

# developing a suction dredge to reduce impact in the Iceland scallop dredge fishery

## AIM

to develop a harvesting method for scallops (*Clamys islandica*) to eliminate damage to seabed and both target and non-target species.

## TARGET SPECIES

Iceland scallop (*Clamys islandica*)

## PROTOTYPES AND TESTING

Experimental gear. Several prototypes were developed and tested in Icelandic coastal waters



## GEAR MODIFICATION

After initial tests, suction was identified as the preferred harvesting method. Motors were used to suck seawater through piping mounted on a towed sled. They were then deposited in a retention bag.



## RESULTS

Scallops were successfully lifted and retained. Little observable sediment displacement. Limited by-catch. There was no observed damage to target and non-target species.

Further work on vessel speed and operational parameters needed.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

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