

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/>

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

SPRINGFIELD LAKES OVERVIEW

SPRINGFIELD LAKES LOCATION

FISH STOCKING

AUSTRALIAN BASS

GOLDEN PERCH

MARY RIVER COD

PEST SPECIES



Product of Infofish Australia

Supported by Suntag, FFSAQ and BVA

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.

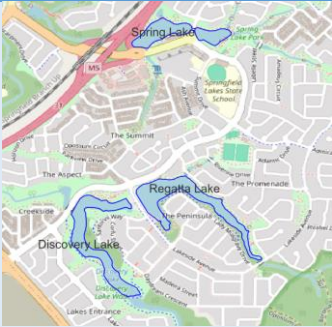

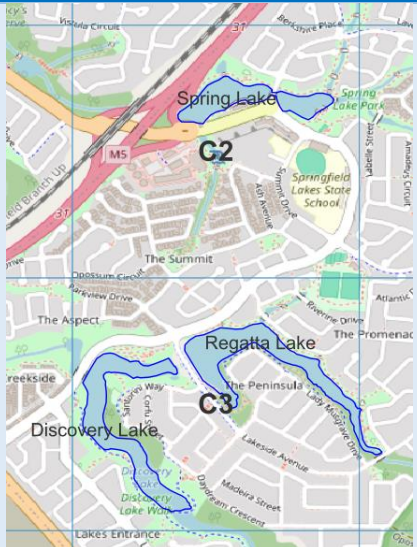
In conjunction with pest removal BVA have undertaken tagging days from 2021-2025. This involves junior fishers from the local area catching the fish while BVA members undertake the tagging. In that time there have been 457 Bass tagged for 49 (10.7%) recaptures.




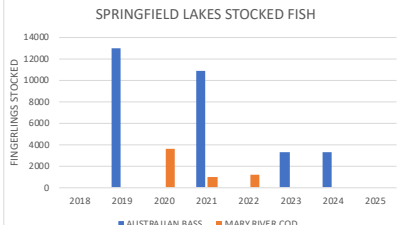
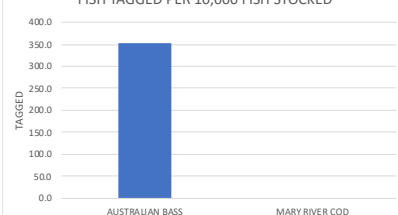
Fishing in the Springfield Lakes outside BVA fishing days has been limited as fishing is currently not allowed in Spring Lake. Despite the no fishing there have been recaptures outside the BVA days and have mostly been made by local younger fishers. There is an ongoing community debate about no fishing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




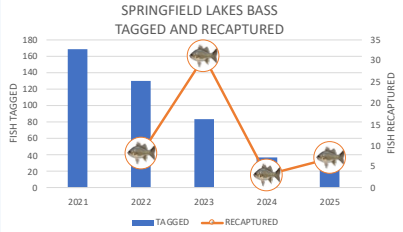
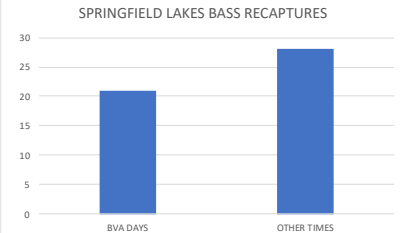
There has been no shift in the size profile of Bass between 2021-2025. This suggest that the growth rate is very slow. Recaptures suggest that the growth rate of Bass is low at 10-25mm per year with an average of 22mm/year. However a small number of individual fish have grown faster. The average length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

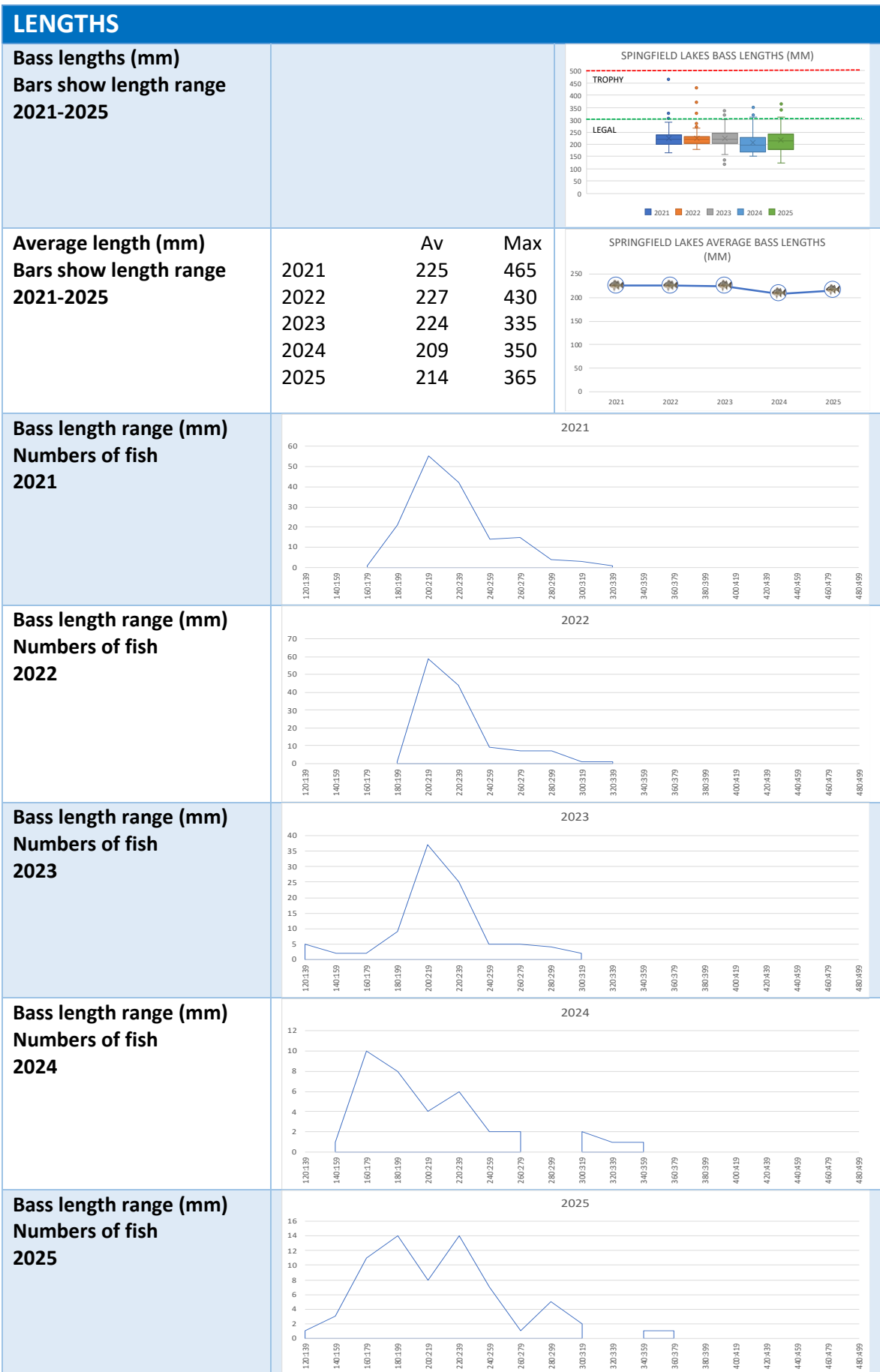
The low growth rates of Bass could be the result of competition for food from Tilapia and larger fish, overstocking, a combination of both and some unknown factors. The lack of larger Bass being caught could be down to the fishing techniques being used, those fish are more wary and harder to catch, or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

