

Queensland Fisheries Summary

October 2018

This publication has been compiled Carlie Heaven of Fisheries Queensland, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

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Overview

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) provides catch and effort information for commercial fisheries in Queensland biannually (April and October). The following report provides a series of figures and tables displaying a summary of the most recent (2017/2018 financial year) catch, effort and Gross Value of Product (GVP) data for commercial fisheries in Queensland. Queensland's Fisheries are defined by a variety of characteristics, predominantly by species, fishing method (gear), and region. Summarised annual catch and effort data are reported by either calendar year or financial year which is dependent upon when the fishery operates seasonally. Table 1 displays a list of each commercial fishery in Queensland and an indication of when updated annual data is summarised and published.

Appropriate Use of Data Limitations

The catch weight data in logbooks are estimates only which have been recorded by fishers while at sea. Estimated weights may be based on volume, for example, the size and number of containers or boxes of fish caught.

It is important to remain cautious when interpreting trends in this data as there are a number of factors that can affect catches each year. Any recent management measures that are likely to have had an impact on the data are detailed for each fishery. Examples of management changes that potentially affect catch and effort data include; reductions or increases in quota or Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC), fishing area restrictions or closures that are not standard seasonal closures (e.g. whitespot disease containment area), reducing boat numbers or restricting the catch of a particular species. Market demand can also drive a particular species or a particular size range of a species to be targeted (e.g. smaller plate sized fish as opposed to larger specimens of the same species may be driven by market).

Effort figures (licence numbers and number of days fished) in this report are not designed to be summed across species or fisheries as this will result in overinflating the number of effort days. Queensland's fish price series data has not been updated since 2012 and prior to this date, prices were updated sporadically. Fisheries Queensland does not have current (2018) data on the market value of individual species. Therefore, the figures in this report which relate to GVP should be taken as estimates and may not represent the current market value of the species.

These data may differ from other summations over the same period (such as stock assessment reports, or QFish data) due to differences in data handling procedures over time. The business rules that are applied to fisheries data are constantly evolving and as they are refined, the same data set may vary through time. Therefore the data contained within the most recent Queensland Fisheries Summary supersedes data in previous reports. There may be differences between logbook catch and effort figures presented in this report and the associated QFish pivot table link due to differences in the way the data has been extracted. For any further information on data extraction rules, or the Queensland Fisheries Summary Report, contact fishdatacoordinator@daf.qld.gov.au.

Table 1 – Commercial fisheries in Queensland and the availability of annual data summaries

Fishery	Calendar Year Reporting (April)	Financial Year Reporting (October)
Harvest		
Coral Fishery		✓
Crayfish and Rocklobster Fishery	✓	
East Coast Pearl Fishery		✓
Marine Aquarium Fish Fishery	✓	
Queensland Eel Fishery	✓	
Sea Cucumber Fishery (East Coast)		✓
Trochus Fishery		✓
Line		
Coral Reef Fin Fish Fishery		✓
Deepwater Fin Fish Fishery		✓
East Coast Spanish Mackerel Fishery		✓
Gulf of Carpentaria Line Fishery	✓	
Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery	✓	
Net		
East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery		✓
Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery	✓	
Pot		
Blue Swimmer Crab Fishery	✓	
Mud Crab Fishery	✓	
Spanner Crab Fishery	✓	
Trawl		
East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery	✓	
Fin Fish (Stout Whiting) Trawl Fishery	✓	
Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery		✓
River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery	✓	

Introduction

Queensland's commercial fisheries have produced an average of 18 459 tonnes of seafood per year since 2014. According to Queensland fish price series data¹ (used to calculate GVP) harvests of this size are valued at approximately \$185 million annually. Queensland's commercial net, line, pot and trawl-based fisheries are comprised of three major species groups; crustaceans, finfish and molluscs. Tables 2, 3 and 4 display a summary of catch data and estimated value of product from 2014 to 2017 for the major crustacean, finfish and mollusc species, respectively.

Table 2 – Total catch (t) and value (GVP) of commercial crustacean species in Queensland, 2014 – 2017²

	2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)
Crustaceans	9228	117334	9350	112829	8633	108946	9759	123047
Bugs	662	13633	614	12647	613	12621	607	12502
Crabs	2669	28600	2834	27906	2438	23355	2384	23782
Blue Swimmer Crab	399	3452	456	4008	342	2982	470	4109
Mud Crab	1329	21269	1188	19001	989	15818	993	15886
Spanner Crab	918	3765	1177	4828	1096	4494	905	3712
Other Crabs	23	115	14	69	12	61	15	75
Lobster	195	6981	156	5121	218	7828	192	7209
Tropical Rock Lobster	177	6762	124	4740	198	7591	187	7139
Other Lobsters	18	219	32	381	20	237	6	70
Prawns	5694	68082	5743	67145	5359	65118	6569	79522
Banana Prawns	667	5462	676	5537	442	3620	785	6423
Bay Prawns	322	1829	496	2815	291	1651	380	2157
Endeavour Prawns	463	3328	541	3887	531	3815	402	2887
King Prawns	2921	37386	2661	34065	2614	33465	3358	42985
Tiger Prawns	1301	19911	1353	20695	1467	22450	1631	24949
Other Prawns	19	166	17	146	13	117	14	122
Other Crustaceans	8	38	2	10	5	24	6	31

¹ Queensland's fish price series data has not been updated since 2012 and prior to this date prices were updated sporadically. Fisheries Queensland does not have current (2018) data on the market value of individual species.

² Tables 2, 3 and 4 include only commercial catch and GVP; no harvest or charter data are included.

Table 3 – Total catch (t) and value (GVP) of commercial finfish species in Queensland, 2014 – 2017

	2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)
Finfish Total	8341	61700	9256	64735	8681	66415	8914	64931
Barramundi	764	7003	693	6356	717	6580	899	8248
Blue Threadfin	177	709	156	625	126	503	132	528
Bream	117	938	184	1469	160	1275	110	881
Coral Trout	760	24872	754	24657	912	29839	833	27243
Flathead	41	247	50	298	54	326	40	242
Grey Mackerel	782	4340	891	4945	824	4575	706	3918
King Threadfin	325	1413	349	1516	296	1289	337	1464
Mullet	1573	3933	1997	4992	1525	3812	1744	4361
Red Emperor	47	420	40	363	39	347	38	345
Redthroat Emperor	213	1434	168	1131	154	1039	157	1060
Shark	497	1667	517	2031	643	2013	547	1640
Snapper	62	505	62	507	72	587	57	460
Spanish Mackerel	571	4000	473	3314	498	3489	539	3770
Tailor	58	246	56	237	69	293	59	252
Trevally	235	638	253	728	248	712	254	721
Tropical Snapper	238	1352	450	2760	276	1579	257	1493
Whiting ³	781	2750	1045	3644	989	3321	1224	3844
Other Fin Fish	1100	5234	1118	5161	1080	4838	981	4462

³ Stout whiting is included in this figure.

Table 4 – Total catch (t) and value (GVP) of commercial mollusc species in Queensland, 2014 – 2017

	2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)	Catch (t)	GVP (\$'000)
Molluscs Total	502	5856	365	3987	361	3860	445	4897
Scallop	369	5191	239	3358	227	3190	295	4150
Squid	70	349	74	370	76	381	87	434
Other Molluscs	63	316	52	259	58	288	63	313

Harvest fisheries

Harvest fisheries are characterised by their fishing method type, primarily caught by hand or hand-held implements. Harvest fisheries are a valuable component of Queensland's commercial fisheries; export markets are vital to most of these fisheries, particularly for those where a domestic demand has not been established.

Queensland's harvest fisheries have collected on average 3 million individuals and 463 tonnes annually since 2014 (Tables 5 and 6). Current GVP estimates for the harvest sector are not available.

Table 5 – Queensland harvest fisheries production by numbers respective of logbook type 2014 – 2017⁴

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Beachworm & Bloodworm ('000)	1464	1386	1375	1135
Marine Aquarium ('000)	112	110	120	111
Pearl	0	0	0	52
Yabby ('000)	1158	1014	929	671

Table 6 – Queensland harvest fisheries production by weight (t) respective of logbook type, 2014 – 2017⁵

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Adult Eel	15	29	9	10
Coral	98	89	80	79
Juvenile Eel	0	<1	0	0
Sea Cucumber ⁶	349	366	355	338
Trochus	21	11	1	0

⁴ This table does not include charter or commercial fishery data.

⁵ This table does not include charter or commercial fishery data.

⁶ Sea cucumber weights have been calculated from buyers returns.

- Queensland's aquaculture production figures for the 2017/18 financial year are not yet available.
- In the 2016/17 financial year, aquaculture production in Queensland was valued at \$120 million⁷, equating to 38.4% of Queensland's total commercial fisheries production⁸.
- A total of 7869 tonnes was produced, with prawns and barramundi accounting for 54.2 % and 38 % of the production, respectively.
- For more information on Queensland's aquaculture production please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/aquaculture/investment/industry-performance>

⁷ This figure does not include hatchery estimates.

⁸ Not including harvest or charter data.

Coral Fishery

Species targeted	Live corals (includes anemones, soft and hard corals) Live rock (i.e. dead coral skeletons with algae and other organisms living on them) Coral rubble (i.e. coarsely broken up coral fragments) Coral sand (i.e. finely ground up particles of coral skeleton)—only taken as incidental catch and may not be targeted within Marine Park waters.
Fishing season	1 July–30 June
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: D – 59
Commercial fishery licences⁹	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 59

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total catch (t)¹⁰	79	75	74	90	99	93	88	81	85
Total effort (days)	796	823	716	792	840	889	964	858	859
Licences (active)	29	26	30	33	34	33	36	32	32
Specialty coral catch (t)	20	22	24	26	35	32	33	29	31
Other coral catch (t)	59	53	50	63	64	61	55	52	54
Coral sand catch (t)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

⁹ As at November 2018.

¹⁰ Due to changes in the reporting of coral catch through logbooks, coral catch weights shown here are based on unloads recorded via the quota monitoring system.

The Coral Fishery commenced as a licensed fishery in July 2006 and is one of a range of harvest fisheries (hand collection) managed by Fisheries Queensland.

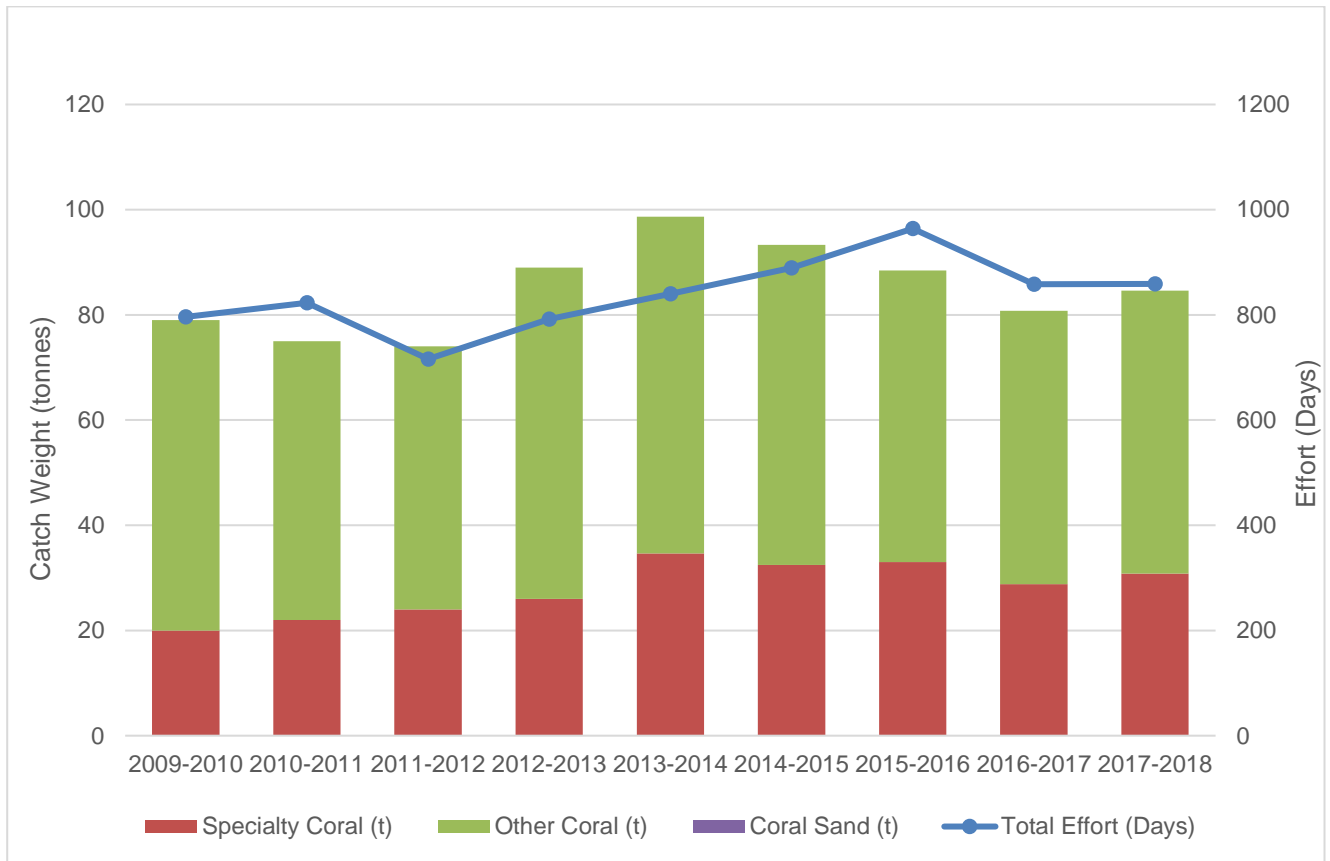
- Changes in management arrangements for the 2009/10 financial year saw the introduction of the new Queensland Coral, Shell Grit and Star Sand Fisheries Logbook (CS04) in mid-2009.
- The reporting requirements in the current logbook reflect changes to some definitions, species and certain categories of corals in line with the updated Policy for the Management of the Coral Fishery January 2009 and the Environmental Risk Assessment for coral.

