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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The twelfth trawl survey in a time series to estimate the relative biomass of hoki and other middle depth species on the Chatham Rise was completed in January 2003. Using a random stratified sampling design, 106 phase 1 stations and 9 phase 2 stations in core depths of 200-800 m were successfully completed. In addition 2 mid-water tows were carried out over a deepwater hill complex (the Andes) to the east of the survey area. The estimate of relative biomass of hoki in core depths was the lowest in the time series at 52 500 t, continuing the downward trend observed since 1996. The biomass of hoki 3 years and older was also very low. It seems that although the biomasses of the 1997, 1998 and 2000 year classes lie in the middle range observed within the time series, recruitment since 1995 has generally been lower than in the earlier part of the series, contributing to the downward trend in biomass.

The biomass of hake in core strata was also at the lowest in the survey series, continuing a downward trend observed since the surveys began, while the biomass of ling, although slightly lower, showed no overall trend.

Coefficients of variation (c.v.s) achieved for total hoki and hake were 8.7% and 15.5% respectively, considerably lower than the target c.v.s. Phase 2 stations to reduce the c.v. for 2+ hoki achieved a final c.v. of 15.1%, also lower than the target c.v.

Age frequency distributions of hake suggest low recruitment since the mid 1990s, while those of ling indicate moderate recruitment during the late 1990s.

It is clear from this year's survey that the downward trends in hoki and hake biomass have not slowed as yet. Lookdown dory, sea perch, and white warehou biomass estimates were lower than in 2002, breaking their upward trend. Spiny dogfish, and dark and pale ghost shark species showed little change from 2002, but silver warehou biomass has increased since 2001.

1. INTRODUCTION

In January 2003, the twelfth in a time series of annual random trawl surveys on the Chatham Rise to estimate relative abundance indices for hoki and a range of other middle depth species was completed. This and all previous surveys in the series were carried out from the research vessel *Tangaroa* and form the most comprehensive time series of species abundance in water depths of 200–800 m in New Zealand's 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone. The surveys followed a random stratified design, with stratification by depth and longitude across the Chatham Rise to ensure full coverage of the area. In 2003, the stratification used was the same as that in 2002 (Stevens & Livingston. 2003) in core depths of 200–800 m. Two additional tows were carried out on the Andes Hill complex to the east of the Chatham Rise to investigate reports of large hoki in midwater over bottom depths of 1000 m or more.

Previous surveys in this time series have been documented by Horn (1994a, 1994b), Schofield & Horn (1994), Schofield & Livingston (1995, 1996, 1997), Bagley & Hurst (1998), Bagley & Livingston (2000), and Stevens et al. (2001, 2002), Stevens & Livingston 2003). Trends in biomass and changes in catch and age distribution of 31 species from surveys between 1992 and 2001 were reviewed by Livingston et al. (2002). Hoki dominated the catches in every survey, and formed 53–66% of the total biomass from 1992 to 1997. By 2001, however, the proportion of hoki decreased to 29% as the biomass estimate dropped steadily from about 160 000 t in 1997 to 60 300 t in 2001 (Livingston et al. 2002). Hake, another priority species in this research programme, also showed a steady decline in biomass within the time series, while ling biomass was variable showing no trend (Livingston et al. 2002).

As well as abundance, the survey provided fishery-independent data on the population size structure of these species and their catch distribution across the Chatham Rise. Otoliths from a range of Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) species were collected for ageing and use in stock assessments (Annala et al. 2003). Other work carried out concurrently with the survey included acoustic data collection (Objective 3, below) and increased effort to collect adequate samples for identification of all organisms caught by the trawl (Objective 4, below). This year, we also piloted a change to the sampling of the catch protocol, partly as a result of a study that found length-weight relationships of 13 species in the survey series varied less than 10% from year to year (Appendix 1), and partly to improve work efficiency at sea. Details of the revised sampling protocol are given in the Methods section.

1.1 Project Objectives

The specific objectives for the project during 2002-2003 were as follows.

- 1. To continue the time series of relative abundance indices of recruited hoki (eastern stock), juvenile hoki (western and eastern stocks), hake (HAK 4), and other middle depth species on the Chatham Rise using trawl surveys. The survey design will be optimised for 2 year old hoki (target c.v. of 20 %) and recruited hoki (target c.v. of 20 %).
- 2. To determine the population proportions at age for hoki and hake on the Chatham Rise using otolith samples from the trawl survey.
- 3. To collect acoustic and related data during the trawl survey.
- 4. To collect and preserve specimens of unidentified organisms taken during the trawl survey.

2. METHODS

2.1 Survey area and design

As in previous years, the survey followed a two-phase random design (after Francis 1984). The main survey area, 200-800 m depths (Figure 1, top panel), was divided into the same strata used in 2002 (Stevens & Livingston 2003). Phase 1 station allocation was optimised to achieve a target c.v. of 20% for hake, with target c.v.s for 2+ hoki of 20% and recruited hoki of 15%. Stratum areas and catch rates from previous surveys in the series were used in a bootstrap simulation to allocate phase 1 stations to strata with high catch rates of key species, based on the same principle as the phase 2 station allocation of Francis (1984). We also compared allocation results from runs including all surveys to runs with selected surveys with strong year classes at 2 years old. Surprisingly, there was little change in the station allocation among strata, and little gain in terms of numbers of stations required to meet target c.v.s. We had, however, noticed that in recent years there has been a decline in the relative importance of western strata, and that phase 2 stations have been increasingly required in eastern strata. We therefore did a run on the last three surveys only and found that the optimal allocation under this scenario reduced the number of stations required in western strata, in particular, strata 16 and 17 (Figure 2). A minimum of 106 random stations was planned for phase 1, allowing for more phase 2 stations than previously. Time for a further 15 stations for phase 2 was retained to improve the c.v. for key species or hoki age classes if required.

All station positions were determined using the NIWA Random Stations Generation Program (version 1.6). Mid-tow positions were always separated by a minimum of 3 n. miles.

2.2 Vessel specifications

RV Tangaroa is a purpose-built research stern trawler with the following specifications: length overall, 70 m; beam, 14 m; gross tonnage, 2282 t; power, 3000 kW (4000 hp).

2.3 Gear specifications

The trawl gear was the same as that used on previous *Tangaroa* surveys in this series, i.e., an eight-seam hoki bottom trawl with a 58.8 m groundrope, 45 m headrope (see Hurst & Bagley 1994 for the net plan and rigging details), and a codend mesh size of 60 mm. It was rigged with 100 m long sweeps, 50 m bridles, and 12 m backstrops. The trawl doors were Super Vee type with an area of 6.1 m².

2.4 Trawling procedure

Stations for the biomass survey were carried out during daylight, i.e., between sunrise and sunset (earliest start time, 0435 h, latest finish time, 1849 h NZST). The gear did not get shot until downward micronekton and fish movements had stabilised at the beginning of the day, because there is evidence that the catchability of hoki is low before 0600 (Livingston et al. 2002). When time was running short at the end of the day, the vessel steamed towards the last station and the trawl gear was shot in time to ensure completion of the tow by sunset, as long as 5 n. miles or more of the distance between stations had been completed. At each station it was planned to tow for 3 n. miles at a speed of 3.5 knots over the ground. If a station occurred in an area of foul ground, then the area within 3 n. miles of that position was searched for suitable bottom. If suitable ground was not found, the station was abandoned and another random position chosen. If foul ground was encountered during trawling, the station was considered invalid if less than 2 n. miles of the tow had been covered during the tow. Tows less than 2 n. miles long were replaced with another random station in the same stratum. The average speed over the ground was calculated at the end of each tow.

The doorspread and headline height were recorded every 5 minutes during each tow (from the Scanmar system and either the Kaijo Denki or Furuno net monitor, respectively) and an average calculated. Gear configuration was maintained as consistently as possible during the survey and within the ranges described as optimal by Hurst et al. (1992). Gear configurations outside this range were identified by a gear performance code of 3, but these tows were considered for inclusion in the biomass analysis if, for example, the violation was less than 10%, or if the number of stations in a stratum was at the minimum.

2.5 Hydrology

Chatham Rise waters are characterised by the Subtropical Front (STF) that lies more or less west to east along the crest of the Rise. The precise location of the STF can be difficult to ascertain, although Subtropical Water to the north is typically warmer than the Subantarctic Water, which lies south of the STF. In this study, water temperature data collected from the surface and bottom were used to determine the location of these water masses during the survey. Surface temperatures were obtained at the start of each tow from a temperature sensor mounted on the hull at a depth of about 5 m. Temperatures at 5 m depth were also recorded from the Seabird CTD, before the gear moved down to the seabed. Bottom temperatures were obtained from the average of recordings taken every 5 minutes from the Seabird CTD mounted on the trawl headline about 6.5 m above the seabed during trawling. Surface and bottom temperatures were plotted to estimate isotherm characteristics of the Chatham Rise and ascertain which water masses were characterising the area during the survey. We also checked the satellite sea-surface temperature (SST) chart for January on the NIWA SST climate database for comparison, and temperature anomalies for January. The Seabird CTD generated temperature and salinity depth profiles for acoustic analysis.

2.6 Catch sampling and modified species selection

The catch at each station was sorted into species and weighed on motion-compensating electronic scales accurate to within \pm 0.3 kg. For large catches of mixed rattails, the weights of individual species were estimated by subsampling, i.e., a subsample was sorted and weighed by species and the total catch was scaled according to the percentage weight of each species in the subsample.

From each tow, samples of up to 200 hoki and 50-200 of other commercial species were randomly selected from the catch to measure length (to the nearest centimetre) and determine sex. Up to 20 specimens of hoki, hake, and ling were selected from the length frequency sample for detailed biological analysis and otolith removal. Data collected included length (to the nearest millimetre), weight, sex, gonad stage (if in maturing or spawning condition), and weight. As a result of work to examine annual variation in length-weight relationships (in Appendix 1), sampling for other species focused on obtaining length frequencies for a wide range of species (i.e., not only ITQ), while biological data collection was focused on species for which we had few data, or species that were relatively abundant in a given tow and would assist with the interpretation of acoustic data collected during the tow.

Length, weight, and sex data were collected from hoki, hake, and ling, and species for which there exist fewer than 500 specimens on the Trawl database. Species which are not well sampled within the depth range of the survey (e.g., shallow water species such as tarakihi, barracouta, mackerels, or deepwater species such as orange roughy and the oreos) were not weighed individually unless specifically requested by other research programmes. Mean length-weight relationships from all surveys combined were used to scale length frequency histograms by population number. Since there appears to be little annual variation in length-weight relationships (Appendix 1), we decided that a useful approach would be to rotate the collection of length and weight data so that this is monitored every second or third year for each species. Continued effort was put into collecting these data for non-commercial species to facilitate interpretation of acoustic recordings collected during and between tows (O'Driscoll 2002).

Otoliths from hoki and other middle depth species were routinely collected for other studies on age and growth. Hoki, hake, and ling otoliths were aged using the break and burn method of Horn & Sullivan (1996). Population estimates of numbers of fish at age were calculated by applying proportions at age in each 1 cm length class to the length frequency using software developed by NIWA (Wellington).

Data were entered in real time using the electronic data capture system aboard *Tangaroa* and were error checked at sea. Coefficients of variation (c.v.s) and biomass estimates were monitored for hoki, hake, ling, and individual size classes of hoki as the survey progressed.

2.7 Trawl survey data analysis

Relative abundance (i.e., biomass expressed as tonnes) was estimated by the area-swept method of Francis (1984, 1989) using valid stations only (i.e., gear performance of 1 or 2 only, except in unique circumstances such as those described at the end of Section 2.4). Coefficients of variation were calculated as a measure of the precision of the biomass estimates, as follows:

c.v.
$$(\%) = S_B / B \times 100$$

where S_B is the standard error of the biomass (B).

The catchability coefficient (an estimate of the proportion of fish in the survey area available to be caught in the net) is the product of vulnerability (v), vertical availability (u_v) , and areal availability (u_a) as defined by Francis (1989). These factors were all set to 1 in these analyses, assuming that fish were randomly distributed over the bottom within a stratum; fish distribution did not extend above the headline height of the net; all fish in the path of the doors were caught; and the herding effect of the doors, sweeps, and bridles was constant.

Length frequencies scaled to population estimates and biomass estimates were calculated using the Trawlsurvey Analysis Program, version 3.2 (Vignaux 1994). The data from each station were scaled by the percentage of the catch sampled (to represent each catch) and by the ratio of the area swept to stratum area (to represent the total population). A further correction (usually minor) was made to ensure that the biomass calculated from the scaled length frequencies equated to the biomass calculated from catch data. Total biomass and biomass by stratum for 1+, 2+, and 3++ (a plus group of hoki aged 3 years or more) age classes of hoki were also calculated using the Trawlsurvey Analysis Programme using length frequency data to estimate appropriate length ranges of each age class.

Catch rate distributions, length frequencies and numbers at age of hoki, hake, and ling were plotted as a full time series. Catch distributions and length frequencies for eight other key species (dark ghost shark, pale ghost shark, giant stargazer, lookdown dory, sea perch, silver warehou, spiny dogfish, white warehou) were plotted for this survey only. These species were selected because they are commercially important, and the trawl survey samples the main part of their depth distribution. Other species, such as black oreo, are also commercial and relatively abundant on these surveys, but their depth distribution extends well beyond that sampled by the survey and the data are not representative of the full population.

The relative biomass estimates from the entire time series were plotted for hoki, hake, ling and the other eight key species listed above, to indicate trends and variability in the abundance indices.

2.8 Midwater sampling

During the course of the survey, we sampled the Andes hill complex lying east of the Chatham Rise in deepwater just outside the survey area (Figure 2) using a Spaghetti Midwater Trawl (NIWA Net Reference No. 119; net plan available from NIWA Vessel Company on request). Anecdotal reports from fishing industry personnel have indicated that, at times, large hoki can be caught in commercial quantities in mid-water near these hills. Two tows were carried out 'blind' (i.e., without predetermining the presence or otherwise of suitable marks). As the tows progressed, trawl position in the water column was adjusted to ensure that marks at 500–700 m were sampled. The first tow (station 049) was about 45 minutes duration, and the second (station 050) just 30 minutes. The catch was identified and weighed. All hoki were sexed, measured, and weighed, had the otoliths removed for ageing and the stomach contents recorded.

2.9 Acoustics

2.9.1 Acoustic data collection

Acoustic data were collected during trawling and while steaming between trawl stations (both day and night) using a custom-built *CREST* system (Coombs et al. 2003) with hull-mounted Simrad single-beam 12 and 38-kHz transducers. *CREST* is a computer-based "software echo-sounder" which supports multiple channels. The transmitter was a switching type with a nominal power output of 2 kW rms. Transmitted pulse length was 1 ms with 3 s between transmits. The *CREST* receiver has a broadband, wide dynamic range pre-amplifier and serial analog-to-digital converters (ADCs), which feed a digital signal processor (DSP56002). Data from the ADCs were complex demodulated, filtered, and a 20 log *R* time-varied gain was applied. The results were then shifted to give 16-bit resolution in both the real and imaginary terms and the complex data stored for later processing. The 38-kHz transducer was calibrated before the survey following standard procedures (Foote et al. 1987). The 12-kHz transducer was not calibrated. Data collected on 12 kHz were used only to make visual comparisons with 38-kHz data and were not analysed quantitatively.

2.9.2 Acoustic data analysis

All acoustic recordings made during the trawl survey were visually examined. Marks were classified into eight categories based on the relative depth of the mark in the water column, mark orientation (surface-or bottom-referenced), mark structure (layers, schools, or single targets), and the relative strength of the mark on 38 kHz and 12 kHz. Descriptive statistics were produced on the frequency of occurrence of different marks. Brief descriptions of the eight marks types are given below. Example echograms were produced by Cordue et al. (1998), Bull (2000), and O'Driscoll (2001a, 2001b).

1. Surface layers

These occurred within the upper 100 m of the water column and tended to be stronger on 12 kHz than on 38 kHz.

2. Pelagic layers

Surface-referenced midwater layers which were typically continuous for more than 1 km and much stronger on 12 kHz than on 38 kHz. This category is equivalent to "Type A" marks of Bull (2000).

3. Pelagic schools

Well defined schools in midwater which appear as crescents on 12 kHz. Equivalent to "bullet" marks of Cordue et al. (1998) and Bull (2000).

4. Pelagic clouds

Surface-referenced midwater marks which were more diffuse and dispersed than pelagic layers, typically over 100 m thick with no clear boundaries.

5. Bottom layers

Bottom-referenced layers which were continuous for more than 1 km and were generally stronger on 38 kHz than on 12 kHz. Equivalent to "Type B" marks of Bull (2000) and "Type 1" marks of Cordue et al. (1998).

6. Bottom clouds

Bottom-referenced marks which were more diffuse and dispersed than bottom layers with no clear upper boundary.

7. Bottom schools

Distinct schools close to the bottom. These appear as crescents on 12 kHz and are equivalent to "Type C" marks of Bull (2000).

Single targets

Inverted U-shaped single targets visible on 38 kHz close to the bottom.

A quantitative analysis was also carried out to compare acoustic backscatter from bottom-referenced marks with trawl catch rates. Acoustic data collected on 38-kHz during each tow (corrected for the lag of the trawl behind the vessel based on warp length and water depth) were integrated using custom Echo Sounder Package (ESP2) software (McNeill 2001) to calculate the mean acoustic backscatter per kilometre squared. Two values of acoustic backscatter were calculated for each trawl. The first estimate was based an integration height of 10 m above the acoustic bottom, which was similar to the measured headline height of the trawl (average 7.0 m). The second acoustic estimate integrated all backscatter from the bottom up to the maximum height of the bottom referenced mark or 100 m, but excluded all other mark types. Raw acoustic density estimates (backscatter per km²) were then compared with trawl catch rates (kg per km²). No attempt was made to scale acoustic estimates by target strength, correct for differences in catchability, or carry out species decomposition, as was done for the 2001 and 2002 surveys (O'Driscoll 2002).

3. RESULTS

3.1 2003 survey coverage

The survey successfully sampled all strata, with a total of 115 used for biomass estimation out of 120 bottom stations completed (4 stations were deemed non-valid because headline parameters were outside the normal range, and 1 station came fast). Of the 115 valid biomass stations, 106 were from phase 1 of the survey and 9 were from phase 2. Three phase 2 stations were allocated to each of strata 15, 16, and 19 to improve the c.v. for 2+ hoki. The station distribution is shown in Figure 1 (lower panel), and the final tally of valid stations completed versus those originally planned per stratum is given in Table 1. An additional two exploratory midwater tows were carried out outside the survey area. Individual station data, including non-valid tows, foul tows, and midwater tows are given in Appendix 2.

The dates of the trawl survey were within the time frame covered in previous years (Table 2). Doorspread readings were recorded from 102 of the 115 valid biomass stations (Table 3). The missing readings were filled with mean values from the appropriate depth zones obtained during the survey.

