



tagtimesnews

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KIWI KINGFISH HEADING TO AUSTRALIA

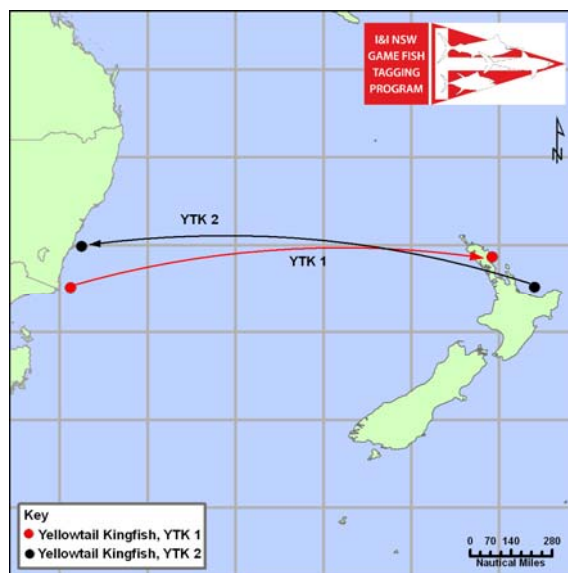
To date there have been a total of six yellowtail kingfish recaptured after travelling across the Tasman Sea between the Australian mainland and New Zealand. Three of the fish originated from Australian waters and three from New Zealand.

A kingfish (YTK 1) originally released during the winter of 2006 near Eden, NSW, was recaptured 1170 NM and 873 days later off New Zealand's north east coast. This was the third example of a trip from Australia to New Zealand.

The most recent kingfish to make the journey across the Tasman was a fish recaptured on 16 November 2009 at Jervis Bay NSW by a spearfisherman. On recapture the fish measured 133cm total length (estimated at 125cm fork length) and weighed 20kg.

The kingfish (YTK 2) was tagged by an angler participating in the NZ tagging program and was first caught at the Rangatira Knoll located in the middle of the Bay of Plenty on 18 October 2003. On release it was measured at 99 cm fork length.

The fish was at liberty for over 6 years (2220 days), and had covered a straight line distance of 1270 nautical miles.



BORDER TO BORDER NSW KINGFISH

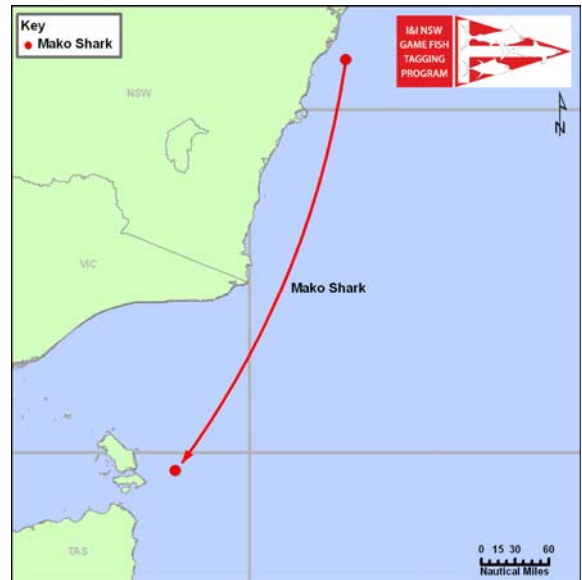
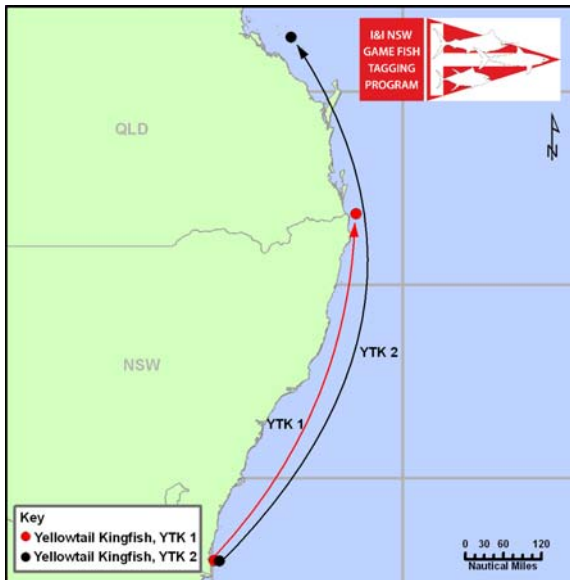
A kingfish tagged on the 27th October 2007 at Mowarry Point (South Coast NSW) by John Rankin on the Eden S&GFC vessel Mighty Dragon was recaptured 617 days and 571 NM later in the waters off Tweed Heads (North Coast NSW). During that time the fish (YTK 1) had grown from 72cm to 89cm.

