

using a Flip Flap netting grid to reduce the capture of cod, haddock and whiting in a *Nephrops* trawl

TARGET SPECIES

Nephrops and mixed whitefish and flatfish species

AREA, VESSEL

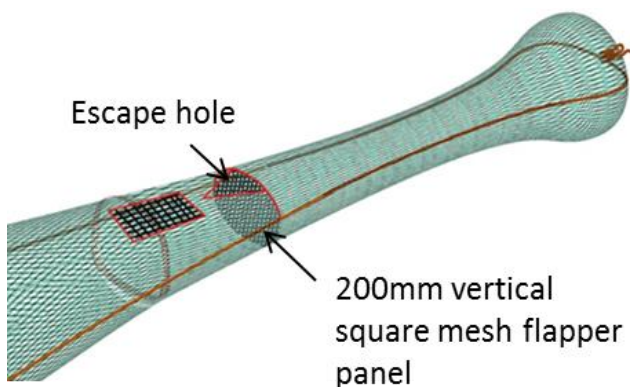
The trials took place in the North Sea (ICES Iva) Fladen Grounds and the Moray Firth on board the *Sardonyx II* (BF 206) (18m, 373kW)



GEAR MODIFICATION

The Flip Flap gear has a 200mm vertical square mesh flapper panel in the extension. The top half of this panel is attached to the extension and the bottom half is weighted along its perimeter, but free to 'flap'. There is a hole cut out of the top sheet in front of the vertical panel to facilitate the escape of roundfish

Species	Flip/Flap gear catch (kg)	Standard gear catch (kg)	% catch reduction
Cod	2183	8147	73
Haddock	1018	3057	67
Whiting	177	974	82
<i>Nephrops</i>	292	304	4
Monkfish	380	435	13
Megrim	318	356	11



RESULTS

Nephrops catches of the two gears were very similar.

There was a large reduction in the retention of cod, haddock and whiting, and a small reduction in the catches of monkfish and megrim.