Station density ranged from 1:288 in stratum 17 (200–400 m, Veryan Bank) to 1:3772 km² in stratum 4 (600–800 m, south Chatham Rise). Mean station density for core strata was 1:1303, and over the full survey area was 1:1335 km².

3.2 Gear performance

Gear configuration for valid biomass tows was relatively constant over the 200-800 m depth range. Mean doorspread measurements by 200 m depth intervals ranged from 115.2 to 122.7 m and mean headline height ranged from 6.4 to 6.7 m, and were all within the optimal range (Hurst et al. 1992) (Table 3).

3.3 Hydrology

Surface and bottom temperatures were recorded throughout the survey. The results indicated that the hull-mounted sensor was reading about 0.5–1.0 °C above the CTD temperatures near the surface. The surface temperatures plotted (Figure 2 top panel) are those from the CTD (as these recordings were considered more reliable) and ranged from 13.0 to 16.5 °C. Bottom temperatures, also from the CTD, ranged from 5.3 to 11.1 °C (Figure 2, bottom panel).

As in previous years, higher surface temperatures were associated with Subtropical Water to the north. Lower temperatures were associated with Sub-Antarctic Water to the south. Higher bottom temperatures were generally associated with shallower depths to the north of the Chatham Islands and to the east of the Mernoo Bank. The location of the STF, typically determined by close isotherms at the surface, was ill defined during this survey (Figure 2). Our interpretation is that a tongue of cool water projected north in the Mernoo Gap, with the edge of the STF passing south of Mernoo Bank.

3.4 Catch composition

One hundred and ninety-four species or species groups were recorded from the 115 valid biomass tows. The total catch was 116.2 t, of which 38.2 t (32.9%) was hoki, 6.9 t (5.9%) was black oreo, 6.5 t (5.6%) was javelinfish, 4.4 t (3.8%) was big-eye rattail, 9.9 t (8.5%) was dark ghost shark, and 3.7 t (3.1%) was ling (Table 4).

Of the 194 species or species groups identified, there were 104 teleosts, 27 elasmobranchs, 17 crustaceans, and 8 cephalopods, the remainder consisting of assorted benthic and pelagic organisms. A full list of species caught, and the number of stations at which they occurred, is given in Appendix 3. A number of benthic invertebrates are awaiting formal identification.

3.5 Biomass estimates

Relative biomasses, with c.v.s for hoki, hake, and ling well within target levels, were estimated for 52 species (Table 4). Phase 2 stations resulted in a c.v. of 15.5% for 2+ hoki (2000 year class). High c.v.s (over 20%) occurred when species were not well sampled by the gear, for example, silver warehou and alfonsino are pelagic and exhibit strong schooling behaviour. Others, such as smooth oreo and barracouta, have high c.v.s as they are mainly distributed outside the survey depth range.

The combined biomass for 52 species in core strata (Table 4) in 2003 was lower than in 2002, and close to that of 2000 (Figure 3, top panel). Hoki biomass was lower than in 2002, but as in previous years, it was the most abundant species caught (Table 4). As a proportion of the total biomass, hoki remained at a similar level to 2001 and 2002 (Figure 3, lower panel). Black oreo, dark ghost shark, silver warehou, ling, sea perch, pale ghost shark, barracouta, white warehou, giant stargazer, and smooth oreo were the next most abundant species after hoki, each with an estimated biomass over 1500 t. The most abundant commercial non-ITQ species were spiny dogfish, lookdown dory, shovelnose dogfish, and Ray's bream (all biomasses greater than 1500 t). A substantial biomass of non-commercial species, primarily javelinfish and other rattails, was also estimated (Table 4).

The downward trend in hoki biomass continued in 2003, with an estimated value of 52 500 t (Table 5). The decrease in hoki biomass was due to below average recruitment of 1+ fish (2001 year class), and a substantial drop in the biomass of fish aged 3 years and over (3++) (Table 6). The weak 199 year class moving into the plus group would have added little to the already relatively weak recruitment observed in preceding years. Hake and ling biomass were also lower than in 2002 (see Table 4).

It is clear from this year's survey that the downward trends in hoki and hake biomass have not slowed as yet. Lookdown dory, sea perch, and white warehou biomass estimates were lower than in 2002, breaking their upward trend. Spiny dogfish, dark and pale ghost shark species showed little change from 2002, while silver warehou biomass has increased since 2001 (Figure 4).

3.6 Catch distribution

Hoki

In the 2003 survey, hoki were caught at 111 of the 115 valid biomass stations, but the highest catch rates were in shallow strata (200–400 m) along the crest of the Rise, reflecting the relatively high proportion of 2+ fish this year (compare Figures 5a and 5b). The highest individual station catch rate of hoki in 2003 occurred on the Reserve Bank (stratum 19) and comprised mainly 2+ fish. The distribution of this age class was skewed towards western strata (Figure 5b). The weak 1+ year class was more abundant in the shallow strata (200–400 m) and most of the 1+ biomass occurred in strata 17 and 19 (Figure 5a, Tables 7 and 8). Relatively large numbers of 2+ hoki were caught, mixed in with schools of a few 1+ hoki, in strata 17–20 (Figure 5c). Older hoki in the 3++ plus group were distributed in 400–800 m depths throughout the survey area, but catch rates were higher in the west in stratum 15 (Figure 5c).

As hoki catch rates have declined, catch distribution patterns have changed. In early years, catch rates of hoki were higher in western strata, particularly the 1+ and 2+ age classes. Older fish were generally more evenly distributed, although during the 1992 and 1993 surveys, large catches of 3++ hoki were also taken in the western strata (Livingston et al. 2002). From 2000 to 2002, catches of older hoki were skewed more to the east, but in 2003, the distribution was more even again (Figure 5c).

Hake

In 2003 catch rates of hake were low, with the highest catch rates northwest of the Chatham Islands where hake spawn at this time of year, and strata at the west of Mernoo Bank (Figure 6). Strata 10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11c, and 11d near the Chatham Islands contributed 27% of hake biomass, and strata 7 and 16, west of Mernoo Bank, contributed 34% (Tables 7 and 8). The highest catch rates of hake were from stratum 7 at Mernoo Bank and stratum 11c in the hake spawning area. Few hake were taken at depths of 200–400 m. The decline in hake catch rates over the time series is seen in Figure 6, and, since 2000, almost no hake have been caught along the south side of the survey area.

Ling

Catches of ling were caught fairly evenly in most strata over the Chatham Rise between 200 and 600 m in the 2003 survey, with the exception of strata 18, 19, 20, and 9 which had very low catches of ling (Figure 7). The largest catch was taken in stratum 16, southwest of Memoo Bank. Ling distribution has been reasonably consistent, and catch rates have remained relatively stable over the time series.

Other species

As with previous surveys, lookdown dory, spiny dogfish, pale ghost shark, and giant stargazer were widely distributed across the survey area and taken in large quantities at depths of 200-600 m (Figure 8). Big-eye rattail, Oliver's rattail, and javelinfish (not shown) were also widely distributed but generally taken in water deeper than 400 m. Sea perch were more concentrated in strata east of Mernoo Bank than usual. Dark ghost shark occurred mainly in 200-400 m depths with the largest catch again taken in stratum 17 on Veryan Bank. Silver warehou and white warehou were patchily distributed and

predominantly taken at depths of 200-400 m, with occasional large catches taken from stratum 19, east of the Memoo Bank (Figure 8 and Tables 8, 9).

3.7 Biological data

3.7.1 Species sampled

The number of species and the number of samples for which length and detailed biological data were collected are given in Table 9. This was largely due to the additional data required to interpret acoustic recordings.

3.7.2 Length frequencies and age distributions

Length-weight relationships used in the Trawlsurvey Analysis Program to scale length frequencies are given in Table 10. The length and age frequencies shown represent the population structure, as sampled by the bottom trawl, for the survey area in 2003.

Hoki

The 2+ age class of hoki (48-60 cm TL) dominated scaled length frequencies and age frequencies in the 2003 survey (Figures 9 and 10). Numbers of 1+ hoki (less than 52 cm TL) were very low.

The decline in biomass over time is reflected in the decline of the number of older hoki within the time series. Intermittent recruitment pulses dominate length frequencies and numbers at age over the time series (Figures 9 & 10). Although recruitment was above average in the 1997, 1998, and 2000, the numbers of fish at age in these year classes are considerably lower than observed in the pulse of strong recruitment observed in 1991–94 (Figures 9 & 10). Recruitment of the 2001 year class was below average.

Hake

Hake scaled length frequencies and calculated numbers at age (Figures 11 and 12) comprise mainly medium to large individuals of at least 7 years of age corresponding to juvenile recruitment to the survey area during the mid 1990s. The time series does not appear to be a particularly good indicator of 1+ and 2+ age class strength and may be indicative of reduced selectivity or later recruitment from outside the survey area. Juvenile recruitment to the survey area has been very poor for the last 3 years.

Ling

In contrast to hake, ling scaled length frequencies and calculated numbers at age comprise mainly medium sized individuals of 4–8 years, which corresponds to several years of strong recruitment during the late 1990s (Figures 13 and 14). The time series is a poor indicator of 1+ and 2+ age class strength and, like hake, may be indicative of reduced selectivity or availability in the survey area.

Other species

Length frequency distributions for sea perch, silver warehou, and white warehou indicate that males grow to a similar maximum size, and have a similar distribution to females (Figure 15). In 2003, 1+ silver warehou (about 30 cm) were relatively weak compared with the 2+ cohort (40 cm), while white warehou length frequencies showed the reverse distribution (Figure 15). The length frequency distribution of sea perch was bimodal, with peaks at about 23 and 30 cm corresponding to fish aged about 5 and 10 years respectively (Paul & Francis 2002). Most of the alfonsino and oreos caught (not shown) were also pre-recruits.

Length frequencies of lookdown dory, giant stargazer, spiny dogfish, dark ghost shark, and pale ghost shark indicate that females grow larger than males. It unclear if modal peaks correspond to individual year classes in the length frequencies of these species (Figure 15).

3.7.3 Reproductive status

Gonad stages of hake, hoki, ling, sea perch, and small numbers of other species are summarised in Table 11. Hoki were either resting or immature; 43% of male adult hake were running ripe, but few females were showing signs of reproductive activity this year. Adult ling showed a few males (6%) and females (less than 1%) had developed gonads, and also in contrast with 2002, very few sea perch were spawning in 2003 (Table 11). Adults of most other species were resting.

3.7.4 Sex ratios

Overall sex ratios calculated from male and female population numbers given on length frequency histograms (Figures 9a, 9b, 11a, 11b, 13a, 13b, 15) were 1:1.3 (males to females) for hoki, with more females 1:1.5 at 400–600 m, increasing to 1:4.2 at 600–800 m. Female hake are also found in greater numbers than males, whereas male ling tend to be more abundant than females. Sex ratios were about even for most other species, except spiny dogfish, which were also predominantly female (sex ratios exceeded 1:1.5).

3.8 Midwater tows

Both tows caught almost clean catches of large hoki, with a few Ray's bream and todarodes squid. The length frequencies (unscaled) and age composition of the midwater samples show that these hoki were relatively large (most over 85 cm TL, Figure 16) and were mostly from the relatively strong 1991—94 year classes and 1987–88 year classes (Figure 17).

3.9 Description of acoustic mark types

A total of 233 acoustic data files (123 "trawl" files and 110 "steam" files) were recorded during the trawl survey. The frequency of occurrence of each of the eight mark categories is given in Table 12. Often several types of mark were present in the same echogram. Data were subdivided into three depth ranges (200-400 m, 401-600 m, 601-1000 m) based on the maximum depth observed during the acoustic file.

Pelagic layers were the most common daytime mark type, occurring in 97% of day steam files and 85% of trawl files (Table 12). Midwater trawling on previous Chatham Rise surveys suggests that pelagic layers contain mesopelagic fish species, such as pearlsides (Maurolicus australis) and myctophids (McClatchie & Dunford 2003). These mesopelagic species migrate vertically, rising in the water column and dispersing during the night, turning into pelagic clouds and surface layers. Surface layers were observed in all night recordings and most day echograms. The identity of organisms in surface layers is unknown, because few trawls have been carried out close to the surface on the Chatham Rise. Acoustic scattering is probably contributed by a number of pelagic zooplankton (including gelatinous organisms such as salps) as well as mesopelagic fish. Pelagic schools were observed in 55% of day steam files and 85% of trawl files (Table 12). Cordue et al. (1998) suggested that pelagic schools or "bullets" were associated with Ray's bream, but it is likely that the schools themselves are mesopelagic fish, on which Ray's bream feed.

Bottom layers were observed in 83% of day steam files, 47% of trawl files, and 30% of night steam files (Table 12). Like pelagic layers, bottom layers tended to disperse at night, to form bottom clouds. Bottom layers and clouds were usually associated with a mix of demersal fish species, but probably also contain mesopelagic species when these occur close to the bottom (O'Driscoll 2002). There was often mixing of bottom layers and pelagic layers, particularly when the seabed rose or fell. Bottom-referenced schools were present in 22–24% of daytime (trawl and steam) recordings, and were most abundant in 200–400 m water depth (Table 12). Bottom schools 10–40 m off the bottom were sometimes associated with large catches of 1+ and 2+ hoki (e.g., trawls 107 and 108). Single target echoes close to the bottom were observed in almost all (74–96%) files, regardless of depth or time of day (Table 12). Single targets usually occurred in the same echogram as other mark types, making identification of the species responsible for the single target echoes difficult, and probably consist of low densities of demersal fish.

A comparable summary, using the same mark categories, was given by O'Driscoll & Bagley (2003) for the 2002 Sub-Antarctic trawl survey. Pelagic layers and clouds were observed less frequently, and were less dense, in the Sub-Antarctic than on the Chatham Rise, but pelagic schools were more common in the Sub-Antarctic. This may reflect differences in the mesopelagic fish fauna between the two areas. The frequency of occurrence of bottom-referenced marks was similar in the Sub-Antarctic and Chatham Rise, although the species composition varied. For example, bottom-referenced schools were often associated with southern blue whiting in the Sub-Antarctic, whereas on the Chatham Rise bottom schools appeared to contain mainly juvenile hoki and silver warehou.

3.9.1 Comparison of acoustics with bottom trawl catches

Acoustic data from 117 trawl files were integrated and compared with trawl catch rates. Data from the other six trawl recordings were not included in the analysis because the acoustic data were too noisy or because the trawl was not considered suitable for biomass estimation. Average acoustic backscatter from bottom-referenced regions and trawl catch rates (for all species combined) in 2003 were similar to 2001 and 2002 (Table 13). There was a very weak (rho = 0.16-0.18), but statistically significant, positive correlation between acoustic backscatter and trawl catch rates (Figure 18). However, the observed acoustic backscatter in the bottom 10 m was 15.3 times higher on average than predicted from trawl catches, where predicted values were based on measured trawl densities and estimated acoustic target strength. The ratio of trawl:acoustic vulnerability is probably high because of low trawl catchability and the acoustic contribution of small mesopelagic species which are not caught by the trawl (O'Driscoll 2002, 2003).

3.9.2 Acoustic recordings during exploratory midwater trawls

Acoustic data were recorded during the two exploratory midwater trawls on the Andes hill complex. Data quality was poor because the acoustic system was not set up to record to depths greater than 1000 m and the bottom tracking function failed. However, it was possible to see the hoki layer at 550-650 m depth (Figure 19). Densities in this layer were very low. Assuming all acoustic backscatter was from hoki, and with an average hoki length of 91 cm, the peak density of hoki in the layer estimated from acoustics was 0.000805 fish m⁻³, which is equivalent to one hoki every 1240 m³ of water. This compares to peak acoustic densities of up to 0.25 hoki m⁻³ (one fish every 4 m³) in spawning schools.

4. DISCUSSION

The 2003 survey successfully continued the January *Tangaroa* time series with a total of 115 valid biomass tows, and 2 exploratory midwater tows completed. No days were lost to bad weather.

The survey c.v. of 11.6% achieved for adult hoki was below the target level of 15%. The c.v. of 15.5% for hake and of 15.1% for 2 year old hoki were both below the target of 20%.

The estimated total biomass of hoki was 30% lower than on the previous survey, mainly as a result of weak recruitment in the 1+ cohort, and weak year classes now dominating the 3++ group. Further, as the midwater tows have shown, fish older than about 7 years are not necessarily found within the core survey area. Two samples do not provide a robust indication of hoki occurrence in midwater generally, but they nevertheless confirm anecdotal industry reports that hoki can be caught over deepwater at times, and may have some implications in estimating priors on the availability of hoki within the survey area for the stock assessment model (Annala et al. 2003). The total hoki biomass was at its lowest level within the overall time series.

The biomass of hake in core strata was also lower than on the 2002 survey and remains at the lowest level since the time series began in 1992. Although the trawl survey does not appear to sample 1–2 year old hake well, recruitment since 1998 has been poor compared with 1993–97.

The biomass of ling in core strata was also low compared with 2002, but there is no obvious trend within the time series. Although the trawl survey does not sample 1-3 year old ling well, a peak at age 4-7 years shows that there has been good recruitment in recent years.

Although overall biomass was down compared with 2002, it was within the previously observed range, and was close to that estimated in 1995, 1998, 2000, and 2001.

5. CONCLUSIONS

The survey in 2003 extended the time series into its twelfth year and provided comparable abundance indices for hoki, hake, and ling that have been used for stock assessment. The continued decline in biomass trends for both hoki and hake was disappointing, but unless stronger recruitment is seen in the next few years, the biomass of these species may decline further at current rates of exploitation.

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Table 1: Stratum description and valid stations completed. (-, no stations.)

							Station
Stratum	Depth	Location	Area		Number of	stations	density
	(m)		(km²)	Phase 1	Phase 2	Total	(km²)
1	600-800	NW Chatham Rise	2 439	3	_	3	1:813
2a	600-800	NW Chatham Rise	3 253	3	_	3	1:1 084
2b	600-800	NE Chatham Rise	8 503	3	-	3	1:2 834
3	200-400	Matheson Bank	3 499	3	_	3	1:1 166
4	600-800	SE Chatham Rise	11 315	3	_	3	1:3 772
5	200-400	SE Chatham Rise	4 078	3	-	3	1:816
6	600-800	SW Chatham Rise	8 266	3	-	3	1:2755
7	400–600	NW Chatham Rise	5 233	6	-	6	1:654
8a	400-600	NW Chatham Rise	3 286	3	_	. 3	1:1 095
8b	400–600	NW Chatham Rise	5 722	4	_	4	1:1 144
9	200-400	NE Chatham Rise	5 136	7	_	7	1:1 284
10a	400-600	NE Chatham Rise	2 958	3	_	3	1:1 479
10b	400–600	NE Chatham Rise	3 363	3	_	3	1:1 121
lla	400–600	NE Chatham Rise	2 966	3	_	3	1:989
11b	400–600	NE Chatham Rise	2 072	3	_	3	1:691
11c	400600	NE Chatham Rise	3 342	3	_	3	1:1 114
11d	400–600	NE Chatham Rise	3 368	3	_	. 3	1:1 123
12	400-600	SE Chatham Rise	6 578	3	_	3	1:1 645
13	400-600	SE Chatham Rise	6 681	3	_	3	1:1 670
14	400-600	SW Chatham Rise	5 928	3	_	. 3	1:1 976
15	400600	SW Chatham Rise	5 842	3	3	6	1:1 168
16	400-600	SW Chatham Rise	11 522	3	3	6	1:1 047
17	200-400	Veryan Bank	865	4	-	4	1:288
18	200-400	Mernoo Bank	4 687	8	_	8	1:521
19	200-400	Reserve Bank	9 012	10	3	13	1:2 253
20	200–400	Reserve Bank	9 584	10		10	1:1 597
Total	200-1000		139 498	106	9	115	1:1 213

Table 2. Survey dates and number of valid stations in surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992-2003.

