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MANAGEMENT AND STOCKING PLAN FOR

Mackay Area Dams and Wiers

**Teemburra Dam, Kinchant Dam, Eungella Dam, Middle Creek Dam, Power
Alcohol Weir, Mill Weir, Jackson's Weir, Council Weir, Marian Weir, Mirani
Weir and Dumbleton Weir**

Prepared by the Mackay Area Fish Stocking Association and Queensland Fisheries Service



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MANAGEMENT GROUP OBJECTIVES

The association seeks to achieve the following:

- ◆ *Replenish angling fish stocks in depleted streams and rivers in the local area.*
- ◆ *Stock artificial lakes and turn them into viable recreational fishing resources.*
- ◆ *Ensure anglers have access to waters stocked with angling species.*
- ◆ *To protect, preserve and enhance fisheries habitat in this area.*
- ◆ *To promote responsible recreational fishing and wise use of the resources and to educate others to adopt the same attitude.*
- ◆ *Consult and liaise with all levels of government and their departments, tertiary and research institutions on matters relating to fish stocks in the Mackay district.*

SECTION 1 MANAGEMENT GROUP GOALS

1.(1) STOCKING and FUNDING

(a) Stocking

The objective is to have sufficient angling species in the dams and streams to enable the average angler to catch 1 fish per hour. In impoundments, the pointers are that this will require a stock size of 100 - 400 fish of each angling species to the surface hectare. Stocking amount will be adjusted by the group to reflect prevailing water conditions (eg. low dam water level).

Angling Species:

Sooty grunter, barramundi, sleepy cod, bony bream, spangled perch and snub-nosed gar.

Sooty grunter

Eungella Dam (848 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 170 000

Teemurra Dam (1085 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 217 000

Kinchant Dam (920 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 180 000

Dumbleton Weir (151 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 30 200

Marian Weir (130 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 26 000

Mirani Weir (151 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 30 200

Fingerling Source for all sooty stockings

Fingerlings will be produced in the MASFA hatchery at Mackay. The broodstock for this hatchery are obtained locally in the Mackay area and are only used once to maintain genetic diversity. When required, fingerlings may be sort from DPI approved commercial hatcheries.

Barramundi (*Lates calcarifer*) (closed systems)

Eungella Dam (848 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 170 000

Teemburra Dam (1085 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 217 000

Kinchant Dam (920 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 200/ha = 180 000

Middle Ck Dam (50 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 100/ha = 5 000

Power Alcohol Weir, Plane Creek (22 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 100/ha = 2 200

Mill Weir, Plane Creek (19 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 100/ha = 1 900

Jackson's Weir, Plane Creek (14 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 100/ha = 1 400

Council Weir, Plane Creek (10 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 100/ha = 1 000

Dumbleton Weir (151 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 100/ha = 15 100

Marian Weir (130 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 100/ha = 13 000

Mirani Weir (151 ha @ FSL)

Annual stocking: 100/ha = 15 100

Fingerling Source for all barra stockings

Barramundi for release in Eungella Dam are *North East Coastal strain*, and therefore can be purchased from hatcheries in North Queensland or supplied by the Northern Fisheries Centre.

As there is currently no hatchery producing *Central genetic strain* barramundi fingerlings, stockings in the Mackay area dams may be stocked with fingerlings from both the *Northeast Coastal strain* and the *Southern strain*, as per the translocation policy for barramundi 1999.

Snub-nosed Gar

These should form a self-sustaining population in the dams and weirs. Snub-nosed gars are present in the Pioneer, Plane Creek and Broken/Burdekin Rivers catchments.

Eungella Dam (848 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 400

Teemburra Dam (1085 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 400

Kinchant Dam (920 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 400

Middle Ck Dam (50 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 400

Power Alcohol Weir, Plane Creek (22 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Mill Weir, Plane Creek (19 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Jackson's Weir, Plane Creek (14 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Council Weir, Plane Creek (10 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Fingerling Source

The aim is to collect by line fishing from streams within the Pioneer River catchment for Kinchant and Teemburra Dams, Broken/Burdekin River for Eungella Dam and Plane Creek catchment for Middle Ck Dam, Power Alcohol Weir, Mill Weir, Jackson's Weir and Council Weir.

