



LAKE CRESSBROOK REVIEW 2025

INFORMATION RATING



Stocking group: Toowoomba and District Fish Stocking Association
Species stocked: Australian Bass, Golden Perch, Silver Perch, Mary River Cod
Stocking timeframe: 2014-2024
Fish timeframe: 2016-2025
Fisher timeframe: 2020-2025
DPI link: <https://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/rsa/sips-dams-and-weirs/profile?dam=cressbrook-dam>.

Scroll through the dashboard to cover all subjects or for information on a specific subject go to:

LAKE CRESSBROOK OVERVIEW
LAKE CRESSBROOK LOCATION
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS
TYPE OF FISHERY
FISHER ACTIVITY
FISHER EFFORT
FISHER TRAVEL
WHERE RECAPTURE FISHERS LIVE
STOCKED FISH
AUSTRALIAN BASS
GOLDEN PERCH
MARY RIVER COD



Product of Infish Australia



Supported by Suntag and Freshwater Fish
Stocking Association of Queensland

LAKE CRESSBROOK OVERVIEW

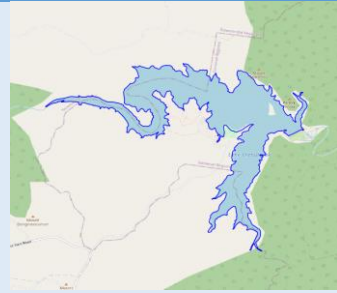
Lake Cressbrook has been regularly stocked with Australian Bass and Golden Perch and some limited stocking of Mary River Cod.

There were 4,816 fish tagged in the lake from 1994-2014 with 569 recaptures (11.8%). However, tagging has fallen away in the last decade, mostly due to low catch rates. Other lakes in the area have higher catch rates which attract the tagging effort. This has resulted in a gradual decline in the available data and that is currently at a very low level. All data in this dashboard needs to be viewed with caution due to the low levels of confidence.

Bass growth rates were derived from historical tag and recapture data from 2000-2024 and indicates a slow growth rate of 19mm in the first year and 54mm by the end of year 5. This is one of the slowest growth rates for Bass in stocked lakes.

There have been 2 recaptures of Bass tagged in Cressbrook that were recaptured in Lake Wivenhoe.

LAKE CRESSBROOK LOCATION



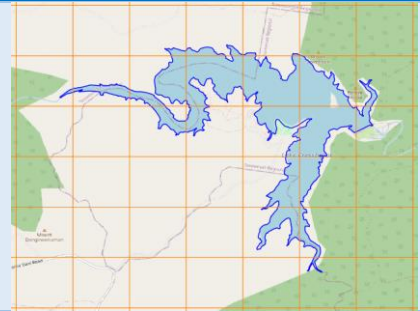
Lake Cressbrook
27.26°S
152.2°E



LAKE

Grid map
Lake Cressbrook LCB

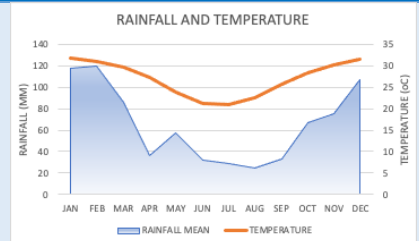
Surface area
5.34km² at FSL



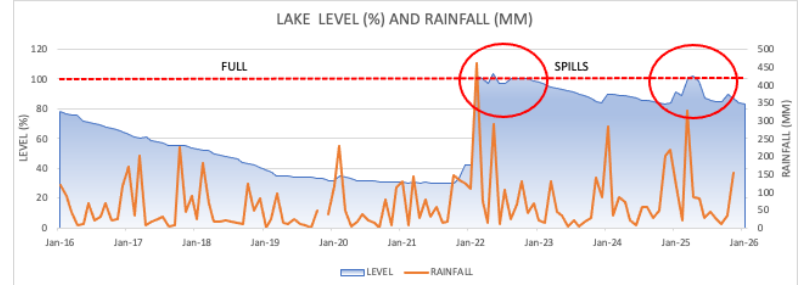
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Mean monthly rainfall (mm)
 Mean monthly air temperature (oC)

