



LAKE SOMERSET REVIEW 2024

INFORMATION RATING



Stocking group: Somerset and Wivenhoe Fish Stocking Association

Species stocked: Australian Bass, Golden Perch, Silver Perch, Mary River Cod

Stocking timeframe: 2014-2024 Fish timeframe: 2015-2024 Fisher timeframe: 2020-2024

DAF link: https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/rsa/sips-dams-and-weirs/profile?dam=somerset-dam

Lake Somerset is mostly a visitor fishery as there is a low local population with Kilcoy the largest town. Those recapturing fish mostly live less than 100km from the lake, mainly from Toowoomba to the Gold Coast, Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast. It is mostly an experiential fishery with a low harvest rate of 15% based on rate of legal Bass harvested by recapture fishers (ex-taggers). Weekend fishing is strong with 41% of tagger and 45% of recapture fisher activity over those days.

Lake Somerset is fished throughout the year with a peak in Sep by taggers. There was a drop off in effort in 2022 when the lake spilled, and fishing conditions were difficult. While there was an improvement in effort in 2023 in 2024 there appears to have been a shift by taggers to Lake Wivenhoe where catch rates are higher.

Lake Somerset has the highest percentage of trophy Bass of any impoundment with 5% of all fish tagged in the last 10 years being over 500mm. Bass in the lake live a long time with the longest time out for a recaptured fish being 25.3 years and one of the longest times out for a tagged freshwater fish.

Following the spilling of Lake Somerset in 2022 there have been 3 Bass recaptured from below Wivenhoe dam to the mouth of the Brisbane River. This compares with 50 Bass recaptured below the dam following the spill in 2011 which were recaptured in the Brisbane and Bremer Rivers.

The lake spilled again in Dec 2024 so it is likely that further fish will be recaptured below in the dam in 2025.



