

White Hake

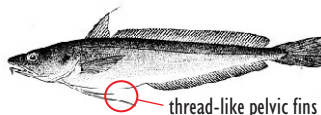
Urophycis tenuis



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Species Description

The White Hake is an elongate fish, up to 1.3 m long. It has a purple-brown upper body, bronze sides and a yellowish-white belly, although colouration can vary. It has two dorsal fins, the first pointy and triangular and the second extending along the back. There are only two gill rakers past the first arch on the gills. It has two long, thread-like pelvic fins that attach in front of the pectoral fins, an elongated anal fin, and a rounded tail.



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Key ID Features: *small barbell under jaw *119-148 lateral line scales *two dorsal fins

STATUS



Threatened COSEWIC

Not Listed SARA

Globally, this species extends from Labrador to North Carolina. The two populations in Canada occupy the Southern Gulf of St Lawrence (91% decline), and the Scotian Shelf, Northern Gulf of St. Lawrence and Southern Newfoundland (70% decline).

Population Range



Interesting Points

- One female can produce up to 15 million eggs!
- Eggs are buoyant and travel with water currents.
- Juveniles are eaten by Atlantic Puffins and Arctic Terns.



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Threats

- Overfishing (direct and bycatch) in the late 1980s and early 1990s resulted in the observed population declines.
- Currently caught as bycatch in fisheries for other species.
- Non-fishing mortality, such as predation by Grey Seals.



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Learn how you can help on page 136.

Contacts, Information & Stewardship Opportunities

Contact: DFO Species at Risk 1-866-891-0771 or xmarsara@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Info: www.sararegistry.gc.ca

Stewardship: Marine Stewardship Council: www.msc.org