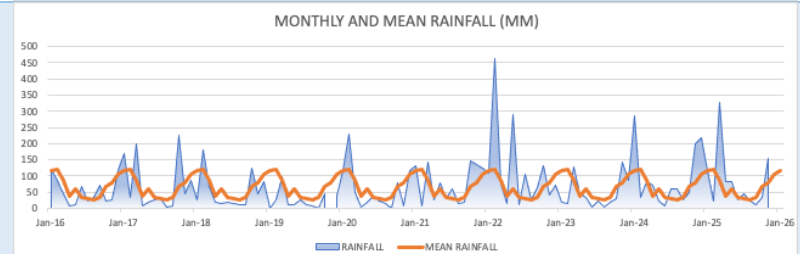
Rainfall	Month	mm
High	Feb	119
	Jan	118
Temp	Month	oC
	Dec-Feb	31
	Jun-Jul	21



Lake capacity (%)
 Monthly rainfall (mm) 2016-2025
 Spilled 2022
 2025 Apr



Monthly rainfall (mm)
 Mean monthly rainfall 2016-2025



TYPE OF FISHERY

DATA RELIABILITY

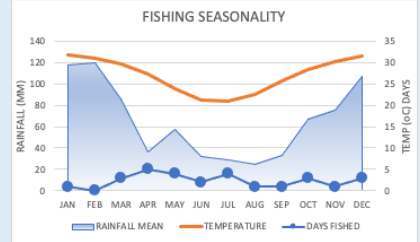
Sample size (days fished)
Tag days (blue arrow)
Recaptures (orange arrow)
Confidence %
Error %
2020-2025

Reliability level	LOW	MODERATE	MODERATE	HIGH
Samples	10	41	68	271
Confidence	80%	80%	90%	90%
Error	20%	10%	10%	5%



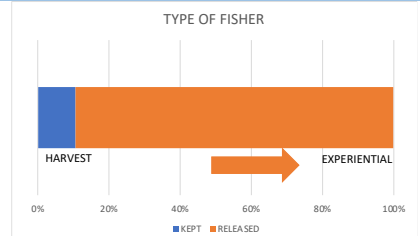
Seasonality
Mean monthly rainfall (mm)
Days fished combined
Taggers
Recapture fishers
2020-2025

Months most effort
Taggers Apr
Recapture fishers Oct



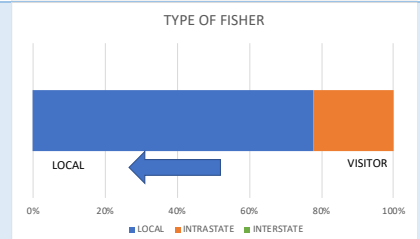
Harvest or experiential fishery
Release rate of recaptured legal Bass
2016-2025

Legal fish kept rate
Legal fish 19
Kept 2 (11%)
Released 17 (89%)



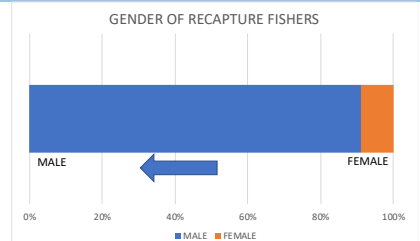
Local or visitor fishery
Where recapture fishers live
2020-2025

Recapture fishers 9
Local 7 (78%)
Visitor 2 (22%)



Gender of recapture fisher
2016-2025

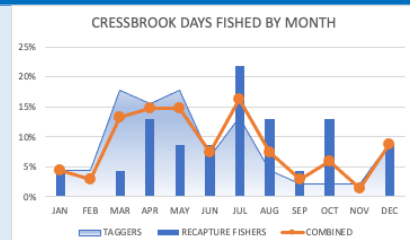
Recapture fishers 22
Female 2 (9%)
Male 20 (91%)



FISHER ACTIVITY

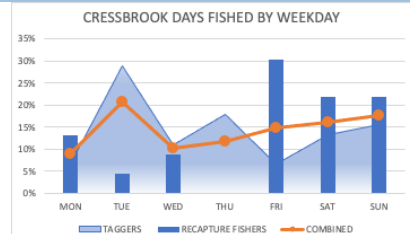
Monthly activity
Days fished combined
Taggers (45)
Recapture fishers (23)
2016-2025

Month	%
Most fished	Jul 16%
	Apr 15%
	May 15%



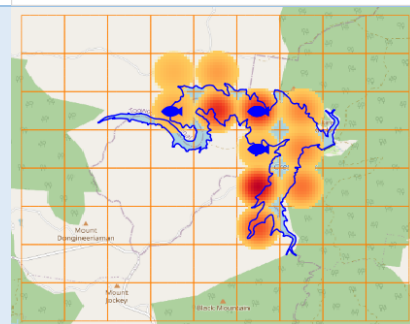
Weekday activity
Days fished combined
Taggers (45)
Recapture fishers (23)
2016-2025