Start date	End date	No. of valid stations
28 Dec 1991	1 Feb 1992	184
30 Dec 1992	6 Feb 1993	194
2 Jan 1994	31 Jan 1994	162
4 Jan 1995	27 Jan 1995	122
27 Dec 1995	14 Jan 1996	. 89
2 Jan 1997	24 Jan 1997	103
3 Jan 1998	21 Jan 1998	91
3 Jan 1999	26 Jan 1999	100
27 Dec 1999	22 Jan 2000	128
28 Dec 2000	25 Jan 2001	119
5 Jan 2002	25 Jan 2002	107
29 Dec 2002	21 Jan 2003	115

Table 3: Tow and gear parameters by depth range for valid biomass stations. Values shown are sample size (n), and for each parameter the mean, standard deviation (s.d.), and range.

	n	Mean (m)	s.d.	Range
Tow parameters				_
Tow length (n. miles)	115	3.0	0.19	2.01-3.24
Tow speed (knots)	115	3.5	0.10	3.2-3.8
Gear parameters		•		
200–400 m				
Headline height	48	. 6.5	0.37	5.8-7.4
Doorspread	45	115.2	5.42	104.0-124.9
400–600 m				
Headline height	52	6.4	0.33	5.77.0
Doorspread	44	120.1	4.82	108.7-129.4
600–800 m				
Headline height	15	6.7	0.40	6.07.5
Doorspread	13	122.7	5.95	108.1-128.2
All stations 200–800 m				
Headline height	115	6.5	0.37	5.7-7.5
Doorspread	102	118.3	5.94	104.0-129.4
Midwater stations				
Headline height				
Doorspread	3	115.0	0.19	2.01-3.24

Table 4: Catch (kg) and total biomass (t) estimates (also by sex) with coefficient of variation (c.v.), of ITQ species, other commercial species, and major non-commercial species, 200-800 m depth. Total biomass includes unsexed fish. (-, no data.)

								Biomass
Common name	Code	Catch		Male		Female		Total
		kg	t	c.v. (%)	t	c.v. (%)	t	c.v. (%)
ITQ species							•	
Hoki	HOK	38 207	21 853	13.7	30 643	10.5	52 531	11.6
Black oreo	BOE	6 855	15 485	21.2	16 004	23.4	31 489	22.3
Dark ghost shark	GSH	9 866	4 529	10.3	5 903	8.7	10 431	9.1
Silver warehou	SWA	6 642	4 115	77.3	3 699	71.2	7 815	74.3
Ling	LIN	3 747	. 3 427	13.1	3 834	9.6	7 261	9.9
Sea perch	SPE	4 623	3 886	9.4	2 928	8.7	6 904	8.1
Pale ghost shark	GSP	1 919	2 297	14.4	2 352	13.4	4 653	12.1
Barracouta	BAR	1 845	2 154	53.3	1 533	43.2	3 696	47.1
White warehou	WWA	2 741	2 063	33.9	1 621	33.4	3 685	33.5
Giant stargazer	STA	1 583	735	24.6	1 443	14.2	2 178	14.8
Smooth oreo	SSO	476	989	79.1	865	83.8	1 853	81.3
Spiky oreo	SOR	374	596	25.1	579	25.1	1 180	24.9
Alfonsino	BYS	883	579	36.5	568	42.5	1 151	38.7
Hake	HAK	470	207	19.0	681	17.8	888	15.5
Red cod	RCO	737	332	57.4	475	58.5	809	57.6
Tarakihi	TAR	423	415	45.3	218	49.1	633	36.1
Ribaldo	RIB	208	254	21.2	201	26.7	455	18.1
Hapuku	HAP	280	186	55.6	153	56.4	340	54.1
Orange roughy	ORH	74	130	99.3	161	94.8	292	96.6
Arrow squid	NOS	192	112	19.7	123	30.9	245	23.9
School shark	SCH	107	58	48.3	63	71.9	121	43.4
Banded giant stargazer	BGZ	89	46	88.8	50	64.6	96	70.0
Slender mackerel	JMM	83	66	33.8	24	35.7	94	30.9
Lemon sole	LSO	38	19	38.6	29	27.4	56	24.5
Bluenose	BNS	41	27	100	17	100	44	100
Black cardinalfish	EPT	14	18	81.5	8	57.7	29	53.5
Blue mackerel	EMA	18	10	71.9	7	76.4	17	65.5
Frostfish	FRO	5	0	-	1	100	10	63.8
Bass groper	BAS	6	6	100	0	-	6	100
Long finned beryx	BYD	2	1	100	0	-	3	82.5
Jack mackerel	JMD	1	0	-	2	100	2	100
Rubyfish	RBY	1	1	71.2	0	-	1	71.2

Table 4. Continued

Common name	Code	Catch	Bioma	ss males	Biomass	<u>females</u>	Total	biomass
		kg	t	% c.v.	t	% c.v.	t	% c.v.
Commercial non-ITQ sp	ecies (w	here biomass >	30 t)					
Spiny dogfish	SPD	3 410	726	41.3	5 465	17.3	6 191	16.7
Lookdown dory	LDO	3 078	1 758	7.5	4 089	8.3	5 904	7.0
Shovelnose dogfish	SND	1 661	1 549	19.0	2 225	20.4	3 781	18.0
Smooth skate	SSK	803	499	25.1	824	27.9	1 355	21.0
Ray's bream	RBM	1 375	729	28.5	839	29.2	1 746	27.5
Redbait	RBT	263	249	90.8	158	86.4	408	88.9
Scampi	SCI	41	38	13.8	20	15.7	62	12.8
Northern spiny dogfish	NSD	38	45	50.3	8	60.1	53	45.0
Southern Blue Whiting	SBW	117	23	49.0	17	66.9	40	55.7
Rough skate	RSK	22	8	70.7	23	76.2	32	63.9
Non-commercial species	(where	biomass > 800	t)					
Javelinfish	JAV	6 485	· -	-	-	-	13 175	11.5
Big-eye rattail	CBO	4 367	-	-	•		8 186	9.8
Baxter's dogfish	ETB	347	-	-	•	•	1 398	37.4
Orange perch	OPE	1 227	_	-	-	-	1 313	55.8
Oliver's rattail	COL	499	-	-	-	•	1 187	34.2
Banded bellowsfish	BBE	642	-	-	-	-	1 148	10.7
Longnose velvet dogfish	CYP	346	-	_	-	-	1 065	72.8
Longnose chimaera	LCH	385	•	-	-	-	937	11.6
Oblique-banded ratt.	CAS	870	•	-		-	857	11.0
Common roughy	RHY	<i>7</i> 71	-	-	-	-	824	63.7
Total catch (above)		109 297						
Grand total catch (all spe	cies)	116 217				•		

Table 5: Estimated biomass (t) with coefficient of variation (%) below of hoki, hake, and ling sampled by annual trawl surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992–2003. stns, stations. (-, no data.)

			800-1000 n						
Year	Survey	No. stns	Hoki	Hake	Ling	No. stns	Hoki	Hake	Ling
1992	TAN9106	184	120 190	4 180	8 930	0	-	_	-
	c.v.	•	7.7	14.9	5.8				
1993	TAN9212	194	185 570	2 950	9 360	0.	_	•	-
	c.v.		10.3	17.2	7.9				
1994	TAN9401	165	145 633	3 353	10 129	0 .	-	-	-
	c.v.		9.8	9.6	6.5				
1995	TAN9501	122	120 441	3 303	7 363	0	_	_	-
	c.v.		7.6	22.7	7.9				
1996	TAN9601	89	152 813	2 457	8 424	0	_		_
	c.v.	•	9.8	13.3	8.2				
1997	TAN9701	103	157 974	2 811	8 543	0	-	•	_
	c.v.		8.4	16.7	9.8				
1998	TAN9801	91	86 678	2 873	7 313	0	_	-	-
	c.v.		10.9	18.4	8.3				
1999	TAN9901	100	109 336	2 302	10 309	0	-	-	_
	c.v.		11.6	11.8	16.1				
2000	TAN0001	128	72 151	2 152	8 348	4	411	62	18
	c.v.		12.3	9.2	7.8		56	64	100
2001	TAN0101	119	60 330	1 589	9 352	0	_	-	-
	c.v.		9.7	12.7	7.5				
2002	TAN0201	107	74 351	1 567	9 442	3	1 955	338	0
	c.v.		11.4	15.3	7.8		39	23	
2003	TAN0301	115	52 531	888	7 261	0	-	-	-
	c.v.		11.6	15.5	9.9				

Table 6: Relative biomass estimates (t in thousands) of hoki, 200-800 m depths, Chatham Rise trawl surveys January 1992-2003. (c.v. coefficient of variation; 3++ all hoki aged 3 years and older; (see Appendix 3 for length ranges of age classes.)

		<u>1+ hoki</u>			_	2+ hoki	<u>3 ++ hok</u>			tal hoki
Survey	1+ year class	t	% c.v	2+ year class	t	% c.v	t	% c.v	t	% c.v
1992	1990	2.8	(27.9)	1989	1.2	(18.1)	116.1	(7.8)	120.2	(9.7)
1993	1991	32.9	(33.4)	1990	2.6	(25.1)	150.1	(8.9)	185.6	(10.3)
1994	1992	14.6	(20.0)	1991	44.7	(18.0)	86.2	(9.0)	145.6	(9.8)
1995	1993	6.6	(13.0)	1992	44.9	(11.0)	69.0	(9.0)	120.4	(7.6)
1996	1994	27.6	(24.0)	1993	15.0	(13.0)	106.6	(10.0)	152.8	(9.8)
1997	1995	3.2	(40.0)	1994	62.7	(12.0)	92.1	(8.0)	158.0	(8.4)
1998	1996	4.5	(33.0)	1995	6.9	(18.0)	75.6	(11.0)	86.7	(10.9)
1999	1997	25.6	(30.4)	1996	16.5	(18.9)	67.0	(9.9)	109.3	(11.6)
2000	1998	14.4	(32.4)	1997	28.2	(20.7)	29.5	(9.3)	71.7	(12.3)
2001	1999	0.4	(74.6)	1998	24.2	(17.8)	35.7	(9.2)	60.3	(9.7)
2002	2000	22.4	(25.9)	1999	1.2	(21.2)	50.7	(12.3)	74.4	(11.4)
2003	2001	. 0.5	(46.0)	2000	27.2	(15.1)	20.4	(9.3)	52.6	(8.7)

Table 7: Estimated biomass (t) and coefficient of variation (%) of hoki, hake, ling, and 8 other species by stratum. (See Table 3 for species codes.) (-, not calculated.)

																					Species	code
		HOK		GSH		GSP		HAK		LDO		LIN		SPD		SPE		STA		SWA		<u>XWA</u>
Stratur	n t	c.v.	t	c.v.	t	c.v.	t	c.v.	t	c.v.	t	c.v.	t	c.v.	ŧ	c.v.	ŧ	c.v.	T	C.V.	t	C.Y.
			_										_				_				_	
I	105	53	0	-	129	64	25	75	23	26	183	20	5	100	11	54	9	100	0		0	-
2a	137	28	0	-	164	70	12	47	22	8	24	55	0	-	42	57	10	100	0	-	0	-
2b	578	39	0	-	150	23	29	53	97	31	177	38	0	-	108	44	0	-	0	-	0	-
3	1 508	19	781	5	5	100	20	100	262	30	278	71	422	24	187	77	55	89	11	58	57	82
4	800	13	0	-	312	28	35	100	52	83	. 171	55	0	-	22	100	0	-	0	-	0	-
5	769	50	1 081	23	0	-	0	-	128	95	137	91	1 953	44	55	60	422	51	52	18	28	100
6	380	49	0	-	482	51	0	-	0	-	83	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
7	812	34	58	90	311	<u>48</u> .	152	44	74	<u>26</u>	672	33	55 ·	84	54	65	59	40	0	-	0	-
8a	367	60	106	50	17	51	0	_	40	16	170	21	<i>7</i> 3	64	273	38	0	-	0	-	0	-
8ь	978	22	101	94	68	40	29	59	159	36	. 184	21	13	100	300	31	0	-	0	-	4	100
9	946	59	834	27	0	-	б	100	106	56	76	80	142	31	67	57	154	28	1 283	98	8	55
10a	481	34	110	98	79	37	31	50	132	41	171	3	0	-	136	50	0	-	0	-	275	99
10ь	756	37	63	98	69	16	79	53	86	21	125	39	41	100	70	16	0	_	0	-	5	100
11a	556	42	228	28	10	100	16	56	338	34	174	51	75	12	106	. 44	-53	72	77	47	130	55
11b	303	31	78	100	14	61	8	100	76	28	42	23	51	76	11	43	5	100	94	54	17	100
11c	1 003	56	. 0	-	58	27	93	30	111	35	186	39	0		53	20	8	100	0	-	2	100
11d	598	51	11	94	12	70	14	100	71	32	112	18	12	100	55	4	1	100	0	-	34	<i>5</i> 0°
12	3 015	23	114	76	288	34	42	100	910	11	616	28	616	34	218	48	101	100	0	-	19	55
13	1 904	38	8	100	902	34	58	51	515	29	550	20	188	40	135	· 14	0	_	9	100	34	50
14	2 120	38	6	100	424	52	41	80	740	17	571	25	127	73	651	28	51	100	25	100	32	52
15 .	5 839	33	43	63	39 9	18	25	34	454	28	547	19	109	52	344	28	54	49	23	100	785	98
16	2 910	26	23	93	711	30	149	46	411	51	1 262	41	729	65	84	54	220	28	7	100	12	49
17	1 199	59	966	59	0		0	-	26	46	19	43	40	32	4	58	93	23	6	84	37	90
18	3 147	31	1 810	20	ő		ő	_	67	36	114	64	610	15	287	36	310	40	93	32	118	38
19	14 511	36	1 780	19	0	_	11	84	254	23	153	38	471	23	1 568	13	214	34	6 048	94	593	41
20	6811	15	2 230	18	48	69	11	84	752	13	464	34	459	23	2 063	16	359	31	88	72	1 493	60
Total	52 531	12	10 431	9	4 653	12	888	15	5 904	7	7 261	10	6 191	17	6 904	8	2 178	15	7 815	74	3 685	34

Table 8: Catch rate (kg.km⁻²) and standard deviations (s.d.) of hoki, hake, ling, and 8 other species by stratum. (See Table 3 for species codes.) (-, not calculated.)

																					Species	code_
Stratum		HOK		GSH		GSP		HAK		LDO		LIN		SPD		SPE		STA		SWA		VWA.
	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.	kg	s.d.
1	43	40	0	_	53	58	10	13	9	<u> 1</u>	75	26	2	4	4	4	4	7	0	_	0	_
2a	42	20	0	_	50	62	4	3	7	1	7	7	õ	-	13	13	3	6	Õ	_	õ	-
2b	68	46	υ O	_	18	7	3	3	11	6	21	14	0		13	10	0	-	n	_	Õ	_
3	431	143	223	18	1	ત્રં	6	10	39	6	79	98	121	50	53	71	16	24	3	3	16	23
4	71	15	0	10	28	13	3	5	5	7	15	14	0	30	2	' 3	0	2.1	õ		0	-
5	189	165	265	107	0		ő	_	31	52	34	53	479	365	13	14	103	92	13	4	7	12
6	46	39	0	-	58	51	ŏ	_	0	-	10	17	0	-	0		0		0		ò	-
7	155	129	11	25	59	71	29	31	14	9.	128	103	.10	22	10	17	11	11	Õ	_	ō	-
8a	112	116	32	28	5	5	0	-	12	3	52	19	22	24	83	54	0	_	ō	_	ō	_
8b	171	77	18	33	12	9	5	6	28	20	32	13	2	5	52	32	ō	_	Ō	-	0.7	1
9	184	290	162	116	0	-	1	3	21	30	15	31	28	23	13	20	30	22	250	646	2	2
10a	163	95	37	63	27	17	11	9	45	31	58	3	0		46	40	0	-	0	-	93	160
10b	225	146	19	32	21	6	24	22	26	9	37	25	12	21	21	6	0	-	. 0	-	2	3
lla	187	136	77	37	3	6	6	5	114	67	59	52	25	5	36	27	18	22	26	21	44	42
11b	146	78	38	65	7	7	4	·6	37	18	20	8	25	32	5	4	2	4	45	42	8	14
11c	300	291	0		17	8	28	14	33	20	56	38	0	-	16	6	2.	4	0	-	0.7	1
11d	178	156	3	5 .	4	4	4	7	21	12	33	10	4	6	16	1	0.4	0.7	0	-	10	9
12	458	182	17	23	44	26	6	11	138	26	94	45	94	55	33	28	15	27	0	-	3	3
13	285	188	1	2	135	80	9	8	77	38	82	29	28	20	20	5	0	-	i	2	5	4
14	358	234	1	2	71	64	7	10	125	37	96	43	21	27	110	53	9	15	4	7	5	5
15	999	809	7	11	68	30	4	4	78	53	94	43	19	24	59	41	9	11	4	-10	134	322
16	253	160	2	4	62	46	13	15	36	44	110	109	63	100	7	10	19	13	0.6	2	1	1
17	1 385	1 633	1 117	1316	0	-	0	-	30	28	21	19	46	30	5	6	107	49	7	12	42	76
18	672	591	386	216	0	-	0	-	14	14	24	44	130	56	61	62	66	75	20	18	25	27
19	1 610	2 087	198	133	0	-	1	4	28	24	17	23	52	43	174	118	24	29	671	2 268	66	97
20	711	340	233	135	5	11	1	3	78	32	48	53	48	35	215	108	37	37	9	21	156	293

Table 9: Species and numbers of fish for which length, sex, and length-weight (L-Wt) data were collected. -, unsexed fish. (See Table 3 for species codes.)

