

Inserting an FCAP netting grid in a *nephrops* trawl to reduce the capture of cod, haddock and whiting

TARGET SPECIES

Nephrops

AREA, VESSEL

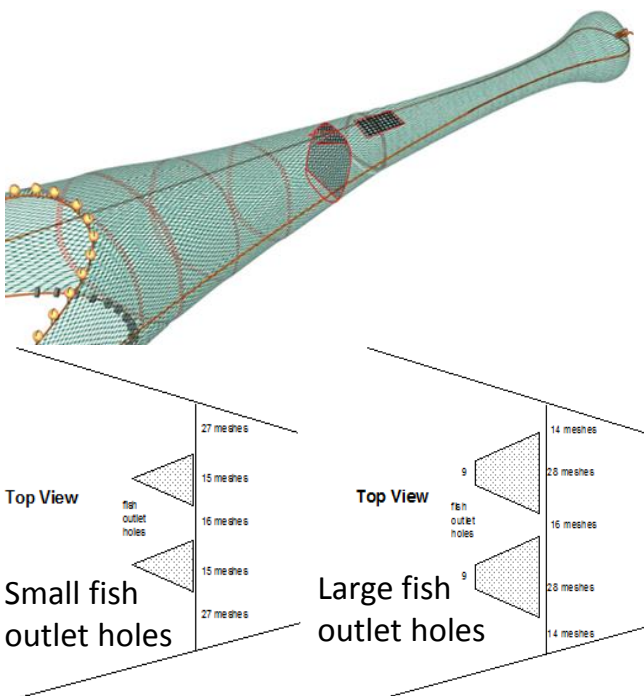
19 twin trawl catch comparison hauls were carried out in the North Sea (ICES IVa) on board the Victoria May PD267 (597kW)

GEAR MODIFICATION

The FCAP gear has a 300mm inclined netting panel attached to the tapered part of the trawl ahead of the extension. It has two escape holes cut out of the top sheet in front of the vertical panel, two sizes of which were tested



Species	Fish outlet hole size	Catch (kg)		% reduction in catch
		Control	Test	Test/Control
Cod	Small	2845	1839	35
	Large	2498	939	62
Haddock	Small	895	367	59
	Large	595	155	74
Whiting	Small	385	227	41
	Large	225	76	66



RESULTS

The FCAP with the smaller fish outlet holes reduced the capture of cod, haddock and whiting by 35, 59 and 41% respectively

The FCAP with the larger fish outlet holes reduced the capture of cod, haddock and whiting by 62, 74 and 66% respectively.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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