



DEEPWATER TRAWL

HOKI

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

VERSION 18.0

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

These Operational Procedures (OPs) stipulate the management measures agreed between hoki (HOK 1) quota owners, HOK 1 ACE owners and Fisheries New Zealand. They are monitored and administered by Deepwater Group Ltd (DWG).

In conjunction with these OPs, the DWG Hoki East / West Agreement supports improved management by administering and monitoring HOK 1 catch limits between the Eastern and Western stocks as agreed between quota owners, Fisheries New Zealand and the Minister of Fisheries.

The following matters underpin the agreement within industry to these management procedures when operating in the hoki fisheries:

- Concerns with the reduced availability of hoki in the West Coast South Island fishery during recent spawning seasons has prompted agreement to:
 - Shelve 20,000 tonnes HOK 1W ACE (along with any HOK 1W ACE carried forward from 2017-18 for the 2018-19 year), and
 - Close certain fishing grounds to target fishing for hoki to allow spawning to occur undisturbed at peak times.
- This conservative approach has been extended to closing the main spawning grounds for the HOK 1E stock in Cook Strait and at Pegasus.
- The abundance of juvenile hoki on the Chatham Rise from recent strong recruitments needs to be managed to ensure that these strong year classes recruit into the adult hoki populations of both stocks.
- It has been agreed to further enhance measures to monitor and to manage catches of juvenile hoki (i.e. hoki <55 cm).

These management measures may be modified in the future based on monitoring results and further information on the hoki stocks.

The overarching principles of this agreement is that collective adherence to these OPs will provide collective benefits to hoki rights holders (in both quota shares and ACE).

Disclaimer: Nothing in these procedures shall be interpreted to replace or to override any of the requirements in the fisheries legislation or other regulations, including those for Health & Safety and Maritime Safety. Vessel operators are required to ensure that at all times, both they and their crew understand all regulations that are relevant to these fisheries and to the operating environment that they are in.

Purpose of these procedures

These OPs have been established to codify the management and monitoring of fishing effort for hoki:

- Within the Hoki Management Areas (HMAs) - no hoki target fishing
- Within the Hoki Seasonal Spawn Areas (HSSAs) - no hoki target fishing at agreed times, and
- Within the entire HOK 1 QMA - monitor and minimise catches of juvenile hoki.

HMAs are areas where there are relatively high abundances of juvenile hoki. For the purposes of these OPs these are hoki <55 cm in total length.

Seasonal spawn area closures are measures to allow for periods of minimal disruption from trawling activity in key spawning areas and times.

All operators and vessels are required to monitor catches of hoki across the entire HOK 1 QMA (not just within the HMAs) and, as a matter of principle, all vessels must move from any area where catches of juvenile hoki (i.e. hoki <55 cm) comprise 20% or more of the hoki catch by number.

Catches of hoki must be recorded by East or West stock (Figure 1) and reported accurately.

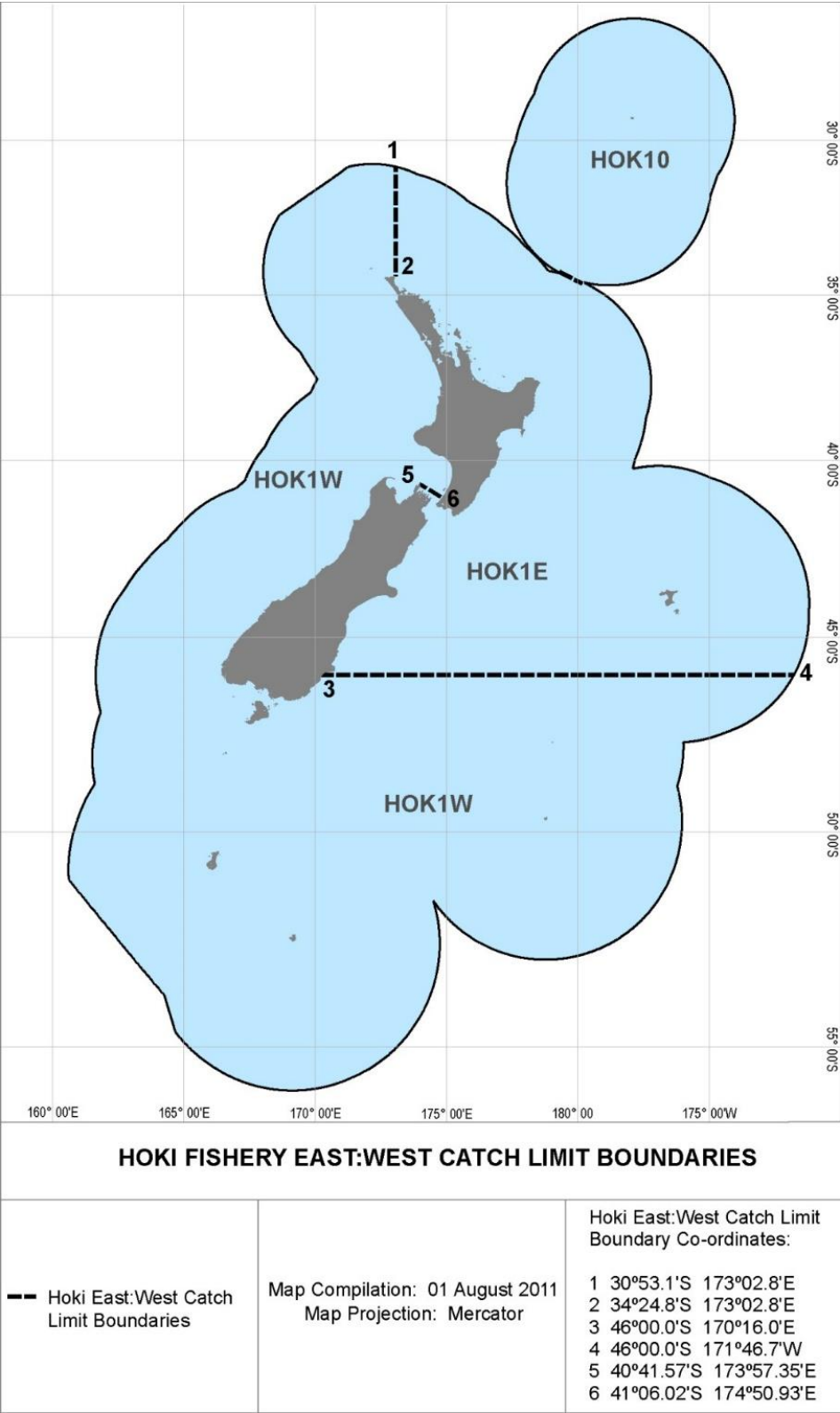


Figure 1: HOK 1 East and West Fisheries

Vessel operators will monitor and manage the operations of their vessels such that they meet the obligations set out here.