_	Length i	frequency s	amples	L-Wt	samples	L-Wt			
Species	males	females	total	total	Species	males	females	total	total
code					code				
BAR	297	188	486		LDO	1 914	2 379	4 321	-
BAS .	1	0	1	1	LIN	838	848	1 690	1 495
BBE	1	0	2 921	366	LSO	29	39	77	-
BGZ	10	8	21	-	MCA	0	0	8	-
BNS	6	4	10	10	NOS	184	165	350	-
BOE	388	372	760	-	NSD	23	10	33	22
BSH	23	32	55	29	OPE	271	313	600	101
BYD	1	0	2	-	ORH	41	45	88	-
BYS	496	362	862	-	PLS	4	6	10	6
CAR	0	1	1	-	RBM	384	446	863	394
CAS	. 9	119	989	45	RBT	66	45	111	2
СВО	i 294	1 362	2811	462	RBY	2	0	2	-
CFA	0	0	164	-	RCO	309	295	607	-
COL	6	24	691	151	RHY	8	18	468	-
CSQ	7	8	15	11	RIB	105	44	149	148
CYO	18	5	23	20	RSK	2	. 2	4	4
CYP	124	208	332	53	SBW	102	61	163	103
EMA	8	4	12	-	SCH	4	3	7	7
EPL	2	5	56	-	SCI	245	169	425	425
EPR	0	0	11	-	SDO	0	0	127	-
EPT	15	. 13	38	36	SND	354	509	865	-
ETB	123	115	238	124	SOR	299	240	544	-
ETL	201	146	348	-	SPD	203	1 158	1 361	-
FRO	0		1	-	SPE	2 523		4 845	680
GSH	2 750		5513	-	SSI	2		808	-
GSP	570		1 098	32		26		64	64
HAK	34		106	105		110	92	202	-
HAP	28		50	46		302	274	577	-
HIO	0	0	16	-	SWA	360	361	722	-
HOK	7 291		17 016	1511	TAR	231	113	344	1
JAV	15	118	8471	-	WHX	3	2	5	-
JMD	0		1	-	WWA	813		1 369	-
JMM	43		60	-	YCO	1	1	2	1
LCH	160	146	307	259	ı				

Table 10: Length-weight regression parameters* used to scale length frequencies.

Species	a (intercept)	b (slope)	r ²	n	Length range (cm)	Data source
Hake	0.002387	3.243991	0.99	105	21-121	TAN0301
Hoki	0.003463	2.967778	0.98	1 506	37-118	TAN0301
Ling	0.001201	3.303530	0.99	1 452	30153	TAN0301
Ribaldo	0.003493	3.297659	0.97	148	32-71	TAN0301
Sea perch	0.009077	3.180683	0.99	557	10-50	TAN0301
A10 '	0.010000	0.055.406	,	0.001	1~ 54	TANDIO (TANDO)
Alfonsino	0.018975	3.057496	0.99	2 301	17-54	TAN9106-TAN0201
Barracouta	0.003590	3.056385	0.91	309	50-112	TAN9106-TAN0201
Dark ghost shark	0.002201	3.250992	0.98	3 990	23-81	TAN9106-TAN0201
Giant stargazer	0.007954	3.180478	0.98	2 139	19–85	TAN9106-TAN0201
Lemon sole	0.006492	3.170475	0.92	125	24–39	TAN9106-TAN0201
Lookdown dory	0.024380	2.966815	0.99	4 666	10-58	TAN9106-TAN0201
Pale ghost shark	0.005563	3.010078	0.97	2 936	1890	TAN9106-TAN0201
Shovelnose dogfish	0.001815	3.158984	0.99	1 885	29–126	TAN9106-TAN0201
Silver warehou	0.007688	3.233235	0.99	2 915	19–57	TAN9106-TAN0201
Slender mackerel	0.441049	2.022669	0.66	83	42-55	TAN9106-TAN0201
Smooth skate	0.022969	2.961655	0.99	326	33158	TAN9106-TAN0201
Spiny dogfish	0.001887	3.193811	0.96	2 651	48–106	TAN9106-TAN0201
White warehou	0.011444	3.182711	0.98	479	12–62	TAN9106-TAN0201
Scampi	0.819172	2.746626	0.88	1 032	2.77.2	TAN9106-TAN0301
Arrow squid	0.0290	3.00	_	_	· -	Annala et al. (2003)
Banded giant	0.009831	3.255745	548	0.96	16-69	All records on DB
stargazer						
Black cardinalfish	0.0269	2.870105	213	0.96	33-75	Tracey et al. (2000)
Black oreo	0.0248	2.950	9 790	0.98	11-44	DB, Chat. Rise, Nov-Mar
Blue mackerel	0.001741	3.536956	44	1.0	16-53	All records on DB
Hapuku	0.014230	2.998	1 644	•	50-130	Johnston (1983)
Northern spiny dogfish	0.002177	3.176741	231	0.97	36–90	All records on DB
Orange roughy	0.0687	2.792	7 880	0.99	9-44	DB, Chat. Rise, Nov-Mar
Ray's bream	0.005308	3.320126	891	0.96	28-56	All records on DB
Redbait	0.004191	3.321901	189	1.0	12-40	All records on DB
Red cod	0.0092	3.003	923	0.98	13-72	Beentjes (1992)
Rough skate	0.033966	2.876666	336	-	14–70	Stevenson & Beentjes (1999)
Smooth oreo	0.0309	2.895	9 147	0.98	10-57	DB, Chat. Rise, Nov-Mar
Southern blue	0.003	3.2	444	-	19–55	Hatanaka et al. (1989)
whiting	0.005	J.2	417		17 00	110000000000000000000000000000000000000
Spiky oreo	0.025360	2.964571	420	0.97	18-43	Tan0101
Tarakihi	0.02	2.94	.20	-	-	Annala et al. (1989)

^{*}W = aL^b where W is weight (g) and L is length (cm); r^2 is the correlation coefficient, n is the number of samples. DB, trawlsurvey database held at NIWA, Wellington

Table 11: Numbers of fish measured at each reproductive stage*

				Reproductive stage					
Common name	Sex	1	. 2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Black cardinalfish	Male	7	1	1	0	0	. 0	0	9
	Female	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Hake	Male	5	6	1	4	13	1	0	30
	Female	8	27	22	3	1	2	2	65
Hapuku	Male	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
-	Female	1	7	0	1	0	0	0	9
Hoki	Male	204	147	2	0	0	3	2	358
	Female	165	547	0 -	0	0	0	4	716
Ling	Male	236	173	37	164	7	43	0	660
-	Female	178	452	2	2	0	3	1	638
Orange perch	Male	0	0	31	13	2	0	0	46
•	Female	1	0	38	13	0	0	0	52
Ray's bream	Male	0	35	5	0	0	0	0	40
•	Female	0	15	22	0	0	0	0	37
Ribaldo	Male	3	33	· 5	0	0	0	10	51
•	Female	2	5	1	0	0	0	5	13
School shark	Male	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sea perch	Male	36	45	20	2	0	0	1	104
-	Female	43	21	0	3	4	0	0	71
Tarakihi	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

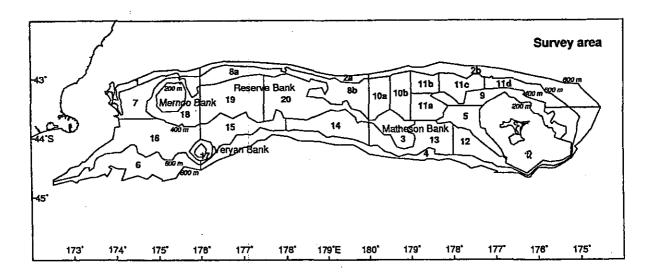
^{*}Stage: 1, immature; 2, resting; 3, ripening; 4, ripe; 5, running ripe; 6, partially spent; 7, spent. (after Hurst et al., 1992).

Table 12: Frequency of occurrence of eight acoustic mark types (see text for definitions) during the 2003 Chatham Rise trawl survey. Several mark types were usually present in the same echogram. n is the number of acoustic files examined.

			1		Pelagi	c marks			Bottor	n marks
Acoustic file	Max. depth (m)	n	Surface Layer	School	Layer	Cloud	Layer	Cloud	School	Single target
Day	200-400	20	13	9	20	10	13	7	8	16
steam	400–600	31	26	18	30	9	30	6	5	23
- · - - ,	600-800	15	14	9	14	13	12	10	3	12
	Total	66	53	36	64	32	55	23	16	51
	% оссителсе		80	55	97	49	83	35	24	77
Night	200-400	10	10	0	0	9	0	. 8	1	9
steam	400-600	26	26	5	7	25	8	26	0	25
	600-800	8	8	1	1	7	5	8	0	8
	Total	44	44	6	8	41	13	42	1	42
	% occurrence		100	14	18	93	30	96	2	96
Trawl	200-400	51	30	18	45	32	20	15	24	41
	400-600	57	40	26	51	22	34	32	3	36
	600-800	15	9	6	9	14	4	11	0	14
	Total	123	79	50	105	68	58	58	. 27	91
	% occurrence		64	41	85	55	47	47	22	74

Table 13. Average trawl catch and acoustic backscatter from bottom-referenced marks during tows where acoustic data quality was suitable for echo integration on the Chatham Rise in 2001-03. All tows were conducted during daylight. Data for 2001 and 2002 are from O'Driscoll (2002).

Survey	Number of	Average trawl	Average acoustic backscatter (m ² km ⁻²)			
	recordings	catch (kg km ⁻²)	Bottom 10 m	Entire layer		
2001 (TAN0101)	115	1 447	2.499	26.06		
2002 (TAN0201)	105	1 844	4.006	20.13		
2003 (TAN0301)	117	1 507	3.208	27.41		



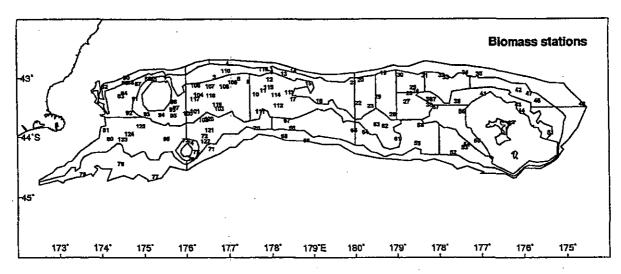
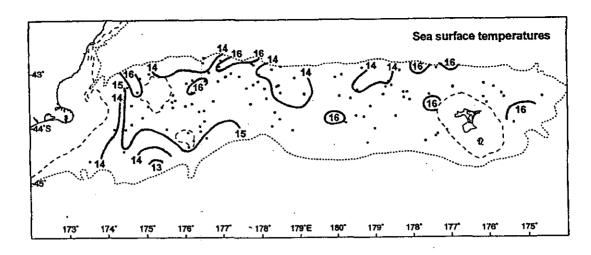


Figure 1: Chatham Rise trawl survey area showing stratum boundaries and valid biomass station positions (n = 115).



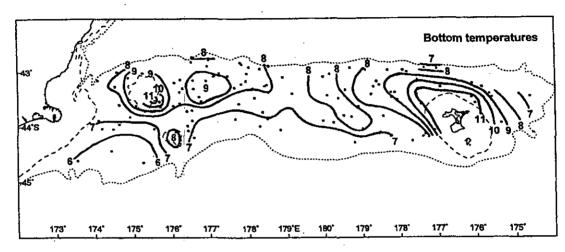
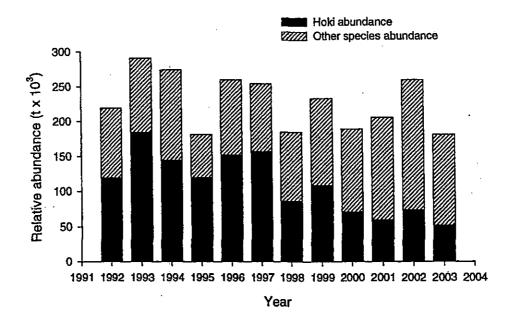


Figure 2: Positions of sea surface and bottom temperature recordings and approximate location of isotherms (°C) interpolated by eye. The temperatures are from the Seabird CTD recordings made during each tow.



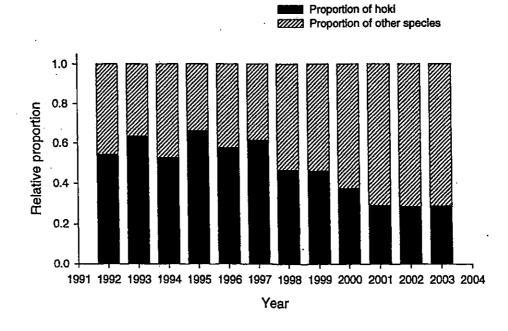


Figure 3: Relative biomass (top panel) and relative proportions of hoki and other species (lower panel) from trawl surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992-2003.

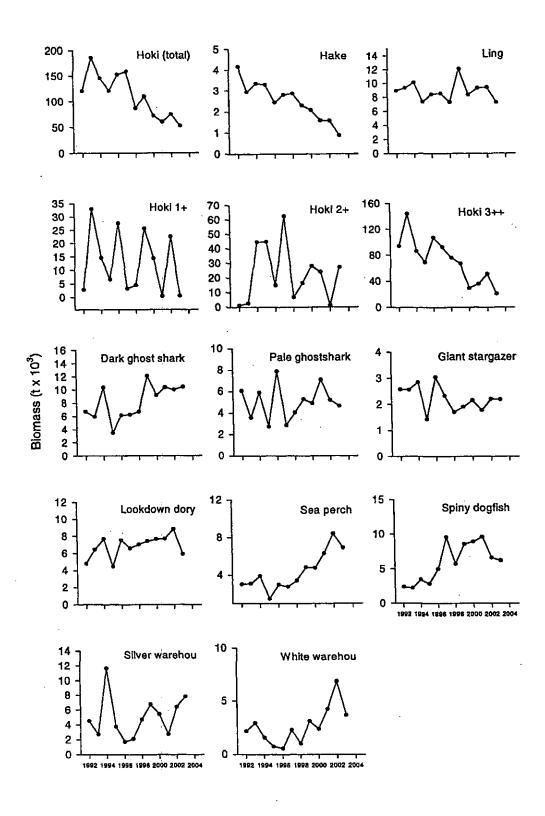


Figure 4: Relative biomass estimates ($t \times 10^3$) of important species sampled by annual trawl surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992–2003.

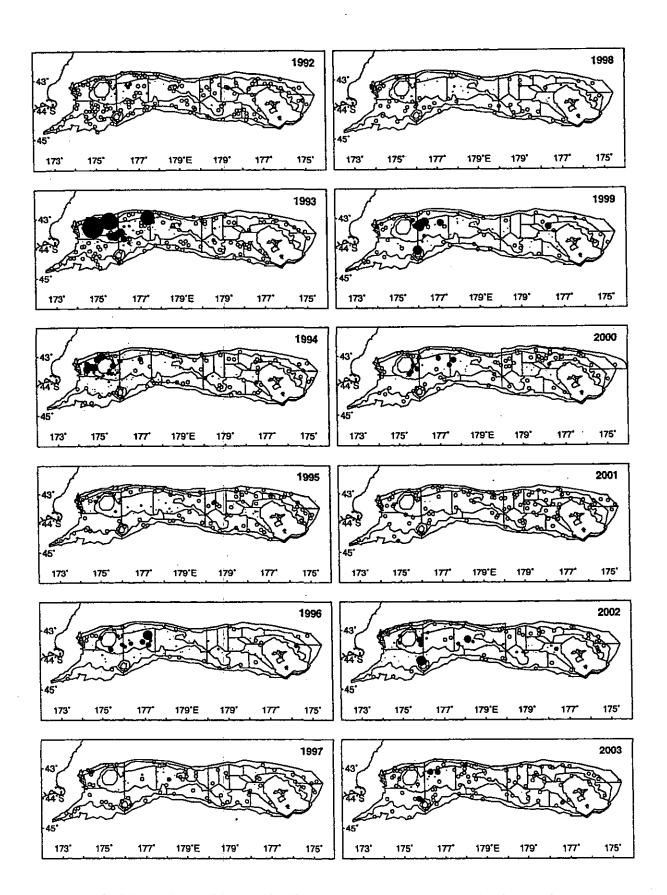


Figure 5a. Hoki 1+ catch distribution 1992–2003. Filled circle area is proportional to catch rate (kg.km⁻²). Open circles are zero catch. Maximum catch rate in series is 30 850 kg.km⁻².

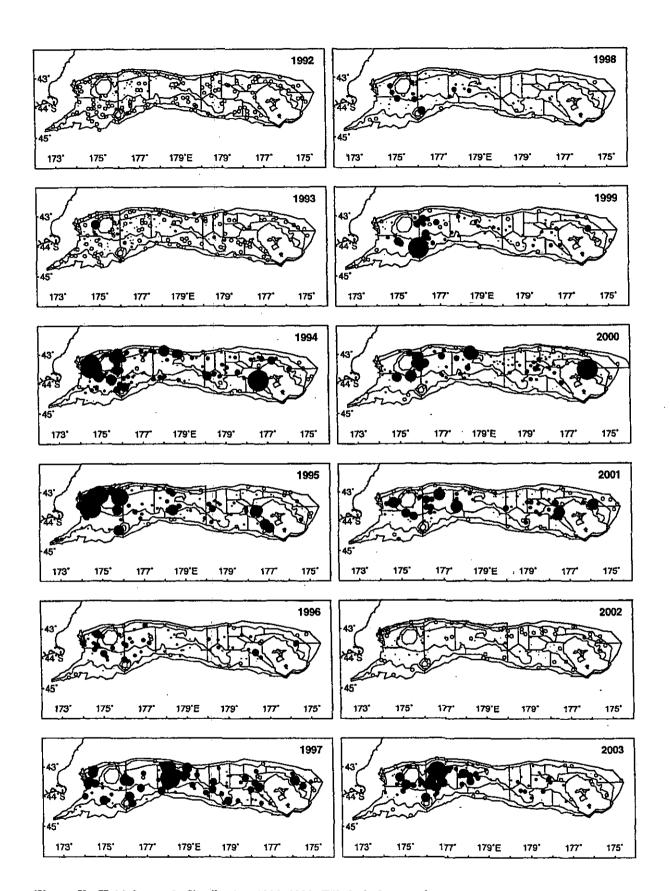


Figure 5b. Hoki 2+ catch distribution 1992–2003. Filled circle area is proportional to catch rate (kg.km²). Open circles are zero catch. Maximum catch rate in series is 6791 kg.km².

