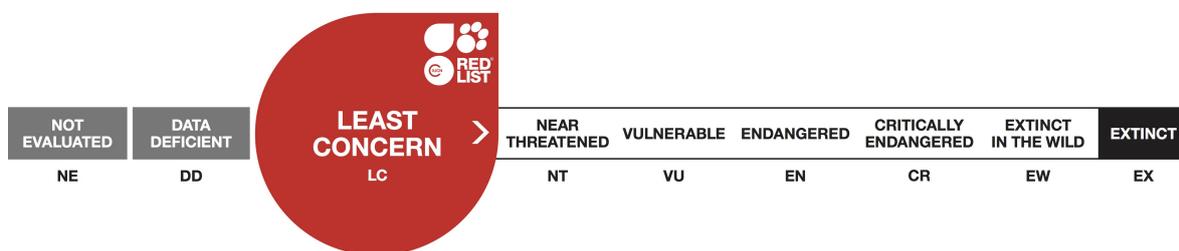


Cephalopholis aurantia, Golden Hind

Assessment by: Amorim, P., Das, D., Rhodes, K., Russell, B., Law, C., Suharti, S., Samoilys, M., Nair, R., Ma, K., To, A., Myers, R. & Choat, J.H.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Actinopterygii	Perciformes	Epinephelidae

Taxon Name: *Cephalopholis aurantia* (Valenciennes, 1828)

Synonym(s):

- *Bodianus indelibilis* Fowler, 1904
- *Cephalopholis analis* (Valenciennes, 1828)
- *Cephalopholis aurantius* (Valenciennes, 1828)
- *Cephalopholis indelibilis* (Fowler, 1904)
- *Cephalopholis obtusauris* Evermann & Seale, 1907
- *Cephalopholis obtusaurus* Evermann & Seale, 1907
- *Epinephelus analis* (Valenciennes, 1828)
- *Epinephelus aurantius* (Valenciennes, 1828)
- *Epinephelus miltostigma* Bleeker, 1873
- *Serranus analis* Valenciennes, 1828
- *Serranus aurantius* Valenciennes, 1828
- *Serranus rufus* Hombron & Jacquinot, 1853

Common Name(s):

- English: Golden Hind, Golden Rockcod, Orange Cod
- French: Cuisinier, Maconde, Mamam Rouge, Rouge Batard, Rouge Peau Dure, Vieille Doree
- Spanish: Cherna Dorada

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2018

Date Assessed: November 18, 2016

Justification:

Cephalopholis aurantia is a widely distributed and deep-living species that is infrequently captured. There are no known major threats; therefore, it is listed as Least Concern. The change in status from the previous assessment reflects an improved application of the Red List categories and criteria, as well as a better understanding of available data.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Data Deficient (DD)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T132725A3433665.en>

Geographic Range

Range Description:

This Indo-Pacific species is distributed in the islands of the western Indian Ocean to Japan and the

central Pacific. It is also recorded from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Sachithanandan and Mohan 2014), from Rowley Shoals in Australian waters and Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean (Bray 2017) and Tanega-shima Island in Kagoshima, Japan (Koeda and Motomura 2015). The species is also recorded around Howland Island in the Pacific (B. Mundy pers. comm.). A single specimen has been caught off Natal, South Africa. Heemstra and Randall (1993) reported no other confirmed records from other continental localities of East Africa. There is one unconfirmed record from Mozambique (S. Fennessy pers. comm. 2016) and it has been reported by fishermen in Mafia Island, Tanzania (Gaspere *et al.* 2015). Its occurrence in Malaysia is questionable. It is recorded from Cochin, India, but the actual provenance of the specimens are unknown (R. Nair pers. comm. 2016).

The specific localities in which it occurs are as follows: American Samoa, Australia, China, South China Sea (Spratly Islands), Taiwan, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Djibouti, Fiji, French Polynesia (Tahiti, Society Islands, Tuamotu Islands), Guam, India (Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar), Indonesia (Bali, Lesser Sunda Islands, Moluccas, Papua, Sulawesi, Sumatra), Japan (Ryukyu Islands), Madagascar, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius (Rodrigues), Micronesia, Mozambique, New Caledonia (not in Loyalty Islands), Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Pitcairn, Réunion, Samoa, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal), Thailand (not shown in map), Tonga, Tuvalu.

Country Occurrence:

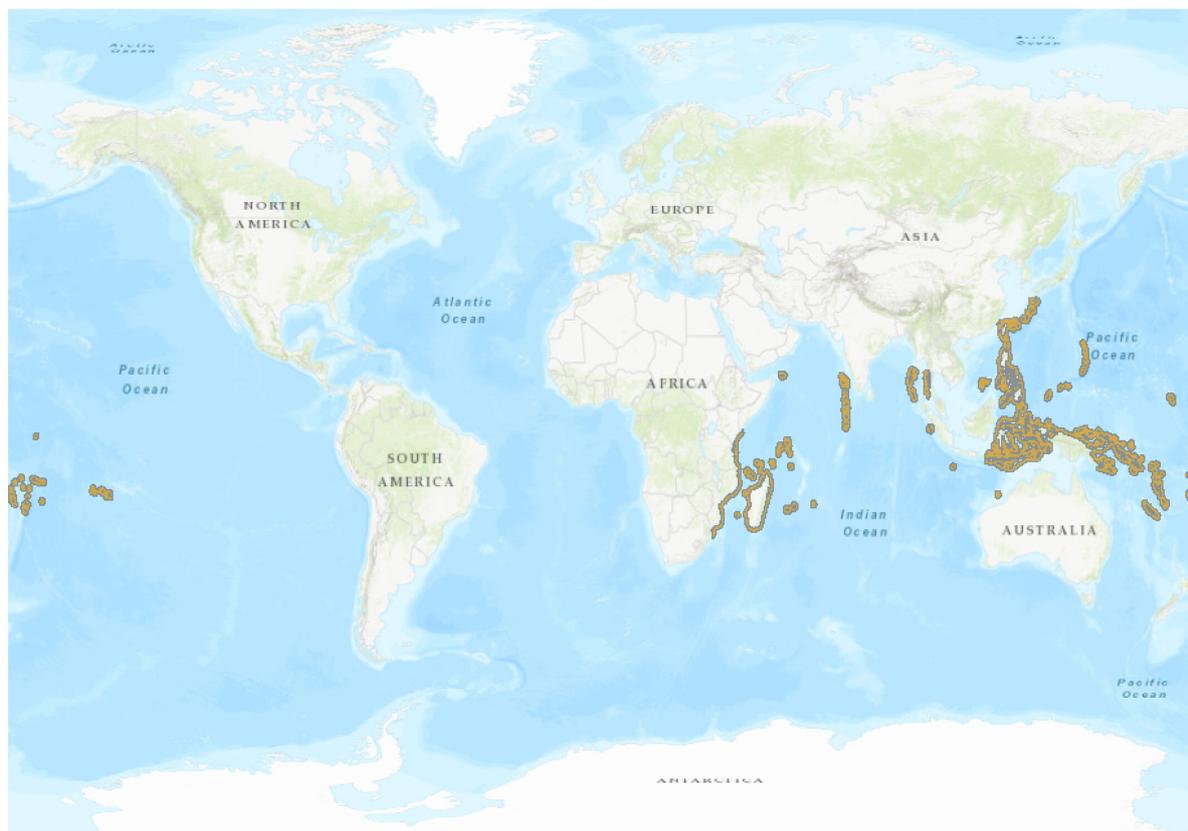
Native: American Samoa; Australia; China; Christmas Island; Comoros; Disputed Territory (Spratly Is.); Fiji; French Polynesia; French Southern Territories (Mozambique Channel Is.); Guam; India (Andaman Is., Laccadive Is., Nicobar Is.); Indonesia; Japan; Kenya; Kiribati (Phoenix Is.); Madagascar; Malaysia; Maldives; Marshall Islands; Mauritius (Mauritius (main island), Rodrigues); Mayotte; Micronesia, Federated States of ; Mozambique; Myanmar; New Caledonia; Niue; Northern Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Réunion; Samoa; Seychelles; Solomon Islands; Somalia; South Africa; Taiwan, Province of China; Tanzania, United Republic of; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Tuvalu; Vanuatu; Wallis and Futuna; Yemen

FAO Marine Fishing Areas:

Native: Indian Ocean - western, Indian Ocean - eastern, Pacific - western central, Pacific - northwest

Distribution Map

Cephalopholis aurantia



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Range

Extant (resident)

Compiled by:

IUCN Grouper and Wrasse Specialist Group



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



Population

This grouper is relatively poorly known due to the deep depths which it inhabits; therefore, population data are limited. At times, it can be misidentified as *Cephalopholis sonnerati*.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species inhabits steep seaward reefs, usually at depths of 100 to 250 m. It has been found at depths as shallow as 20 m in Australia (Bray 2017), but this may be outside its natural depth range. Its maximum total length is 30 cm (Craig *et al.* 2011), and a report of 60 cm is considered invalid (Heemstra and Randall 1993). A hybrid specimen of this species between *Cephalopholis aurantia* and *C. spiloparaea* has been found on a barrier reef in New Caledonia at 50-60 m depth (Randall and Justine 2008).

Systems: Marine

Use and Trade

This species is occasionally incidentally caught in deep line fisheries, and is not targeted by commercial fisheries. It has been recorded in landings in the Andaman archipelago, India (Sachithanandam and Mohan 2014). In Mafia Island, Tanzania, fishermen interviewed on grouper fishing reported this species is caught infrequently compared to other species (Gaspere *et al.* 2015). It has not been recorded in Indonesia deep water fishery monitoring surveys (P. Mous and J. Pet, The Nature Conservancy Indonesia Fisheries Conservation Program database, unpublished, accessed 2016). It has also not been recorded from Solomon Island market surveys during which 65,000 specimens were investigated (Solomon Islands Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources unpublished database, accessed 2016).

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no known major threats.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no species-specific conservation measures.

Credits

Assessor(s): Amorim, P., Das, D., Rhodes, K., Russell, B., Law, C., Suharti, S., Samoily, M., Nair, R., Ma, K., To, A., Myers, R. & Choat, J.H.

Reviewer(s): Linardich, C.

Facilitators(s) and Compiler(s): Carpenter, K.E.

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Randall, J.E. and Justine, J. 2008. *Cephalopholis aurantia* × *C. spiloparaea*, a Hybrid Serranid Fish from New Caledonia. *The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology* 56(1): 157-159.

Sachithanandam, V. and Mohan, P.M. 2014. New Distribution Record of *Cephalopholis aurantia* Valenciennes, 1828 (Pisces:Serranidae) Golden Hind to Indian Waters from Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *Indian Journal of Geo-Marine Sciences* 43(12): 2233-2235.

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Citation

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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the [Red List website](#).

Appendix

Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
9. Marine Neritic -> 9.2. Marine Neritic - Subtidal Rock and Rocky Reefs	Resident	Suitable	Yes

Threats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
5. Biological resource use -> 5.4. Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources -> 5.4.3. Unintentional effects: (subsistence/small scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
5. Biological resource use -> 5.4. Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources -> 5.4.4. Unintentional effects: (large scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		

Conservation Actions in Place

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Occur in at least one PA: Unknown

Research Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Lower depth limit (m): 250
Upper depth limit (m): 100

Population
Population severely fragmented: No

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