Operators must treat all HMA and HSSA boundaries as they would treat boundaries for mandatory closures, such as by requiring their vessels to give effect to a buffer zone outside of the boundary so that fishing activity does not accidentally occur across it.

Objectives of these procedures

The objectives of these OPs are to:

- Maintain sustainable utilisation of the hoki fishery
- Manage the catch of juvenile hoki (i.e. hoki <55 cm)
- Reduce spawn event disruption at defined locations and during defined time periods
- Ensure that all trawlers targeting hoki understand and meet these agreed requirements
- Allow for the monitoring of the fleet and individual company performances against the agreed management measures for the hoki fisheries and provide feedback to relevant parties.

Application of these procedures

These OPs apply to:

- All companies and vessels targeting HOK 1 (in either or both East and West stocks)
- All companies and vessels taking HOK 1 as bycatch in FMAs 3 and 4.

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) and Seabird Operational Procedures for mitigating seabird captures
- Reporting OPs
- Shark OPs
- All or any relevant laws and regulations pertaining to fisheries activities in New Zealand waters.

PART 2: RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

The following outlines the responsibilities of parties to these OPs.

Commitment to these procedures and the deed of management

All HOK 1 quota owners, ACE owners and owners or operators of vessels in the hoki fisheries (and any trawlers over 28 m in FMA 3 and 4) 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 must:

- 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 or over 28 m LOA are aware of and act in accordance with the requirements of these OPs
- Ensure that a copy of these OPs is kept on the bridge of all trawlers catching hoki (i.e. as target or bycatch in FMA 3 and 4)
- 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 able to be accessed by DWG as required
- Ensure that catches by East and West stocks are reported correctly via the FishServe DWG system
- AIS shall be active at all times and information shall be able to be viewed by all operators at all times when targeting hoki in FMA 3 north of latitude 45° S and all of FMA 4 and whenever in any HMA or HSSA
- To aid more representative deployment of Fisheries NZ observers in key areas operators will provide Fisheries NZ with 5 days pre-sailing notification of intention to fish in FMA 3 north of latitude 45° S and all of FMA 4

Captains' obligations

All captains shall ensure that:

- Any trawler over 28 m LOA targeting hoki has a copy of these OPs on the bridge
- Their vessel adheres to the provisions of these OPs
- Records required for monitoring and delivering on these OPs and HOK 1 East / West Agreement 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

The following outlines the responsibilities of trawlers operating in Hoki Management Areas (HMAs) and Hoki Seasonal Spawn Areas (HSSAs).

Requirement 1: Fishing in HMAs

Trawlers greater than 28 m LOA are not permitted to target hoki inside any of the four HMAs (co-ordinates and maps in Part 4)

This means that any tow (and the subsequent catch) which starts, ends or occurs in part in an HMA (regardless of start and end positions) will be deemed to have occurred within the HMA.

Vessel operators will treat the HMA boundaries as they would a mandatory line and require their vessels to use a buffer to prevent accidental crossing into the HMAs while fishing.

Trawlers greater than 28 m LOA fishing within an HMA, targeting species other than hoki, and not carrying a Fisheries New Zealand observer on board are required to:

- Provide or allow access to the relevant electronic reporting (ERS), Fish Catch Reports, TCEPR or TCER data for all tows that are deemed to have occurred inside any HMA if and when requested by DWG.

Requirement 2: Fishing in HSSAs

To allow for a period of undisturbed spawning, no trawler, regardless of size, shall target hoki within the four designated areas (co-ordinates and maps in Part 5) during the time periods, as set out below:

- **West Coast inside the 25 nm closure:** between 0000 hrs 18 July and 2400 hrs 24 July (noting trawlers >46 m LOA are already prohibited from fishing within this area by regulation)
- **West Coast outside of the 25 nm closure, shallower than 800 m, between Kahurangi Point in the north and the boundary between FMAs 5 and 7 in the south:** between 0000 hrs 25 July and 2400 hrs 31 July
- **Cook Strait:** Entire fishery between 0000 hrs 1 August and 2400 hrs 7 August (noting trawlers >46 m LOA are already prohibited from fishing within this area by regulation)
- **Pegasus:** Within the designated areas between 0000 hrs 1 September and 2400 hrs 7 September.

PART 4: HOKI MANAGEMENT AREAS (HMAs)

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HMAs:

- Cook Strait
- Canterbury Banks
- Mernoo
- Puysegur.

