



## QUEENSLAND STATEWIDE REVIEW JUNE 2025

### INFORMATION RATING



Key species: Barramundi, Australian Bass, Dusky Flathead

Fish timeframe: 2016-2025 Jan-Jun

Fisher timeframe: 2021-2025 Jan-Jun

Fisher activity includes taggers and those recapturing fish and covers month, day of fishing and location. At the statewide level there is little difference in the monthly and weekday activity of taggers and those recapturing fish.

As tagging is predominantly in estuaries and impoundments fish are not highly mobile so recaptures are made in the same area as fish are tagged. Tag locations are associated with waterways in close proximity to population centres and cover most areas of the state where recreational fishing occurs.

At the statewide level fishing effort, based on days fished by taggers and those recapturing fish, suggests that Covid restrictions had some impact on fishing in 2020 and 2021 although there were some regions that were impacted more than others, particularly those fished by travelling fishers. Since then there has been a rebound in activity however little change from year to year.


Travel by intrastate and interstate fishers was down in 2020 when Covid travel restrictions were in place. Recaptures by intrastate fishers was a high 28% in 2021 following Covid and was down slightly in 2024 and in 2025 so far to 24% which is around the long-term average. The proxy travel distance for intrastate fishers fell to 212km in 2024 and 216km so far in 2025. The interstate travel average travel distance is down to 807km so far in 2025 compared to 1,464 in 2022. This possibly suggests cost-of-living may be influencing interstate travel.

Interstate fishers recapturing fish are around 2-4% over the past 5 years and is currently at 4%. This suggests that there is little change in the rate of interstate fishers recapturing fish. Interstate fishers are mostly from NSW and Vic accounting for 90% of recaptures made by interstate fishers.

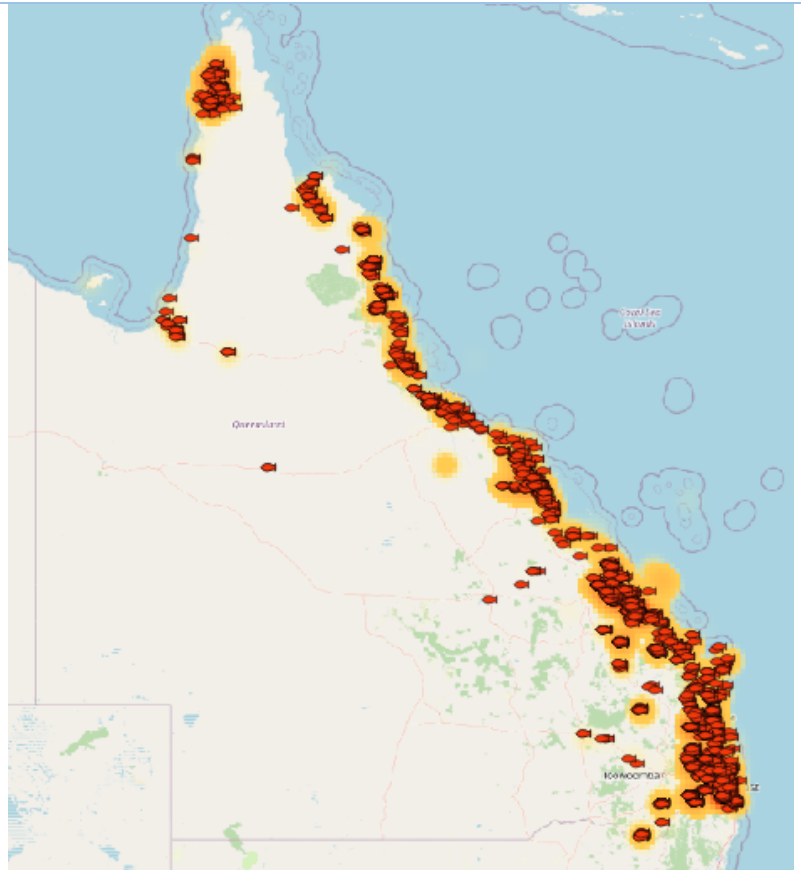
Recapture rates by gender have been around 6-7% for females from 2021-2023 and rose to 8.8% in 2024 and fell back to 6.9% so far this year. This may suggest that female effort and skill development is on the increase.

Overall tag and recapture details are provided for the 3 species tagged the most being Barramundi, Bass and Flathead. These species account for 57% of the total tagging effort. Based on recaptures of legal sized fish by other than taggers, 47% of Barramundi, 12% of Bass and 56% of Flathead were kept. This suggests that for Barramundi and Flathead that these are around 50-50 harvest and experiential fisheries while for Bass this is predominantly an experiential fishery.

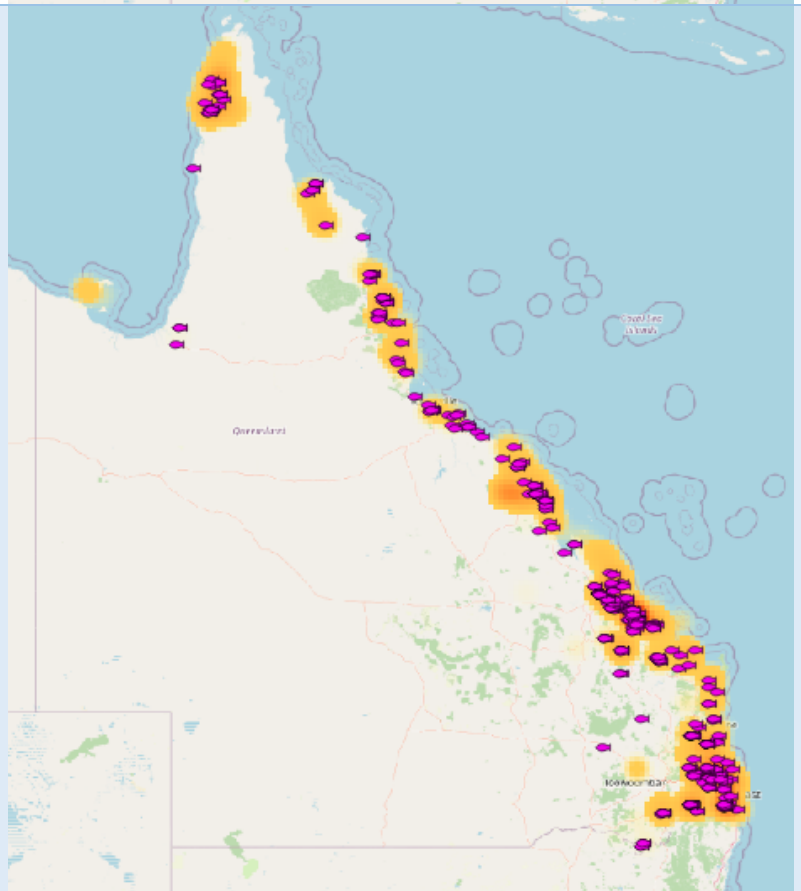
Tag rates and fish lengths at the statewide level have remained steady over the past decade and have not shown any particular trend.

