

SPRINGFIELD LAKES REVIEW 2025

INFORMATION RATING



Stocking group: Brisbane Valley Anglers Fishstocking Association (BVA)

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

Stocking timeframe: 2018-2025

Fish timeframe: 2021-2025

Fisher timeframe: Not available

BVA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BrisbaneValleyAnglers/>

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PEST SPECIES



Product of Infofish Australia

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SPRINGFIELD LAKES OVERVIEW

Spring Lake is part of Springfield Lakes and has been stocked by the Brisbane Valley Anglers Fishstocking Association (BVA) with Australian Bass and Mary River Cod. There were also some Golden Perch stocked about 25 years ago but there are no records of that release.

While there have been 5.8k Mary River Cod stocked to date there have not been any fish recorded. It is likely that the fishing techniques used are aimed at catching Bass and pest species and less likely to catch Mary River Cod.

BVA have conducted annual pest days from 2018-2025 (except in 2020 due to Covid) to remove pest species Tilapia, Barred Grunter and European Carp. This year it was the 2025 Charltons Fishing Springfield Pest Fishing Classic and supported by the Ipswich City Council.

Pest removal days have removed 1468 Tilapia, 372 Grunter and 4 Carp from 2018-2024. There were 165kg of Tilapia removed in 2022, 87.5kg in 2023 and 52.3kg in 2024. The average weight of Tilapia removed has doubled from 0.41 in 2023 to 0.83kg in 2024.

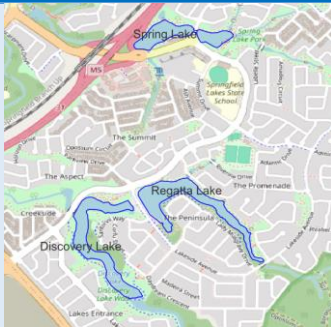
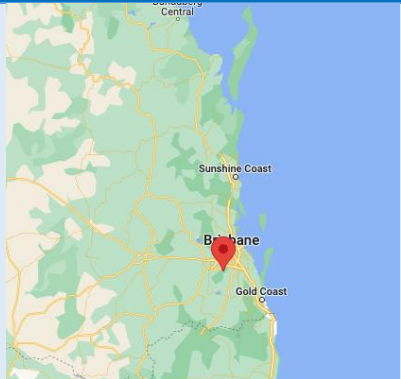
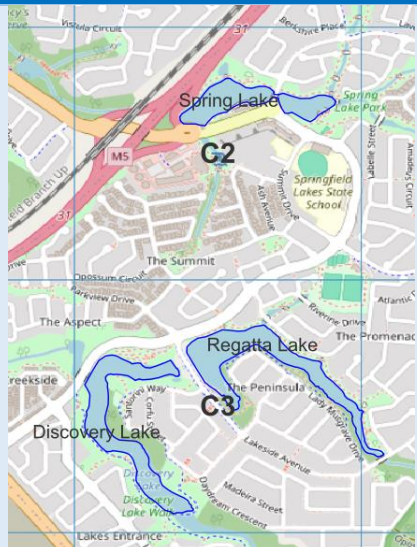
In conjunction with pest removal BVA have undertaken tagging days from 2021-2025. This involves junior fishers from the local area catching the fish while BVA members undertake the tagging. In that time there have been 457 Bass tagged for 49 (10.7%) recaptures.

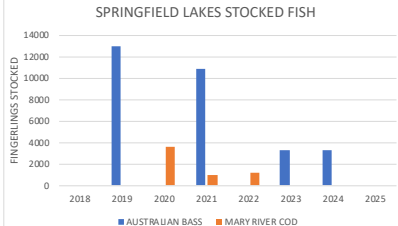
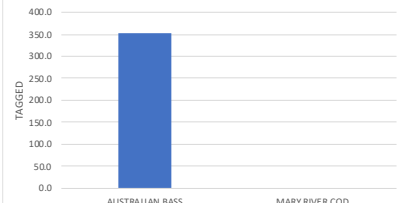
Fishing in the Springfield Lakes outside BVA fishing days has been limited as fishing is currently not allowed in Spring Lake. Despite the no fishing there have been recaptures outside the BVA days and have mostly been made by local younger fishers. There is an ongoing community debate about no fishing being allowed.

