

LAKE WYARALONG REVIEW 2025

INFORMATION RATING



Stocking group: Logan and Albert Fish Management Association

Species stocked: Australian Bass, Mary River Cod

Stocking timeframe: 2014-2023

Fish timeframe: 2016-2025

Fisher timeframe: 2021-2025

DPI link: <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/rsa/sips-dams-and-weirs/profile?dam=wyaralong-dam>

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

LAKE WYARALONG OVERVIEW

LAKE WYARALONG LOCATION

TYPE OF FISHERY

FISHER ACTIVITY

FISHER EFFORT

FISHER TRAVEL

WHERE RECAPTURE FISHERS LIVE

STOCKED FISH

BASS

MARY RIVER COD

PEST FISH COMPETITIONS



Product of Infish Australia



Supported by Suntag, Freshwater Fish Stocking Association of Queensland and Logan Albert Fish Management Association

LAKE WYARALONG OVERVIEW

The data in this dashboard needs to be treated with caution as the confidence levels are low due to the low numbers of fish tagged and recaptured.

Wyaralong dam was completed in 2011 and filled in 2012. The lake was first stocked in 2014 with tagging commencing in 2016. From 2014-2023 there were 185K Bass and 98.35K Mary River Cod fingerlings released. These fish were of a size that could be tagged from 2016-2025.



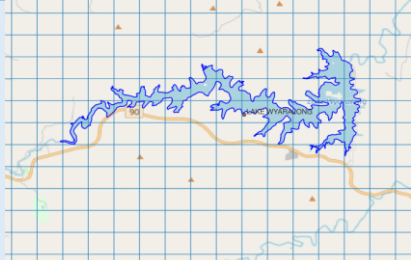
The lake is limited to electric motors only so that limits fishing activity with most of the fishing occurring within a few kms of the boat ramp. It is also a popular shore-based fishing location, particularly adjacent to the access road.

The fishery is mostly local with fishers that recaptured fish living within 80km (<1hr drive) with most coming from Beaudesert, the Ipswich area and intrastate from Toowoomba and the Sunshine Coast. The fishery is mostly experiential with a low level of harvest of legal Bass by recfishers (other than taggers) although tagged fish taken during the SIPS competition were more likely kept.

Lake Wyaralong was included in the SIPS 2.0 fish competition in 2024 and there were 4 recaptures of SIPS tagged fish from the lake. Given the low level of tagged fish and the number of recaptures there appears to have been an increase in fishing activity with over double the number of recaptures in 2024 compared with 2023. Based on recaptures there has been an increase in fishers of Asian origin, with many fishing from the shore. Fisher activity was more subdued in 2025.

The lake spilled several times in 2022 and there were 4 Bass recaptured below the dam. Of those 3 were caught in the Logan River and 1 in the Albert River. The lake spilled again in 2024 and 2025 but there have not been any further reports of fish caught below the dam.

Carp and Tilapia are pest species in Lake Wyaralong. The LAFMA have held a fish eradication competition in the lake since 2013 to reduce the numbers of these pests. The catch rate for Tilapia peaked in 2017 at 10.4 fish/fisher and has mostly declined since then to 1.7 in 2024 and again this year.

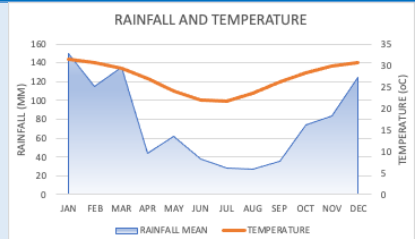
LAKE WYARALONG LOCATION		
	Lake Wyaralong 27.93°S 152.84°E	
LAKE		
Grid map Lake Wyaralong LWY	Surface area 12.3km ²	