The changes include:

- 'Live' Coral is now defined as 'Specialty' coral.
- The LC1 category no longer exists and has been replaced by the LC6 (>1kg) category. Operators must report number and estimated weight for LC6.
- Certain species on the logbook form have changed as well as certain species listed in the instructions within the logbook.
- Due to the changes in reporting requirements for the coral fishery, the data displayed in this report are based on unloads recorded by the quota monitoring system as opposed to logbook data.
- The coral fishery has a Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) of 200 tonnes which is split between specialty coral (30%) and other coral (70%). In the 2017/18 financial year, 54 tonnes (38.4%) of other coral and 31 tonnes (51.3 %) of specialty coral quotas were utilised by the Coral Fishery¹¹.
- Quota allocations and usage , licence numbers, and symbols currently endorsed in the Coral Fishery can be viewed on [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Coral Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery view [Fishery Symbols](#).

¹¹ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

Figure 1 – Coral Fishery



Crayfish and Rocklobster Fishery

Species targeted	Tropical rocklobster (<i>Panulirus ornatus</i>)
Fishing season	1 January – 30 September A temporal closure is enforced between 1 October and 31 December annually
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: R – 28 ¹²
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 28

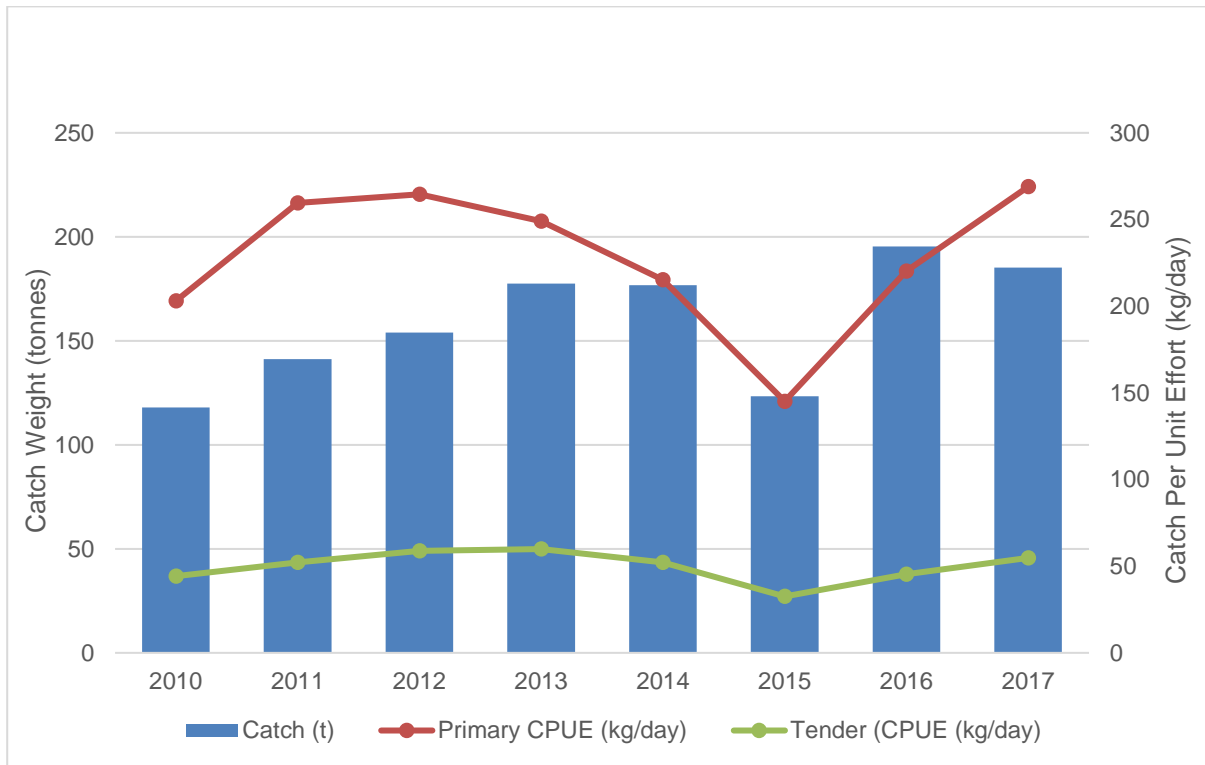
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	119	141	154	181	177	124	195	185
Primary effort (days)	584	544	583	720	821	854	895	702
Tender effort (days)	2664	2708	2614	3004	3382	3791	4350	3404
Licences (active)¹²	10	7	8	7	8	8	7	10
GVP (\$A million)	4.5	5.4	5.9	6.9	6.8	4.7	7.6	7.1

- The Crayfish and Rocklobster Fishery has a Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) divided among symbol holders using an individual transferable quota (ITQ) system. The TACC for 2017 was 195 t, of which 194.95 t (99.97 %) was used¹³.
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent rocklobster stock status assessment please visit <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- Quota allocations and usage, licence numbers, and symbols currently endorsed in the Crayfish and Rocklobster Fishery can be viewed on the [FishNet](#) webpage.
- For further analysis of the Crayfish and Rocklobster Fishery please visit [QFish](#).
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

¹² As at November 2018.

¹³ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

Figure 2 – Crayfish and Tropical Rocklobster Fishery



East Coast Pearl Fishery

The Queensland East Coast Pearl Fishery is a small-scale, wild-harvest fishery that licences' operators to collect live adult pearl oyster shell as brood stock for the pearl aquaculture industry.

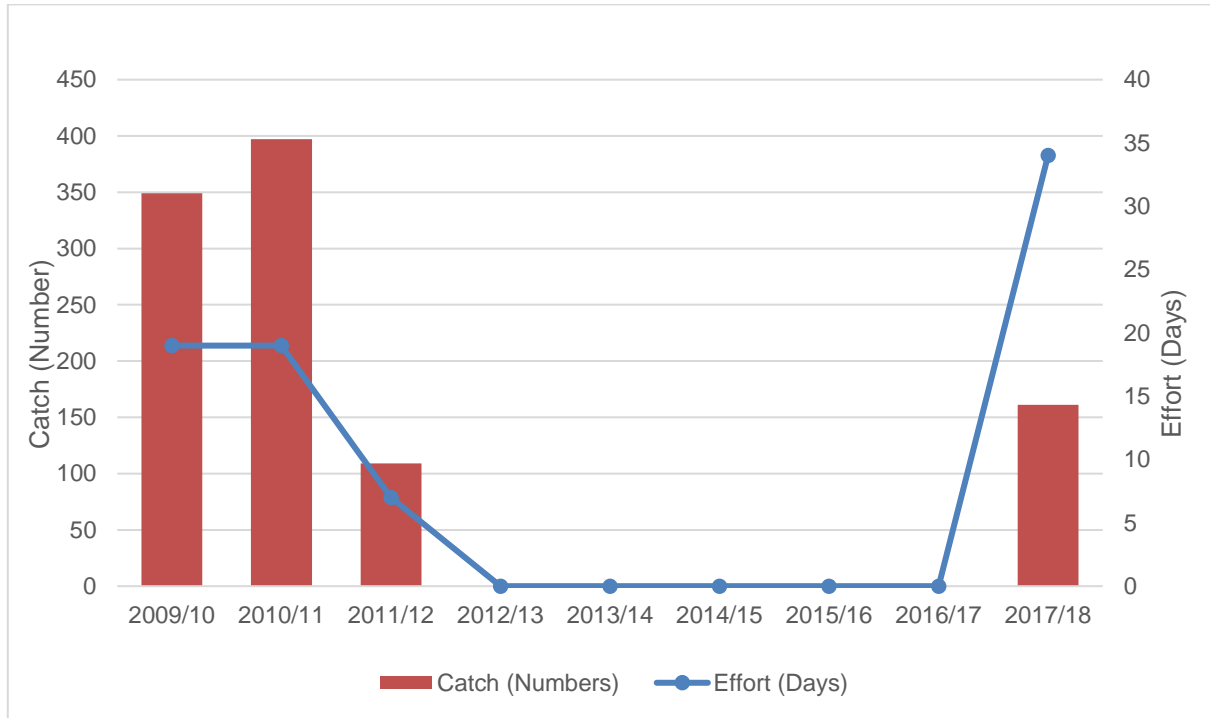
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the East Coast Pearl Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- At this time [QFish](#) does not show the East Coast Pearl Fishery data given the nature of the logbook reporting, which is reported as product in number form. If you require any further analysis of this fishery please contact the Fisheries Data Coordinator via fishdatacoordinator@daf.qld.gov.au
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Species targeted	Silverlip and Blacktip pearl oyster
Fishing season	1 July–30 June
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued : P – 6
Commercial fishery licences¹⁴	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 6

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total Catch (numbers)	349	397	109	0	0	0	0	0	161
Total Effort (days)	19	19	7	0	0	0	0	0	34
Licences (active)	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

¹⁴ As at 1 November 2018.

Figure 3 – East Coast Pearl Fishery



Marine Aquarium Fish Fishery

The Marine Aquarium Fish Fishery is one of a range of harvest (hand collection) fisheries managed by Fisheries Queensland. The commercial fishery is focused on the collection of marine aquarium fish and invertebrates that are marketed both domestically and internationally. Specimens can also be collected recreationally for display in home aquariums.

- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Marine Aquarium Fish Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- At this time QFish does not show the Marine Aquarium Fish Fishery data given the nature of the logbook reporting, which is reported as product in number form. If you require any further analysis of this fishery please contact the Fisheries Data Coordinator via fishdatacoordinator@daf.qld.gov.au
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Species targeted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damselfish and anemone fish (Family Pomacentridae) • Butterflyfish and bannerfish (Family Chaetodontidae) • Angelfish (Family Pomacanthidae) • Wrasses (Family Labridae) • Gobies (Family Gobiidae)
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: A1 – 42; A2 – 2 ¹⁵
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 44

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total numbers ('000)	150	161	147	118	112	110	120	111
Total effort (days)	1361	1509	1206	1116	984	959	909	755
Licences (active)	35	29	29	27	26	30	28	26
Cairns region ('000)	44	53	50	42	38	40	36	32
Moreton Bay region ('000)	9	8	2	5	15	8	14	4
Sunshine coast region ('000)	28	29	17	9	10	10	7	7

¹⁵ As at 1 November 2018

Figure 4 – Marine Aquarium Fish Fishery



Queensland Eel Fishery

The Queensland Eel Fishery targets the longfin eel, *Anguilla reinhardtii*, and the southern shortfin eel, *A. australis*, in rivers and freshwater impoundments. The fishery is unique in that the resource is harvested at two stages in the life cycle; the adult stage (eels > 30 cm) and the glass eel/elver stage (eels < 30 cm) for both species. Commercial adult eel trappers collect adult eels from impounded waters, while commercial juvenile eel fishers take glass eels and elvers from rivers and supply seed stock for grow-out in aquaculture facilities.

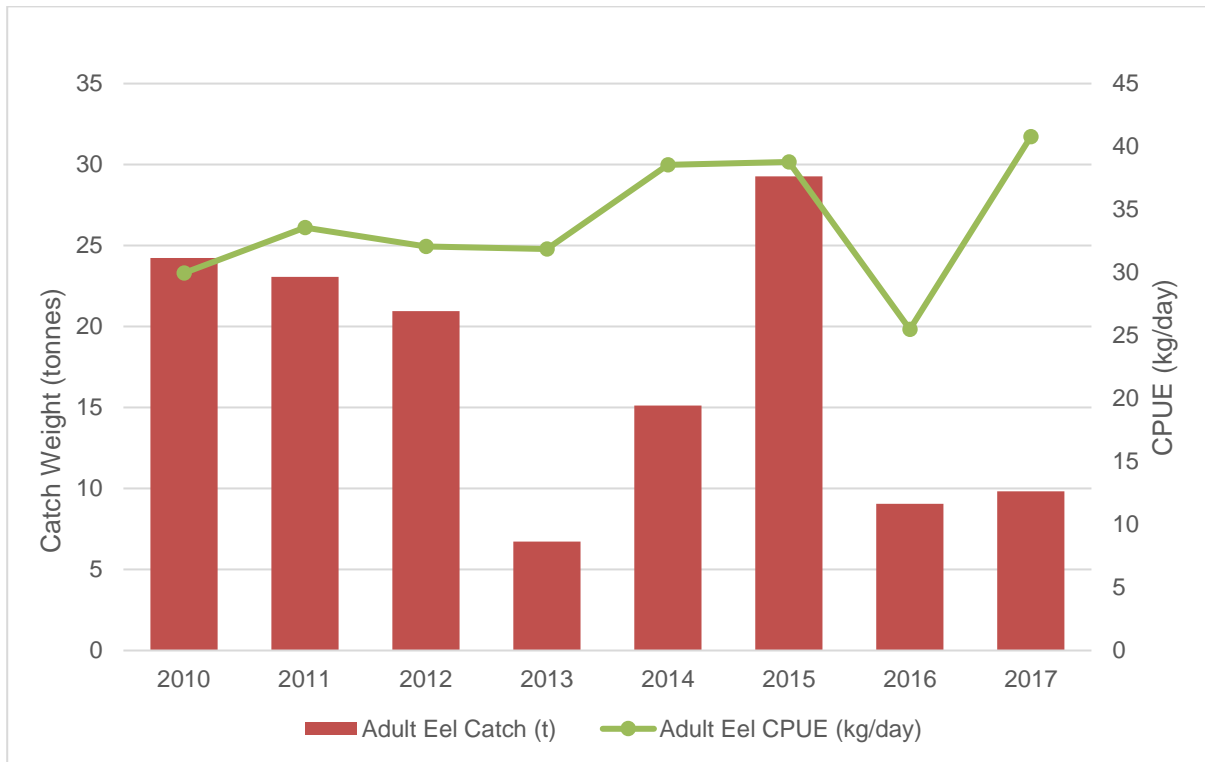
- To view licence details or the type and number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Queensland Eel Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of this fishery please contact the Fisheries Data Coordinator via fishdatacoordinator@daf.qld.gov.au or visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#)

Species targeted	Adult and juvenile eel (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: E (Adult) – 15; JE (Juvenile) – 12 ¹⁶
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the adult fishery: 15 Total number of licences with access to the juvenile fishery: 12

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Catch (t) – E	24	23	21	7	15	29	9	10
Effort (days) – E	809	687	653	211	392	755	355	241
Active Licences – E	16	13	14	13	12	11	8	6
Catch (kg) – JE	10	21	95	48	0	7	0	0
Effort (days) – JE	30	12	44	52	0	7	0	0
Active Licences - JE	3	2	3	2	0	1	0	0

¹⁶ As at 1 November 2018.