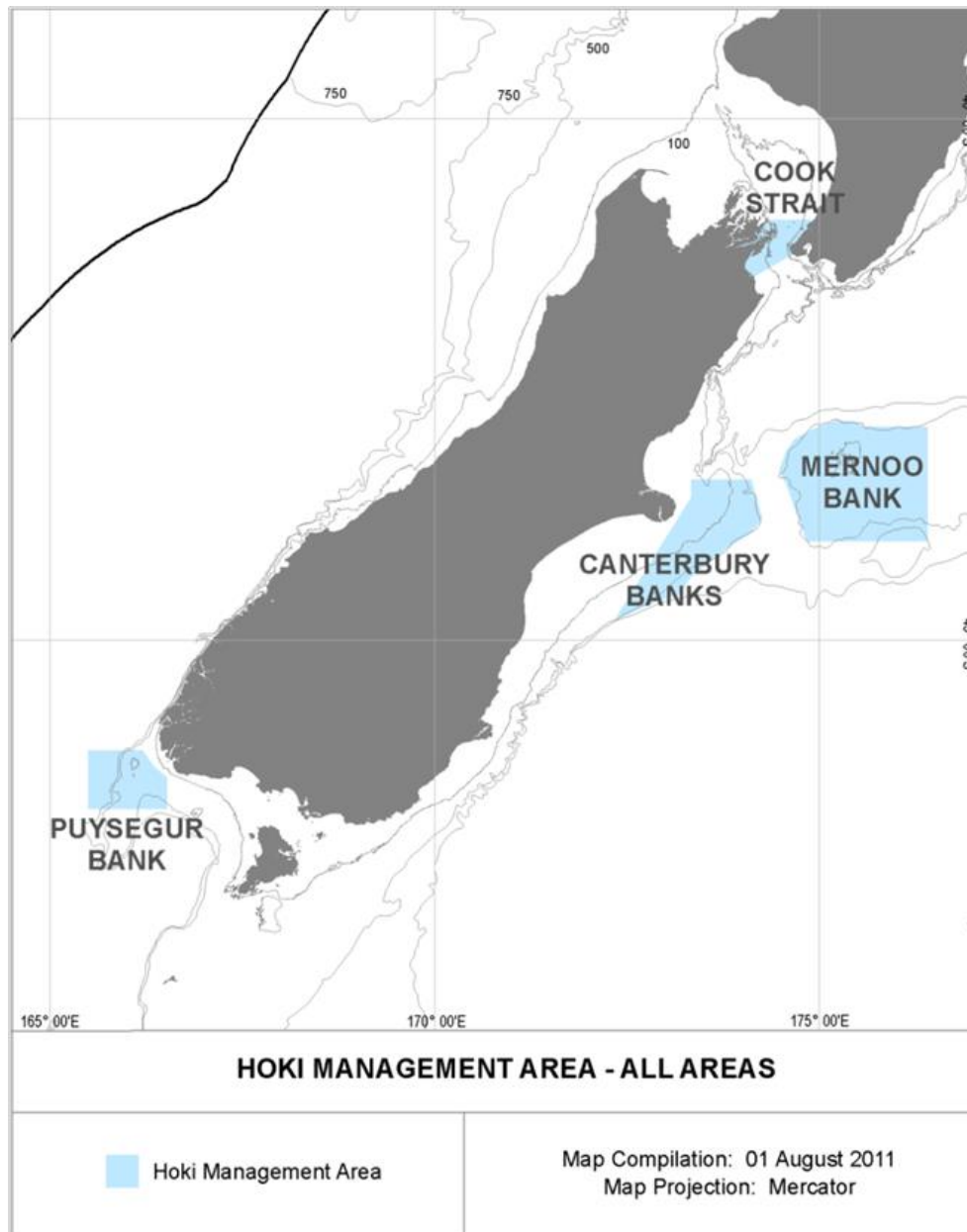


Figure 2: The Four Hoki Management Areas

Individual HMA maps and boundary coordinates are shown in the following sections.

PART 4A: COOK STRAIT HMA

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HMA.

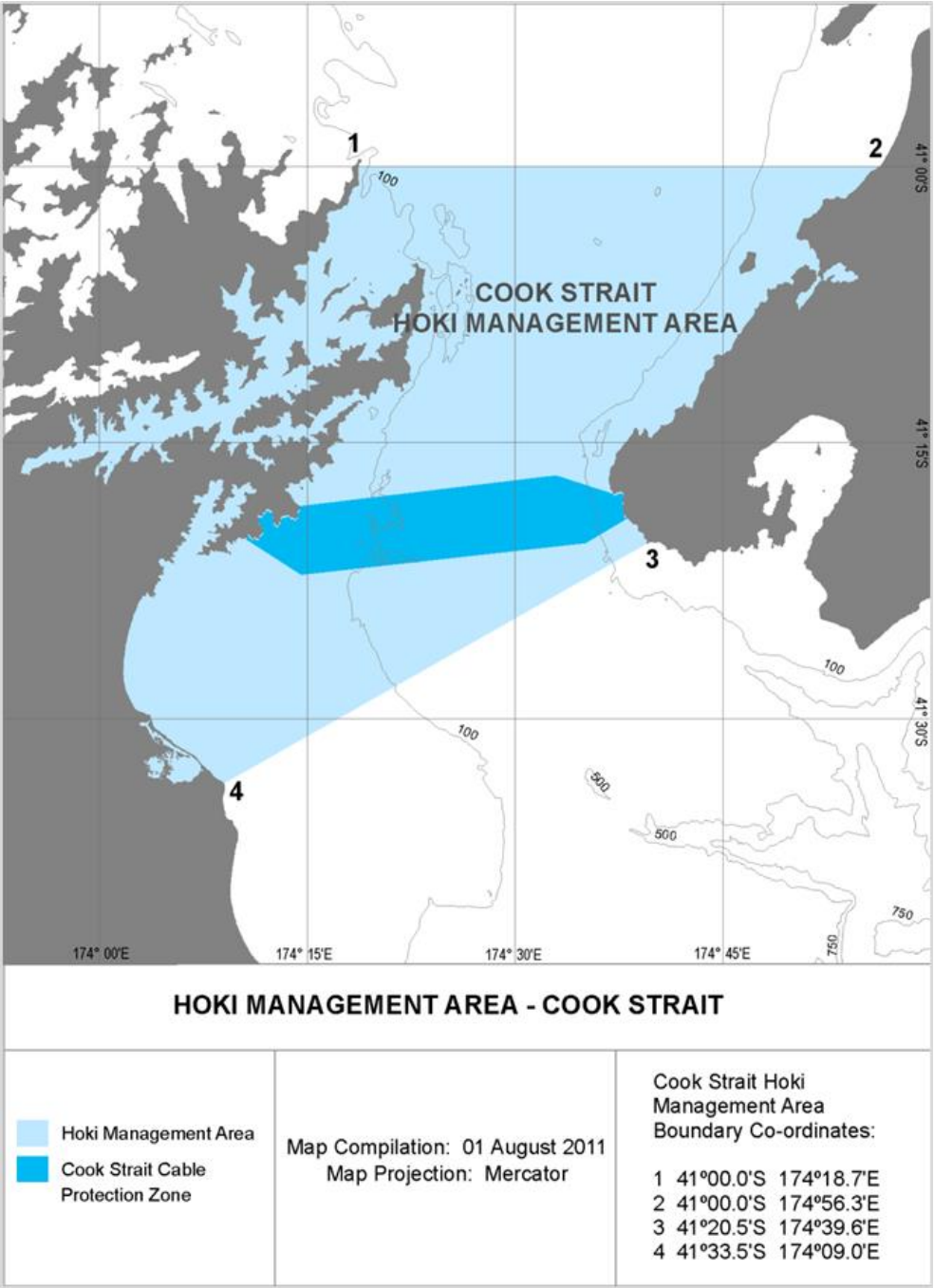


Figure 3: Cook Strait HMA

PART 4B: CANTERBURY BANKS HMA

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HMA.

