# Screenshot Angler entries 2017

What is Screenshot Anglers?

Put simply it's a fishing opportunity that allows anglers to Search, Snap, Decode & Share their best sounder screenshots with other ANSA QLD members and the wider social media and online community.

www.ansaqld.com.au/screenshot-anglers

Competition Sponsor in 2017 is Lowrance





#### How will the winner be selected?

**Screenshots will be judged on three subcategories:** 

- 1. Quality of screenshot images (1/3)
- 2. Description of technical specifications and settings used to get the screenshot (1/3)
- 3. Description of the image, including your interpretation and how this information was used to refine your fishing technique and tackle to target fish (1/3)

#### **Entries in 2017**

Number	Club	FirstName	Surname	Location
1	Kingaroy SFC	Bob	Dover	Lake Barambah - Murgon
2	Redcliffe Game and SFC	Noel	Day	BJelke Dam
3	Hinchinbrook SFC	Kirra	Royle	Hinchinbrook Channel, North Qld
4	Bundaberg SFC	Jordan	Stoddart	Stanage Bay
5	Keppel Bay SFC	Kev	McCosker	Keppel Bay
6	Kingaroy SFC	Shaun	Manthey	Stanage Bay
7	Keppel Bay SFC	Craig	Thornton	Keppel Bay
8	Bundaberg SFC	Jordan	Stoddart	Bundaberg
9	Kingaroy SFC	Matthew	Cutler	Barambah creek (ficks crossing)
10	Bundaberg SFC	Nelson	Philips	Cania Dam
11	Bundaberg SFC	Will	McUtchen	Lake Gregory
12	Kingaroy SFC	Brendan	Moore	Coorooman Creek
13	Keppel Bay SFC	Chris	Bosomworth	Keppel Bay Islands
14	Keppel Bay SFC	Kev	McCosker	Forty Acre Paddock, Keppel Bay
15	Kingaroy SFC	Bob	Dover	Boondooma Dam
16	Kingaroy SFC	Shaun	Manthey	Wivenhoe Dam



#### Entry 1 – Bob Dover

While drifting across the dam searching for suitable schools of bass to fish during an ANSA Qld interclub fishing event the attached screen showings clearly display masses of small Australian Bass stacked in layers raising off the bottom.

At the present time this dam is currently sitting at a 27% storage level due to both large releases of water to meet the local farming (cotton & crops) requiements and also the current extreme heat conditions that is quickly sucking water from its storage volumes through evaporation.

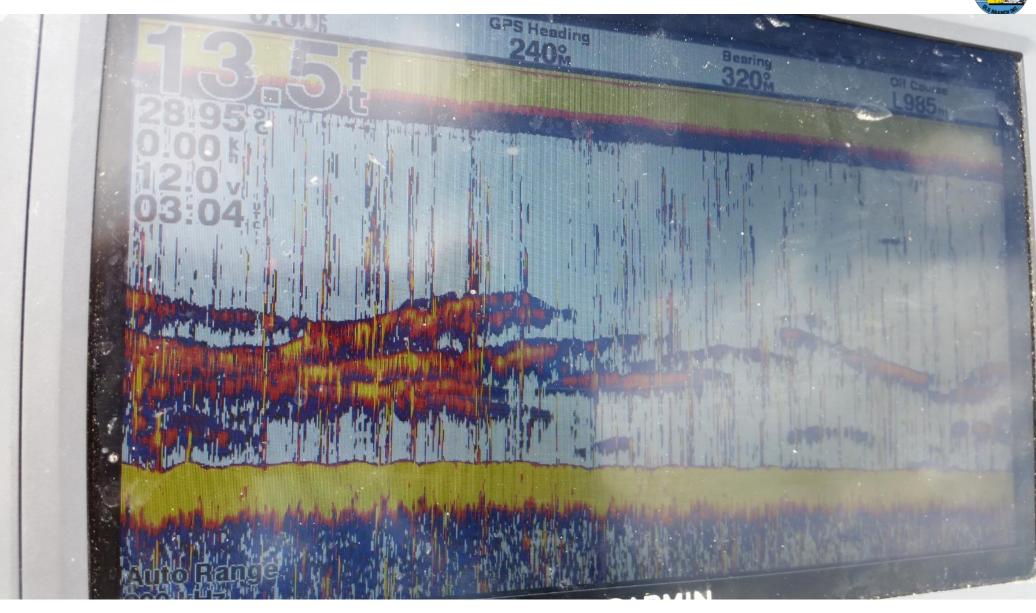
Upon reading the screen digital details the high temperature reading indicates that these fish will be very finicky and will take a load of finesse to have them turn on enough to react to any lure presented to them, however the masses displayed in the content of the screen tell me that they are stationery by the way they are in clusters.

Because of this displayed data a lure choice was made on something that would excite these critters into a feeding frenzy. Also due to the lack of depth being displayed a choice of casting the selected blade some distance so that it could be retrived at an even angle while allowing the retrive to be varied at speeds that would allow its vibration to be maximised.

