



# NOOSA RIVER AUSTRALIAN BASS 2009-2020

AVAILABLE AVAILABLE			
Species		Australian Bass	
Tagged fish	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$	Recaptures	$\overline{V}$
Catch rates		Fish sizes	V
Growth	$\checkmark$	Survival	$\checkmark$
Tag locations	V	Fish Movement	
Postcodes	$\checkmark$	Competitions	

## **Summary**

- Tagging in the upper Noosa River for Bass has been ongoing since the 1980's providing a long timeline of data that helps understanding the dynamics of the river
- This dashboard covers from 2009-2020 and follows on from a previous report covering 1983-2009
- From 2009-2020 there were 572 Bass tagged for 53 recaptures (9.3%)
- There were insufficient effort days for a reliable catch rate each year however the overall catch rate was 7.7 fish tagged/fisher day
- The average length for Bass in all years was below the legal length of 300mm with the highest average length being 282mm in 2009
- Bass in the river were mostly undersized with legal fish ranging from 5.3% in 2011 to 55.2% in 2009
- There were no trophy fish over 500mm caught in any year and the largest fish was 420mm
- Bass in the river are slow growing putting on an average 18mm in the first year and 71mm by the end of the fifth year
- Bass in the river survive for many years with the longest time out being 20.5 years for a fish tagged in 1996 and recaptured in 2016
- From 2009-2020 most fish were tagged in the area of Harry's Hut to 3-4km upstream in grids H66, I66, I67, H67 and I68
- Recaptures show that most fish were recaptured in the same area as tagged (47%) while fish moved both upstream (30%) and downstream (22%) from where tagged
- There were 3 fish caught in Lake Cootharaba and 1 fish in the Mooloolah River (moved 90km)
- Postcodes of fishers recapturing fish show that most come from the Sunshine Coast (37%), Brisbane (28%) and Gold Coast (20%)

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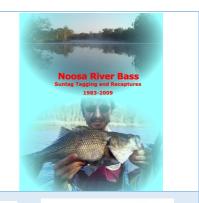


NOOSA RIVER	LOCATION	AUSTRALIAN BASS
	QUEENSLANQ  Britane	
MEASURE	ACTUAL	GRAPH or MAP
Noosa River above Lake Cootharaba including Kin Kin Creek	Noosa River length (km) 26 Kin Kin Creek length (km) 6 Grid map SC23	Cinno
Fishing effort (fisher days) and catch 2009-2020	Insufficient fisher days each year for a yearly catch rate Overall catch rate (fish/fisher day) 7.7	NOOSA BASS  120 100 80 40 40 200 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020  188
Bass tagged and recaptures from each year's tagging 2009-2020	TAGGED RECAPTURED 572 53 RECAPTURE RATE 9.3%	NOOSA BASS TAGGED AND RECAPTURED  120 100 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 11
Average length (mm) Bars show smallest and largest fish 2009-2020	HIGHEST LOWEST NOW AVERAGE LENGTH 2009 2011 2020 282 245 272 LARGEST 2009 2011 2020 420 325 370	NOOSA BASS LENGTHS (MM)  TROPHY  LEGAL  2009 2010 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2019 2020
Fish length percentage (%) Undersize <300mm Legal 300-499mm Trophy 500+mm 2009-2020	HIGHEST LOWEST NOW LEGAL 2009 2011 2020 55.2 5.3 26.5 TROPHY No fish over 500mm in any year	NOOSA BASS LENGTHS  100% 90% 90% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100%

Bass growth based on recaptures 1985-2020  Bass survival based on recaptures by years out after tagging 1985-2020	Recaptures       207         Annual growth (mm)         Year 1       18         Year 2       31         Year 3       44         Year 4       57         Year 5       71         Year Recaptures       1         1       266         5       95         10       26         15       6         20       1         Longest time out (years)         20.5	NOOSA BASS GROWTH  y = -2E-06x² + 0.0321x + 6.0756  y = -2E-06x² +
Grid locations of tagged fish (map SC23) 2009-2020	Grids where most fish caught GRID FISH C5 156 C4 146 F5 110	
Bass movements 2009-2020	Recaptures 105 Recaptured same area 49 (47%) Up river 31 (30%) Down river 23 (22%)	NOOSA BASS MOVEMENTS  25 20 W 15 W 15 W 15 D 00 D 0
Bass movements outside upper Noosa River	Lake Cootharaba 3 (moved 6-10km) Mooloolah River 1 (moved 90km)	Annua Cast
Postcodes of recapture fishers 2009-2020	Sunshine Coast 37% Brisbane 28% Gold Coast 20% Ipswich 9% Toowoomba 4% NSW 2%	POSTCODES OF RECAPTURE FISHERS TOOWOOMBA NSW 4% 2% SUNSHINE COAST 37%  BRISANE 28%

#### **Previous report**

**Noosa River Bass** Suntag Tagging and Recaptures 1983-2009 available at http://infofishaustralia.com. au/noosa/











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### **Data sources**

Data used in the Noosa River Bass Crystal Bowl are:

Tag records and recapture records at <a href="http://crystalbowl.infofishaustralia.com.au/">http://crystalbowl.infofishaustralia.com.au/</a>

## **Basis for analysis**

- Catch rates calculated as number of fish tagged/fisher day for T20 fishers (taggers) with a minimum of 12 fisher days (at least 1 per month) to provide a reliable catch rate
- Undersized fish are <300mm, legal fish are >=300 and <500mm and trophy fish are >=500mm
- Growth calculated using a polynomial curve from recaptures where fish were out for 90 days or more and had positive growth
- Locations based on Infofish grid map SC23 for the river and other grid maps where fish were recaptured outside the river
- Survival based on the number of recaptures for each year after tagging