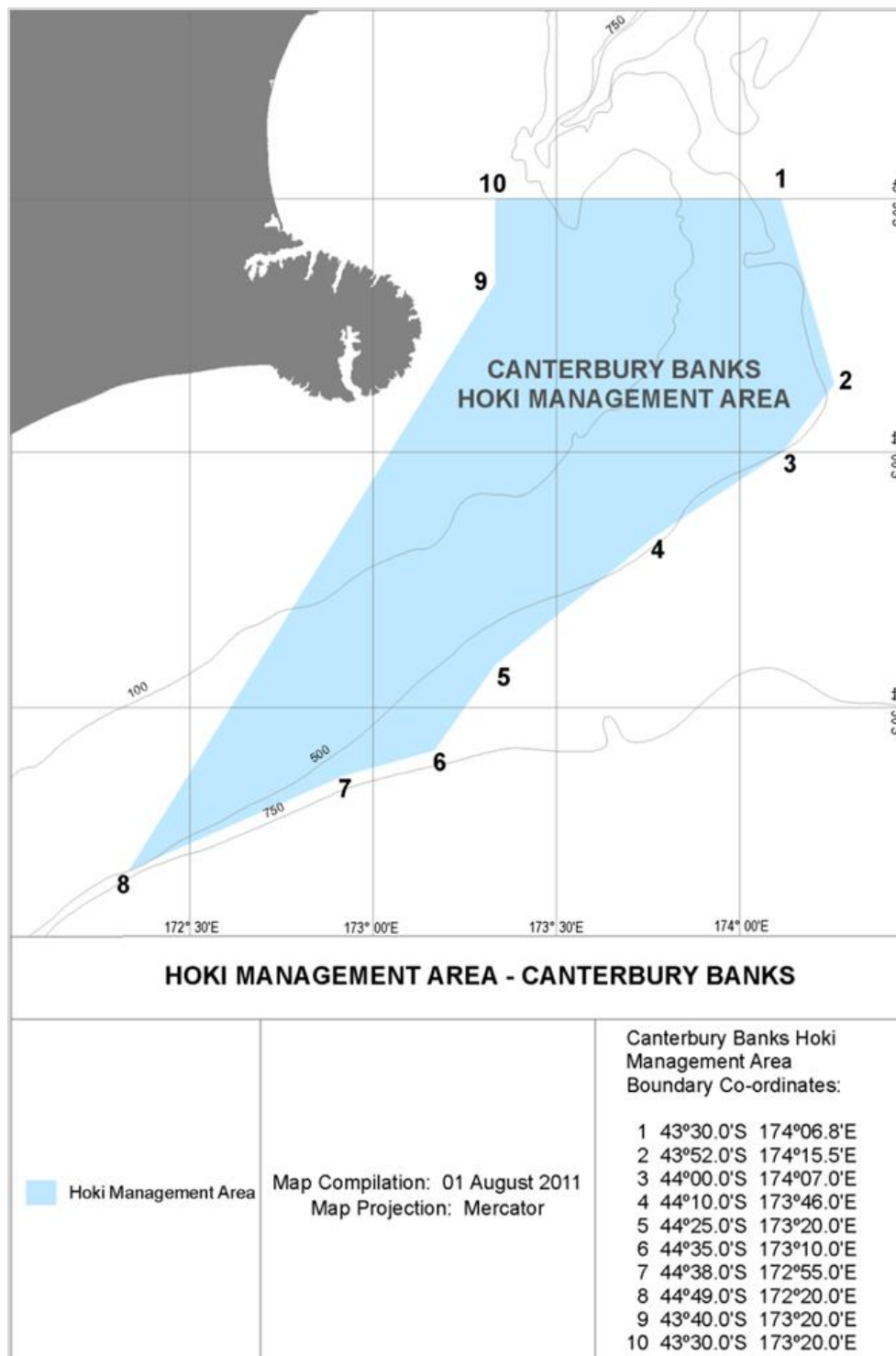


Figure 4: Canterbury Banks HMA

PART 4C: MERNOO BANK HMA

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HMA.