There has been no shift in the size profile of Bass between 2021-2025. This suggest that the growth rate is very slow. Recaptures suggest that the growth rate of Bass is low at 10-25mm per year with an average of 22mm/year. However a small number of individual fish have grown faster. The average length of Bass in 2021 was 225mm while in 2025 it was 216mm.

The low growth rates of Bass could be the result of competition for food from Tilapia and larger fish, overstocking, a combination of both and some unknown factors. The lack of larger Bass being caught could be down to the fishing techniques being used, those fish are more wary and harder to catch, or they are simply not there.

There were 114.9kg of pest fish removed during the 2025 Pest Fish day comprising 106.5kg of Tilapia, 1.6kg of Barred Grunter, and 6.8kg of Carp. In the past 5 years there has been 430.4kg of pest fish removed. The biggest fish in each bag this year was measured and the average largest Tilapia was 392mm. This compares with the average length of Bass at 216mm so Tilapia were the dominant species both in numbers caught and size.

SPRINGFIELD LAKES LOCATION		
	Spring Lake 27.67°S 152.92°E Regatta Lake 27.676°S 152.92°E	
LAKES		
Springfield Lakes Grid map SFL Spring Lake grid C2 Regatta Lake grid C3 Discovery Lake grid C3	Surface area Spring Lake 1.2km² Regatta Lake 2.4km² Discovery lake 2.2km² Stocking in Spring Lake 2018-2024	

FISH STOCKING																													
AUSTRALIAN BASS	MARY RIVER COD	GOLDEN PERCH																											
																													
Fingerlings stocked 2018-2025	Stocked 2018-2025 Bass30,575 Mary River Cod5,800 Golden PerchUnknown	SPRINGFIELD LAKES STOCKED FISH  <table><thead><tr><th>Year</th><th>Australian Bass</th><th>Mary River Cod</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2018</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>2019</td><td>12000</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>2020</td><td>0</td><td>3500</td></tr><tr><td>2021</td><td>10500</td><td>500</td></tr><tr><td>2022</td><td>0</td><td>1000</td></tr><tr><td>2023</td><td>3500</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>2024</td><td>3000</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>2025</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table>	Year	Australian Bass	Mary River Cod	2018	0	0	2019	12000	0	2020	0	3500	2021	10500	500	2022	0	1000	2023	3500	0	2024	3000	0	2025	0	0
Year	Australian Bass	Mary River Cod																											
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2024	3000	0																											
2025	0	0																											
Fish tagged 2021-2025 per 10,000 fish stocked to 2023 (fish large enough to tag)	Australian Bass352:10,000 Mary River Cod0 (none recorded)	FISH TAGGED PER 10,000 FISH STOCKED  <table><thead><tr><th>Species</th><th>Fish Tagged per 10,000 Fish Stocked</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Australian Bass</td><td>352</td></tr><tr><td>Mary River Cod</td><td>0</td></tr></tbody></table>	Species	Fish Tagged per 10,000 Fish Stocked	Australian Bass	352	Mary River Cod	0																					
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AUSTRALIAN BASS



DATA RELIABILITY

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

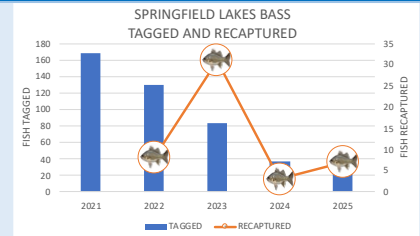
Reliability level	LOW		MODERATE		MODERATE	HIGH	
Samples	10	41	68	271	384	664	
Confidence	80%	80%	90%	90%	95%	99%	
Error	20%	10%	10%	5%	5%	5%	



TAGGED AND RECAPTURED

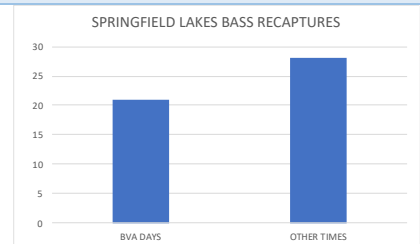
Bass tagged and recaptured each year
2021-2025

	Tagged	Recaps
2021	158	0
2022	132	8
2023	83	31
2024	37	3
2025	39	7
Total	457	49
Recapture rate		10.7%