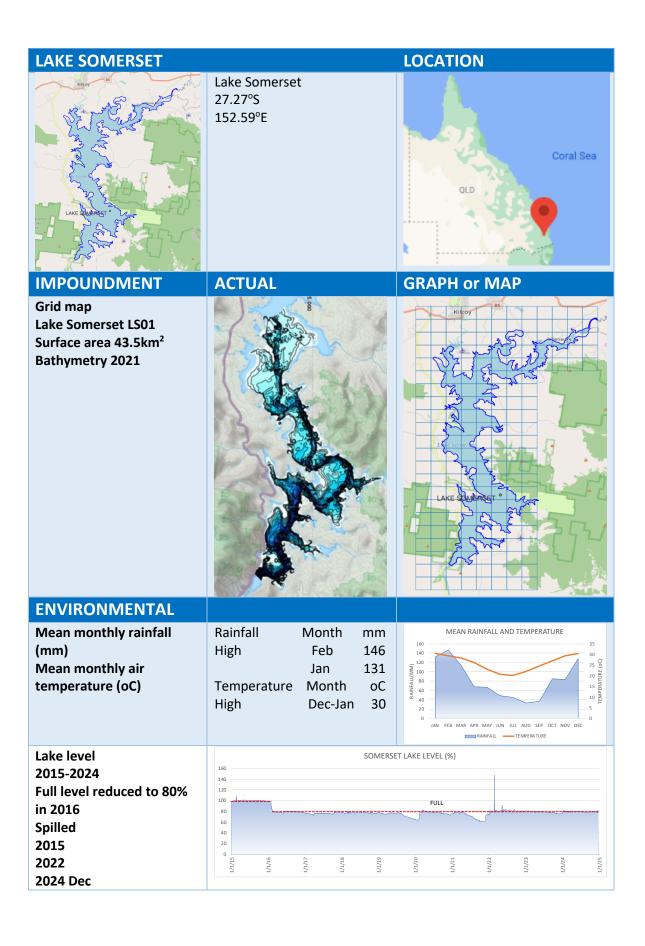




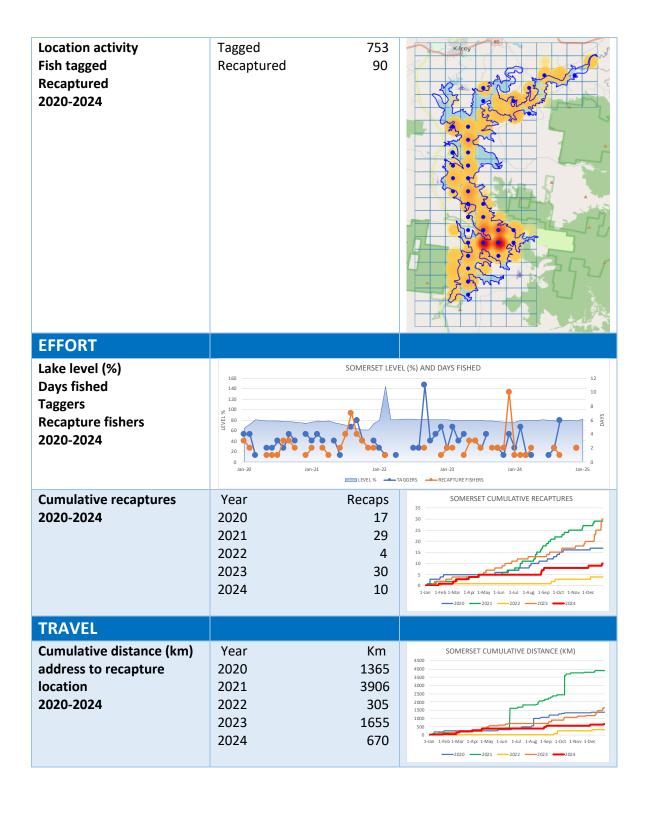


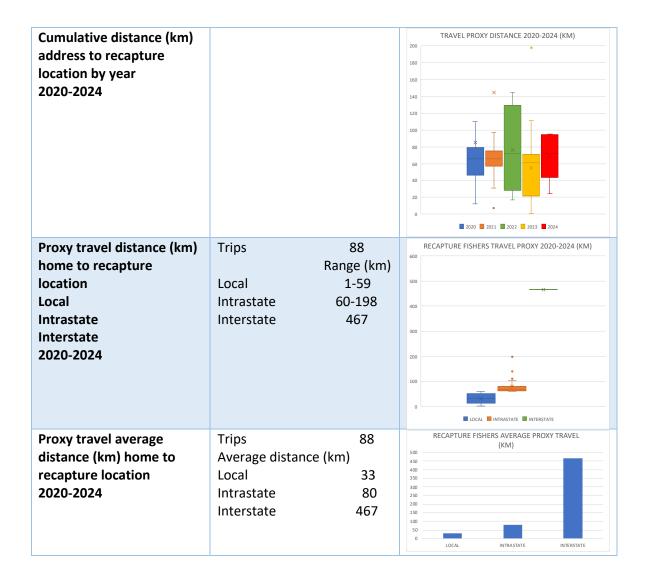
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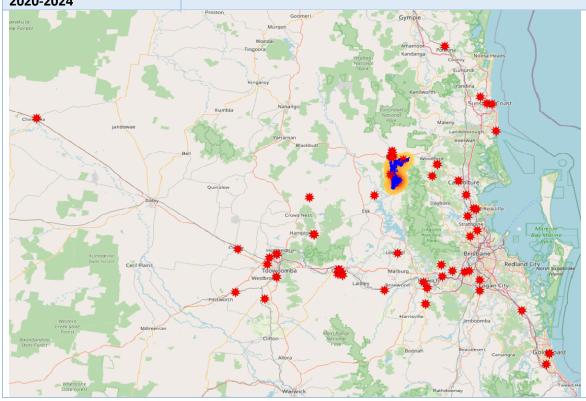
FISHERS	ACTUAL	GRAPH or MAP		
DATA RELIABILTY				
Sample size (days fished) Tag days (blue arrow) Recaptures (orange arrow) Confidence % Error % 2020-2024	Reliability level LOW Samples 10 41 68 Confidence 80% 80% Error 20% 10%	MODERATE MODERATE HIGH 8 271 384 664 90% 90% 95% 99% 10% 5% 5% 5%		
TYPE OF FISHERY				
Seasonality Mean monthly rainfall (mm) Days fished Taggers Recapture fishers 2020-2024 Harvest or experiential	Months most effort Taggers Sep Feb Recapture fishers Dec Aug Sep Bass legal fish kept rate	SOMERSET FISHING SEASONALITY 45 500 ON THE STATE OF THE		
fishery Release rate of recaptured legal Bass 2020-2024	Legal fish 81 Kept 13 (15%) Released 68 (85%)	HARVEST EXPERIENTIAL 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%		
Local or visitor fishery Where recapture fishers live 2020-2024	Recapture fishers 88 Local 33 (38%) Visitor 55 (62%)	TYPE OF FISHER LOCAL VISITOR 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%		
ACTIVITY				
Monthly activity Days fished Taggers (142) Recapture fishers (89) 2020-2024	Month % Taggers Sep 19% Feb 13% Recaps Dec 16% Aug 13% Sep 13%	SOMERSET DAYS FISHED BY MONTH 20% 18% 16% 16% 12% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10		
Weekday activity Days fished Taggers (142) Recapture fishers (89) 2020-2024	Day % Taggers Weekend 42% Weekdays 58% Recaps Weekend 44% Weekdays 56%	SOMERSET DAYS FISHED BY WEEKDAY 20% 15% 0% MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN TAGGERS RECAPTURE FISHERS COMBINED		

