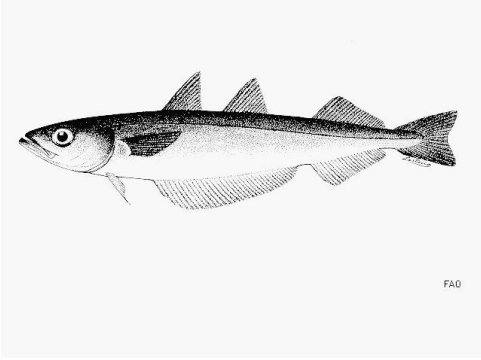


Southern blue whiting Campbell Island

Fishery: [📍 NZ Campbell Island \(SBW 6I\)](#) [🌐 New Zealand](#) [📄 Midwater trawls](#)

IDENTIFICATION



SCIENTIFIC NAME

Micromesistius australis

SPECIES NAME(S)

Southern blue whiting, New Zealand southern blue whiting

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

Besides being found around the southern tip of South America, Southern blue whiting (*Micromesistius australis*) is found on the southern shelf of New Zealand. There is occasional reference to two distinct subspecies – *Micromesistius australis pallidus* and *Micromesistius australis australis*.

Hanchet (1999) found significant differences in growth rates and morphometric characteristics among that groups 4 stocks; Auckland Islands (SBW 6A), Bounty Platform stock (SBW 6B), Campbell Island (SBW 6I) and Pukaki Rise (SBW 6R). He further indicated that these distinct groups, which are also separated by their use of distinct spawning grounds, should be treated as four biological stocks for assessment and management purposes (*Fisheries New Zealand 2019*).



RELATED LINKS:

- [NZ Ministry for Primary Industries \(MPI\)](#)
- [NZ Ministry for Primary Industries \(MPI\)](#)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

- Biomass is well above reference points targets and limits.
- Fishing mortality is low
- Managers set precautionary quotas.
- Reference points using a three-tiered method are in effect and are based around B0
- Quotas are well adhered to by the industry.
- Other measures such as sea lion excluding devices, and closed areas are also in effect.
- Overall environmental rating is positive, there are indications of low bycatch, low endangered, threatened and protected (ETP) species interactions, and little habitat damage by this fishery.
- Industry appears well engaged in sustainable management for this stock

Weaknesses

- Stock is highly recruitment driven with wide swings in population sizes as a result. This can make management challenging
- A new method for classifying New Zealand's marine habitat is being undertaken, and meanwhile, there is uncertainty as to how this will affect the classification of habitats identified as "high risk" under the previously used classification scheme (BOMEC), and whether the current BPA network sufficiently protects such areas.

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
≥ 8	10	10

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
10	10

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

No related MSC fisheries

RECOMMENDATIONS

RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

- Monitor the fishery and management system for any changes that could jeopardize MSC certification.