




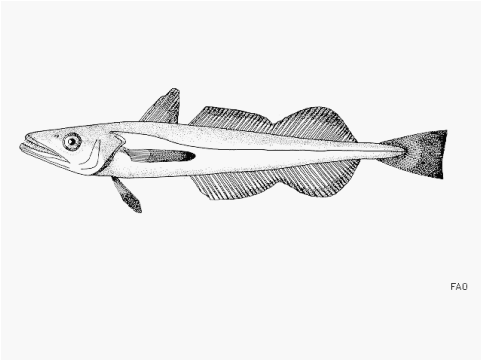
Fishery Profile
https://www.fishsource.org/fishery_page/4738

This profile last updated on 17 March 2019

Southern hake Patagonian

 Fishery:  Chile XI-XIII Industrial  Chile  Midwater trawls

IDENTIFICATION


SCIENTIFIC NAME
Merluccius australis
SPECIES NAME(S)

Southern hake

COMMON NAMES

Merluza austral (Spanish), Merluza del sur

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

Within the Patagonian distribution of the species, a distinct stock is described from the Chilean coast down to the southern tip of the continent (*IFOP 2018*). As only a small portion of its distribution lies within the Argentinian EEZ, the stock is managed and assessed by Chile.


RELATED LINKS:

- [Chilean Undersecretary of Fisheries and Aquaculture \(SUBPESCA\)](#)
- [Fisheries Development Institute \(Chile\) \(IFOP\)](#)

ASSESSMENT

Strengths

- This is a discrete population with clear boundaries that mostly don't go outside of the Chilean jurisdiction, which facilitates the management of this fishery.
- There is a management plan in place since 2016 with clear management objectives.
- There is a plan for the reduction of discards and bycatch in place since 2017, and good information on bycatch levels especially in the industrial fisheries.
- There is a seasonal fishing ban in August every year.

Weaknesses

- The resource is officially recognized as overexploited.
- The advisory board CCT-RDZSA (Scientific and Technical Committee for the Demersal Resources Zone South and Austral) recognized in the last advice (2017) that F should be reduced below F_{target} given the current status of the stock, but this proposal could not be adopted because the conditions of the Management Plan are binding. And the plan doesn't forecast a reduction of F at current levels of SSB (31% of SSB_0)
- Illegal and unreported fishing is officially recognized as a real problem for the stock by Subpesca (Subsecretary of Fisheries), the Management Authority..
- Fishing mortality rates have been above the recommended F_{MSY} .
- There is no detailed information on the impact of the fishing gears used to harvest southern hake on bottom habitats, although it is supposed to be low.

SCORES

Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
≥ 6	6.1	< 6

Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
7	6.5

FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

No related MSC fisheries

RECOMMENDATIONS

RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN

- Engage with authorities in prompt implementation of the approved management plan for the fishery.
- Ensure adequate reporting of catches (landing and discards) and bycatch, especially from the artisanal fleet operating in the fishery.
- Improve the regulatory compliance of the fishery to eliminate all IUU fishing, especially unreported landings by the artisanal fleet.