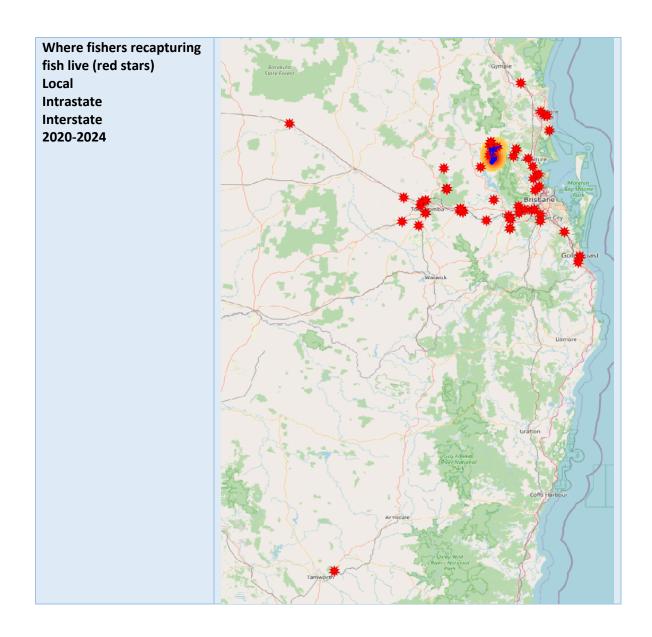




DEMOGRAPHICS			
Gender of recapture fishers (ex-taggers) 2020-2024	Recaptures Male Female	84 75 (89%) 9 (11%)	GENDER OF RECAPTURE FISHERS 100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 20% 10% 0%
Where recapture fishers live 2020-2024	Trips Local Intrastate Interstate	88 33 (38%) 54 (61%) 1 (1%)	WHERE RECAPTURE FISHERS LIVE 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 20% 10% 0% ■LOCAL ■INTRASTATE ■INTERSTATE
Lake Somerset			

Lake Somerset
Where fishers recapturing
fish live (red stars)
Local
Intrastate
2020-2024





SPECIES AUSTRALIAN BASS **SILVER PERCH GOLDEN PERCH MARY RIVER COD SOUTHERN SARATOGA STOCKING SPECIES** Fingerlings stocked Fingerlings SOMERSET FISH STOCKED 2012-2018 1000000 900000 800000 2012-2018 870,700 Bass 450,400 Golden Perch 700000 600000 500000 400000 Silver Perch 271,300 300000 200000 Fingerlings stocked by year SOMERSET FISH STOCKED BY YEAR 2012-2018 ■ AUSTRALIAN BASS ■ GOLDEN PERCH ■ SILVER PERCH Fish tagged Tagged/10,000 fingerlings FISH TAGGED PER 10,000 STOCKED 20.0 18.0 16.0 14.0 12.0 2014-2023 Bass 17 per 10,000 fish stocked Golden Perch 2 2012-2018 Silver Perch 0.1 H 10.0 6.0 4.0 **SPECIES TAGGED Species tagged** Tagged SOMERSET SPECIES TAGGED 2015-2024 Australian Bass 1504 Golden Perch 84 Silver Perch 3 7 Southern Saratoga