Day	%
Fished	Weekend 34%
	Weekdays 66%



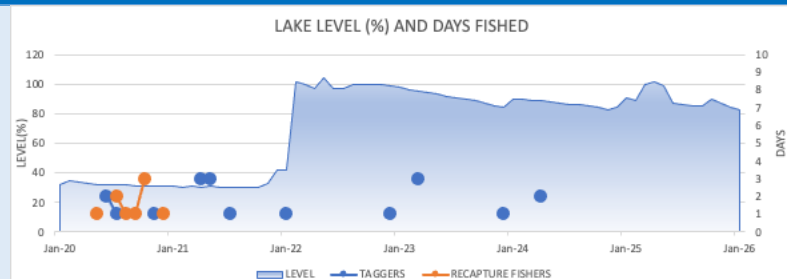
Heatmap (red-orange) of tagged fish locations and recaptures (blue fish) 2020-2025

Tagged	50
Recaptured	9

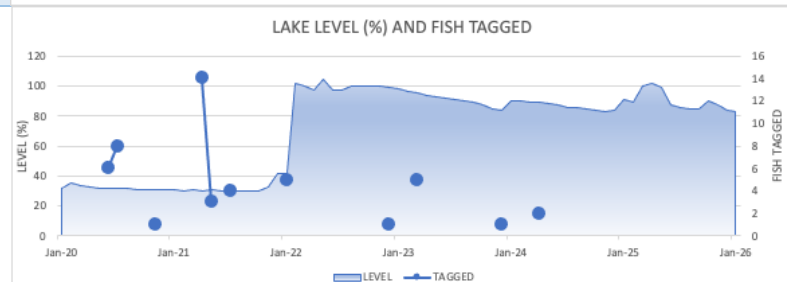


FISHER EFFORT

Lake level (%)
Days fished
Taggers
Recapture fishers
2020-2025

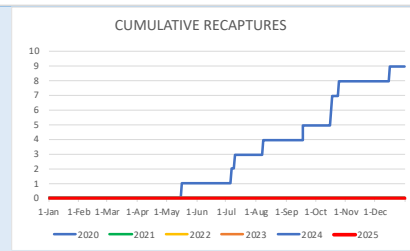


Lake level (%)
Fish tagged
Taggers
2020-2025



Cumulative recaptures
2020-2025

Year	Recaps
2020	9
2021	0
2022	0
2023	0
2024	0
2025	0



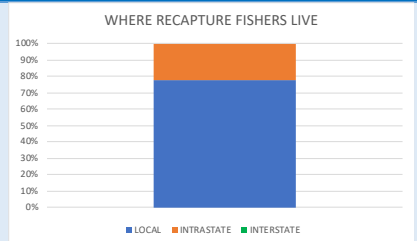
FISHER TRAVEL

Cumulative distance (km) home to recapture location 2020-2025	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Km</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>636</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2025</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Km	2020	636	2021	0	2022	0	2023	0	2024	0	2025	0	<p>CUMULATIVE PROXY TRAVEL DISTANCE (KM)</p>
Year	Km															
2020	636															
2021	0															
2022	0															
2023	0															
2024	0															
2025	0															
Distance (km) home to recapture location Bars show distance range Dots show outliers 2020-2025	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Trips</th> <th>9</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Range (km)</th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <th>Local</th> <th>13-46</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Intrastate</th> <th>90-315</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Interstate</th> <th>-</th> </tr> </thead></table>	Trips	9	Range (km)		Local	13-46	Intrastate	90-315	Interstate	-	<p>RECAPTURE FISHERS PROXY TRAVEL</p>				
Trips	9															
Range (km)																
Local	13-46															
Intrastate	90-315															
Interstate	-															
Proxy average travel distance (km) home to recapture location 2020-2025	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Trips</th> <th>9</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Average distance (km)</th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <th>Local</th> <th>33</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Intrastate</th> <th>203</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Interstate</th> <th>-</th> </tr> </thead></table>	Trips	9	Average distance (km)		Local	33	Intrastate	203	Interstate	-	<p>HOME TO RECAPTURE LOCATION AVERAGE DISTANCE (KM)</p>				
Trips	9															
Average distance (km)																
Local	33															
Intrastate	203															
Interstate	-															