A second kingfish also tagged by Mighty Dragon off Mowarry Point on the 19th August 2006 was recaptured 1131 days after a trip of 820 NM to Lamont Reef off Gladstone QLD.

This fish (YTK 2) was only 48cm when tagged and had grown to approximately 10kg by the time it was recaptured. This fish was tagged with a small pelagic tag and was only discovered when the fish was being filleted as the tag had been covered by flesh as the fish grew.



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Mako Shark

A mako shark was released on the 19th of September 2009 by the Port Hacking GFC vessel Dark Horse. The fish was released by junior angler Sam Barning on 15kg line at an estimated weight of 75kg during the Wollongong GFC tournament in which Sam won champion junior angler for tag and release.

Samsonfish

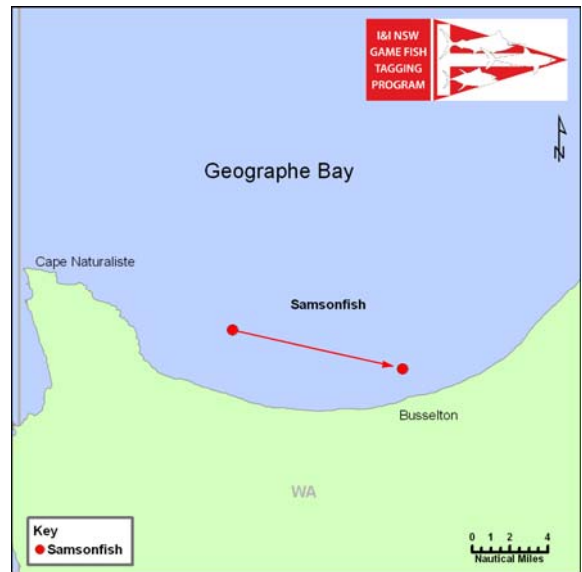
A samsonfish tagged in Geographe Bay WA on the 10th March 2007 was recaptured 1069 days later only 8 NM from where it had been released.

The samsonfish had grown from an estimated length of 75cm and weight of 7kg to 120cm and 13kg during its time at liberty.



Tagged mako shark ready for release

110 days later, on the 8th of January 2010 the fish was recaptured in the waters south-east of Flinders Island (Tasmania) after completing a minimum straight line distance of 379 nautical miles. Upon completing this journey the mako weighed in at 75kg (trunk) weight.

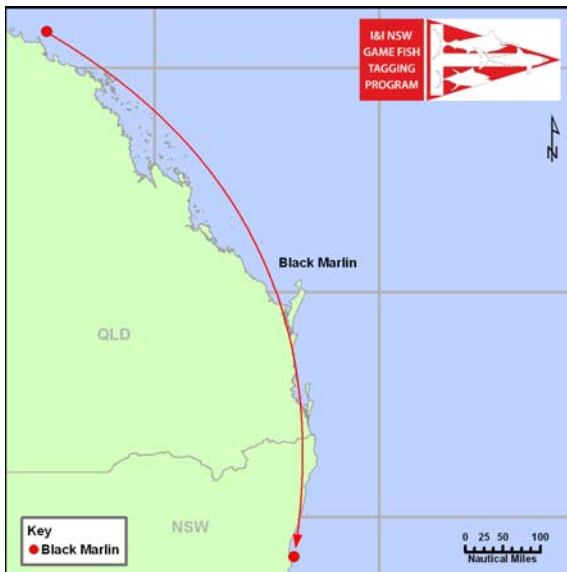


Black Marlin

During the run of juvenile black marlin off the coast from Townsville, a small 20kg fish was tagged and released by the Mackay GFC vessel, Mates Rates, on the 8th of September 2008.

This fish was subsequently recaptured off South West Rocks on the 25th of January 2010, 504 days and 762 NM after release.

The fish was recaptured at an estimated weight of 60kg and was the angler's first marlin.



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