Figure 5 – Queensland Eel Fishery



East Coast Sea Cucumber (beche-de-mer) Fishery

The East Coast Sea Cucumber Fishery has Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) divided among symbol holders using an individual transferable quota (ITQ) system.

- The TACC for the 2017/18 financial year was set at 361 tonnes (t) of which 53 t was allocated to white teatfish and 308 t was allocated to 'other' beche-de-mer. During the 2017/18 quota year 53 tonnes (100 %) of the white teatfish quota was used and 259 tonnes (84%) of 'other' beche-de-mer entitlement was used¹⁷.
- To view licence details, quota held by an individual or company, current quota setting and usage details by quota type or the type and number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the East Coast Beche-de-mer Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- At this time QFish does not show the East Coast Beche-de-mer Fishery data given the nature of the logbook reporting, which is generally reported as product in number form.
- If you require any further analysis of this fishery please contact the Fisheries Data Coordinator via fishdatacoordinator@daf.qld.gov.au
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

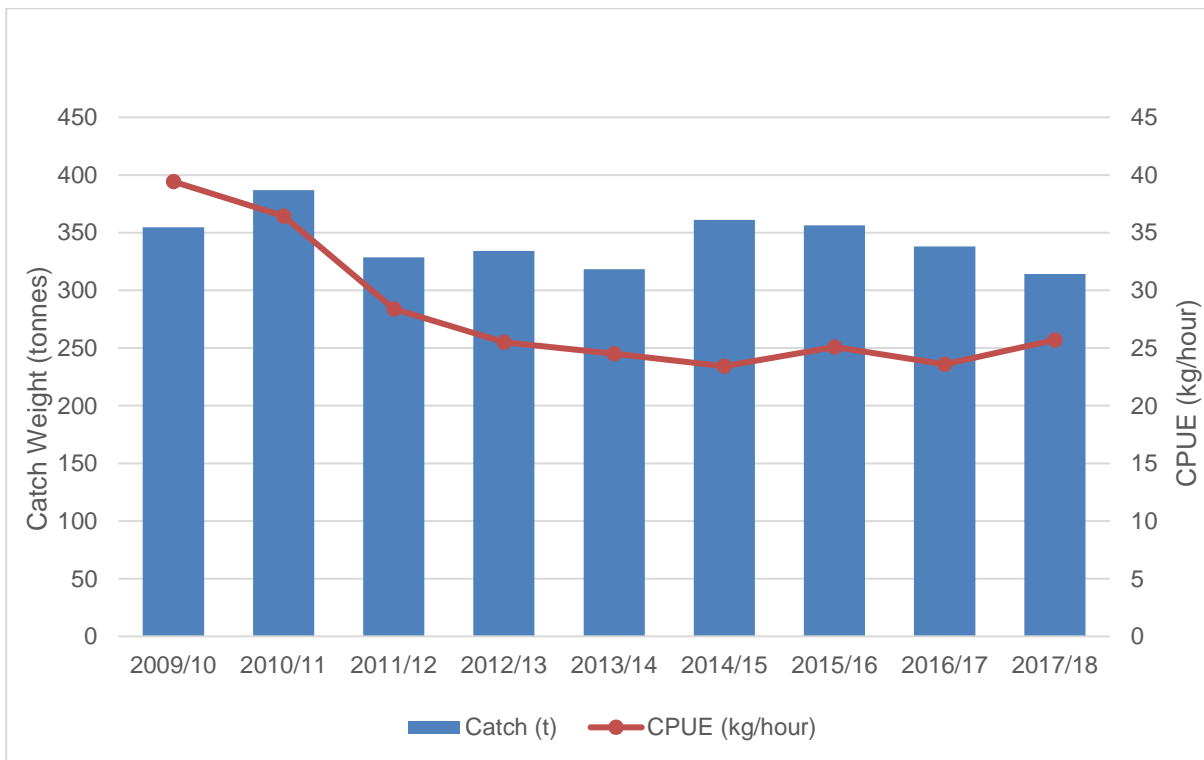
Species targeted	White teatfish and burrowing blackfish
Fishing season	1 July – 30 June
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: B1 – 18 ¹⁸
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 18

¹⁷ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

¹⁸ As at 1 November 2018.

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total catch (t)	355	387	329	334	318	361	356	338	314
Total effort (days)	619	610	533	507	489	499	512	532	418
Total effort hours (active)	8994	10621	11577	13106	12986	15412	14207	14335	12217
Licences (active)¹⁹	7	6	5	5	4	6	4	4	5
Burrowing blackfish (t)	202	222	231	181	167	189	180	173	142
White teatfish (t)	68	65	62	43	49	48	53	53	53

Figure 6 – East Coast Sea Cucumber Fishery



¹⁹ As at 1 November 2018.

Trochus Fishery

The commercial Trochus Fishery is based on the collection of one species of trochus - *Trochus niloticus*.

Trochus; also known as topshells or topsnails, are targeted for their shells, which contain a layer of mother-of-pearl. The shell is used both domestically and internationally in the manufacture of jewellery, buttons, ornaments and cosmetics. Trochus meat is of secondary value to the shell. There has been no activity in this fishery for the previous two financial years; harvest trends have historically been driven by price fluctuations and market demand.

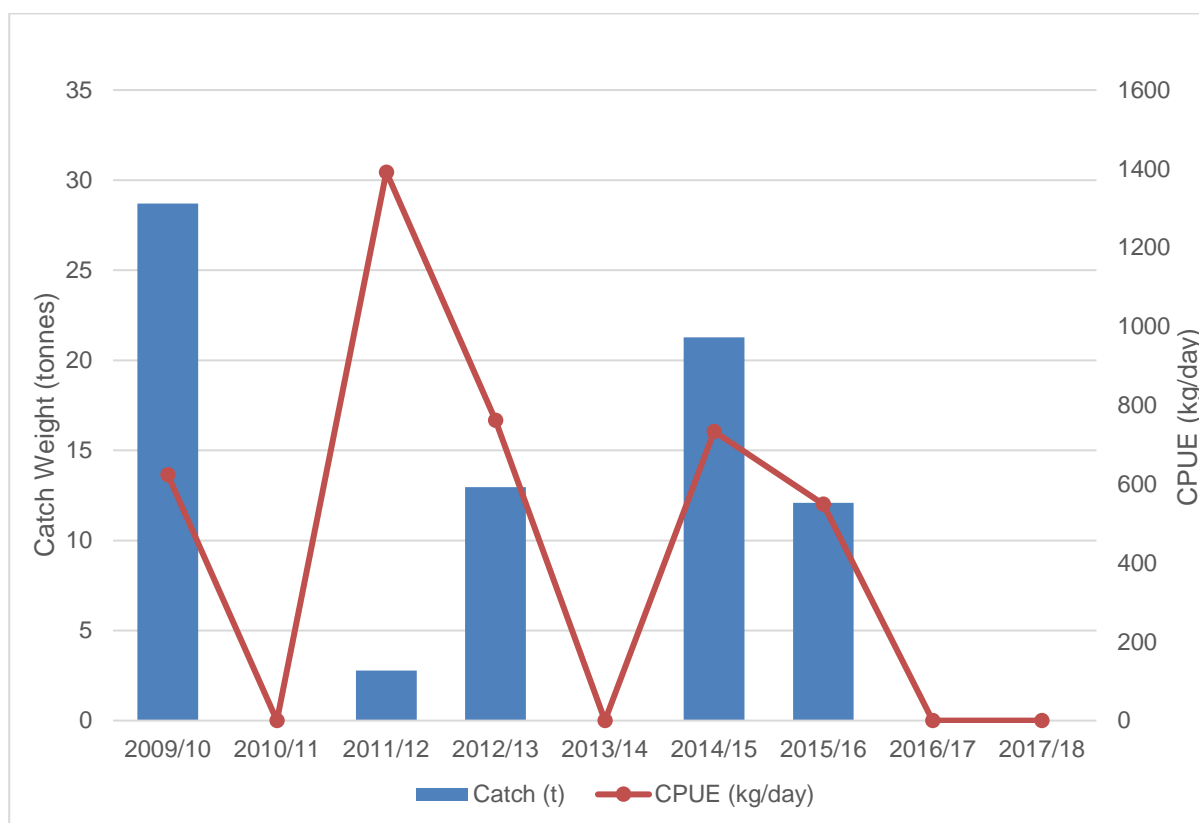
Species targeted	Trochus (<i>Trochus niloticus</i>)
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December (collection effort concentrated August–February)
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued : J1 – 6 ²⁰
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery : 6

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total catch (t)	29	0	3	13	0	21	12	0	0
Total effort (days)	46	0	2	17	0	29	22	0	0
Licences (active)	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0

²⁰ As at 1 November 2018.

- The Trochus Fishery has total allowable commercial catch (TACC) divided among symbol holders using an individual transferable quota (ITQ) system. The TACC for 2017/18 was set at 250 tonnes (t) of which 0 t (0%) was used²¹.
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Trochus Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- At this time QFish does not show the Trochus Fishery data given the nature of the logbook reporting, which is reported as product in number form.
- If you require any further analysis of this fishery please contact the Fisheries Data Coordinator via fishdatacoordinator@daf.qld.gov.au
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Figure 7 – Trochus Fishery



²¹ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

Line fisheries

Coral Reef Fin Fish Fishery

The Coral Reef Fin Fish Fishery operates predominantly in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, with operators generally using smaller tender boats (dories) independently from a mother vessel. A comprehensive suite of management arrangements, including an Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) system, is in place for the commercial fishery to ensure its sustainability into the future.

Species targeted	Coral trout, red throat emperor and other coral reef fin fish species (including cods, emperors and tropical snappers)
Fishing season	1 July – 30 June Two five day spawning season closures apply annually
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: RQ – 346 An RQ must be held in conjunction with an L1, L2 or L3 ²²
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 346

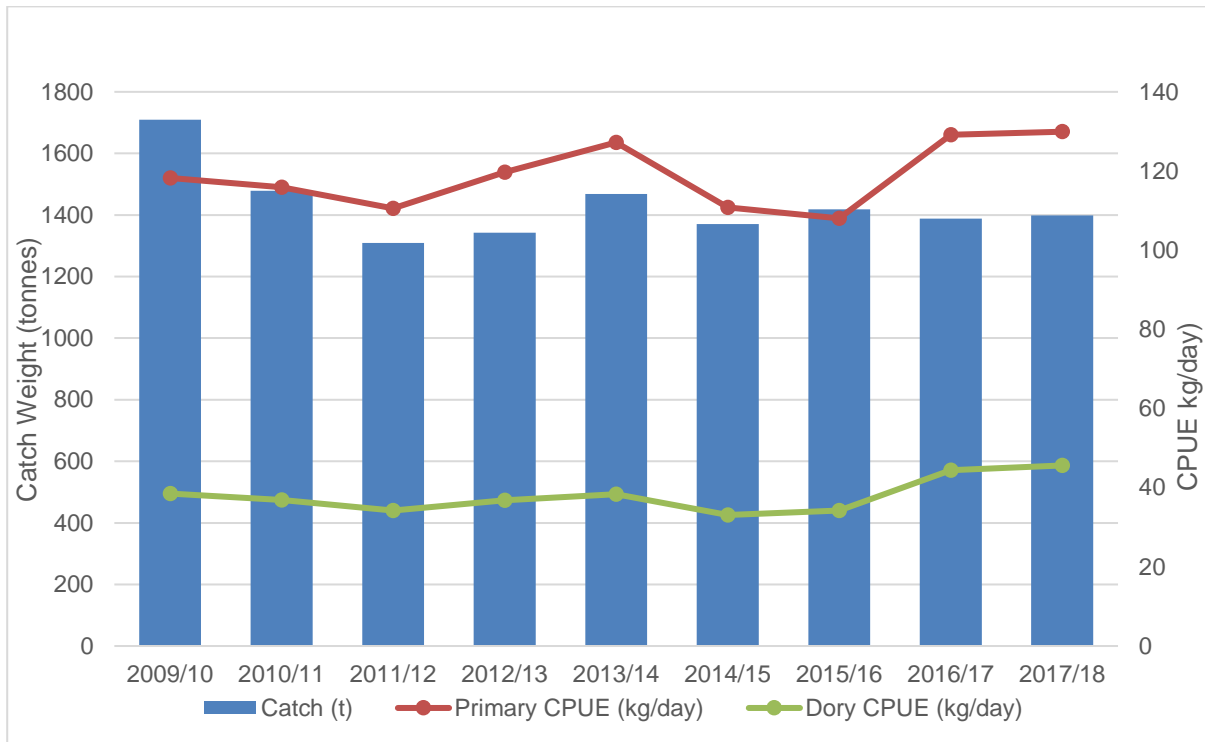
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total catch (t)	1704	1475	1308	1339	1468	1371	1418	1388	1399
Primary effort (days)	14349	12674	11736	11145	11536	12374	13125	10745	10767
Dory effort (days)	44334	40063	38218	36469	38245	41424	41474	31226	30669
Licences (active)	250	227	230	225	240	242	254	251	242
GVP (\$A m)	35.5	30.4	27.4	28.2	31.4	28.5	30.4	31.1	30.7
Coral trout (t)	940	801	725	751	839	753	816	850	829
Red throat emperor (t)	271	248	226	218	219	202	164	137	167
Other species (t)	498	430	358	374	409	416	437	401	403

²² As at 1 November 2018.

