



SEAFOOD
NEW ZEALAND

DEEPWATER TRAWL
ORANGE ROUGHY & OREO
OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES
2023-24

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DOCUMENT HISTORY	VERSION NO.	DATE
Previous version updated with new style and formatting	V18.0	November 2018
The pro rata allocations of catch limits for all DWC Members removed	V18.1	September 2022
ORH 3B TACC reduction for 2023-24, sub stock splits updated	2023-24	October 2023
Minor edits to align with ORH OEO OP on InfoPortal	2023-24	March 2024

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

These Operational Procedures (OPs) stipulate the management measures agreed upon between orange roughy (ORH) and oreo (OEO) quota owners, ACE owners and Fisheries New Zealand. They are monitored and administered by Seafood New Zealand - Deepwater Group (DWC).

Purpose of these procedures

These OPs have been established so that agreed management measures are clearly communicated to and understood by vessel captains, vessel managers and quota managers.

These non-regulatory management measures are required to give effect to the management objectives for these fisheries as agreed between Fisheries New Zealand and DWC.

These OPs include:

- DWC/Fisheries New Zealand agreed to catch limit regimes by species and designated sub-areas
- Maps and coordinates defining sub-area boundaries
- Catch limits for sub-areas and sub-species
- Catch reporting requirements and reporting forms.

Objectives of these procedures

The objectives of these OPs are:

- To ensure the sustainable utilisation of ORH and OEO
- To spread catches within QMAs by sub-area where the best available information suggests this is useful to ensure better management of these identified ORH and OEO stocks
- To ensure that all trawlers targeting ORH and OEO can implement the practices agreed between quota owners and Fisheries New Zealand
- To monitor individual company performance against the agreed management measures for the ORH and OEO fisheries
- To be able to monitor and report monthly to DWC and Fisheries New Zealand on catches against agreed limits.

Status of these procedures

These OPs came into effect in 2011 and remain so.

Application of these procedures

These OPs apply to:

- All companies and vessels targeting ORH and OEO stocks except ORH 1, as it is managed by a separate DWC ORH 1 Deed. If you are targeting ORH 1 and do not have a copy of the DWC ORH 1 Deed, please contact DWC (Ben Steele-Mortimer, bensm@southswell.co.nz)
- All companies and vessels taking ORH and OEO as bycatch.

Other key operational documents or rules and regulations

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

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

Disclaimer

Nothing in these procedures shall be interpreted to replace or 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.

PART 2: RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

The following outlines the responsibilities of parties to the ORH and OEO OPs.

Commitment to these procedures and the deed of management

All ORH and OEO shareholders, ACE owners and owners or operators of vessels in the ORH and OEO fisheries are required by DWC to adhere to these OPs.

This requirement is authorised under The Deepwater Fisheries Management Agreement (2005-06), which remains in force until the Parties revoke it.

Members' obligations and implementation of sub-area rules on sales of ACE

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

Quota owners have agreed to condition any sale of ORH and OEO ACE with the sub-area and sub-species catch limit rules described in these OPs.

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 ORH and/or OEO 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 ORH and OEO as either 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 stipulated below are recorded and provided to DWC as required.

Captains' obligations

All captains shall ensure that:

- Any trawler catching ORH and/or OEO 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.

PART 3: ORH 2A AND ORH 3B SUB-AREA CATCH LIMIT MANAGEMENT

Members have agreed to designated sub-areas in the ORH 2A and ORH 3B QMAs for catch spreading.

The sub-area boundaries are specified in Figure 1; the sub-area catch limits are specified in Schedule 1, Table 1.

