CRYSTALBOWL

LAKE MANCHESTER REVIEW 2025
INFORMATION RATING ⭐⭐
Stocking group: Brisbane Valley Anglers Fish Stocking Association Species stocked: Australian Bass, Mary River Cod Stocking timeframe: 2015-2024 Fish timeframe: 2017-2025 Fisher timeframe: 2021-2025 SEQwater link: https://www.seqwater.com.au/things-to-do/fishing/fishing-lake-manchester Scroll through the dashboard to cover all subjects or for information on a specific subject go to: LAKE MANCHESTER OVERVIEW LAKE MANCHESTER LOCATION ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS FISHERS FISH STOCKED AUSTRALIAN BASS MARY RIVER COD AUSTRALIAN BASS

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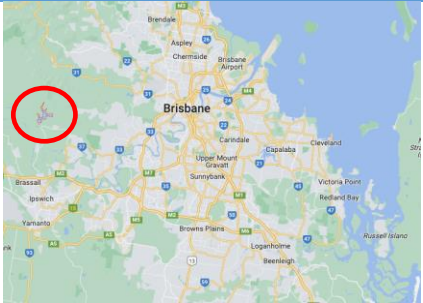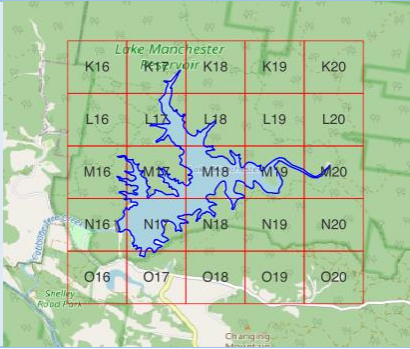
LAKE MANCHESTER OVERVIEW

Lake Manchester was first stocked in 2015 and since then there have been 39K Bass and 2.5K Mary River Cod released.
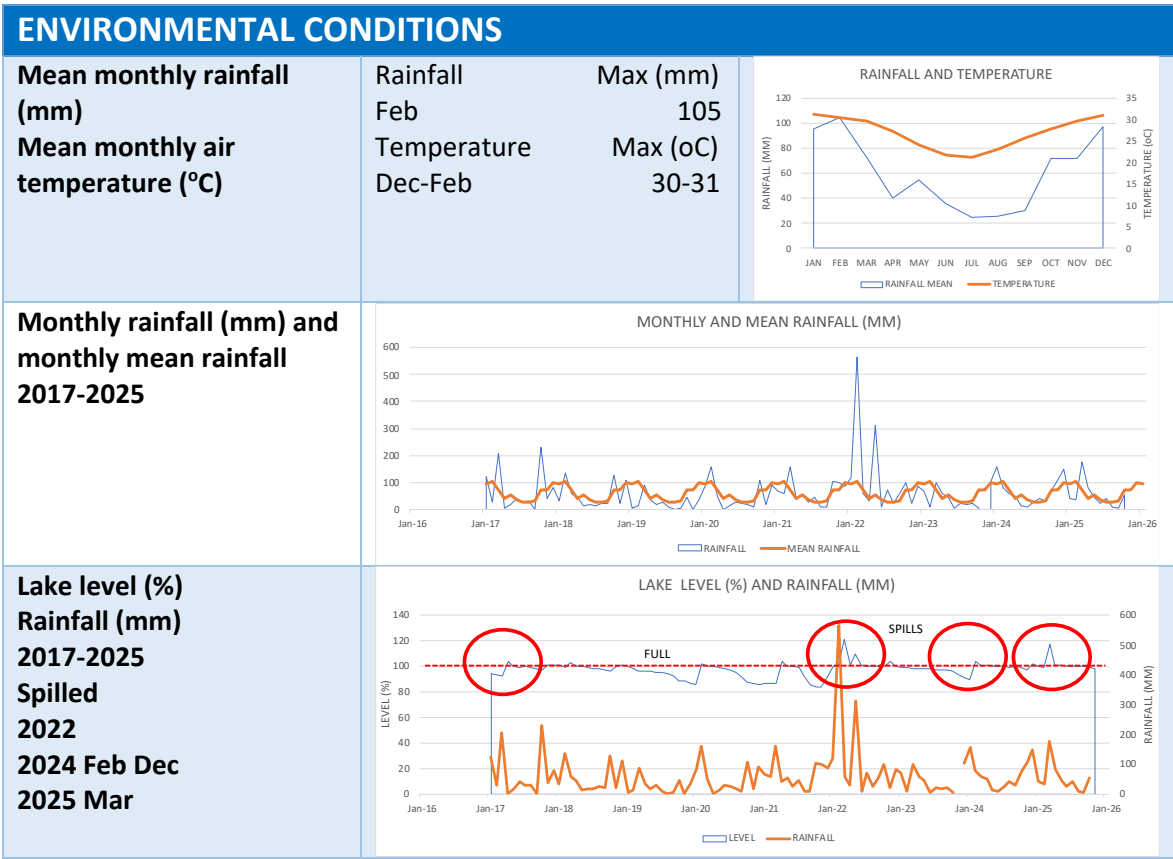
Fishing in Lake Manchester is limited to manually powered vessels and access to the lake is difficult which limits the extent of fishing in the lake. It is expected that most of the fishers that use the lake are locals from the Brisbane and Ipswich areas.
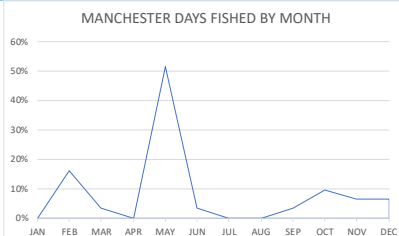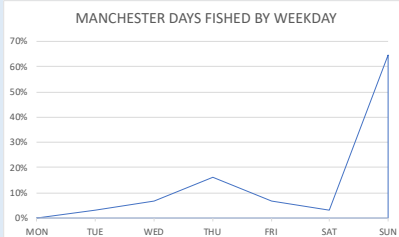
Tagging of Bass in the lake commenced in 2017 and since then there have been 241 fish tagged with 2 recaptures in the lake and 2 below the lake in the Brisbane River following the 2022 spill. There have been no recaptured reported below the lake since the spill in Mar this year.
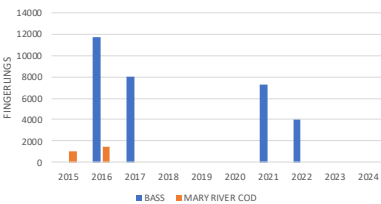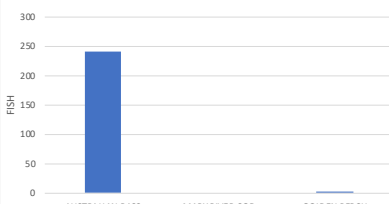
Most Bass tagged in the lake have been over legal length in each year. This may suggest that the spillage of fish from the lake is fairly low.