- The Coral Reef Fin Fish Fishery has a total allowable commercial catch (TACC) divided among symbol holders using an individual transferable quota (ITQ) system.
- Annual commercial catch and effort information for the CRFFF has historically been variable in response to changes in management arrangements.
- Since the introduction of the Coral Reef Finfish Fishery Management Plan 2003, catch and nominal catch per unit effort (CPUE) of Coral Trout increased steadily until 2009/10 when the first decline since the introduction of quota was recorded. This decline is likely related to delayed effects of Tropical Cyclone Hamish which traversed offshore reefs between Bowen and the Swains reefs region in March 2009.
- The 2017/18 TACC was set at 963 tonnes for coral trout, 611 tonnes for red throat emperor and 956 tonnes for other coral reef fin fish species.
- Of the 2017/18 quota entitlements 889 tonnes (92.5 %), 150 tonnes (24.5 %) and 434 tonnes (45.5 %) of the coral trout, red throat emperor and other species quotas were utilised respectively²³.
- It should be noted that the quota arrangements for Coral Trout have changed over the past few years, which is indicative in the catches of this species recorded in the data displayed above.
- Coral Trout quota was set at 1350 tonnes in 2004 – 2012 and was then reduced to 1088 tonnes from 2013 – 2014. Further reductions in quota occurred in 2015 – 2016 (917 tonnes). The quota for the recently completed quota season (2017–2018) increased to 963 tonnes and again to 1163 tonnes for the current (2018-2019) quota season.
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent stock status assessment of key species like coral trout and red throat emperor please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details, quota held by an individual or company, current quota setting and usage details by quota type or the type and number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Coral Reef Fin Fish Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Coral Reef Fin Fish Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Please note that this query has selected for line catch and effort within the GBRMPA which may not include all RQ species and alternatively may include some non-RQ species.
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

²³ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

Figure 8 – Coral Reef Fin Fish Fishery



Deep Water (multiple-hook) Fin Fishery

The Deep Water Fin Fish Fishery is a small commercial multi-hook line fishery that operates on the east coast of Queensland, beyond the 200 metre bathometric line. Target species include blue eye trevalla, various coral reef finfish such as hapuku, emperors, cods and snappers; and rocky reef finfish such as pearl perch, as well as a range of other species. Most product is landed whole and sold domestically, with occasional exports. The Deep Water Finfish Fishery has a quota for reef managed species only. Please refer to the Coral reef fin fish fishery summary for more information on quota allowances.

Species targeted	Blue eye trevalla and bar rockcod
Fishing season	1 July – 30 June
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: L8 – 6 ²⁴ An L8 held in conjunction with an RQ allows coral reef fin fish to be retained
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 6

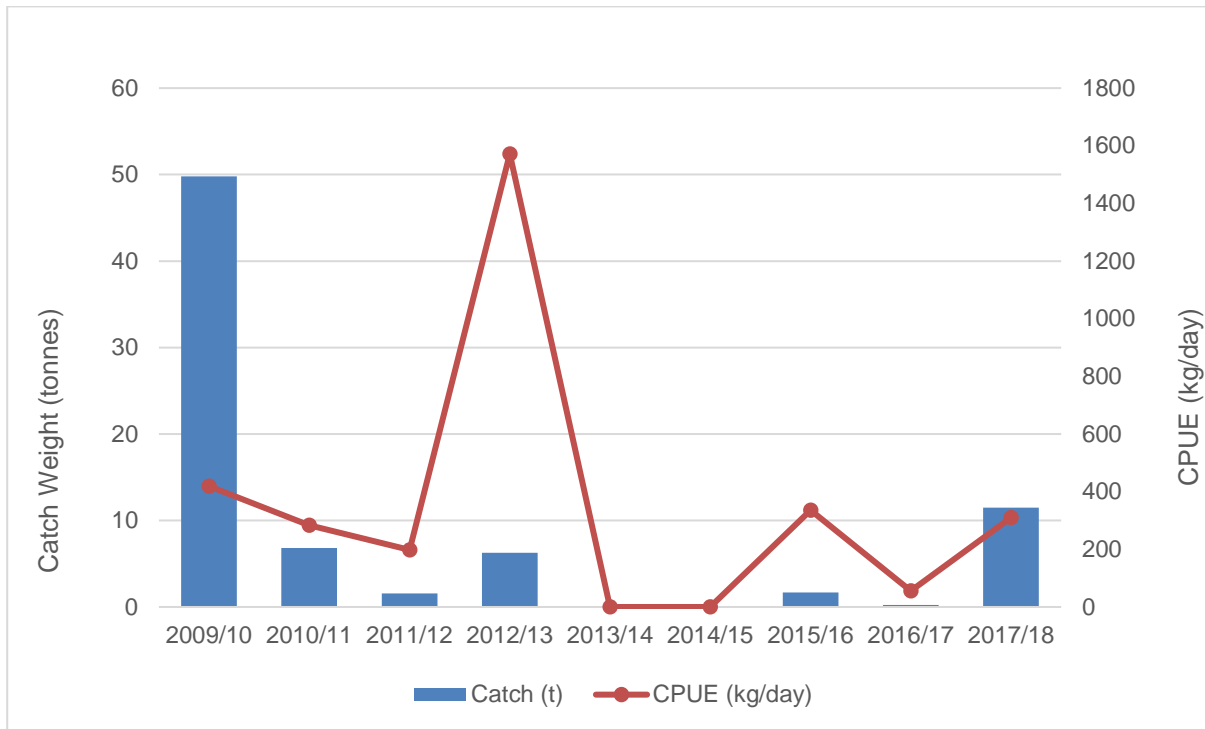
	2009/10	2010/1	2011/1	2012/1	2013/1	2014/1	2015/1	2016/1	2017/1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total catch (t)	50	7	2	6	0	0	2	<1	11
Total effort (days)	119	24	8	4	0	0	5	4	37
Licences (active)	4	3	2	2	0	0	1	1	2
GVP (\$A '000)	230	28	7	16	0	0	9	1	63

²⁴ As at 1 November 2018.

Please note the following:

- Prior to 2009/10 data extraction for the Deep Water Finfish Fishery was extremely difficult due to the nature of reporting by fishers. This has since been remedied through the introduction of a multi-hook (MH) logbook; all logbook catch and effort pertaining to the Deep Water Finfish Fishery is now reported through this single logbook.
- During the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years, no fishing activity was reported by licences operating in the Deep Water Finfish Fishery.
- At this time, through QFish it is not possible to accurately represent catch and effort data for the Deep Water Finfish Fishery; a higher level of specificity is required to accurately reflect the fisheries characteristics.
- If you require any further analysis of this fishery please contact the Fisheries Data Coordinator via fishdatacoordinator@daf.qld.gov.au
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in Deep Water Finfish Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent stock status assessment for species which are caught in the Deep Water Finfish Fishery please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Figure 8 – Deep Water Fin Fish Fishery



East Coast Spanish Mackerel Fishery

The East Coast Spanish Mackerel Fishery is a line fishery which commenced in the early 1900's; targeting the largest of the mackerel species in Queensland, *Scomberomorus commerson*. Spanish mackerel are highly sought after by commercial and recreational fishers. In Queensland waters, access to the commercial Spanish mackerel fishery is restricted to holders of an 'SM' fishery symbol. This symbol is linked to individual quota holdings.

- The East Coast Spanish Mackerel Fishery has a total allowable commercial catch (TACC) divided among symbol holders using the Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) system. The TACC in 2017/18 was 578 tonnes, of which 315 tonnes (54.4 %) was utilised by fishers²⁵.
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent Spanish mackerel stock status assessment please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stockstatus-assessments>
- To view licence details, quota held by an individual or company, current quota setting and usage details by quota type or the type and number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the East Coast Spanish Mackerel Fishery please visit [FishNet](#).
- For further analysis of the East Coast Spanish Mackerel Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

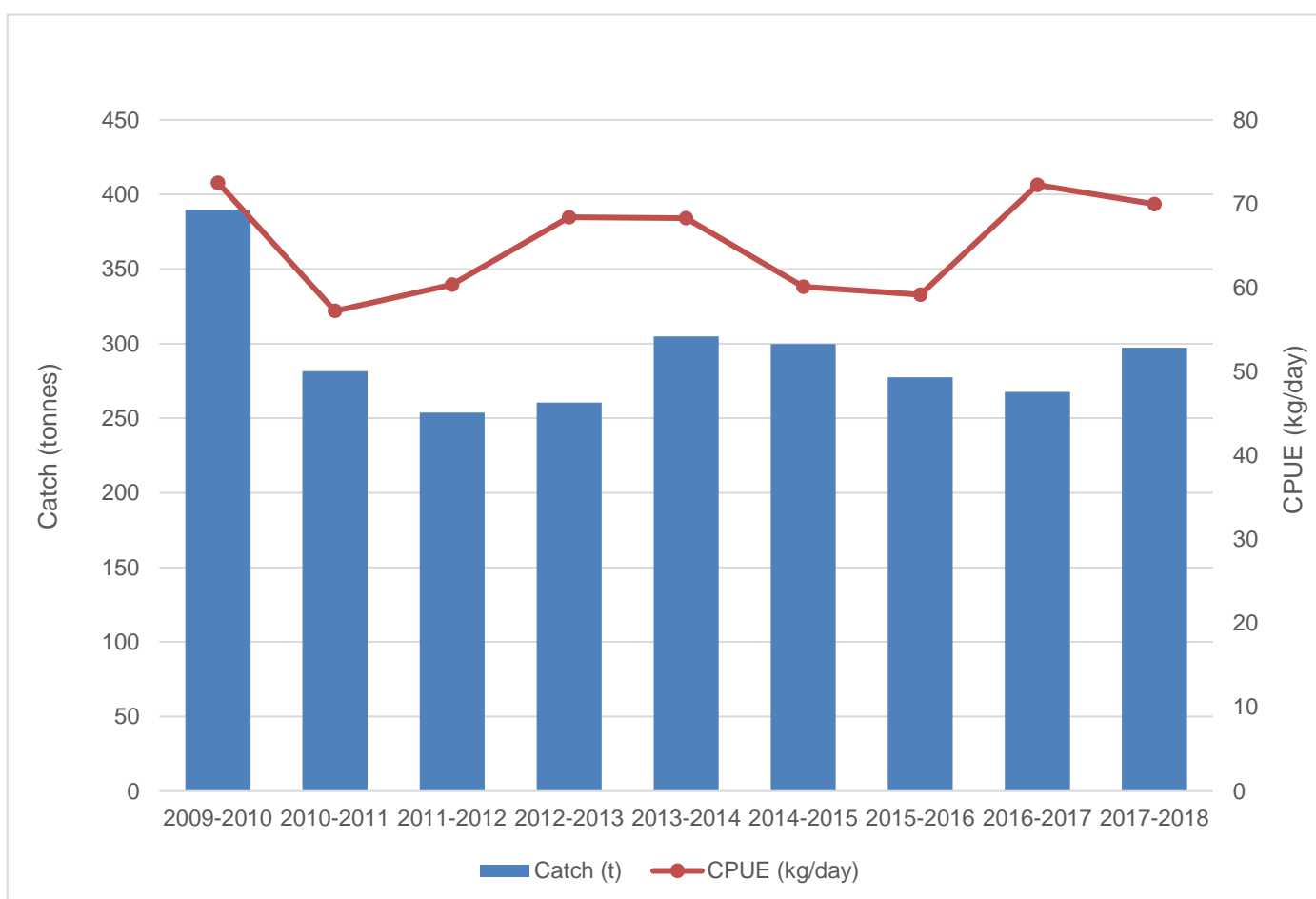
Species targeted	Spanish mackerel (<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>)
Fishing season	1 July – 30 June
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: SM – 240 An SM symbol must be held in conjunction with an L1, L2 or L3 symbol
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 240 ²⁶

²⁵ As at 1 November 2018.

²⁶ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total catch (t)	390	282	254	261	305	300	277	268	297
Total effort (days)	5376	4921	4205	3810	4462	4986	4686	3704	4250
Licences (active)	182	167	166	168	180	186	174	168	174
GVP (\$A million)	2.7	2	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.1

Figure 9 – East Coast Spanish Mackerel Fishery



Gulf of Carpentaria Line Fishery

The Gulf of Carpentaria Line Fishery is a multispecies fishery which harvests a variety of pelagic and demersal fish. The pelagic Spanish mackerel accounts for the majority of the fishery's catch.