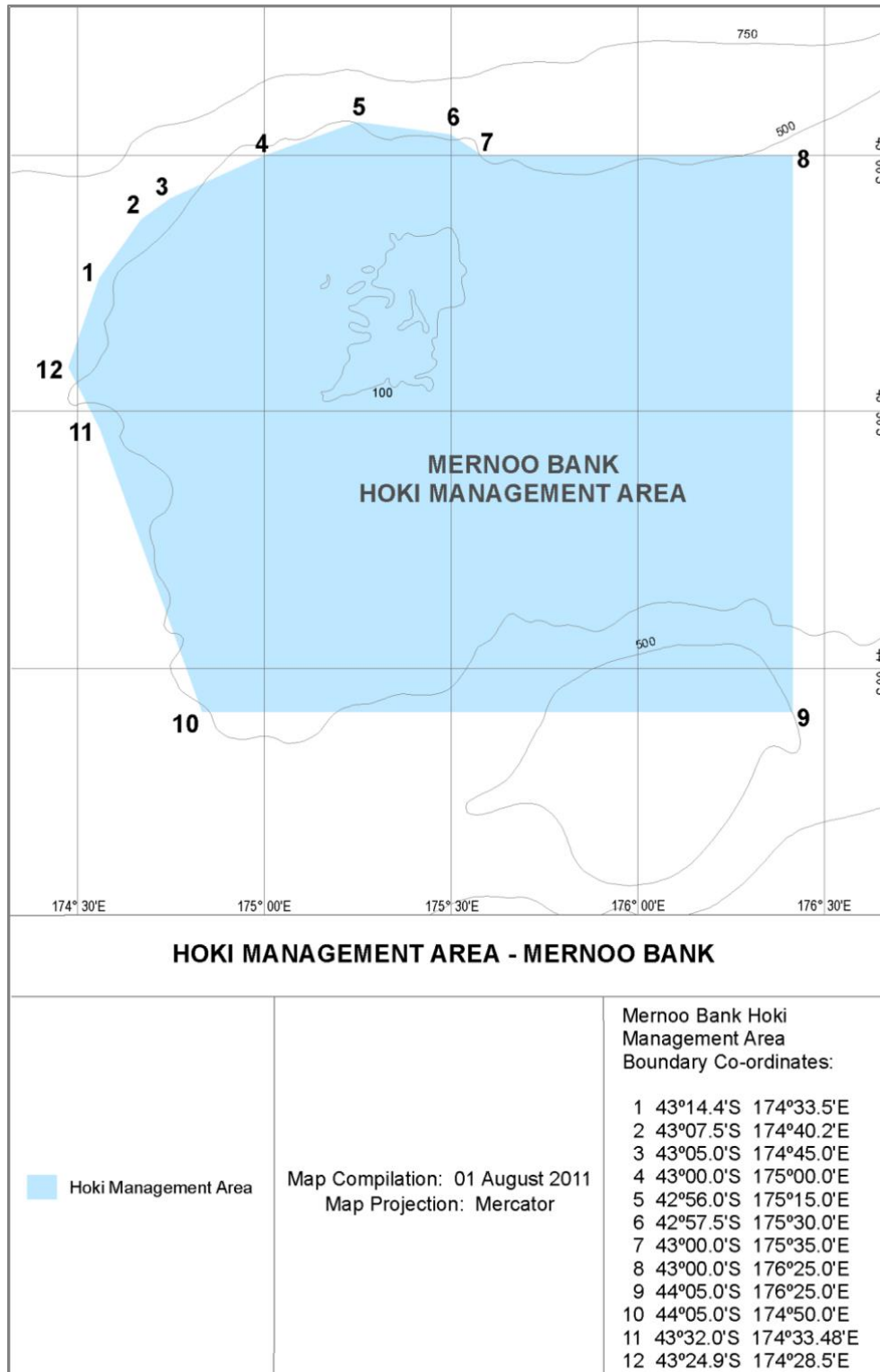


Figure 5: Mernoo Bank HMA

PART 4D: PUYSEGUR BANK HMA

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HMA.

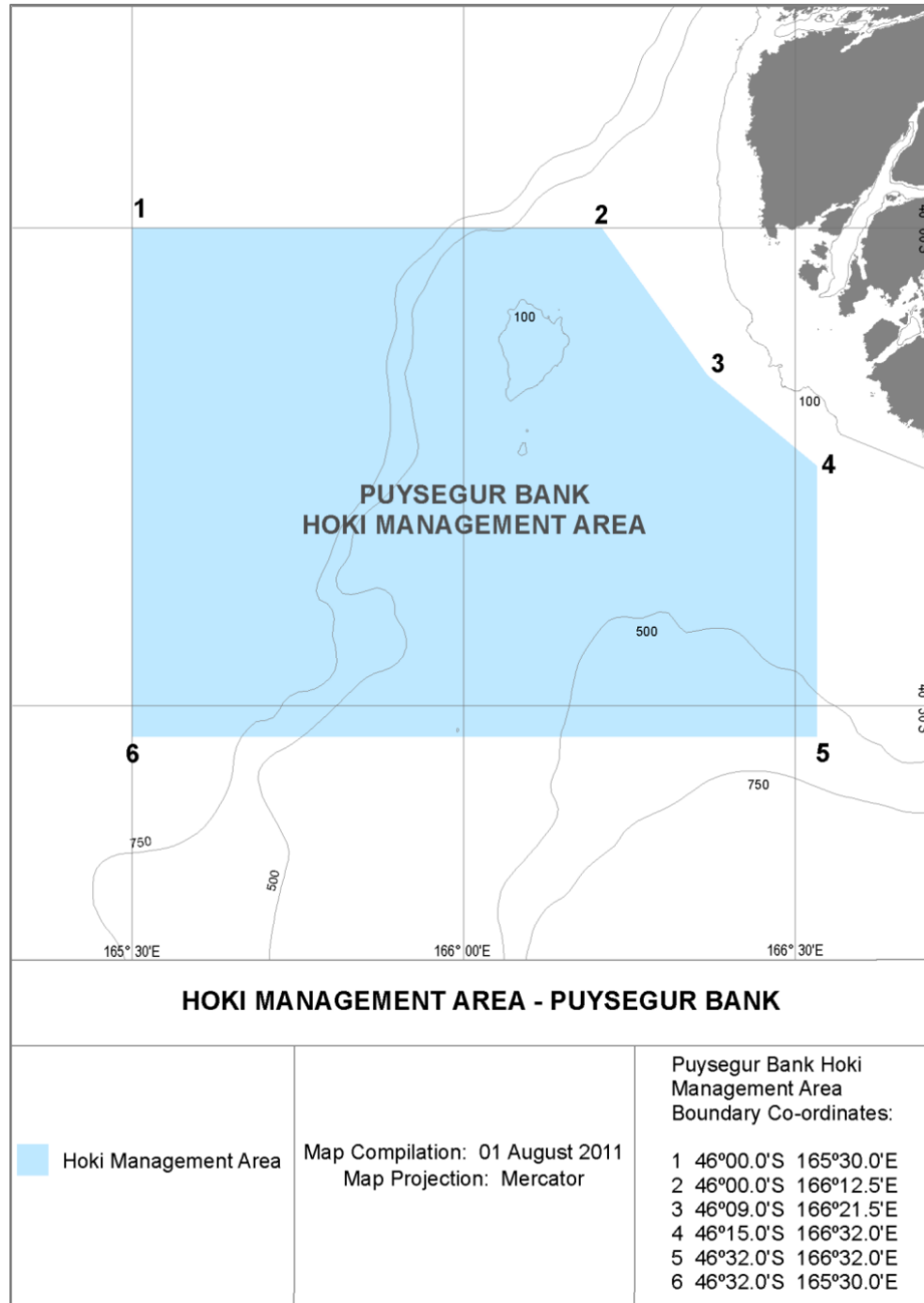


Figure 6: Puysegur Bank HMA

PART 5: HOKI SEASONAL SPAWN AREAS (HSSAs)

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HSSAs:

- Cook Strait
- West Coast Outside the 25 nm Line
- West Coast Inside the 25 nm Line
- Pegasus.

