

Agenda Item 14.3.2

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

Review of New Information on Bycatch and
Other Causes of Mortality

Information Originating from the Reporting of EU
Member States under Regulation 812/2004

Document 19 Addendum

**Information Submitted by Parties on
Reporting under EC Reg. 812/2004
c) France**

Action Requested

- take note of the information submitted
- comment
- decide on the reporting format and frequency
for future meetings

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 are, as separate documents in order to minimise the need for revisions, the responses received on Information Originating from the Reporting of EU Member States under Regulation 812/2004, as submitted by the ASCOBANS Parties.

Implementation of Regulation 812/2004 in France

Plans with observers
Pingers Pilot projects

Observers

- Vessels >15m
 - Pair trawling (area VII, VIII)
 - Single trawling (area VII, VIII; medit)
 - Netting (area VIII)
- Pilot projects for vessels <15m = observation
 - Single trawling (area VII, VIII) (5% and 10%)
 - Netters (area VIII) (1%)
- Sampling schemes
 - by fleet segment
 - through ports and months;
 - fleets (and not metiers) are studied.
 - Coverage using fishing effort of year n-2
- A total of 1876 days at sea /year planned by France for this regulation

Special points about observer plans

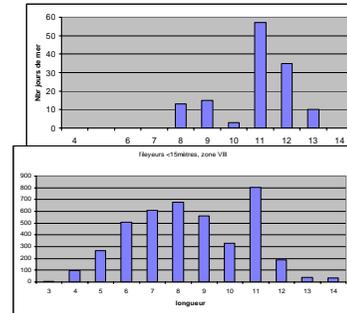
- Steering committee
 - with the observer company, the fish administration, scientists and fishing industry
 - one meeting/month
- Total for 2007 = 1135 days at sea
- Some difficulties to reach the objective
 - Single pelagic trawling in Atlantic (sporadic activity in complement of bottom trawling) = not easy to achieve
 - Single pelagic in Mediterranean sea = now OKay
 - Some ports (Yeu, Noirmoutier) (consequence of the ban of tuna drift nets)
- Some pinger experiments linked with observer plan (eg pelagic trawling)
 - with alternate tows
 - = « A rationale for analysing observations in tandem with trials of mitigation devices ». SGBYC, 2008

Results

- Pair pelagic trawling
 - in Tuna 2006 : estimate of 57 c. d.
 - in Bass and tuna 2007: estimate to be done soon
 - (in Bass season 2006-2007 bycatch = less than obtained in Petracet 2004-2005)
- Set netting
 - Porpoise bycatch in area VIII (greater amount with vessels <15m)
 - Problem with new security requirements
 - → bias when using only days at sea ; because the observed vessels have not the same length distribution than the population of vessel to be studied.
 - → trying to correct the bias by using a proxy relation between length of nets and vessel size. Looking also to the way of using target fish catch to raise observed bycatch ;

Length distribution of netters <15m

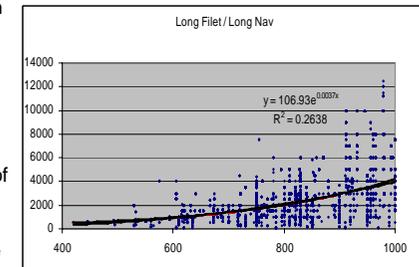
- Length distributions of observed vessels
- Length distributions of vessels to be studied
- Raising with days at sea or trips induces probably a bias
- as small vessels haul in a day a shorter amount of nets than large vessels do



15th ASCOBANS Advisory Committee 5

Relation between length of nets hauled in a day and vessel size <10m

- Poor quality of informations on effective fishing effort even in national logbooks
- Even when we select only a type of nets (e.g. sole nets in area VIII)
- Fitting by using the evolution of maximum values
- Logbooks for vessel <10m are more adapted to set nets than EU logbooks



15th ASCOBANS Advisory Committee 6

Pingers and set nets in area VII

- Pinger experiments in collaboration with fishermen
- Observations schemes on nets
 - Western Channel
 - Iroise area (with experimentations on pingers);(AAMP+ Oceanopolis + Ifremer) (starting) (5 part-time observers)
 - Paimpol (since July 2007); (with fishing industry) (one full time scientific observer)
 - Other VIIe (Western Channel) project (with Fishing Industry + Ifremer); (3 full time observers)
 - Eastern Channel
 - Boulogne area project (with experimentations on pingers);(Fishing Industry + NGO+ CRMM); (3 full time observers on Nord-Pas de Calais)
- Towards observation on the whole Channel area ? (under discussion)

15th ASCOBANS Advisory Committee 7

Conclusion

- 1800 days at sea planned
- Pelagic trawling
 - Pair trawling : well observed
 - 57 cd in 2006 tuna fishery
 - ??? cd in 2007 bass fishery
 - Some experiments with pinger Cetasaver
 - Single trawling :
 - Not easy to follow (part-time activity) in Atlantic Sea
 - Difficulties solved for Mediterranean Sea (one sd bycatch observed)
- Netting
 - Area VIII (Bay of Biscay)
 - Porpoises observed in all? types of nets and all along the coast
 - Some cd are also caught
 - Estimate difficult due to bias in the sampling
 - poor quality in length of nets
 - 2007 estimate = some hundreds
 - Area VII (English Channel)
 - Some sporadic bycatch
 - Several observation programmes in collaboration with fishing industry; towards covering all the Channel area
 - Pinger experiments In Iroise

15th ASCOBANS Advisory Committee 8