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

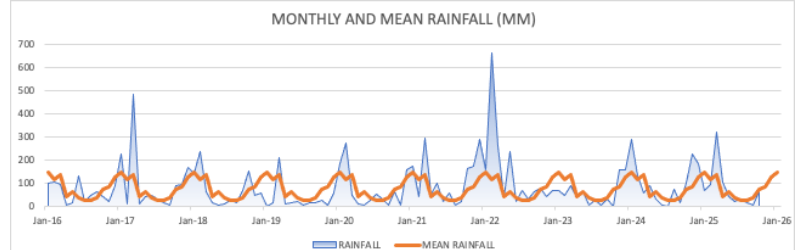
**Mean monthly rainfall
(mm)**

**Mean monthly air
temperature (°C)**

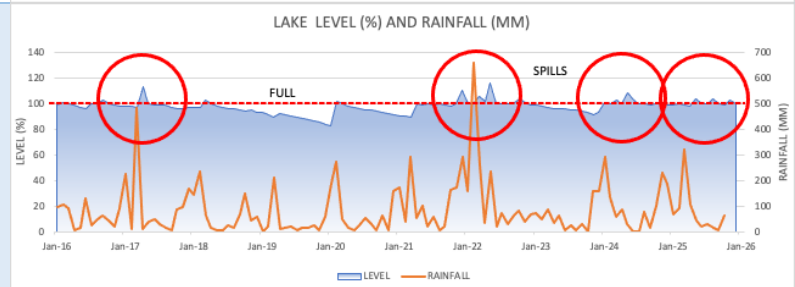
Rainfall	Month	mm
Max	Jan	150
Temp	Month	°C
Max	Jan	31
Min	Aug	23



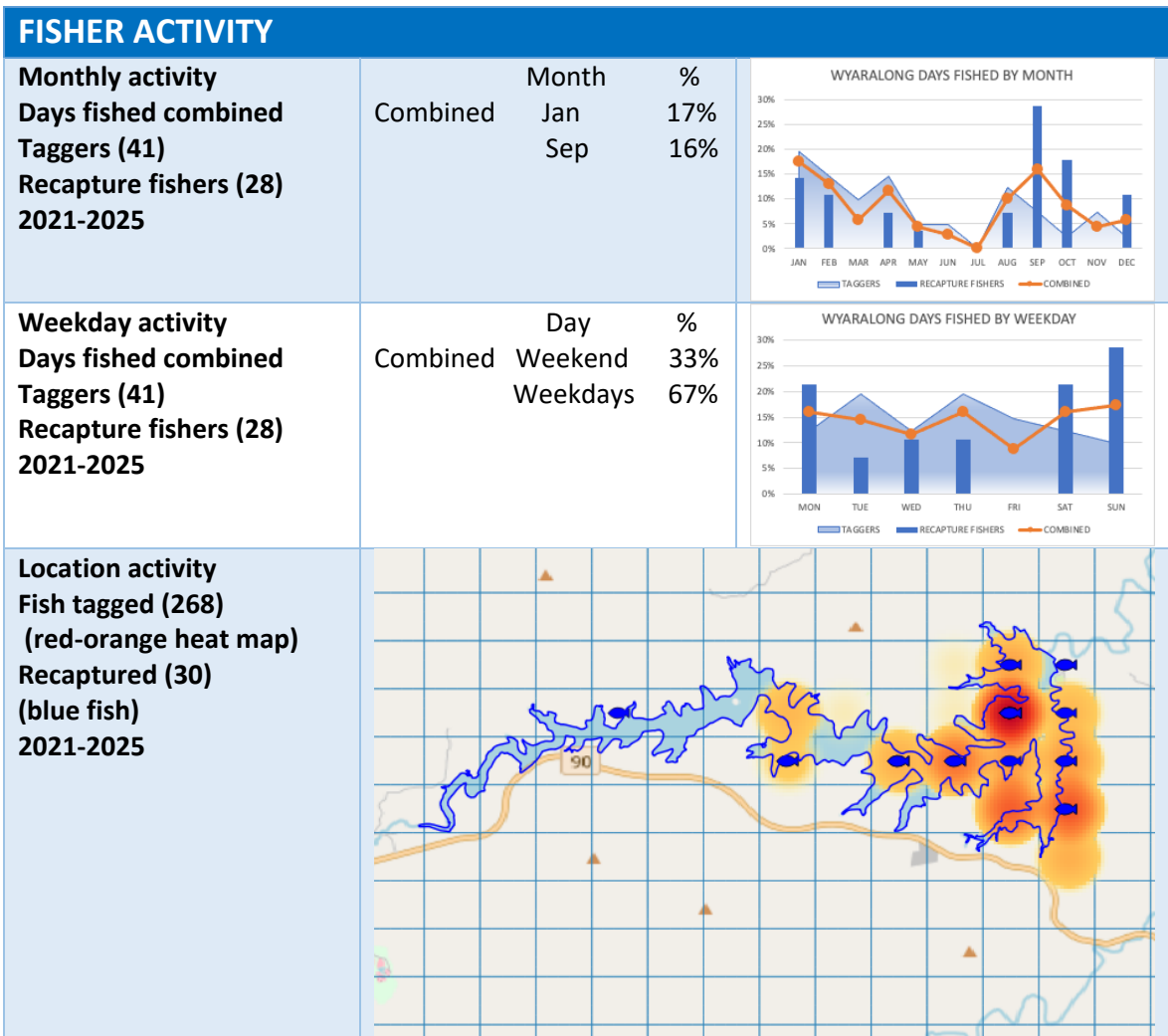
**Monthly rainfall (mm) and
monthly mean rainfall
2016-2025**



