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PROGRAMME

Survey 0512H - Charter Fishing Vessel Victoria May (PD267)

28 July - 3 August 2012

PORTS

Loading: Peterhead

Unloading: Peterhead

In setting the survey programme and specific objectives, etc the Scientist-in-Charge needs to be aware of the restrictions on working hours and the need to build in adequate rest days and rest breaks as set out in Marine Scotland's Working Time Policy (Lab Notice 34/03). In addition, the Scientist-in-Charge must formally review the risk assessments for the survey with staff on-board before work is commenced.

In the interest of efficient data management it is now mandatory to return the Survey Report, to I Gibb and the Survey Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to M Geldart, within four weeks of a cruise ending. In the case of the Survey Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate

Personnel

R J Kynoch (In charge)

S Buckley (SFF Observer)

Project: 10844 - 7 days

Objectives

1. To assess the performance of a standard Nephrops trawl incorporating a Faithlie Cod Avoidance Panel (FCAP) in reducing by-catches of cod. Catches from the modified test trawl will be compared to those retained by unmodified control trawl rigged with a 110mm square mesh panel (SMP).
2. If Objective 1 is found to not give a 60% reduction in cod catches then the performance of the FCAP will be assessed when rigged into a 'Letterbox' low headline trawl.

Procedure

Staff and equipment will join Victoria May (PD267) at Peterhead on 28 July. Prior to sailing one of the vessels standard Nephrops trawls will be modified to include the FCAP, which incorporates a 300mm square mesh inclined netting panel, fish escape outlet holes and groundfish hole (Figures 1 to 3).

Throughout the trials the twin trawl method will be used to assess the performance of the test net which will be compared against a similar unmodified control trawl. Catch comparison data will be collected using 80mm diamond mesh codends. The test trawl will be rigged with a 120mm SMP and the control trawl a 110mm SMP as per 2009 regulation. The intention is to collect length data for all cod, haddock, whiting, anglerfish and weight data for Nephrops but as available other species may be included. If after a suitable number of hauls the FCAP panel is found to be giving less than 60% cod reductions then it will be tested with the 'Letterbox' low headline Nephrops trawl (Objective 2).

On leaving port the vessel will sail to suitable Nephrops fishing grounds in the North Sea. Thereafter the vessel will commence catch comparison hauls for the remainder of the cruise.

Ships accommodation will be used throughout and the charter will end in Peterhead on 3 August.

Normal contact will be maintained with the laboratory.

Contact details for Victoria may are 07732 165743 (Owner).

Submitted:
R Kynoch
17 July 2012

Approved:
I Gibb
25 July 2012

Inclined Panel

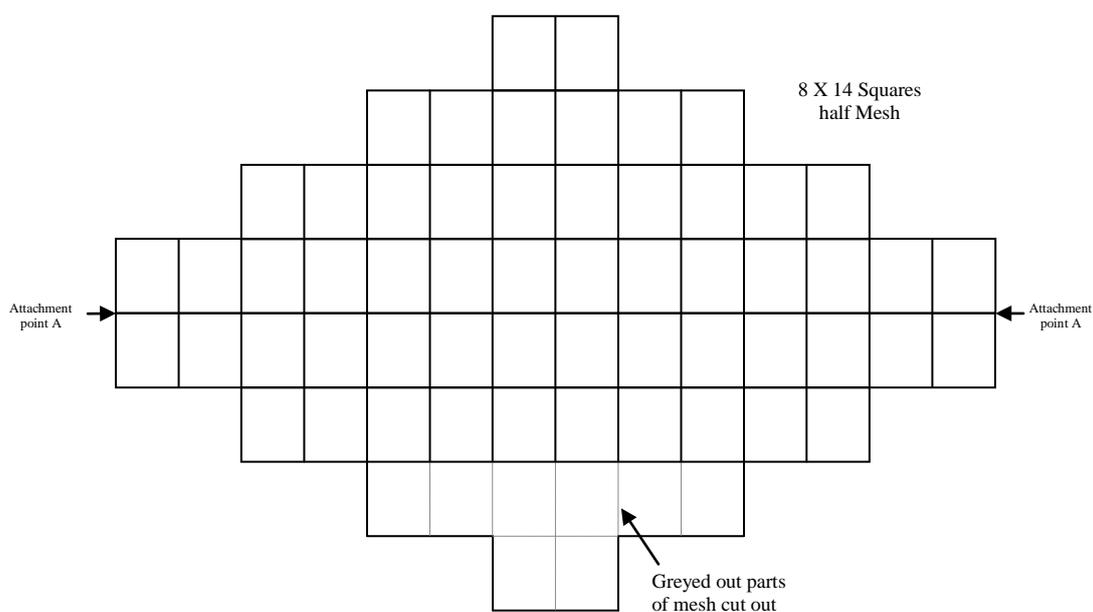


Figure 1. Design of inclined panel.