Individual HSSA maps and boundary coordinates are shown in the following sections.

PART 5A: COOK STRAIT HSSA

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HSSA.

The Cook Strait HSSA is encompassed by:

- The northern boundary of the Cook Strait HMA, defined as a line extending between 41°00'S, 174°18.7'E and 41°00'S, 174°56.3'E and (i.e. points 1 and 2 in Figure 7)
- The southern boundary defined as a line extending between Cape Campbell light at 41°44'S, 174°16'E and Cape Palliser light at 41°37'S, 175°17'E (i.e. points 3 and 4 in Figure 7).

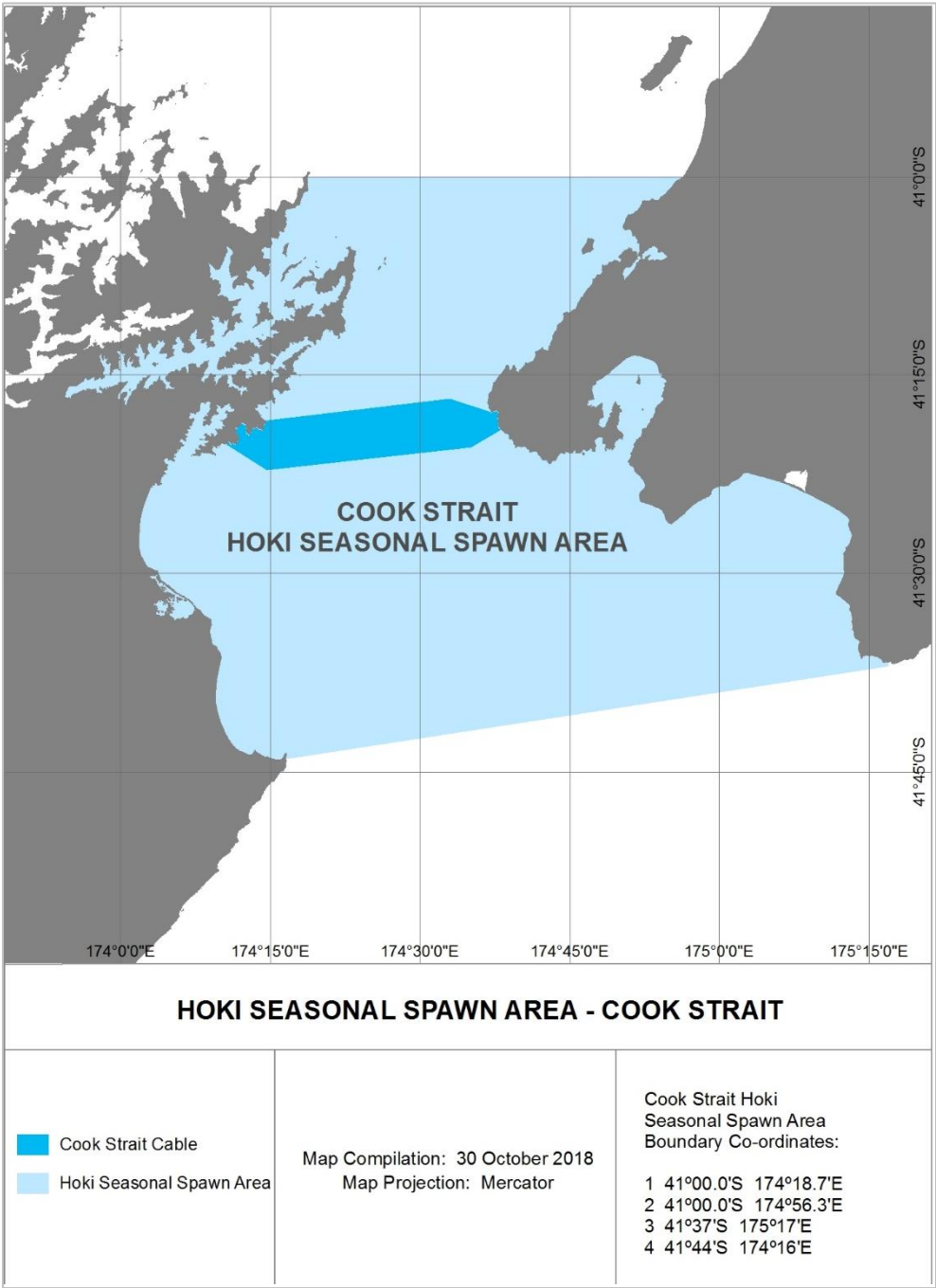


Figure 7: Cook Strait HSSA

PART 5B: WEST COAST OUTSIDE THE 25 NM LINE HSSA

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HSSA.

The West Coast Outside the 25 nm Line HSSA is encompassed by:

- The regulatory boundary for the 25 nm closure, and
- A line extending due west from Kahurangi Point light (40°47'S) to the intersection with the 800 m depth contour (i.e. points 3 and 4 in Figure 8), and
- The line designating the boundary between FMA 5 and FMA 7 from the coast to where it intersects the 800 m depth contour (i.e. points 1 and 2 in Figure 8), and
- The 800 m depth contour continuously between the two points of intersection with the northern and southern boundaries as defined above (i.e. points 2 and 3 in Figure 8).