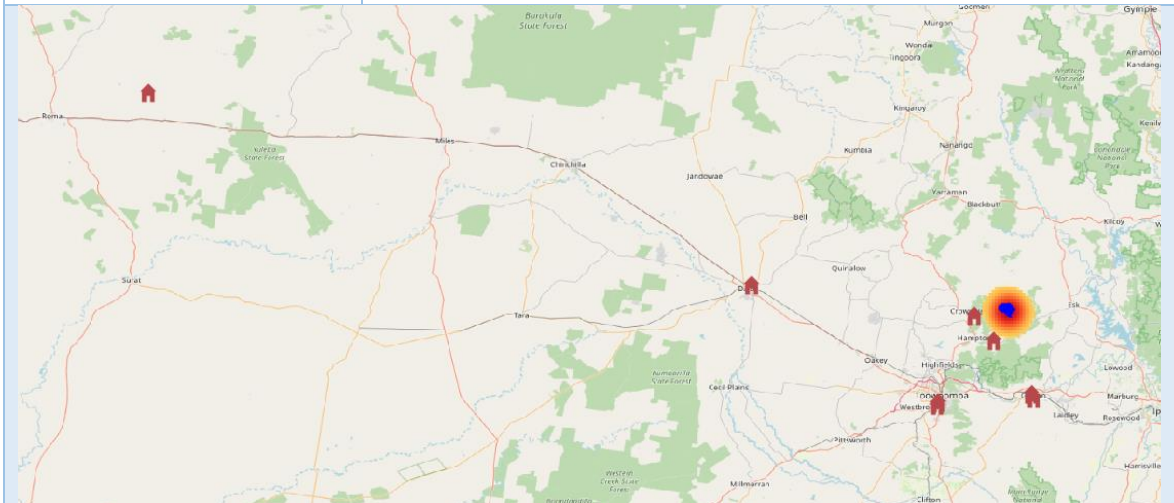
WHERE RECAPTURE FISHERS LIVE




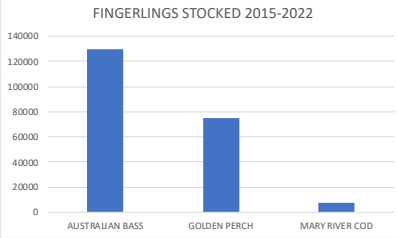
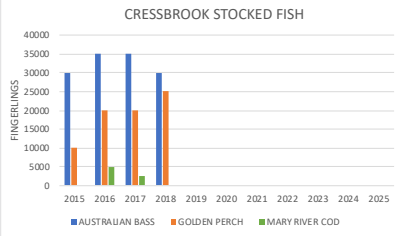
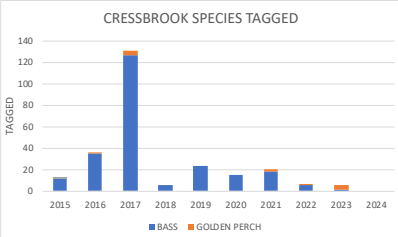
**Where recapture fishers live
2020-2025**

Fishers	9
Local	7 (78%)
Intrastate	2 (22%)
Interstate	0 (0%)



**Where recapture fishers live
Local (7)
Intrastate (2)
Interstate (0)
Tagged (red-orange heatmap)
Recaptures (blue dots)
Recapture fishers (red houses)
2020-2025**



STOCKED FISH		
AUSTRALIAN BASS	GOLDEN PERCH	MARY RIVER COD
		
STOCKING		
Fingerlings stocked 2015-2022	Australian Bass 130,000 Golden Perch 75,000 Mary River Cod 7,500	
Fingerlings stocked by year 2015-2022 (no records available after 2018)		
SPECIES TAGGED		
Species tagged 2016-2025	Bass Tagged 235 Golden Perch 13 Mary River Cod 0	

AUSTRALIAN BASS



DATA RELIABILITY

Sample size (av fish/year)
 Tagged (blue arrow)
 Recaptures (orange arrow)
 Confidence %
 Error %
 2020-2025

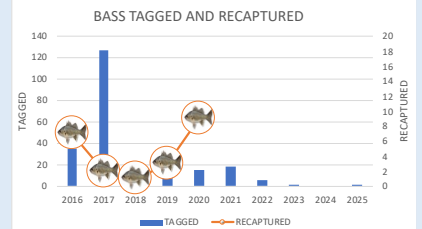
Reliability level	LOW	MODERATE	MODERATE	HIGH
Samples	10	41	68	271
Confidence	80%	80%	90%	90%
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TAGGED AND TAG RATE

