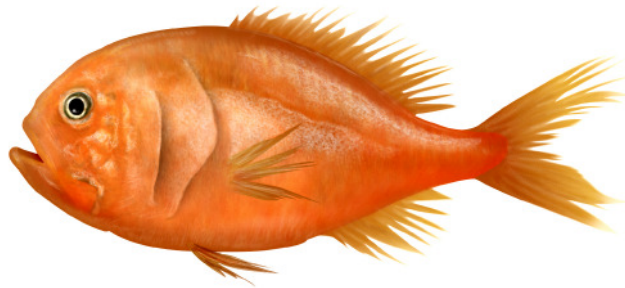


Orange Roughy



Biology facts

Depth Range	bathypelagic, 180-1800m
Max Age	150 years
Maturity Age	25-30 years
Max Size	75 cm
Max Weight	7 kg
Prey	crustaceans, fish, squid
Other	One of the longest lived fish species known. Grows very slowly. Occurs in deep water over seamounts, steep continental slopes and ocean ridges. Forms aggregations (feeding and spawning) Is found off New Zealand, Australia and Namibia; in northwest Atlantic. Is found within EEZs, some are straddling stocks, while others are entirely on the high seas.

Fishery Facts

Latin Name	<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>
Fishing Method	Bottom trawling
Annual catch	37 707 t (1999); 19 866 t (2006)
Market	Orange roughy from NZ is one of the most valuable export fish species, worth more than U.S. Dollar 60 million in 2006. Most is exported to the USA and Australia, and some to the UK where it is reportedly used by some fast food chains as fish fillet burgers. Some is also sold in New Zealand, for example as frozen fish fillets.
Main fishing nations	New Zealand (23 780 t) and Australia (7 553 t) (1999)
IUU	possible; The FAO has itself recognised that the underestimate may be as high as 30% in some years.
Certification	not certified

Spendenkonto

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Main Concerns

- **Overfishing:** worldwide, years of heavy fishing have decimated populations which may take decades to recover
- The biomass of most stocks in New Zealand is below 20% of the original biomass. In Australia orange roughy is now listed on the threatened species list as conservation dependent.
- **Habitat damage:** It is fished over seamounts, steep continental slopes and ocean ridges using bottom trawling gear which has caused considerable damage - Bottom trawling damages undersea habitats and accidentally catches other marine life, including cold-water corals.
- Orange roughy is inherently vulnerable to fishing pressure because it may live up to 130 years or more and does not reach sexual maturity until it is 20-32 years of age and female fish produce very few eggs compared to other species.

Main Sources

http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=68455

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/009/a0653e/a0653e07.html>

<http://www.fishbase.org/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?id=334>

<http://www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/SOF/Species.htm?code=ORH&list=name>

<http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/bestfishguide/species/orangeroughy.asp>

http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/cr/cr_seafoodwatch/content/media/MBA_SeafoodWatch_OrangeRoughyReport.pdf

http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/cr/SeafoodWatch/web/sfw_factsheet.aspx?fid=54

<http://www.seachoice.org/profile/47/viewh>

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