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Scientific note

New Zealand trumpeter re-discovered in Patagonian fjords after more than 100 years

(Perciformes, Latridae)

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Latris lineata (Forster, 1801), a typical coastal fish from New Zealand, was described by Delfín (1901) from two sites in Chilean Patagonia, Puerto Otway (46°49'S, 75°18'W) and Baker Channel (48°00'S, 73°46'W). Pequeño (1989) referred to Delfín (1901) and included the species in the list of Chilean fish species. Since no records of the New Zealand Trumpeter existed for more than 100 years for the southeastern Pacific, Roberts (2003) concluded that the presence of this species in Chile was questionable. Waessle & Milessi (2013) reported its presence from the Atlantic side of South America (Mar del Plata, Argentina: 38°08'S 57°15'W), where a male individual (65 cm length, 2.8 kg weight) had been caught. As part of the expeditions organized by the Huinay Scientific Field Station with the aim inventory the benthic species and communities of the Chilean fjord region (see e.g. Häussermann & Försterra 2009), a specimen of L. lineata was photographed at a depth of 23 m at Isla Waller (46°45.885'S, 75°13.873'W), Golfo Tres Montes. The species was determined sensu Paul (2000). This represents the first documented record of this species for more than 100 years for the southeastern Pacific, and rejects Roberts' (2003) suggestion that the presence of the species in Chile is questionable.

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Fig. 1. Latris lineata (Forster, 1801), New Zealand or Striped trumpeter; photo: V. Häussermann.

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