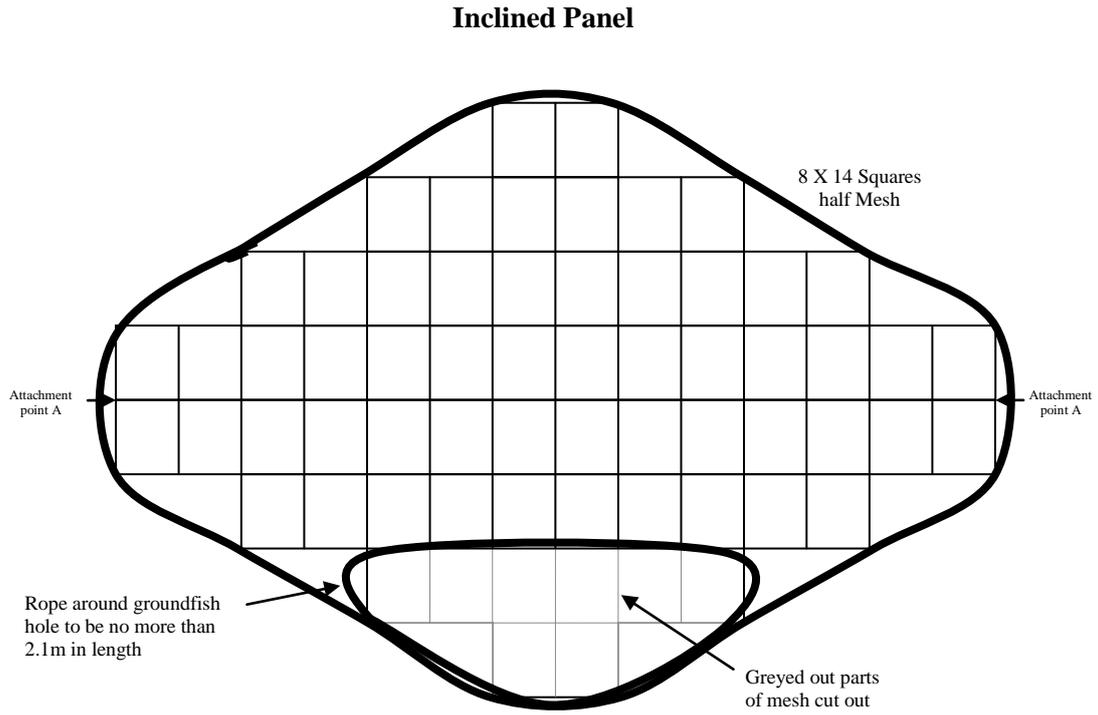


Figure 2. Roped inclined panel with roped groundfish hole.

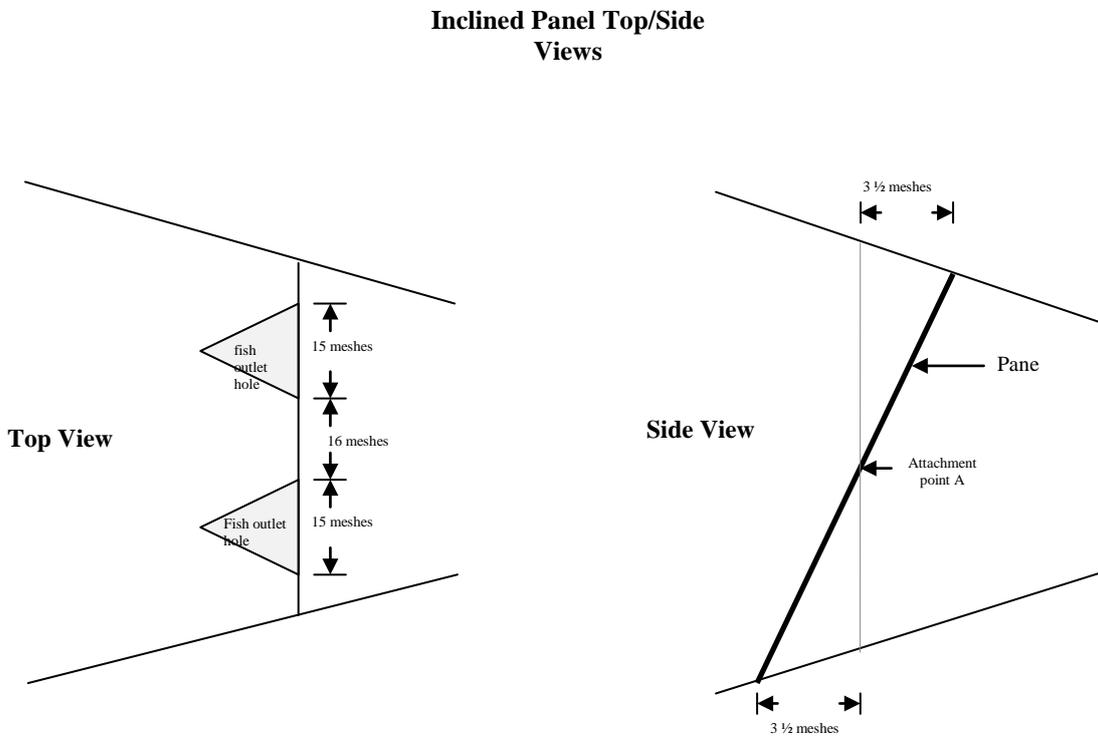


Figure 3. Positioning of inclined panel in trawl and fish outlet holes.