

## Supplementary material

### Size, growth and mortality of riverine golden perch (*Macquaria ambigua*) across a latitudinal gradient

Daniel W. Wright<sup>A,I</sup>, Brenton P. Zampatti<sup>B,H</sup>, Lee J. Baumgartner<sup>C</sup>, Steven Brooks<sup>D</sup>, Gavin L. Butler<sup>E</sup>, David A. Crook<sup>F</sup>, Ben G. Fanson<sup>G</sup>, Wayne Koster<sup>G</sup>, Jarod Lyon<sup>G</sup>, Arron Strawbridge<sup>B</sup>, Zeb Tonkin<sup>G</sup> and Jason D. Thiem<sup>A,C</sup>

<sup>A</sup>Department of Primary Industries, Narrandera Fisheries Centre, PO Box 182, Narrandera, NSW 2700, Australia.

<sup>B</sup>Inland Waters and Catchment Ecology Program, SARDI Aquatic Sciences, PO Box 120, Henley Beach, SA 5022, Australia.

<sup>C</sup>Institute for Land, Water and Society, Charles Sturt University, PO Box 789, Albury, NSW 2640, Australia.

<sup>D</sup>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, GPO Box 46, Brisbane, Qld 4001, Australia.

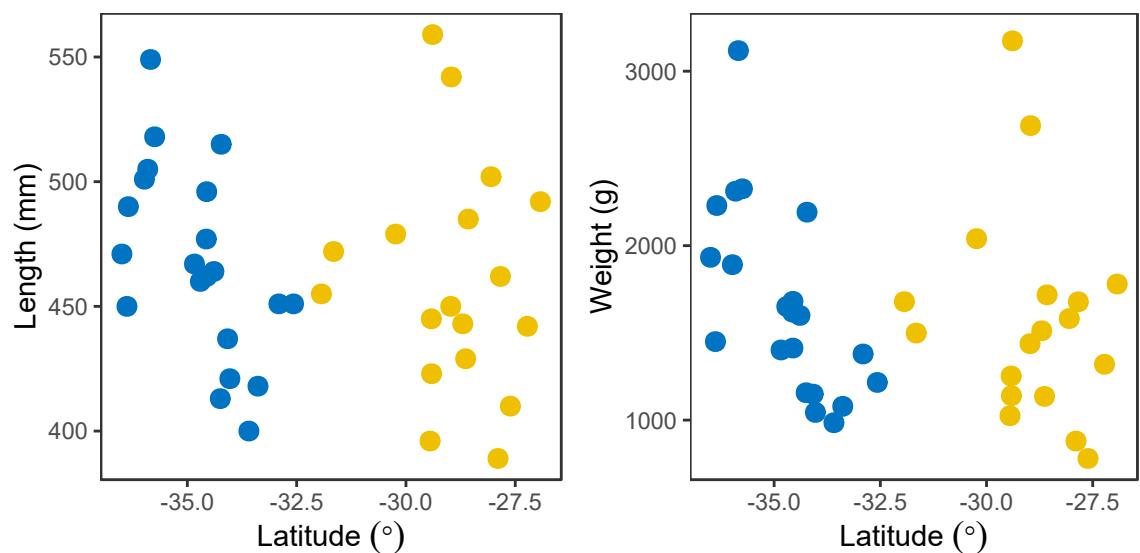
<sup>E</sup>Department of Primary Industries, Grafton Fisheries Centre, Private Mail Bag 2, Grafton, NSW 2460, Australia.

<sup>F</sup>Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems, La Trobe University, PO Box 821, Wodonga, Vic. 3689, Australia.

<sup>G</sup>Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, PO Box 137, Heidelberg, Vic. 3084, Australia.

<sup>H</sup>Present address: Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Locked Bag 2, Glen Osmond, SA 5064, Australia.

<sup>I</sup>Corresponding author. Email: [daniel.wright@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:daniel.wright@dpi.nsw.gov.au)



**Fig. S1.** Maximum length and weight at sampling sites where  $\geq 10$  individuals were collected plotted against latitude. Colour denotes data points from the northern (yellow) and southern Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) (blue).