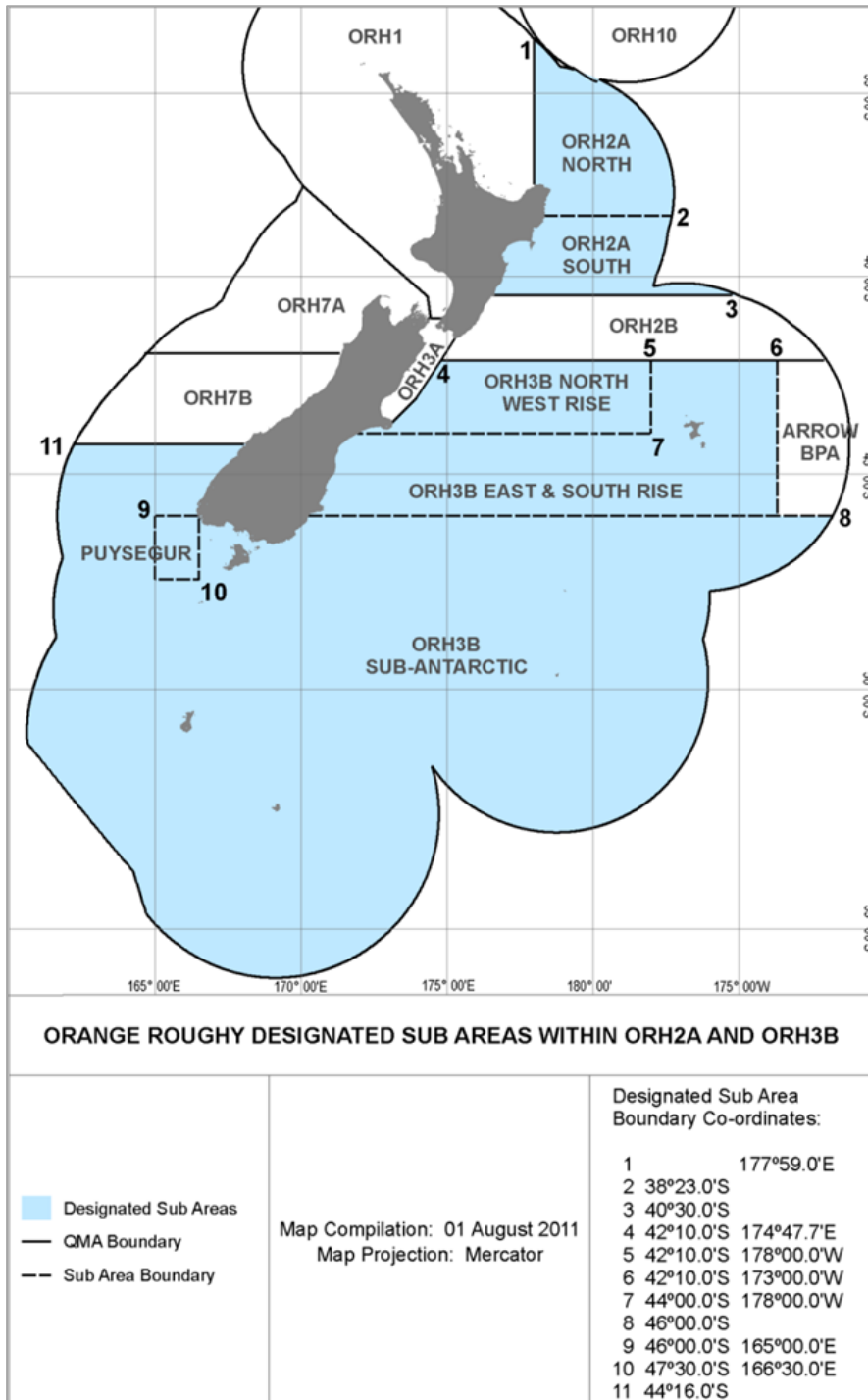


Figure 1: ORH 2A (North and South) and ORH 3B (Northwest Rise, East & South Rise, Sub-Antarctic and Puysegur) Designated Sub-Area Boundaries

PART 4: OEO 1, OEO 3A AND OEO 4 CATCH LIMIT MANAGEMENT

Members have agreed with Fisheries New Zealand to manage OEO catches within the OEO 1 Southland sub-area and OEO 3A and OEO 4.

This management takes the form of:

OEO 1: A catch limit for SSO (smooth oreo) in the Southland sub-area “Box”. The Southland sub-area boundaries are illustrated in Figure 2. The catch limit is specified in Schedule 1, Table 2.

Note: This catch limit includes any SSO taken within the Southland Box as bycatch in other fisheries.

OEO 3A: The TACC is split between SSO and BOE (black oreo) / SOR (spiky oreo). The proportions and catch limits are specified in Schedule 1, Table 2.

OEO 4: The TACC is split between SSO and BOE/SOR. The catch limit for SSO is specified in Schedule 1, Table 2.

Note: the SSO 4 catch limit does not equate to the remainder applying to BOE/SOR as is the case with OEO 3A where both species groups have defined limits.

Catch of BOE/SOR 4 can exceed 1,000 t, but SSO 4 must not exceed 2,600 t.

Note: These species catch limits include any SSO or BOE/SOR taken as bycatch in other fisheries.

