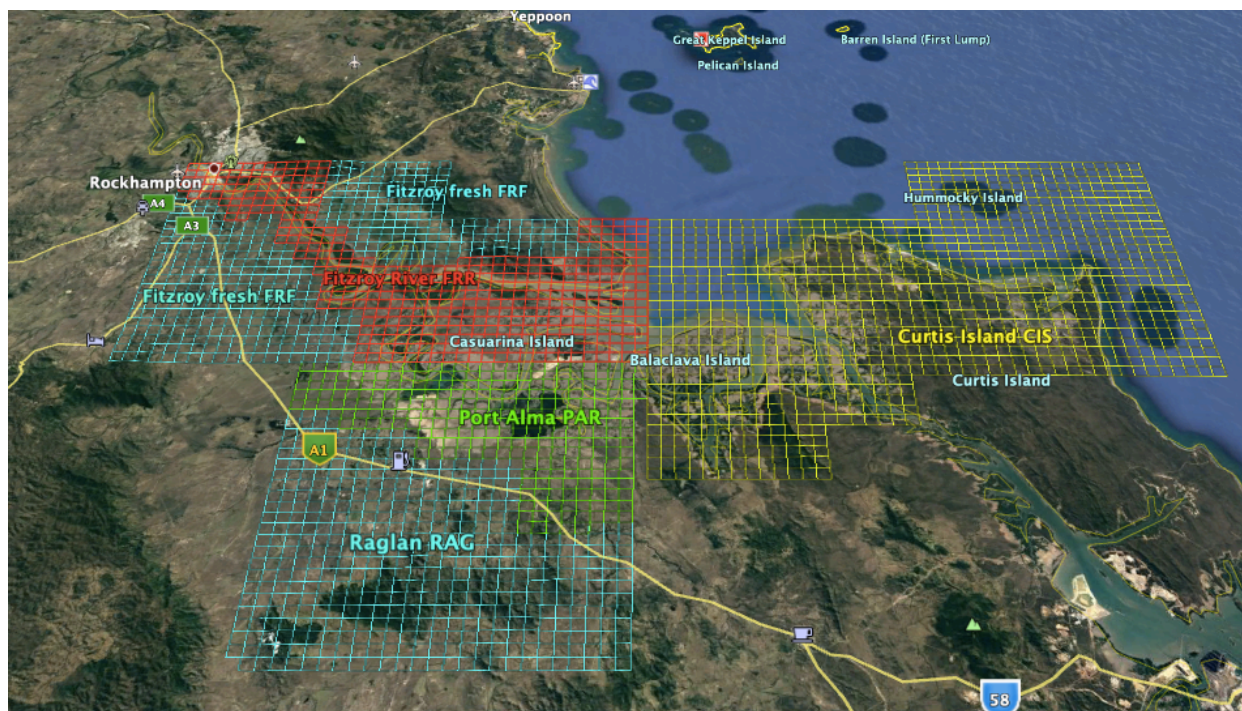
The undoubted highlight for Q3 was achieving the world record for the longest time out for a freshwater fish tagged with an external tag. The fish was a Bass tagged in Reynolds Creek on 29/1/1994 and recaptured on 9/2/2020 in Tingalpa Creek having moved 190km. It was out for 9,507 days or just over 26 years. It was just 18 days short of the overall record held by a Southern Bluefin Tuna. The Bass grew very slowly from 26 to 39cm or just half a cm a year.



Possible track taken by Bass Z87602 from Reynolds Creek to Tingalpa Creek

Other highlights for quarter 3 at 31 March 2020 were:

- Database upgrade has been put on hold as we deal with the fallout of COVID-19
- 311 tag grid maps now available in Google Earth on a catchment or regional basis
- Mangrove Jack W71300 recaptured 12 times in 1.05 years from Mar 2019 - Mar 2020



Tag grid maps in Google Earth for the Fitzroy River delta

Data requests Q3

Data requests for the quarter were:

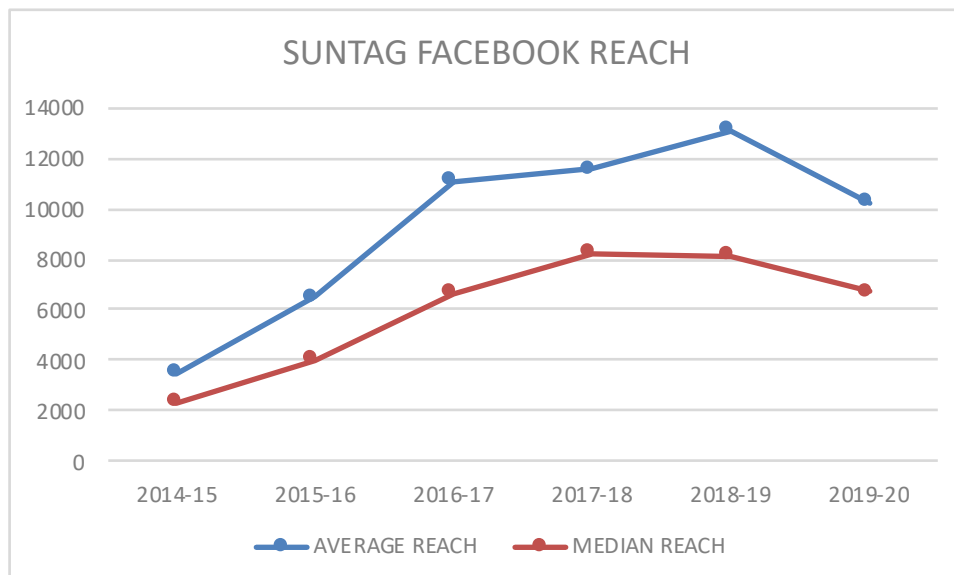
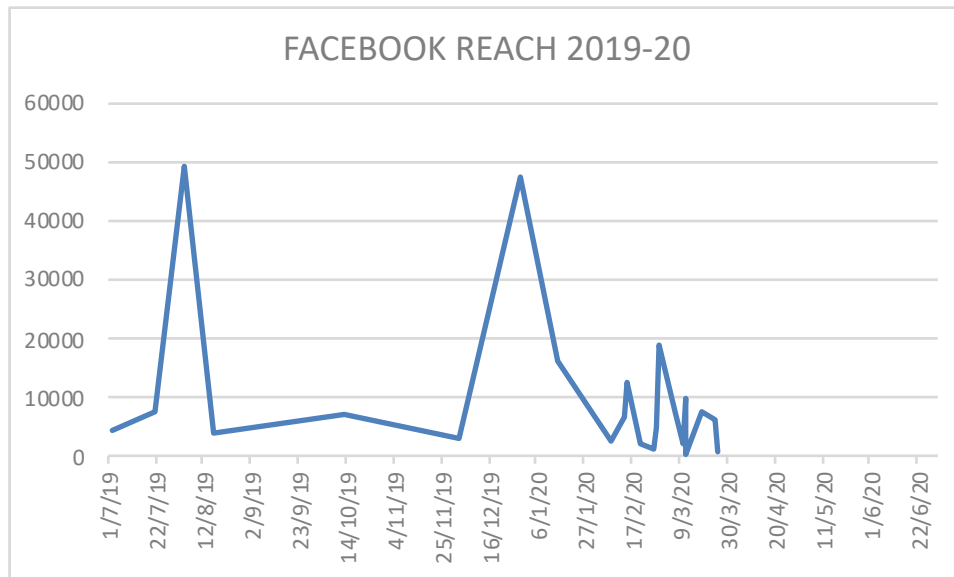
- Growth of Barred Javelin provided to Gladstone Sportfishing Club
- All Snapper tag (20,207) and recapture (1,039) data provided to Fisheries Queensland
- All Pearl Perch tag (3,161) and recapture (61) data provided to Fisheries Queensland
- Epic freshwater fish movement for World Fish Migration Day on May 16 to Fisheries Queensland
- Details of Barramundi R74486 that moved 570km from the Northern Territory to Queensland to AFANT, NT Fisheries and NAFA magazine
- Details of Mangrove Jack W71300 to Bundaberg Regional Council for their regional news

Suntag Social Media Q3

Suntag Facebook posts increased in Q3 with a significant increase in the number of posts. Statistics for the current year and previous years are shown in the accompanying table. The Suntag Instagram account was reactivated in Feb with 25 posts for 2,028 likes.

The average Facebook reach per post for Q3 was 6,785 with an average for the year of 10,228. Total reach for the 22 posts for the year was 225,016.