**Table S1. Age-at-length probabilities derived from an age–length key (ALK) model for golden perch in the northern Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) region**

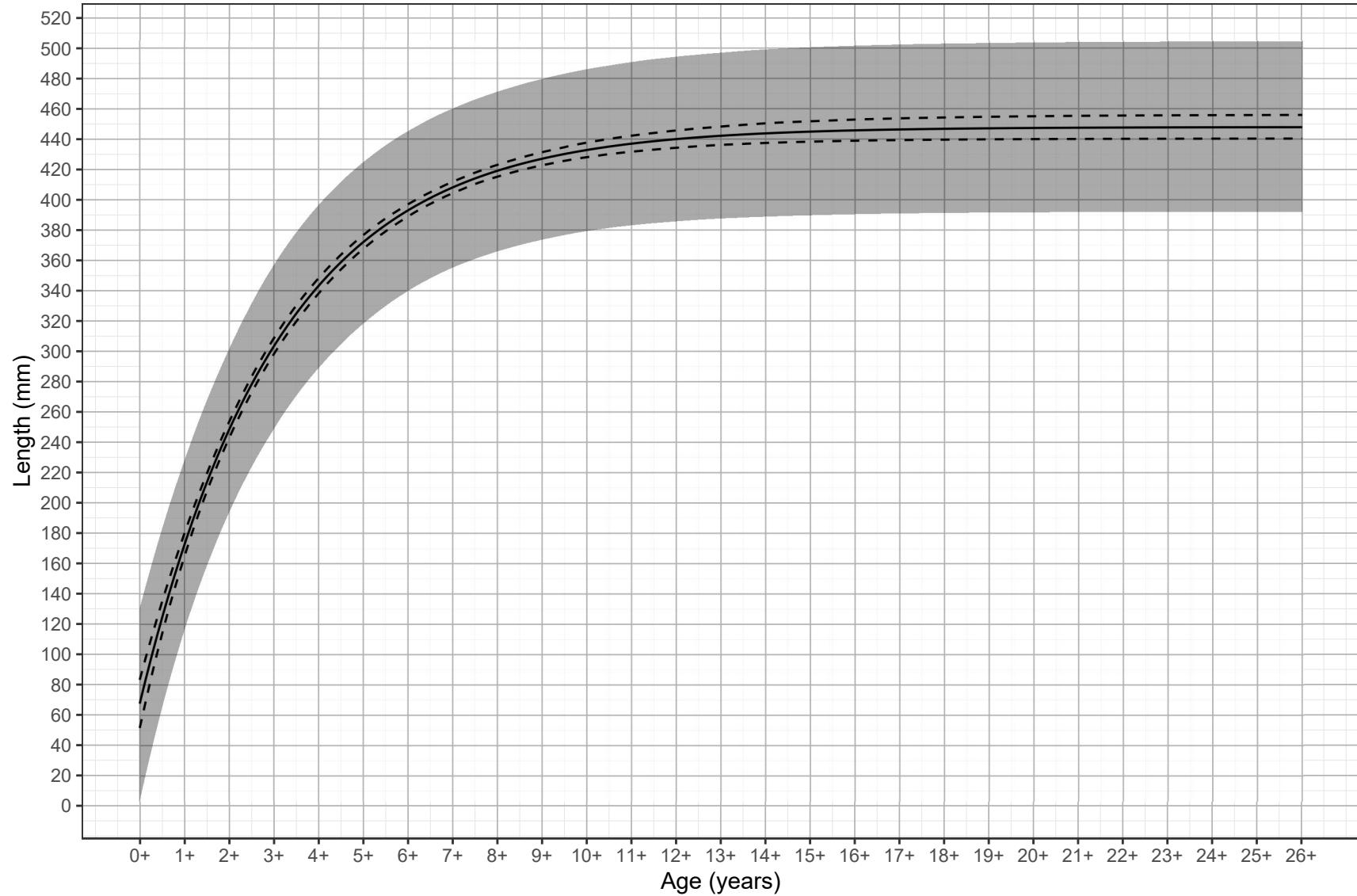
Shading darkens for higher values and only probabilities &gt;0.001 are presented