Other pelagic species taken include trevally and small mackerels caught using surface trolling methods.

Demersal fish include tropical snappers, cods and emperors that are mainly caught on coral and rocky reefs between 10 – 30 m deep using hand lines.

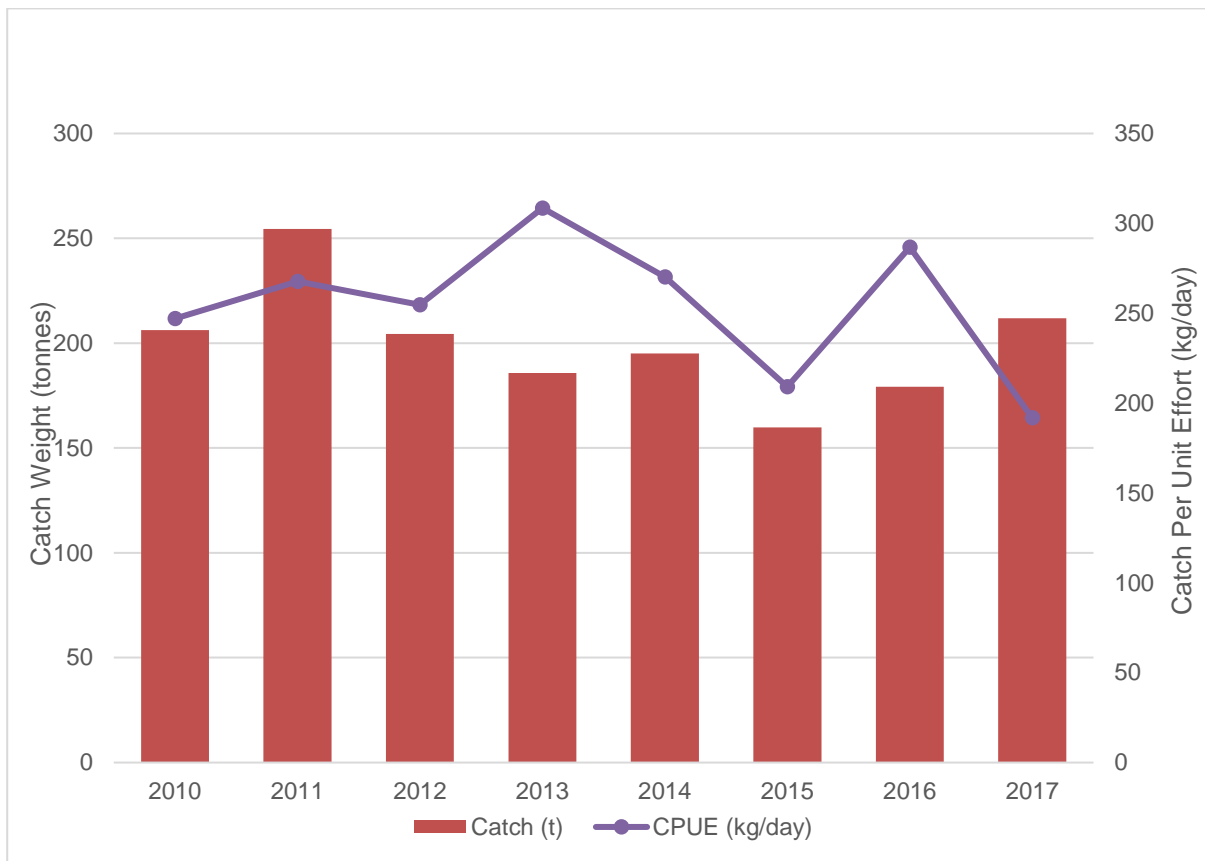
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent stock status assessment of key species like Spanish mackerel, crimson snapper and saddletail snapper please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Gulf of Carpentaria Line Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Gulf of Carpentaria Line Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Species targeted	Spanish mackerel and demersal fin fish species
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: L4 – 46 ²⁷
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 46

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	203	248	204	185	195	160	179	212
Total effort (days)	835	951	803	602	722	764	625	1105
Licences (active)	23	22	16	16	16	15	16	20
GVP (\$A million)	1.4	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.5
Spanish mackerel (t)	191	240	198	185	194	156	177	206

²⁷ As at 1 November 2018.

Figure 10 – Gulf of Carpentaria Line Fishery



Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery

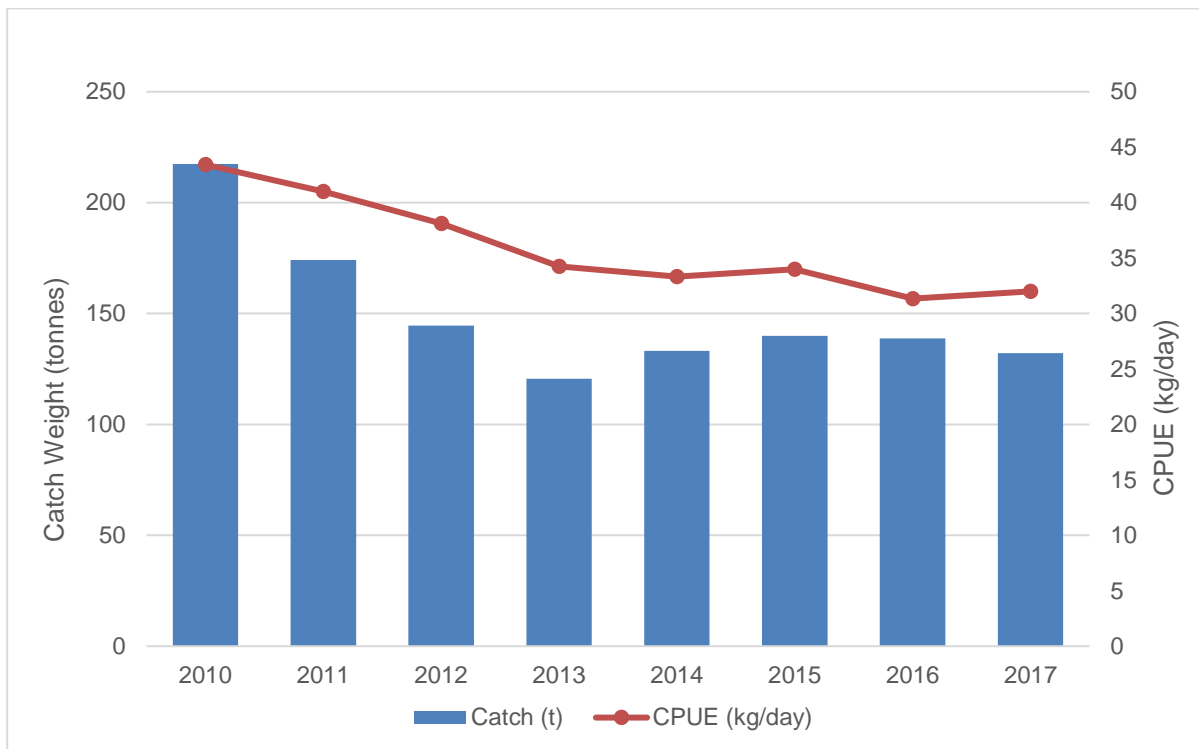
The Rocky Reef Finfish Fishery mainly targets snapper (*Pagrus auratus*). Other key secondary species include pearl perch (*Glaucosoma scapulare*) and teraglin (*Atractoscion aequidens*). Most rocky reef fin fish are taken in south east Queensland, which can be fished by commercial operators in possession of an L1 fishery symbol. Effort is concentrated in waters from Baffle Creek (24.5°S) south to the New South Wales border. However, fishers are permitted to harvest rocky reef finfish species throughout Queensland waters provided they have the appropriate L2 or L3 endorsement.

Species targeted	Snapper and pearl perch
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December (peak during winter months)
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued : L1 – 225; L2 – 190; L3 – 931 ²⁸
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 1135

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	217	174	144	121	133	140	139	132
Total effort (days)	5007	4247	3790	3521	3994	4119	4426	4127
Licences (active)	283	286	256	270	285	286	273	274
GVP (\$A million)	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8
Snapper (t)	77	66	60	55	57	61	66	55
Pearl perch (t)	33	25	24	18	19	20	20	17

²⁸ As at 1 November 2018.

Figure 11 – Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery



- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland’s key fish stocks.
- To view outcomes of the most recent stock status assessments for key species like snapper and pearl perch please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoringourfisheries/datareports/sustainabilityreporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Net fisheries

East Coast Inshore Fin Fishery

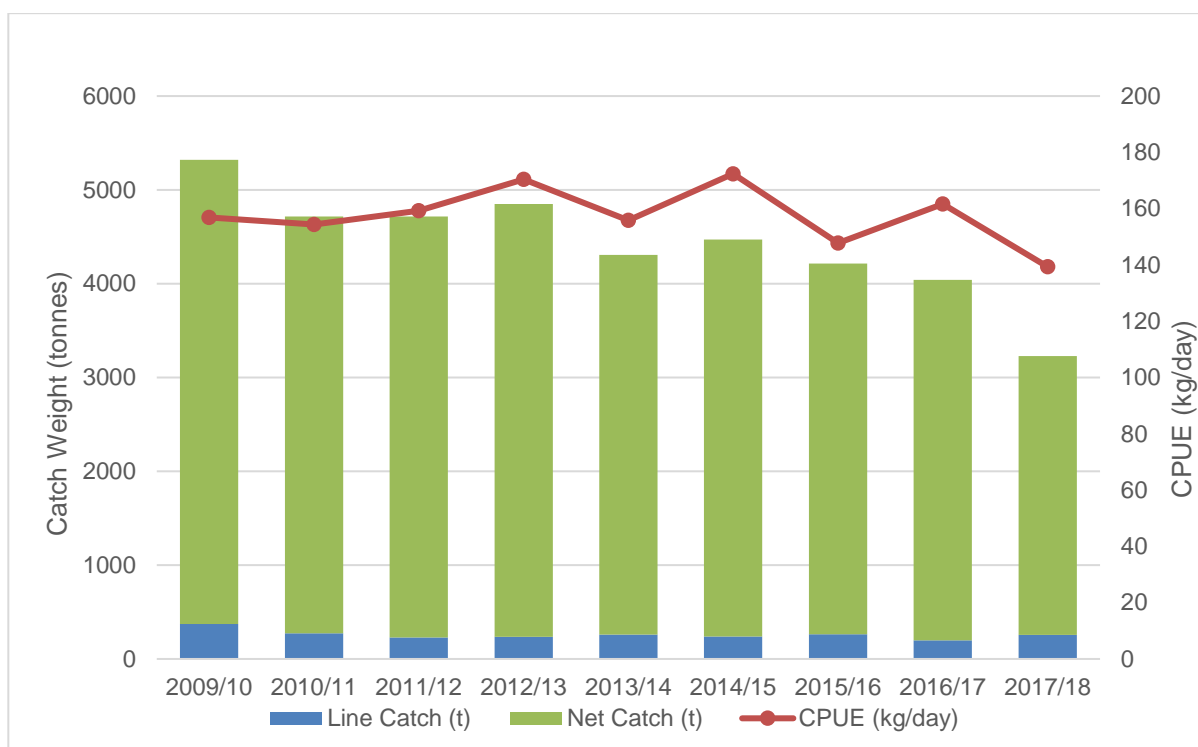
The East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery (ECIFFF) is Queensland's largest and most diverse fishery, comprising commercial, recreational, charter and Indigenous sectors. The commercial sector is Queensland's third most valuable commercial fishery, targeting several finfish species, using a variety of different net fishing methods.

Species targeted	Sea mullet, shark, whiting, bream, flathead, tailor, small mackerels, threadfins and barramundi
Fishing season	1 July – 30 June (for quota managed species) 1 January – 31 December (for all other species) Barramundi closures apply to all fishers from midday on 7 October to midday on 1 February annually A general seasonal fishing closure applies to near shore waters between Indian Head and Waddy Point, Fraser Island from 1 August to 30 September to protect spawning tailor
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: L1 – 225; L2 – 190; N1 – 86; N2 – 94; N4 – 5; N10 – 22; N11 – 281; S – 114; K1 – 2; K2 – 3; K3 – 4; K4 – 1; K5 – 7; K6 – 3; K7 – 4; K8 – 12 ²⁹
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 663

²⁹ As at 1 November 2018

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Total catch (t)	5253	4669	4668	4774	4307	4470	4214	4041	3228
Total effort (days)	33828	30500	29569	28362	27628	25929	28523	25010	23162
Licences (active)	665	634	619	601	577	556	547	547	526
GVP (\$A million)	21.1	20	20.3	19.7	17.9	18.3	17.9	15.9	13.0
Barramundi (t)	252	460	555	402	350	307	272	240	196
Blacktip shark complex (t)	227	203	195	133	120	96	193	130	110
Dusky flathead (t)	60	73	65	61	50	42	55	47	39
Grey mackerel (t)	233	190	224	189	197	211	177	178	144
King threadfin (t)	142	167	219	207	182	205	153	113	77
Sea mullet (t)	1978	1661	1725	2067	1667	1924	1509	1855	1277
Spotted mackerel (t)	102	63	44	79	90	83	81	28	41
Tailor (t)	119	109	54	58	43	56	55	68	58
Whiting (t)	355	287	267	275	228	209	239	218	183
Yellowfin bream (t)	165	107	125	151	128	129	185	119	81

Figure 12 – East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery



Recent Management Changes

- A total allowable commercial catch quota for shark commenced on 1 July 2009.
- For this period, quota usage was instead determined directly through logbook returns. New reporting requirements were subsequently made effective from 1 January 2018, with all commercial fishers endorsed to take shark commercially required to report priors and unloads for any retained quantity of shark.
- In 2015 Net Free zones were implemented in Cairns, Mackay and Rockhampton, where fishers affected by the zones were offered the opportunity to participate in a voluntary process to buyback whole licence and symbol packages.
- This process resulted in the purchase and subsequent surrender of 27 commercial fishing boat licences and 5, 15 and 1 N1, N2 and N3 symbols, respectively.
- The East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery has total allowable commercial catch (TACC) limits for sharks and rays (600 tonnes). From 1 January 2018, there are also TACCs for hammerhead shark in ECIFFF and GOCIFFF. Hammerhead shark harvest in ECIFFF accrues against both the general ECIFFF shark TACC and the hammerhead TACC. All fishers must report shark harvest numbers prior to landing and shark discard numbers in logbooks after landing. Below is a summary of shark quota usages for the 2017/18 fishing season.