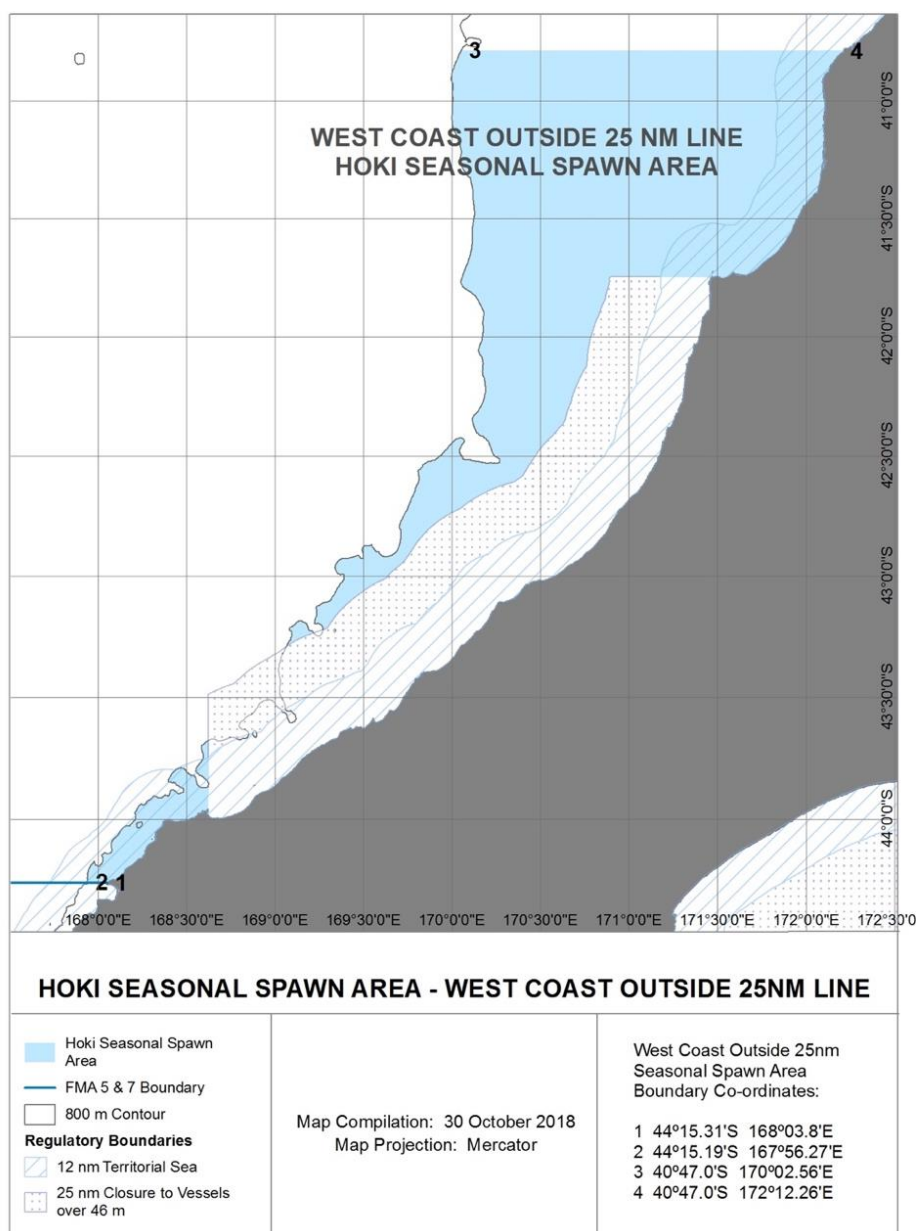


Figure 8: West Coast Outside the 25 nm Line HSSA

PART 5C: WEST COAST INSIDE THE 25 NM LINE HSSA

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HSSA.

The West Coast Inside the 25 nm Line HSSA is encompassed by:

- That area closed by regulation to trawlers >46 m LOA, as bounded
- In the west by 25 nm boundary, and
- In the north by a line extending due west from Cape Foulwind to the 25 nm line, and
- In the south by a line extending due north from Jackson Head to the 25 nm line.