FISH HEALTH AND HANDLING					
Fish health from photos Fish 2017-2024	High 2020 661 Total imag 1806	Low 2018 13 ges	Now 2024 25	SOMERSET SAMPLES 700 600 500 400 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024	
Fish health assessment Fins/lesions and skin condition 2017-2024	High Minor 2019 34% Major 2020 5%	2014 4% 2018 0%	Now 2024 44% 2024 4%	SOMERSET HEALTH ASSESSMENT 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 HEALTH MINOR HEALTH MAJOR	
Handling assessment Bleeding and scale loss 2017-2024	High Minor 2022 17% Major All years 0%	2018 0%	Now 2024 0%	SOMERSET HANDLING ASSESSMENT 50% 40% 40% 20% 10% 0% 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 HANDLING MIOR HANDLING MAIOR	

BASS



DATA RELIABILITY

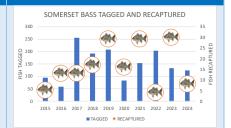
Sample size (fish/year)
Tagged (blue arrow)
Recaptures (orange arrow)
Confidence %
Error %
2020-2024

Reliability level	LOW		MODERATE	MODERATE		HIGH	
Samples	10	41	68	271	384	664	
Confidence	80%	80%	90%	90%	95%	99	9%
Error	20%	10%	10%	5%	5%	5	5%

Now

TAGGED

Bass Tagged Recaptured (from year tagged) 2015-2024 Tagged Recaptured 1504 164 Recapture rate 10.9% Tagged 2024 124



EFFORT Catch and effort taggers High Low Fish caught Tagged Days fished 2017 2016

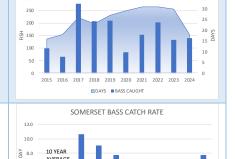
 Days fished
 2017
 2016
 2024

 2015-2024
 277
 66
 140

 Days
 2022
 2015
 2024

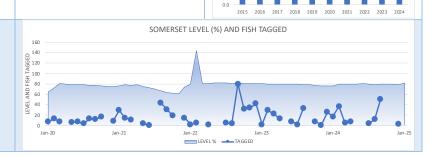
 202
 2015
 2024

31 16 18 **Catch rate** High Low Now Fish/day 2017 2020 2024 2015-2024 10.7 2.9 7.8 10 year average 6.3