Length (mm)	Age (years)														
	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	6+	7+	8+	9+	10+	11+	12+	13+	14+
40	0.945	0.055	0.001												
60	0.844	0.153	0.003												
80	0.629	0.356	0.014	0.001											
100	0.344	0.609	0.044	0.003											
120	0.136	0.754	0.099	0.01	0.001										
140	0.043	0.749	0.177	0.027	0.003										
160	0.012	0.643	0.276	0.061	0.007				0.001						
180	0.003	0.481	0.374	0.122	0.015	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.001						
200	0.001	0.31	0.436	0.209	0.03	0.004	0.003	0.004	0.003						
220		0.172	0.438	0.308	0.049	0.009	0.007	0.008	0.008						
240		0.083	0.383	0.395	0.07	0.019	0.015	0.016	0.018	0.001					
260		0.036	0.298	0.452	0.089	0.035	0.026	0.028	0.033	0.003				0.001	
280		0.014	0.209	0.466	0.102	0.058	0.042	0.043	0.057	0.005	0.001	0.001	0.001		
300		0.005	0.134	0.438	0.107	0.088	0.062	0.06	0.088	0.01	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.001	
320		0.002	0.078	0.376	0.103	0.122	0.083	0.077	0.125	0.016	0.005	0.006	0.004	0.002	
340			0.042	0.297	0.09	0.154	0.103	0.09	0.163	0.026	0.011	0.011	0.008	0.005	
360				0.021	0.215	0.073	0.179	0.117	0.098	0.195	0.037	0.024	0.017	0.015	0.009
380					0.009	0.144	0.055	0.192	0.123	0.097	0.216	0.05	0.046	0.026	0.024
400						0.004	0.089	0.038	0.191	0.119	0.09	0.221	0.061	0.084	0.037
420							0.002	0.051	0.024	0.175	0.107	0.077	0.208	0.069	0.139
440								0.001	0.026	0.014	0.146	0.087	0.059	0.178	0.072
460									0.012	0.007	0.108	0.063	0.041	0.136	0.066
480										0.005	0.003	0.071	0.04	0.025	0.092
500											0.002	0.001	0.04	0.022	0.013
520												0.001	0.02	0.011	0.006
540													0.009	0.005	0.003
													0.013	0.013	0.255
													0.019	0.028	0.023
															0.633

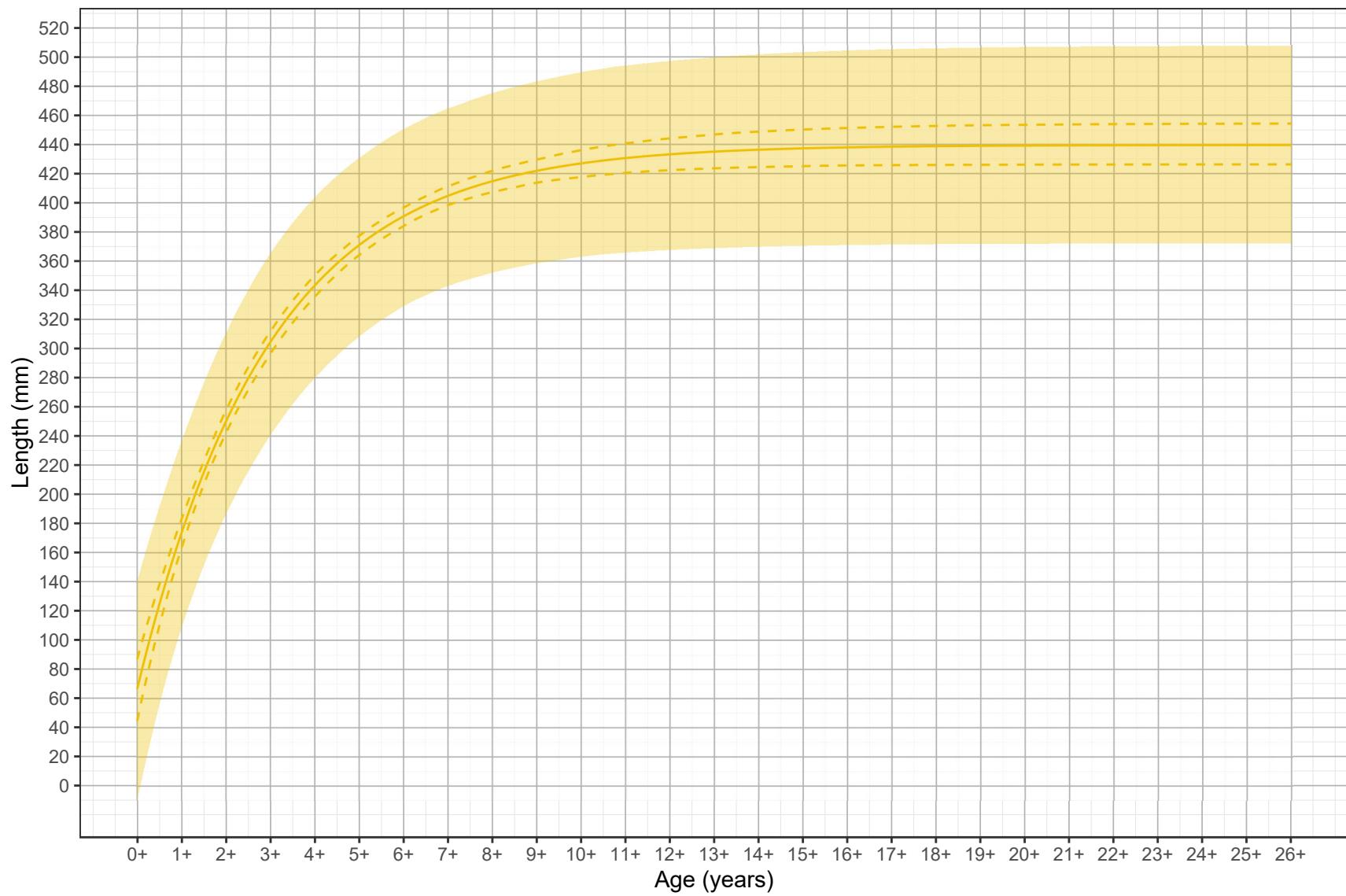
**Table S2. Age-at-length probabilities derived from an age–length key (ALK) model for golden perch in the southern Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) region**

