

Hoki |

Operational Procedures

01 October 2014

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Part 1: Introduction

The following Operational Procedures (OPs) stipulate the management measures agreed between hoki (HOK) quota owners, ACE owners and the Ministry for Primary Industries (Ministry). It is implemented and administered by Deepwater Group Ltd (DWG).

Purpose of these Procedures

These OPs have been established to manage and monitor fishing effort within the agreed Hoki Management Areas (HMAs). These are areas where there are high abundances of juvenile hoki (i.e. for these purposes, hoki <55 cm in total length).

Operators and vessels monitor catches of hoki across the whole QMA and DWG recommends, as a matter of principle, that all vessels move from any area where catches of juvenile hoki (i.e. <55 cm in length) comprise more than 20% or more of the hoki catch by number.

The following points are important to note when managing the hoki fisheries:

- Stocks are demonstrated to be increasing in size
 - Fishermen are experiencing improved catch rates
 - There is a measured abundance of small fish from recent strong recruitment and it is sensible to minimise catch of these to assist a stronger and faster recovery
 - It is important to monitor and manage the status of juvenile hoki
 - Management measures may be modified in the future based on monitoring results.
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Objectives of these Procedures

The objectives of these OPs are to:

- Ensure sustainable utilisation of HOK resources
 - Spread catches within QMAs by sub-area where the best available information suggests this is useful to ensure better management of these identified HOK stocks
 - Ensure that all trawlers targeting HOK are able to implement the practices agreed between quota owners and the Ministry
 - Monitor individual company performance against the agreed management measures for the HOK fisheries.
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Status of these Procedures

This OP came into effect in 2011 and remains so.

Application of these Procedures

These OPs apply to:

- All companies and vessels targeting HOK stocks
 - All companies and vessels taking HOK as bycatch
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Other Key Operational Documents or Rules and Regulations

These OPs are to be used in conjunction with, but do not replace, the following:

- Marine Mammal Operational Procedures (MMOPs)
 - Vessel Management Plans (VMPs) for mitigating seabird captures
 - Reporting OPs
 - All or any relevant laws and regulations pertaining to fisheries activities in New Zealand waters.
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Part 2: Responsibilities of Parties

The following outlines the responsibilities of parties to the HOK Operational Procedures.

Commitment to these Procedures and the Deed of Management

All HOK shareholders, ACE owners and owners or operators of vessels in the hoki fisheries, are required by DWG to adhere to these OPs.

This requirement is authorised under the Deepwater Fisheries Management Agreement (2005-06), which remains in force until such time as it is revoked by the Parties.

Shareholders' Obligations

Shareholders shall ensure that any user of their ACE is aware of these OPs and signs a written acknowledgement of their intention to abide by them prior to any fishing.

Vessel Owners' and Operators' Obligations

All vessel owners and operators shall:

- Ensure vessel managers are fully aware of and actively implement the provisions of these OPs
 - Ensure that officers and crew of all trawlers targeting hoki are aware of and act in accordance with the requirements of these OPs
 - Ensure that a copy of these OPs are kept on the bridge of all trawlers catching hoki (i.e. as target or bycatch)
 - Take responsibility for corrective action should the vessel, captain or crew fail to observe the requirements of these OPs
 - Ensure that all sub-area and species catches, as stipulated below, are recorded and provided to DWG as required
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Captains' Obligations

All captains shall ensure that:

- Any trawler catching hoki has a copy of these OPs on the bridge
 - Their vessel adheres to the provisions of these OPs
 - Records required for monitoring these OPs are collected and forwarded to their company
 - All key crew members are fully briefed on the requirements of these OPs
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Part 3: Requirements for Trawlers >28m

The following outlines the responsibilities of Trawlers >28m

Requirement 1

Trawlers greater than 28 m (i.e.>28 m LOA) **are not permitted to target hoki** inside any of the HMAs listed in these operational procedures.