Period	Posts 2019-20	Average reach 2019-20	Average reach 2018-19	Average reach 2017-18
Q1	4	16,353	29,455	16,815
Q2	3	18,933	5,526	14,870
Q3	15	6,785	11,996	6,490
Q4			11,515	6,785
Year	22	10,228	13,101	11,565



This quarter the Suntag Instagram account was reactivated.

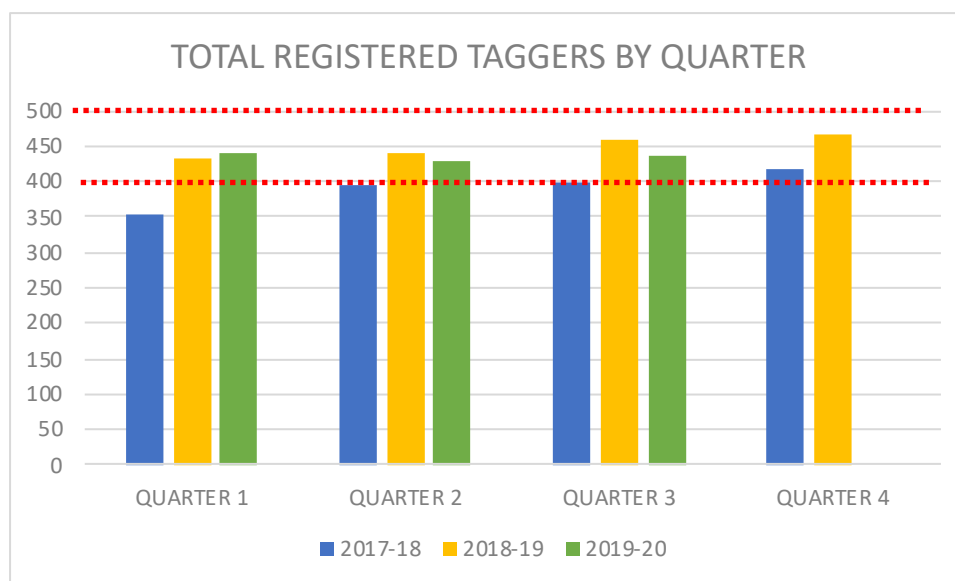
Period	Posts 2019-20	Likes
Q1	0	0
Q2	0	0
Q3	25	2,028
Q4		
Year	25	2,028

SUNTAG - REPORTING MILESTONE REQUIREMENT 1

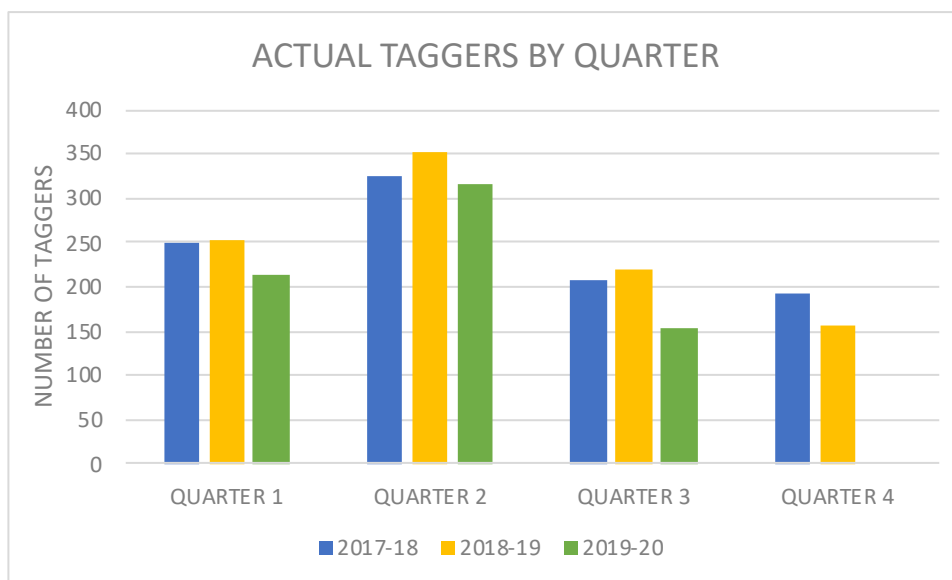
The number of registered taggers in the Queensland program

The following are the numbers of taggers registered at the end of each quarter and the number of fishers that actually tagged fish each quarter. Target range for registered taggers is 400-500 (red dotted lines on graph). Taggers are now registered on an annual basis for 1 year from date of joining. Numbers fluctuate with new members joining being offset by some members not renewing. Numbers actually tagging this quarter have been impacted by COVID-19 and registered members will likely fall in Q4 as fishing will be restricted.

