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BLUE SHARK RECORD

A Blue Shark recaptured on 26 April 2010 by a longliner, fishing approximately 100nm off the south east coast of South Africa, has clocked up the record distance travelled by any shark recorded by the Program. The previous record was a Blue Shark that was released off Kilcunda (VIC) and recaptured in the Indian Ocean, having recorded a straight line distance of 2400 nautical miles.

The new record breaking fish recorded a straight line distance of 5,073 nautical miles having swum across the Indian Ocean from its first release location at Port MacDonnell (SA) five years previously.

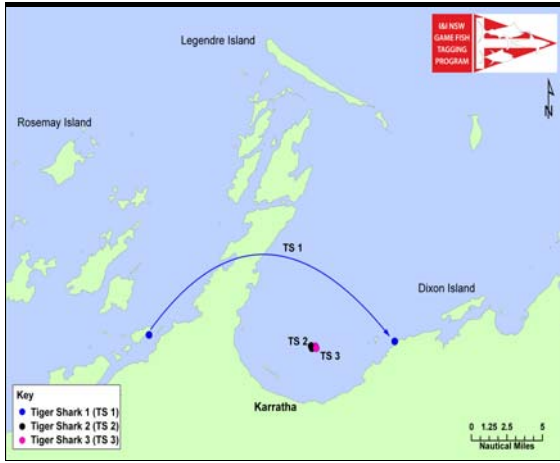
The Blue Shark was released originally by Adelaide GFC member, Paul Williams off Port MacDonnell on the 20th May 2005. The shark was estimated to be 9kg in weight when first tagged and was released on a day when he had tagged fifteen using circle hooks. When recaptured, the shark weighed 47kg.



TOURETTES TEAM TIGERS

Nickol Bay SFC boat Tourettes has been successfully targeting Tiger Sharks over the past 20 months, fishing their local Western Australian grounds. Kevin Deacon's team has tagged a total of 33 Tiger Sharks over this time.

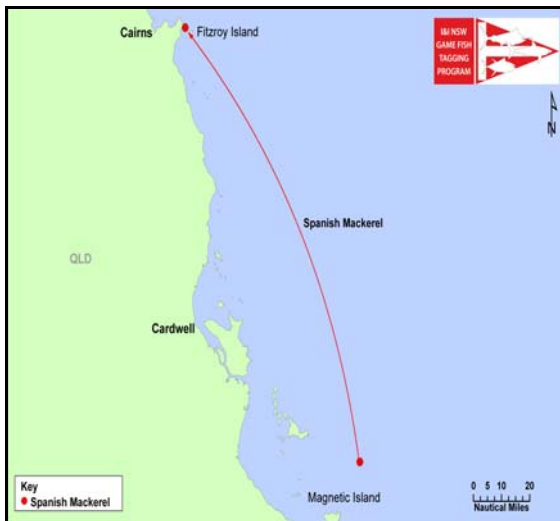
The Tourettes team recently notched up three recaptures of sharks that they originally tagged. One shark recaptured by Candice Williams after a period of almost 15 months at liberty had been previously released by Tourettes when fishing off Dampier in March of 2009. It was recaptured in Nickol Bay in June 2010, just 17 nautical miles (as the crow flies) from the release location. The other two sharks were recaptured on the same night as the first release, in the same location, interestingly one of which was caught after being released only 2 hours previously despite it fighting for 80 minutes when first released!



WINTER SPANISH MACKEREL

A Spanish Mackerel recaptured on 10 August 2010 has brought the total to 73 recaptures. The fish was originally released off Magnetic Island, QLD, by Townsville GFC boat, Hallucination, on 26 April 2008, and recaptured off Fitzroy Island, having travelled a straight line distance of 132 nautical miles north–northwest. This gives a total time at liberty of 837 days (2 years and 4 months), which is the seventh longest time-out for Spanish Mackerel tagged under the program.

The record time between captures is held by a tagged Spanish Mackerel that was released off Mackay, QLD and recaptured 203 nautical miles west-north west off Rib Reef, recording a total of 1,945 days (5 years and 120 days) at liberty.



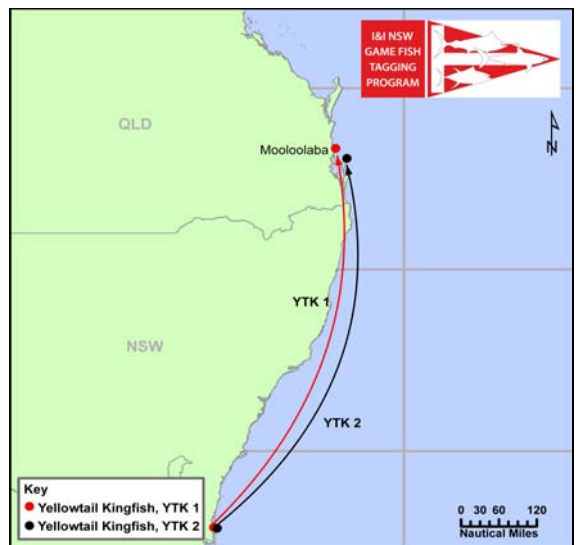
ANOTHER DOUBLE FOR THE MIGHTY DRAGON

Two more Yellowtail Kingfish have been recaptured after being tagged and released from the Eden S&GFC vessel Mighty Dragon skippered by John Rankin.

The first fish (YTK 1) was released in December 2007 at Mowrrey Point and recaptured 1007 days and 649 nautical miles later at a shipping marker off Mooloolaba.

The second fish (YTK 2) was also released at Mowrrey Point in late January 2006 and was later recaptured at Hutchison Shoals off Cape Moreton. The fish had covered a straight line distance of 637 nautical miles and was at liberty for 1718 days. The Yellowtail Kingfish had grown from 55cm to 95cm and was speared amongst a group of similar sized fish.

This has now brought the total number of fish that have been recaptured after being tagged on the Mighty Dragon to 69.

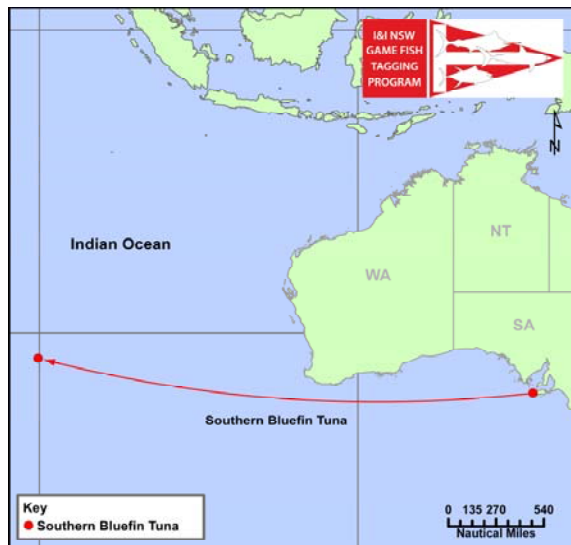


SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA GOES WEST

A Southern Bluefin Tuna released off the south-western edge of Kangaroo Island has been recaptured in the Indian Ocean more than 1,270 nautical miles from the WA coastline.

The fish was released by the GFC of South Australia vessel Raptor and was recaptured by a longliner after travelling a minimum straight line distance of 2,305 nautical miles in its 508 days at liberty.

This latest recapture sits at number 10 for the longest distance travelled by a tagged Southern Bluefin Tuna and puts the total number recaptured at 113.



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