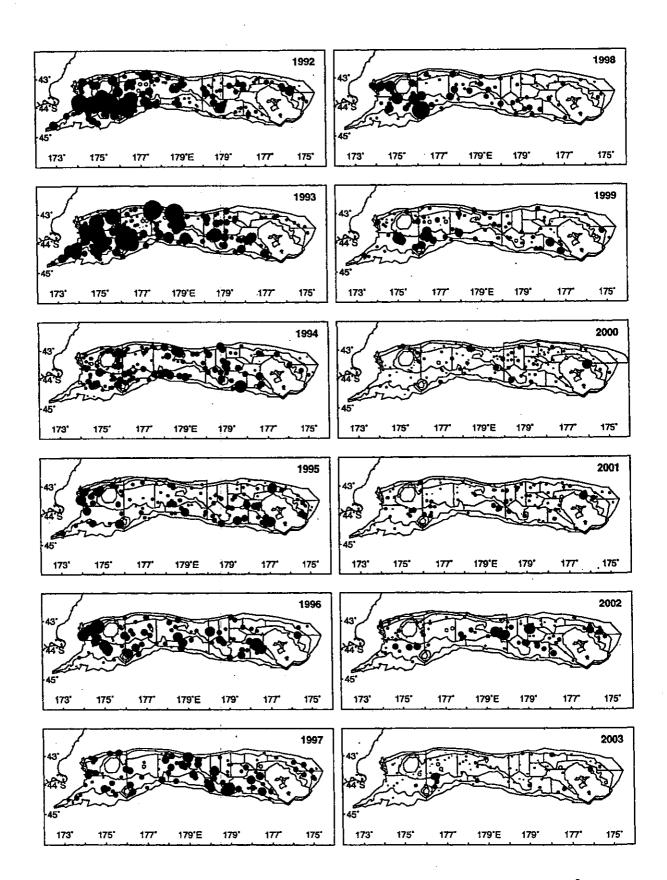


Figure 5c. Hoki 3++ catch distribution. Filled circle area is proportional to catch rate (kg.km⁻²). Open circles are zero catch. Maximum catch rate in series is 11 177 kg.km⁻².

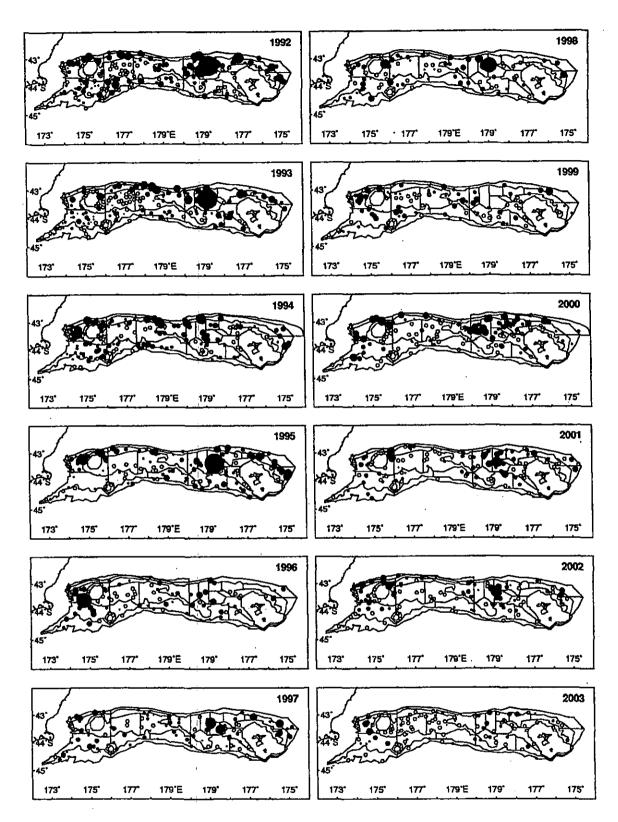


Figure 6. Hake catch distribution 1992–2003. Filled circle area is proportional to catch rate $(kg.km^2)$. Open circles are zero catch. Maximum catch rate in series is 70 kg.km².

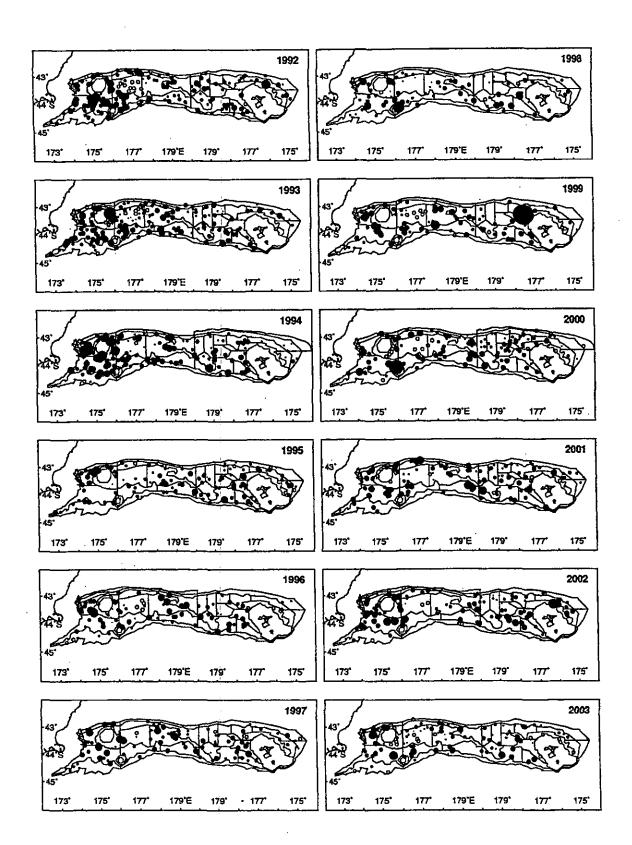


Figure 7. Ling catch distribution 1992–2003. Filled circle area is proportional to catch rate (kg.km⁻²). Open circles are zero catch. Maximum catch rate in series is 330 kg.km⁻².

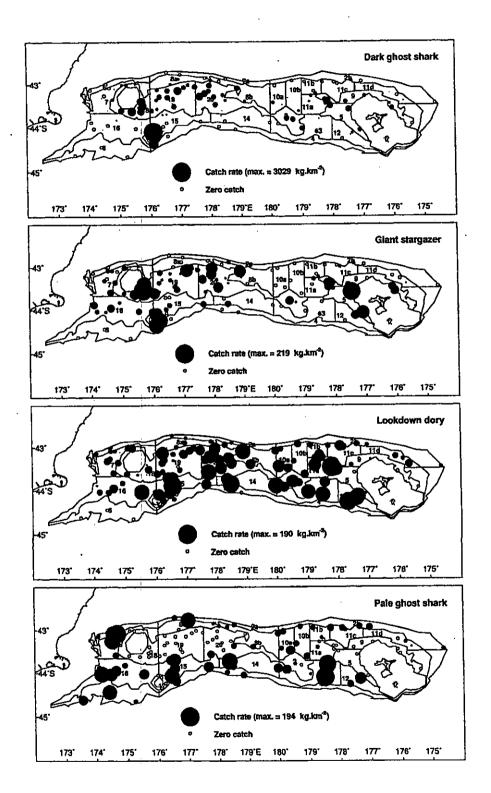


Figure 8: Catch rates (kg.km²) of selected commercial species in 2003. Filled circle area is proportional to catch rate. Open circles are zero catch. (max., maximum catch rate)

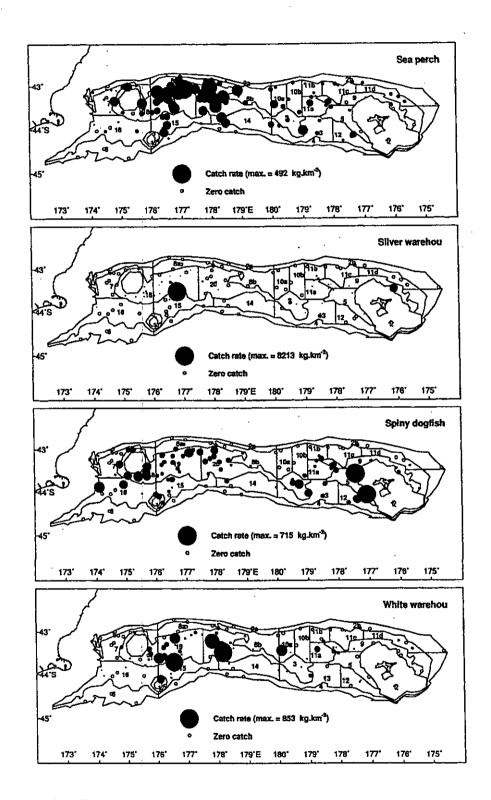


Figure 8: (continued)

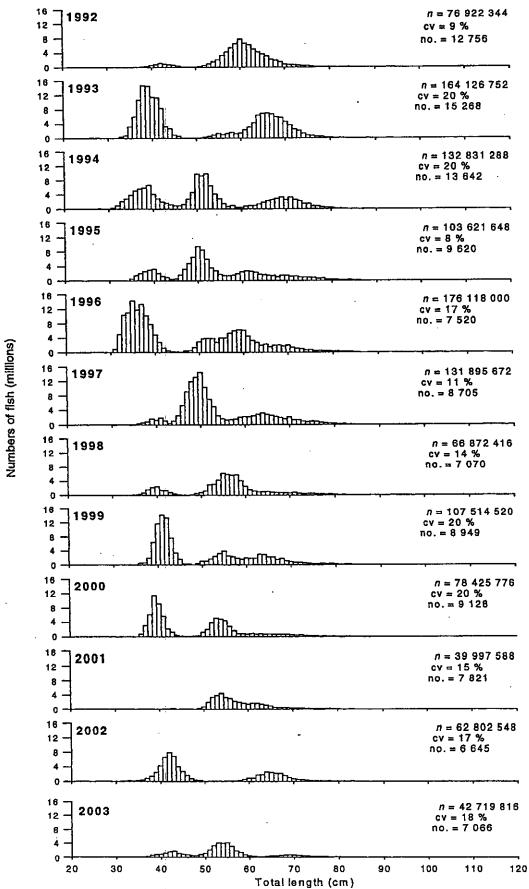


Figure 9a: Estimated length frequency distributions of the male hoki population from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992–2003. (c.v., coefficient of variation; n, estimated population number of male hoki; no., numbers of fish measured.)

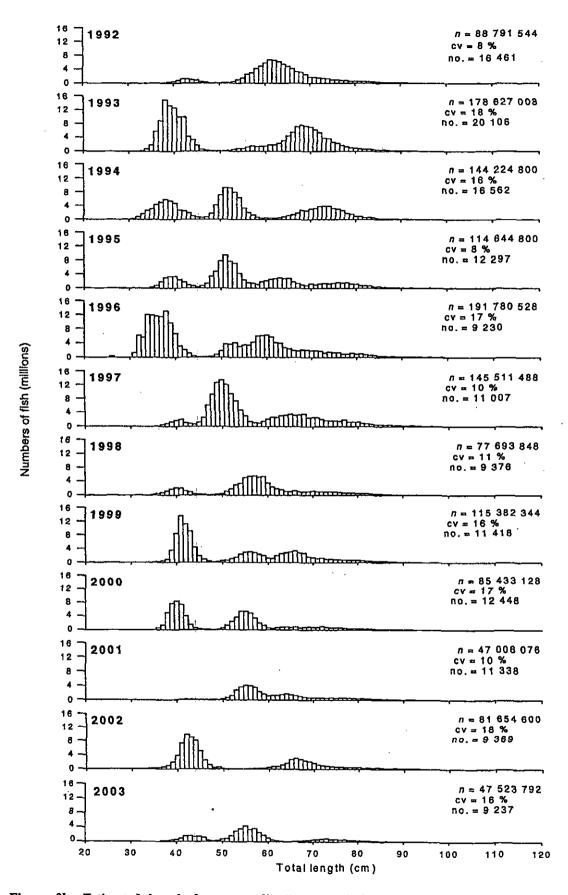


Figure 9b: Estimated length frequency distributions of the female hoki population from Tangaroa surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992–2003. (c.v., coefficient of variation; n, estimated population number of female hoki; no., numbers of fish measured.)

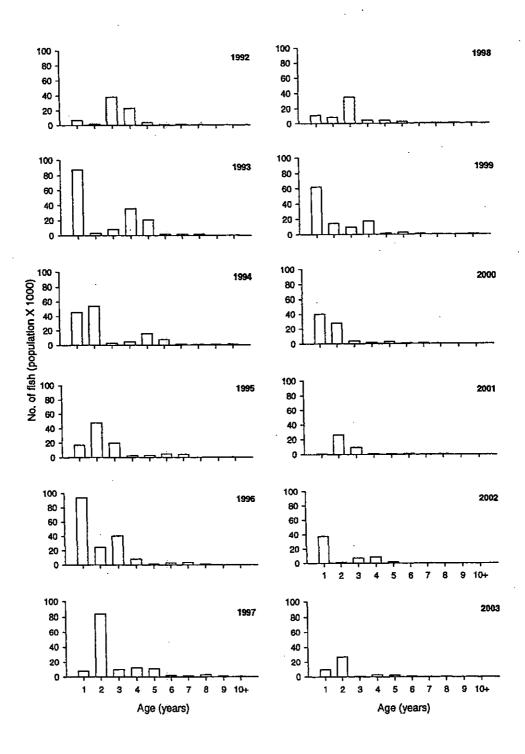


Figure 10a: Estimated population numbers at age of male hoki from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January, 1992–2003. (+, indicates plus group of combined ages.) Note: numbers at age revised for full series to accommodate multi sub-sampling in the catch.

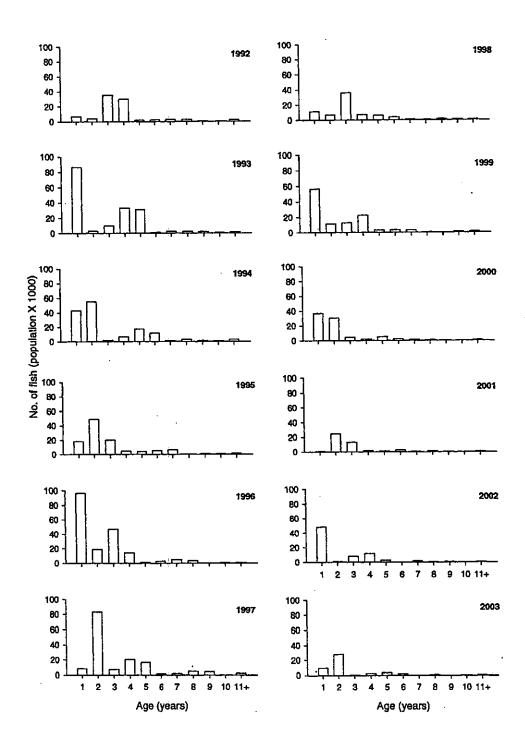


Figure 10b: Estimated population numbers at age of female hoki from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January, 1992–2003. (+, indicates plus group of combined ages.) Note: numbers at age revised for full series to accommodate multi sub-sampling in the catch.

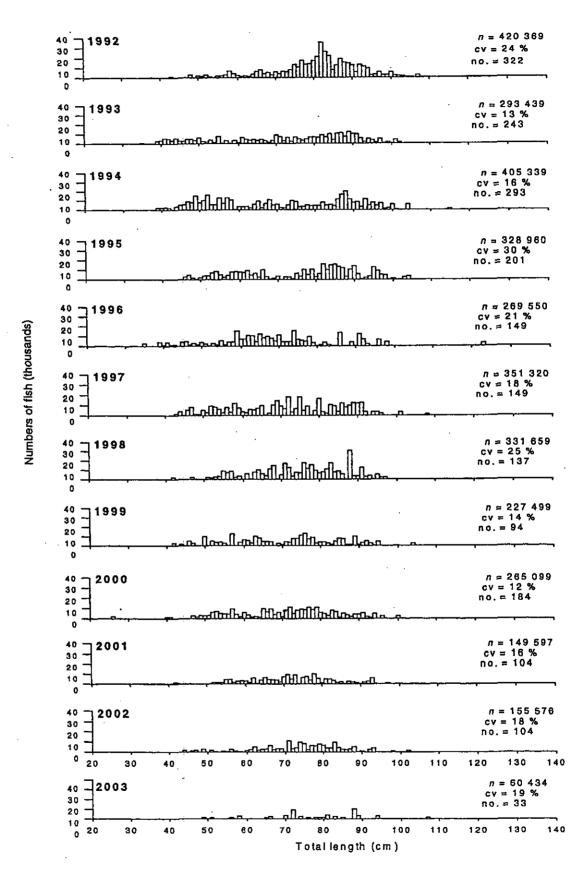


Figure 11a: Estimated length frequency distributions of the male hake population from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992–2003. (c.v., coefficient of variation; n, estimated population number of male hake; no., numbers of fish measured.)

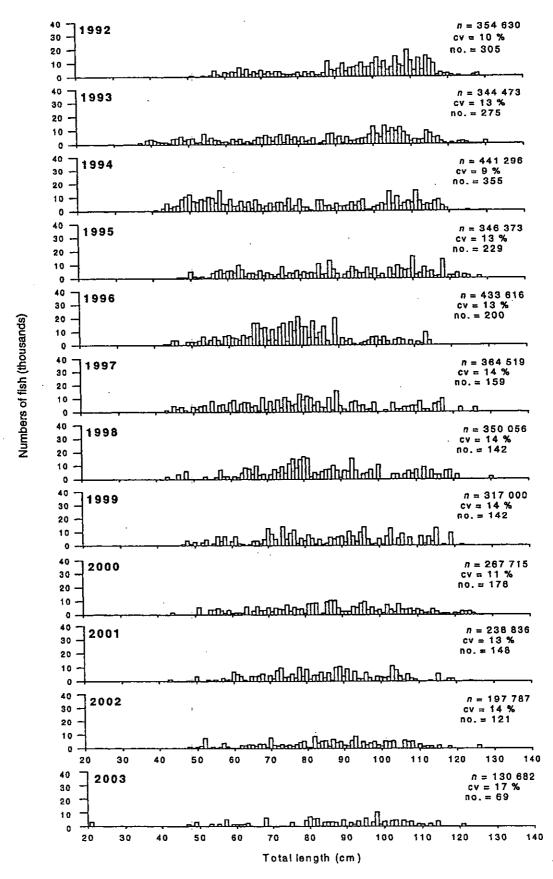


Figure 11b: Estimated length frequency distributions of the female hake population from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992–2003. (c.v., coefficient of variation; n, estimated population number of female hake; no., numbers of fish measured.)