Shading darkens for higher values and only probabilities &gt;0.001 are presented

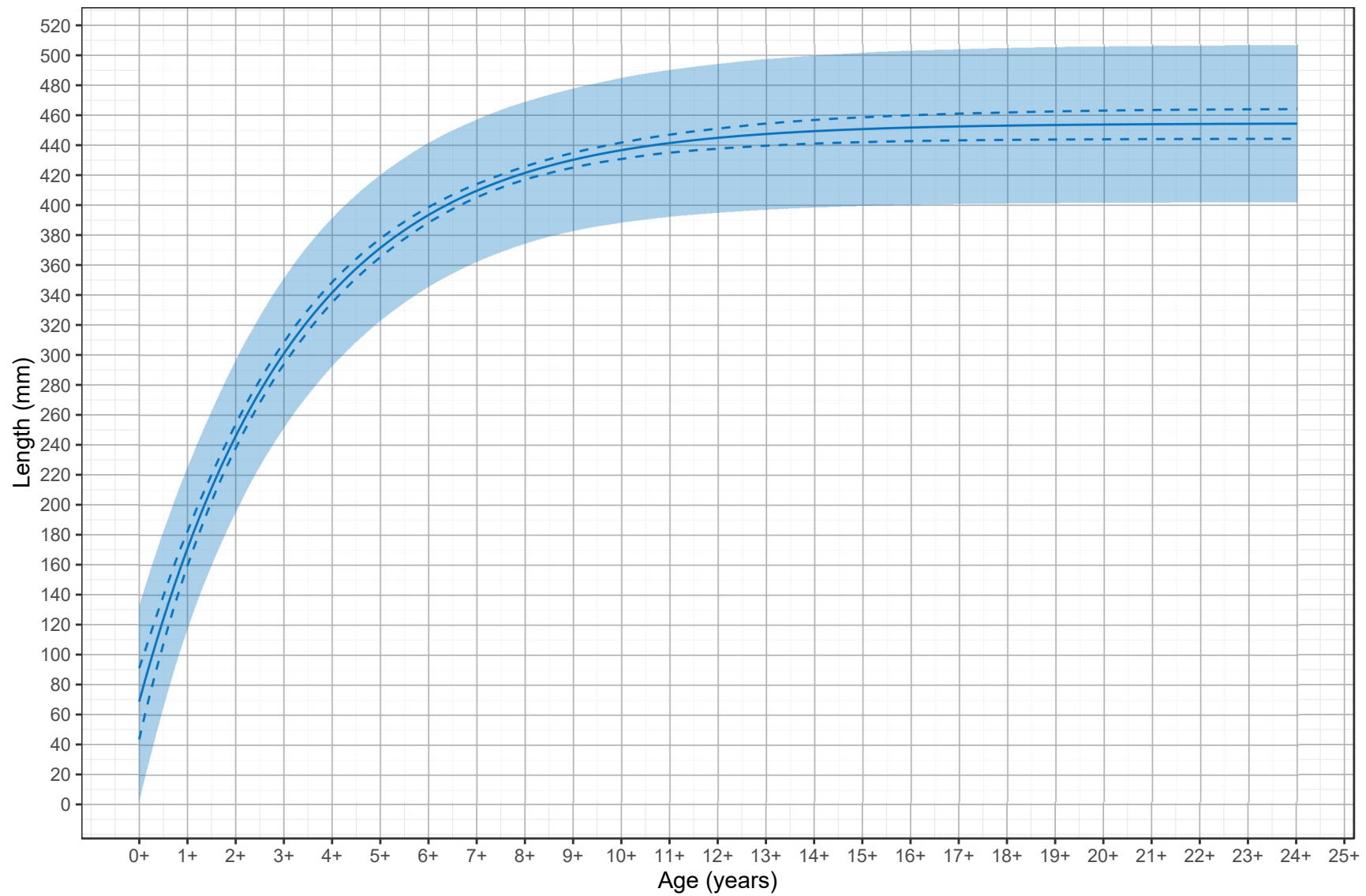
Length (mm)	Age (years)																	
	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	6+	7+	8+	9+	10+	11+	12+	13+	14+			
40	0.961	0.039																
60	0.543	0.457																
80	0.054	0.946																
100	0.003	0.997																
120		0.999	0.001															
140		0.996	0.004															
160		0.982	0.018															
180		0.914	0.083	0.002	0.001													
200		0.675	0.303	0.013	0.007		0.001	0.002										
220		0.28	0.625	0.047	0.03	0.003	0.005	0.01										
240		0.063	0.704	0.096	0.075	0.01	0.018	0.033	0.001									
260		0.01	0.569	0.14	0.133	0.024	0.043	0.078	0.004									
280		0.001	0.365	0.162	0.189	0.045	0.081	0.145	0.011	0.001								
300			0.189	0.153	0.217	0.069	0.123	0.219	0.027	0.002								
320			0.082	0.12	0.209	0.09	0.158	0.278	0.055	0.004	0.001							
340			0.032	0.084	0.178	0.103	0.179	0.311	0.1	0.008	0.001	0.002		0.001	0.002			
360			0.011	0.053	0.137	0.106	0.183	0.315	0.163	0.016	0.003	0.004	0.002	0.002	0.006			
380			0.003	0.03	0.095	0.099	0.17	0.289	0.242	0.027	0.009	0.009	0.005	0.004	0.017			