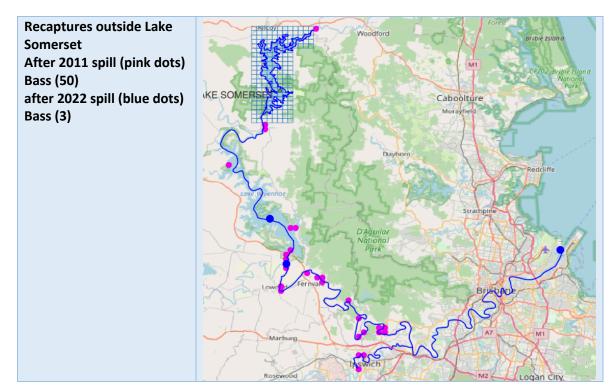


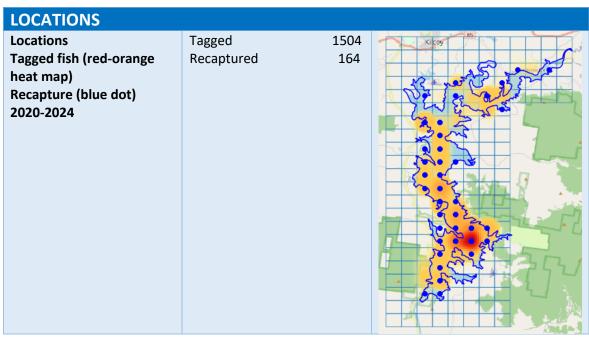
SOMERSET BASS

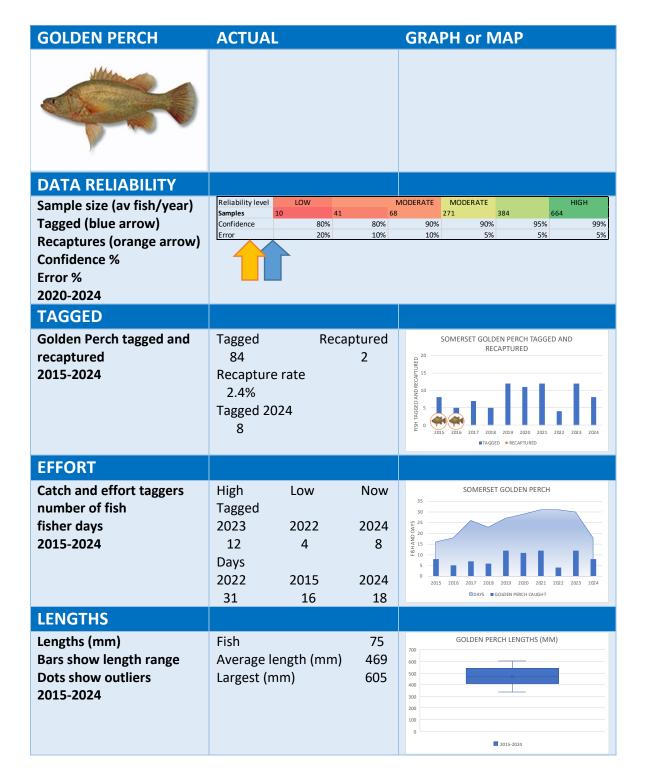
Lake level (%) Fish tagged Full at 80% 2020-2024