Bony bream

These should form a self-sustaining population in the weirs. Bony bream are present in the Plane Creek catchment.

Middle Ck Dam (50 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Power Alcohol Weir, Plane Creek (22 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Mill Weir, Plane Creek (19 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Jackson's Weir, Plane Creek (14 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Council Weir, Plane Creek (10 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Fingerling Source

The aim is to collect by line fishing from streams within the Plane Creek catchment for Middle Ck Dam, Power Alcohol Weir, Mill Weir, Jackson's Weir and Council Weir.

Sleepy cod

These should form a self-sustaining population in the weirs. Sleepy cod are present in the Plane Creek catchment.

Power Alcohol Weir, Plane Creek (22 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Mill Weir, Plane Creek (19 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Jackson's Weir, Plane Creek (14 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Council Weir, Plane Creek (10 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 100

Fingerling Source

The aim is to collect by line fishing from streams within the Plane Creek catchment for Power Alcohol Weir, Mill Weir, Jackson's Weir and Council Weir.

Spangled perch

These should form a self-sustaining population in the weirs. Spangled perch are present in the Plane Creek catchment.

Middle Ck Dam (50 ha @ FSL)

Total stocking: 50

Fingerling Source

The aim is to collect by line fishing from streams within the Plane Creek catchment for Middle Ck Dam.

Future species

Mangrove Jack, Jungle Perch and other species as determined suitable by DPI&F and when available.

(b) Funding

Fishing competitions / sporting events: insert activities that you group will be undertaking to raise funds. Insert or delete categories as necessary

Local / shire council:

Raffles:

Other activities: Awareness educational sessions

Corporate Sponsorship:

Membership fees.

Other donations, eg from fishing clubs and public.

Sale of promotional goods eg. coolers, stickers

Support from local business and service groups

Fishing competition/fish stocking survey/family fun days

Boating Industry grants

Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme

1.(2) MONITORING

Monitoring is an essential part of the stocking program and one of the performance indicators upon which funding for this program depends.

(a) Members to keep records of capture from fishing outings.

(b) Counting fingerlings

All management group stockings to be counted at hatchery or at dam prior to release.

1.(3) OTHER ACTIVITIES

(a) Camping and picnicking facilities

MAFSA will be involved with the Service Clubs of Mackay & District in this work both in a planning and construction role.

(b) Annual report and stocking figures

Copies of the Annual Report, stocking numbers and changes to Association's executive to be submitted to Queensland Fisheries Service (Brisbane) on an annual basis to ensure database is kept up to date.

(c) User pays / angling permit

MAFSA is associated with the Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme.

(d) Queensland Fisheries Service stocking program workshops

The Stocking Association is committed to send delegates to the annual workshop.

(e) Catchment area management

Monitor the state of the aquatic environment in the area and do our utmost to prevent any damage to fish habitats.

(f) Act as a reference body on matters concerning fishing activity in the Mackay district.

MAFSA is represented on the Mackay Hinterlands group both as a member and a technical representative group.

(g) MASFA will continue to support FFSAQ

SECTION 2 DPI FISHERIES GROUP SUPPORT

This section details management group expectations of areas of DPI Fisheries Group involvement and support.

2.(1) POST STOCKING SURVEYS

Queensland Fisheries Service to conduct post-stocking surveys and to provide a review of progress as necessary.

2.(2) QUEENSLAND FISHERIES SERVICE STOCKING

Queensland Fisheries Service to continue with supporting fingerling stocking. Level of support will depend on Recreational Fishing Enhancement Program funding each year.

2.(3) STOCKING PROGRAM WORKSHOPS

Queensland Fisheries Service to continue to run stocking program workshops on an annual basis.

2.(4) MANAGEMENT ADVICE

Queensland Fisheries Service to provide management advice based on best available data on an '*as required*' basis.