Shark Quota Type 2017/18	TAC	Tonnes Used	% of TAC Used
Southern other shark	120	103	85
Southern Hammerhead	22	9	41
Northern Other Shark	480	114	24
Northern Hammerhead	78	20	26
Gulf Hammerhead	50	6	11

- TACC's for grey mackerel (250 t), spotted mackerel (140 t) and tailor (120 t) are divided among symbol holders using an individual transferable quota (ITQ) system.
- During the 2017/18 catch period; 144 t (57.7 %) of grey mackerel, 41 t (29.7 %) of spotted mackerel and 61 t (51.4 %) of tailor were used³⁰.
- New requirements for hammerhead sharks commenced on 1 January 2018, under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Sharks and rays are now listed in a separate logbook.
- For the 2017/18 financial year, data on shark catches will be representative of data collected in ECIFFF net and line logbooks (from July to December 2017) and from new shark and ray logbooks (from January to June 2018).
- New shark and ray logbooks require hammerhead shark species to be reported to the species level, and all discards of sharks and rays are reported to Fisheries Queensland.
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent stock status assessments for key species like mullet and whiting please visit <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/businesspriorities/fisheries/monitoringourfisheries/commercialfisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details, quota held by an individual or company, current quota setting and usage details by quota type or the type and number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the East Coast Inshore Finfish Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

³⁰ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery

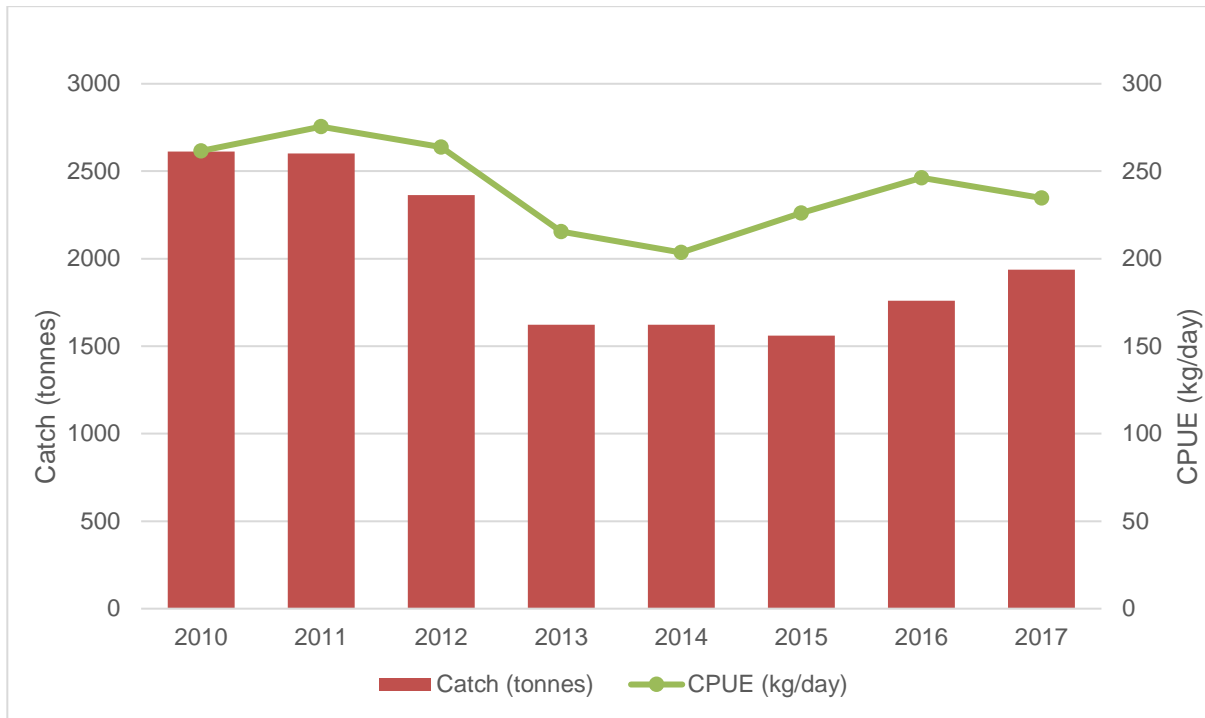
The Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery (GOCIFFF) is a multi-species fishery comprising a commercial inshore (N3) net fishery, a commercial offshore (N12 and N13) net fishery, commercial bait netting (N11), recreational fishing, Indigenous fishing and charter boat fishing of species related to the GOCIFFF within the Queensland jurisdiction of the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Species targeted	Barramundi, king and blue threadfins, tropical shark and grey mackerel
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December Barramundi closures apply to all fishers from midday on 7 October to midday on 1 February every year
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: N3 – 85; N12 – 3; N13 – 1 ³¹
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 81

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	2622	2601	2364	1622	1623	1560	1759	1938
Total effort (days)	9987	9443	8962	7528	7974	6901	7144	8262
Licences (active)	87	81	87	83	74	71	77	81
GVP (\$A million)	15.6	16.7	15.5	9.8	9.7	9.2	10.2	11.9
Barramundi (t)	763	966	929	505	457	367	468	668
Blacktip shark (t)	216	190	133	184	154	122	234	200
Blue threadfin (t)	63	49	39	40	49	41	54	74
Grey mackerel (t)	897	853	767	486	562	718	645	552
King threadfin (t)	378	325	313	176	142	138	169	236

³¹ As at 1 November 2018

Figure 13 – Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery



- The Queensland Government approved management arrangements for the offshore component of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery; restructuring involved transitioning from the N9 and QFJA mesh net authorisations to offshore N12 and N13 fishery symbols.
- During 2012, three N12 fishery symbols were issued and most recently in 2014 a N13 symbol was issued.
- New requirements for hammerhead sharks commenced on 1 January 2018, under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Sharks and rays are now listed in a separate logbook.
- For the 2017/2018 financial year, data on shark catches will be representative of data collected in GOCIFF net and line logbooks (from July to December 2017) and from new shark and ray logbooks (from January to June 2018).
- New shark and ray logbooks require hammerhead shark species to be reported to the species level, and all discards of sharks and rays are reported to Fisheries Queensland.
- For further information on the new shark reporting requirements please visit <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/our-organisation/news-and-updates/fisheries/news/new-rules-commence-for-hammerhead-sharks>, or for information on shark and hammerhead quotas and how they are allocated amongst the Gulf of Carpentaria and the East Coast please visit [FishNet](#)
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent stock status assessments for key species like barramundi and grey mackerel please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Pot fisheries

Blue Swimmer Crab Fishery

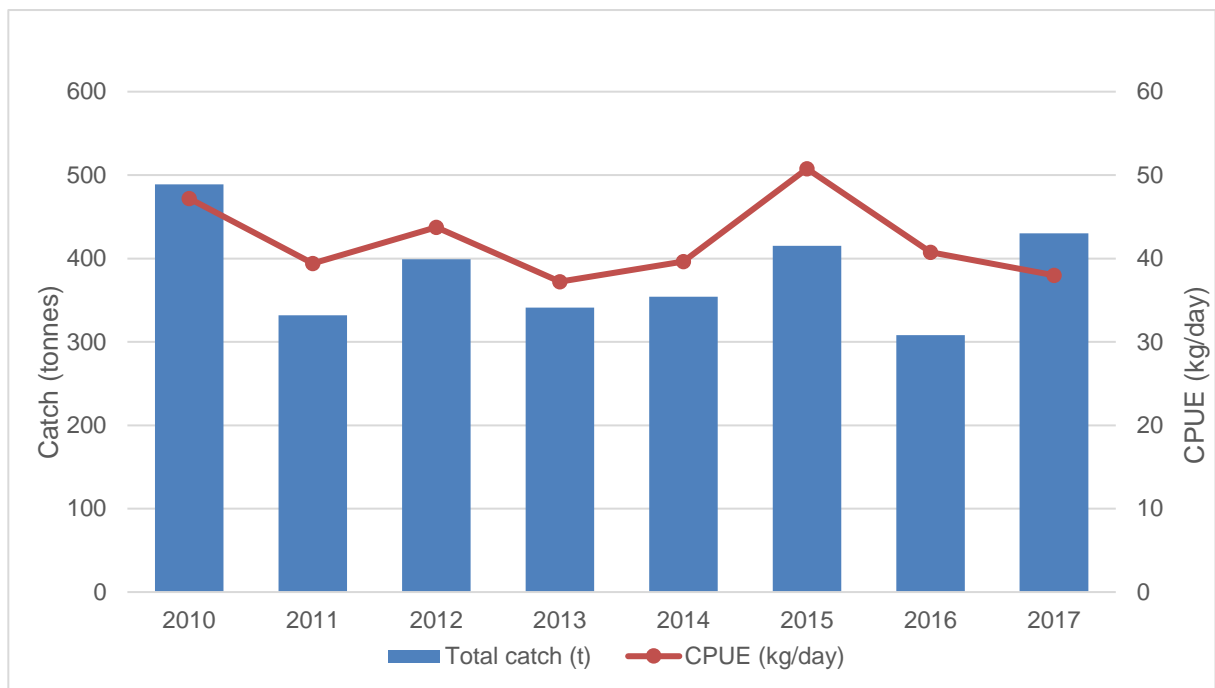
The total commercial catch of blue swimmer crabs is predominantly caught in pots. Blue swimmer crabs are listed as permitted (bycatch) species in the East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery (ECOTF) and a small amount of crab is harvested in this fishery (for catch and effort data see the ECOTF summary report).

Species targeted	Blue swimmer crab (<i>Portunus armatus</i>)
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: C1 – 412 ³²
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 348

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	489	332	399	341	354	415	308	430
Total effort (days)	10356	8459	8929	8977	8839	8131	7655	8289
Licences (active)	152	129	127	121	107	110	107	104
GVP (\$A million)	4.5	3	3.7	3.1	3.2	3.8	3.0	2.9

³² As at 1 November 2018.

Figure 13 – Blue Swimmer Crab Fishery



Recent Management Changes:

- In 2014 fisheries legislation was revised to allow multiple 'C1' fishery symbols to be written on a single commercial fishing licence. Commercial crab fishers with two or more 'C1' fishery symbols written upon their licence will be able to use a maximum of 100 pots to take mud or blue swimmer crab while licences with one 'C1' will continue to use a maximum of 50 pots.
- Commercial crab fishers may also apply for a General Fisheries Permit to use 150 pots but are restricted to blue swimmer crabs, coral crabs, or three spot crabs, and cannot retain mud crabs while the permit is in place. General Fisheries Permits are issued for 12 months.
- The trawl sector is limited to catch limits of 100 blue swimmer crabs per trip in Moreton Bay and 500 blue swimmer crabs per 7 days in areas outside Moreton Bay, and generally represents 10% of the total commercial catch.
- In 2016, a record high amount of blue swimmer crab (11.5 tonnes) was caught in the Gulf of Carpentaria. This is a substantial harvest compared to previous years, with the nearest record set at 3 tonnes in 2007.
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent blue swimmer crab stock status assessment please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Blue Swimmer Crab Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Blue Swimmer Crab Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Mud Crab Fishery

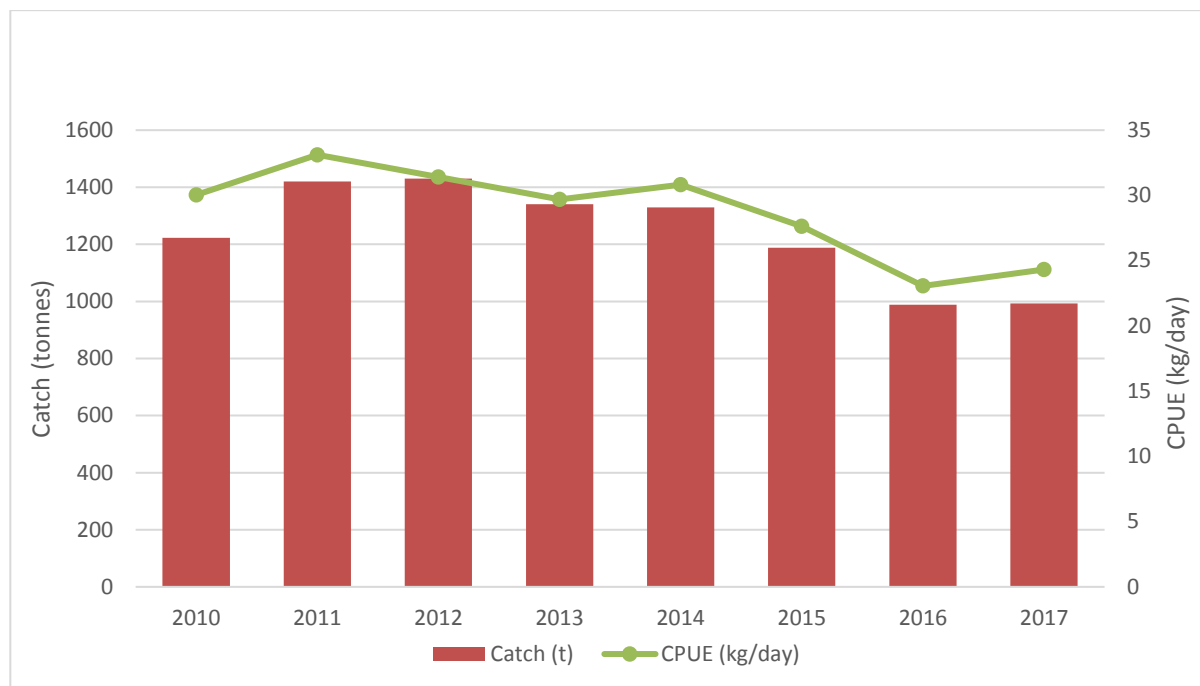
Mud crabs are caught across the whole of Queensland (East Coast and the Gulf of Carpentaria), mostly between December and June in intertidal waters. The major mud-crabbing areas are Moreton Bay, the Narrows (near Gladstone), Hinchinbrook Channel and Princess Charlotte Bay. Mud crab catch in the Gulf of Carpentaria typically contributes less than 20% to the total Queensland catch.

