

using a flexible grid to reduce capture of haddock, whiting and cod in a *Nephrops* trawl

TARGET SPECIES

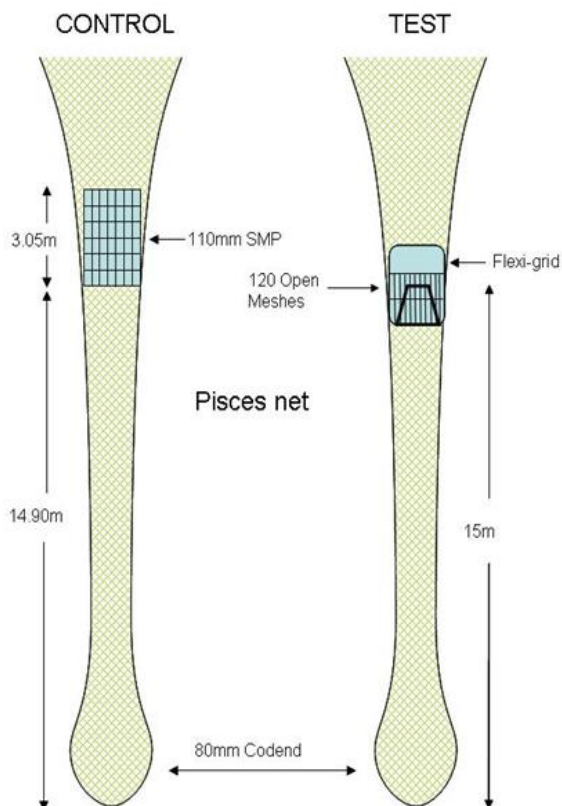
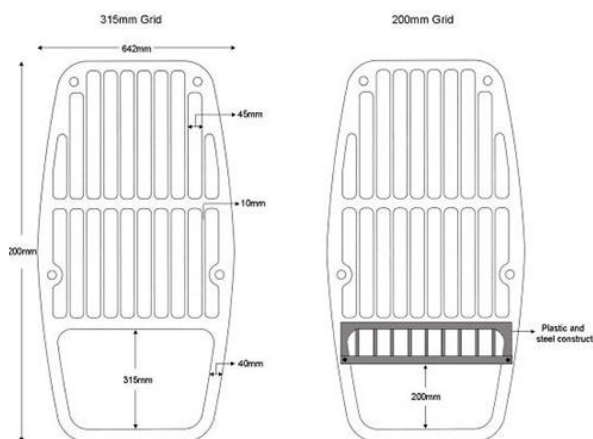
Nephrops and mixed round and flatfish

AREA, VESSEL

25 catch comparison hauls took place in the North Sea on board the FV Amity II PD 177 (21m, 400kW) during November 2012.

GEAR MODIFICATION

A flexible grid with 45mm bar spacing and with bottom gaps of (i) 315mm and (ii) 200mm was fitted into the extension of a *Nephrops* trawl



Average % reduction

grid	315 mm	200 mm
Cod	66	95
Haddock	55	78
Whiting	73	81
Monkfish	76	84
Saithe	87	98
plaice	78	74
Lemon sole	23	24
<i>Nephrops</i>	-3	-1

RESULTS

- there were no losses of haddock or whiting
- fewer smaller cod (< 78 cm) were caught, but above 78 cm, there was no difference
- monkfish catches were 16% less, but these were all small (< 55cm)
- megrim catches were reduced by 43%

FURTHER INFORMATION

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