There have been no recordings of Mary River Cod from the lake although they were able to be tagged from 2023. It is likely that the fishing techniques used for catching Bass are less likely to catch the Cod. There have been reports that they have been caught in the lake but those catching them have been secretive.

LAKE MANCHESTER LOCATION

Lake Manchester
27.48°S
152.778°E

LAKE

Lake Manchester **Grid map** **Manchester BLM**	Surface area 3.2km²	

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Mean monthly rainfall (mm) Mean monthly air temperature (°C)	Rainfall	Max (mm)	
	Feb	105	
	Temperature	Max (oC)	
	Dec-Feb	30-31	

RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE

Monthly rainfall (mm) and monthly mean rainfall 2017-2025	

MONTHLY AND MEAN RAINFALL (MM)

Lake level (%) Rainfall (mm) 2017-2025 Spilled 2022 2024 Feb Dec 2025 Mar	

LAKE LEVEL (%) AND RAINFALL (MM)

FISHERS

DATA RELIABILITY

Sample size (days fished)
Tag days (blue arrow)
Recaptures (orange arrow)
Confidence %
Error %
2021-2025

Reliability level	LOW		MODERATE	MODERATE		HIGH
Samples	10	41	68	271	384	664
Confidence	80%	80%	90%	90%	95%	99%
Error	20%	10%	10%	5%	5%	5%

FISHER ACTIVITY

Monthly activity by taggers **Days fished** **2021-2025**	Days fished 31 Limited days to assess activity by month BVA club trip May 2025	MANCHESTER DAYS FISHED BY MONTH
Weekday activity by taggers **Days fished** **2021-2025**	Days fished 31 Limited days to assess activity by weekday BVA club trip Sun	MANCHESTER DAYS FISHED BY WEEKDAY