Species targeted	Mud crab (<i>Scylla</i> spp.)
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: C1 – 412 ³³
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 348

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	1240	1439	1429	1340	1329	1189	988	989
Total effort (days)	40977	43127	45354	45014	43035	42898	42789	40580
Licences (active)	385	388	387	387	370	348	340	330
GVP (\$A million)	19.8	23	22.9	21.4	21.3	19.0	15.9	12.0
East Coast (t)	1053	1255	1230	1167	1183	1062	894	859
Gulf of Carpentaria (t)	187	184	199	174	146	127	100	130

³³ As at November 2018

Figure 14 – Mud Crab Fishery



Recent management changes:

- In 2014 fisheries legislation was revised to allow multiple 'C1' fishery symbols to be written on a single commercial fishing licence.
- Commercial crab fishers with two or more 'C1' fishery symbols written upon their licence will be able to use a maximum of 100 pots to take mud or blue swimmer crab while licences with one 'C1' will continue to use a maximum of 50 pots.
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent mud crab stock status assessment please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Mud Crab Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Mud Crab Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Spanner Crab Fishery

Commercial spanner-crabbers are required to use dillies. Spanner crabs are harvested all year round, except during the spawning season from 1 November to 15 December. Most of the Queensland catch is taken in deep oceanic waters south of Yeppoon. The fishery is managed through a total allowable commercial catch (TACC), with individual transferable quotas (ITQs) also issued to fishers. The spanner crab harvest has averaged approximately 1300 tonnes annually over the past 5 years.

Species targeted	Spanner crab (<i>Ranina ranina</i>)
Fishing season	20 December – 20 November Spawning season closures apply to all fishers from midnight on 20 November to midnight on 20 December every year
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: C2 – 239; C3 – 248 ³⁴
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 370

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	1149	1298	1039	945	918	1176	1096	905
Total effort (days)	3322	3629	3085	2834	3009	3146	4051	3769
Total dillies lifted ('000)	886	1077	936	891	974	1122	1484	1357
Licences (active)	62	61	63	61	56	57	74	61
GVP (\$A million)	4.7	5.3	4.3	3.9	3.8	4.8	4.5	3.7
Management Area A (t) (C2)	1148	1297	1039	945	918	1176	1094	905
Management Area B (t) (C3)	<1	<1	0	<1	<1	<1	2	0

³⁴ As at 1 November 2018.

The Spanner Crab Fishery Managed Area A commercial total allowable catch (TACC) is divided among licence holders using an individual transferable quota (ITQ) system. The 2016–17³⁵ TACC was set at 1631 tonnes (t) of which 810 tonnes (49.7%) was utilised by fishers³⁶.

Recent management changes:

- Amendments have been made which requires the Chief Executive to declare quota in the Spanner Crab Fishery. As quota in this fishery has up until now been stated in legislation, the ability to declare this quota in the future will significantly streamline the process. Following this amendment, the annual quota for Managed Area A was declared to be 1631 tonnes for the 2017–18 quota year.
- The CPUE is incomplete for 2017; the current CPUE shown is unstandardized and therefore varies from that used during the quota setting process.
- Spanner Crab quota is deducted from the fisheries TACC in alignment with the spanner crab financial year (June to May); conversely, logbook catch and effort is reported and presented by calendar year.
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent spanner crab stock status assessment please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details, quota held by an individual or company, current quota setting and usage details by quota type or the type and number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Spanner Crab Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Spanner Crab Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#)

³⁵ Spanner crab quota is deducted from the fisheries TACC in alignment with the spanner crab financial year (June to May); conversely logbook catch and effort is reported and presented by calendar year.

³⁶ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

Figure 15 – Spanner Crab Fishery



Trawl fisheries

East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery

The East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery is managed using effort units (EU) which are split between East Coast (T1 and M1) and Concessional (T2) users. In 2017 there were a total of 2.75 million EU for the East Coast and 73,387 EU for Concessional. During this period 1.77 million EU (64%) in the East Coast trawl and 19,776 EU (27%) in the Concessional trawl quota groups were utilised.

Species targeted	Eastern king prawn, red spot king prawn, brown tiger prawn, grooved tiger prawn, blue endeavour prawn, red endeavour prawn, banana prawn, greasy prawn, Moreton Bay and Balmain bugs and saucer scallop
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December Numerous and extensive seasonal and permanent area closures apply to the fishery, particularly in waters of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and Great Sandy and Moreton Bay Marine Parks
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: T1 – 369; T2 – 16; M1 – 47; M2 – 25 ³⁷
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery : 410

Recent Management Changes:

Saucer scallop:

- Over the past year the commercial fishing industry has expressed concern regarding a decline in scallop catches in Queensland. The logbook records show commercial catch rates of scallops are the lowest in the 39 year recorded history of the fishery.
- A stock assessment was carried out in October 2016 which suggests the scallop biomass is potentially as low as 5-6% when compared to 1977 stocks.
- To protect the sustainability of scallops in Queensland, urgent management changes commenced on January 3 2017. The new management arrangements are expected to reduce the total scallop catch by as much as 40 % to prevent further declines in scallop stocks.
- To allow for recovery of the declining fishery, all six scallop replenishment areas (SRAs) located off Yeppoon, Bustard Head and Hervey Bay, were closed to all scallop fishing until further notice. This includes the three SRAs that were due to open on 3 January 2017. The standard winter closure between 1 May and 31 October remain in place.

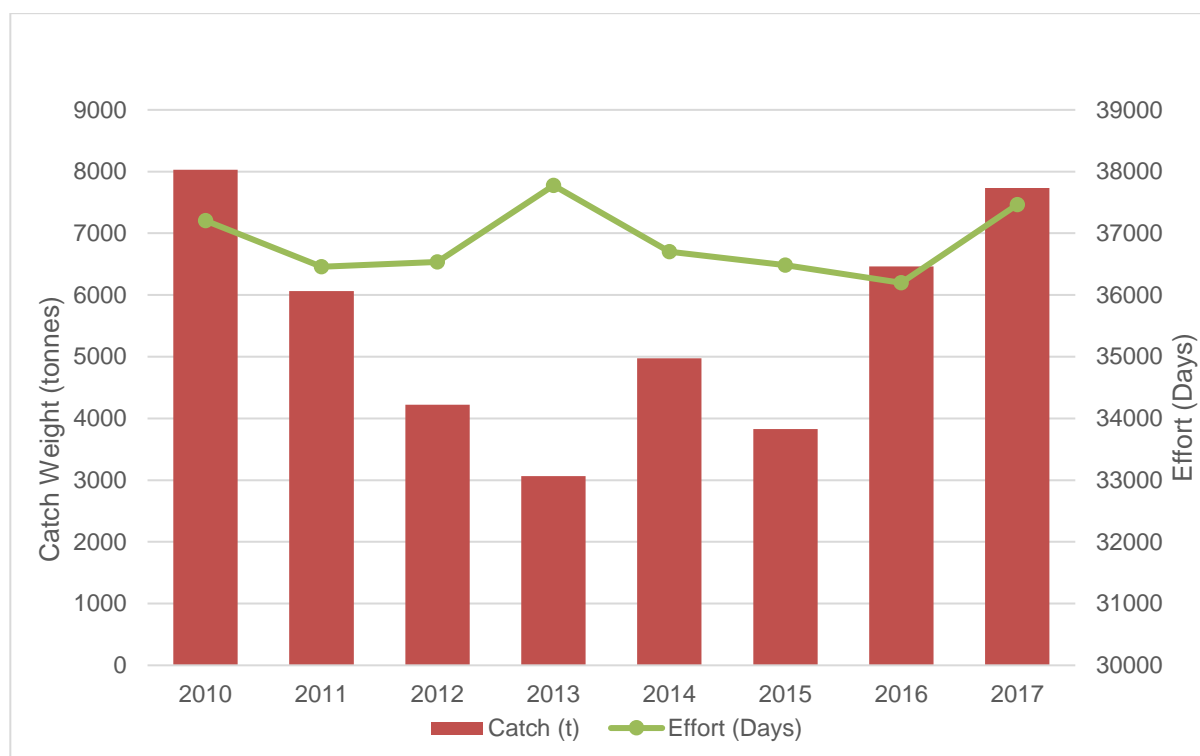
³⁷ As at 1 November 2018.

White spot disease:

- White spot disease is a highly contagious viral disease of decapod crustaceans including, but not limited to, prawns, lobsters and crabs.
- Marine worms are also thought to be carriers of the disease.
- To reduce the likelihood of white spot spreading, movement restrictions have been in place for certain species.
- Prawns, yabbies and marine worms cannot be removed from restricted areas and due to this may have impacted on commercial catch within the past year.
- Exemptions on movement restrictions apply to spanner crabs, three spotted crabs, blue swimmer crabs, mud crabs, red champagne lobsters, slipper lobsters, tropical rocklobsters, redclaws and bugs.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	7202	6459	6536	7775	6703	6483	6198	7462
Total effort (days)	38030	36064	34220	33065	34975	33826	36462	37734
Licences (active)	333	331	311	301	288	293	296	307
GVP (\$A million)	91	76	83	93	86	82	80	96
Banana prawn (t)	678	1179	227	1027	505	519	315	648
Balmain bug (t)	85	101	102	69	89	84	68	47
Blue-leg king prawn (t)	153	76	137	144	178	149	181	176
Eastern king prawn (t)	2679	2002	2613	2924	2571	2362	2205	2962
Endeavour prawn (t)	590	520	458	508	463	540	525	400
Greasy prawn (t)	183	469	373	660	239	333	81	92
Moreton bay bug (t)	461	300	468	502	570	527	539	548
Red spot king prawn (t)	348	114	263	220	168	148	222	202
Saucer scallop (t)	429	275	738	486	334	230	201	260
Tiger prawn (t)	1291	1233	834	986	1300	1351	1454	1624

Figure 16 – East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery



- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland's key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent stock status assessment for key species like eastern king prawn and tiger prawn please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Fin Fish (Stout Whiting) Trawl Fishery

The Queensland Fin Fish (Stout Whiting) Trawl Fishery (FFTF) is a demersal otter trawl and Danish seine fishery. The FFTF is permitted to target stout whiting (*Sillago robusta*) and retain other permitted by-product species such as Yellowtail scad (*Trachurus novaezelandiae*) and Goatfish (*Mullidae* family).

- The FFTF has a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for stout whiting divided among licence holders using an Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) system.
- The 2017 TAC was set at 1105 tonnes where 1028 tonnes (93%) was utilised by fishers.
- The Yellowtail Scad quota for 2017 was 100 tonnes, of which 8.3 tonnes was used leaving 91.7% of the allocation unused³⁸.