QUEENSLAND				STATEWIDE PERSPECTIVE																																	
All of Queensland																																					
FISHERS	ACTUAL		GRAPH or MAP																																		
DATA RELIABILITY																																					
Sample size (days fished)	<table><tr><td>Reliability level</td><td colspan="2">LOW</td><td colspan="2">MODERATE</td><td>MODERATE</td><td colspan="2">HIGH</td></tr><tr><td>Samples</td><td>10</td><td>41</td><td>68</td><td>271</td><td>384</td><td>664</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Confidence</td><td colspan="2">80%</td><td>80%</td><td>90%</td><td>90%</td><td>95%</td><td>99%</td></tr><tr><td>Error</td><td colspan="2">20%</td><td>10%</td><td>10%</td><td>5%</td><td>5%</td><td>5%</td></tr></table>					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%
Reliability level	LOW		MODERATE		MODERATE	HIGH																															
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Tag days (blue arrow)																																					
Recaptures (orange arrow)																																					
Confidence %																																					
Error %																																					
2021-2025																																					
ACTIVITY																																					
Month fished	Month		%																																		
Taggers (15,165)	Taggers	Oct	10%																																		
Recapture fishers (4,013)		Sep	10%																																		
2021-2025		Apr	10%																																		
2025 Jan-Jun	Recaps	Oct	11%																																		
		Apr	10%																																		
		May	10%																																		
Month fished	Month		%																																		
Taggers (1,445)	Taggers	Apr	19%																																		
Recapture fishers (471)		May	18%																																		
2025 Jan-Jun	Recaps	Apr	21%																																		
		May	18%																																		
Weekday fished	Day		%																																		
Taggers (15,165)	Taggers	Weekend	41%																																		
Recapture fishers (4,013)		Weekdays	59%																																		
2021-2025	Recaps	Weekend	43%																																		
2025 Jan-Jun		Weekdays	57%																																		
Weekday fished	Day		%																																		
Taggers (1,445)	Taggers	Weekends	46%																																		
Recapture fishers (471)		Weekdays	54%																																		
2025 Jan-Jun	Recaps	Weekends	42%																																		
		Weekdays	58%																																		

**Locations fished**  
**Tagged fish (red-orange**  
**heatmap) (91,616)**  
**Recaptured fish (red fish)**  
**(6,029)**  
**2021-2025**  
**2025 Jan-Jun**

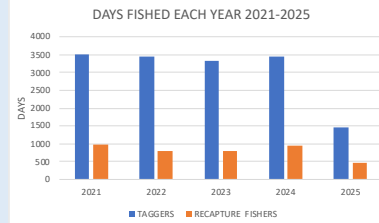


**Tagged fish (red-orange**  
**heatmap) (9,525)**  
**Recaptured fish (pink fish)**  
**(647)**  
**2025 Jan-Jun**

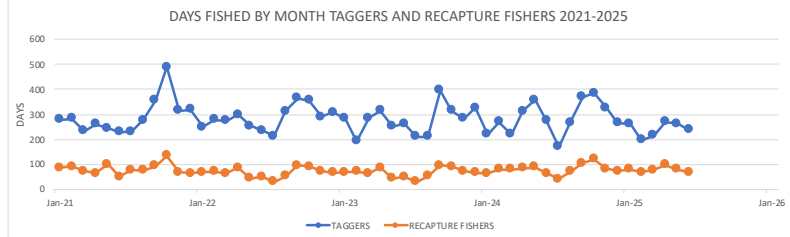


## EFFORT

Days fished	Year	Taggers	Recaps
Taggers	2021	3515	979
Recapture fishers (ex-taggers)	2022	3438	791
2021-2025	2023	3330	791
2025 Jan-Jun	2024	3433	954
	2025	1449	471

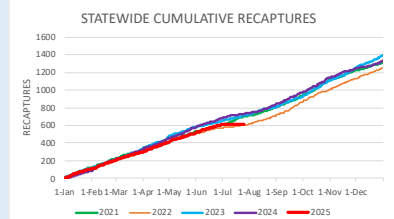


**Fisher effort**  
**Days fished per month**  
**Taggers**  
**Recapture fishers (ex-taggers)**  
**2021-2025**  
**2025 Jan-Jun**



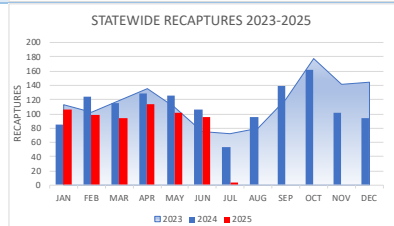
**Recapture fishers**  
**Cumulative recaptures**  
**2021-2025**  
**2025 Jan-Jun**

Year	Recaptures
2021	1305
2022	1251
2023	1391
2024	1331
2025	612



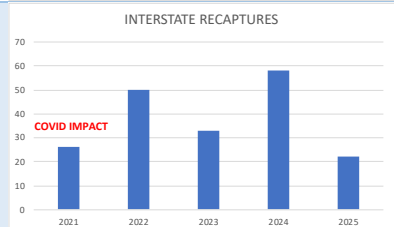
**Recapture fishers**  
**Monthly recaptures**  
**2023-2025**  
**2025 Jan-Jun**

Year	Recaptures
2023	1391
2024	1331
2025	612

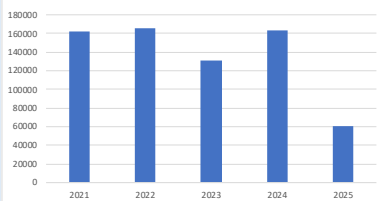
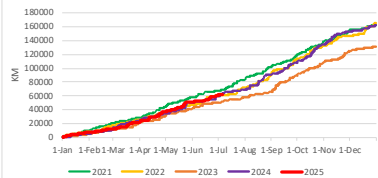
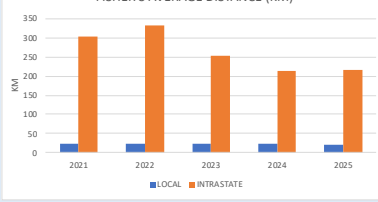
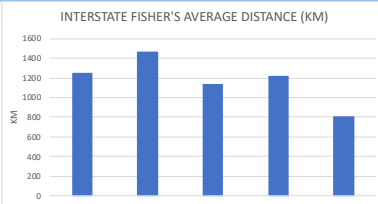
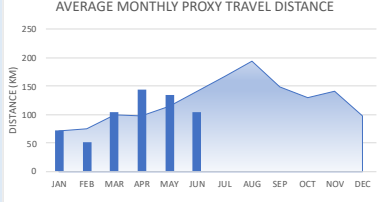
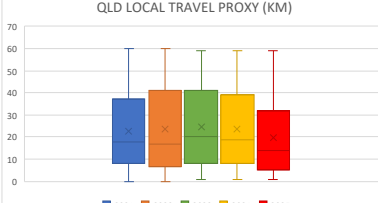
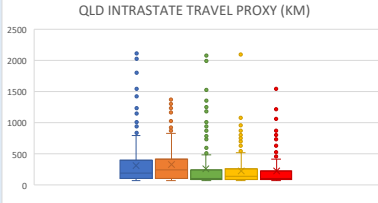
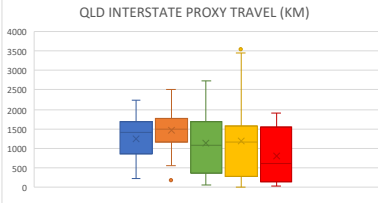