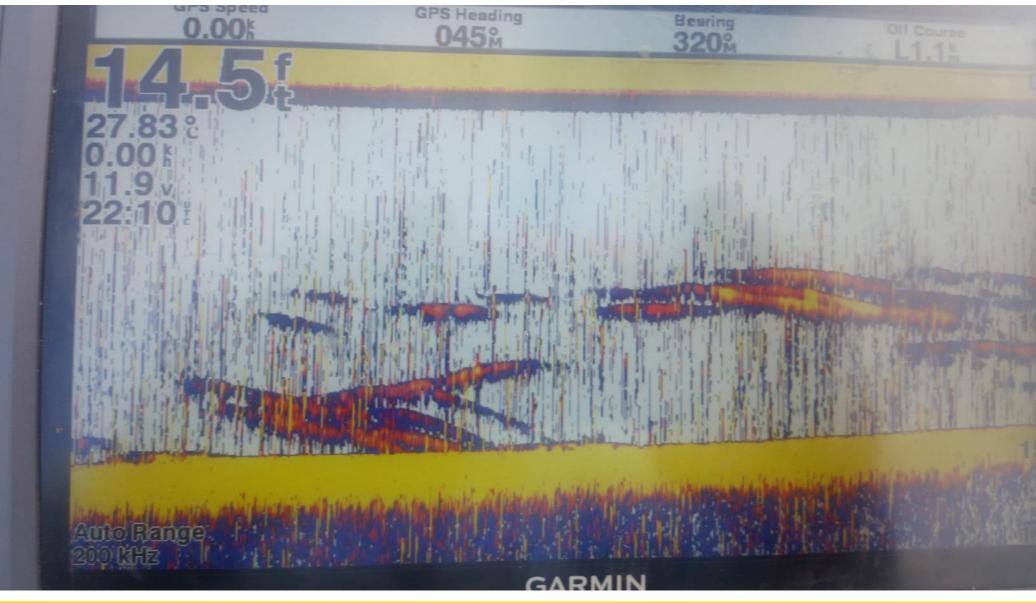
The anchor lock being used on electric motor assisted in maintaining a constant position hovering over the school while the wind was attempting to move our location.

A constant watch on the displayed screen date allowed me to make suitable changes to both my position and also my style of presentation. All of this above reasoning and action resulted in extracting some fifty (50) fish from the school.















### **Entry 2 – Noel Day**

OK boys look like we have given that spot a far try lets move





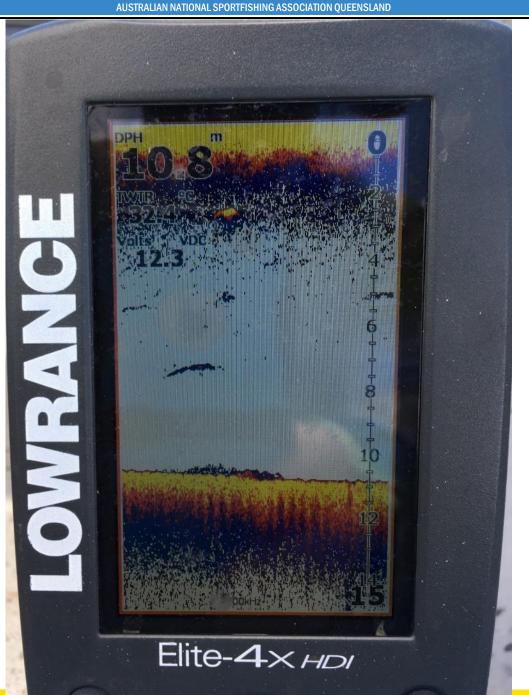
#### Entry 3 – Kirra Royle

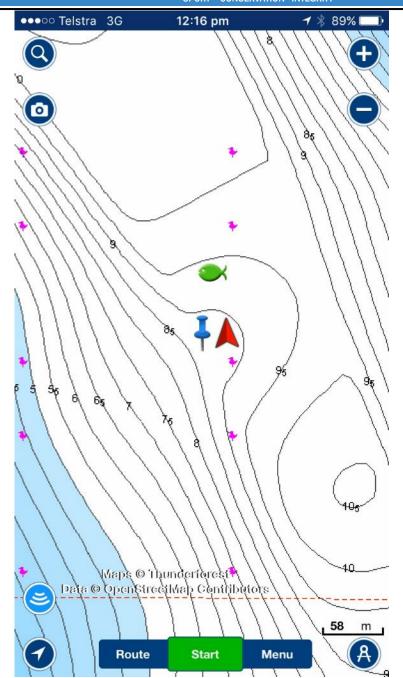
The barra season wasn't open yet so Dad and I decided to try for a few jacks using small soft plastics. If the weather was good enough we would even try taking the little tinnie into the channel to look for fingermark. The jacks weren't hungry so as soon as the wind dropped Dad and I rigged up some Gulp jerkshads on half ounce jigheads and went looking for fingermark.

Using the little sounder (Dad said it's a Lowrance Elite-4X HDI) we found a nice patch of rubble with some fish sitting higher in the water. It was over 10m deep and we don't have an electric motor so we marked the spot on the iphone (Dad said he uses the free Navionics App in the tinnie). We then had to work out which way we would drift past and put a mark about 50m ahead so that it would give us time to get our Gulps to the bottom.

On only my third jig my rod bent over and my reel screamed off. I only had 6kg braid so I carefully worked the fish to the boat and both Dad and I celebrated when a big fingermark made it into the landing net.

I asked Dad how much the sounder cost him and he said it was under \$200 and the App was free so it goes to show that you don't need expensive stuff to catch good fish, but we'd still love a better sounder please!











#### **Entry 4 – Jordan Stoddart**

While away on a boys trip to Stanage Bay with a few ANSA members from Bundy and peanut land (Kingaroy) i came across this up one of the creeks. With a good show on the HDS i knew exactly what they were and after seeing small mullet in the same creek i tied on a westin 'bony the bream' vibe and within 5 minutes we landed our first barra for the day, pulled another 5 before the bite stopped and we had to move.