**Lake level
2016-2025
Spilled
2020 Feb
2021 Mar, Nov-Dec
2022 Mar-Jul, Sep-Oct
2023 Dec
2024 Jan, Apr, Nov-Dec
2025 May**

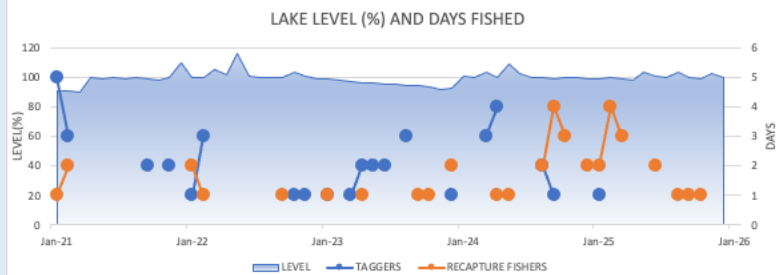


TYPE OF FISHERY		
DATA RELIABILITY		
Sample size (days fished) Tag days (blue arrow) Recaptures (orange arrow) Confidence % Error % 2021-2025	Reliability level	LOW MODERATE MODERATE HIGH
	Samples	10 41 68 271 384 664
	Confidence	80% 80% 90% 90% 95% 99%
	Error	20% 10% 10% 5% 5% 5%
		<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Seasonality Mean monthly temperature (°C) Days fished Taggers Recapture fishers 2021-2025	<div>Months most effort</div> <div>Fishers Jan</div> <div>Taggers and recapture fishers combined (69) Sep</div>	<div>FISHING SEASONALITY</div>
Harvest or experiential fishery Release rate of recaptured legal Bass (ex-taggers) 2021-2025	<div>Legal Bass kept rate</div> <div>Legal fish 28</div> <div>Kept 8 (29%)</div> <div>Released 20 (71%)</div>	<div>TYPE OF FISHERY</div>
Local or visitor fishery Where recapture fishers live 2021-2025	<div>Recapture fishers 28</div> <div>Local 18 (64%)</div> <div>Visitor 10 (36%)</div>	<div>TYPE OF FISHER</div>
Gender of recapture fishers (ex-taggers) 2021-2025	<div>Fishers 27</div> <div>Male 25 (93%)</div> <div>Female 2 (7%)</div>	<div>GENDER OF RECAPTURE FISHERS</div>