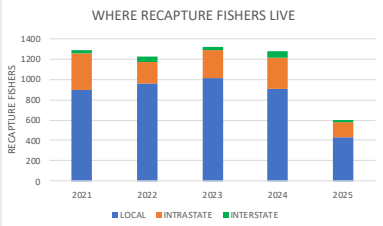
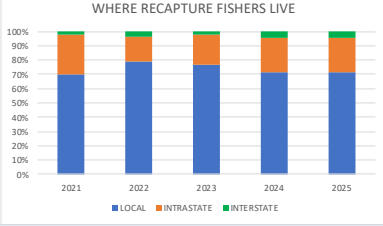
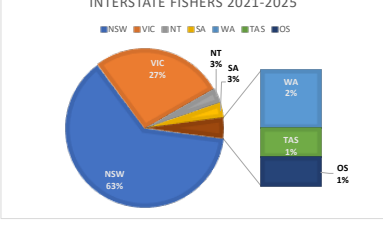
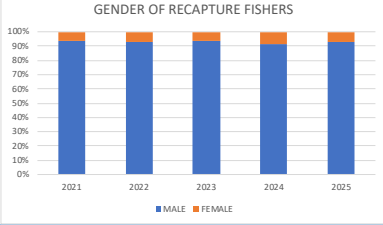
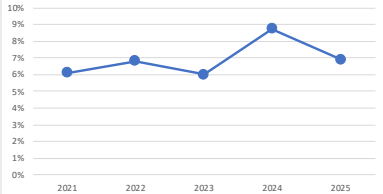
**Recapture fishers**  
**Interstate fishers**  
**2020-2024**