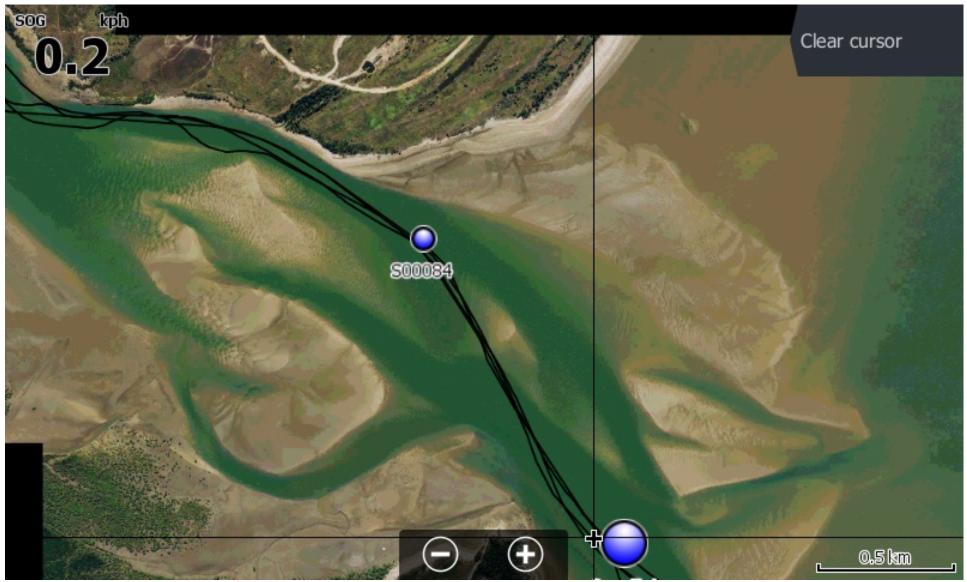
#### Entry 5 – Kev McCosker

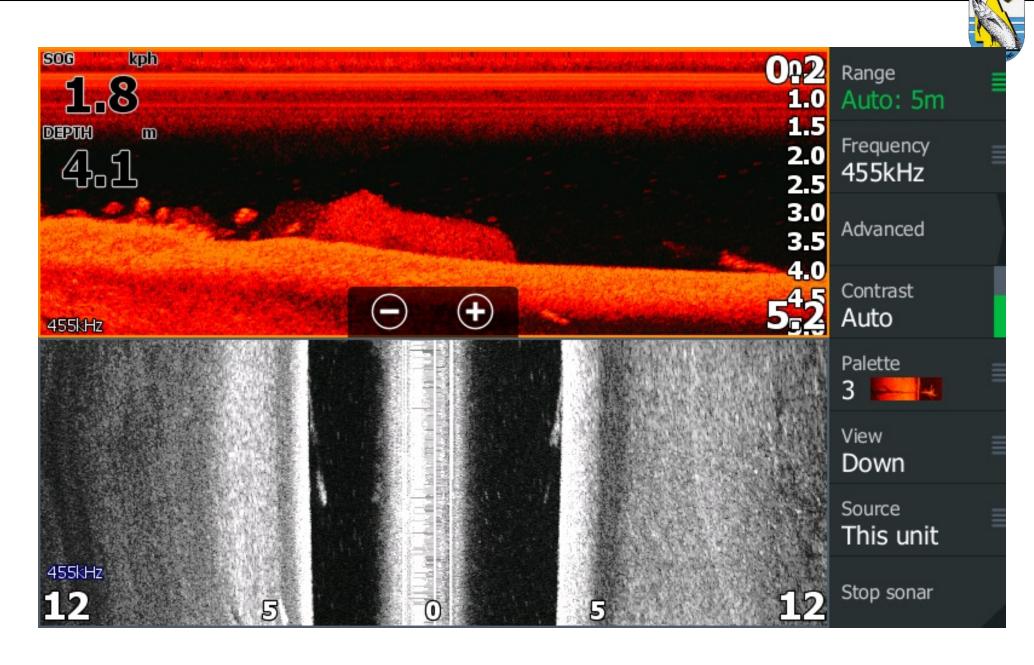
We left Coorooman Creek near low tide at dawn to target fingermark on the headlands and inshore reefs of Keppel Bay. To help with this I use free software from Gofree called Insight Map Creator, allowing me to make my own custom marine chart overlay using colour satellite imagery. In these the sandbars and channels can be clearly seen. Very handy for creek mouths and places you have not been before. Going slow and using structurescan to monitor the depth out to 20m each side of the boat helps too. The 455 kHz frequency with high contrast helps reveal the shallower and deeper water at the extremeties.

