115mm and 155mm square mesh panels in the body of a trawl

to improve size selection and reduce undersized haddock in ICES Area VII

TARGET SPECIES

Cod, haddock and other demersal species

AREA, VESSEL

12 hauls with a twin-rig; onboard MFV Our Olivia Belle in the Celtic Sea during August 2014

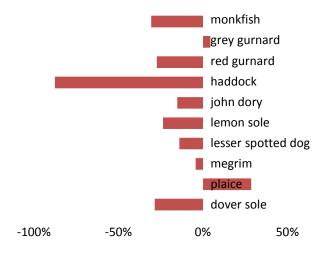
GEAR MODIFICATION

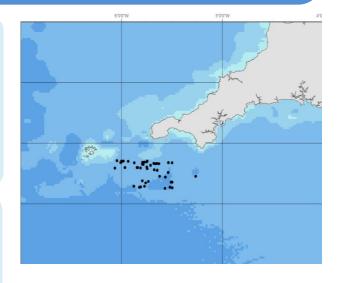
The standard gear was a 115mm mesh size trawl with a 87mm codend and a 115mm SMP @ 6-9m from codline.

The modified gear had two additional SMPs

- a 155mm SMP @ 2.5-5.5m from codline and
- a 155mm SMP @ 9.5-12.5m from codline

Percentage difference in weight of landed catches





115 mm

Experimental Trawl

RESULTS

Standard trawl

There were substantial reductions of haddock and cod catches across all size ranges in the modified gear.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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