Requirement 2

Trawlers greater than 28 m within a HMA targeting species other than hoki and not carrying a Ministry observer onboard are required to:

- Provide the relevant TCEPR documentation for all tows that occurred inside any HMA when requested by DWG
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Part 4: Hoki Management Areas

The following outlines the Hoki Management Areas (HMAs)

Hoki Management Areas

The Hoki Management Areas (HMAs) are:

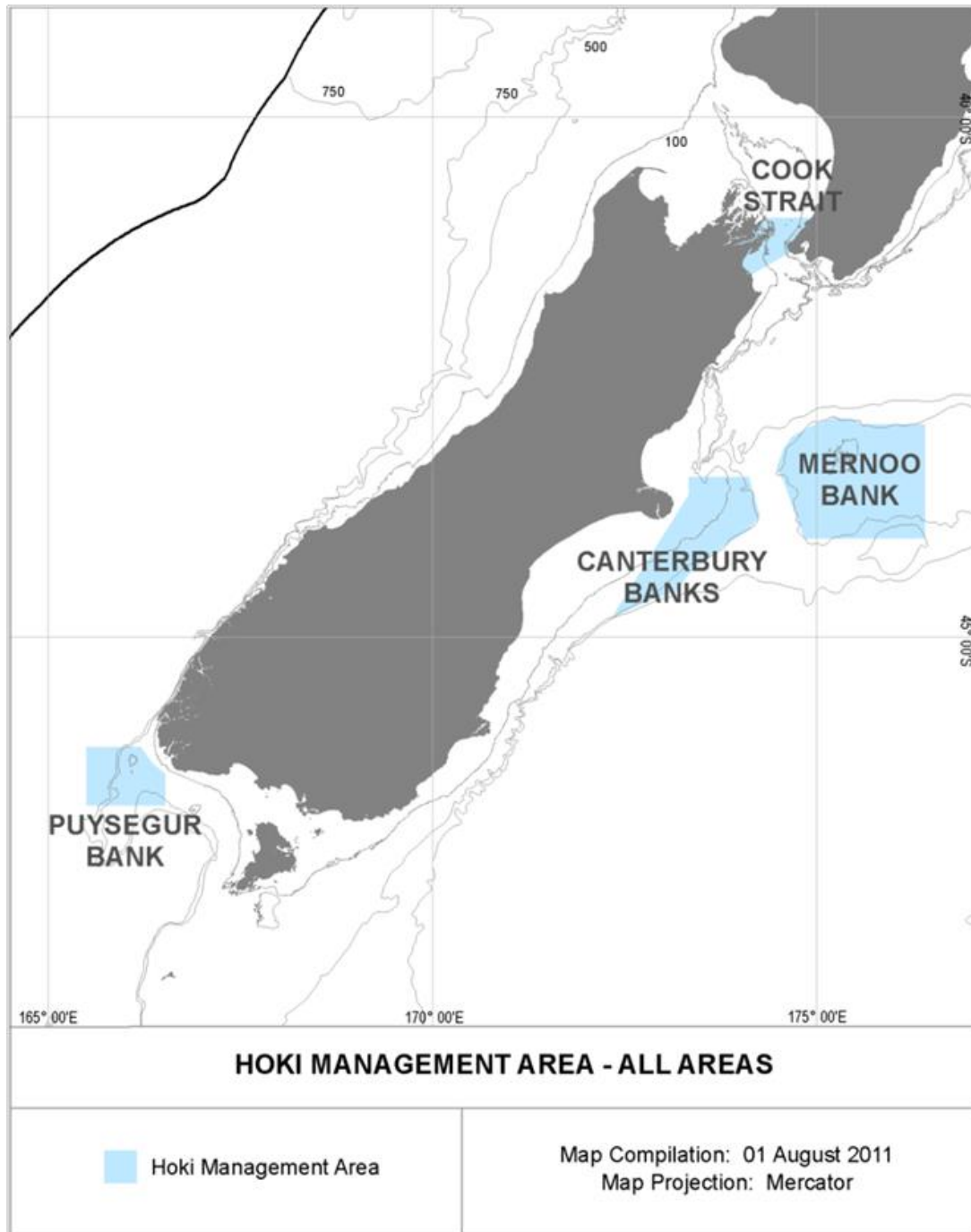
- Cook Strait
- Canterbury Banks
- Mernoo
- Puysegur

HMA maps and boundary coordinates are shown on the following pages.

Part 4A: Hoki Management Areas – All

HOK1 quota owners have agreed to the following Hoki Management Areas.