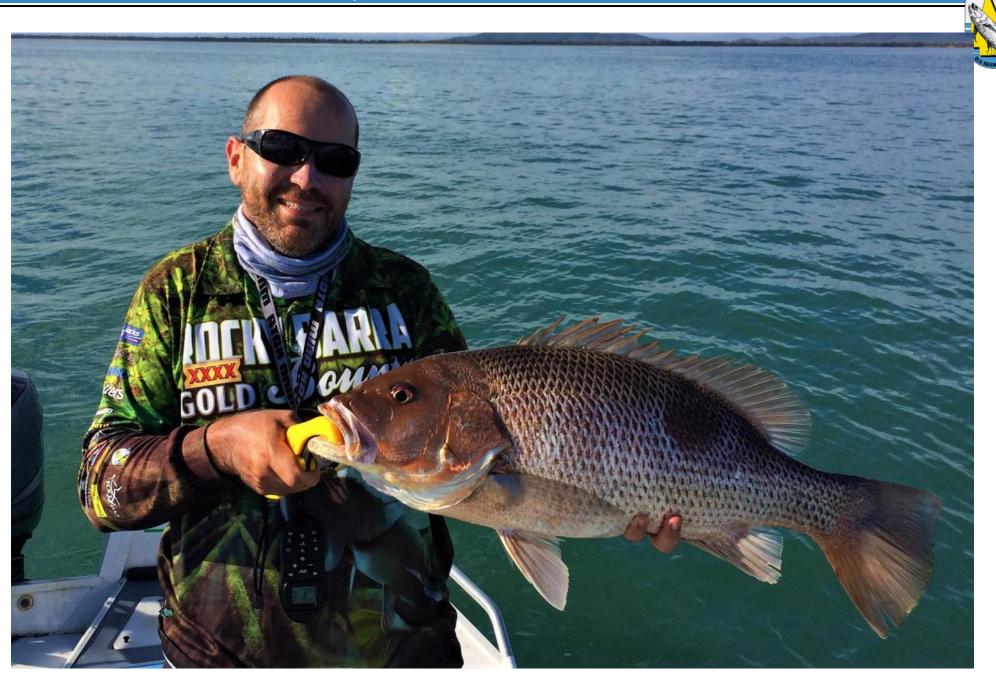
As usual we prospected (455kHz, auto contrast) with side and down scan in horizontal windows to maximise the screen area (pixels) of the side scan. While searching around I often change the colour pallete – sometimes a particular colour scheme makes a difference and the touch menu on my old HDS9 makes this easy. I generally settle on orange or amber for downscan and blue for sidescan, although the black/white palette sometimes shows good barra shadows. I also constantly change the range to alternate between distance (say 20m each side) and detail (say 8-12m each side). We found a bait school on the side scan and cut the outboard to have a closer and more quiet look. On the second closer pass with the electric motor the downscan showed some large, deep bodied fish hanging around them. My first cast came back with a baby spanno (the bait) and my son Ryan's second cast with a soft vibe jumped off a very large barra and not the fingermark we hoped for – time to move on as it was still closed season.

Nearby we found scattered bait schools with the side imaging, with the occasional larger fish nearby. In shallow water we've found that fingermark and grunter often move very quickly away from the boat so it's best to look for the bait rather than be fixated on shows of larger fish. We immediately dropped 15-20m back from each bait school and fished around them with vibes and plastics, regularly using the minn kota to swing the transom around and check the location of the bait school with sidescan. If we lost a school then we went looking for another one - you must keep your lures right on the bait. Over the next hour we targeted plenty of these isolated bait schools and caught a single good fingermark from each one, smallest 63cm and best 72cm.











#### **Entry 6 – Shaun Manthey**

During a brief window of low winds, we headed out exploring new ground from Stanage Bay, after collecting some tasty fillets wider, we decided to start hopping our way home so that we could cover some of 40km in better conditions.

After exploring the detail provided in the Navionics XI9 Gold card for the return trip, I noticed a mark for a wreck. This immediately sparked the memory of a previous conversation of mackerel action caught of a wreck in the area. By the time we approached the mark (after stopping on an isolated pinnacle that got my attention once revealed by the HDS downscan while doing 45kph) we were keen to hear some drag peeling.

We had already tied on a range of slugs, and jigs expecting to encounter pelagics. I set up the Lowrance to one of my many preset screens set for this depth and clarity of water, this being a split screen of down and side scan, 455kHz with -2 contrast (GPS on separate sounder). To my surprise, the mark was spot on and the first pass had me right on top of the wreck, unfortunately that wasn't the only surprise. Although the image was clear enough to see the boat in fine detail, it was missing the tell-tail signs of pelagic action, instead it had a few fish hanging tight to the structure. A few more passes only confirmed this, it immediately brought about a change to of arsenal to plastics and vibes and a more finesse retrieve, hopping these tight to the structure. Yes we lost gear, but we did manage to collect another few tasty reef fish. Just goes to show how fishing has changed, 5 years ago, I would of spent an hour burning slugs and large plastics and then went home.











#### **Entry 7 – Craig Thornton**

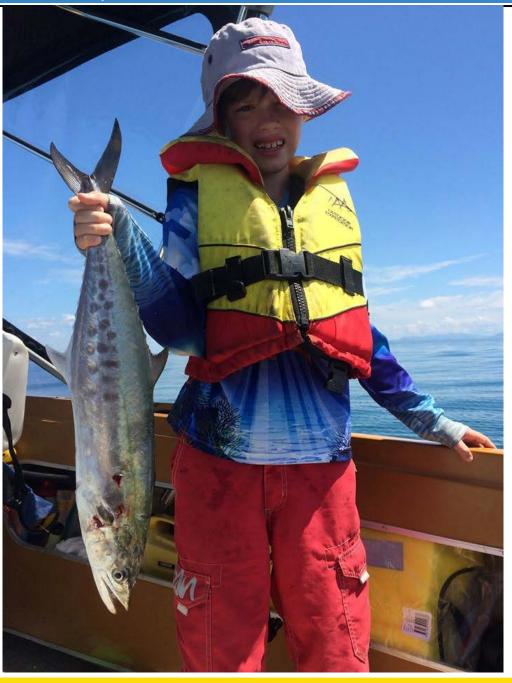
This screenshot was taken in the shallow water of Keppel Bay while chasing school mackerel with the kids. Anecdotally the mark is referred to as a wreck however the downscan image clearly shows a broken rock and rubble bottom with fish holding in the bottom third of the water column. The longer smeared arches indicate active fish which, given the time of the day, were targeted on light gear. Unweighted pilchard baits drifted down in free spool worked well for a while but bite offs were common.

Fishing light to get the bites has its downside! The school shut down but the fish could still be seen holding close to the bottom. A switch to small slugs and slices jigged within two metres of the bottom got them to bite again and the fun continued.









