



# Marine Game Fish Tagging Program Monthly Summary June 2021



Because program activity is ongoing, this report represents approximate numbers, and may not be reflective of overall activity.

During the month of June 2021, a total of 296 fish were tagged and released by 32 active participants. There were 87 recaptures reported from 79 recreational anglers. Anglers tagged fish representing 10 species and recaptured fish representing 7 species (Table 1).

The tagging program is actively analyzing the distribution of tags by county to determine where there are geological gaps in tagging data (Figure 1). To increase the distribution of tags outside of Charleston County, we ask that potential taggers contact Joey Coz at [CozJ@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:CozJ@dnr.sc.gov) or (843) 953-9588 to inquire about being added to the waitlist for tags.

Species	Tagged and Released	Recaptured and Released	Recaptured and Retained
Red drum	119	53	8
Amberjack	5		
Atlantic spadefish	1		
Black drum	22	10	
Sheepshead	2	1	1
Dolphin (Mahi)			
Banded Rudderfish	2		1
Cobia	28	1	1
Gag Grouper	4	2	
Red Snapper	10		
Southern Flounder	103	1	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>19</b>

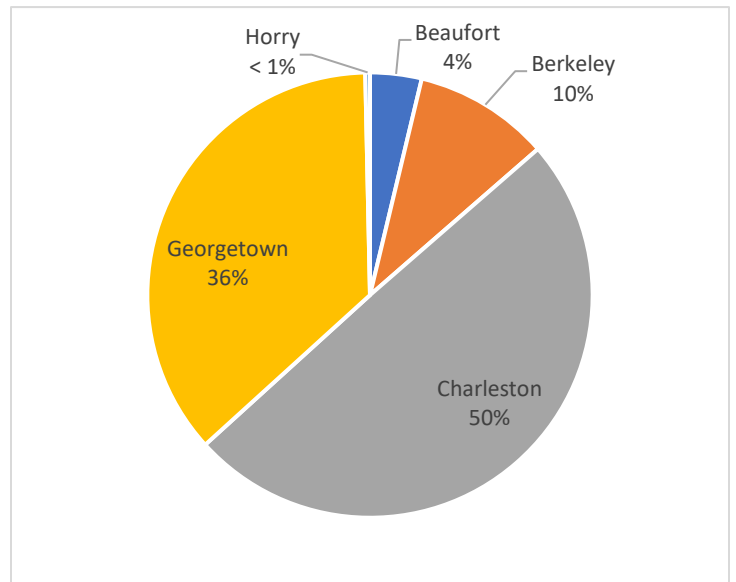


Table 1: The number of fish tagged and recaptured by the program participants for the month of June 2021.

Figure 1: Distribution of tagged fish by county for June 2021

Note the number recaptured could include fish that were initially tagged before the start of the month.

### There were 6 notable recaptures for the month of June 2021:

The first is cobia that was at large for 1082 days.

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
07/11/2018	Capture, Initial tagging, Released	[REDACTED]	30	Smith, Champ	Offshore of Bulls Bay
06/27/2021	Recapture, Removed tag, Harvested	[REDACTED]	38	Rever, Matthew	USS Schurz Shipwreck

The second is a red drum that was at large for 898 days. The movement from middle Wando River to NC/SC border is astonishing!

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
12/18/2018	Capture, Initial tagging, Released	[REDACTED]	32	Fladd, David	Middle Wando River
06/03/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released	[REDACTED]	35	Schuchman, John	Little River, Icw Nc/sc Border; Bonaparte Creek

The third is a cobia that was at large for 764 days. Originally tagged off Fripp Island and recaptured 2 years later off North FL. A notable time and distance. But this recapture is also notable because it represents the re-release of a legal-size cobia. Thank you, Ty!

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
05/14/2019	Capture, Initial tagging, Released	[REDACTED]	30	Tangalos, George	Fripp Island Reef (tire Reef)
06/16/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released	[REDACTED]	36	Evatt, Ty	Offshore Mayport to Fernandina, FL.

The fourth is a red drum that was at large for 714 days and made its way from the upper Ashley River out to the Charleston Harbor Jetties.

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
07/14/2019	Capture, Initial tagging, Released	[REDACTED]	19.5	Pelto, Iain	Ashley River @ Drayton Hall/trestle/magnolia Gardens
06/27/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released	[REDACTED]	30	Oliver, Dee	Jetties, Charleston, Dynamite Hole

The fifth is a cobia that was at large for 403 days. Looks like he made his annual journey back to the waters off southern SC. Happy to see another legal-size fish being re-released! Thanks, Scott!

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
05/28/2020	Capture, Initial tagging, Released	[REDACTED]	30	Tangalos, George	Fripp Island Reef (tire Reef)
07/05/2021	Recapture, Removed tag, Released	[REDACTED]	36	Sexson, Scott	Betsy Ross

The sixth is a mahi mahi that was only at large for 23 days. It is truly remarkable how quickly these fish grow and move in such a short amount of time!

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
05/25/2021	Capture, Initial tagging, Released	[REDACTED]	16	Twombly, Ashley	Sow Pen
06/17/2021	Recapture, Removed tag, Harvested	[REDACTED]	24	Dunn, Shaun	Off North Carolina