400			0.001	0.015	0.059	0.083	0.14	0.236	0.32	0.042	0.02	0.017	0.014	0.007	0.045			
420				0.007	0.032	0.06	0.1	0.167	0.365	0.055	0.04	0.027	0.032	0.012	0.103			
440					0.002	0.014	0.036	0.06	0.098	0.348	0.06	0.067	0.037	0.064	0.016	0.197		
460						0.001	0.005	0.018	0.029	0.048	0.275	0.055	0.093	0.042	0.104	0.017	0.313	
480							0.002	0.008	0.012	0.02	0.184	0.043	0.109	0.04	0.145	0.016	0.421	
500								0.003	0.005	0.007	0.11	0.029	0.114	0.034	0.179	0.014	0.505	
520									0.001	0.002	0.003	0.061	0.019	0.11	0.026	0.206	0.01	0.562
540										0.001	0.001	0.032	0.011	0.102	0.02	0.227	0.008	0.598



**Fig. S2.** Golden perch von Bertalanffy growth models (VBGMs) for the entire Murray–Darling Basin (MDB). The dashed line represents 95% bootstrap confidence interval (for the lower interval  $E[L|t] = 440 (1 - e^{-0.35(t - 0.67)})$  and for the upper interval  $E[L|t] = 456 (1 - e^{-0.30(t - 0.34)})$ ) and the shading indicates 95% bootstrap prediction interval (for the lower interval  $E[L|t] = 392 (1 - e^{-0.34(t - 0.04)})$  and for the upper interval  $E[L|t] = 504 (1 - e^{-0.31(t - 0.96)})$ ). The solid line indicates the VBGM and is calculated using  $E[L|t] = 447 (1 - e^{-0.32(t - 0.51)})$ .



