

Explore Queensland

Wide Bay–Burnett fishing trail



The Wide Bay fishing trail is a joint initiative of the Queensland Government and the Freshwater Fishing and Stocking Association of Queensland Inc.

Wide Bay–Burnett stocking groups

- Bjelke Petersen Dam Fish Management Committee
- Boondooma Dam Fish Stocking and Management Association Inc.
- Bundaberg Sportsfishing Club Inc.
- Cania Dam Fish Stocking Association Inc.
- Fraser Coast Fish Stocking Association Inc.
- Gayndah Anglers and Fish Stocking Association Inc.
- Monduran Anglers and Stocking Association Inc.
- Mundubbera Anglers Fish Stocking Association Inc.
- Wuruma Dam Fish Restocking Association Inc.



Interpreter service

If you need an interpreter to help you understand this document call **13 25 23** or visit daf.qld.gov.au (search 'interpreter').

© State of Queensland, 2022

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries proudly acknowledges all First Nations peoples (Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders) and the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the country on which we live and work. We acknowledge their continuing connection to land, waters and culture and commit to ongoing reconciliation. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.



The Queensland Government supports and encourages the dissemination and exchange of its information. The copyright in this publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence.

Under this licence you are free, without having to seek our permission, to use this publication in accordance with the licence terms.

You must keep intact the copyright notice and attribute the State of Queensland as the source of the publication.

Note: Some content in this publication may have different licence terms as indicated.

For more information on this licence, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The Queensland Government shall not be liable for technical or other errors or omissions contained herein. The reader/user accepts all risks and responsibility for losses, damages, costs and other consequences resulting directly or indirectly from using this information.

Maps appearing in this publication appear courtesy of OpenStreetMap and licensed under Creative Commons 2: www.openstreetmap.org/copyright

© OpenStreetMap

Data is available under the Open Database License.

Wide Bay–Burnett fishing trail

Queensland's stocked dams and weirs offer fantastic recreational freshwater fishing experiences – and our regional fishing trails are a great way to *explore Queensland*.

With more than 60 dams and weirs across 5 regions – **North Queensland, Central Queensland, Wide Bay-Burnett, South East Queensland and the Murray–Darling** – there are plenty of places to wet a line and catch a great feed!

The **Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme (SIPS)** provides a sustainable fishing option, with over 2 million fish stocked in Queensland dams and weirs every year. The money you pay for your SIPS permit is used by community stocking groups to maintain fish stocks so you can enjoy your fishing – now and in the future.

Before you head off ...

- **Download the Qld Fishing 2.0 app** so you have Queensland's recreational fishing rules at your fingertips.
- **Buy your SIPS permit** via the **Qld Fishing 2.0 app** or at fisheries.qld.gov.au, or call **1300 575 359** (or at Queensland and selected New South Wales Australia Post outlets).
- **Check with the relevant local authorities** (e.g. local council, Seqwater, Sunwater) that the dam or weir is open and safe to use.
- Make sure your vehicle is suitable to drive on **unsealed roads** (e.g. gravel and dirt) if required, check if you need **4WD capability** and make sure your **registrations** are up to date.
- Check the **weather conditions** and make sure you have all necessary safety gear.
- **Download** the Freshwater Fishing and Stocking Association of Queensland's **Fish Monitoring App** to keep track of your catches

More information: visit fisheries.qld.gov.au or call **13 25 23**

* All people over 18 years must have a permit to fish in stocked dams and weirs that are listed in this guide at time of printing.

Gone fishing...