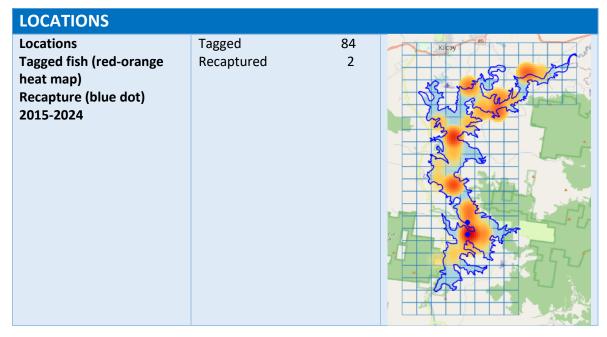


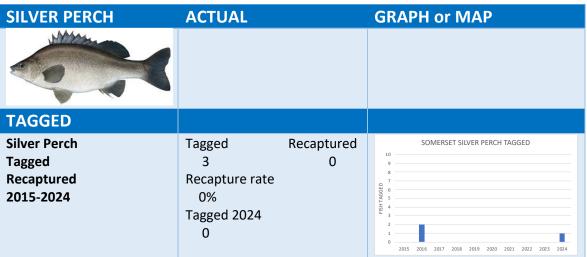
LENGTHS				
Average length (mm)	High	Low	Now	SOMERSET BASS LENGTHS (MM)
Bars show length range	Average le	ngth		500 TROPHY T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T
Dots show outliers	2021	2016	2024	400
2015-2024	406	323	389	300 LEGAL LEGAL
	Largest			100
	2022	2019	2023	0 ■ 2015 ■ 2016 ■ 2017 ■ 2018 ■ 2019
	580	515	550	■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022 ■ 2023 ■ 2024
Fish length percentage (%)	High	Low	Now	SOMERSET BASS LENGTHS
Undersize <300mm	Legal-troph	าง		100%
Legal 300-499mm	2021	2016	2024	80% 70% 60%
Trophy 500+mm	82%	47%	80%	50%
2015-2024	Trophy			30%
	2021	2022	2024	10% 0% 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024
	10%	1%	14%	■UNDERSIZE ■LEGAL ■TROPHY
FATE		, -	.,.	
Fate of legal Bass	Recaptures	;	150	RECAPTURED LEGAL BASS FATE
recaptured by recfishers	Kept	•	23 (15%)	100%
(ex-taggers)	Released		127 (85%)	70%
2015-2024	Released		127 (0370)	50%
2013 2024				30%
				10%
				0% ■ KEPT ■ RELEASED
GROWTH				
Bass growth	Recaptures	5	90	SOMERSET BASS GROWTH
based on recaptures of	Annual growth (mm)			y = 27.225ln(x) - 111.96
fish tagged	Year 1 49			200
2015-2024	Year 2		60	WW 150
			68	
	Year 3		79	50
				50
	Year 3		79	
SURVIVAL	Year 3 Year 4		79 86	1 1035 00 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
SURVIVAL Bass survival based on	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5	te by ve	79 86 92	1 1035 00 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Bass survival based on	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat		79 86 92 ars out	50 Signature of the state of th
	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5		79 86 92	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 600
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat		79 86 92 ars out captures	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAG
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1		79 86 92 ars out captures 752	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAG
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5		79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING SOME BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING SO
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10		79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAG
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15		79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 9
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20	Re	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 9
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25	Re	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 9
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25 Longest t	Re	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 9
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out All years	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25 Longest t 26.5	Re	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 9
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out All years	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25 Longest t	Re ou	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8 2 (years)	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 700 98 500 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 SOMERSET BASS MOVEMENT 20
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out All years MOVEMENT Bass movement in lake	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25 Longest t 26.5	Re ou	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8 2 (years)	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 700 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 YEARS OUT SOMERSET BASS MOVEMENT 20 15 15 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out All years MOVEMENT Bass movement in lake	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25 Longest t 26.5 Recaptures Same area Down lake	Re ou	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8 2 (years)	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 700 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 YEARS OUT SOMERSET BASS MOVEMENT 20 15 15 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out All years MOVEMENT Bass movement in lake	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25 Longest t 26.5 Recaptures Same area	Re ou	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8 2 (years)	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING **SOME SET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING **SOME S
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out All years MOVEMENT Bass movement in lake	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25 Longest t 26.5 Recaptures Same area Down lake	Re ou	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8 2 (years)	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 700 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 YEARS OUT SOMERSET BASS MOVEMENT 20 15 15 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21
Bass survival based on recaptures by years out All years MOVEMENT Bass movement in lake	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Survival rat Year 1 5 10 15 20 25 Longest t 26.5 Recaptures Same area Down lake	Re ou	79 86 92 ars out captures 752 314 86 22 8 2 (years)	SOMERSET BASS SURVIVAL AFTER TAGGING 800 700 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 YEARS OUT SOMERSET BASS MOVEMENT 20 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

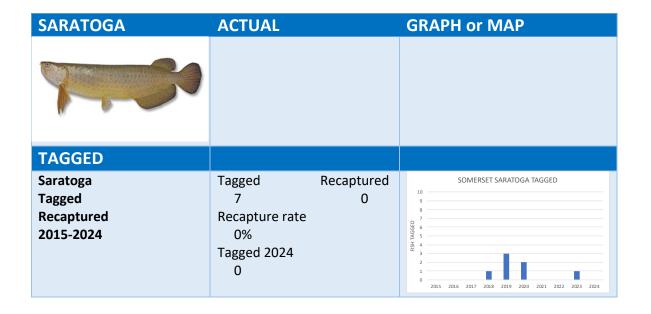












MARY RIVER COD	ACTUAL	GRAPH or MAP
TAGGED		
Mary River Cod	Recorded 0	
Recorded	Tagged* 0	
Tagged		
2015-2024	*Can be tagged from 2023	

Data sources

Data used in the Lake Somerset Crystal Bowl are:

- Tag records and recapture records for the impoundment at http://crystalbowl.infofishaustralia.com.au/.
- Dam level data from SEQwater at https://www.seqwater.com.au/historic-dam-levels.
- Stocked fish records from https://www.data.qld.gov.au/dataset/queensland-freshwater-fish-stocking-records/.
- Rainfall and temperature data from station 040189 Somerset Dam from http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data.
- Bathymetric data from Infofish surveys.
- Fish health photos from tagging and competitions.

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 over the past 5 years.
- 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 logarithmic curve from recaptures where fish were out for 90 days or more and had positive growth.
- Locations based on Infofish grid map LS01 for the impoundment and other grid maps where fish were recaptured outside the impoundment.
- Survival rates are calculated based on a model that uses the reduction in the numbers of recaptures each year after tagging.
- Travel proxy distance is the distance between where the fisher lives (address, suburb, town
 or postcode) and the recapture location. Local (60km, Intrastate Qld elsewhere, Interstate
 other than Qld).