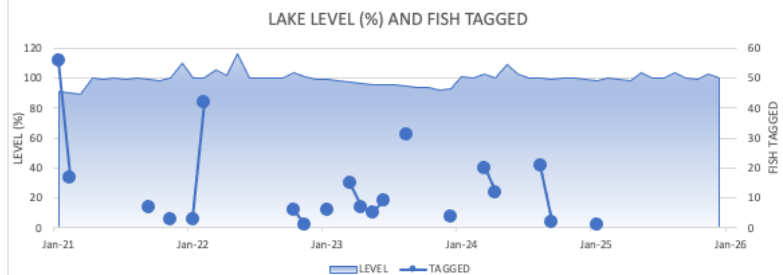


FISHER EFFORT

Lake level (% full)
Days fished
Taggers (41)
Recapture fishers (28)
2021-2025

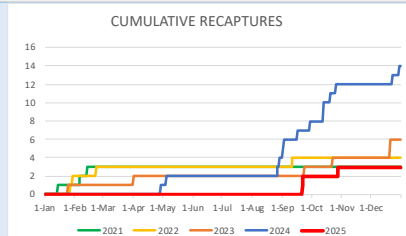


Lake level (% full)
Fish tagged
2021-2025

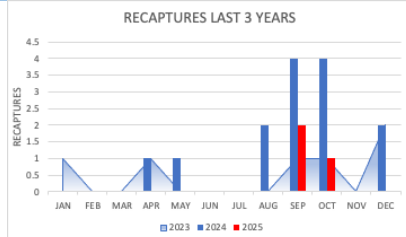


Cumulative recaptures
2021-2025

Year	Recaps
2021	3
2022	4
2023	6
2024	14
2025	3



Monthly recaptures last 3 years
2023-2025

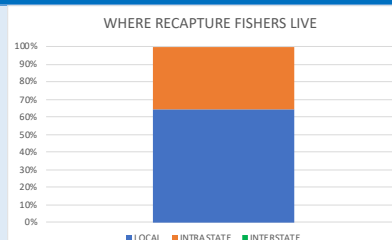


FISHER TRAVEL			
Cumulative proxy travel distance (km) address to recapture location 2021-2025	Year	Kms	<p>CUMULATIVE PROXY TRAVEL DISTANCE (KM)</p>
	2021	211	
	2022	186	
	2023	142	
	2024	890	
	2025	153	
Proxy travel distance (km) address to recapture location 2021-2025			<p>RECAPTURE FISHERS PROXY TRAVEL</p>
Proxy travel distance (km) home to recapture location 2021-2025	Trips	28	<p>RECAPTURE FISHERS PROXY TRAVEL</p>
	Local	Range (km) 13-36	
	Intrastate	70-140	
	Interstate	-	
Proxy average travel distance (km) home to recapture 2021-2025	Trips	28	<p>AVERAGE PROXY TRAVEL DISTANCE (KM)</p>
	Local	26	
	Intrastate	112	
	Interstate	-	

WHERE RECAPTURE FISHERS LIVE

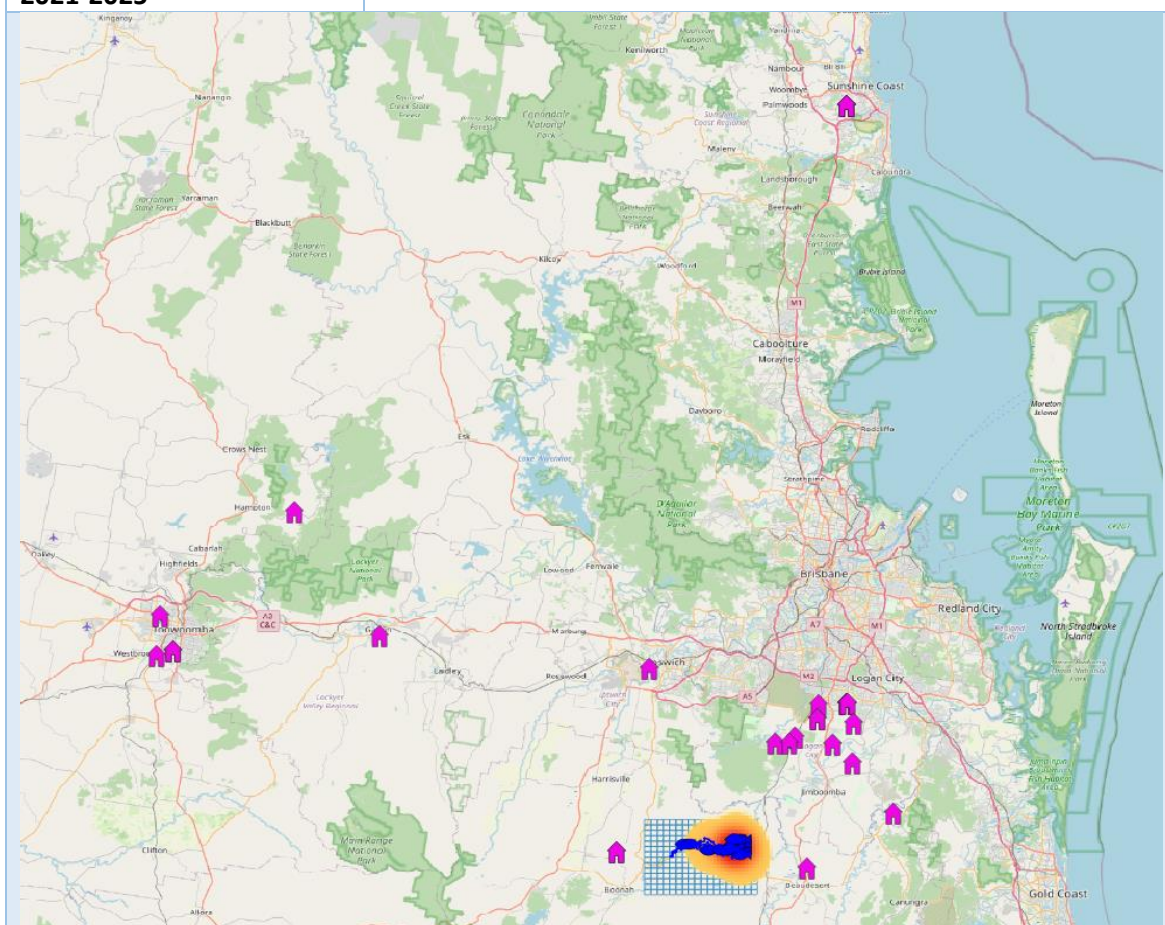
**Where recapture fishers live
2021-2025**



