Evaluation and improvement of shellfish dredge design and fishing effort in relation to technical conservation measures and environmental impact.

Fiche descriptive

Informations projet
ECODREDGE
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Coordonné par: Sea Fish Industry Authority
Royaume-Uni

Objectif

To review operating conditions in a number of shellfish dredge fisheries and develop techniques appropriate to each fishery to study the selectivity and environmental effects of dredging. To examine the physical impact of dredging and study the incidental mortality, stress, ecological, physical and chemical environmental effects on a seasonal basis.

1. To review dredge fisheries, their operating environments and environmental effects in all the nations considered.

2. To develop the means for describing the physical, chemical, physiological and ecological effects of shellfish dredging.

3. To describe the physical, chemical, physiological and ecological effects of shellfish dredging on a seasonal basis.

4. To develop dredges with reduced environmental effects on affected species and the seabed.
5. To compare the environmental effects of dredges designed arising from Objective 4 with standard dredges.

6. To quantify the role of dredge components in the selectivity of scallop dredges catching Pecten maximus and Aequipecten opercularis in UK waters.

7. To quantify the role of dredge components on the selectivity of clam dredges catching Spisula solida, Venus striatula, Donax truncatus and Ensis siliqua in Portuguese fisheries.

8. To compare the environmental effects of dredge components which are found to play a part in dredge selectivity in UK scallop and Portuguese clam dredge

Dredge fisheries face stock and environmental management pressures. Size and species selectivity and non-catch (incidental mortality) are important issues concerned with technical measures. Environmental issues are likely to become of increasing influence, in particular in relation to seabed degradation. This is particularly as many dredge fisheries take place in coastal waters which are increasingly managed in terms of multiple resource use.

This project aims to study the interactions between shellfish dredges, affected species and the marine environment. The work will be oriented towards the goals of improving selectivity, understanding and reducing incidental mortality and undesirable environmental effects. Ultimately, the intention is to develop dredge designs and management strategies with reduced environmental impacts.

Two main species groupings will be studied; Scallop fisheries in Northern Europe, and clam fisheries on the Adriatic and Iberian Peninsula. Hydraulic ('turbo-soanti') dredging for Chamelea gallina pursued by fisheries in the Adriatic, and towed dredge fisheries for Spisula solida, Venus striatula, Donax trunculus and Ensis siliqua on the Iberian Peninsula.

Programme(s)

FP4-FAIR - Specific research, technological development and demonstration programme in the field of agriculture and fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development), 1994-1998

Thème(s)

5.2.1 - The effects of fisheries on the environment

Régime de financement

CSC - Cost-sharing contracts

Coordinateur
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