Figure 1: The Four Hoki Management Areas



Part 4B: Cook Strait Management Area

HOK1 quota owners have agreed to the following Hoki Management Area

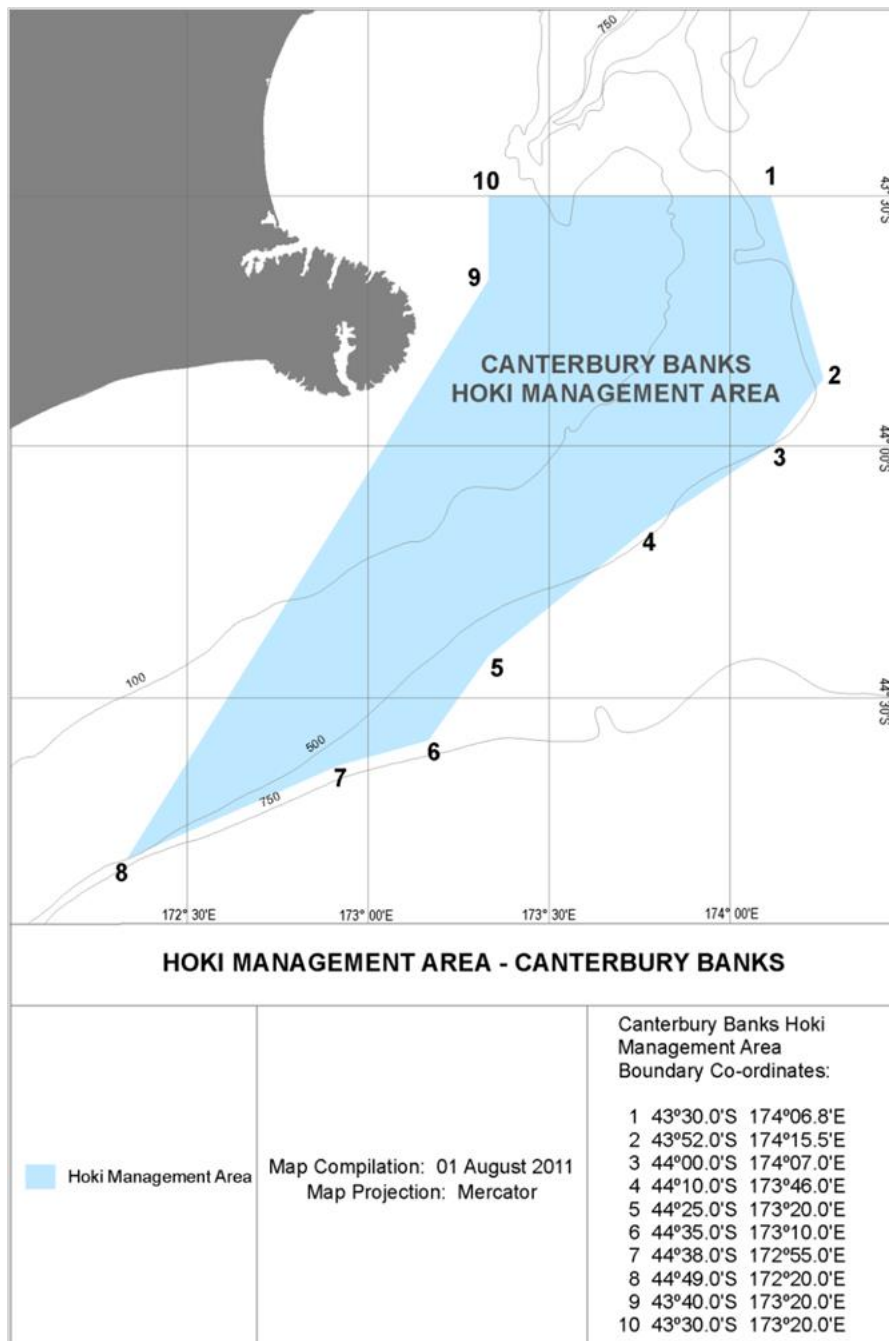
Figure 2: Cook Strait Management Area



Part 4C: Canterbury Banks Management Area

HOK1 quota owners have agreed to the following Hoki Management Area