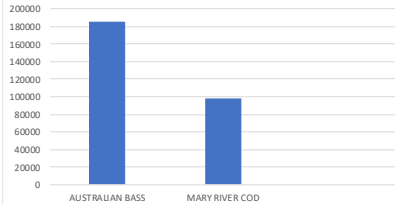
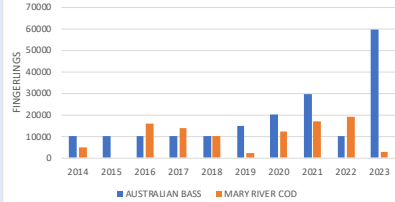
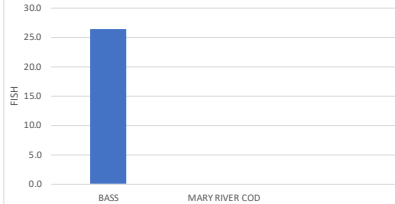
Recapture fishers 28
Local 18 (64%)
Intrastate 10 (36%)
Interstate -



**Lake Wyaralong
Where recapture fishers live (pink houses)
2021-2025**

Recapture fishers 28



STOCKED FISH																																			
AUSTRALIAN BASS	MARY RIVER COD																																		
																																			
STOCKING																																			
Fingerlings stocked 2014-2023	<div><div>Bass</div><div>Mary River Cod</div></div> <div><div>Fingerlings</div><div>185,000</div><div>98,350</div></div>	<div><div>FINGERLINGS STOCKED 2014-2023</div><table><caption>Fingerlings Stocked 2014-2023</caption><thead><tr><th>Species</th><th>Fingerlings</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Australian Bass</td><td>185,000</td></tr><tr><td>Mary River Cod</td><td>98,350</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Species	Fingerlings	Australian Bass	185,000	Mary River Cod	98,350																											
Species	Fingerlings																																		
Australian Bass	185,000																																		
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Fingerlings stocked by year 2014-2023		<div><div>WYARALONG STOCKED FISH</div><table><caption>Wyaralong Stocked Fish (Fingerlings)</caption><thead><tr><th>Year</th><th>Australian Bass</th><th>Mary River Cod</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2014</td><td>10,000</td><td>5,000</td></tr><tr><td>2015</td><td>10,000</td><td>5,000</td></tr><tr><td>2016</td><td>10,000</td><td>15,000</td></tr><tr><td>2017</td><td>10,000</td><td>15,000</td></tr><tr><td>2018</td><td>10,000</td><td>15,000</td></tr><tr><td>2019</td><td>10,000</td><td>5,000</td></tr><tr><td>2020</td><td>20,000</td><td>15,000</td></tr><tr><td>2021</td><td>30,000</td><td>15,000</td></tr><tr><td>2022</td><td>10,000</td><td>15,000</td></tr><tr><td>2023</td><td>60,000</td><td>5,000</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Year	Australian Bass	Mary River Cod	2014	10,000	5,000	2015	10,000	5,000	2016	10,000	15,000	2017	10,000	15,000	2018	10,000	15,000	2019	10,000	5,000	2020	20,000	15,000	2021	30,000	15,000	2022	10,000	15,000	2023	60,000	5,000
Year	Australian Bass	Mary River Cod																																	
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Fish tagged/caught 2016-2025 per 10,000 fish stocked (size able to be tagged) 2014-2023	<div><div>Tagged/10,000 fingerlings</div><div>Bass</div><div>Mary River Cod</div><div>(not tagged)</div></div> <div><div>27</div><div>0.2</div></div>	<div><div>FISH TAGGED PER 10,000 STOCKED</div><table><caption>Fish Tagged per 10,000 Stocked</caption><thead><tr><th>Species</th><th>Fish Tagged per 10,000 Stocked</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Bass</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>Mary River Cod</td><td>0.2</td></tr></tbody></table></div>	Species	Fish Tagged per 10,000 Stocked	Bass	27	Mary River Cod	0.2																											
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BASS