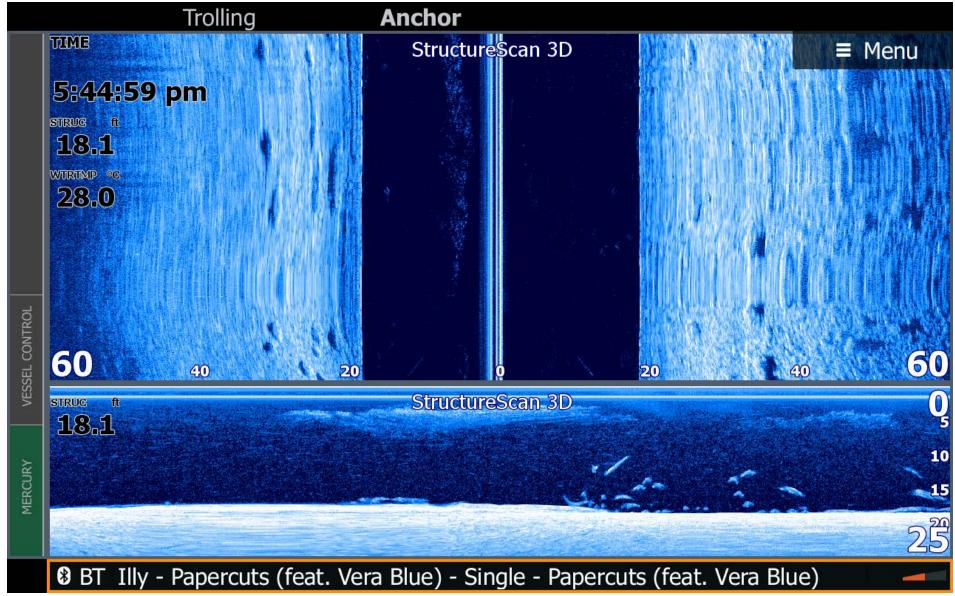


#### **Entry 8 – Jordan Stoddart**

After a couple of hours of searching i finally came across some good fish using my gen3 hds12. I usually run at around 60-70% with my sensitivity and roughly the same with contrast depending on water clarity. I also have the 3d structure scan which i find help give me a better picture. After finally finding these fish in a local system i decided to throw a vibe with no sucess, by this stage the tide had stopped and i was able to use the old faithful prawnstar and 5 mins later i got my first hookup. Only landed 1 for the school but was good to see a good number of these beautiful fish in our local waters.

I have also included a older screenshot of a beem trawler net on sidescan just to show how good these units are, you can clearly see the net and the cables going back to the boat but if you look on the other side you can see the marks in the mud from the boards at the front of the net from a previous pass they have done







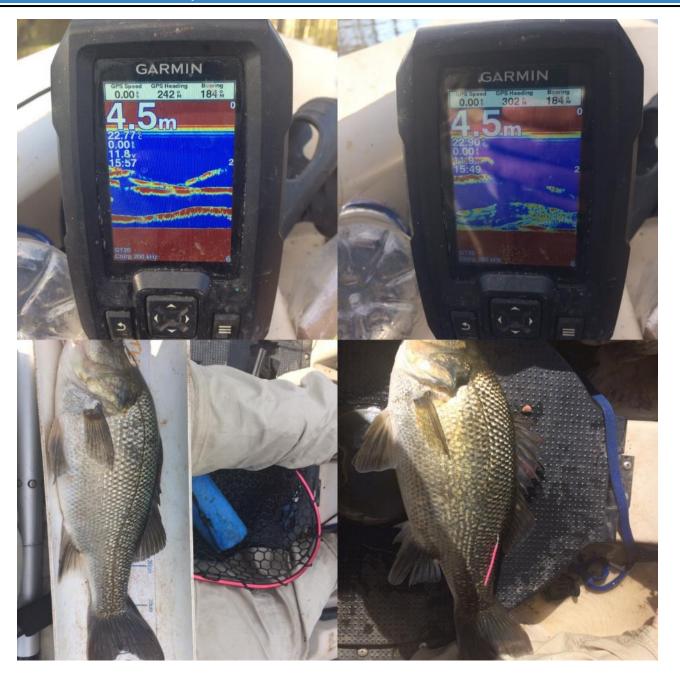




## **Entry 9 – Matt Cutler**

Session in the local creek 3 weeks after heaps of fresh came in. Found a large school of bass resulting in 8 bass over 400. Best I've ever seen it in the creek.