in Wide Bay–Burnett

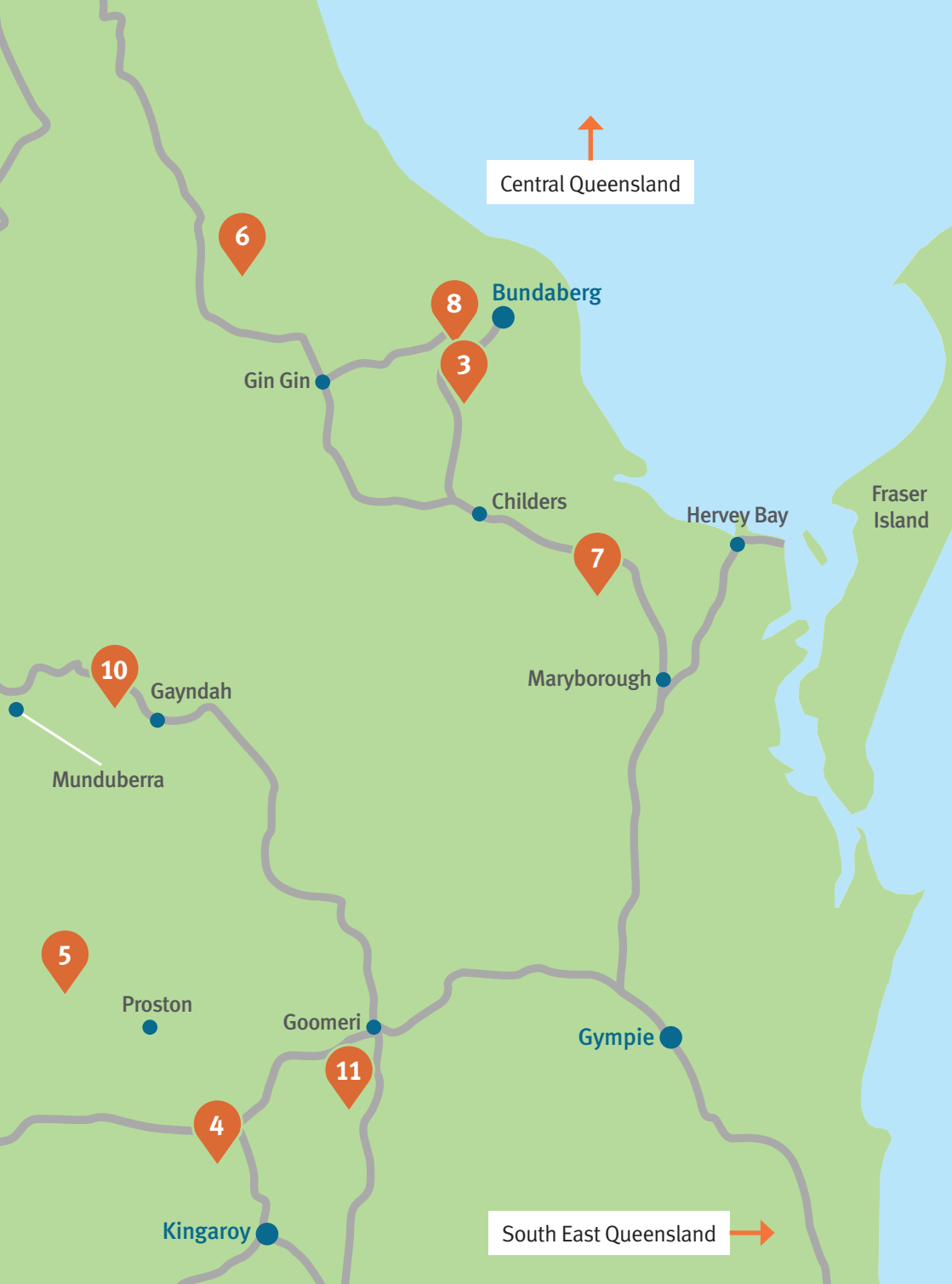
From the Sunshine Coast in the south to Bundaberg in the north, the Wide Bay–Burnett is a mix of countryside and coastline.

Soak up the relaxed atmosphere and stop in at one of the many quaint country towns for lunch or stay overnight after a long day's fishing.

Home to the most southern offering of barramundi in Queensland at Lake Lenthall, the region is also well known for its bass.

1. Wuruma Dam
2. Cania Dam
3. Lake Gregory
4. Gordonbrook Dam
5. Boondooma Dam
6. Fred Haigh Dam (Lake Monduran)
7. Lenthalls Dam (Lake Lenthall)
8. Ben Anderson Barrage
9. Jones Weir
10. Claude Wharton Weir
11. Bjelke Petersen Dam (Lake Barambah)





Central Queensland

Bundaberg

Gin Gin

Childers

Hervey Bay

Fraser Island

Maryborough

Gayndah

Munduberra

Proston

Goomeri

Gympie

Kingaroy

South East Queensland

Stocked fish

Australian bass

Like a challenge? Bass is known for its fighting nature.

Australian bass is an excellent freshwater sport fish and has become a very popular target for anglers. They can be readily caught with lures (prefer floating lures) and bait or by trolling. They are aggressive feeders and you will definitely know if you've got a bass as you can feel consecutive taps on the end of the line.