DATA RELIABILITY

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

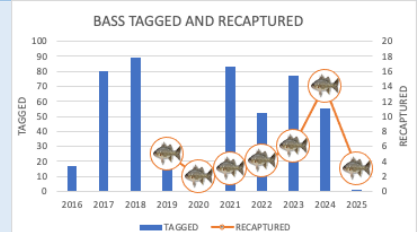
Reliability level	LOW	MODERATE	MODERATE	HIGH
Samples	10	41	68	271
Confidence	80%	80%	90%	90%
Error	20%	10%	5%	5%



TAGGED AND TAG RATE

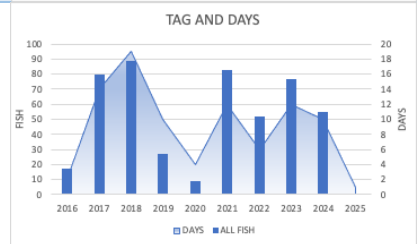
Bass
Tagged
Recaptured
2016-2025

Tagged 490
Recaptured 37
Recapture rate 7.6%
Tagged 2025 1



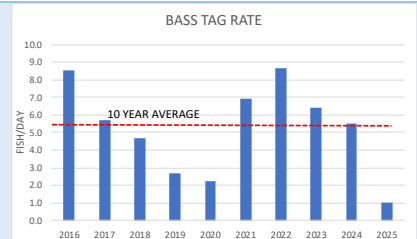
Taggers tag and effort
Fish tagged (490)
Days fished (90)
2016-2025