Year	Recaptures
2021	26
2022	50
2023	33
2024	58
2025	22

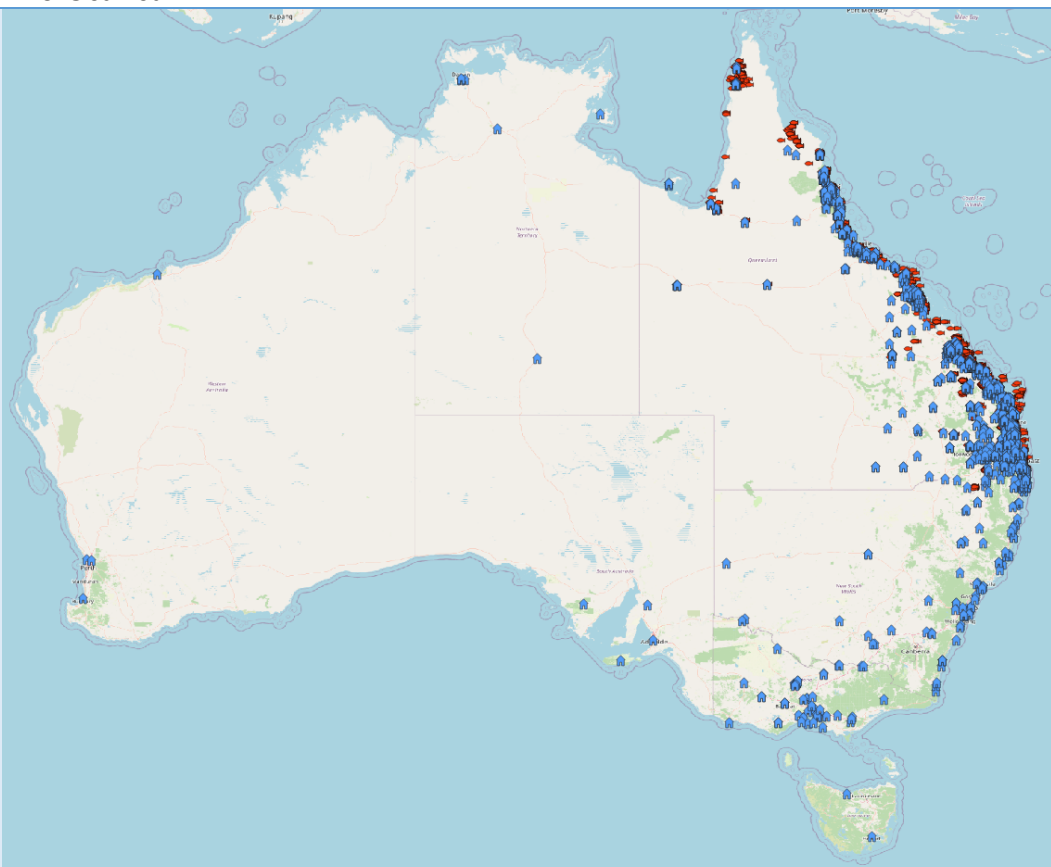


## TRAVEL

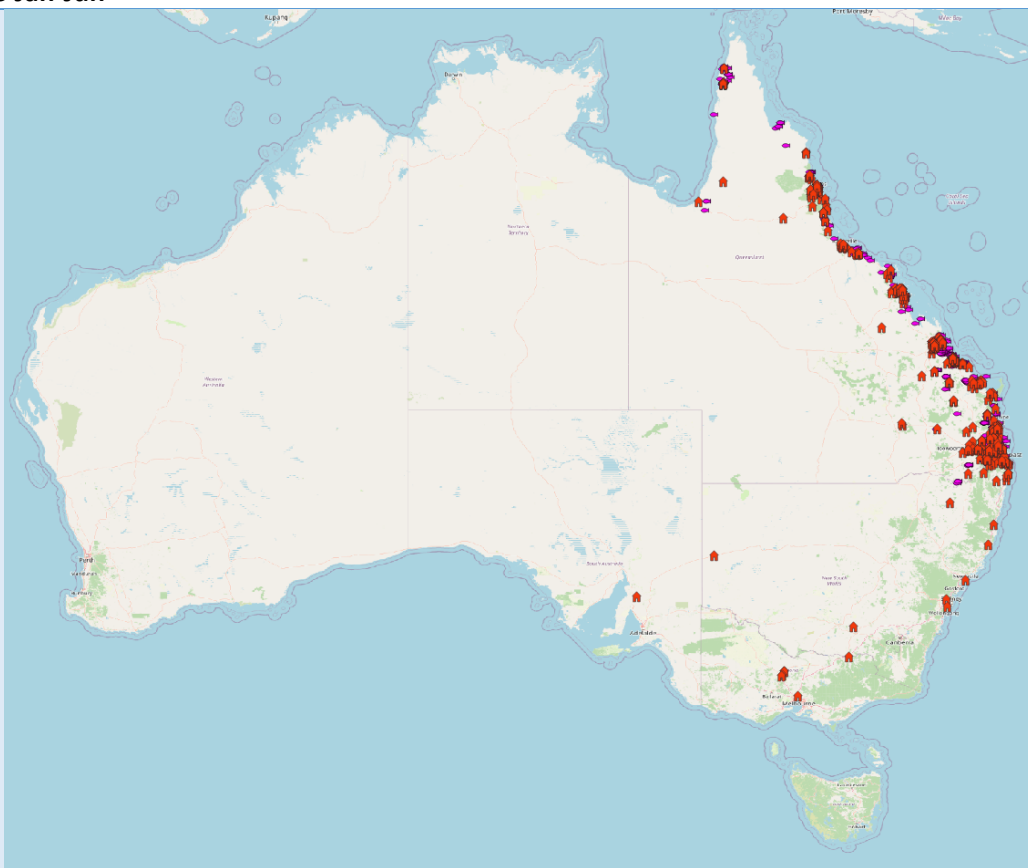
Cumulative distance where fishers live to recapture location (travel proxy) 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun	Year 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Jan-Jun	Distance (km) 162116 165727 131395 162813 60882	CUMULATIVE PROXY TRAVEL DISTANCE (KM) 	
Cumulative distance where fishers live to recapture location (travel proxy) 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun	Year 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Jan-Jun	Distance (km) 162116 165727 131395 162813 60882	STATEWIDE CUMULATIVE DISTANCE ADDRESS TO RECAPTURE 2021-2025 	
Average distance where fishers live to recapture location (travel proxy) Local Intrastate (Qld) 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun	Year 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Jan-Jun	Av distance (km) Local Qld 23 303 23 331 25 251 24 213 20 216	FISHER'S AVERAGE DISTANCE (KM) 	
Average distance where fishers live to recapture location (travel proxy) Interstate 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun	Year 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Jan-Jun	Av Distance (km) 1249 1464 1140 1218 807	INTERSTATE FISHER'S AVERAGE DISTANCE (KM) 	
Average monthly distance where fishers live to recapture location (travel proxy) 2021-2024 2025 Jan-Jun	Max Min 2025 Max Min	21-24 Aug Jan Apr Jan	Dist (km) 195 72 144 72	AVERAGE MONTHLY PROXY TRAVEL DISTANCE 
Distance (km) address or postcode to recapture location (travel proxy) Local (1-59km) 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun	2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Jan-Jun	Range (km) 1-59 1-59 1-59 1-59 1-59	QLD LOCAL TRAVEL PROXY (KM) 	
Distance (km) address or postcode to recapture location (travel proxy) Intrastate (other Qld) 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun	2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Jan-Jun	Range (km) 61-2120 61-1372 60-2092 60-2090 60-1547	QLD INTRASTATE TRAVEL PROXY (KM) 	
Distance (km) address or postcode to recapture location (travel proxy) Interstate 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun	2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Jan-Jun	Range (km) 206-2230 180-2503 61-2736 12-3605 13-1900	QLD INTERSTATE PROXY TRAVEL (KM) 	

DEMOGRAPHICS					
Where recapture fishers live Local (1-59km) Intrastate (Qld) Interstate 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun		Local	Qld	Oth	
	2021	899	356	26	
	2022	961	210	50	
	2023	1007	273	32	
	2024	908	308	56	
	2025	432	144	27	
Where recapture fishers live Local (1-59km) Intrastate Interstate 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun		Local	Qld	Oth	
	2021	70%	28%	2%	
	2022	79%	17%	4%	
	2023	77%	21%	2%	
	2024	71%	24%	5%	
	2025	72%	24%	4%	
Interstate of origin 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun				State	
	NSW			63%	
	VIC			27%	
	NT			3%	
	SA			3%	
	WA			2%	
	TAS			1%	
	Overseas			1%	
Gender of recapture fishers (ex- taggers) 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun		Male	Female		
	2021	94%	6%		
	2022	93%	7%		
	2023	94%	6%		
	2024	91%	9%		
	2025	93%	7%		
Gender of recapture fishers (ex- taggers) 2021-2025 2025 Jan-Jun		Female			
	2021	6.1%			
	2022	6.8%			
	2023	6.0%			
	2024	8.8%			
	2025	6.9%			