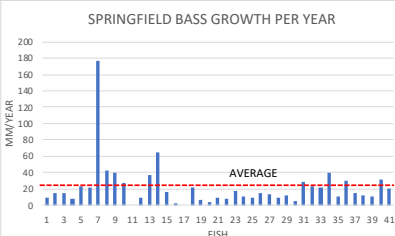
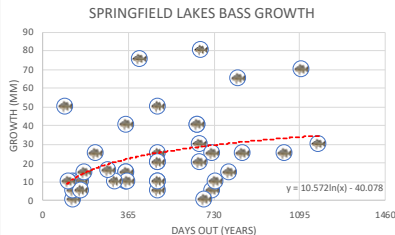
There were 114.9kg of pest fish removed during the 2025 Pest Fish day comprising 106.5kg of Tilapia, 1.6kg of Barred Grunter, and 6.8kg of Carp. In the past 5 years there has been 430.4kg of pest fish removed. The biggest fish in each bag this year was measured and the average largest Tilapia was 392mm. 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		
	<p>Spring Lake 27.67°S 152.92°E</p> <p>Regatta Lake 27.676°S 152.92°E</p>	
LAKES		
<p>Springfield Lakes</p> <p>Grid map SFL</p> <p>Spring Lake grid C2</p> <p>Regatta Lake grid C3</p> <p>Discovery Lake grid C3</p>	<p>Surface area</p> <p>Spring Lake 1.2km²</p> <p>Regatta Lake 2.4km²</p> <p>Discovery lake 2.2km²</p> <p>Stocking in Spring Lake 2018-2024</p>	

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




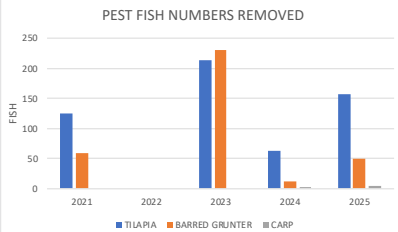
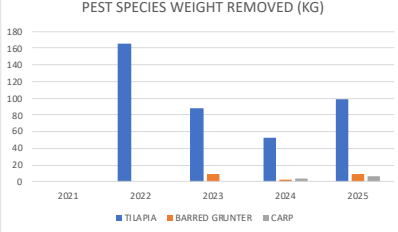
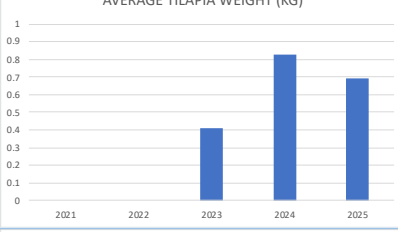
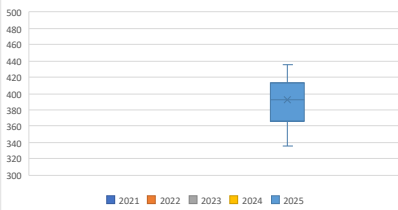
AUSTRALIAN BASS		
		
DATA RELIABILITY		
Sample size (fish/year) Tags (blue arrow) Recaptures (orange arrow) Confidence % Error % 2021-2025	Reliability level	<div>LOW</div> <div>MODERATE</div> <div>MODERATE</div> <div>HIGH</div>
	Samples	104168271384664
	Confidence	80%80%90%90%95%99%
	Error	20%10%10%5%5%5%
		 
TAGGED AND RECAPTURED		
Bass tagged and recaptured each year 2021-2025	Tagged	Recaps
	2021	1580
	2022	1328
	2023	8331
	2024	373
	2025	397
	Total	45749
	Recapture rate	10.7%
Recaptures during BVA fish days and other times 2021-2025	BVA fish days	21
	Other times	28
		
		



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		
	Year 2		
	Year 3		
	Year 4		

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.