FACT SHEET

Coral Rockcod

Cephalopholis miniata
Family: Serranidae
Other common names: Bluespotted rockcod, Coral hind, Koraal-klipkabeljou

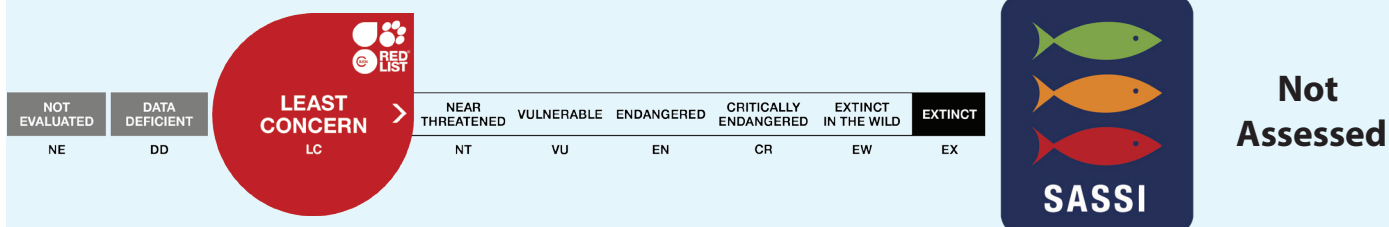|	
Description	A pretty rockcod with a bright orange-red colour. It has striking blue spots all over the body and on the dorsal, anal and tail fin. Sometimes has irregular pale crossbars on the body.
Distribution	Tropical and sub-tropical Indo-West Pacific from the Red Sea south to Aliwal Shoal in KwaZulu-Natal.
Habitat	Found on offshore coral and rocky reefs from 10-150 m. Usually solitary and found near caves or ledges.
Feeding	Feeds mainly on small reef fishes, especially goldies (Pseudanthias squamipinnis) but will also take benthic crustaceans such as shrimps and prawns.
Movement	Resident with territorial males occupying a home range of approximately 475 m² in extent.

Reproduction	Females reach maturity at about 26 cm total length. Males are derived from dominant females that change sex. They form haremic groups comprising of a dominant male and 2 to 12 females.
Age and growth	They can reach a maximum size of about 50 cm total length and a weight of about 2 kg. They have been aged to a maximum of 30 years.
Current status	Not assessed in South African waters. They have been evaluated as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List (2018). South African Sustainable Seafood Initiative (SASSI) List: Not assessed.

NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
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SASSI — Not Assessed

Capture	Caught by shore and boat fishermen in tropical regions, are a valuable food source in East Africa. Generally too small to be of interest to spearfishermen.
Current recreational fishing regulations	**Daily bag limit:** 5 per person per day **Minimum size limit:** None **Closed Season:** None **Other regulations:** None **Marine protected areas (MPAs):** It is likely that this species receives protection within the iSimangaliso and Ponta do Ouro MPAs.
Reference	Information from the ORI Fish App. www.saambr.org.za

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