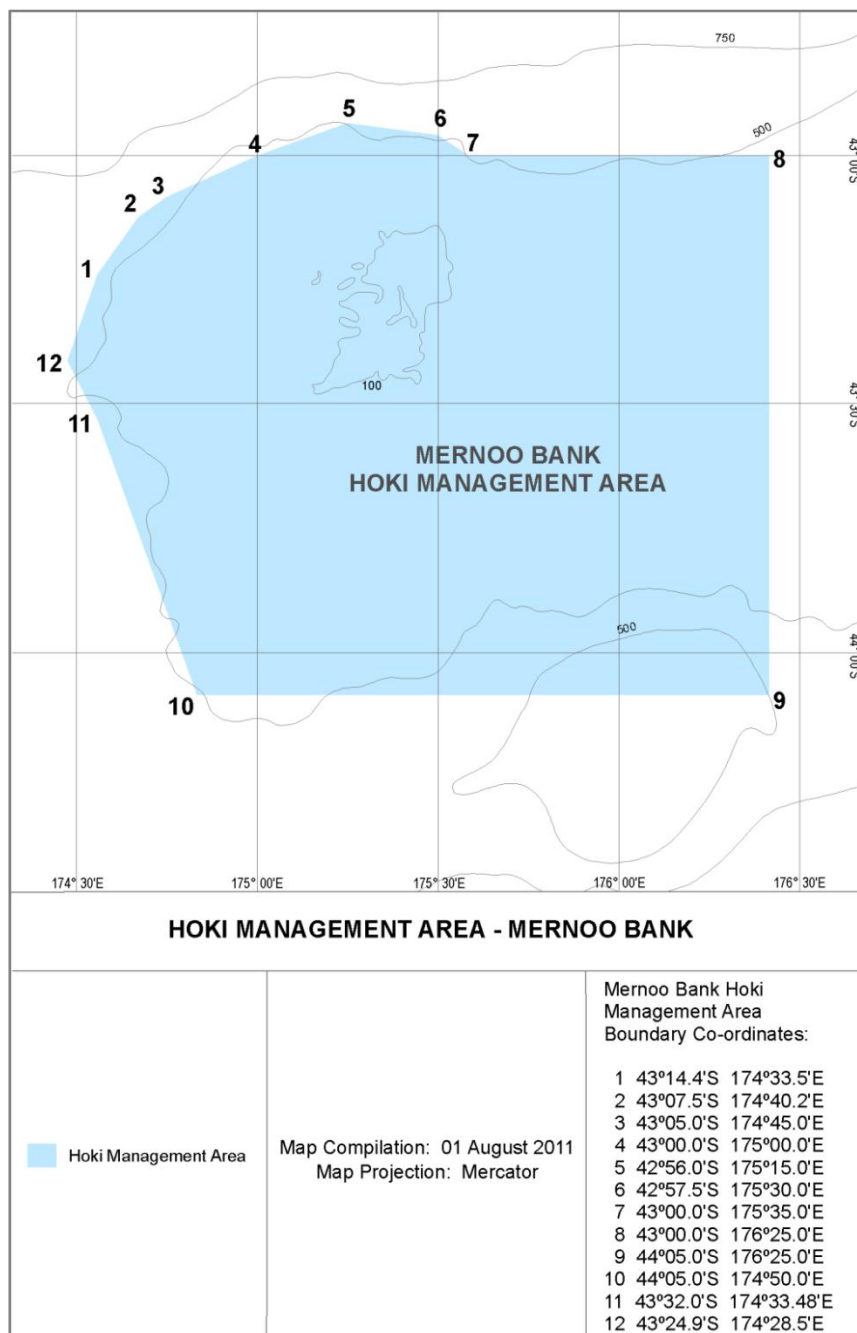
Figure 3: Canterbury Banks Management Area



Part 4D: Mernoo Bank Management Area

HOK1 quota owners have agreed to the following Hoki Management Area

Figure 4: Mernoo Bank Management Area



Part 4E: Puysegur Bank Management Area

HOK1 quota owners have agreed to the following Hoki Management Area

Figure 5: Puysegur Bank Management Area

