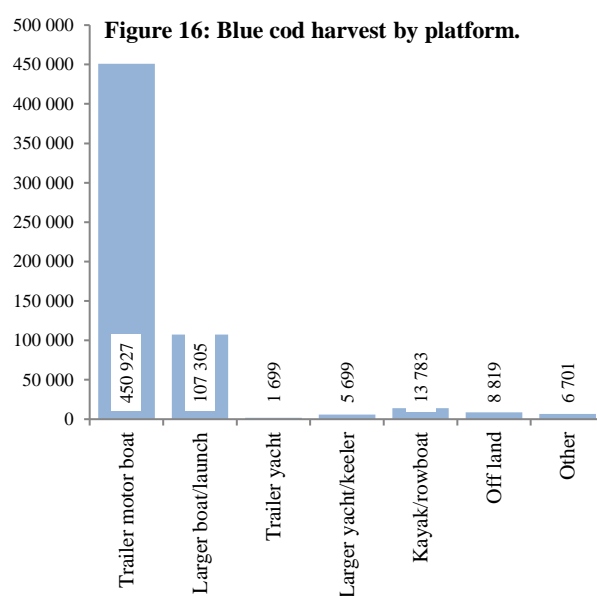
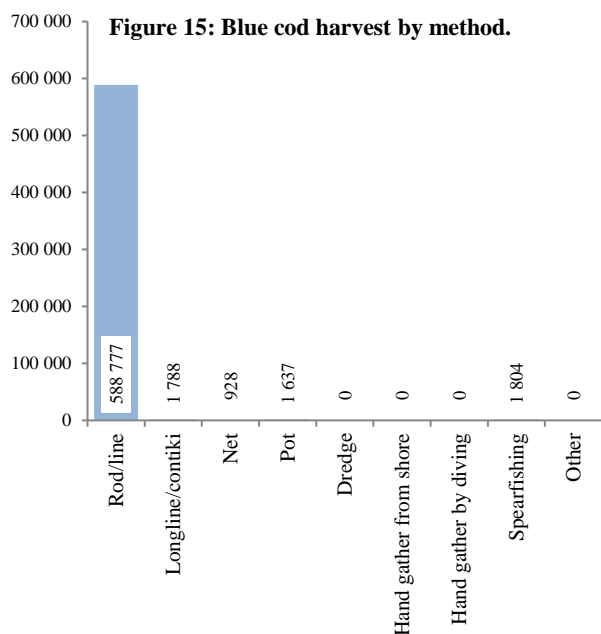


## 9.2 Blue cod

The total estimated harvest for blue cod for the 2017–18 fishing year was 594 934 fish, or 292.7 tonnes (Table 43). Blue cod were caught in most waters but nearly 80% of the harvest was from three QMAs – BCO 3 (East Coast of the South Island), BCO 5 (South of the South Island) and BCO 7 (West Coast of the South Island plus Golden Bay and Tasman Bay). Almost all of the blue cod was caught with a rod or line (Figure 15). Longline, cod pots or spearfishing only account for a fraction of the harvest. It appears that more blue cod (18%) was caught from larger boats/launches than is the case for snapper and kahawai (Figure 16). The most frequent bag size (34%) was two fish. Next was a bag size of just one fish (19%) (Table 44).

**Table 43: Blue cod harvest by fishstock.**

QMA.BCO	Fishers (n)	Events (n)	Harvest (n)	CV	Mean Weight (kg)	Harvest (tonnes)	CV
1	66	85	13 276	0.18	0.45	5.99	0.18
2	81	139	48 140	0.26	0.58	28.09	0.26
3	123	295	202 765	0.18	0.49	98.54	0.18
5	92	239	139 176	0.20	0.48	66.86	0.20
7	201	535	129 038	0.12	0.49	62.76	0.12
8	73	166	62 539	0.20	0.49	30.51	0.20
TOTAL	587	1 459	594 934	0.09	0.49	292.74	0.09



**Table 44: Blue cod bag size by QMA (row percent).**

QMA	Bag Size													
	<1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13+
1	0.0	61.2	25.3	8.1	4.3	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2	0.0	33.8	19.8	10.3	12.3	3.8	7.2	1.0	1.5	0.0	2.4	0.1	5.4	2.3
3	0.0	7.9	13.2	9.6	8.7	6.2	6.4	6.4	3.5	1.6	15.2	0.1	3.2	18.1
5	0.0	6.6	16.6	15.6	6.9	5.7	4.4	7.6	3.9	1.8	15.1	0.0	4.8	11.2
7	0.6	18.5	60.4	7.3	5.6	2.5	1.9	0.6	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.4
8	0.0	19.9	15.5	10.7	7.9	7.2	10.5	4.1	6.6	1.1	13.8	0.0	0.4	2.4
TOTAL	0.3	19.0	34.3	9.7	7.2	4.2	4.4	3.1	2.4	0.7	7.1	0.0	1.9	5.7