

MMCP Collaboration

Supporting ongoing monitoring of fish movement within the Murray River

This project, is one of five research themes that make up MMCP. This research theme aimed to increase the capacity of training lock staff to tag fish with automated transponders, to increase available data on fish movement.

- Fish movement is an essential behavioural component of many native fish communities.
- Along the Murray River there are 12 locks and weirs and 5 barrages, that impede fish movement.

Fish movement generally monitored by:

- Manual trap count and release activities.
- Automated Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tagged fish monitoring system.

Advantages of PIT tagging

- Improved understanding of fish movement.
- Once tagged, monitoring is more efficient.

Further information

MMCP Collaboration (MMCP) is a project supported by the Joint State Governments and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to generate and adopt freshwater ecological knowledge through collaboration, to maintain research capability and contribute supporting science to underpin the Basin-Wide Watering Strategy.

MMCP Collaboration Final report:

doi.org/10.26181/5d19927544b20

Fish movement report: doi.org/10.26181/5d19866596675

Other fish movement factsheets:

doi.org/10.26181/5d19a24196a2c

Fish tagging manual: doi.org/10.26181/5d199684490c8

Understanding fish movement:

- Improve function and optimise operations of fishways.
- Understand seasonal patterns of migration.
- Improve management of flow to optimise fish passage.

Newly trained lock 10 and 15 staff between 2015 and 2017 tagged:

- 342 species of fish
 - ⇒ 288 Golden perch
 - ⇒ 35 Carp
 - ⇒ 17 Silver perch
 - ⇒ 1 Murray cod
 - ⇒ 1 Bony herring



Project team

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