

Agenda Item 14.3

Implementation of the ASCOBANS Triennial
Work Plan (2007-2009)

Review of New Information on Bycatch and
Other Causes of Mortality

Document 16

**Information Submitted by Parties on
Fishing Effort
c) France**

Action Requested

- take note of the information submitted
- comment

Submitted by

Parties



NOTE:
**IN THE INTERESTS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED TO BRING THEIR OWN
COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING**

Secretariat's Note

Attached is, as separate documents in order to minimise the need for revisions, the information submitted by Parties on fishing effort in relevant fisheries, as submitted by the ASCOBANS Parties.

Fisheries statistics from France

Submitted to ASCOBANS in 2008

Compiled by Yvon Morizur, IFREMER/Brest

According to the Ifremer data base, France had around 2532 vessels with trawls and set nets fishing in North East Atlantic areas in year 2006. That fleet was compounded of 1287 bottom trawlers (90 % having a length less than 24 meters) , 247 pelagic trawlers (90 % having a length less than 24 meter) and 24 beam trawlers (80 % less than 18 meters). Around 1250 vessels were observed to fish with set nets ; those boats are generally less than 12 meters length (80%).

1. Bottom set nets

Regulations exist on fishing effort of set nets at the regional level inside the 12 miles inshore area. The fishing industry in Brittany and Normandy have set regulations for limiting fishing effort : licences for vessels, maximum length of vessels according to fishing area ,minimum mesh size and maximum soak time permitted for each target species, maximum length of nets according to crew number. This regulation should regulate the fishing effort in set nets.

a) categories of fishing vessels

Number of vessels (year 2006)

Fishing area	Professional >=15m	Professional <15m	Total professional	Recreational
IVc	7	39	46	
VIIId	14	226	240	unknown
VIIe,f,h	33	332	365	unknown
Other VII	28	0	28	
VIIIa,b	84	640	724	unknown
Other VIII	20	1	21	
other	5			

A vessel may fish in several areas.

Number of boat-months (year 2006)

Fishing area	Professional >=15m	Professional <15m	Total professional	Recreational
IVc	Not yet available	Not yet available	345	
VIIId	Not yet available	nya	1883	unknown
VIIe,f,h	nya	nya	2608	unknown
Other VII	nya	nya	195	
VIIIa,b	nya	nya	5134	unknown
Other VIII	nya	nya	67	
other	nya	nya	19	

A vessel is reported with one month of activity with a gear if this gear is used at least once in the month.

Some studies are in progress on recreational fisheries. And some estimate of length of nets for sport fishing should be available in the next months.

b) fishing effort at one time

fishery	Minimum length(km) in a hauling day	Maximum length(km) in a hauling day	Number of days hauling	Soak time (hours)	Number of vessels
Spider crab	0.6	30	60	36/72	Not yet available

Anglerfish, rays.	10	50	100-150	24/72	Not yet available
hake	6	10	60	12/24	nya
cod	3	20	60	12/24	nya
pollack	0.5	8	100	6/24	nya
sole	0.5	15	100	8/24	nya
bass	0.5	1.5	50	6/12	nya
Red mullet	0.2	1	60	3/6	nya

c) technical description of gears

Fishery	Trammel, gillnet tangle net	Mesh size (mm)	Material	Height of nets (m)	Hanging ratio	Pinger use	Configuration set	
Spider crab	G	220/320	MMono	2/3.2	0.50/0.55	no	parallel	
Anglerfish, Rays..	T	O.N.	800/1000	Mono	2.3/3	0.50/0.55	no	parallel
		I.N.	270/300	Mono		0.45/0.50	no	
	G		270/300	Mono	1.5/2.6	0.35/0.50	no	parallel
Hake	G	100/120	Mono	5/11	0.50/0.65	no	parallel	
Cod	T	O.N.	600/1200	Mono	2/3	0.40/0.50	no	?
		I.N.	120/180	Mono		no		
	G		120/200	Mono	2.4/4	0.40/0.60	no	?
Pollack	G	90/200	Mono	5/11	0.45/0.60	no	parallel	
Sole	T	O.N.	400/500	Mono	1.25/1.6	0.45/0.60	no	parallel or perpendicular
		I.N.	100/120	Mono		0.35/0.44	no	
Bass	T	O.N.	400/600	Mono	2.4/3.6	0.50/0.70	no	parallel
		I.N.	80/110	Mono		0.40/0.50	no	
	G		80/120	Mono	4.4/6.6	0.50/0.70	no	parallel
Red mullet	G	40/70	Mono	1.6/2.8	0.30/0.50	no	paralell	

G: Gillnet

T:Trammel

O.N. : outer netting

I.N. : Inner netting

d, e) monthly variation in set net effort and mapping by ICES area

The data base contains poor quality information on length nets. Several reasons explain that situation:

- the European logbook (for vessels having more than 10m long) was initially done for towed gears as trawls. So the fields are not well adapted for set nets. A European study on the evolution of fishing power in French set netting (Morizur and al., 2000.) showed that in the sole- area VIII fishery it was found ten ways of reporting fishing effort and such a situation requires a very good knowledge of fisheries to take profit of all documents.

- the national logbook for vessels less than 10 m is more adapted to static gears. However the data quality about length of nets hauled are not of good quality (probably because of mistakes in the units used).

- All this situation is probably due to mistakes when using "number of fishing operations" and "length of the gear". (It would probably be better to suppress the number of fishing operations to ask for the total length in meters hauled in a day).

- So any monthly study on variation of fishing effort and any mapping of effort of set nets is not yet useful until any progress will be observed in the quality of data collected. The new European regulation (ref ...°) do not seem to go in that direction for static nets.

It should be stressed that the soak time and the length of nets as mentioned in point b are target species dependent as the data listed in paragraph c.

2. Trawling

Type of fishery : bottom trawling for benthic and demersal species and cephalopods, pelagic trawling for anchovy, pilchard, bass, bream, horse mackerel, mackerel, tunas, and beam trawling for flatfish. Around 50 vessels work in pairs for pelagic trawl. Single pelagic trawling is a part-time activity for some bottom trawlers.

Target species : demersal and benthic species (anglerfish, bass, gadoids, skates, rays, sole, turbot, cephalopods...) , pelagic species (anchovy, pilchard, bass, bream, horse mackerel, mackerel, tunas)

Reporting period : year 2006

Fishing season :all the year for bottom or beam trawling; Pelagic trawling target more seasonal species and is active in several fisheries.

Type of statistics : activity with boats and month-boats numbers per metier and fishing areas :

Number of boats per area (year 2006)

Gear / Fishing area	Other areas	IV_c	other_VII	VII_d	VII_ehf	other_VIII	VIII_ab	Total
Bottom trawl	57	41	130	306	466	38	657	1695
Pelagic trawl	5	10	16	116	63	76	132	418
Beam trawl		3	0	18	10	0	1	32

Number of boat-months per area (year 2006)

Gear / Fishing area	Other areas	IV_c	other_VII	VII_d	VII_ehf	other_VIII	VIII_ab	Total
Bottom trawl	346	160	1000	2058	3206	109	5331	12210
Pelagic trawl	20	14	32	420	215	226	676	1603
Beam trawl		25	0	88	50	0	4	167