

using a 100 mm mesh size square mesh panel (SMP)

to reduce discarding of horse mackerel, mackerel, blue whiting and juvenile hake

TARGET SPECIES

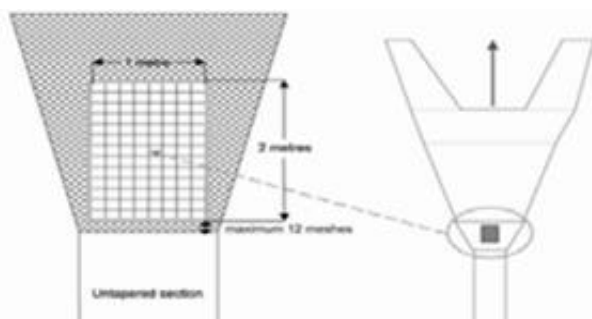
monkfish, megrim, hake, squid and red mullet

AREA, VESSEL

several cruises took place from 2011 to 2013 in the Basque otter trawl fishery.

GEAR MODIFICATION

the effectiveness of a 100 mm mesh size SMP in conjunction with a 70 mm diamond mesh codend was tested. A small mesh cover is used to catch the fish which escape through the SMP



		70 mm codend	100 mm SMP
Hake	number	6238	278
	Mean size (cm)	20.7	21.9
Blue whiting	number	57,272	30,621
	Mean size (cm)	21.3	21.2
Horse mackerel	number	906	209
	Mean size (cm)	19.2	15.1

RESULTS

- 4% of hake, 35% blue whiting and 19% of horse mackerel escaped through the 100 mm SMP
- The horse mackerel that escape through the SMP are smaller than those that are retained by the 70 mm codend.

FURTHER INFORMATION Luis Arregi: larregi@azti.es;

Alzorriz, N et al., 2016. Questioning the effectiveness of technical measures implemented by the Basque bottom otter trawl fleet. Fish. Res., 175: 116-126

