



FACT SHEET

HOTTENTOT

Pachymetopon blochii

Family: Sparidae

Other common names: Hottentot seabream

Description

A deep-bodied, plump fish that has a bluish-grey to bronzy colour overall. When alive they have a golden-green sheen dorsally. The fins are darker grey and the pectoral fin rays are blackish.

Distribution

Endemic, from southern Angola to Port Alfred but most abundant between Port Nolloth and Cape Agulhas.

Habitat



Rocky reefs and kelp beds to depths of 55 m.

Feeding

Omnivorous, feeding mainly on algae but also takes amphipods, crabs, shrimps, worms, hydroids, molluscs, sea urchins, redbait and occasionally small fish.

Movement

A resident species.

Reproduction	They reach maturity at 20-22 cm fork length at an age of 4-5 years. Spawning takes place throughout their distribution range and throughout the year, peaking in summer and autumn.
Age and growth	They can reach a maximum size of 54 cm total length and a weight of 2.7 kg. They have been aged to a maximum of 21 years.
Current status	Hottentot have been assessed as optimally exploited with their biomass greater than 40% of their pristine level. They have been evaluated as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List (2014). South African Sustainable Seafood Initiative (SASSI) List: Green.
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Capture	An important component of the commercial line-fishery in the Western Cape, especially when higher-value species such as snoek and yellowtail are not available. Also important to recreational shore and ski-boat anglers, caught as a by-catch of the gill-net fishery on the West Coast and occasionally speared.
Current recreational fishing regulations	Daily bag limit: 10 per person per day Minimum size limit: 22 cm total length Closed Season: None Other regulations: None Marine protected areas (MPAs): As a resident inshore species, Hottentot should benefit from protection within all MPAs within their distributional range, especially the Namaqua, Robben Island and Table Mountain MPAs.
Reference	Information from the ORI Fish App. www.saambr.org.za



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