Period	Registered taggers 2019-20	Registered taggers 2018-19	Registered taggers 2017-18
Q1	439	430	352
Q2	430	441	396
Q3	436	459	399
Q4		467	419
Year	436	467	419



Period	Actual taggers 2019-20	Actual taggers 2018-19	Actual taggers 2017-18
Q1	213	244	249
Q2	315	330	324
Q3	152	221	207
Q4		156	193
Year	454	689	589

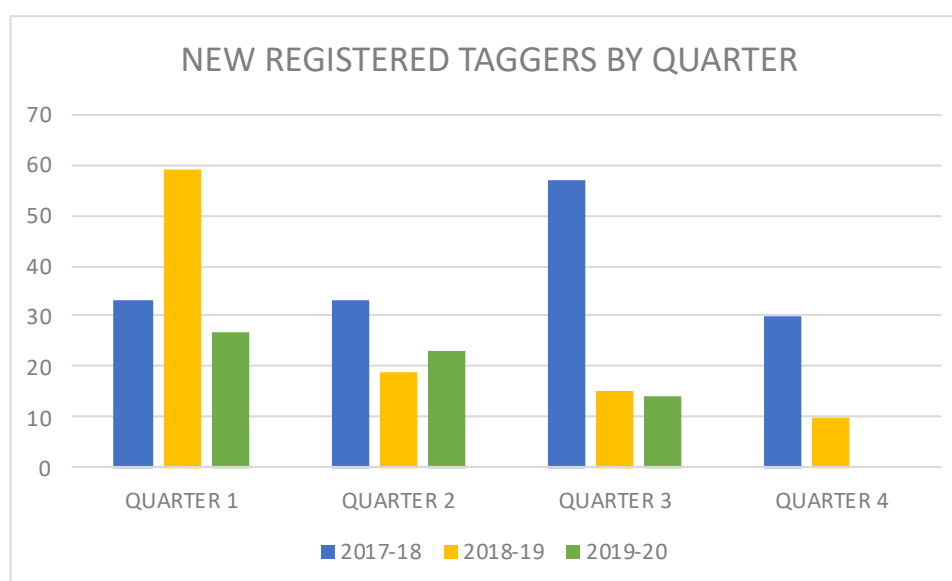


SUNTAG - REPORTING MILESTONE REQUIREMENT 2

Number of new taggers in the program

The following are the numbers of new taggers registered each quarter compared with the numbers in the previous years. Taggers are now registered on an annual basis for 1 year from date of joining. Numbers fluctuate with new members joining being offset by some members not renewing.

Period	New taggers 2019-20	New taggers 2018-19	New taggers 2017-18
Q1	27	59	33
Q2	23	19	33
Q3	14	15	57
Q4		10	30
Year	64	103	153



The following 54 clubs (some members), stocking groups, fishing businesses and others are registered with Suntag or have used the services of Suntag for tagging and monitoring in 2019-2020.