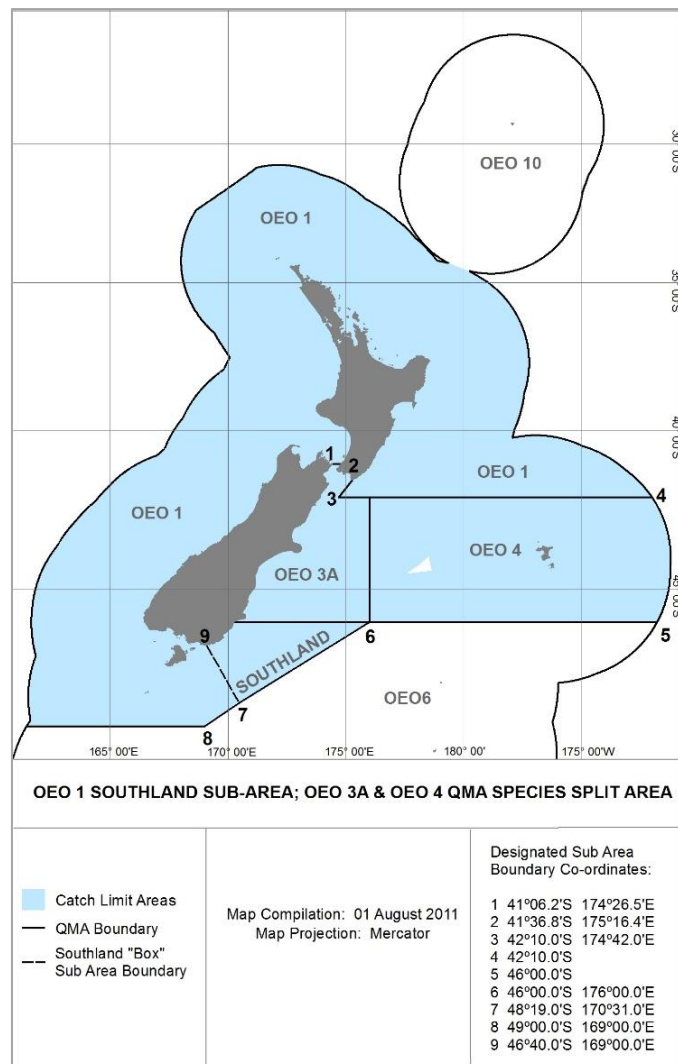


Figure 2: Designated Sub-Area in OEO 1 for Southland Box, as well as OEO 3A and OEO 4 Boundaries

PART 5: CATCH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The following outlines the reporting requirements for ORH and OEO. Note that this reporting is now accessed and entered via the Stakeholder page on the FishServe website (www.fishserve.co.nz). Any monthly reporting of catch on Monthly Harvest Returns (MHRs) that exceeds 1 tonne (i.e., 1,000 kg) should also be reported by sub-area or species in accordance with the requirements above.

ORH Catch Reporting by Sub-Area

Monthly reporting of ORH catch by designated sub-areas for:

- ORH 2A
 - North
 - South
- ORH 3B
 - Northwest Chatham Rise (NWCR)
 - East & South Chatham Rise (ESCR)
 - Sub-Antarctic
 - Puysegur

For boundaries of these agreed catch limit sub-areas, please refer to Part 3, Figure 1.

OEO Catch Reporting by Species

Monthly reporting of OEO catches by species of OEO from:

- OEO 1 Southland sub-area
 - SSO and BOE/SOR
- OEO 3A and OEO 4
 - SSO and BOE/SOR

For boundaries of the agreed OEO 1 Southland sub-area, please refer to Part 4, Figure 2.

Reporting Deadlines

Monthly reports are required on the day of furnishing MHRs to FishServe and are made via the FishServe website.

SCHEDULE 1: SUB-AREA CATCH LIMITS (2023-24)

Table 1: ORH 2A and ORH 3B Sub-Area Catch Limits for 2023-24 Fishing Year in greenweight tonnes (gwt)

FISH STOCK	SUB-AREA	CATCH LIMIT (GWT)
ORH 2A	North (north of 38°23'S)	200 t
	South (south of 38°23'S)	288 t
ORH 3B	Northwest Chatham Rise	1,150 t
	East & South Chatham Rise	2,755 t
	Sub-Antarctic	500 t
	Puysegur	347 t

Table 2: OEO 1 Southland Sub-Area SSO, OEO 3A and OEO 4 QMA BOE/SOR & SSO Catch Limits for 2023-24 Fishing Year in greenweight tonnes (gwt).

FISH STOCK	SUB-AREA	CATCH LIMIT (GWT)
OEO 1 Southland	Smooth (SSO)	400 t
OEO 3A	Smooth (SSO)	1,650 t
	Black (BOE)	1,700 t
	Spiky (SOR)	Included under BOE
OEO 4	Smooth (SSO)	2,600 t
	Black (BOE)	No limit except TACC
	Spiky (SOR)	Included under BOE

Note: For OEO 4, SSO has a separately agreed catch limit. Catches of BOE/SOR are limited only by the TACC. If more than 1,000 t of BOE/SOR are caught, then the SSO catch will be constrained to less than 2,600 t.