

Billy Taylor

BARRAWATCH

BRIEFS

Do you no longer wish to participate in the Billy Taylor BarraWatch Project? Do you have a record book that you are no longer using? Please return it to AFANT at reply paid PO

Hi Everyone, I trust you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year.

The last couple of months have been a bit quieter on the BarraWatch front and have given me the opportunity to catch up on general "housekeeping".

I'm pleased to announce that the Natural Heritage Trust has approved on going funding for 2002.

An update to the kind of exposure this project is receiving is a media release written by AFANT was snapped up by half a dozen radio/papers and resulted in four interviews being conducted.

A tagged fish has been caught by J.Cox
Data relating to the fish are:
Size:66cm
On: 13/11/01
Location:R2
Using:live bait

Originally the fish was:
caught by:I.Pope
Size: 63cm
On: 25/04/01
Location:R2
Using:cherabin

We're beginning to collect enough data to see some interesting trends and begin to compare with similar studies. An example of this is 18% of forms returned have designated *Nil Caught*. This kind of data is great for a couple of different reasons— what you don't catch can give us more of an idea as to what is going on, particularly as the project was instigated due to concern there was a lack of fish

and their small size. The recording of *Fish Size* is also an interesting factor. Similar studies have indicated that fisho's (true to their reputation) have a tendency to exaggerate the number of fish caught and rounding the size up to the nearest 5cm or 10cm. (e.g. if a 68cm fish was caught, it would be recorded as 70cm). What is becoming evident that most of you are recording accurately, and this type of care only lends credibility and makes this project extremely useful!

Now, on a sadder note, I have decided to relocate to Perth and will be leaving in February. I would like to personally thank all of the participants for your great work and know that the standard will continue to remain at its high quality. The data that you are gathering is important and will prove to be invaluable in appropriate resource management. May your rods remain permanently bent.



Natural Heritage Trust

*Helping Communities
Helping Australia*

A Commonwealth Government Initiative

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Statistics to Date

Total caught	1402
Total released	1076
Total kept	326
Total fishing hours	2209 hrs 48 min

Victoria River V1

Total caught	5
Total released	4
Total kept	1
Total fishing hours	24hrs 33min
Average size	59.2 cm

V2

Total caught	408
Total released	292
Total kept	116
Total fishing hours	920hrs 22min
Average size	61.29 cm

Roper River R1

Total caught	164
Total released	109
Total kept	55
Total fishing hours	294hrs 8min
Average size	61.37 cm

R2

Total caught	825
Total released	671
Total kept	154
Total fishing hours	970hrs 45min
Average size	63.84 cm

Know someone who didn't get a newsletter?
 Get them to contact me with their full postal address
Do you have photos of you participating in BarraWatch? Why not email or send them to us for recording purposes

Who's Catching What

The smallest fish caught in

R1	Nigel Smit	20 cm
R2	Nigel Smit	20 cm
V1	Stu Waters	44 cm
V2	Jamie Sticklen	5 cm

How you're catching them

Bait	384
Lure/fly	1001
Other	17

For those not involved with collecting data, a description of where these areas are:

V1 is upstream from the rocks at Policemen's Point

V2 is downstream from Policemen's Point

R1 is upstream from Roper Bar Crossing

R2 is downstream from Roper Bar Crossing

The trend for people to fish down stream in both river systems is still very prevalent. A distinction is beginning to emerge between the two rivers with approximately 57% of time is spent fishing the Roper.

Congratulations!

To the following recipients of the Billy Taylor BarraWatch Lure for recording and releasing 25 Barramundi

Rowan Roberts; Brian Pascall; Greg Wright

Those who have recorded and released 50 Barramundi

Greg Hanckle; Ian Pope; Warren de With;

Greg Wright

