

Monthly summary of Back of Boat Lobster Sales (BoBS)

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

May - 2026.

Main summary

This report contains information relating to the landing of western rock lobsters by licensed commercial fishers in the West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery, under the 'Back of Boat Sales' (BoBS) mechanism, which was introduced into the legislation on 12 September 2020. A maximum limit of 100 lobsters per landing was initially applied to the mechanism. To match demand and allow for an expansion in the program the limits changed at the end of November 2021 to allow for 200 lobsters for every month, except for December where they can land 400 lobsters. This limit was further increased to 999 lobster from 1 July 2023.

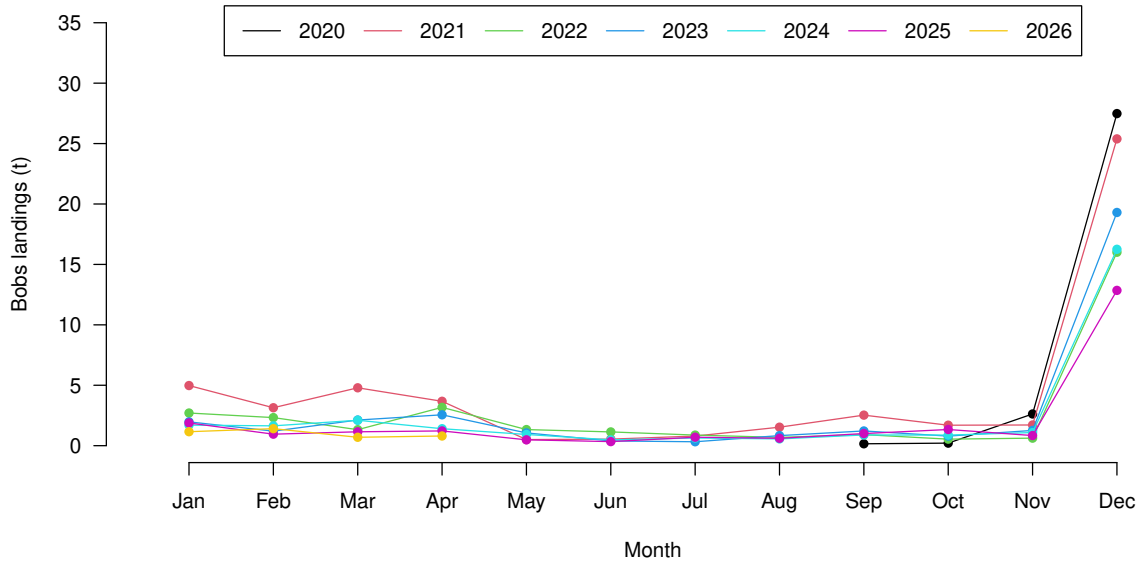
Disclaimer: This report contains data to the end of April 2025. Please note that the data used has not been formally validated and reporting errors may be present. As a result, this data should be considered as preliminary, and subject to change.

- Since the program began, a total of 111 different vessels have landed BoBS lobsters at 21 landing areas.
- To date a total of 202,395.5 kg of lobsters have been landed for BoBS.
- This weight of lobsters was comprised of 338,466 individuals at an average weight of 597.98 gm.
- Currently 0.5% of the commercial catch landed since its inception has been BoBS lobsters.

