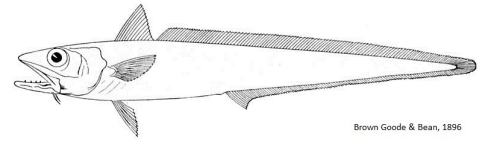


# Blue grenadier New Zealand Western

Fishery: New Zealand New Zealand Midwater trawls

## IDENTIFICATION



### SCIENTIFIC NAME

*Macruronus novaezelandiae*

### SPECIES NAME(S)

Blue grenadier, hoki

### STOCK IDENTIFICATION

The New Zealand hoki is a deepwater species that is distributed throughout the New Zealand coast, usually found at depths of 200-600 m (*Ministry for Primary Industries 2017*). The species is divided into two main biological stocks based on the two main spawning grounds: the eastern comprises the area of the East Coast of South Island, Mernoo Bank, Chatham Rise, Cook Strait and the East Coast of North Island up to North Cape and the western includes the west coast of the North and South Islands and the area south of New Zealand including Puysegur, Snares and the Southern Plateau (*Ministry for Primary Industries 2017*). However, there is still some uncertainty about the stock structure and this topic has been subject of recent studies (Ballara and Driscoll, 2014).



### RELATED LINKS:

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

## ASSESSMENT

### Strengths

- Stock assessment, scientific advice, TACC setting, monitoring/control/surveillance/enforcement (MCSE) and compliance are all consistent with best practices. Collaborative management by Deepwater Group Limited (DWG Ltd.) and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) strengthens compliance.
- Voluntary fishing closures of some spawning grounds by the industry should promote stock recovery.
- Several closure areas are established to protect spawning grounds, juveniles (Hoki Management Areas) and vulnerable habitats (Benthic Protected Areas) from trawling.
- Bycatch of protected species are identified, quantified and monitored yearly.
- Industry Operational Procedures for hoki trawling fisheries aims to protect smaller fish (<55 cm) and mitigate bycatch of marine mammals.
- The fishery has been certified by the Marine Stewardship Council since 2001.

### Weaknesses

- The current two stock model shows major uncertainties, with no one run able to provide quantitative advice, reference points, or stock status.
- Model runs are mixed on stock status. One run, in particular, shows the stock below its target biomass.
- Observer coverage in hoki fisheries has been decreasing in the last years.
- The influence of climate and oceanographic conditions on recruitment patterns is not known.
- Despite the introduction of some successful mitigation measures, the capture of seabirds, including some "high risk" species, continues to occur. Innovation with respect to mitigation is needed.
- 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 (BOMECE), 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
≥ 6	≥ 6

## FIPS

No related FIPs

## MSC

- New Zealand hoki:  
MSC Recertified
- New Zealand Deepwater Group hake, hoki, ling and southern blue whiting:  
MSC Certified

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

- Monitor fishery and management system for any changes that could jeopardize MSC certification.
- Support ongoing efforts to further mitigate the incidental capture of seabirds and New Zealand fur seals.
- Ensure benthic protected area network coverage is representative of all types of habitat classes.