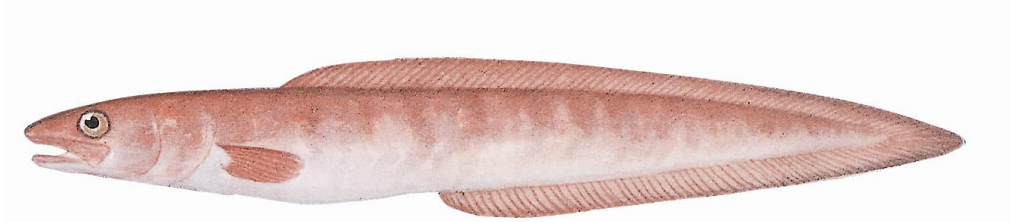


Pink Ling *Genypterus blacodes*



Status: Relatively stable since 2006. **Size:** To at least 160cm and 20 kg (commonly about 50-90 cm and 0.6-4.5kg.)

Description: Has a long round body with an eel like tail, with a smooth mottled pink skin that tends to be paler and less mottled along the belly. The fish tends to be covered in a thick layer of mucus.

Habitat: Marine waters from southern WA through to northern NSW, around Tasmania as well as Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Islands; Usually solitary, nocturnal creatures Pink Ling are benthopelagic and remain close to the sea bed burying themselves in soft substrates or live in holes.

Feed: Pink ling are voracious predators, feeding on a variety of large seabed invertebrates, crustaceans such as royal red prawns and a variety of small to medium fish including Gemfish *Rexea solandi* and Blue Grenadier *Macruronus novaezelandiae*.

Fishery: Caught mainly using drop-lines and long-lines, but also taken as a by catch and targeted catch of demersal and mid-water trawls. Main fishery occurs on the continental slope between Sydney (NSW), Adelaide (SA) and around Tasmania.

History: This fish is rarely caught by anglers. Historically this species has been caught by trawlers but it is increasingly being targeted by bottom set auto long liners.

Management: Managed by AFMA with a TAC (Total Allowable Catch) that has been set at 1200 tons per annum for 2010.

Remarks: Among the most highly regarded temperate food fishes. The white flesh is firm but moist and has mild delicate flavour. For best results poach.