



Marine Game Fish Tagging Program Monthly Summary July 2021



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

During the month of July 2021, a total of 170 fish were tagged and released by 34 active participants. There were 86 recaptures reported from 81 recreational anglers. Anglers tagged fish representing 8 species and recaptured fish representing 5 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 or (843) 953-9588 to inquire about being added to the waitlist for tags.

Species	Tagged and Release	Recaptured and Re-released	Recaptured and Harvested
Flounder	50	11	6
Amberjack	5		
Red Drum	75	53	9
Black Drum	11	4	1
Cobia	24	1	
Gag			
Grouper	2	1	
Striped Bass	1		
Sheepshead	2		
TOTALS	170	70	16

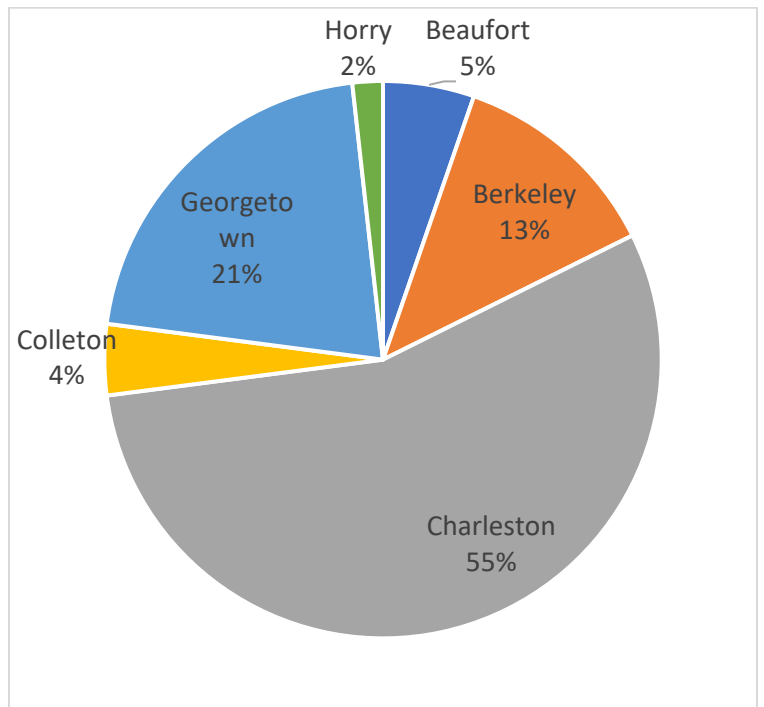


Table 1: The number of fish tagged and recaptured by the program participants for the month of July 2021. Note the number recaptured could include fish that were initially tagged before the start of the month.

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

There was one notable recapture for July 2021:

A cobia that was at large for 403 days. Looks like he made his way back to the waters off southern SC. Always good to see a legal-sized fish being re-released. However, the recapture effort would be better if the tag was not removed. Please remember unless it says, "remove tag," then please leave it in the fish upon release.

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