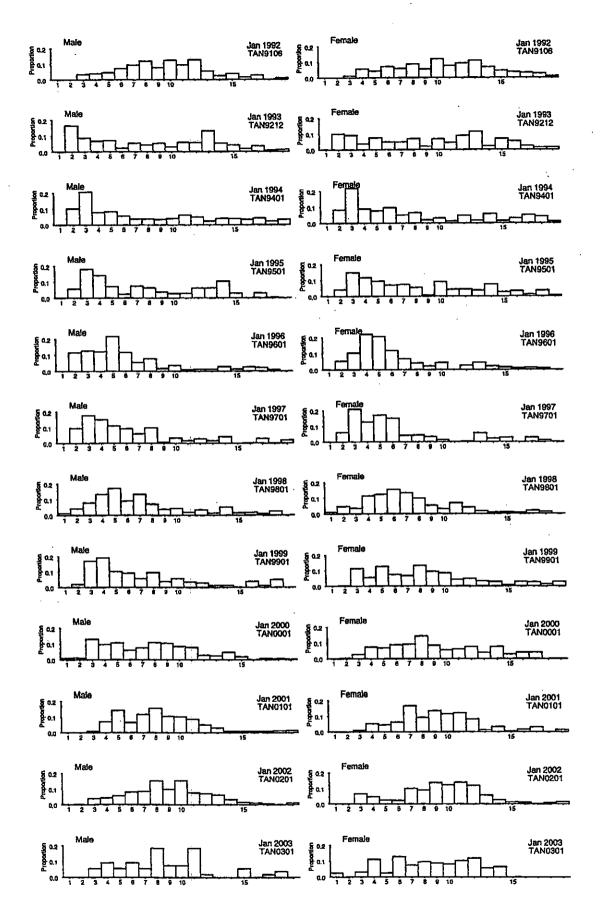


Figure 12: Estimated proportion at age of male and female hake from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January, 1992–2003.

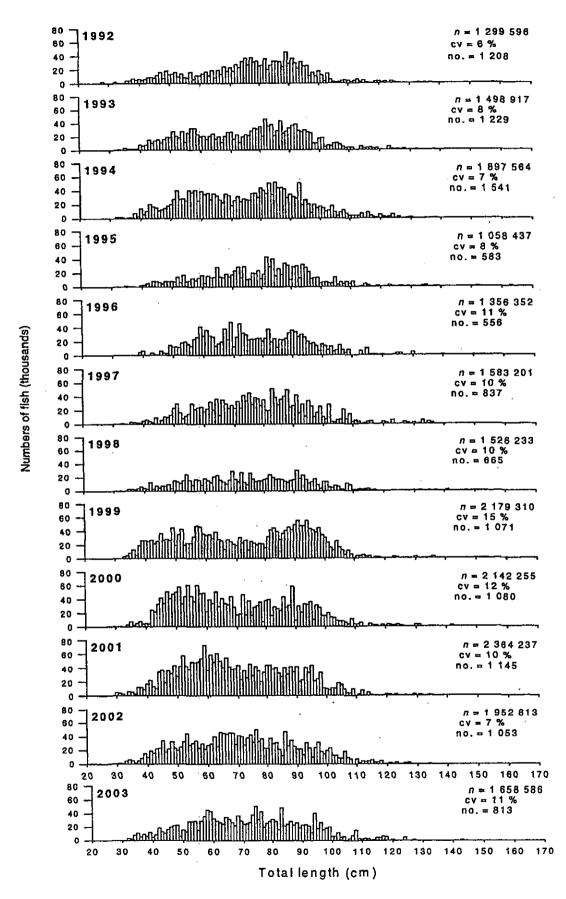


Figure 13a: Estimated length frequency distributions of the male ling population from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992–2003. (c.v., coefficient of variation; n, estimated population number of male ling; no., numbers of fish measured.)

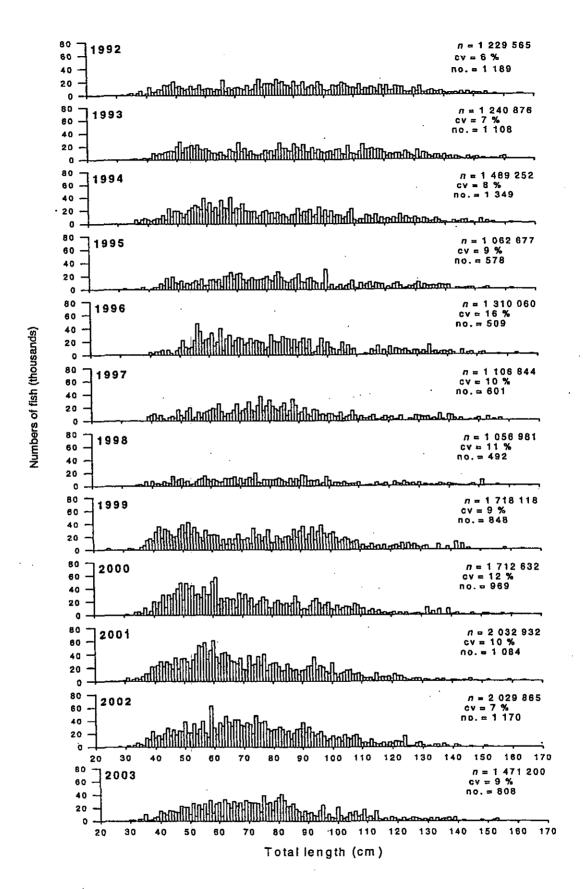


Figure 13b: Estimated length frequency distributions of the female ling population from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January 1992–2003. (c.v., coefficient of variation; n, estimated population number of female ling; no., numbers of fish measured.)

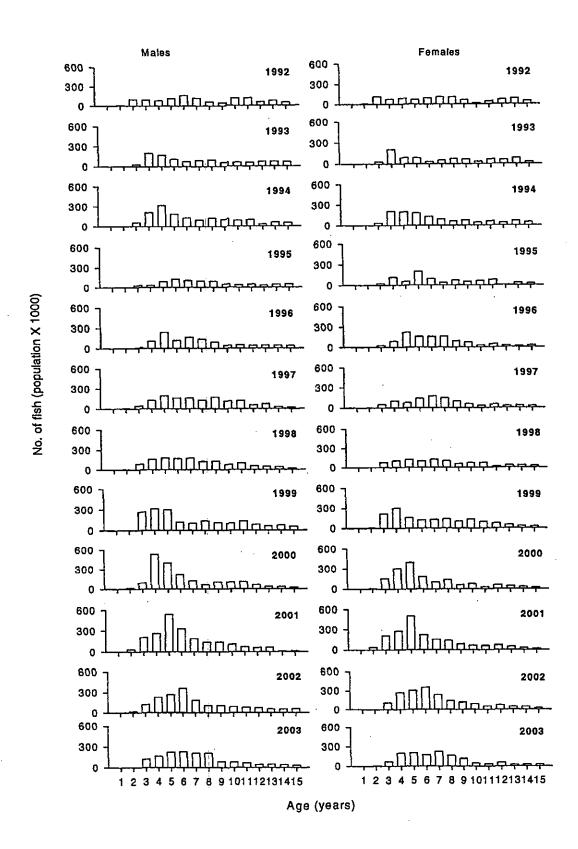


Figure 14: Estimated population numbers at age of male and female ling (age 1-15 years) from *Tangaroa* surveys of the Chatham Rise, January, 1992-2003. (Note: the age class of 15 years is not a plus group.)

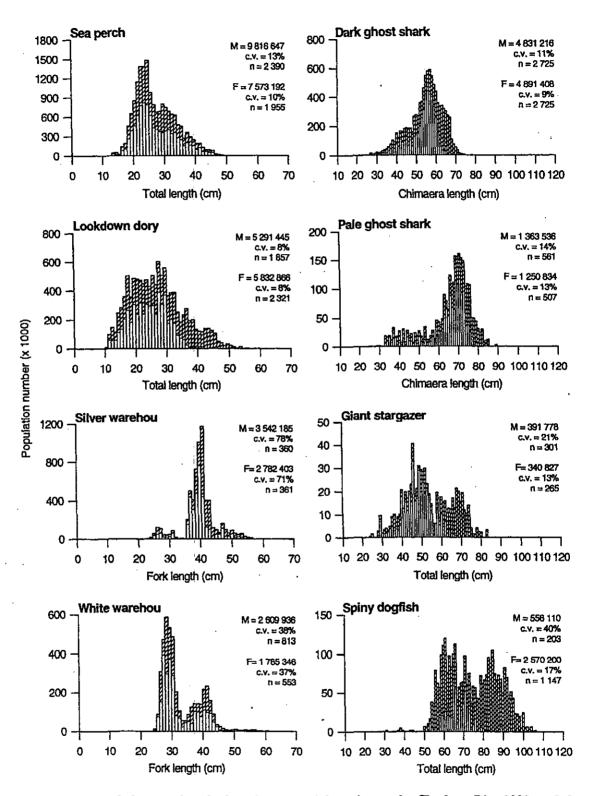


Figure 15: Length frequencies of selected commercial species on the Chatham Rise 2003, scaled to population size by sex (M, estimated male population; F, estimated female population (hatched bars); c.v. coefficient of variation of the estimated numbers of fish; n, number of fish measured.)

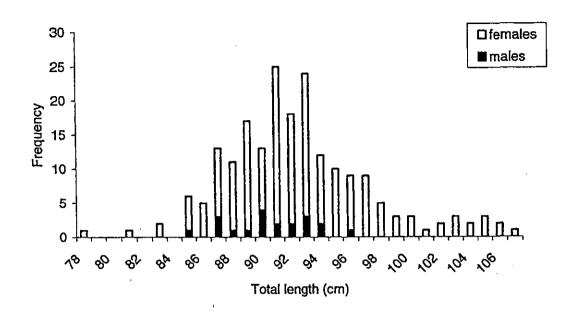


Figure 16: Unscaled length frequency of hoki caught from midwater tows on the Andes hill complex, east of the Chatham Rise.

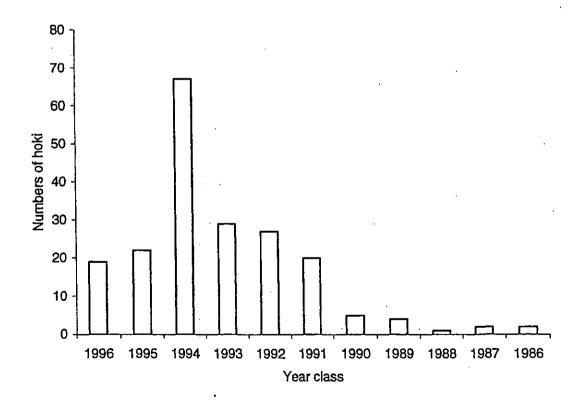
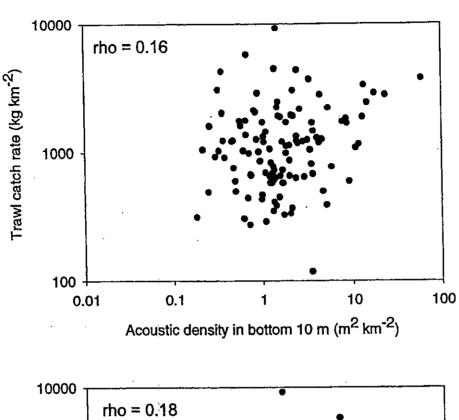


Figure 17. Numbers of hoki aged from otoliths in each year class from midwater tows on the Andes hill complex, east of the Chatham Rise.



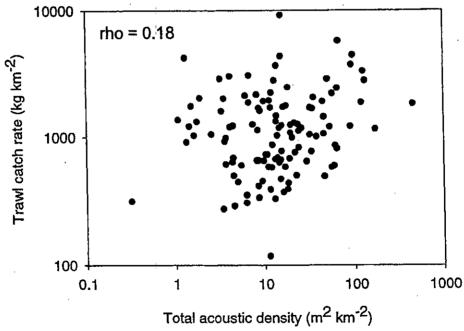


Figure 18: Relationship between total trawl catch rate (all species combined) and acoustic backscatter recorded during the trawl on the Chatham Rise in 2003. Rho values are Spearman's rank correlation coefficients.

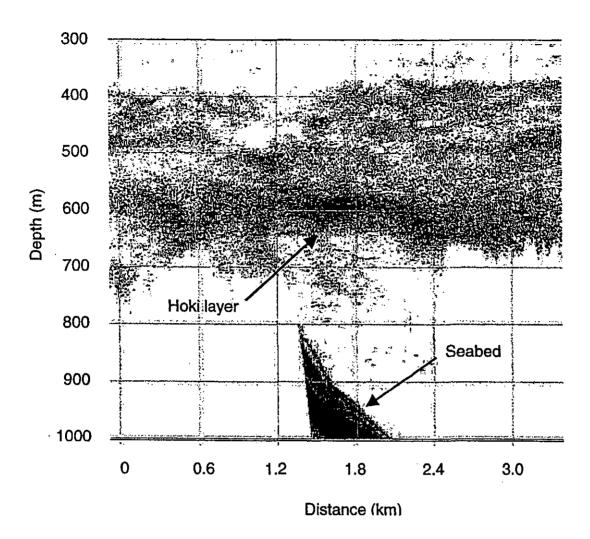


Figure 19: Acoustic echogram collected during exploratory midwater tow (station 49). The midwater trawl was towed at depths of 585-645 m and caught 353 kg of large hoki in 45 min. The seabed echo is missing in much of the echogram because bottom tracking failed.

Appendix 1. The utility in stock assessments of biological samples from the summer Chatham Rise trawl surveys. Note to the Hoki Working Group, 4 December 2002, by Chris Francis, NIWA (Report Number WG-HOK-2002/45)

Summary

There had been 11 Tangaroa surveys of the Chatham Rise in summer (from the summers of 1991-92 to 2001-02, inclusive) at the time of this study. In stock assessments, the only current use of biological data from these surveys is for calculating LFs (length frequency distributions), which are converted, via age-length keys, to AFs (age frequency distributions).

Data for the main 13 middle-depth species from these surveys were analysed by sex. In any year the predicted weight of a species at a given length is usually within 10% of the value obtained by using data from all years combined. Also the uncertainty in estimated LFs that is caused by sampling variation in biological data (length-weight samples) is much less than that arising from the non-biological data.

It was concluded that there is no need, for current stock assessment purposes, to collect any biological data from these species in future Chatham Rise surveys. Therefore, there may be scope for reducing target sample sizes for biological data in future surveys. The decision about these targets should be based on other possible uses of these data.

Introduction

At the time of this study, there had been 11 Tangaroa surveys of the Chatham Rise in summer. The number of length-weight observations collected in these surveys has increased in recent years, averaging about 10 000 over the last three surveys (Appendix 1, Table 1). It is time-consuming (and thus costly) to collect these data and so it is worthwhile to ask whether this time is well spent.

Appendix 1, Table 1: Number of sexed length-weight observations, by species and overall, from each survey. 'OTH' = species other than those named; 'ALL' = all species. Only samples from stations used in biomass estimates for the core strata are included.

Voyage	HOK	HAK	LIN	SWA	SPE	WWA	STA	LDO	BYS	RIB	GSP	GSH	SPD	ОТН	ALL
TAN9106	1333	506	1042	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2881
TAN9212	1204	420	882	170	207	78	90	176	0	20	106	171	0	95	3619
TAN9401	1002	444	896	160	193	52	97	216	117	116	79	50	0	23	3445
TAN9501	881	364	469	283	229	188	190	290	167	55	237	262	200	113	3928
TAN9601	1511	333	756	268	444	94	350	357	181	52	341	525	170	40	5422
TAN9701	793	295	583	144	100	127	18	39	0	0	24	114	0	192	2429
TAN9801	981	279	673	279	232	258	208	477	357	79	284	355	0	334	4796
TAN9901	1776	235	1003	632	519	398	267	553	516	58	259	431	369	1654	8670
TAN0001	2231	354	1852	199	171	186	322	351	[44	- 11	167	290	258	843	7379
TAN0101	2064	251	1750	625	800	515	213	1081	281	188	856	1117	966	2829	13536
TAN0201	2132	. 225	1513	56	456	323	315	429	131	105	445	513	543	1887	9073

The only current stock-assessment use of these data is for calculating LFs (length frequency distributions), which are converted, via age-length keys, to AFs (age frequency distributions).

In this note I ask two questions for the 13 main middle-depth species (as given in Appendix 1, Table 1):

- 1. How much do weights predicted from length-weight data typically vary from year to year?
- 2. What would be the effect of using the combined length-weight data (from all trips) in each assessment, rather than using trip-by-trip data?

In addressing these questions, samples from stations not used for estimating the biomass for the core strata were ignored. Also, all analyses were done separately by sex for each species, without any consideration of the question as to whether there are consistent between-sex differences (e.g., Francis (2003) found no consistent differences in mean weight at length for hoki).

Year-to-year variation

For hoki, year-to-year variation in the length-weight relationships estimated from biological samples is so slight it is hard to see on a conventional plot (Appendix 1, Figure 1, upper panels). When the curves are plotted relative to combined relationships (calculated using data from all trips) it is apparent that the year-to-year variation is always less than 10%, and usually less than 5% (Appendix 1. Figure 1, lower panels).

Similar plots for the other main species show more variation, but this is still usually less than 10% (Appendix 2. Figure 2).

Effect of using combined data

To examine the effect of using combined data I first calculated, for each of the 13 main species, a series of twelve estimated LFs. All of the LFs used catch and length data from the 2002 survey; they differed only in the length-weight parameters that were used. Eleven of the LFs used length-weight parameters from single trips; the twelfth LF used length-weight parameters from all trips combined. NIWA's catch-at-age software was used to generate 95% confidence intervals for this last LF using a bootstrap procedure.

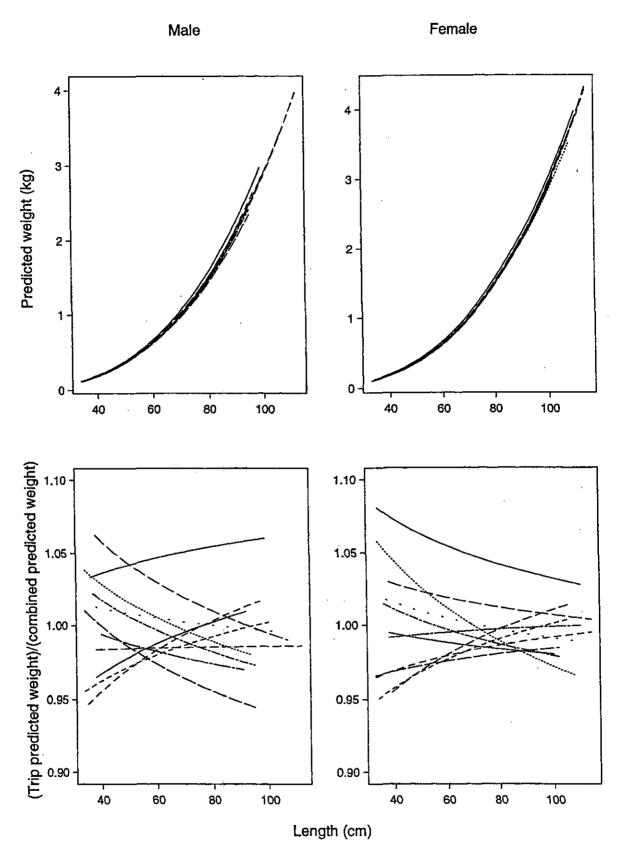
For hoki, all the single-trip LFs lay well within the 95% confidence intervals for the combined LFs (Figure 3, upper panels). In fact, all the single-trip LFs lay between the 30th and 70th percentile of the bootstrap distribution (Appendix 1, Figure 3, lower panels). This means that the uncertainty in the LFs that is associated with the biological data (the length-weight parameters) is small compared to that arising from the non-biological data (the catches and lengths). Therefore the effect of using combined length-weight parameters would be slight.