Barramundi

Reaching over 1 m long, barramundi is a very popular sport fishing species.

Rocky foreshores and headlands are a good spot to target them as they herd around these areas looking for bait.

Large lures (around 15–20 cm) are recommended with a 20 pound line so you can land a big one!



Golden perch

Spring is the best season for catching golden perch as they start becoming more active, and evening is the best time to get a bite.

Although not as big as some other fish, they are a great sport fish and fun for any fisher to catch. Best to fish with a small lure as it mimics their diet of small insects, yabbies, fish and prawns (small soft plastics around 50–80 mm).



Silver perch

As with golden perch, small lures and bait are the best for catching silver perch due to their small mouths.

Shrimps are the best bait as they are their primary food source.



Southern Saratoga

Saratoga are strong and aggressive. August to October is a good time for Saratoga fishing – try somewhere a little more secluded early in the morning.

As they are surface feeders, try top water methods. Lures such as stickbaits or poppers work well, as does bait that mimics frogs or lizards. During the heat of the day they will venture deeper into the water and hide among the vegetation of overhanging trees. They have a lot of teeth and a very bony mouth, so may be difficult to catch just with a simple hook.



NOTE: Redclaw crayfish

Outside of their natural range in the Gulf of Carpentaria and Cape York Peninsula south to the Normanby River, Redclaw Crayfish are considered a non-Indigenous species and must not be used as bait or returned to the water.

Pest fish

If you catch a pest fish, do not release it back into the water – you must dispose of it appropriately.

If caught, tilapia must be humanely destroyed immediately and disposed of as soon as practicable by burying a suitable distance from the waterway where it was caught or placing it in a rubbish bin.

If you spot a pest fish outside their known distribution, please take a photo and call **Biosecurity on 13 25 23**.

The most common types of pest fish are **carp**, **tilapia** and **gambusia** (mosquito fish).

Common carp



Gambusia (mosquito fish)



Mozambique tilapia



Spotted tilapia



Stocked dams and weirs

Facilities guide



Accommodation
within 5 km



Picnic tables



Boat hire



Camping
within 5 km



Playground/
kids activities



Boat ramp



Campfires



Toilets



Water sports



BBQs

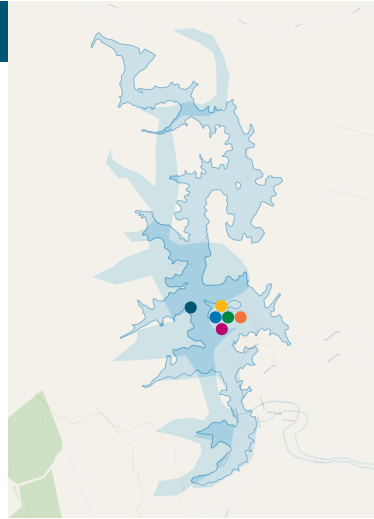


Stocked dams and weirs

Wuruma Dam

- Located 47 km north-west of Eidsvold
- Stocked with Australian bass, barramundi, golden perch and silver perch
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Attracts keen sport fishing anglers
- Free camping in designated camping areas only (stays restricted to 2 weeks)

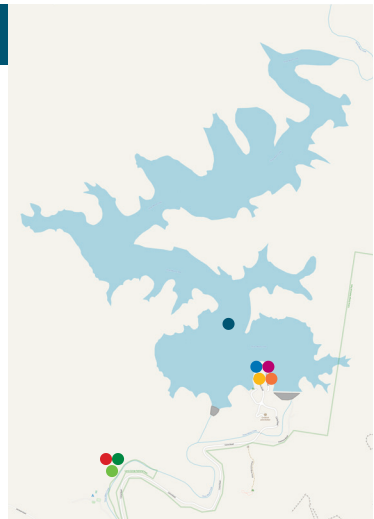
Facilities



Cania Dam

- Located 37 km north-west of Monto
- Stocked with Australian bass, golden perch, silver perch and southern saratoga
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Great results with shoreline fishing – 40–50 cm saratoga along deep trenches amongst the timber
- Beautiful scenery – located in Cania Gorge National Park
- Campfires permitted in some areas

