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## Winter Spanish mackerel recapture

**THERE** have been over 7600 Spanish mackerel tagged throughout the history of the Industry & Investment (I&I) NSW Game Fish Tagging Program and to date there have been 73 recaptures reported.

The latest was recaptured this August. The fish was originally

released off Magnetic Island Qld, by Townsville GFC boat *Hallucination*, on April 26, 2008. It was 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 (two years and four months), which is the seventh-longest time-out for Spanish mackerel tagged under the program.

The record time between captures is a Spanish mackerel that was released off Mackay, Qld and recaptured 203 nautical miles west-northwest off Rib Reef, recording a total of 1945 days (five years and 120 days) at liberty. The farthest travelled under the I&I program is a Spanish mackerel released off Cape Bowling Green, Qld and recaptured 88 days later at Sunshine Reef, 532 nautical miles west-northwest.

The Industry and Investment NSW (I&I NSW) Program issues tags to individuals and fishing clubs and is funded by the NSW Recreational Fishing Trust. If you would like to participate in the program please phone (02) 9527 8411, or email: [gamefish.tagging@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gamefish.tagging@industry.nsw.gov.au) ■

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