

ACTIVITIES OF BARRAMUNDI

Introduction

The barramundi, *Megalopterus forsteri*, is a large, fast-growing, and highly adaptable fish species found in the coastal waters and rivers of northern Australia. It is a popular sport fish and is also an important commercial species. This report details the activities of barramundi, including their feeding habits, spawning behavior, and migration patterns.

Barramundi are known for their voracious appetite and are capable of consuming a wide variety of prey items, including crustaceans, mollusks, and smaller fish. They are also known for their ability to migrate long distances, both up and down rivers, and between coastal waters and inland rivers. This migration is often driven by changes in water temperature and salinity.

The spawning behavior of barramundi is highly seasonal and is typically triggered by changes in water temperature and salinity. Spawning occurs in shallow, fast-flowing waters, and the eggs are deposited in gravelly substrates. The larvae are pelagic and drift downstream, where they are often preyed upon by larger fish and birds.

Barramundi are also known for their ability to tolerate a wide range of salinities, from fresh water to full seawater. This adaptability allows them to inhabit a variety of environments, including rivers, estuaries, and coastal waters. They are also known for their ability to tolerate low oxygen levels, which allows them to inhabit areas with high organic matter content.