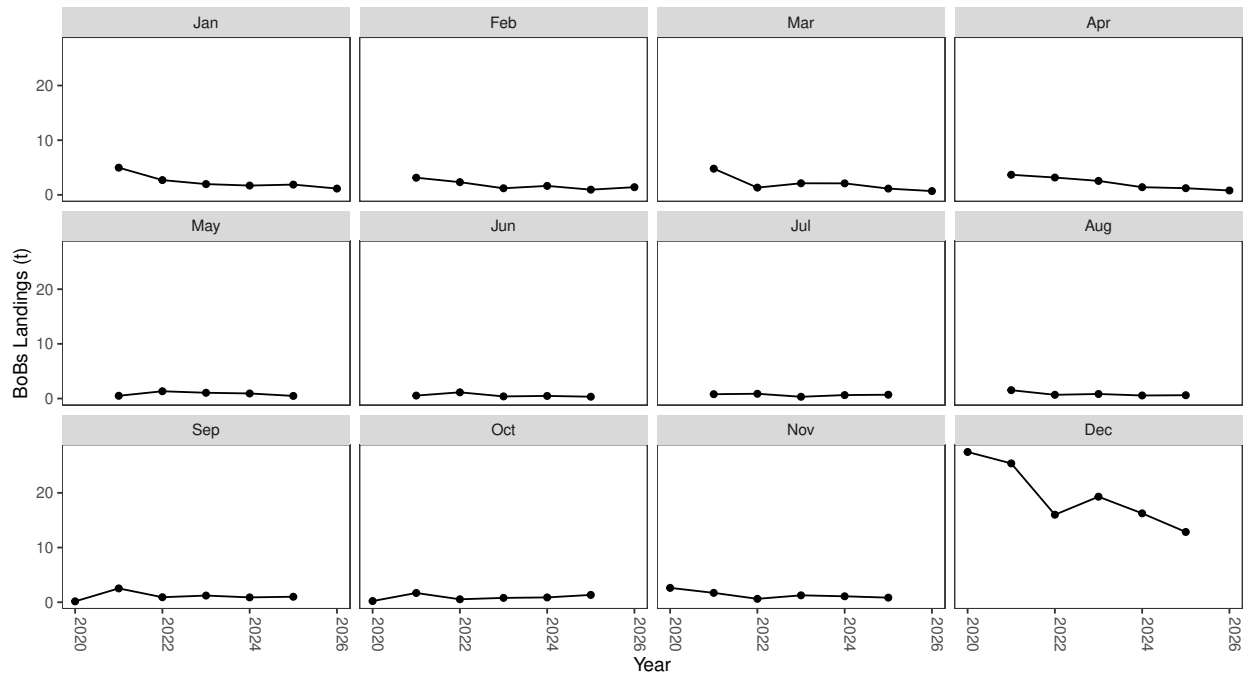
Year	Month	Weight.kg	Num_Lob	Num_Fisher	Av.Lob.Weight
2020	9	156.5	314	7	0.498
2020	10	211.1	403	7	0.524
2020	11	2623.5	3864	22	0.679
2020	12	27482.1	45496	61	0.604
2021	1	4976.1	8123	40	0.613
2021	2	3140	4953	28	0.634
2021	3	4789.9	8352	42	0.574
2021	4	3673.5	6243	32	0.588
2021	5	504.3	942	21	0.535
2021	6	541.6	1096	6	0.494
2021	7	794.5	1406	10	0.565
2021	8	1530.5	2774	16	0.552
2021	9	2528	4704	29	0.537
2021	10	1694.1	2879	31	0.588
2021	11	1712	2898	25	0.591
2021	12	25389.6	44228	43	0.574
2022	1	2701.9	4292	26	0.63
2022	2	2324.5	3777	24	0.615
2022	3	1323.8	2194	20	0.603