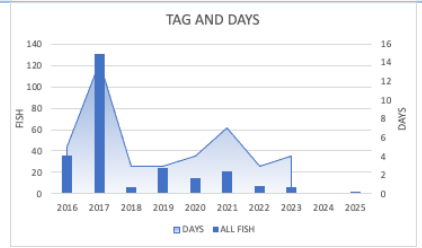
Bass tagged and recaptured including recaptures from below dam
 2016-2026

Tagged 235
 Recaptured 22
 Recapture rate 9.4%
 Tagged 2025 2



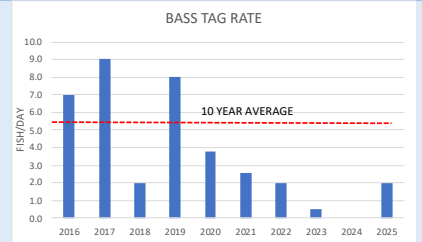
Catch and effort
 Taggers
 Fish tagged
 Days fished
 2016-2025

	High	Low	Now
Tagged	2017	2023	2025
Days	2017	2018	2025
	14	3	1



Tag rate
 Fish/day
 2016-2025

	High	Low	Now
Tag rate	2017	2018	2025
	9.1	2.0	NA
10 year average			5.3



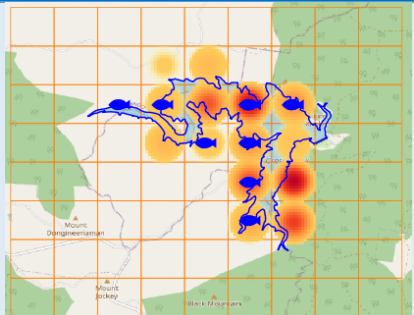
LENGTHS

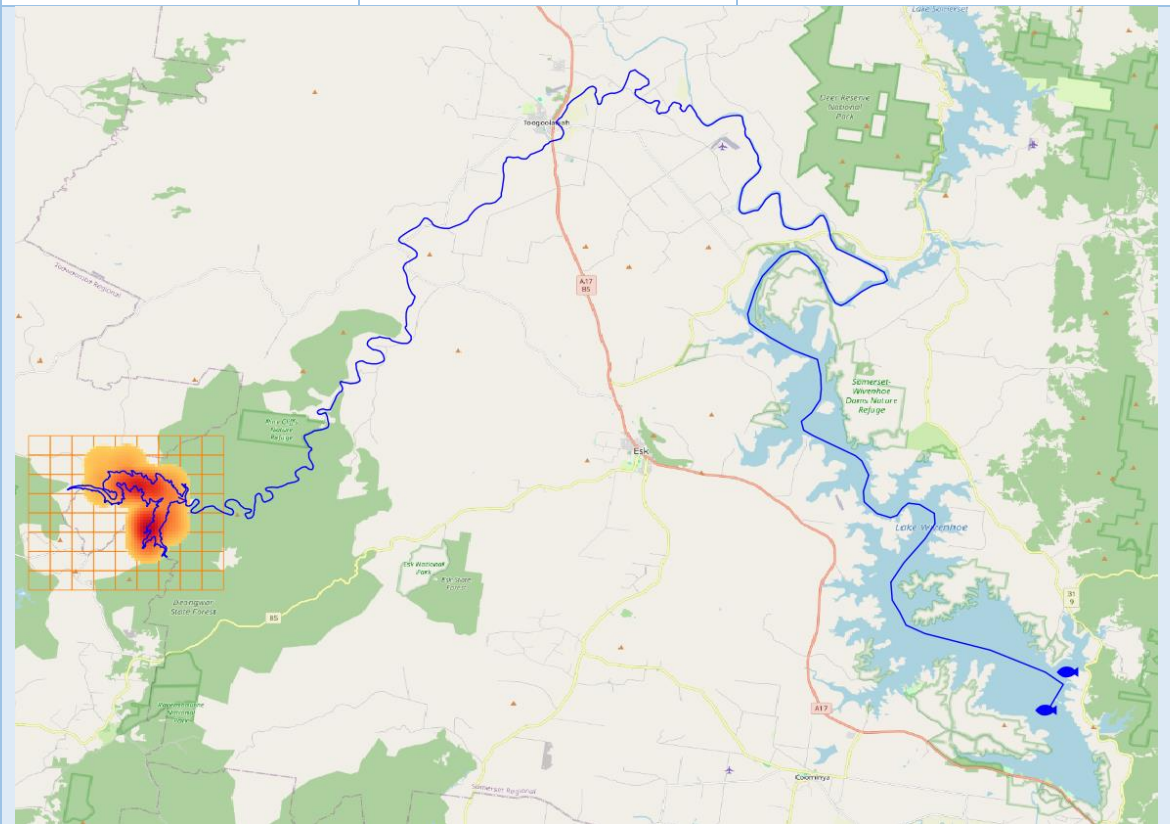
Average length (mm) Bars show length range Dots show outliers 2016-2025	High	Low	Now	
	Average length (mm)			
	2020	2016	2025	
	362	259	NA	
	Largest			
2021	2015	2025		
520	295	NA		
Fish lengths percentage Undersize <300mm Legal 300-499mm Trophy 500+mm 2016-2025	High	Low	Now	
	Legal-trophy			
	2019	2015	2025	
	71%	0%	NA	
	Trophy			
2017	2021	2025		
5%	0%	NA		