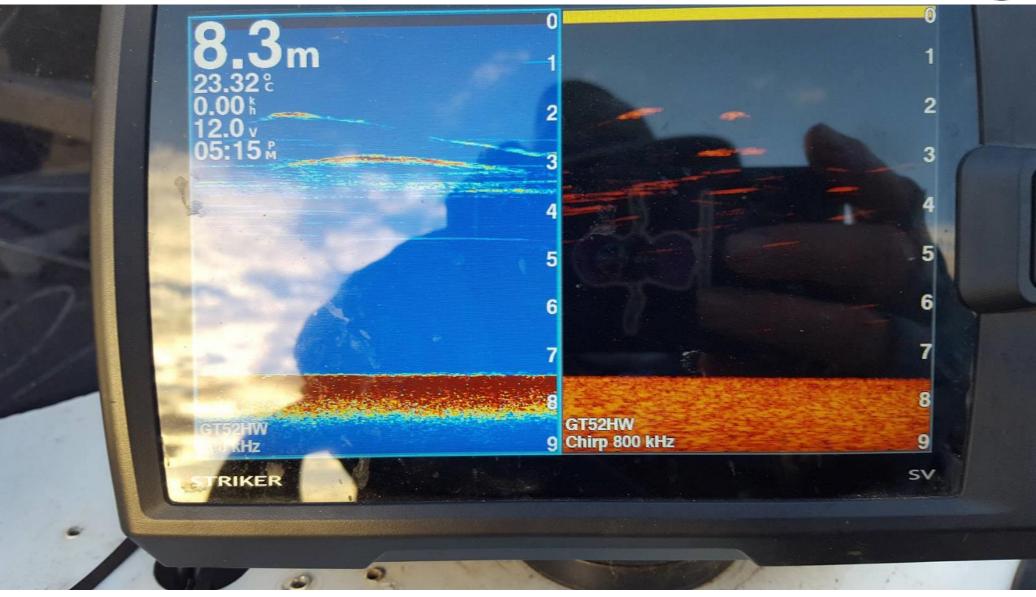


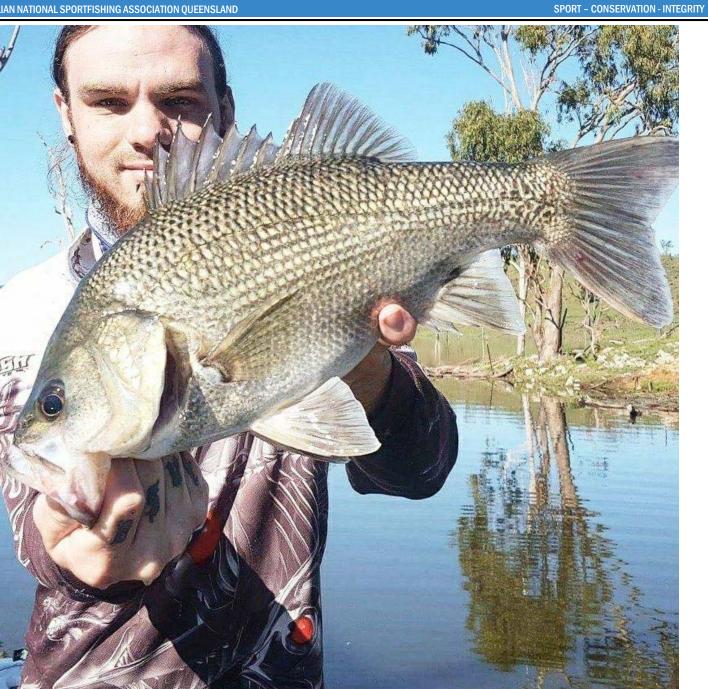
#### **Entry 10 – Nelson Phillips**

Recently the Bundy SFC did our yearly trip to Cania Dam. This year was my 3rd year attending this weekend and only my third time on the dam, as it is quite a drive from Bundaberg. Due to the recent rain the dam was at 100% and over flowing, the water was murky and cold compared to the average water temps in the local of just the weeks before. It certainly was tough fishing. While fishing with my best mates dad Pete, I missed many a Toga strike on surface with many short striking fish. These fish were tight to the banks feeding in the flooded grass.

Moving off the edges into deeper water we sounded up a few schools of Toga and Bass just off the tree line, we decided to troll some lip-less crank style lures in these areas and this resulted in Pete catching two small Bass. After not a lot of luck with lures afterwards we changed to native baits in similar spots, doing so resulted in myself getting two more Bass, one being a Beautiful Cania Bass at a healthy 47cm. This was the one fish that made the whole trip worth it for me and will always be a fish to remember as it was such a tough weekend.











## Entry 11 – Will McUtchen

Trying to find some bass for the species challenge in Lake Gregory near Bundaberg. Thought I might get 1 from here but not today. Got one soon after though to enter in the comp.





#### **Entry 12 – Brendan Moore**

This is a down scan image taken on my HDS7 Touch. It shows a yacht that sank in Coorooman Creek a few years ago and was originally in an upright position with the mast breaking the surface of the water during the low tides and creating a navigation hazard for the locals and visitors.

During the recent flood event from Cyclone Debbie the wreck has moved location and rolled over.

It is possible to see some parts of the yacht and identify them as well as some debris. The image shows the stern of the yacht, the keel and rudder as well as having the vessel upside down. It is laying in a small depression on a muddy bottom that was scoured to a harder surface by water flow. It doesn't appear to have had large trees or major debris caught up and there are signs of baitfish starting to repopulate the vessel. Over time it will attract more bait fish and the larger predators will follow and it will become a new "secret spot".

This picture was taken midway during the outgoing tide and has the uppermost part of the yacht at around 10 feet deep. The yacht no longer poses the same danger to local boaties however deeper draught vessels would still need to be cautious on the lowest tides. If another flood or major storm event occurs then it may change both the location and roll the yacht into a different position causing concern again.











## Entry 13 - Chris Bosomworth

To start with the obvious, yes, the sounder has probably spent a bit to much quality time in the sun and is a little "frayed" around the edges, but, it still produces the goods! The shot taken shows a hard bottom, most likely hard coral or low rock, with fish separation in the bottom two metres of the water column.

In this depth of water I use a 4X zoom and manual depth adjustment. The target species around this type of territory is typically coral trout and nannygai. 7" jerk shads were being worked using a long pause, double twitch technique and with the small tides lighter jig heads in the 1/2 - 3/4oz size easily made it to the bottom. The trout shown was one of two landed in a double hookup, both measuring 62cm each. Other fish landed in this area included small/large mouth nannygai and grassy sweetlip.