**Where fishers live (blue houses) that recaptured fish (red fish) (6,028)  
2021-2025 Jan-Jun**



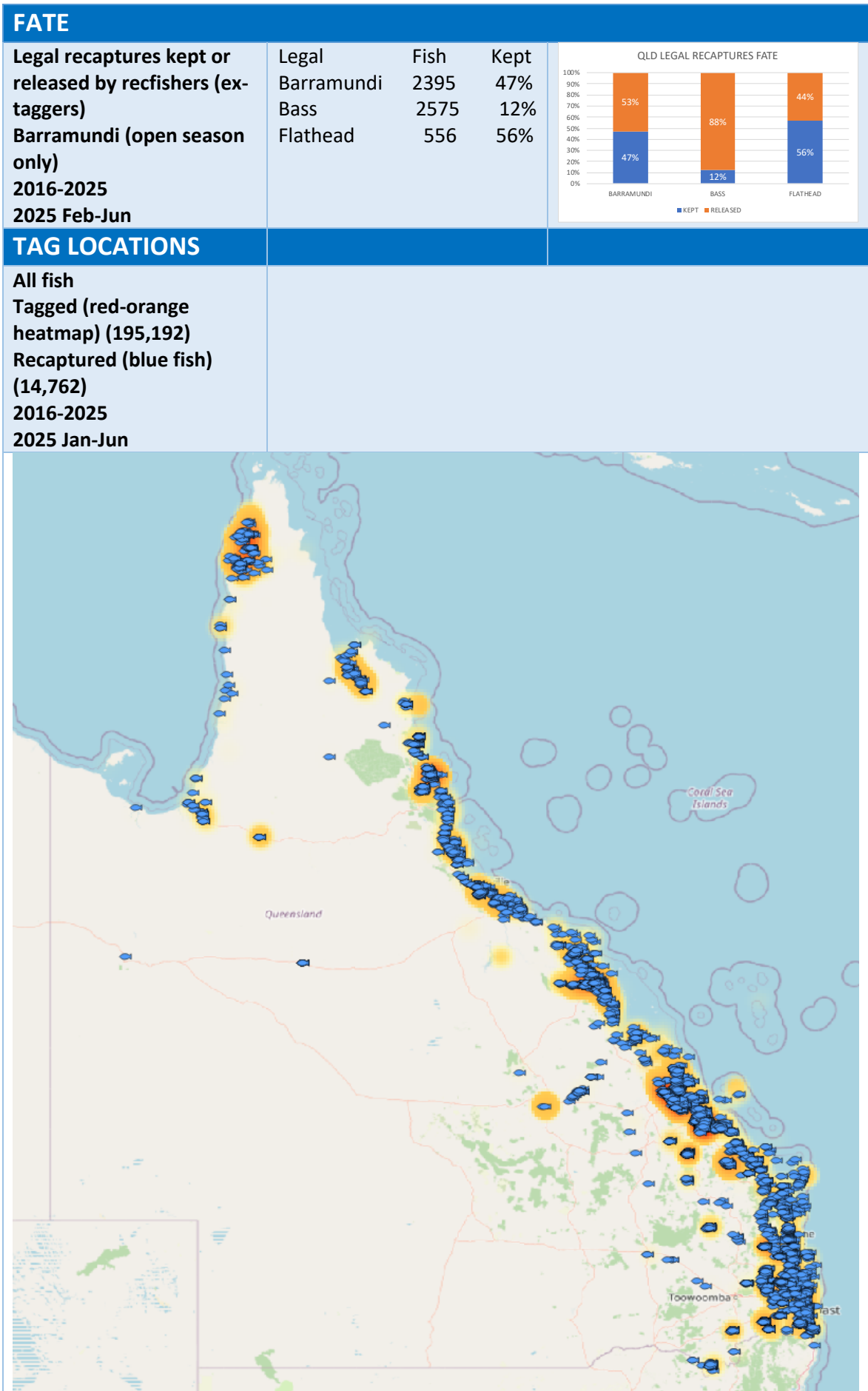
**Where fishers live (red houses) that recaptured fish (pink fish) (643)  
2025 Jan-Jun**




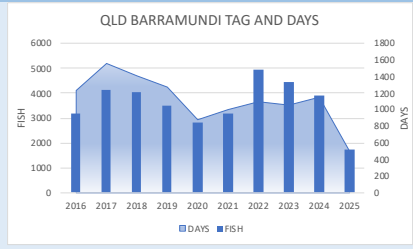
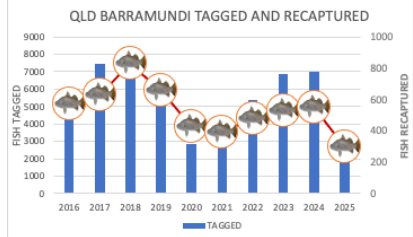
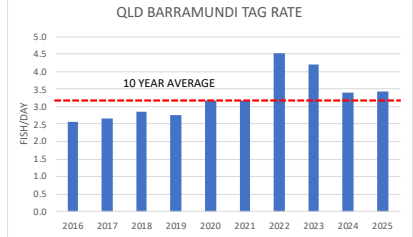
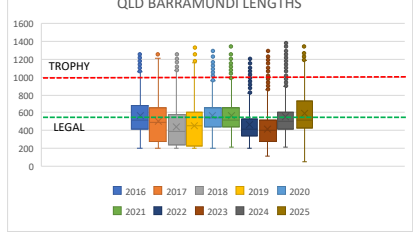
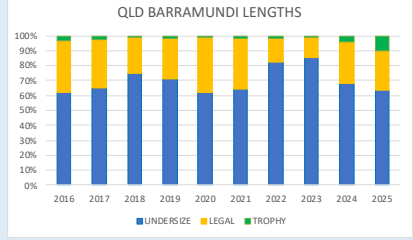




FISH	ACTUAL		GRAPH or MAP
BARRAMUNDI	AUSTRALIAN BASS		DUSKY FLATHEAD
			
EFFORT			
Tag and effort taggers	High	Low	Now
Tagged fish	Tagged		
Days fished	2015	2019	2025
2016-2025	22919	16834	8954
2025 Jan-Jun	Days fished		
	2016	2022	2025
	4045	3330	1447
Fish tagged	Tagged	Recaptured	
Recaptured	195016	14769	
2016-2025	Recapture rate		
2025 Jan-Jun	7.6%		
TAG RATE			
Tag rate	High	Low	Now
Fish/day	Tag rate		
2016-2025	2023	2020	2025
2025 Jan-Jun	5.8	4.3	6.2
	10 year average		5.0
SPECIES			
Species composition	Top 3 species		
Numbers tagged	Barramundi	54722	
2016-2025	Bass	41333	
2025 Jan-Jun	Flathead	14575	
	Other species	84386	
Species composition	Barramundi	28%	
Percentage tagged	Bass	21%	
2016-2025	Flathead	7%	
2025 Jan-Jun	Top 3	57%	





BARRAMUNDI		ACTUAL		GRAPH or MAP																									
																													
DATA RELIABILITY																													
Sample size (fish/year)		<table><tr><td>Reliability level</td><td>LOW</td><td>MODERATE</td><td>MODERATE</td><td>HIGH</td></tr><tr><td>Samples</td><td>10</td><td>41</td><td>68</td><td>271</td></tr><tr><td>Confidence</td><td>80%</td><td>80%</td><td>90%</td><td>90%</td></tr><tr><td>Error</td><td>20%</td><td>10%</td><td>10%</td><td>5%</td></tr></table>		Reliability level	LOW	MODERATE	MODERATE	HIGH	Samples	10	41	68	271	Confidence	80%	80%	90%	90%	Error	20%	10%	10%	5%	<table><tr><td>384</td><td>664</td></tr><tr><td>95%</td><td>99%</td></tr></table>		384	664	95%	99%
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Tag and effort taggers		High      Low      Now																											
Tagged fish		Tagged																											
Tag days		2022      2020      2025																											
2016-2025		4937      2810      1732																											
2025 Jan-Jun		Days fished																											
		2017      2020      2025																											
		1558      884      504																											
Fish tagged		Tagged		Recaptured																									
Recaptured		54722		5362																									
2016-2025		Recapture rate																											
2025 Jan-Jun		9.8%																											
TAG RATE																													
Tag rate		High      Low      Now																											
Fish/day		Tag rate																											
2016-2025		2022      2016      2025																											
2025 Jan-Jun		4.5      2.6      3.4																											
		10 year average		3.2																									
LENGTHS																													
Average length (mm)		High      Low      Now																											
Bars show length range		Average length																											
Dots show outliers		2021      2023      2025																											
2016-2025		567      417      595																											
2025 Jan-Jun		Max																											
		2021      2022      2025																											
		1340      1210      1380																											
Species composition		High      Low      Now																											
Percentage tagged		Legal-trophy																											
2016-2025		2020      2023      2025																											
2025 Jan-Jun		37%      14%      26%																											
		Trophy																											
		2024      2023      2025																											
		4%      1%      10%																											