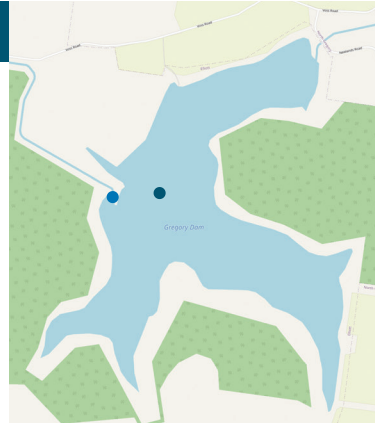
Facilities



Stocked dams and weirs

Lake Gregory

- Located 26 km south-east of Bundaberg and 29 km north of Childers
- Stocked with Australian bass, silver perch and southern saratoga
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Plenty of natural fish attracting structures – standing trees, weed beds and deep holes abundant with Australian bass
- Shallow lake – big boats be wary
- Speed limit of 6 knots

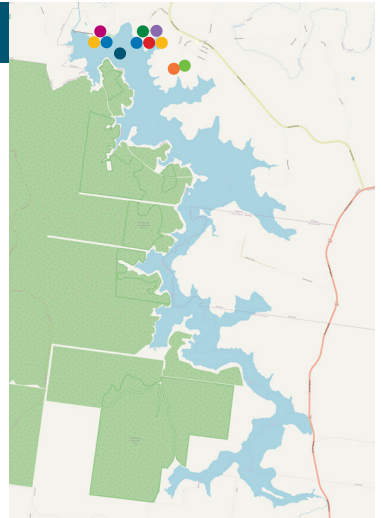


Facilities



Bjelke Petersen Dam (Lake Barambah)

- Located 21 km north of Kingaroy in the South Burnett region
- Stocked with Australian bass, golden perch, silver perch and southern saratoga – star species is golden perch (yellow belly)
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Excellent fishing in all seasons
- Use freshwater shrimp and worms to catch Australian bass and golden and silver perch
- Lures that dive down 3–4 m are adequate trolling in a depth of 5 m
- Timber structure at the back of the dam is good for bait fishing and trolling lures following the banks, can throw lures on rocky banks and the main basin is popular with cast and retrieving



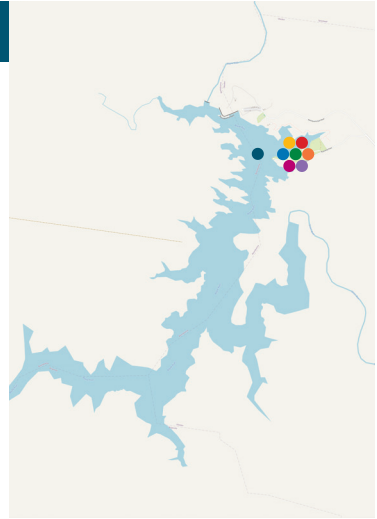
Facilities



Stocked dams and weirs

Boondooma Dam

- Located 20 km north-west of Proston in the South Burnett region
- Stocked with Australian bass, golden perch, silver perch and southern saratoga
- Well known for its golden perch (yellow belly) fishing
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Annual fishing competition held in February

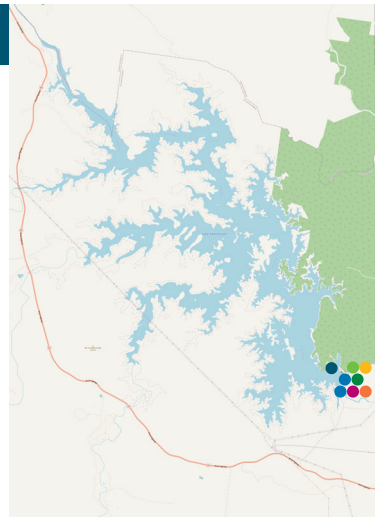


Facilities



Fred Haigh Dam (Lake Monduran)

- Located 20 km north of Gin Gin on the Bruce Highway
- Stocked with Australian bass and barramundi
- Popular for fishing and water sports
- Professional fishing guides available for charter
- Cast your line amongst the standing trees lining the bays and inlet of the dam