FISH STOCKED

AUSTRALIAN BASS	MARY RIVER COD	GOLDEN PERCH

STOCKED

Fingerlings stocked 2015-2023	**Fingerlings** Bass 31,000 Mary River Cod 2,500 Golden Perch Unknown	

TAGGED

Fish tagged 2016-2025	**Tagged** Bass 241 Mary River Cod 0 Golden Perch 1	

AUSTRALIAN BASS

DATA RELIABILITY

Sample size (fish/year)
Tagged (blue arrow)
Recaptures (orange arrow)
Confidence %
Error %
2021-2025

Reliability level	LOW		MODERATE	MODERATE		HIGH
Samples	10	41	68	271	384	664
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TAGGED

Bass
Tagged
Recaptured
2017-2025

Bass tagged	241
Recaptured in lake	2
Recaptured below lake	2

BASS TAGGED AND RECAPTURED
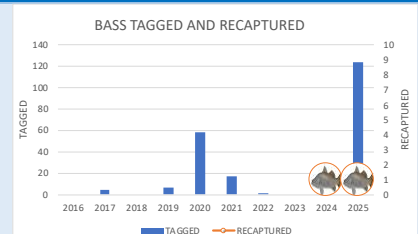
EFFORT

Bass tagged
Days fished
2021-2025

Bass tagged	171
Days fished	31

TAG AND DAYS
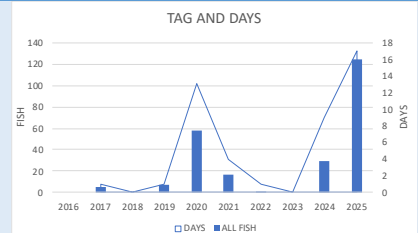
LENGTHS

Average length (mm)
Bars show length range
Dots show outliers
2021-2025
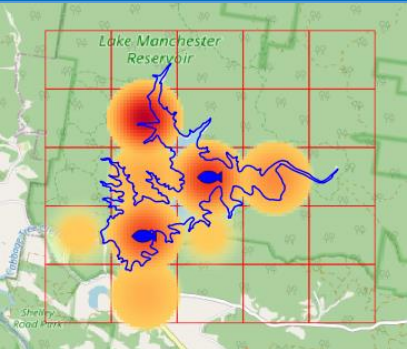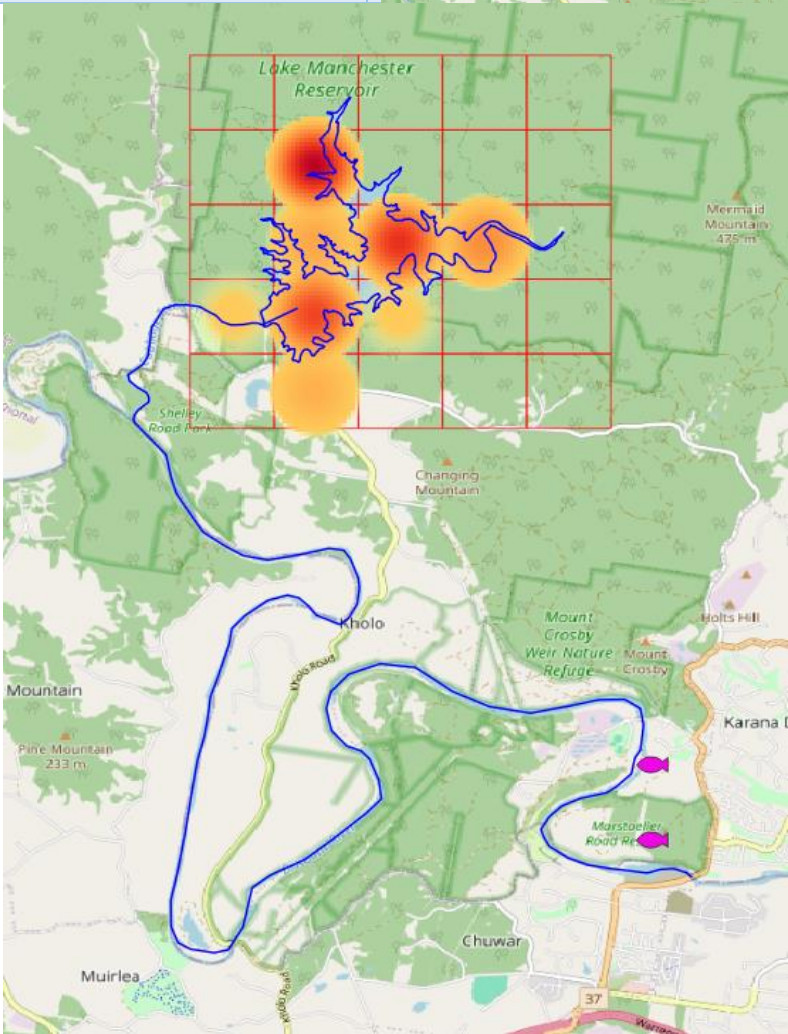
	High	Low	Now
Average length			
	2024	2020	2025
	370	355	382
Max			
	2020	2021	2025
	470	470	510

