

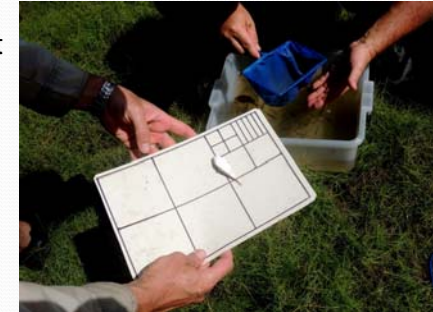
Recording the Data

Identifying, measuring, recording and releasing nekton

Getting started

Be prepared, the equipment required is:

- Small scoop net
- Measuring board ready
- Recording Sheet
- ID Guide
- Gloves if preferred
- Digital Camera



Handling Nekton

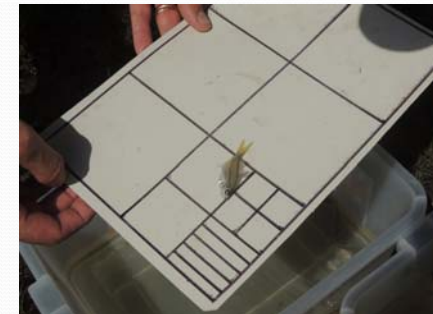
Most nekton can be handled with a scoop net. Generally with smaller specimens you can also use your hands, if you are not sure then wear protective gloves. **The important think is to minimise handling of specimens and getting them back to the water as quick as possible.**



Tasks

You will need at least 2 people to complete the following tasks:

- Specimen retriever
- Identify, measure and release
- Record species and length on recording sheet



Step One

- Process larger specimens first. If you have an aggressive specimen such as a mud crab, remove and place in another container. Other species including toadfish should also be processed in order to minimise any damage to other specimens in the container.



Step Three

- Identify and call out the species name and its size (use Fish ID resources)
- Record details on data sheet
- Return directly to the adjacent waterway



Step Two

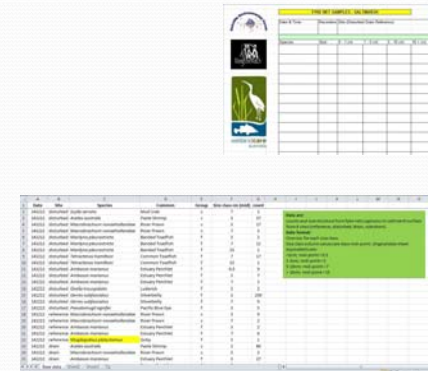
Process each specimen as follows:

- Remove from container with net and place on the measuring board
- Line up the specimen on the board to ascertain its length



Step Four

After the clean up, enter the data recorded on the datasheet into the project database or spreadsheet.



Research Data

The data you have collected can be analysed by marine scientists who are interested in researching the fishery values of saltmarsh habitat.