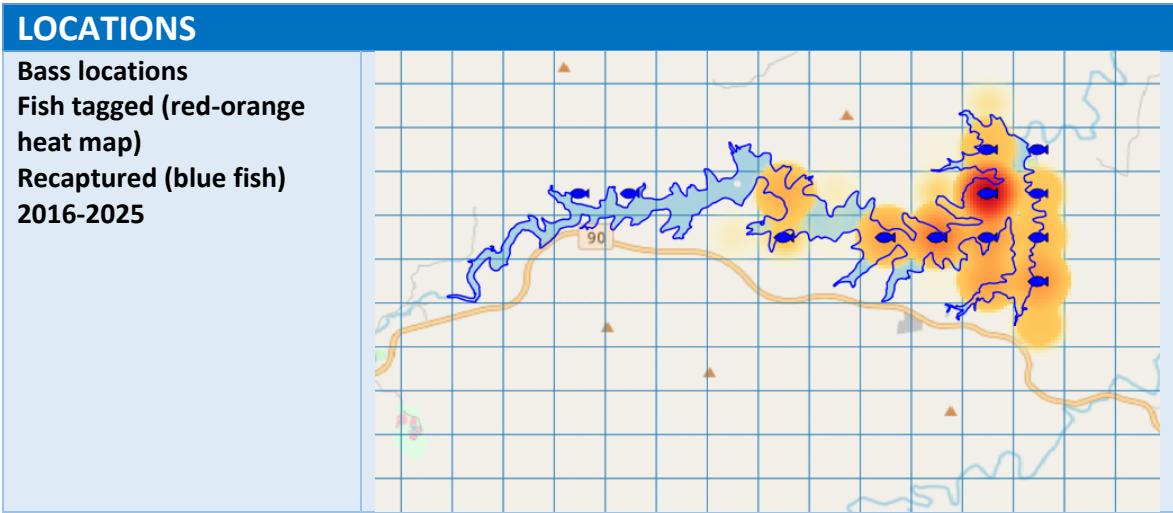
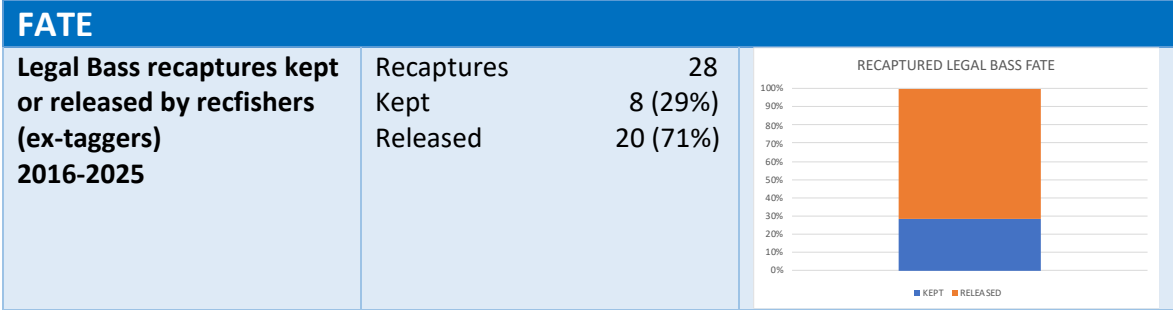
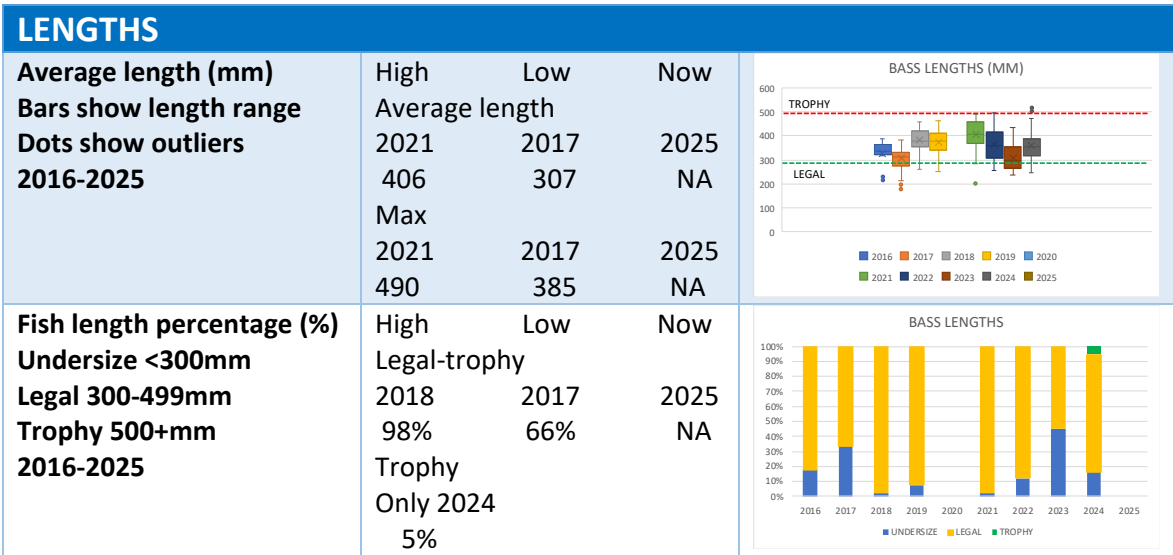
High Tagged 490
Low Tagged 89
Now Tagged 19
2020 Tagged 9
2025 Tagged NA
2018 Days 19
2020 Days 4
2025 Days NA