## LOCATIONS

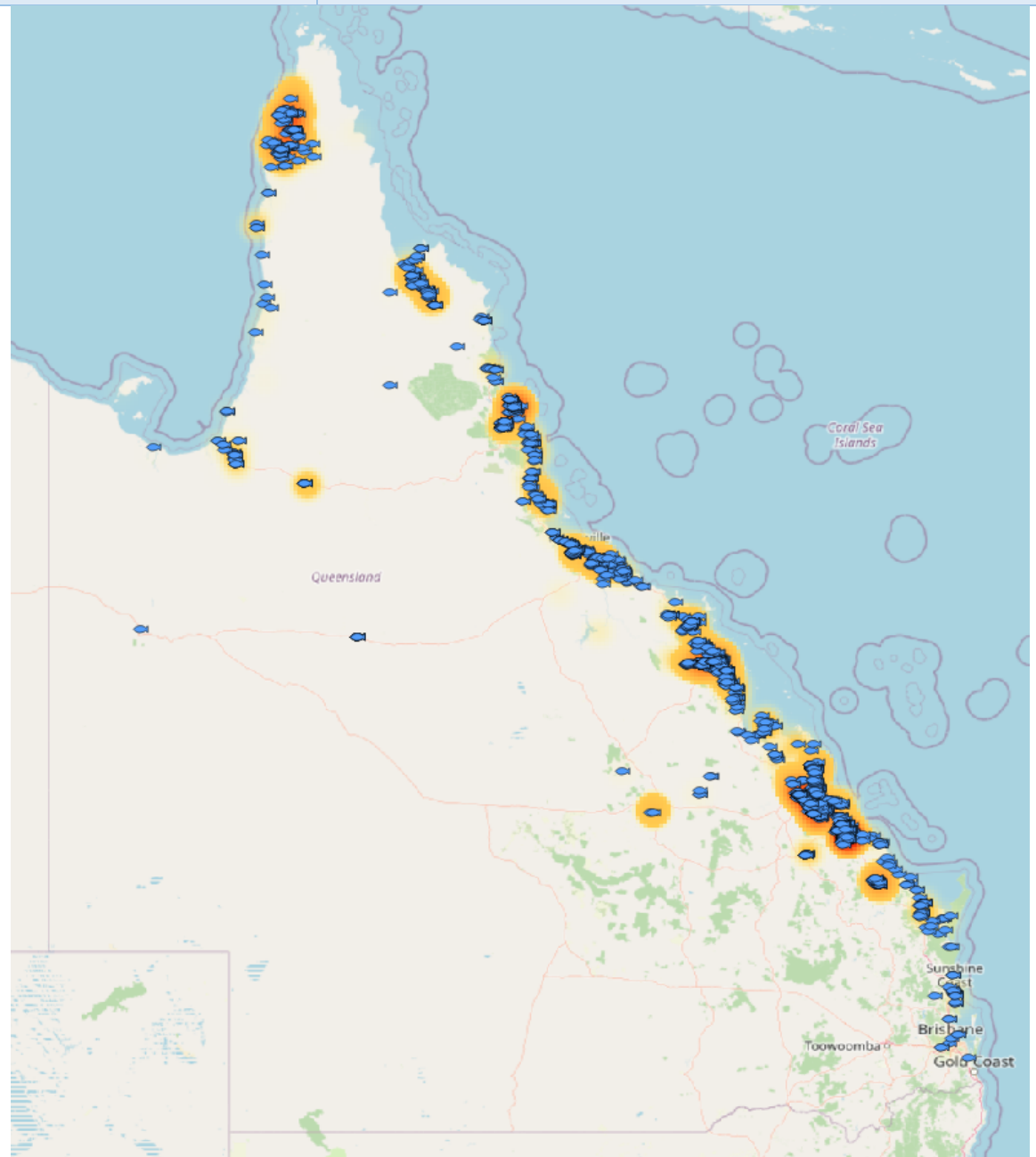
Barramundi


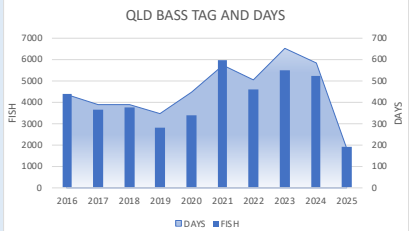
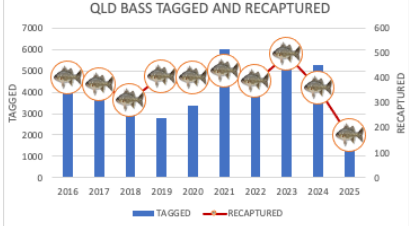
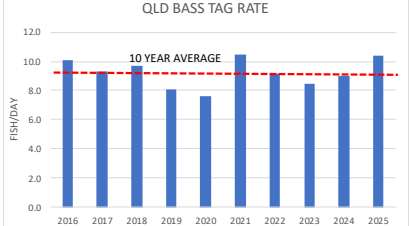
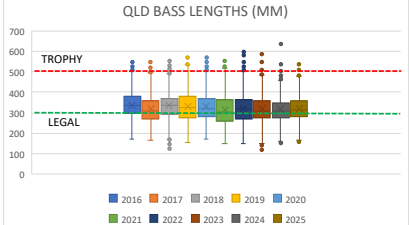
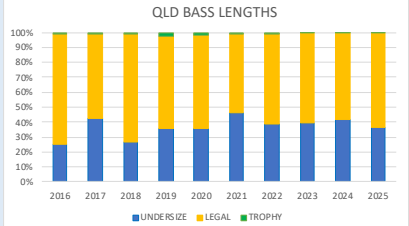
Tagged (red-orange  
heatmap) (54,905)

Recaptured (blue fish)  
(5,361)

2016-2025

2025 Jan-Jun



BASS	ACTUAL			GRAPH or MAP																											
																															
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2016-2025	5995	2798	1935																												
2025 Jan-Jun	Days fished																														
	2023	2019	2025																												
	651	347	186																												
Fish tagged	Tagged			Recaptured																											
Recaptured	41333			3720																											
2016-2025	Recapture rate																														
2025 Jan-Jun	9.0%																														
																															