2.(5) PROVIDE ADVICE ON FINGERLING PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES.

SECTION 3 STOCKING PLAN

Mackay Area Dams

(Mackay Area Fish Stocking Association Inc.)

PREAMBLE

The purpose of this plan is to set **maximum** permissible stocking rates for local waters. Results of creel surveys at other stocked impoundments indicate optimum levels to be around 500 fingerlings per hectare and maintenance levels between 100 to 200 fingerlings per hectare per year. In the absence of more specific data, and to keep this plan simple, the 200 fingerlings per hectare per year level is used to calculate recommended maximum stocking levels for these waters.

(1) Surface area to be stocked

Kinchant Dam	920 ha
Teemburra Dam	1 085 ha
Eungella Dam.....	848 ha
Middle Creek Dam.....	50 ha
Power Alcohol Weir.....	22 ha
Mill Weir.....	19 ha
Jackson's Weir	14 ha
Council Weir	10 ha
Dumbleton Weir.....	151 ha
Marian Weir	130 ha
Mirani Weir.....	151 ha
Total.....	3 400 ha

(2) Fingerling numbers

Recommended maximum stocking levels for barramundi is 200 fingerlings per hectare per annum, and for sooty grunter is 400 fingerlings per hectare per annum.

(3) Species composition

It is agreed that the group stock at a ratio determined by the group for each impoundment. These ratios can be readjusted as the returns from these stockings become clearer.

(4) Permit to stock

A permit is required to stock. Applications should be made through the Queensland Fisheries Service. It is recommended that your group apply for a 5 year permit based on the maximum permissible number of fingerlings over the next 5 years (2003/04 to 2007/08 seasons inclusive) (see Table 1 to Table 8).

Table 1. Five year stocking schedule for Kinchant Dam

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi	180 000	180 000	180 000	180 000	180 000
Sooty grunter	180 000	180 000	180 000	180 000	180 000
Snub-nosed gar	400				

Table 2. Five year stocking schedule for Teemburra Dam

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi	217 000	217 000	217 000	217 000	217 000
Sooty grunter	217 000	217 000	217 000	217 000	217 000
Snub-nosed gar	400				

Table 3. Five year stocking schedule for Eungella Dam

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi	170 000	170 000	170 000	170 000	170 000
Sooty grunter	170 000	170 000	170 000	170 000	170 000
Snub-nosed gar	400				

Table 4. Five year stocking schedule for Middle Creek Dam

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi	5 000	5 000	5 000	5 000	5 000
Bony bream	100				
Spangled perch	50				
Snub-nose gar	400				

Table 5. Five year stocking schedule for Power Alcohol Weir

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi	2 200	2 200	2 200	2 200	2 200
Bony bream	100				
Sleepy cod	100				
Snub-nose gar	100				

Table 6. Five year stocking schedule for Mill Weir

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi	1 900	1 900	1 900	1 900	1 900
Bony bream	100				
Sleepy cod	100				
Snub-nose gar	100				

Table 7. Five year stocking schedule for Jackson's Weir

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi	1 400	1 400	1 400	1 400	1 400
Bony bream			100		
Sleepy cod			100		
Snub-nose gar			100		

Table 8. Five year stocking schedule for Council Weir

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000
Bony bream			100		
Sleepy cod			100		
Snub-nose gar			100		

Table 9. Five year stocking schedule for Dumbleton Weir

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi		15 100	15 100	15 100	15 100
Sooty grunter		30 200	30 200	30 200	30 200

Table 10. Five year stocking schedule for Marian Weir

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi		13 000	13 000	13 000	13 000
Sooty grunter		26 000	26 000	26 000	26 000

Table 11. Five year stocking schedule for Mirani Weir

Species	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/2008
Barramundi		15 100	15 100	15 100	15 100
Sooty grunter		30 200	30 200	30 200	30 200

Signed Stocking Association Representative.....	/ /05
Signed DPI&F Representative	/ /05
Signed DPI&F Regional Manager North	/ /05