Tag rate
Fish tagged/day
2016-2025


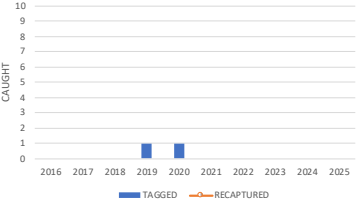
High Tag rate 8.7
Low Tag rate 2.3
Now Tag rate 5.4
2022 Tag rate 8.7
2020 Tag rate 2.3
2025 Tag rate NA
10 year average 5.4





MOVEMENT		
Bass movements 2016-2025		
Bass movements 2016-2025	Recaptures 32 Same area 9 (28%) Down lake 12 (38%) Up lake 7 (22%) Outside lake 4 (13%)	

RECAPTURES BELOW DAM	
Bass recaptured below dam after 2022 spill	
Bass 4	
Max distance (km) 116	

MARY RIVER COD			
			
RECORDED			
Recorded (not tagged) 2016-2025 Can be tagged from 2023	Year	Length	<div> <div>MARY RIVER COD CAUGHT</div>  </div>
	2019	510	
	2020	640	

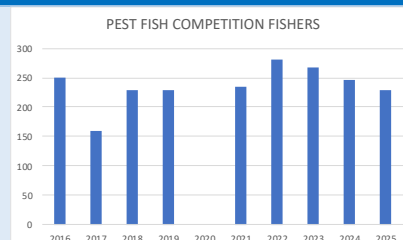
PEST FISH COMPETITIONS

Carp-Tilapia Eradication competition
Lake Wyaralong
2016-2025



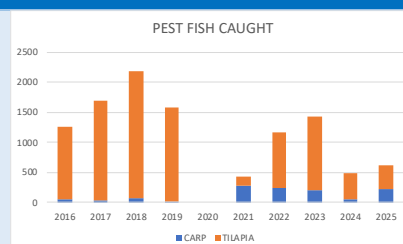
COMPETITION DATES

Timeline of events	Dates	Fishers
Competitors	27/2/2016	251
No event in 2020 due to Covid restrictions	18/3/2017	160
2016-2025	24/3/2018	228
	23/3/2019	229
	21/3/2020	0
	13/11/2021	234
	29/10/2022	280
	21/10/2023	268
	19/10/2024	246
	11/10/2025	229



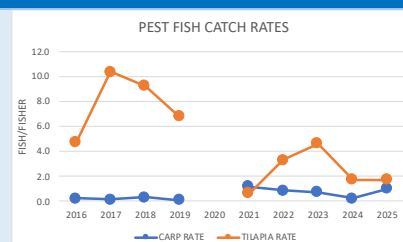
PEST FISH

Numbers of pest fish	High	Low	Now
Carp	Carp		
Tilapia	2021	2019	2025
Note: A small percentage of fish caught were not counted in 2025	284	25	229
	Tilapia		
	2018	2021	2025
	2109	154	396



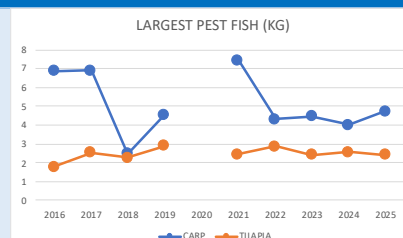
CATCH RATES

Fish/fisher	High	Low	Now
Carp	Carp		
Tilapia	2021	2019	2025
	1.2	0.1	1.0
	Tilapia		
	2017	2021	2025
	10.4	0.7	1.7



LARGEST FISH

Largest fish weight (kg)	High	Low	Now
Carp	Carp		
Tilapia	2021	2018	2025
	7.45	2.49	4.74
	Tilapia		
	2019	2018	2025
	2.89	1.8	2.41



Data sources

Data used in the Lake Wyalong 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 the Logan Albert Fish Management Association.
- Rainfall and temperature data from station 040983 Beaudesert Drumley Street from <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data>.
- Pest Fish competition data from the Logan Albert Fish Management Association.

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/days fished.
- Recapture rates relate to fish recaptured in in any particular time period compared with the number of fish tagged.
- Undersized Bass are <300mm, legal fish are ≥ 300 and <500mm and trophy fish are ≥ 500 mm.
- Locations based on Infofish grid map LWY for the impoundment and other grid maps where fish were recaptured outside the impoundment.
- 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.