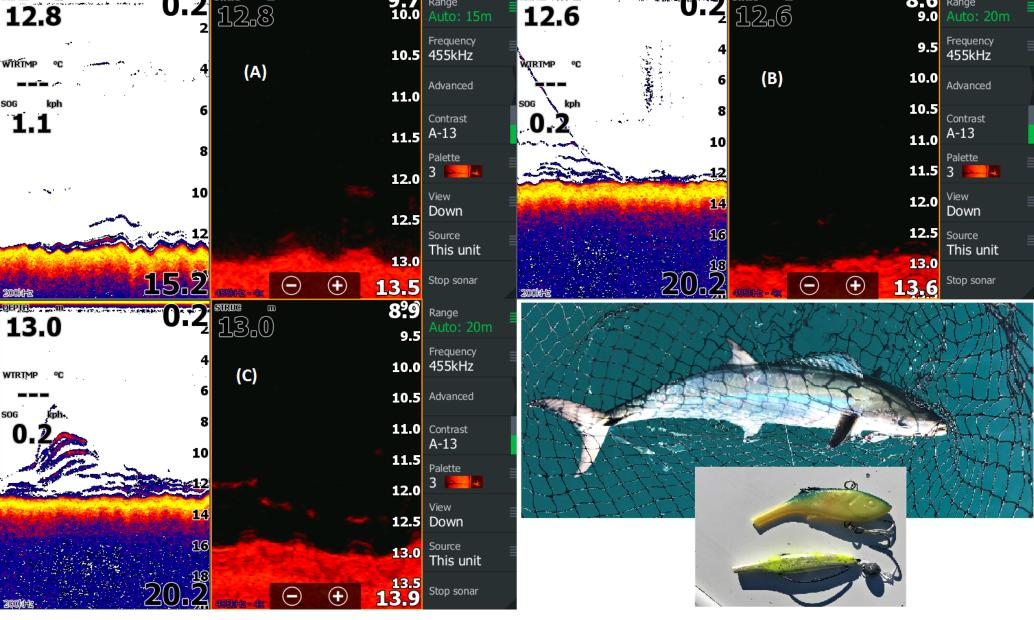
## Entry 14 – Kev McCosker

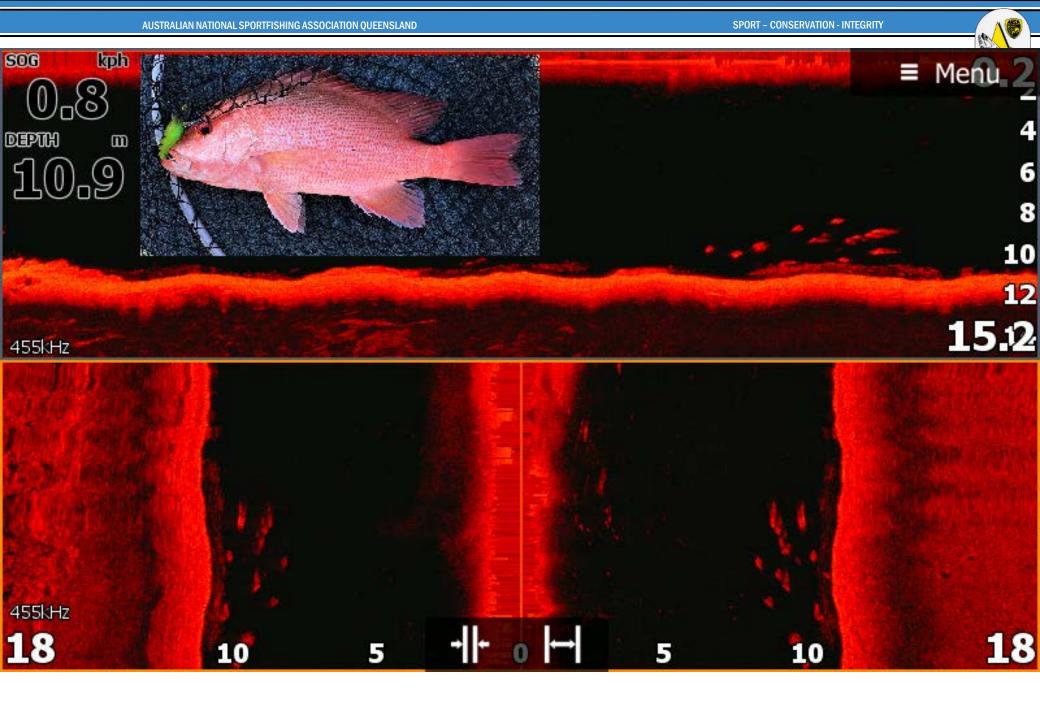
Inshore reefs are searched under outboard power at 5-8kmh, with the minnkota in the water. The instant I see fish, I drop a lure over the back, hit the spotlock button on the minnkota, and cut the outboard. Sounder is split with 200khz sonar and downscan at 455khz. The sonar's conical beam covers a greater area and will show fish easily at this speed, and is good for tracking lures too. The narrow fan of the downscan is zoomed in on the bottom few metres and shows detail of bottom and fish when slowed or stopped.

