

Reducing trawl length to improve size selection in the Northern shrimp fisheries

AIM

To reduce the capture of small Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in a shrimp trawl by reducing the length of the trawl belly.

TARGET SPECIES

Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*)

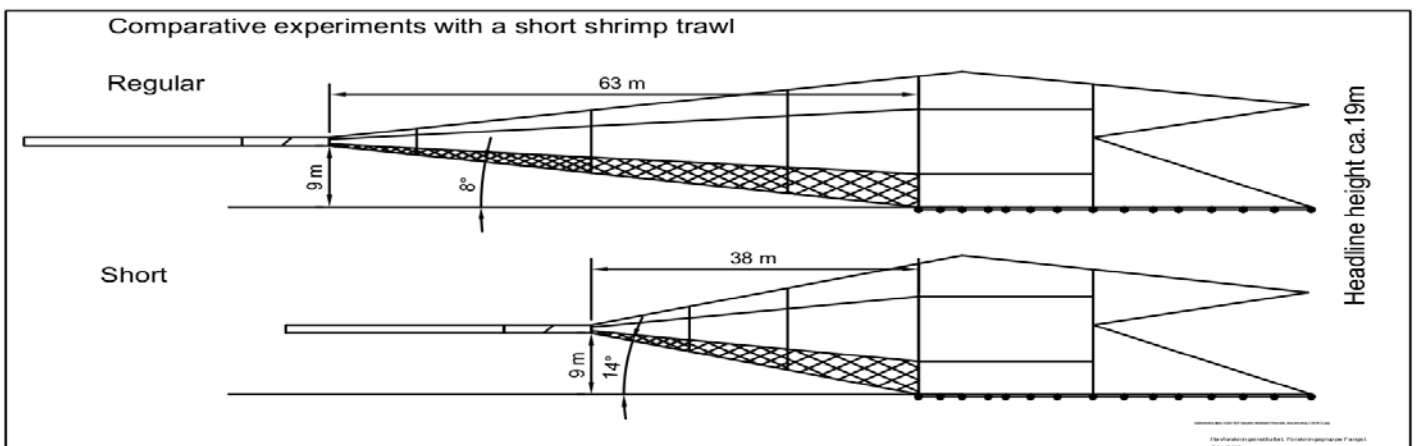
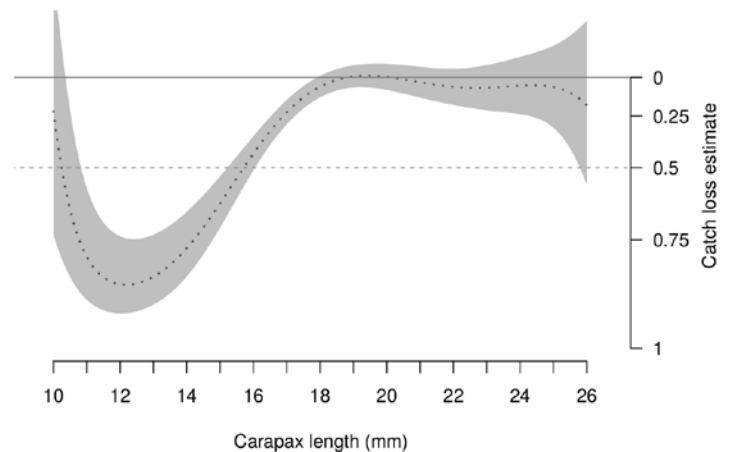
AREA, VESSEL

The trial took place in the Skagerrak (ICES IIIa) on board FV Tempo (28 m, 746 kW)



GEAR MODIFICATION

The trawl length, from fishing line to escape grid was reduced from 63 to 38 m by using steeper cutting rates. A regular and a modified trawl with 40 mm mesh sizes in the bottom panels were towed simultaneously and the catches were compared.



FURTHER INFORMATION

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RESULTS

The two gears caught large (cooked) shrimp equally, catches of medium sized shrimp were reduced by 11% and undersized shrimp by 29%. No handling problems were experienced.



DiscardLess