GROWTH

Growth at end of each year (mm/year) 2000-2025	Recaptures	354	
	Year 1	19	
	Year 2	35	
	Year 3	43	
	Year 4	50	
	Year 5	54	

LOCATIONS

<p>Locations Tagged fish (red-orange heat map) Recaptures (blue fish) 2016-2025</p>	<p>Tagged 235 Recaptured 22</p>	
<p>Bass after spills Tagged in Cressbrook Recaptured in Lake Wivenhoe (blue fish) 2022-2025</p>	<p>Recaptured Lake Wivenhoe 2</p>	



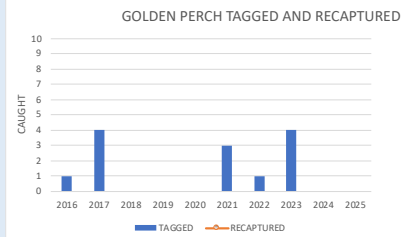
GOLDEN PERCH



TAGGED

Golden Perch tagged and recaptured 2016-2025

Tagged	13
Recaptured	0
Recapture rate	0%
Tagged 2025	0



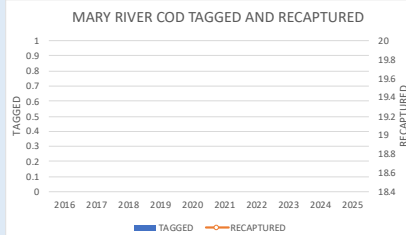
MARY RIVER COD



TAGGED

Mary River Cod tagged and recaptured 2016-2025

Tagged	0
Recorded	0



Data sources

Data used in the Lake Cressbrook Crystal Bowl are:

- Tag records and recapture records for the impoundment at <http://crystalbowl.infofishaustralia.com.au/>.
- Dam level data from Toowoomba Regional Council <https://www.tr.qld.gov.au/environment-water-waste/water-sources-supply-storage-levels/water-sources-supply-storage-levels>.
- Stocked fish records from <https://www.data.qld.gov.au/dataset/queensland-freshwater-fish-stocking-records/>.
- Rainfall records for Station 040808 Cressbrook Dam and Temperature records for Station 040082 University of Queensland gatton from <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/>.

Basis for analysis

- Data reliability for fishers based on the sample size over the past 5 years for days fished by taggers and by fishers recapturing fish.
- Data reliability for fish based on average number of fish tagged and recaptured per year over the past 5 years.
- Catch rates calculated as number of fish tagged/day for taggers with a minimum of 12 fisher days (at least 1 per month) to provide a reliable catch rate.
- Undersized Bass and Golden Perch are <300mm, legal fish are ≥ 300 and <500mm and trophy fish are ≥ 500 mm.
- Locations based on Infofish grid map LCB for the impoundment and other grid maps where fish were recaptured outside the impoundment.
- Distance moved was the shortest distance by water between the tag and recapture location measured in Google Earth.
- Travel proxy distance is the straight-line distance between where the fisher lives (address, suburb, town or postcode) and the recapture location. Local <60km, intrastate ≥ 60 km and postcode starting with 4, interstate not Qld.