Species targeted	Stout whiting (<i>Sillago robusta</i>)
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: T4 – 5 ³⁹
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 3

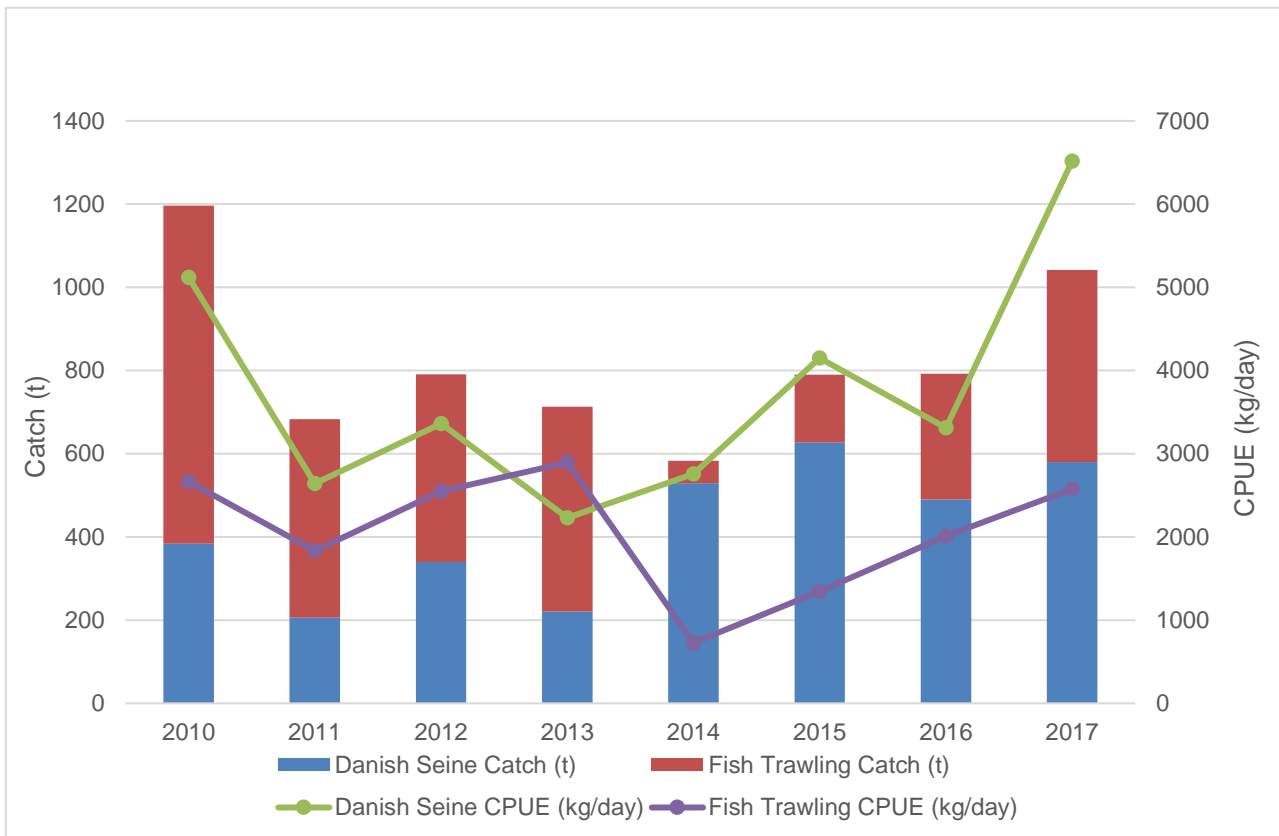
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	1197	683	791	713	583	790	792	1041
Total effort (days)	380	337	276	269	266	272	298	267
Licences (active)	3	4	2	2	2	2	2	2
GVP (\$A million)	3.0	1.7	2.0	1.8	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.6
Stout whiting (t)	1170	665	784	704	581	787	776	1028

- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the Fin Fish (Stout Whiting) Trawl Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the Fin Fish (Stout Whiting) Trawl Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

³⁸ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

³⁹ As at 1 November 2018.

Figure 17 – Fin Fish (Stout Whiting) Trawl Fishery



Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery

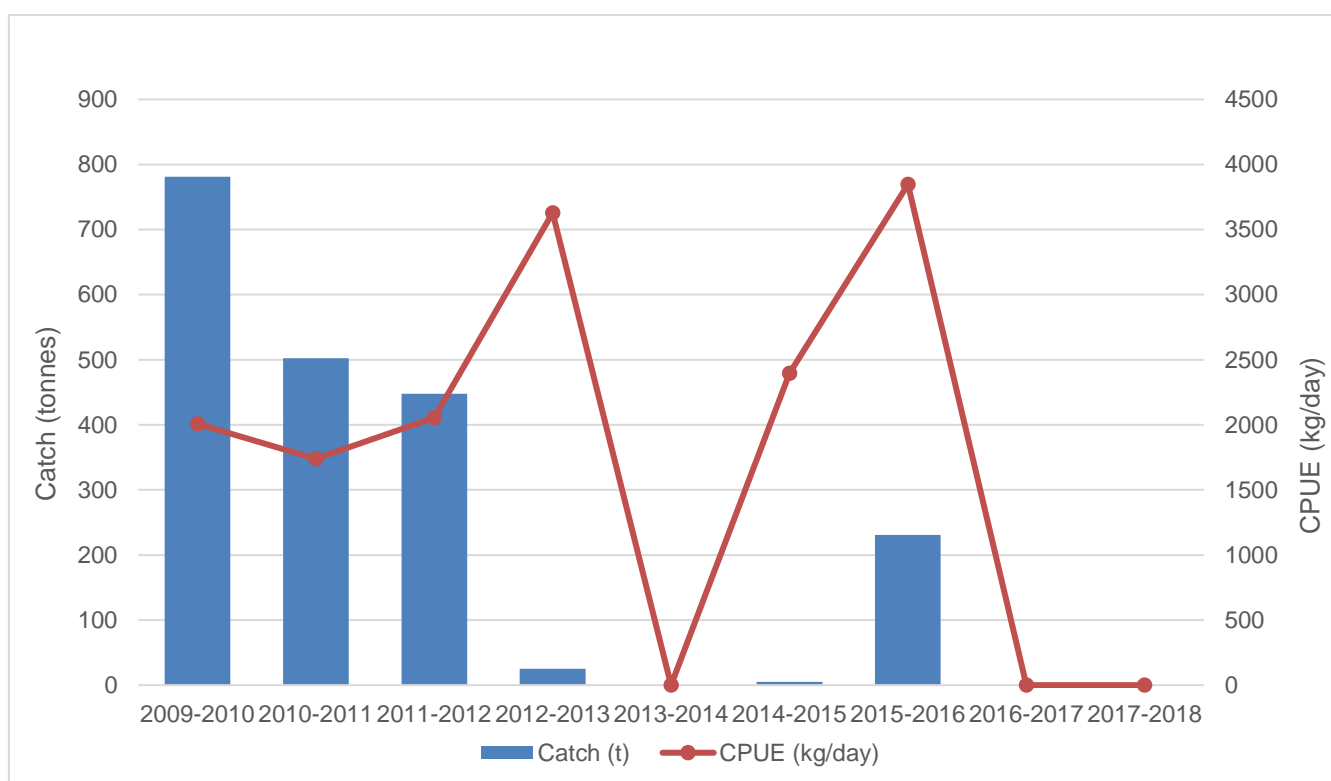
The Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery is a limited-entry, quota-managed, semi-demersal trawl fishery that has operated under Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority jurisdiction since June 1998. The fishery remains developmental, and any change to a licensed status depends on it continuing to demonstrate ecological sustainability, commercial viability and social acceptability.

Species targeted	Crimson snapper, saddletail snapper
Fishing season	1 July – 30 June
Fishery symbols	Nil – operates under developmental fisheries permits ⁴⁰
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of permits with access to the fishery: 3

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Total catch (t)	781	502	448	25	0	5	231	0	0
Total effort (days)	389	289	218	7	0	2	60	0	0
Permits (active)	2	2	3	1	0	1	2	0	0
GVP (\$A million)	5.2	3.3	3.0	0.2	0	<0.1	1.5	0	0
Crimson snapper	361	217	178	12	0	2	104	0	0
Saddletail snapper	253	163	159	9	0	2	69	0	0
Mangrove jack	48	31	16	0	0	0	14	0	0
Goldband snapper	33	23	26	1	0	0	19	0	0
Golden snapper	18	22	25	<1	0	<1	5	0	0

⁴⁰ As at 1 November 2018.

Figure 18 – Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery



Recent Management Changes:

- In the 2017-18 financial year, 3 developmental fisheries permits were issued for the Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Fishery. However, no fishing activity was reported by permits operating in the Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery in the 2013-2014, 2016-2017 or 2017-18 financial years.
- The Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery has a commercial total allowable catch (TAC) with permit conditions detailing non-transferrable quota entitlements.
- From 1st July 2017, the TAC was set at 169 tonnes (t) for crimson snapper, 150 t for saddletail snapper, 30 t for mangrove jack, 61 t for golden snapper, 21 t for red emperor, and 65 t for other Gulf of Carpentaria teleost species⁴¹.
- Each year Fisheries Queensland assesses the exploitation status (stock status) of Queensland’s key fish stocks. To view outcomes of the most recent stock status assessment of species such as crimson and saddle tail snapper please visit <http://www.daf.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/stock-status-assessments>
- If you require any further analysis of the Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery please contact the Fisheries Data Coordinator via fishdatacoordinator@daf.qld.gov.au

⁴¹ Fishery quota and logbook figures listed in this report may differ; logbooks are designed to collect an estimated daily weight retained at sea, while quota figures are based on weights that are accurately measured upon landing. Moving forward, logbook figures within this report will be adjusted to reflect quota data.

River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery

The River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery (RIBTF) is 1 of 3 sub-fisheries within the Queensland East Coast Trawl Fishery (ECTF). Target species include greasyback (bay) prawns, banana prawns and school prawns. Minor quantities of other species are also landed.

Species targeted	Greasy (bay) prawns, banana prawns, school prawns and other minor prawn species
Fishing season	1 January – 31 December Numerous and extensive seasonal and permanent area closures apply to the fishery, particularly in waters of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and Great Sandy and Moreton Bay Marine Parks
Commercial fishery symbols	Total number of fishery symbols issued: T5 – 36; T6 – 4; T7 – 5; T8 – 21; T9 – 17 ⁴²
Commercial fishery licences	Total number of licences with access to the fishery: 82

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total catch (t)	462	236	179	165	227	313	198	217
Total effort (days)	5260	2816	2312	2145	2478	2827	2364	2107
Licences (active)	85	68	66	57	51	51	53	49
GVP (\$A million)	3.1	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.7	2.2	1.6	1.3
Banana prawn (t)	182	155	99	89	142	148	109	124
Bay prawn (t)	88	41	30	32	61	85	43	59
Greasy prawn (t)	72	26	17	24	16	73	20	24
School prawn (t)	116	10	31	18	4	3	1	3

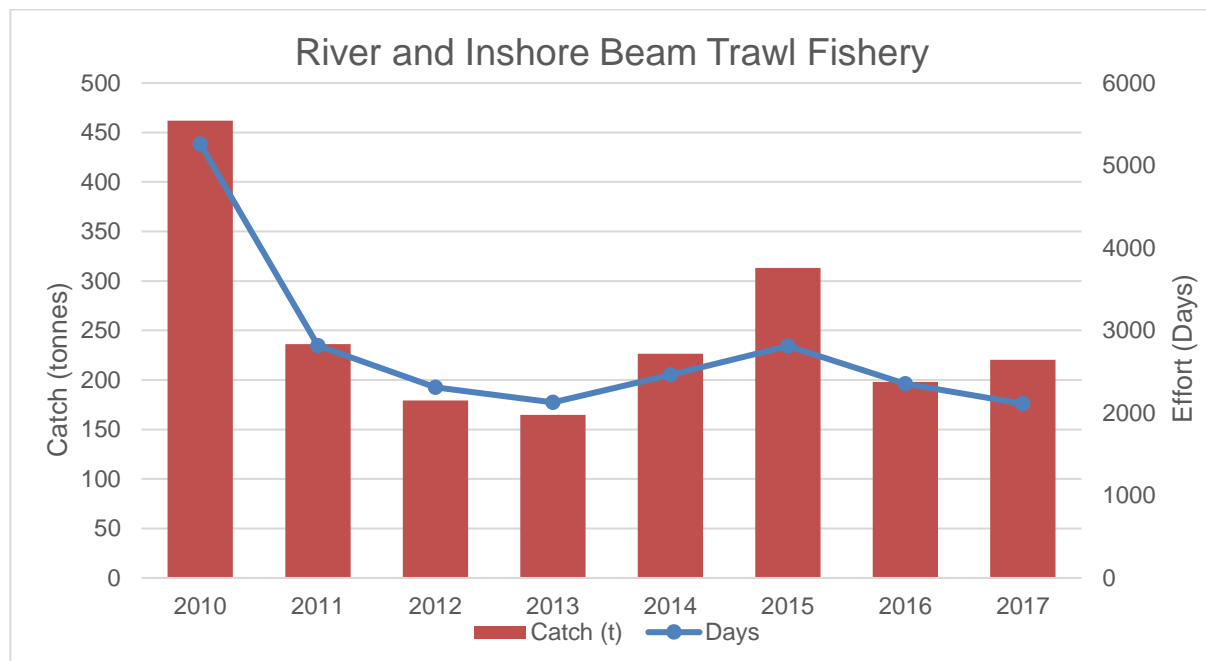
⁴² As at 1 November 2018.

Recent Management Changes:

White Spot Disease:

- White spot disease is a highly contagious viral disease of decapod crustaceans including, but not limited to, prawns, lobsters and crabs.
- Marine worms are also thought to be carriers of the disease.
- To reduce the likelihood of white spot spreading, movement restrictions have been in place for certain species.
- Prawns, yabbies and marine worms cannot be removed from restricted areas and due to this may have impacted on commercial catch within the past year.
- Exemptions on movement restrictions apply to spanner crabs, three spotted crabs, blue swimmer crabs, mud crabs, red champagne lobsters, slipper lobsters, tropical rocklobsters, redclaws and bugs.
- To view licence details or the number of fishery symbols currently endorsed in the River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery please visit [FishNet](#)
- For further analysis of the River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery please visit [QFish](#)
- Fisheries symbols provide an endorsement to fish within Queensland waters, to view the fishery symbol maps associated with this fishery please visit [Fishery Symbols](#).

Figure 19 – River and Inshore Beam Trawl Fishery



Additional data

Fisheries catch and effort data is also available by fishing method type. Please see below for predefined queries available on the QFish website:

Otter Trawl

For catch and effort data and maps for otter trawl please visit [QFish](#)

Beam Trawl

For catch and effort data and maps for beam trawl please visit [QFish](#)

Pot

For catch and effort data and maps for pot please visit [QFish](#)

Net

For catch and effort data and maps for net please visit [QFish](#)

Line

For catch and effort data and maps for line please visit [QFish](#)

Harvest

For catch and effort data and maps for harvest please visit [QFish](#)

Charter

For catch and effort data and maps for charter please visit [QFish](#)