

AUSTRALIAN MARINE TURTLE TAGS

Summary of externally applied tags that have been used for identification of marine turtles in Australia by Commonwealth, State and non-government agencies. ## denotes incomplete information.

Tagging agency Commencement of use	Tag position	Prefix	Number series	Type of tag	Reference & Tag address
Queensland Fisheries					Moorehouse, 1933
1929 (No recoveries outside the one nesting season)	Carapace	-	1-50	Copper plate wired to rear of carapace	-
Dr H. R. Bustard, Australian National University					Bustard, 1966,1969
1964-1975	Flipper	-	001-20,000	Monel (National Band & Tag Co. style 49)	ANU
Applied Ecology Pty Ltd; Torres Strait Turtle Farms					
1974-1980	Flipper	A	001-8,000	Monel (National Band & Tag Co. style 49)	Reward tag Ecology, Box 26 Woden 2606 Australia
1974-1980	Flipper	B	001- 5,000	Monel (National Band & Tag Co. style ##)	Reward tag Ecology, Box 26 Woden 2606 Australia

Tagging agency Commencement of use	Tag position	Prefix	Number series	Type of tag	Reference & Tag address
Commonwealth of Australia					
1990 – present	Flipper	CA	001 - ##	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	RETURN ANPWS GPO BOX 636 CANBERRA AUST 2601
New South Wales					
2001 – present	Flipper	NS	001 - ##	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	RETURN NPWS PO BOX 1957 HURSTVILLE NSW 2220
Western Australian Department of Environment and Conservation					
1987 – present	Flipper	WA	001 – 99,999	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	Return Dept. CALM PO Box 835 Karratha, WA 6714

Tagging agency Commencement of use	Tag position	Prefix	Number series	Type of tag	Reference & Tag address
Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management					Limpus, 1992
* While most Queensland tags are applied to marine turtles, numerous scattered numbers also have been applied to dugong, crocodiles, sharks, and sting-rays. Titanium tags are well suited for these applications.					
1974 – present	Flipper	X *	001-50,000	Monel (National Band & Tag Co. style 19 & 49)	RETURN WILDLIFE BOX 190 NORTH QUAY 4000, QLD. AUSTRALIA
1981 – present	Flipper	T *	001-99,999	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	RETURN WILDLIFE BOX 190 NORTH QUAY 4000, QLD. AUSTRALIA
1992 – present	Flipper	I	551-1,000 21801-22400 45701-46700	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	RETURN WILDLIFE BOX 190 NORTH QUAY 4000, QLD. AUSTRALIA
1996 – present	Flipper	K *	001-99,999	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	RETURN WILDLIFE BOX 155 BRISBANE 4002, QLD AUST. RETURN WILDLIFE PO BOX 15155 CITY EAST QLD 4002
2008 – present	Flipper	QA *	001-30,000	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	RETURN WILDLIFE PO BOX 15155 CITY EAST QLD 4002 RETURN WILDLIFE PO BOX 2454 CITY QLD 4001
1988 – present	Flipper	M	001-500	Titanium (Stockbrands medium size)	RETURN WILDLIFE PO BOX 190 AUSTRALIA 4000
1982 – present	Carapace, rear	H	1-20	Hopkins tag (stainless bolt & washers)	-
1980 – present	Flipper	P *	001-2,000	Plastic cattle ear tags Yellow or green	BOX 155 BRISBANE 4002

INTERNATIONAL MARINE TURTLE TAGS

The most commonly reported tags from a foreign agency that are reported in eastern & northern Australia and the Western Pacific generally are deployed to member nations by South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

Tagging agency Commencement of use	Tag position	Prefix	Number series	Type of tag	Reference & Tag address
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Apia, Samoa					Limpus, 1992
1991 – 1993	Flipper	RMTF	001-1000	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	RETURN SPC/SPREP BPD5 NOUMEA CEDEX NEW CALEDONIA
1993 – present	Flipper	R	1001-44600	Titanium (Stockbrands standard size)	SPREP PO Box 240 Apia, SAMOA
## - present	Flipper	RI	00001-02000	Inconel (National Band & Tag Co.)	SPREP PO Box 240 Apia, SAMOA sprep@sprep.org

References

- Bustard, H. R. (1966). Turtle biology at Heron Island. *Australian Natural History* **15**, 262-264.
- Bustard, H. R. (1969). Queensland protects sea turtles. *Oryx* **10**, 23-24.
- Limpus, C. J. (1992). Estimation of tag loss in marine turtle research. *Wildlife Research* **19**, 457-469.
- Moorehouse, F. W. (1933). Notes on the green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). *Report of the Great Barrier Reef Committee* **4**.