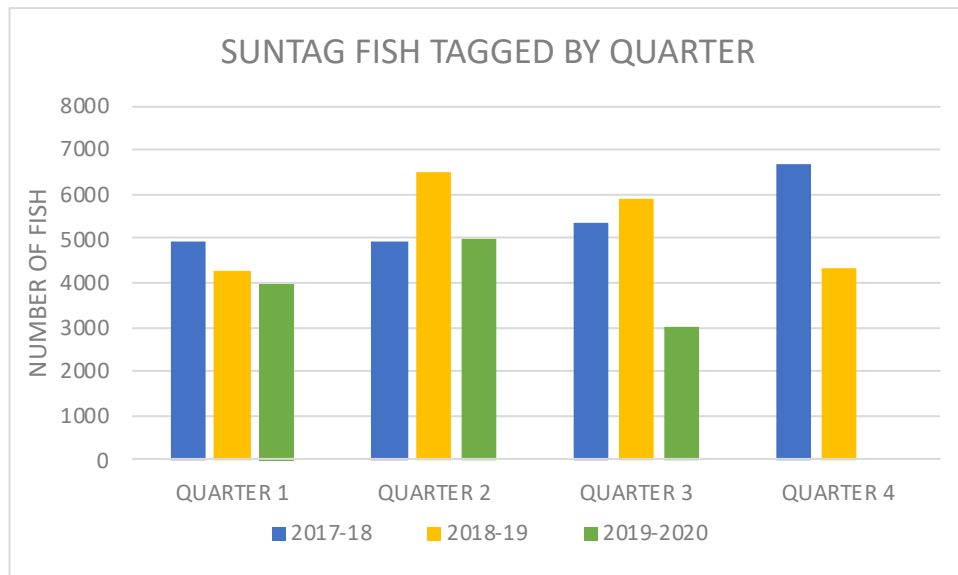
- Suntaggers (individual members)
- Capricorn Tag and Release Sportfishing Club (Captag)
- Gladstone Sportfishing Club
- Brisbane Valley Anglers
- Ipswich United Sportfishing Club
- Southern Brisbane Sportfishing Club
- Bundaberg Sportfishing Club
- Mossman Sportfishing Club
- Endeavour Sportfishing Club
- Townsville Saltwater Fisherman's Club
- Townsville Sportfishing Club
- Hinchinbrook Sportfishing Club
- Pine Rivers Fish Management Association
- SEQ Water
- Fitzroy River Fish Stocking Association
- Mackay Area Fish Stocking Association
- Mackay Recreational Fishing Alliance
- Catchment Solutions
- Emerald Fish Stocking Association
- Gladstone Area Water Board
- Bond University
- Rockhampton Regional Council
- Gladstone Ports Corporation
- Mackenzie River Fish Stocking Association
- Monduran Anglers and Stocking Association
- Twin Cities Fish Stocking Association
- Lake Moondarra Fish Stocking Association
- Cairns Area Fish Stocking Association
- Tablelands Fish Stocking Association
- Lake Borumba Fish Stocking Association
- Cungulla Fishing Club
- Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre
- Lively Lures
- Fishing Monthly
- Stones Corner Marine
- Rocky Barra Bounty
- Boyne Tannum Hookup
- Women That Fish
- Extreme Fishing Solutions
- CQ Fishing Adventures
- Copperlode Fish and Kayak
- ABT fishing tournaments
- Bait Tackle Store
- Hooked Fishing Charters
- Gladstone Fly and Sportfishing
- Fish that Snag
- Hard Yakka Kayaker
- Crazy Tail Twisted Leaders
- Twin River Lures
- Ingham Rod and Reel Fishing Club
- Casting Cowboys
- Barra World
- Rustys Barra Charters

SUNTAG - REPORTING MILESTONE REQUIREMENT 3

Number of fish tagged each quarter by species

The numbers of fish tagged each quarter and the numbers of fish tagged by species are shown below. The numbers in some quarters will continue to increase as late records are submitted, particularly for Q3. Numbers in Q3 were impacted by restrictions and uncertainties resulting from COVID-19.

Period	Fish tagged 2019-20	Fish tagged 2018-19	Fish tagged 2017-18
Q1	3,961	4,292	4,928
Q2	5,017	6,529	4,950
Q3	3,150	5,892	5,366
Q4		4,314	6,672
Year	12,128	21,027	21,916