TAG RATE																															
Tag rate	High	Low	Now																												
Fish/day	Tag rate																														
2016-2025	2021	2020	2025																												
2025 Jan-Jun	10.5	7.6	10.4																												
	10 year average		9.2																												
LENGTHS																															
Average length (mm)	High	Low	Now																												
Bars show length range	Average length																														
Dots show outliers	2016	2021	2025																												
2016-2025	338	314	322																												
2025 Jan-Jun	Max																														
	2024	2017	2025																												
	640	550	545																												
Species composition	High	Low	Now																												
Percentage tagged	Legal-trophy																														
2016-2025	2016	2021	2025																												
2025 Jan-Jun	73%	53%	63%																												
	Trophy																														
	2019	2023	2025																												
	2.6%	0.3%	0.5%																												

## LOCATIONS

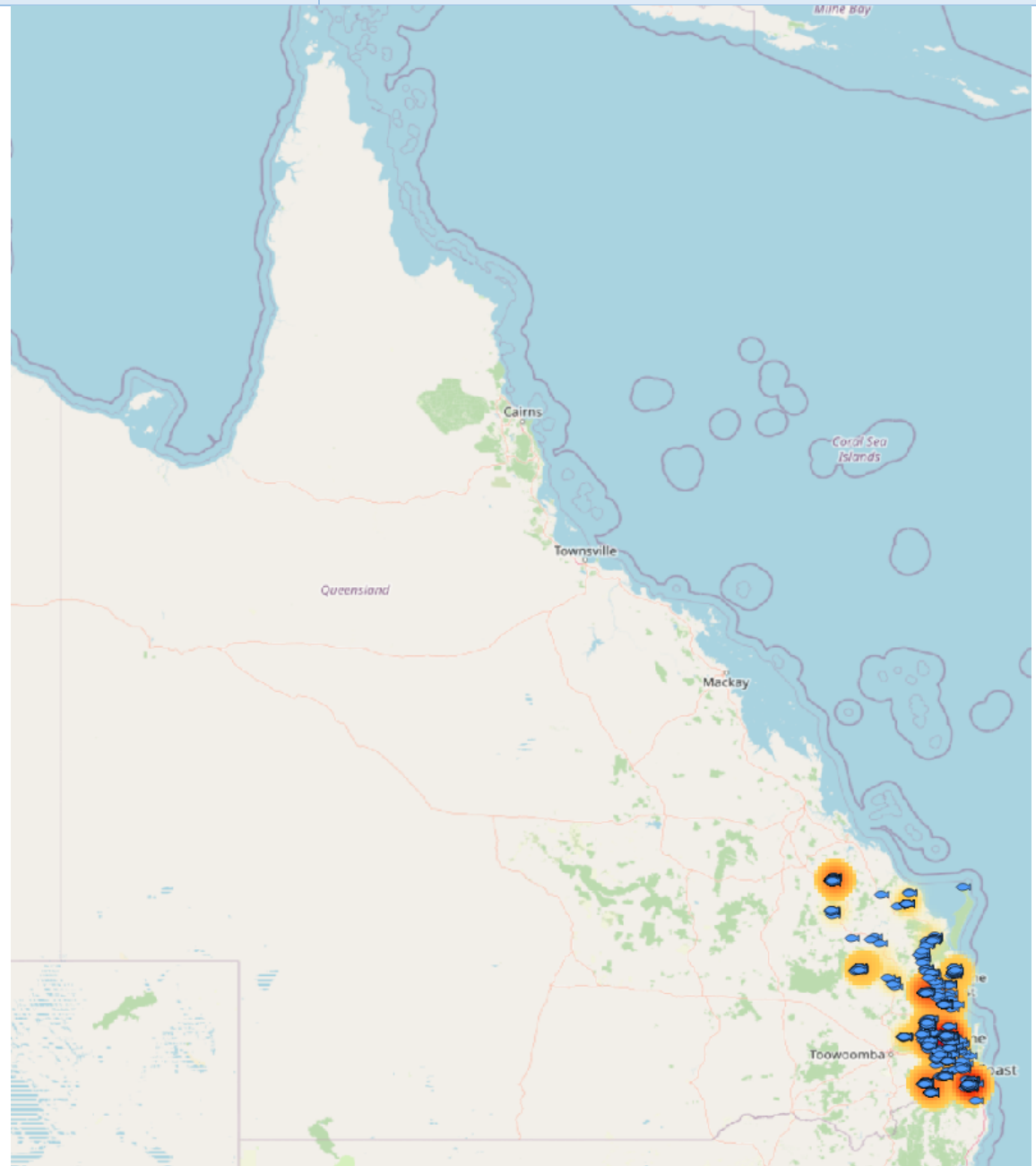
Bass


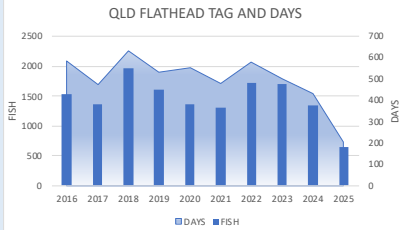
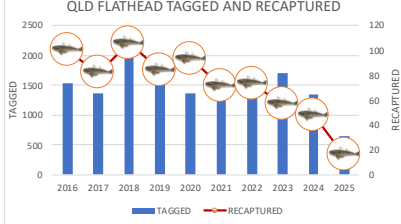
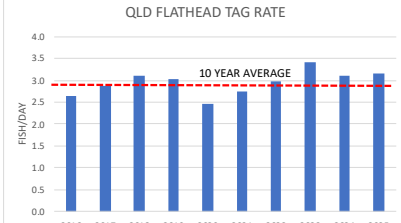
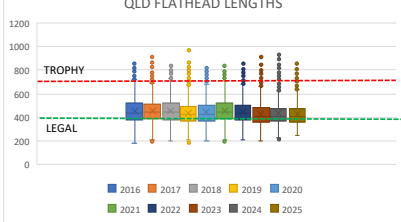
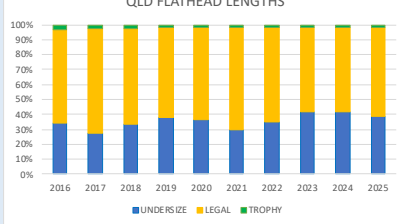
Tagged (red-orange  
heatmap) (41,332)

Recaptured (blue fish)  
(3,718)