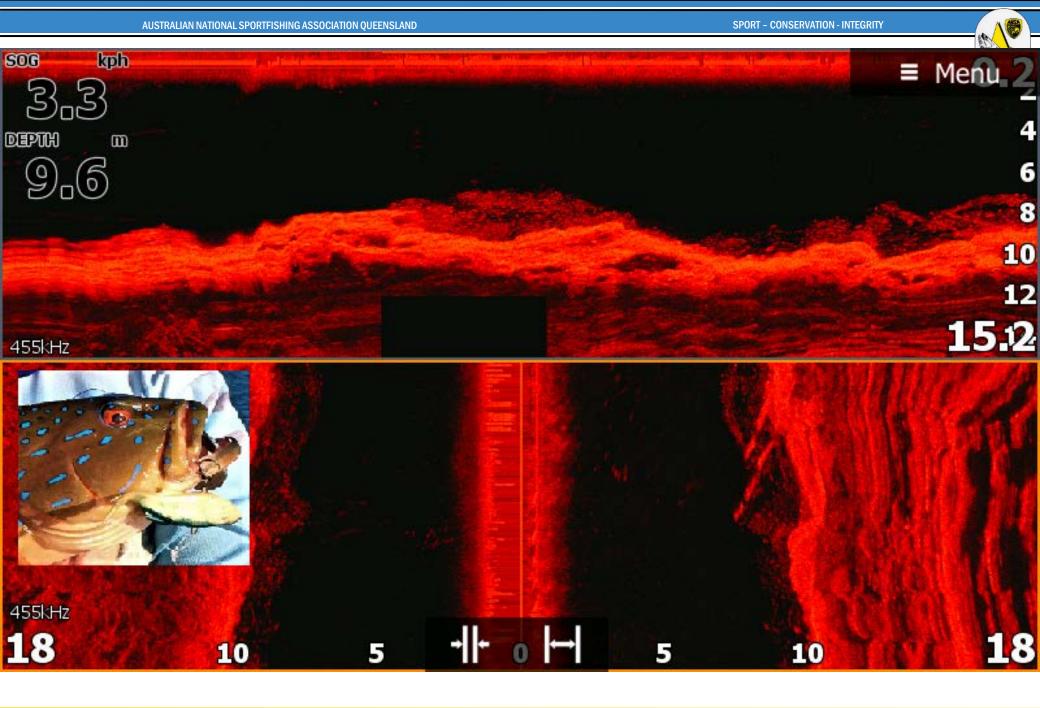
First pic is 3 shots taken seconds apart: top left shows decent fish on sonar. A vibe dropped immediately had its tail bitten off, so the next lure down is a high speed metal (slow jigs get bitten off) which can be seen going down in the top right shot. Mackerel sometimes spread out right on the bottom and numbers aren't apparent until a lure excites them (bottom left).

With fish found I used the minnkota only - horizontal split screen on 455khz side and downscan which shows excellent detail when moving slowly. Second image: baitfish on the bottom and 12 deep-bodied fish over them. Dropping a vibe the moment they appeared on the screen resulted in a 45cm small mouth nannygai. I then had to search around with sidescan to stay with them (they move continuously), only dropping lures to visible fish on the screen.

Solitary fish on prominent lumps in these areas are usually coral trout. Third image: baitfish and two solid 'streaks' in amongst the bait on the right side. These are two fish that were around 2 metres off the bottom, and which rapidly moved down to the bottom as the boat passed overhead. 30g vibe = trout!









## Entry 15 – Bob Dover

The following examples are of how the changing of settings on your unit and other influencing factors could interfere with wanting information. I am working with an old unit of some thirteen years at the front of the boat and later version at the console. Not knowing too much about the in-depth settings on these units I was at ends meet.

Both examples that follow were times where I was visiting a local impoundment (Boondooma) in the South Burnett area and decided to take some time out to dedicate on the issues that I was having.

Example 1: This problem was that severe interference was being received on my main unit which was causing an issue with being able to read what information I was receiving. I attempted to fix the issue by playing with settings, however not having any idea of what I was doing I was struggling.

After many hours of playing around I decided to turn off the front unit and there it was – no more interference – I looked at myself and said how easy was that.

Example 2: Once I overcome the problem in example 1 I continued to play with the settings to see if I could find better options that I was not aware of.

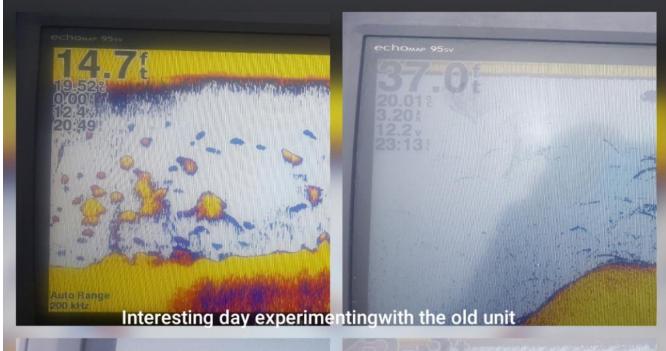
I found my way into the frequency settings and noticed that there were two (2) settings of 200mHz and 77mHz and not really knowing what the difference was I changed the setting to that of 77mHz to find that my screen display gave me an unbelievable reading where archers were displayed instead of blobs and dots.

This change made it easier to read what was below me and although these units are aged they now gave me better information to catch fish by.















## **Entry 16 – Shaun Manthey**

Before my first trip to Lake Wivenhoe, I downloaded the Insight Genesis Social Map and the latest software update for my HDS7. This technology ensured no time would be wasted searching for likely terrain, and this vital tool for impoundment fishing included the manufacturer's latest enhancements. Planning was complete!

As I idled towards my first spot, the water clarity was quite good; therefore the sonar sensitivity was increased to A+2. As shown on Photo 1, I forego sonar clarity to ensure I am seeing all the bait as this usually means fish close by. Other settings I usually run are a rather high ping speed, and surface clarity low.

Customising the screen also permitted viewing of downscan. Set at 800kHz, contrast 77%, and pallet 8 gives me the clarity I need to see individual fish.

I wanted to get my wife a fish, no matter what type or size. We located fish on top of a steep point, and although small, they were active. Electric motor deployed and Ipad was connected to the Lowrance's WI-FI for vision and control from the front deck. Danni dropped an ice jig vertically while I searched for bigger fish with long casts. This allowed me to view Danni's lure on the Sonar and ensure it was in the correct zone. Didn't take long, and she had landed her first catfish.

Now to target bass, no schools were encountered but one pass along a distinctive bank and side scan uncovered snags holding fish (Photo2). Casting suspending jerkbaits with heavier leader tight to structure brought success. The keen eye will see I have changed the sonar from medium chirp to 200kHz and pallet 1 to 13. I continually make tweaks to the settings while fishing to get the best out of my underwater eyes depending on conditions.



