

Fisheries Queensland Quarterly Compliance Report Quarter 3/2021-22

Year-To-Date (ending): 31 March 2022



Q3 Compliance Rate
79%
(▼86.9 % YTD)

Number of Fisheries Inspections (Q3/2021-22)

2737 inspections were conducted in the last quarter (with 11846 inspections in the year-to-date) where powers were exercised / not including surveillance.

- 209 written warnings were issued last quarter, with 764 issued in the year-to-date.
- 149 penalty notices were issued last quarter, with 477 issued in the year-to-date.
- There were 10 matters successfully prosecuted last quarter, comprising of 49 offences. These prosecutions made up the 30 finalised in the year-to-date, totalling 182 offences.

Seized non-compliant apparatus (Q3/2021-22)

511 non-compliant apparatus were seized in the last quarter, with over 1100 apparatus seized in the year-to-date, including:

- 0 Freshwaters (10 year-to-date)
- 1 Lines (27 year-to-date)
- 22 Nets (62 year-to-date)
- 488 Pots/Traps (1008 year-to-date)

**The above figures only include apparatus where the owner could be not be identified.*

Most common offences (2021-22)

	Offence (Legislation)	Q3		YTD	
		No.	%	No.	%
1	Recreational fisher take or possess up to 3 fish regulated by size or up to 3 fish more than the regulated number	82	22.8%	319	25.5%
2	Contravene a regulated fishing apparatus declaration by a recreational fisher	96	26.7%	289	23.1%
3	Recreational fisher take or possess regulated fish	44	12.2%	155	12.4%
4	Take or attempt to take freshwater fish from stocked impoundment with line without a permit	25	6.9%	111	8.9%
5	Recreational fisher contravenes a regulated waters declaration	15	4.2%	65	5.2%
6	Contravene a condition of an authority	22	6.1%	47	3.8%
7	Interference with aquaculture activity or fishing apparatus	21	5.8%	37	3.0%
8	A person required to have a document available for immediate inspection must produce it immediately	5	1.4%	29	2.3%
9	Contravene a regulated fishing method declaration (crab hook, jugging, underwater breathing app)	3	0.8%	27	2.2%
10	Contravention of a vessel tracking requirement	8	2.2%	26	2.1%
	Subtotal of top 10 offences	321	89.2%	1105	88.5%
	All other offences	39	10.8%	144	11.5%
	Total of all offences	360	100%	1249	100%

Fishwatch (Q3/2021-22)

173 calls were received to the Fishwatch hotline in the last quarter to report suspected illegal fishing activities. 469 calls have been received in the year-to-date.

Significant Court Outcomes (Q3/2021-22)

A recreational fisher was fined \$5,000 for obstructing an inspector, possession of a female crab, crab apparatus interference and incorrect marking of crab apparatus.

A commercial fisher was fined \$15,000 and an additional \$2,000 in professional costs for a range of offences over four separate matters. The offending included obstructing an inspector, failing to stop when required by an inspector, contravention of conditions of an authority and logbook reporting offences.

A commercial fisher was fined \$6,400 for obstructing an inspector, failing to stop when required by an inspector, possession of female and undersized mud crabs and contravention of condition of authority.

A commercial fisher was fined \$5,000 for contravention of conditions of an authority involving the use and marking of nets.

A recreational fisher was fined \$15,000 for possession of commercial fishing nets, possession of female and undersized mud crabs and possession of mud crabs with the carapace removed.

A recreational fisher was fined \$12,000 for possessing commercial fishing nets, use of unmarked crab apparatus, possession of undersize mud crabs, barramundi and giant queenfish, possession of female mud crabs and mud crabs in excess of the possession limit. A conviction was recorded.

A person was fined \$7,500, and \$250 in professional fees for constructing a waterway barrier and removal of mangroves without a development permit.