2016-2025

2025 Jan-Jun



FLATHEAD	ACTUAL			GRAPH or MAP																												
																																
DATA RELIABILITY																																
Sample size (fish/year)	<table><tr><td>Reliability level</td><td>LOW</td><td></td><td>MODERATE</td><td>MODERATE</td><td></td><td>HIGH</td></tr><tr><td>Samples</td><td>10</td><td>41</td><td>68</td><td>271</td><td>384</td><td>664</td></tr><tr><td>Confidence</td><td>80%</td><td></td><td>80%</td><td>90%</td><td>90%</td><td>95%</td></tr><tr><td>Error</td><td>20%</td><td></td><td>10%</td><td>10%</td><td>5%</td><td>5%</td></tr></table>				Reliability level	LOW		MODERATE	MODERATE		HIGH	Samples	10	41	68	271	384	664	Confidence	80%		80%	90%	90%	95%	Error	20%		10%	10%	5%	5%
Reliability level	LOW		MODERATE	MODERATE		HIGH																										
Samples	10	41	68	271	384	664																										
Confidence	80%		80%	90%	90%	95%																										
Error	20%		10%	10%	5%	5%																										
Tagged (blue arrow)																																
Recaptures (orange arrow)																																
Confidence %																																
Error %																																
2021-2025																																
EFFORT																																
Tag and effort taggers	High	Low	Now																													
Tagged fish	Tagged																															
Tag days	2018	2021	2025																													
2016-2025	1965	1313	1333																													
2025 Jan-Jun	Days fished																															
	2018	2024	2025																													
	632	434	207																													
Fish tagged	Tagged																															
Recaptured	Recaptured																															
2016-2025	14575																															
2025 Jan-Jun	730																															
	Recapture rate																															
	5.0%																															
TAG RATE																																
Tag rate	High	Low	Now																													
Fish/day	Tag rate																															
2016-2025	2023	2020	2025																													
2025 Jan-Jun	3.4	2.5	3.2																													
	10 year average		2.9																													
LENGTHS																																
Average length (mm)	High	Low	Now																													
Bars show length range	Average length																															
Dots show outliers	2021	2023	2025																													
2016-2025	457	428	428																													
2025 Jan-Jun	Max																															
	2019	2020	2025																													
	970	840	860																													
Species composition	High	Low	Now																													
Percentage tagged	Legal-trophy																															
2016-2025	2017	2023	2025																													
2025 Jan-Jun	70%	57%	59%																													
	Trophy																															
	2017	2023	2025																													
	3%	2%	2%																													

## TAG LOCATIONS

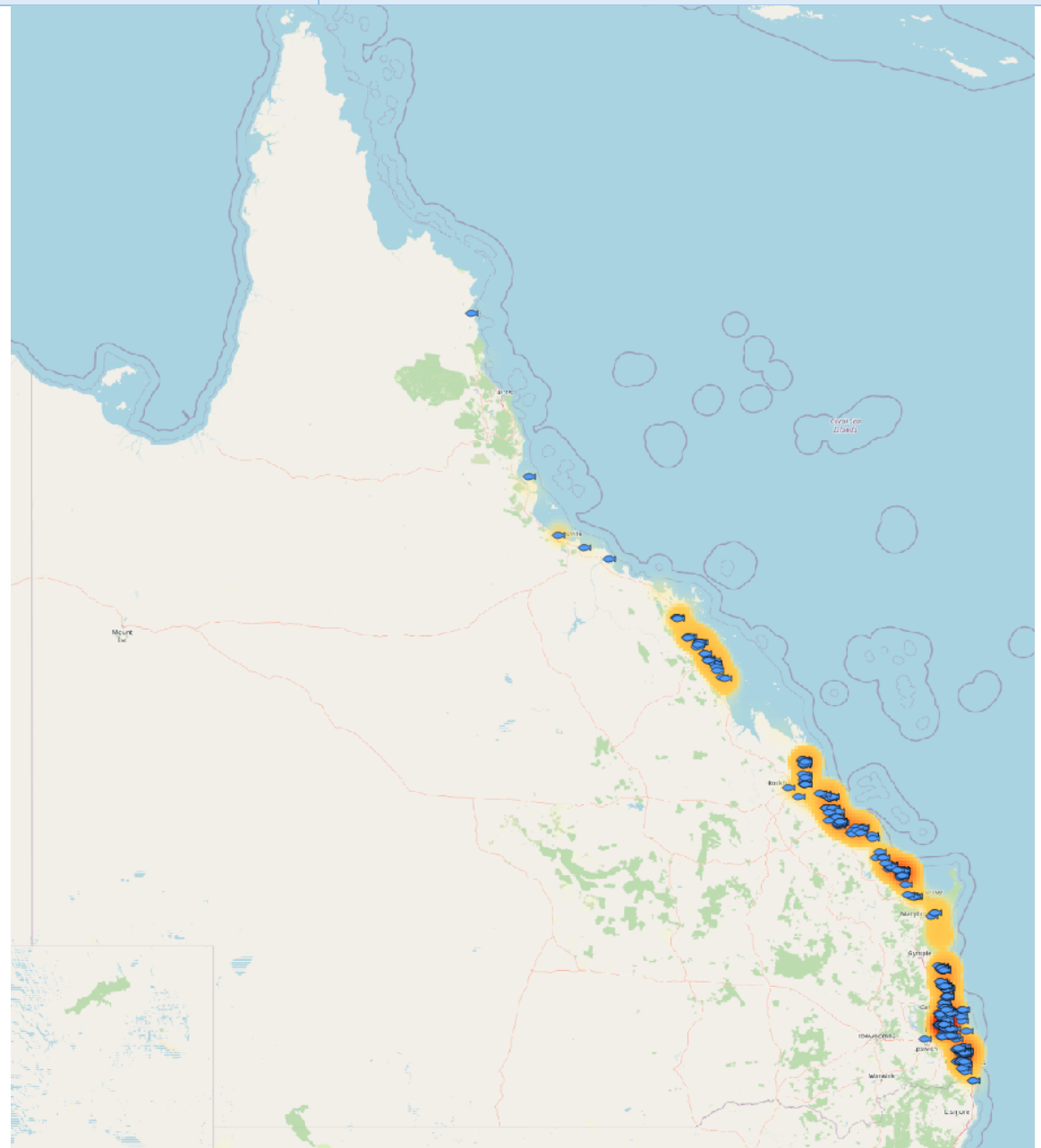
Flathead

Tagged (red-orange  
heatmap) (14,575)

Recaptured (blue fish)  
(729)

2016-2025

2025 Jan-Jun





## Data sources

Data used in the Queensland Crystal Bowl are:

- Tag and recapture records for Queensland from Suntag records from Infish database from [http://crystalbowl.infishaustralia.com.au/infish/f\\_infish.htm](http://crystalbowl.infishaustralia.com.au/infish/f_infish.htm).
- Postcodes from Australia Post website at <https://auspost.com.au/postcode>.

## Data 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.
- For Barramundi undersized fish are <580mm, legal fish are ≥580 and <1000mm and trophy fish are ≥1000mm.
- For Australian Bass undersized fish are <300mm, legal fish are ≥300 and <500mm and trophy fish are ≥500mm.
- For Dusky Flathead undersized fish are <400mm, legal fish are ≥400 and <700mm and trophy fish are ≥700mm.
- Locations based on Infish grid maps for Queensland.
- Distance from where fishers live to recapture location is the straight-line distance between locations based on Google Earth coordinates with Local <60, Intrastate ≥60 and Qld postcode, Interstate postcode other than Qld.