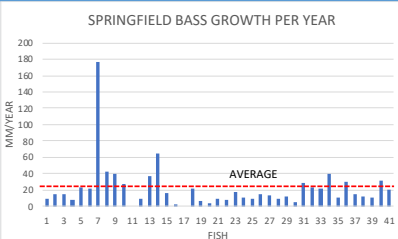
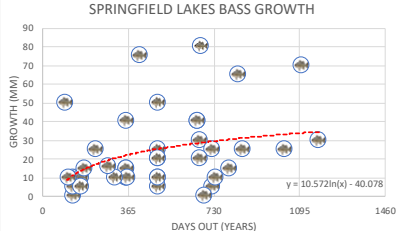


Recaptures during BVA fish days and other times
2021-2025

BVA fish days	21
Other times	28

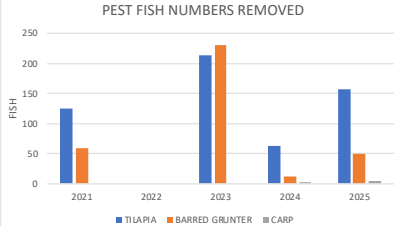
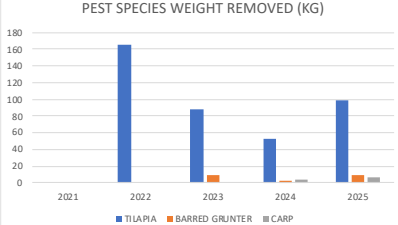
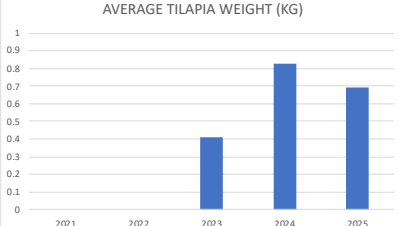
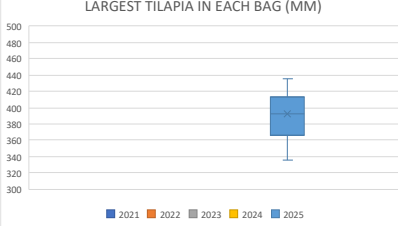


LENGTHS				
Bass lengths (mm) Bars show length range 2021-2025				
Average length (mm) Bars show length range 2021-2025	2021 2022 2023 2024 2025	Av 225 227 224 209 214	Max 465 430 335 350 365	
Bass length range (mm) Numbers of fish 2021				
Bass length range (mm) Numbers of fish 2022				
Bass length range (mm) Numbers of fish 2023				
Bass length range (mm) Numbers of fish 2024				
Bass length range (mm) Numbers of fish 2025				

GROWTH			
Bass growth per year (mm) 2021-2025	Recaptures	41	
	Av growth/year (mm)	22	
Bass growth per year (mm) 2021-2025	Growth at end of each year		
	Year 1	22	
	Year 2	30	
	Year 3	34	
	Year 4	37	
		mm	

GOLDEN PERCH			
FISH			
Tagged 2021-2025	Year	Tagged	
	2021	1	
	2022	0	
	2023	0	
	2024	4	
	2025	0	
	Total	5	

MARY RIVER COD			
FISH			
Recorded 2021-2025	Year	Recorded	
	2021	0	
	2022	0	
	2023	0	
	2024	0	
	2025	0	
	Total	0	

PEST SPECIES		
		
Tilapia	Barred Grunter	European Carp
MEASURE		
Numbers of pest species removed 2021-2025 Numbers not recorded in 2022	2021-2025	Removed
	Tilapia	556
	Grunter	355
	Carp	5
	Total	916
	2025	210
		
Weight of pest species removed 2021-2025 Weight not recorded in 2021	2021-2025	Weight (kg)
	Tilapia	411.2
	Grunter	8.9
	Carp	10.2
	Total	430.4
	2025	114.9
		
Average weight of Tilapia removed 2022-2024	Average weight (kg)	
	2023	0.41
	2024	0.83
	2025	0.69
		
Average length of largest Tilapia 2025	Average length of Largest Tilapia in each bag (mm)	
	2025	392.5
	Range	335-435
		

Data sources

Data used in the Springfield Lakes Crystal Bowl are:

- Tag records and recapture records for the impoundment at <http://crystalbowl.infofishaustralia.com.au/>.
- Stocked fish records from Brisbane Valley Anglers Fishstocking Association.
- Pest fish data provided by Brisbane Valley Anglers Fishstocking Association.