

# Effect of codend circumference, mesh size & lastridge ropes on cod selectivity in the Baltic Sea

## AIM

To reduce the capture of small cod and increase the capture of larger cod

## TARGET SPECIES

Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*)

## AREA, VESSEL

The trial took place in the Baltic Sea (ICES Divisions 27.3.d.24 and 27.3.d.25) on board R218 Judith Bechmann (25.9 m, 485 kW)

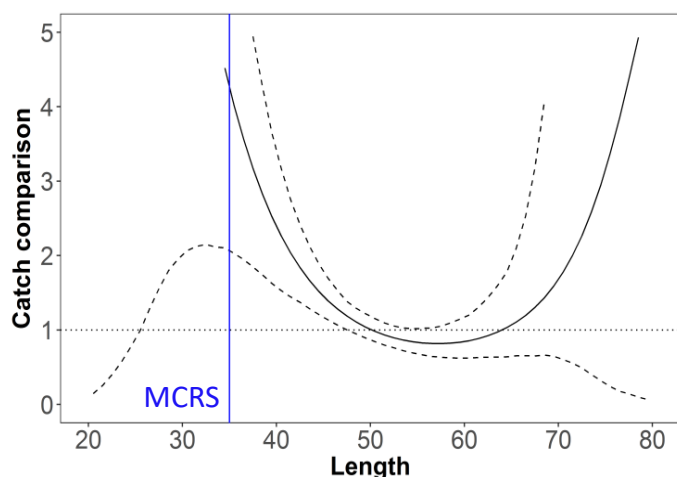


## GEAR MODIFICATION

A T90 codend with 110 mm mesh size, a circumference of 92 meshes and lastridge ropes was compared with a standard T90 codend with 120 mm mesh size, 50 meshes in circumference and with no lastridge ropes.

## RESULTS

The modified codend significantly increased the retention of cod under 47 cm, but also increased the retention of undersized cod (at least 2 times more 30 cm cod). For individuals over 47 cm there is no significant difference in catch rates between the two codends.



Species	Hauls	Number of fish sampled	Mean effect in catch weight
Cod < 35 cm	10	699	+ 413%
Cod ≥ 35 cm	10	9071	+ 45%

**FURTHER INFORMATION**  
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