The same is true for the other 12 species (Appendix 1, Figure 4).

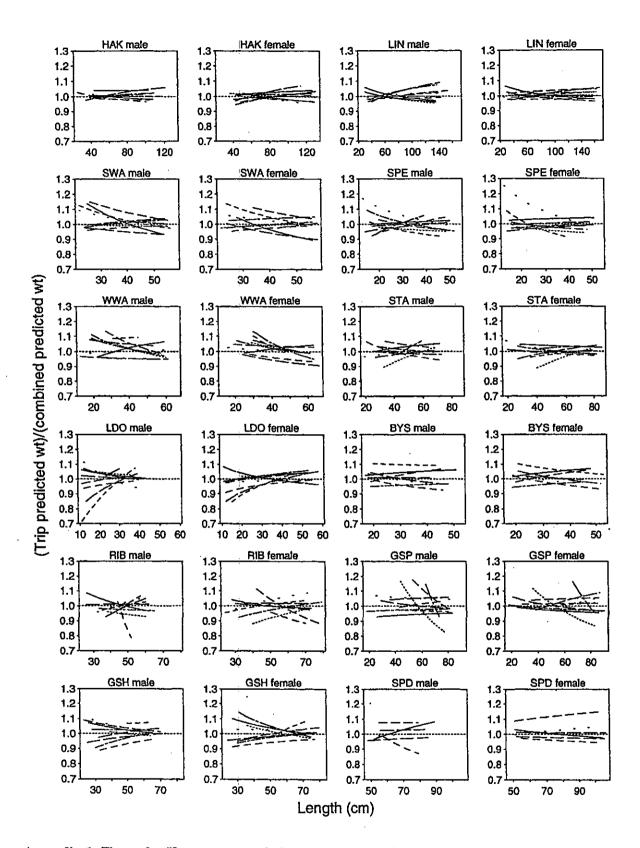
Discussion

It was concluded that there would be no significant loss to current stock assessments if no biological data were collected in future surveys.

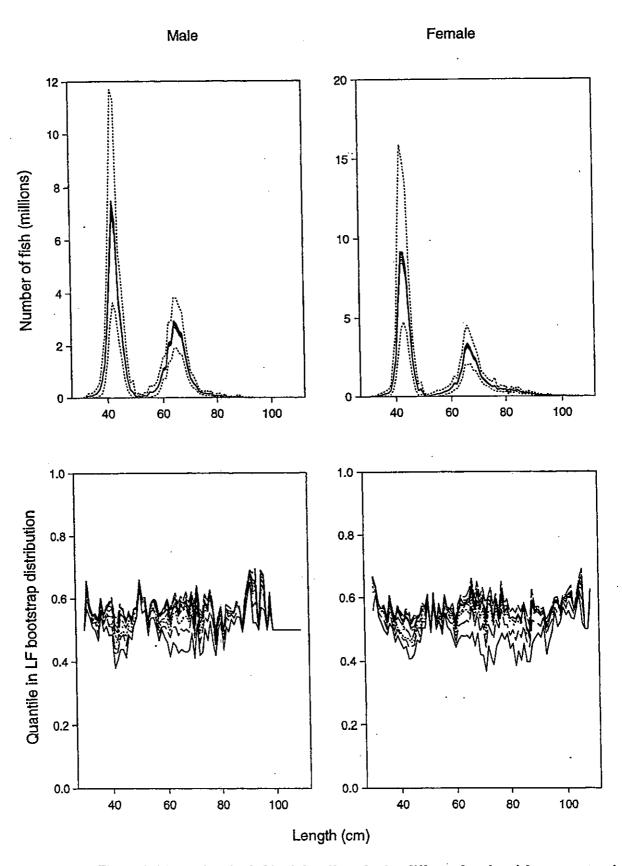
Because other projects may use these data, and because the needs of stock assessment models may change in the future, it would be a mistake to completely stop the collection of biological data. However, there is likely to be some scope for reducing target sample sizes.



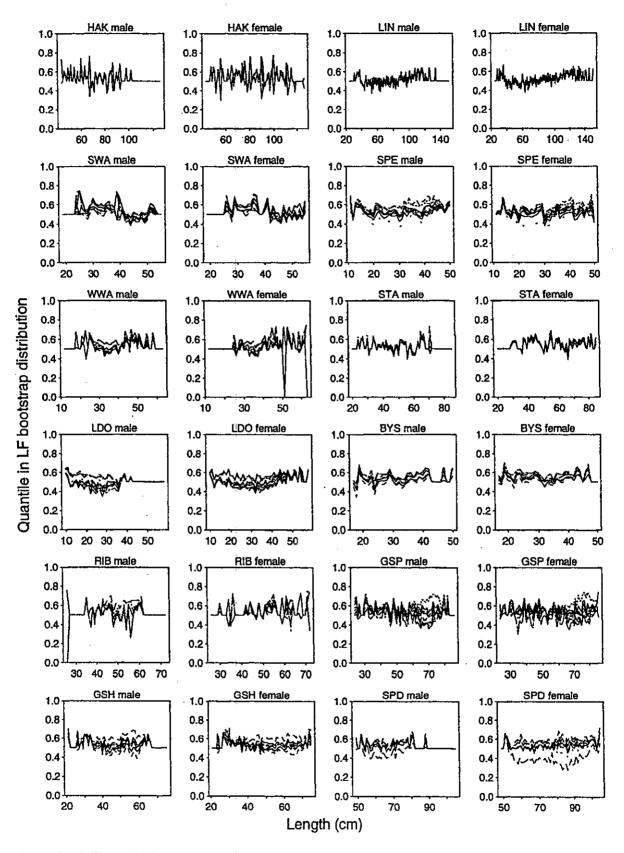
Appendix 1, Figure 1: Year-to-year variation in the estimated length-weight relationships for hoki by sex: upper panels, conventional plots of predicted weight against length; lower panels, predicted weight at length from an individual trip divided by that from all trips combined (in all panels each line represents one trip).



Appendix 1, Figure 2: Year-to-year variation in the estimated length-weight relationships for twelve species by sex. In each panel each line represents the predicted weight at length from an individual trip divided by that from all trips combined (these plots are directly comparable with the lower panels in Appendix 1, Figure 1).



Appendix 1, Figure 3: Illustration, for hoki, of the effect of using different length-weight parameters in the calculation of LFs by sex for the 2002 survey. In the upper panels solid lines are LFs using length-weight parameters from individual trips; broken lines are 95% confidence intervals for LFs using length-weight parameters from all trips combined. Lower panels show the 11 individual-trip LFs expressed as quantiles of the bootstrap distribution for the combined-data LF.



Appendix 1, Figure 4: The effect of using different length-weight parameters in the calculation of LFs by sex for the 2002 survey. In each panel the 11 individual-trip LFs are plotted as quantiles of the bootstrap distribution for the combined-data LF (as in the lower panels of Figure 3). Species codes are given in Table 4.

Appendix 2: Individual station data for all stations conducted during the survey. P1, phase 1 trawl survey biomass stations; P2, phase 2 trawl survey biomass stations; AS, acoustic stations; NV, non-valid biomass stations; EX, an additional phase 1 trawl survey station; Strat., Stratum number.

				,		Start of		Ī	Depth	D:		1	Catch
Stn.	Туре	Strat.	Date	Time	Latitude	tow Longitude	· —		<u>(m)</u>	Dist towed	hoki	hake	(kg) ling
Çui.	1,50	Duac	·	NZST	° , 2	° 'E	/w	min.	max. (n				
1	P1	2A			•	176 32.40	E	773	783	2.94	13.5	4.8	0 ·
2	NV	8A				176 31.26	Е	523	555	3.01	28.9	0	68.9
3	P1	8A	29-Dec-02	1019	42 59.19	176 40.02	Ε	406	410	3.05	169.2	0	32.2
4	P1	2A	29-Dec-02	1311	42 45.93	176 58.76	E	648	655	3	40.8	1.9	5.7
5	NV	8A	29-Dec-02	1719	42 49.38	177 46.61	E	534	564	2.98	69	8.2	17.3
6	P1	8B	29-Dec-02	1819	42 54.37	178 00.40	E	413	416	2.01	83.7	4	21.1
7	NV	19	30-Dec-02		43 03.97	177 06.99	E	330	341	3.01	169.4	0	23.7
8	P1		30-Dec-02			177 14.50	E	305	330	2.96	180.1	0	16.3
9	P1	19	30-Dec-02			177 27.77	E	319	325	3.05	189.5	0	52.3
10	PI	20	30-Dec-02			177 37.96	E	265	276	- 3	386.7	0	0
11	P1	20	30-Dec-02		-	177 48.13	E	293	328	3	883.9	0	8
12	Pl	20	30-Dec-02			177 57.08	E	343 457	361 486	3.03	111.8	6.5 8.2	46.8 20.5
13 14	P1 P1	8B 2A	30-Dec-02 31-Dec-02			178 17.37 178 31.20	E E	722	7 6 0	3.02	32.6	0.8	9.5
15	P1	2A 20	31-Dec-02			178 53.11	E	372	378	3.01	314.5	0.0	107.5
16	NV	20	31-Dec-02		=	178 27.50	E	371	390	2.99	149.5	6.7	46.6
17	. P1	20	31-Dec-02		_	178 30.15	E	344	376	3	399.1	1.2	36.8
18	Pi	8B	31-Dec-02			179 08.45	E	400	409	3.01	72.9	0	25.4
19	P1	10B	1-Jan-03			179 18.80	W	583	592	3.02	262	28.7	29.7
. 20	Pi	10A	1-Jan-03	0917	43 02.01	179 51.41	W	555	559	3.01	78.4	10.9	42.8
21	P1	8B	1-Jan-03	1109	43 04.83	179 58.02	E	518	529	3.01	80.2	0	10.1
22	P1	10A	1-Jan-03	1458	43 25.73	179 55.36	\mathbf{w}	400	429	3.04	69.6	0	35.1
23	P1	10A	1-Jan-03	1754	43 28.66	179 37.87	W	428	451	3.01	181.9	11	40.5
24	· P1	11B				178 32.78	W	429	463	3.13	55.5	0	12.7
25	P1	11B				178 36.83	W	470	489	3.01	85.3	7.3	19.3
26	P1	11A		!	43 16.02		W	440	452	3.01	23	0	26.2
27	P1	11A			43 24.43		W	429	445	3	155.4	7.2	12.9
28	P1	10B				179 05.87	W	400	407	3	124.8	0	37.7
29	Pl	10B				179 26.88	W	483	492	2.97	66.9	19.8	6.5
30	P1	11B				178 54.27	W	533		3	158.1	0	. 9
31 32	P1 P1	11C 11C				178 19.38 177 55.69-	W W	545 532		3.01 2.99	62.2 407.5	23.5 24.9	
33	P1	11C				177 49.77	W	500		2.99	121.8	7.9	
34	P1	2B				177 43.77	W	646		2.98	59.3	0	
35	P1	2B	-			2 177 02.31	w	657		2.92	56.6		
36	P1	9				178 13.92	w	372		2.99	40.7		
37	P1	9				178 08.32	w			2.52	213.3		
38	P1					178 13.30	W			3.04	197.6		
39	P1	9	4-Jan-03	1426	43 24.40	177 33.56	W	300		3.24	0		
40*	P1	9	4-Jan-03	1748	43 16.13	176 56.35	W	270	330	1.45	NR	NR	NR
41	PI		4-Jan-03	1849	43 16.72	2 176 56.51	W	273	285	2.01	31.2	. 0	0
42	PI					3 176 07.08	W			3.06	53.4	8.4	29.4
43	PI					2 176 07.71	W			3.03	481.7		
44	Pl	9	5-Jan-03	0901	43 33.86	5 176 02.70	W	215	222	3.01	0	0	0

						Start of]	Depth	Dia		(Catch
Stn.	Туре	Strat	Data	Time	Latitude	Longitude	_		<u>(m)</u>	Dist towed	hoki	hake	(kg) ling
Sui,	Type	Juai.			° 'S	-	E/W	i			iloka	Haro	******
				NZST	ა		E/ YY	пшп.	max. (i	n. mile)			
45	P1	11D	5-Jan-03	1225	43 23.53	175 40.35	w	464	505	2.99	254.2	0	25.1
47	P1	11D	5-Jan-03			175 52.07		533	540	2.92	63.8	0	14.4
48	P1	2B	6-Jan-03	0443	43 27.15	174 38.43	W	773	782	3	10.6	4.3	7.3
49	MW		6-Jan-03	1002	44 07.02	174 34.04	W	600	667	4.35	353.1	0	0
50	MW		6-Jan-03	1242	44 09.01	174 35.52	w	515	735	2.54	160.3	0	0
51	P1	9	6-Jan-03	1757	43 56.01	175 22.49	W	205	238	3.01	0	0	0
52	P1	12	7-Jan-03	0453	44 15.58	177 40.55	W	511	514	3.01	189.9	0	54.7
53	P1	12	7-Jan-03	0737	44 10.46	177 23.97	W	444	455	3	244.2	11.7	84.9
54	P1	12	7-Jan-03	0938	44 07.83	177 20.93	W	407	415	. 3	440.9	0	34.1
55	P1	5	7-Jan-03	1223	44 03.97	177 05.96	W	235	247	3.01	0	0	0
56	P1	5	7-Jan-03	1628	43 34.89	177 27.39	W	275	287	2.03	108.2	0	2.5
57	P1	5	9-Jan-03	0432	43 30.25	178 04.41	W	366	379	3	197.6	0	61.7
58	P1	13	9-Jan-03	0809	43 48.39	178 26.52	w w	431	446	3	329.8	8	64.6
59	P1	13	9-Jan-03	1050	44 06.25	178 31.28	W W	452	469	3.01	159.7	0	68.2
60*	P1	13	9-Jan-03	1457	44 17.33	179 11.62	2 W	584	594	0.87	NR	NR	NR
61	P1	3	9-Jan-03	1805	44 01.94	178 59.30) W	328	368	3.06	410.3	0	131.6
62	P1	3	10-Jan-03	0436	43 48.98	179 17.18	3 W	324	344	3.04	218	11.3	6.2
63	P1	3	10-Jan-03	0636	43 47.46	179 29.24	₩ W	324	331	3	234.9	0	24.4
64	P1	13	10-Jan-03	0907	43 55.37	179 45.53	3 W	405	420	3	84.4	9.5	33.1
65	P1	14	10-Jan-03	1115	43 53.51	179 58.20	5 E	430	450	3	120.1	11.9	37.5
66	P1	4	10-Jan-03	1726	44 03.20	178 49.1	l E	771	789	2.98	60.9	6.5	5.1
67.	P1	14	11-Jan-03	0720	43 43.57	178 21.2	5 E	407	423	3.01	182.1	0	62
68	P1	14	11-Jan-03	0934		178 28.7		479	529	3	422.5	2	95.7
69	P 1	4	11-Jan-03			178 16.7				3	45.1	0	4.2
. 70	P1	15	11-Jan-03			177 38.9				2.98	141.3	5	65.3
71	P 1	4	12-Jan-03			176 35.0				3.02	37.4	0	20.6
72	P1	15	12-Jan-03			176 25.0				3	177.5	0	54.7
73	Pi					175 58.7				3	2241.9	0	18.6
74	P1		12-Jan-03			2 176 05.4				3	1145.7	0	27.1
75	PI	17	12-Jan-03			2 176 13.9				3	29.1	0	0.5
76	P1		12-Jan-03			176 06.2				2.51	73.9		6.1
77	PI		13-Jan-03			3 175 14.8				3.04	2		0
78	P1					3 174 25.4					54.3		20.6
79	P1		13-Jan-03			173 32.7					39.6		0
80	Pi		14-Jan-03			2 174 10.8				3	66.6		46.5
81	Pi		14-Jan-03			7 174 05.6				3.01	157		32.7
82	P1		14-Jan-03			2 174 04.3				3			52.6
83	P1		14-Jan-03			2 174 26.5							90.8
84	P1		14-Jan-03			3 174 31.2							
85	P1		15-Jan-03			5 175 14.0							
86	Pl		15-Jan-03			1 175 05.5							
87	PI		15-Jan-03			9 174 51.2							
88	Pi		15-Jan-0:			4 174 40.9							
89	PI		15-Jan-03			3 174 32.7							
90	Pi	1	13-Jan-0	3 1456	42 59.5	8 174 34.4	10 E	750	778	2.96	2	: 0	33.3

•						Start of tow]	Depth (m)	Dist.			Catch (kg)
Stn.	Туре	Strat.	Date	Time	Latitude	Longitude				towed	hoki	hake	ling
				NZST	°'S	ο,	E/W	min.	max. (n. mile)			
91	P1	18	15-Jan-03	1815	43 21.15	174 46.61	·E	358	372	2.34	757.5	0	11.4
92	P1	7	16-Jan-03	0457	43 35.50	174 37.66	E	477	503	2.99	262.5	47.5	86.3
93	P1	18	16-Jan-03	0746	43 36.77	175 03.61	E	315	333	3.02	1034.4	0	6.4
94	P1	18	16-Jan-03	1000	43 37.51	175 24.85	E	269	282	3	374.5	0	0
95	P1	· 18	16-Jan-03	1222	43 38.04	175 41.70	E	270	285	3	137.1	0	0
96	P1	16	16-Jan-03	1610	44 01.83	175 31.81	E	508	532	3.02	230.7	21.9	216.8
97	P1	18	17-Jan-03	0454	43 30.32	175 45.74	E	274	309	3.01	554.2	0	0.1
98	P 1	18	17-Jan-03	0640	43 24.11	175 42.48	E	240	283	3	93.3	0	20.2
99	P1	18	17-Jan-03	0822	43 32.11	175 40.69	E	258	265	3.01	16.3	0	0
100	Pl	19	17-Jan-03	1104	43 36.44	176 02.15	E	330	341	3.01	796.4	, 0	10.5
101	P1	19	17-Jan-03	1254	43 33.91	176 12.36	5 E	339	362	2.99	1575.3	0	2.5
102	PI	15	17-Jan-03	1505	43 42.75	176 23.99	E	404	427	3.03	1347.1	0	30.7
103	P1	19	17-Jan-03	1802	43 31.44	176 46.59) E	246	262	3	1036.1	0	0
104	P1	19	18-Jan-03	0447	43 17.30	176 17.24	I E	319	339	3.08	591.9	0	9.7
105*	. P1	19	18-Jan-03	0702	43 11.29	176 04.0	3 E	386	388	2.8	NR	NR	NR
106	P1	19	18-Jan-03	0852	43 07.72	176 13.3	7 E	368	374	3.01	664.2	0	31
107	P1	19	18-Jan-03	1112	43 08.77	176 33.42	2 E	300	311	3	5116.5	0	0.6
108	P 1	19	18-Jan-03	1328	43 09.00	176 54.14	4 E	279	291	2.99	2110.7	0	3
109	P1	19	18-Jan-03	1520	43 04.43	177 06.0	2 E	319	344	2.98	556	1.6	4.8
110	P1	8A.	18-Jan-03	1752	42 52.95	176 56.2	5 E	408	422	3.06	33.5	0	23.9
111	P1	20	19-Jan-03	0457	43 34.38	177 43.9	7 E	377	394	3	410.3	0	26.3
112	P1	20	19-Jan-03	0735	43 28.36	178 08.9	9 E	334	343	3.01	697.1	0	4.4
113	P1	20	19-Jan-03	1016	43 14.85	178 24.6	7 E	369	382	3	539.6	0	19.6
114	P1	20	19-Jan-03	1310	43 17.45	178 05.8	4 E	314	328	3.02	556.3	0	1.1
115	P1	20	19-Jan-03	1509	43 09.67	177 55.5	8 E	351	387	2.99	309.5	0	66.4
116	P1	8A	19-Jan-03	1757	42 51.08	177 49.0	2 E	471	568	3	27.1	0	50.6
117	P2	19	20-Jan-03	0453	43 21.52	176 12.2	0 E		353	2.99	401	8.8	15.3
118	P2	19	20-Jan-03	0715	43 18.01	176 34.3	5 E	259	265	3.01	410.9	0	0
119	P2	19	20-Jan-03	0934	43 27.17	176 43.4	9 E	249	262	3	0.6	0	0
120	P2	15	20-Jan-03	3 1204	43 41.73	176 31.6	9 E	404	429	3.01	1290.9	4.4	44.8
121	P2	15	20-Jan-03	3 1411	43 53.29	176 31.9	8 .E	478	497	3.02	586.8	4.5	111.9
122	P2	15	20-Jan-03	3 1613	44 04.29	176 25.9	0 E	535	598	3.03	379.3	2.6	53.5
123	P2	16	21-Jan-03	3 0456	44 02.29	174 28.2	7 E	558	574	3.04	64.1	3.1	38.5
124	P2	. 16	21-Jan-03	3 0656	43 56.77	174 37.6	8 E	509	529	2.99	148	3.3	63
125	P2	16	21-Jan-03	3 0914	43 49.16	5 174 54.3	2 E	450	460	3	319.3	18.5	36

^{*} Foul trawl stations

NR Catch not recorded on foul trawl stations

Appendix 3: Scientific and common names of species caught from valid biomass tows. Occurrence of each species (number of tows in which caught) in the 115 valid biomass tows. (Note that codes are continually updated on the database following this and other surveys.)