Year	Month	Weight.kg	Num_Lob	Num_Fisher	Av.Lob.Weight
2022	4	3170.8	5122	28	0.619
2022	5	1333.1	2099	18	0.635
2022	6	1138.4	1723	14	0.661
2022	7	875.8	1459	12	0.6
2022	8	685.1	1220	15	0.562
2022	9	915.1	1752	14	0.522
2022	10	540.1	930	16	0.581
2022	11	622.6	871	13	0.715
2022	12	16006.8	28815	35	0.556
2023	1	1972.2	3068	25	0.643
2023	2	1205.2	1917	23	0.629
2023	3	2122	3828	29	0.554
2023	4	2555.1	4355	40	0.587
2023	5	1055.8	1815	24	0.582
2023	6	392.4	721	11	0.544
2023	7	324.7	652	11	0.498
2023	8	834	1491	15	0.559
2023	9	1217.4	2398	20	0.508
2023	10	792.6	1448	21	0.547
2023	11	1261.5	2446	22	0.516
2023	12	19298.9	28108	40	0.687
2024	1	1702.5	2924	19	0.582
2024	2	1641.6	2785	25	0.589
2024	3	2104.7	3700	28	0.569
2024	4	1404.2	2772	22	0.507
2024	5	928.7	1606	16	0.578
2024	6	480.4	879	13	0.547
2024	7	635	1204	12	0.527
2024	8	559.6	1080	12	0.518
2024	9	887.3	1720	13	0.516
2024	10	876.7	1631	14	0.538
2024	11	1085.5	2135	21	0.508
2024	12	16252	25398	38	0.64
2025	1	1879.1	3071	23	0.612
2025	2	952	1656	19	0.575
2025	3	1148.8	1940	19	0.592
2025	4	1220.3	2344	14	0.521
2025	5	482.7	950	9	0.508
2025	6	336.8	656	9	0.513
2025	7	700	1279	13	0.547
2025	8	612.8	940	14	0.652
2025	9	1002.2	1659	17	0.604
2025	10	1337.7	2316	19	0.578
2025	11	838.7	1567	12	0.535
2025	12	12850.9	20113	29	0.639
2026	1	1156.6	1836	22	0.63
2026	2	1406.7	2455	19	0.573
2026	3	695	1259	15	0.552
2026	4	799.9	1415	17	0.565