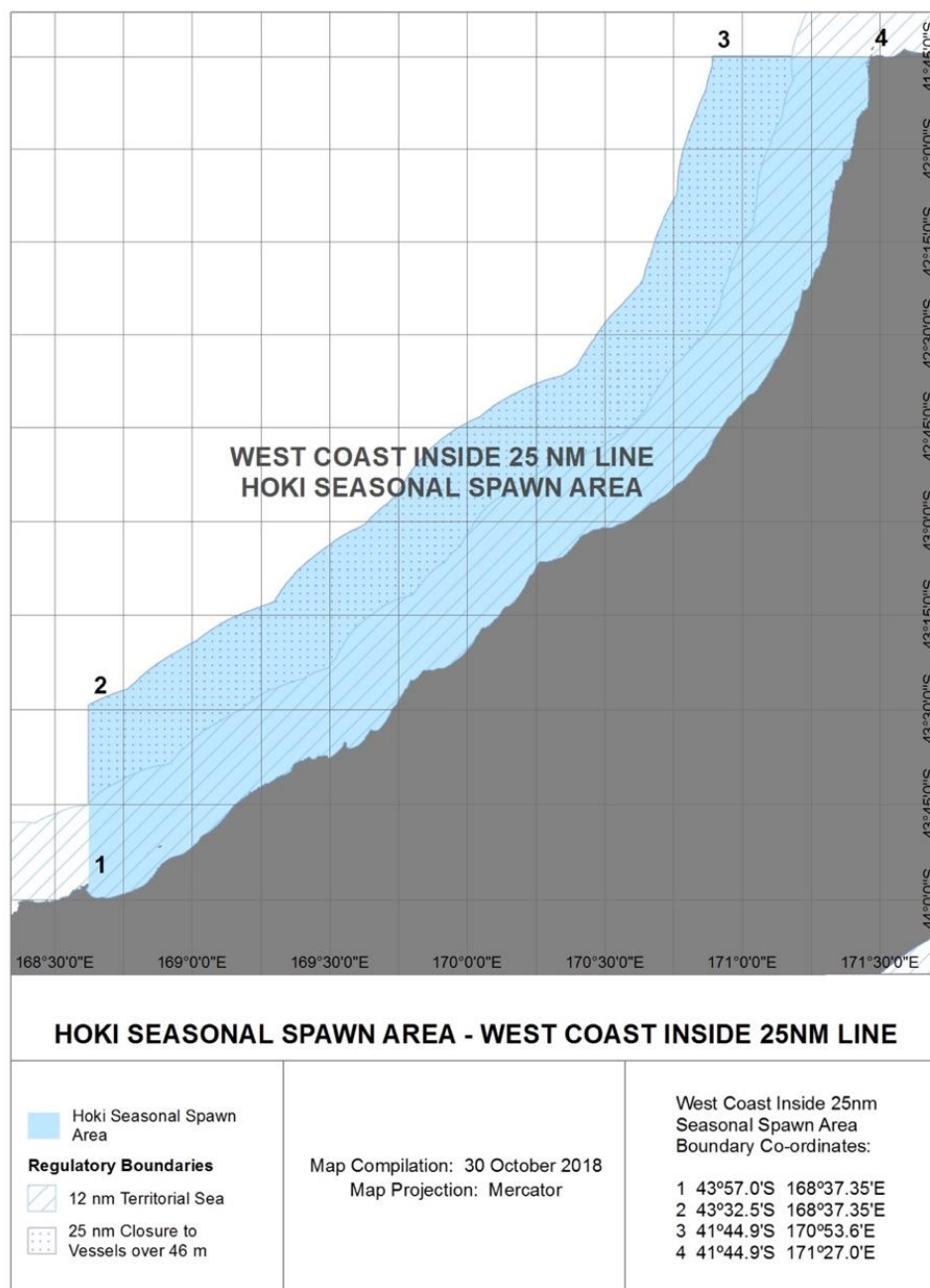


Figure 9: West Coast Inside the 25 nm Line HSSA

PART 5D: PEGASUS HSSA

HOK 1 quota owners have agreed to the following HSSA.

The Pegasus HSSA is encompassed by:

- 43°00'S 173°20'E
- 43°00'S 173°55'E
- 43°27'S 174°05.7'E
- 43°27'S 173°20'E

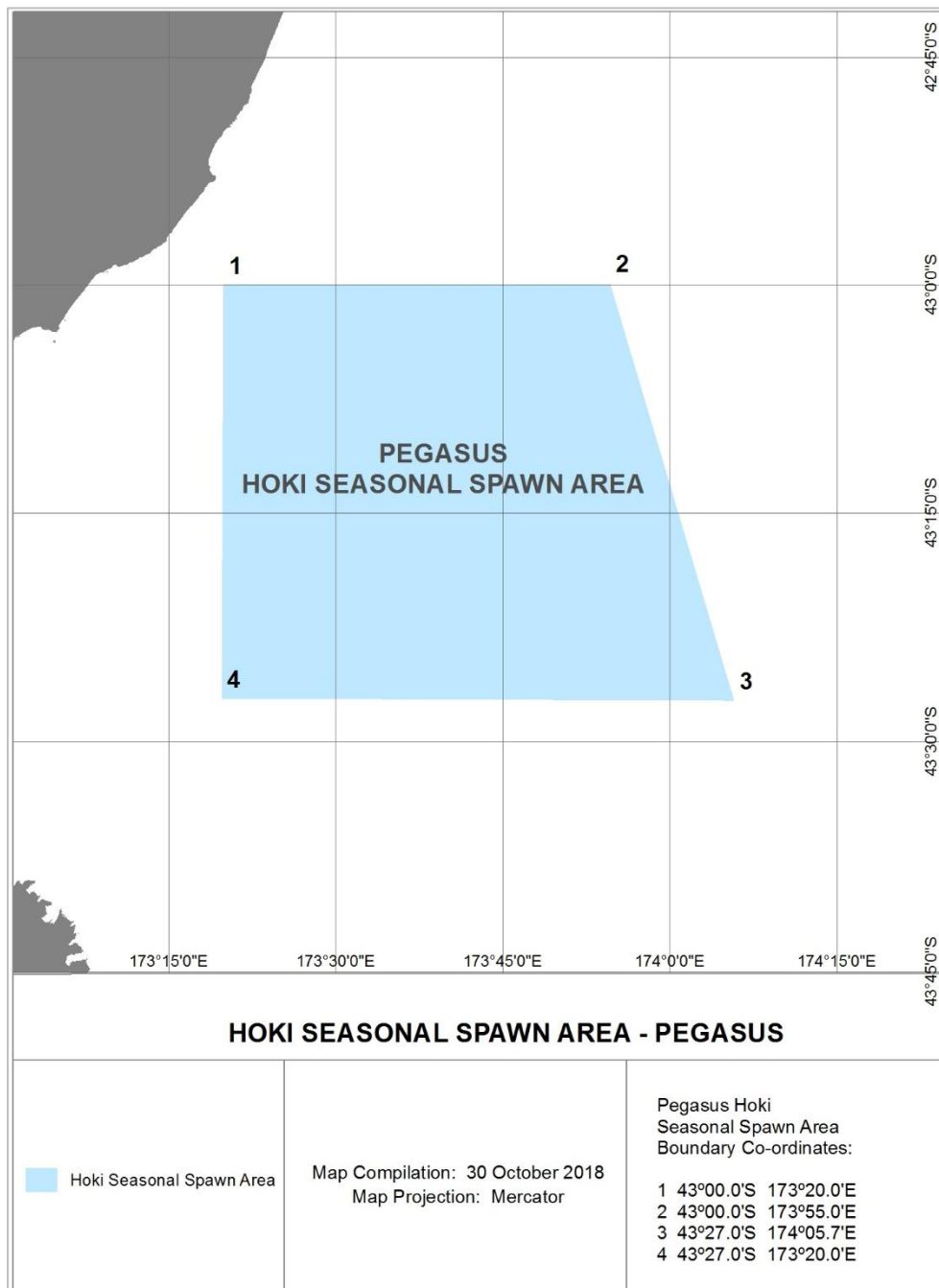


Figure 10: Pegasus HSSA