**Fig. S3.** Golden perch von Bertalanffy growth models (VBGMs) in the northern Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) region. The dashed line represents 95% bootstrap confidence interval (for the lower interval  $E[L|t] = 415 (1 - e^{-0.40(t - 0.61)})$  and for the upper interval  $E[L|t] = 442 (1 - e^{-0.31(t - 0.29)})$  and the shading indicates 95% bootstrap prediction interval (for the lower interval  $E[L|t] = 372 (1 - e^{-0.36(t - 0.06)})$  and for the upper interval  $E[L|t] = 506 (1 - e^{-0.31(t - 1.03)})$ ). The solid line indicates the VBGM and is calculated using  $E[L|t] = 439 (1 - e^{-0.34(t - 0.49)})$ .



**Fig. S4.** Golden perch von Bertalanffy growth models (VBGMs) in the southern Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) region. The dashed line represents 95% bootstrap confidence interval (for the lower interval  $E[L|t] = 445 (1 - e^{-0.35(t - 0.80)})$  and for the upper interval  $E[L|t] = 465 (1 - e^{-0.27(t - 0.32)})$ ) and the shading indicates 95% bootstrap prediction interval (for the lower interval  $E[L|t] = 403 (1 - e^{-0.32(t - 0.04)})$  and for the upper interval  $E[L|t] = 506 (1 - e^{-0.29(t - 1.04)})$ ). The solid line indicates the VBGM and is calculated using  $E[L|t] = 447 (1 - e^{-0.32(t - 0.51)})$ .

**Table S3. Sampled locations, year ranges, sample sizes, length and age ranges, and von Bertalanffy growth model (VBGM) coefficients ( $L_\infty$ ,  $K$  and  $t_0$ ) for golden perch reported in current and past studies**

Coefficient errors or ranges between upper and lower 95% confidence intervals are provided in parentheses. Asterisks refer to values inferred from a figure within

Mallen-Cooper and Stuart (2003)

Sampled locations	Years	Sample size ( <i>n</i> )	TL (mm)	Age (years)	$L_\infty$ (mm)	$K$ (year <sup>-1</sup> )	$t_0$ (years)	Study
Southern Murray–Darling Basin rivers (Broken, Campaspe, Loddon, Murray, Murrumbidgee and Wimmera), lakes (Burrinjuck, Cullulleraine, Green, Middle, Moira, Nagambie), reservoirs (Googong), floodplains (Barwah Forest) and wetlands (Tahbilk Lagoon)	1984–1991	796	86–600	0–16	501 (± 10)	0.46 (± 0.04)	0.44 (± 0.11)	Anderson (1992)
Southern river (Murray)	1990–1992	216	80–470*	1–12*	418 (± 17)	0.57 (± 0.10)	0.67 (± 0.22)	Mallen-Cooper and Stuart (2003)
Southern river (Murrumbidgee)	Not reported	95	50–550*	1–26*	502 (± 10)	0.45 (± 0.04)	0.87 (± 0.13)	
Northern river (Darling)	Not reported	39	130–520*	1–10*	354 (± 17)	0.56 (± 0.15)	0.33 (± 0.27)	
Southern river (Murray)	2009–2013	582	211–582	2–27	528	0.14	–4.22	Forbes <i>et al.</i> (2015)
Southern river (Murrumbidgee)	2009–2013	540	108–540	0–17	463	0.37	–0.53	
Murray–Darling Basin rivers (Barwon–Macintyre, Condamine, Balonne, Border, Gwydir, Macquarie, Darling, Moonie, Campaspe, Goulburn, Loddon, Murray and Murrumbidgee)	2017–2018	873	52–559	0–26	447 (440–456)	0.32 (0.30–0.35)	–0.51 (–0.67 – –0.34)	This study

## References

- Anderson, J., Morison, A., and Ray, D. (1992). Validation of the use of thin-sectioned otoliths for determining the age and growth of golden perch, *Macquaria ambigua* (Perciformes: Percichthyidae), in the lower Murray–Darling Basin, Australia. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **43**(5), 1103–1128. doi:10.1071/MF9921103
- Forbes, J. P., Watts, R. J., Robinson, W. A., Baumgartner, L. J., Allen, M. S., McGuffie, P., Cameron, L. M., and Crook, D. A. (2015). System-specific variability in murray cod and golden perch maturation and growth influences fisheries management options. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* **35**(6), 1226–1238. doi:10.1080/02755947.2015.1094153
- Mallen-Cooper, M., and Stuart, I. G. (2003). Age, growth and non-flood recruitment of two potamodromous fishes in a large semi-arid/temperate river system. *River Research and Applications* **19**(7), 697–719. doi:10.1002/rra.714