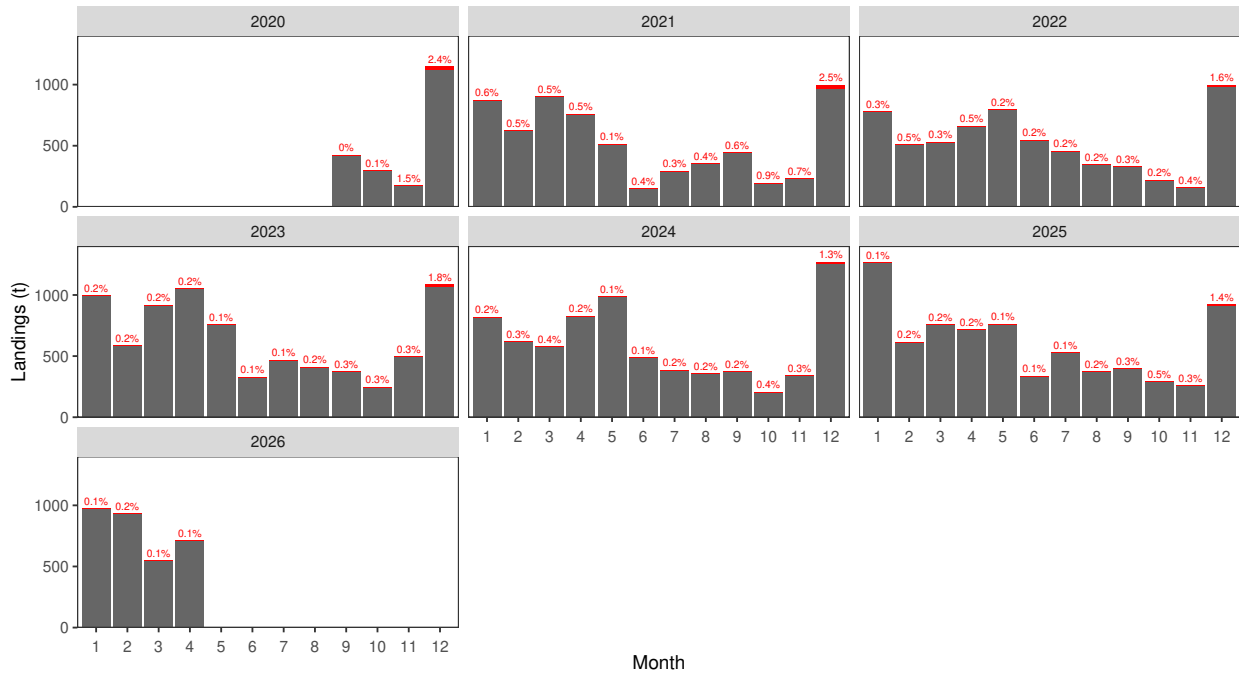
BoBS landings by year and month



BoBS landings by month

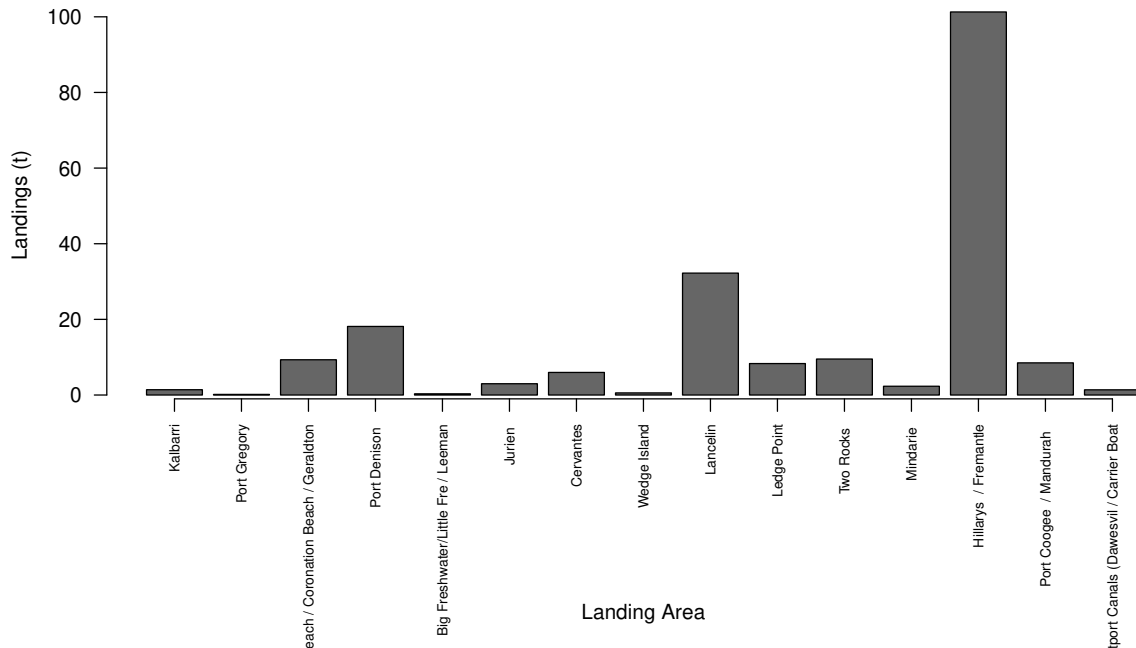


Proportion of Catch landed as BoBs split by year



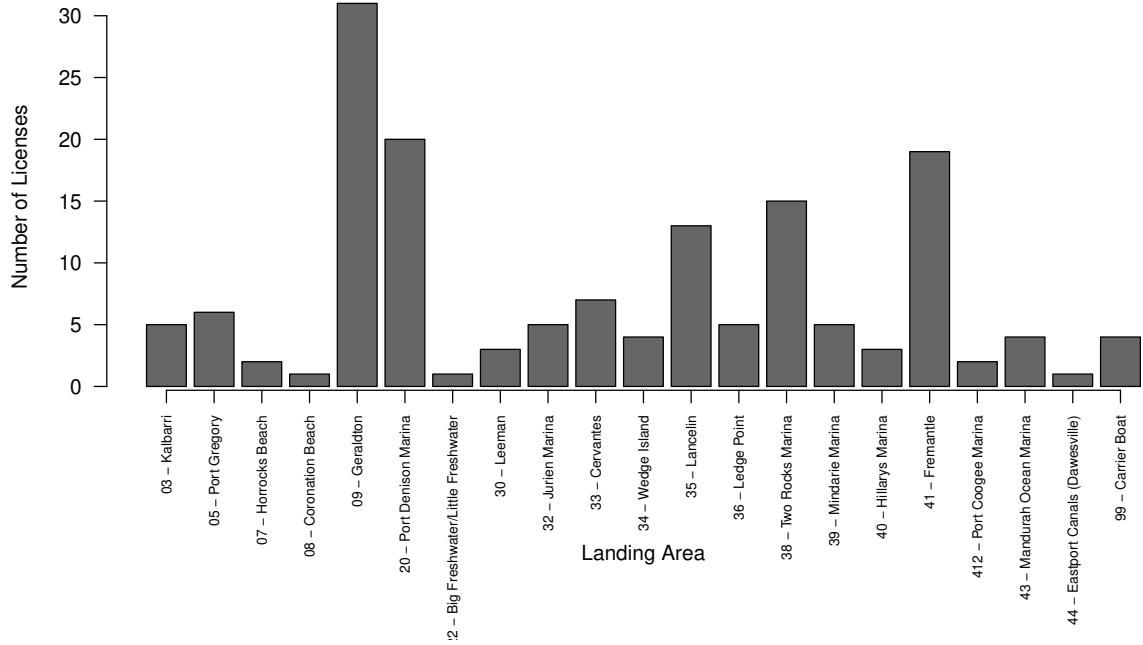
Registered receiver (grey) and BoBS (red) commercial catches by month. Numbers (red) indicate the percentage of catch for that month which was landed as BoBS lobsters.