BASS LENGTHS (MM)
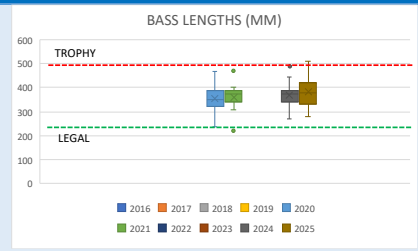
Fish lengths percentage
Undersize <300mm
Legal 300-500mm
Trophy 500+mm
2016-2025

	High	Low	Now
Legal-Trophy			
	2020	2021	2025
	97%	88%	94%
Trophy			
3 trophy fish 2025			2%

BASS LENGTHS

LOCATIONS		
Tagged Bass (red-orange heat map) **Recaptured (blue fish)** **2021-2025**	Tagged 171 Recaptured 2	
Recaptures below dam **Tagged Bass (red-orange heat map) before 2022 (87)** **Recaptured fish (blue fish) after 2022 spill** **Brisbane River (2)** **2022-2025**		

MARY RIVER COD		
TAGGED		
Mary River Cod tagged (can be tagged from 2023) 2021-2025	Mary River Cod	Tagged 0	
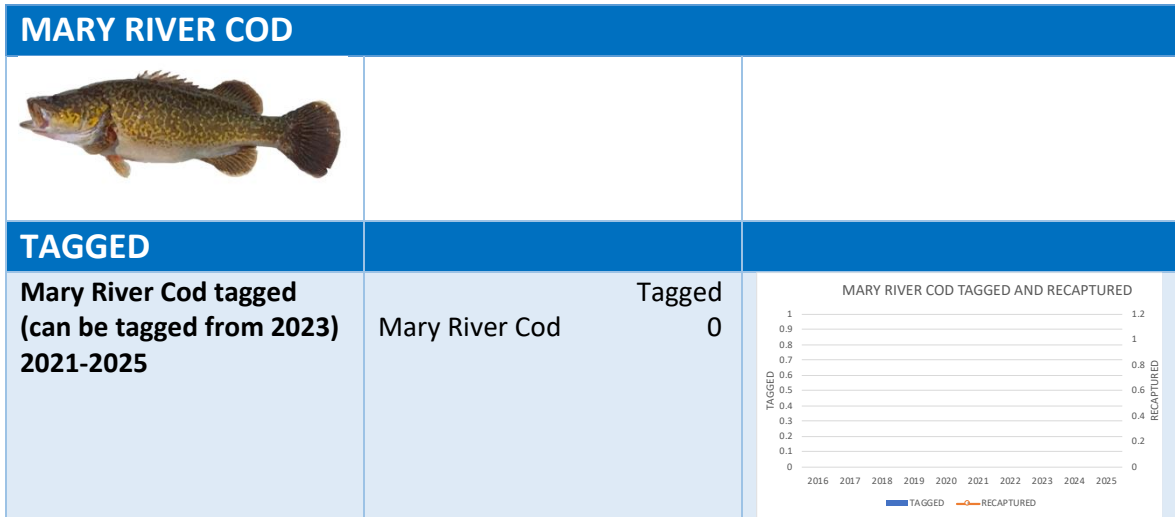
Data sources

Data used in the Lake Manchester Crystal Bowl are:

- Tag records and recapture records for the impoundments at http://crystalbowl.infofishaustralia.com.au/.
- Stocked fish records from Brisbane Valley Anglers Fish Stocking Association.
- Dam level data from SEQwater at https://www.seqwater.com.au/historic-dam-levels.
- Rainfall records from Station 040763 Wivenhoe Dam and temperature records from Station 040004 Amberley AMO from http://www.bom.gov.au/climate.