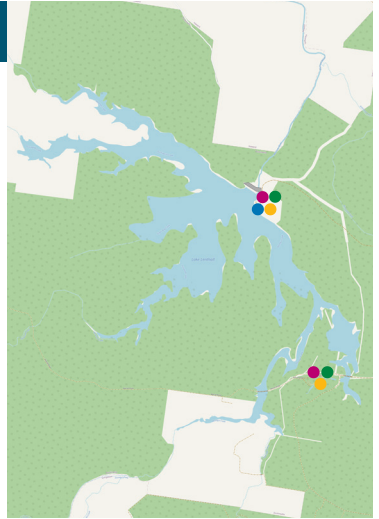
Facilities



Stocked dams and weirs

Lenthalls Dam (Lake Lenthall)

- Located 31 km north-west of Maryborough on the headwaters of the Burrum River
- Stocked with Australian bass, barramundi, golden perch and silver perch
- Limited camping available, so pre-booking essential
- Speed limit of 6 knots and only 4-stroke engines and low-emission direct-injection 2-stroke outboards (max. 60 hp) allowed

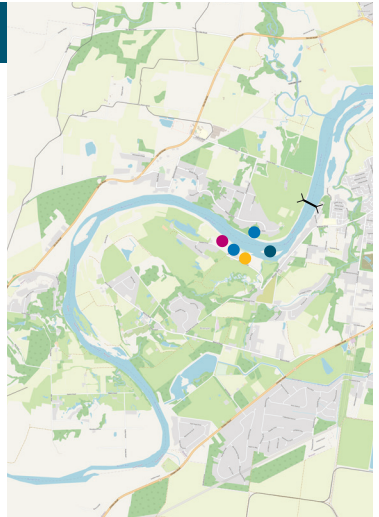


Facilities



Ben Anderson Barrage

- Located in Bundaberg
- Stocked with barramundi, Australian bass and golden perch (as they are stocked upstream)
- Popular for fishing and water sports



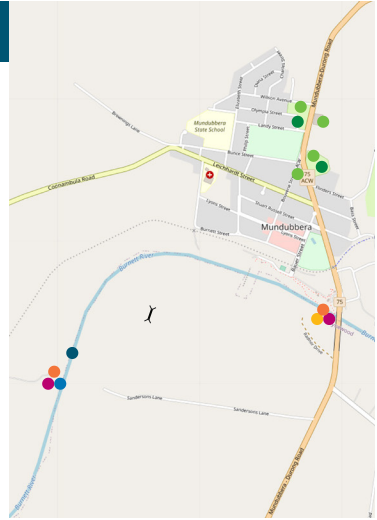
Facilities



Stocked dams and weirs

Jones Weir

- Located in Munduberra on the Burnett River
- Stocked with Australian bass, golden perch and silver perch
- Popular for fishing and water sports

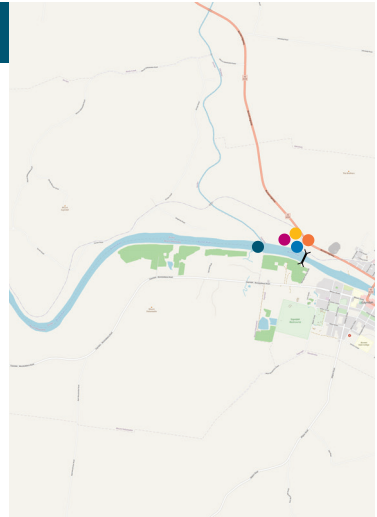


Facilities



Claude Wharton Weir

- Located in Gayndah on the Burnett River
- Stocked with Australian bass, barramundi and golden perch
- Popular for fishing and water sports



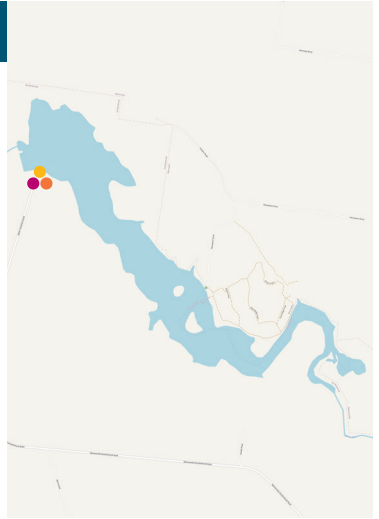
Facilities



Stocked dams and weirs

Gordonbrook Dam

- Located 21 km north of Kingaroy in the South Burnett region
- Stocked with Australian bass, golden perch, silver perch and southern saratoga
- Part of the access road is gravel
- Fishing restricted to shoreline
- Check for closures before travelling to this dam as it is sometimes closed due to health risks from blue-green algae.



Facilities



