

# lowering headline height (<1 m) to reduce the capture of haddock and whiting in a *Nephrops* trawl

## TARGET SPECIES

*Nephrops* and mixed whitefish and flatfish species

## AREA, VESSEL

14 twin trawl, catch comparison hauls took place in the N.Sea (ICES area IVa), North East of Fraserburgh, on board the Favonius (PD17) (23m, 480kW) during November 2010.



## GEAR MODIFICATION

a standard prawn trawl with a headline height of ~ 2 m is compared with a newly designed prawn trawl that has a headline height of ~ 1 m.

## RESULTS

### Cod:

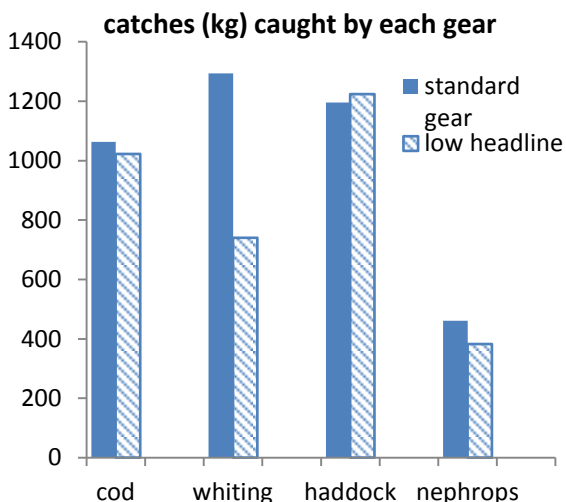
The low headline did not affect the catches of cod.

### Haddock and Whiting:

there was no difference between the two trawls for smaller whiting and haddock. However, fewer large whiting (> 28 cm) and large haddock (> 31 cm) were caught in the low headline gear

### *Nephrops*:

The standard gear caught more *Nephrops* with carapace length from 37mm (18%) to 50mm (32%).



## FURTHER INFORMATION

Kynoch, R.J., et al., 2011. Trials to assess the potential for *Nephrops* trawls with low headline heights (<1M) in reducing whitefish by-catches. Scottish Industry Science Partnership Report Number 02/11.

