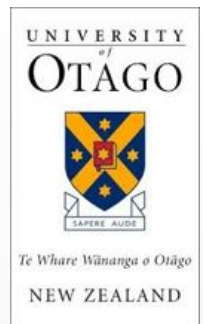


# WHERE DO THE FLOUNDER PLAY?

## FLOUNDER HABITAT PREFERENCE

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### Questions?

- What habitat do black flounder and sand flounder prefer?
- Where are different size classes found?
- What other factors influence flounder distributions?



### Why is this important?

- The extent of knowledge on flounder habitat preference is limited.
- Difference in juvenile and adult flounder habitat is largely unknown in NZ.
- If we can figure out what other factors influence flounder distribution, then this could help with future management.



### Methods & potential results

- Study sites are the Waikouaiti and Purakaunui estuaries.
- I'll survey 15 randomly selected transects for each habitat type (mud, shell and sand) between the two estuaries.
- Species and length data will be collected for each flounder found on transects.
- A model will be made to identify flounder distributions within estuaries.
- Potential results would be a difference between the two species distributions and smaller flounder in habitat with more cover.



### Fun Flounder Fact

- Flounder larvae have their eyes on both sides of its body like a normal fish, but as it grows the eyes shift to one side and they start living on the sea floor.