



Marine Game Fish Tagging Program Monthly Summary September 2021



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

During the month of September 2021, a total of 363 fish were tagged and released by 34 active participants. There were 73 recaptures reported from 70 recreational anglers. Anglers tagged fish representing 9 species and recaptured fish representing 6 species (Table 1).

Species	Tagged and Released	Recaptured and Re-released	Recaptured and Harvested
Red Drum	259	45	4
Flounder	60	6	8
Black Drum	12	4	1
Sheepshead	11		1
Cobia	9		
Red Snapper	6	2	
Gag Grouper	4		
Tarpon	1		
Striped Bass	1		
Tripletail		1	
Totals	363	58	14

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

There were 4 notable recaptures for September 2021

A tripletail! This fish was only at large for 49 days and did not show substantial movement, but it represents our first tripletail recapture since 2001!

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
08/09/2021	Capture, Initial tagging, Released		11.5	Cooper, John Townsend	Cape Island, Mill Island, Cape Romain Shoal
09/27/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released		13.5	Carr, Raymond	Cape Romain Harbor

This fish likely made the journey to the Grillage to spawn.

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
06/06/2020	Capture, Initial tagging, Released		24	Huggins, Austin	Goose Creek
09/06/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released		30	Hay, Mikell	Sw Area Sullivans Island/ Grillage/moultrie Rocks

This red drum has been at large for just under one year and has already had 5 reported recaptures! Catch and release fishing at its finest!

Event Date	Event Type	Tag	Len.	Angler	General Location
10/09/2020	Capture, Initial tagging, Released		20	Pelto, Iain	Elliot's Cut (Wappoo Cut), Wappoo Creek (Coburg Creek)
01/24/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released		22	Dowdy, Tanya	Elliot's Cut (Wappoo Cut), Wappoo Creek (Coburg Creek)
03/30/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released		23.25	Zoller, Bill	Elliot's Cut (Wappoo Cut), Wappoo Creek (Coburg Creek)
04/07/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released		21	Buften, James	Stono River (non-specific); Lazy River Drive
08/19/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released		25	Zamagni, Nick	Elliot's Cut (Wappoo Cut), Wappoo Creek (Coburg Creek)
09/16/2021	Recapture, Previous tag observed, Released		25.5	Rodgers, Brent	Elliot's Cut (Wappoo Cut), Wappoo Creek (Coburg Creek)

What a spectacular journey by this red drum! Upper Wando River to Cape Fear. This fish was at large for 497 days. 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
05/02/2020	Capture, Initial tagging, Released		32	Evans, Brent	Upper Wando River
09/11/2021	Recapture, Removed tag, Released		35.5	Fryar, Ethan	Caswell Beach, Cape Fear, Bald Head