FISH TAGGED BY SPECIES

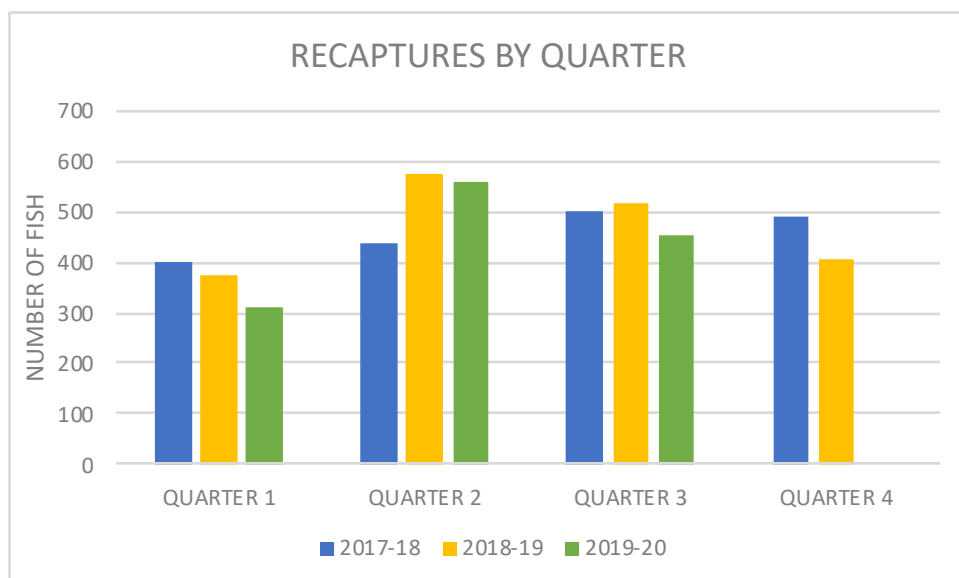
SPECIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
BARRAMUNDI	1005	1201	588		2794
AUSTRALIAN BASS	571	927	297		1795
MANGROVE JACK	168	615	369		1152
DUSKY FLATHEAD	574	280	165		1019
BARRED JAVELIN	109	362	537		1008
YELLOWFIN BREAM	258	178	120		556
GOLDSPOTTED ROCKCOD	113	212	191		516
PIKEY BREAM	109	193	124		426
BLACKSPOTTED ROCKCOD	135	154	34		323
GOLDEN PERCH	6	159	45		210
GOLDEN SNAPPER	73	56	77		206
SPECKLED JAVELIN	7	59	119		185
GIANT TREVALLY	63	66	55		184
BLUE THREADFIN	120	53	8		181
KING THREADFIN	58	105	16		179
SNAPPER	75	29	47		151
GRASS EMPEROR	35	15	75		125
PEARL PERCH	45	32	46		123
RED EMPEROR	60	16	26		102
SOOTY GRUNTER	67	22	5		94
MULLOWAY	23	20	23		66
SOUTHERN SARATOGA	8	41	12		61
BLACK JEWFISH	7	23	24		54
BARCHEEK CORAL TROUT	27	12	11		50
REDTHROAT EMPEROR	34	11	3		48
SPANGLED EMPEROR	25	2	5		32
MURRAY COD	19	7	6		32
SWALLOWTAIL DART	19	0	8		27
COMMON CORAL TROUT	11	7	8		26
OTHER SPECIES	131	157	106		375
TOTALS	3961	5017	3150	0	12128

SUNTAG - REPORTING MILESTONE REQUIREMENT 4

Number of tag recaptures

The following are the numbers of recaptures for each quarter and the numbers of recaptures for each species. The numbers in some quarters will increase with late reporting of recaptures. Numbers of recaptures in Q3 were impacted by COVID-19.

Period	Fish recaptured 2019-20	Fish recaptured 2018-19	Fish recaptured 2017-18
Q1	310	374	398
Q2	556	576	435
Q3	455	518	498
Q4		406	492
Year	1,321	1,874	1,823



FISH RECAPTURED BY SPECIES

SPECIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
BARRAMUNDI	93	207	178		478
AUSTRALIAN BASS	102	138	76		316
MANGROVE JACK	13	55	48		116
GOLDSPOTTED ROCKCOD	8	22	46		76
DUSKY FLATHEAD	27	15	19		61
KING THREADFIN	13	20	11		44
PIKEY BREAM	9	16	14		39
BARRED JAVELIN	4	12	15		31
BLACKSPOTTED ROCKCOD	4	13	5		22
GOLDEN SNAPPER	1	5	9		15
GOLDEN PERCH	4	10	0		14
YELLOWFIN BREAM	4	5	3		12
RED EMPEROR	8	3	0		11
GIANT TREVALLY	3	4	0		7
GRASS EMPEROR	1	1	5		7
MULLOWAY	3	2	0		5
REDTHROAT EMPEROR	3	0	0		3
SNAPPER	2	1	0		3
SADDLETAIL SNAPPER	2	1	0		3
OTHER SPECIES	6	26	26		58
TOTALS	310	556	455	0	1321