Scientific name Algae	Common name unspecified seaweed	Code SEO	Occ. 5
Aigac	unspectaco seaweed	SEO	
Porifera	sponges	ONG	47
Cnidaria			
Scyphozoa (jellyfish)	unspecified jellyfish	JFI	16
Hydrozoa			
Coral (Hydrozoan + Anthozoan corals)	unspecified coral	COU	31
Anthozoa			
Pennatulacea (sea pens)	unspecified sea pens	SPN	18
Actinaria (sea anemones)	unspecified sea anemones	ANT	47
Tunicata			
Thaliacea (salps)	unspecified salps	SAL	1
Pyrosoma atlanticum		PYR	80
Annelida			
Polychaeta	unspecified polychaete	POL	1
Mollusca			
Gastropoda (gastropods)	unspecified gastropods	GAS	4
Cymatiidae	•		
Fusitriton magellanicus		FMA	34
Volutidae			
Provocator mirabilis	golden volute	GVO	2
Buccinidae	•		
Penion sp.			2
Bivalvia (bivalves)	unspecified bivalves	BIV	4
Cephalopoda			
Teuthoidea (squids)			•
Ommastrephidae			•
Nototodarus sloanii	arrow squid	NOS	65
Todarodes filippovae	Antarctic flying squid	TSQ	20
Onchoteuthidae			
Moroteuthis ingens	warty squid	MIQ	40
M. robsoni	warty squid	MRQ	1
Octopoda (octopods)		OCP	4
Octopodidae			
Enteroctopus zealandicus	yellow octopus	EZE	2
Graneledone spp.	deepwater octopus	DWO	8
Opisthoteuthididae Opisthoteuthis spp.		057	_
орыновенны эрр.	umbrella octopus	OPI	2

Scientific name	Common name	Code	Occ.
Crustacea			
Dendrobranchiata/Pleocyemata (prawns)	•		
Caridea	•		
Alpheidae (snapping shrimps)			
Alpheus socialis	snapping shrimp		1
Nematocarcinidae			•
Lipkius holthuisi	omega prawn	LHO	16
Oplophoridae			
Oplophorus novaezeelandiae	prawn	ONO	2
Pasiphaeidae	•		
Pasiphaea spp.	prawn	PAS	4
Penaeidea			
Sergestidae			
Sergia potens	prawn	SEP	1
Astacidea	•		
Nephropidae (clawed lobsters)			
Metanephrops challengeri	scampi	SCI	61
Palinura	•		
Polychelidae			
Polycheles suhmi	polychelid	PLY	4
Crab (Anomuran + Brachyuran crabs)	unspecified crabs	CRB	15
Anomura			
Galatheidae (squat lobsters)			
Munida sp.		MUN	6
Lithodidae (king crabs)			
Lithodes murrayi	southern stone crab	LMU	1
Neolithodes brodiei	5022.57.11 510.110 512.0	NEB	2
Paralomis hystrix		PHS	2
Parapaguridae (Parapagurid hermit crabs)			
Parapagurus dimorphus	hermit crab	PAG	31
Axiidae	M011111 7100		
Spongaxius novaezelandiae			1
Brachyura			, -
Homolidae			
Paromola petterdi	antlered crab	ATC	18
Portunidae (swimming crabs)	and of the		
Ovalipes molleri	swimming crab	OVM	2
Majidae (spider crabs)	Jiiiiiiiiig otab	0.111	
Leptomithrax sp.	masking crab	SSC	7
Enprovemental Sp.	manang ordo	550	•
Bryozoa (bryozoans)		COZ	2
Brachiopoda (lamp shells)		BPD	1
Echinodermata			
Asteroidea (starfish)	unspecified asteroid	ASR	58
Astropectinidae	ampromise microid	11310	20
Plutonaster spp.	starfish	PLT	19
Psilaster acuminatus	geometric star	PSI	58
	0		70

Scientific name	Common name	Code	Occ.
Goniasteridae			
Hippasteria trojana	trojan star	HTR	7
Mediaster sladeni	starfish	MSL	15
Odontasteridae	51	1,102	
Odontaster spp.	pentagonal tooth-star	ODT	3
Solasteridae			_
Crossaster japonicus	sun star	CJA	27
Solaster torulatus	starfish	SOT	9
Velatida		501	,
Peribolaster lictor	starfish	PLI	3
Zoroasteridae			3
Zoroaster spp.	rat-tail star	ZOR	35
Holothuroidea (sea cucumbers)	unspecified holothruian	HTH	31
holothurian sp.1	sea cucumber	SCC	11
Ophiuroidea (basket and brittle stars)	unspecified ophiuroid	OPH	3
Euryalina (basket stars)	unspecified opinarold	Orar	3
Gorgonocephalidae			
Gorgonocephalus sp.	basket star	GOR	12
Echinoidea (sea urchins)	Dasket stat	GOK	13
Regularia			
Cidaridae (cidarid urchins)			
Goniocidaris parasol	cidarid urchin	GPA	11
G. umbraculum	cidarid urchin	GOU	2
Echinothuriidae (Tam-o-shanter urchins)	Chana acini	TAM	24
Araeosoma spp.	Tam o'shanter urchin	ARA	24 11
Echinidae	Tanto shance delini	ALA	11
Gracilechinus multidentatus	sea urchin	GRM	11
Dermechinus horridus	sea urchin	DHO	7
Spatangidae (heart urchins)	Sca moun	DIIO	,
Paramaretia multituberculata	heart urchin	PMU	22
A creation (invitant figher)			
Agnatha (jawless fishes) Myxinidae: hagfishes			
Eptatretus cirrhatus	1 e. t	77.4.0	_
Epiaireius cirrinius	hagfish	HAG	1
Chondrichthyes (cartilagenous fishes)			
Chlamydoselachidae: frill shark			
Chlamydoselachus anguineus	frill shark	FRS	1
Squalidae: dogfishes			
Centrophorus squamosus ·	leafscale gulper shark	CSQ	8
Centroscymnus crepidater	longnose velvet dogfish	CYP	14
C. owstoni	smoothskin dogfish	CYO	2
C. plunketi	Plunket's shark	PLS	7
Deania calcea	shovelnose dogfish	SND	31
Etmopterus baxteri	Baxter's dogfish	ETB	19
E. lucifer	Lucifer dogfish	ETL.	58
Scymnorhinus licha	seal shark	BSH	25
Squalus acanthias	spiny dogfish	SPD	76
S. mitsukurii	northern spiny dogfish	NSD	7

Scientific name	Common name	Code	Occ.
Oxynotidae: rough sharks			
Oxynotus bruniensis	prickly dogfish	PDG	10
Scyliorhinidae: cat sharks	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
Apristurus spp.	deepsea catsharks	APR	5
Cephaloscyllium isabellum	carpet shark	CAR	4
Halaelurus dawsoni	Dawson's catshark	DCS	4
Triakidae: smoothhounds			
Galeorhinus galeus	school shark	SCH	6
Torpedinidae: electric rays			
Torpedo fairchildi	electric ray	ERA	3
Narkidae: blind electric rays		•	
Typhlonarke spp.	numbfish	BER .	4
Rajidae: skates			
Amblyraja georgiana	Antarctic starry skate	SRR	1
Dipturus innominatus	smooth skate	SSK	43
D. nasutus	rough skate	RSK	3
Notoraja asperula		BTA	26
N. spînifera		BTS	19
Chimaeridae: chimaeras, ghost sharks			
Hydrolagus novaezealandiae	ghost shark	GSH	74
Hydrolagus sp. B	pale ghost shark	GSP	63
Rhinochimaeridae: longnosed chimaeras			*
Harriotta raleighana	long-nosed chimaera	LCH	42
Rhinochimaera pacifica	widenosed chimaera	RCH	6
Osteichthyes (bony fishes)			
Halosauridae: halosaurs			
Halosaurus pectoralis	common halosaur	HPE	1
Notocanthidae: spiny eels			
Notacanthus sexspinis	spineback	SBK	44
Synaphobranchidae: cutthroat eels			
Diastobranchus capensis	basketwork eel	BEE	4
Congridae: conger eels			
Bassanago bulbiceps	swollenhead conger	SCO	38
B. hirsutus	hairy conger	HCO	25
Gonorynchidae: sandfish			
Gonorynchus forsteri	sandfish	GON	1
Argentinidae: silversides			
Argentina elongata	silverside	SSI	71
Bathylagidae: deepsea smelts			
Bathylagus spp.	deepsea smelt	DSS	1
Alepocephalidae: slickheads			
Xenodermichthys spp.	black slickhead	BSL	4
Sternoptychidae: hatchetfishes			
Argyropelecus gigas	giant hatchetfish	AGI	2
Photichthyidae: lighthouse fishes	1.1.1 %	P4.7 S. 4.	
Photichthys argenteus	lighthouse fish	PHO	17
Chauliodontidae: viperfishes Chauliodus sloani			_
Chautoaus stoant	viper fish	CHA	3

Scientific name	Common name	Code	Occ.
Melanostomiidae: scaleless black dragonfishes		MST	1
Chlorophthalmidae: cucumberfishes, tripodfishes			
Chlorophthalmus nigripinnis	cucumberfish	CUC	2
Notosudidae: waryfishes			
Scopelosaurus sp.		SPL	2
Paralepididae: barracudinas		PAL	1
Myctophidae: lanternfishes		LAN	6
Lampanyctus spp.	lanternfish	LPA	1
Moridae: morid cods	morid cods	MOD	1
Antimora rostrata	violet cod	VCO	1
Austrophycis marginata	dwarf cod	DCO	2
Halargyreus johnsonii	slender cod	HIO	11
Laemonema sp.		LAE	1
Lepidion microcephalus	small-headed cod	SMC	4
Mora moro	ribaldo	RIB	33
Physiculus luminosa	luminescent cod	PLU	1
Pseudophycis bachus	red cod	RCO	32
Tripterophycis gilchristi	grenadier cod	GRC	6
Gadidae: true cods			
Micromesistius australis	southern blue whiting	SBW	3
Merlucciidae: hakes			
Macruronus novaezelandiae	hoki	HOK	111
Merluccius australis	hake	HAK	46
Macrouridae: rattails, grenadiers			
Caelorinchus aspercephalus	oblique banded rattail	CAS	67
C. biclinozonalis	two saddle rattail	CBI	18
C. bollonsi	bigeye rattail	CBO	95
C. fasciatus	banded rattail	CFA	28
C. innotabilis	notable rattail	CIN	. 8
C. matamua	Mahia rattail	CMA	6
C. maurofasciatus	dark banded rattail	CDX	1
C. oliverianus	Oliver's rattail	COL	60
C. parvifasciatus	small banded rattail	CCX	33
Coryphaenoides dossenus	long barbel rattail	CBA .	6
C serrulatus	serrulate rattail	CSE	8
C subserrulatus	four-rayed rattail	CSU	8
Lepidorhynchus denticulatus	javelinfish	JAV	108
Macrourus carinatus	ridge scaled rattail	MCA	4
Trachyrincus aphyodes	white rattail	WHX	5
Ventrifossa nigromaculata	blackspot rattail	VNI	29
Ophidiidae: cusk eels			
Genypterus blacodes	ling	LIN	98
Trachipteridae: dealfishes			
Trachipterus trachypterus	dealfish	DEA	4
Trachichthyidae: roughies		A-1-1-1	_
Hoplostethus atlanticus H. mediterraneus	orange roughy	ORH	3
Paratrachichthys trailli	silver roughy	SRH	38
a with the interest and a second	common roughy	RHY	14

Scientific name	Common name	Code	Occ.
Diretmidae: discfishes			
Diretmus argenteus	discfish	DIS	1
Berycidae: alfonsinos			
Beryx decadactylus	longfinned beryx	BYD	- 2
B splendens	alfonsino	BYS	40
Zeidae: dories			
Capromimus abbreviatus	capro dory	CDO	25
Cyttus novaezealandiae	silver dory	SDO	29
C. traversi	lookdown dory	LDO	107
Zenopsis nebulosus	mirror dory	MDO	2
Oreosomatidae: oreos	•		
Allocyttus niger	black oreo	BOE	7
Neocyttus rhomboidalis	spiky oreo	SOR	13
Pseudocyttus maculatus	smooth oreo	SSO	7
Macrorhamphosidae: snipefishes			
Centriscops humerosus	banded bellowsfish	BBE	84
Notopogon lilliei	crested bellowsfish	CBE	5
Scorpaenidae: scorpionfishes			
Helicolenus spp.	sea perch	SPE	98
Congiopoidae: pigfishes	-		
Alertichthys blacki	alert pigfish	API	5
Congiopodus coriaceus	deepsea pigfish	DSP	2
Triglidae: gurnards			
Lepidotrigla brachyoptera	scaly gurnard	SCG	18
Hoplichthyidae: ghostflatheads			
Hoplichthys haswelli	deepsea flathead	FHD	52
Psychrolutidae: toadfishes			
Ambophthalmos angustus	pale toadfish	TOP	41
Cottunculus nudus	bonyskull toadfish	COT	2
Percichthyidae: temperate basses			
Polyprion americanus	bass	BAS	1
P. oxygeneios	hapuku	HAP	18
Serranidae: sea perches			
Lepidoperca aurantia	orange perch	OPE	19
Apogonidae: cardinalfishes			
Epigonus lenimen	bigeye cardinalfish	EPL	13
E. robustus	robust cardinalfish	EPR ·	11
E. telescopus	deepsea cardinalfish	EPT	21
Carangidae: jacks, trevallies, kingfishes			
Trachurus declivis	jack mackerel	MD	1
T. symmetricus murphyi	slender mackerel	JMM	16
Bramidae: pomfrets			
Brama brama &	Ray's bream &	RBM &	49
B. australis	southern Ray's bream	SRB	
Xenobrama microlepis	bronze bream	BBR	1
Emmelichthyidae: bonnetmouths, rovers			
Emmelichthys nitidus	redbait	RBT	18
Plagiogeneion rubiginosus	ruby fish	RBY	2

Scientific name	Common name	Code	Occ.
Pentacerotidae: boarfishes, armourfishes			
Pentaceros decacanthus	yellow boarfish	YBO	2
Cheilodactylidae: tarakihi, morwongs	·		
Nemadactylus macropterus	tarakihi	TAR	12
Uranoscopidae: armourhead stargazers		•	
Kathetostoma giganteum	giant stargazer	STA	67
Kathetostoma sp.	banded giant stargazer	BGZ	2
Percophidae: opalfishes			
Hemerocoetes spp.	opalfish	OPA	3
Pinguipedidae: weavers			
Parapercis gilliesi	yellow cod	YCO	3
Gemplylidae: snake mackerels			,
Ruvettus pretiosus	oilfish	OFH	1
Thyrsites atun	barracouta	BAR	18
Trichiuridae: cutlassfishes			
Lepidopus caudatus	frostfish	FRO	3
Scombridae: mackerels, tunas			
Scomber australasicus	blue mackerel	EMA	2
Centrolophidae: raftfishes, medusafishes			
Centrolophus niger	rudderfish	RUD	18
Hyperoglyphe antarctica	bluenose	BNS	1
Icichthys australis	ragfish	RAG	1
Seriolella caerulea	white warehou	WWA	59
S. punctata	silver warehou	SWA	44
Tubbia tasmanica		TUB	4
Bothidae: lefteyed flounders			
Arnoglossus scapha	witch	WIT	24
Neoachiropsetta milfordi	finless flounder	MAN	5
Pleuronectidae: righteyed flounders			
Azygopus pinnifasciatus	spotted flounder	SDF	1
Pelotretis flavilatus	lemon sole	LSO	18

Appendix 4: Length ranges (cm) used to identify 1+, 2+ and 3++ hoki age classes to estimate relative biomasses given in Table 5.

				Age group
Survey	0+	1+	2+	3++
Jan 1992	_	< 50	50 – 65	≥ 65
Jan 1993	_	< 50	50 - 65	_ ≥ 65
Jan 1994	_	< 46	46 – 59	≥ 59
Jan 1995	-	< 46	46 – 59	≥ 59
Jan 1996	_	< 46	46 – 55	≥ 55
Jan 1997	_	< 44	44 – 56	≥ 56
Jan 1998	***	< 47	47 – 56	≥ 53
Jan 1999	_	< 47	47 – 57	≥ 57
Jan 2000	_	< 47	47 – 61	≥ 61
Jan 2001		< 49	49 – 60	≥ 60
Jan 2002	_	< 52	52 – 60	≥ 60