Total BoBS Catch landed by Area (all months combined)

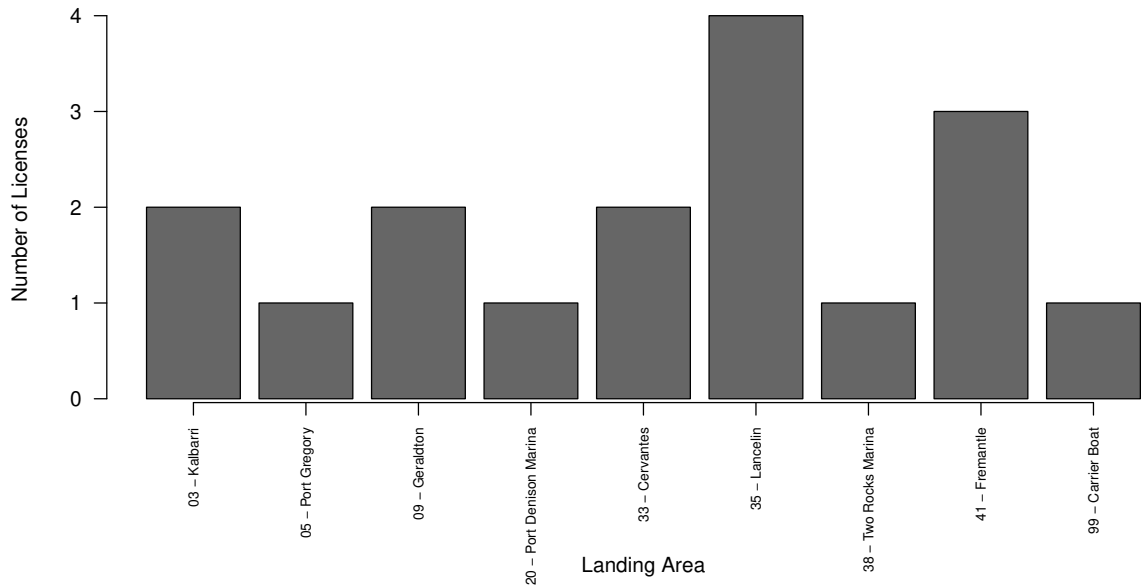


Note when the number of fishers landing catch is < 4 in a Landing Area their statistics have been combined with an adjacent area for confidentiality reasons.

Number of Vessels landing BoBS lobsters by Area



Number of Vessels landing BoBS lobsters by Area during April 2026



Number of licenses (vessels) landing BoBS by month and year.

