

Successful collaborative trials of simple gear modifications to reduce entanglement of whales and other megafauna in Scotland's static pot (creel) fisheries



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Understanding marine animal entanglement in Scottish waters

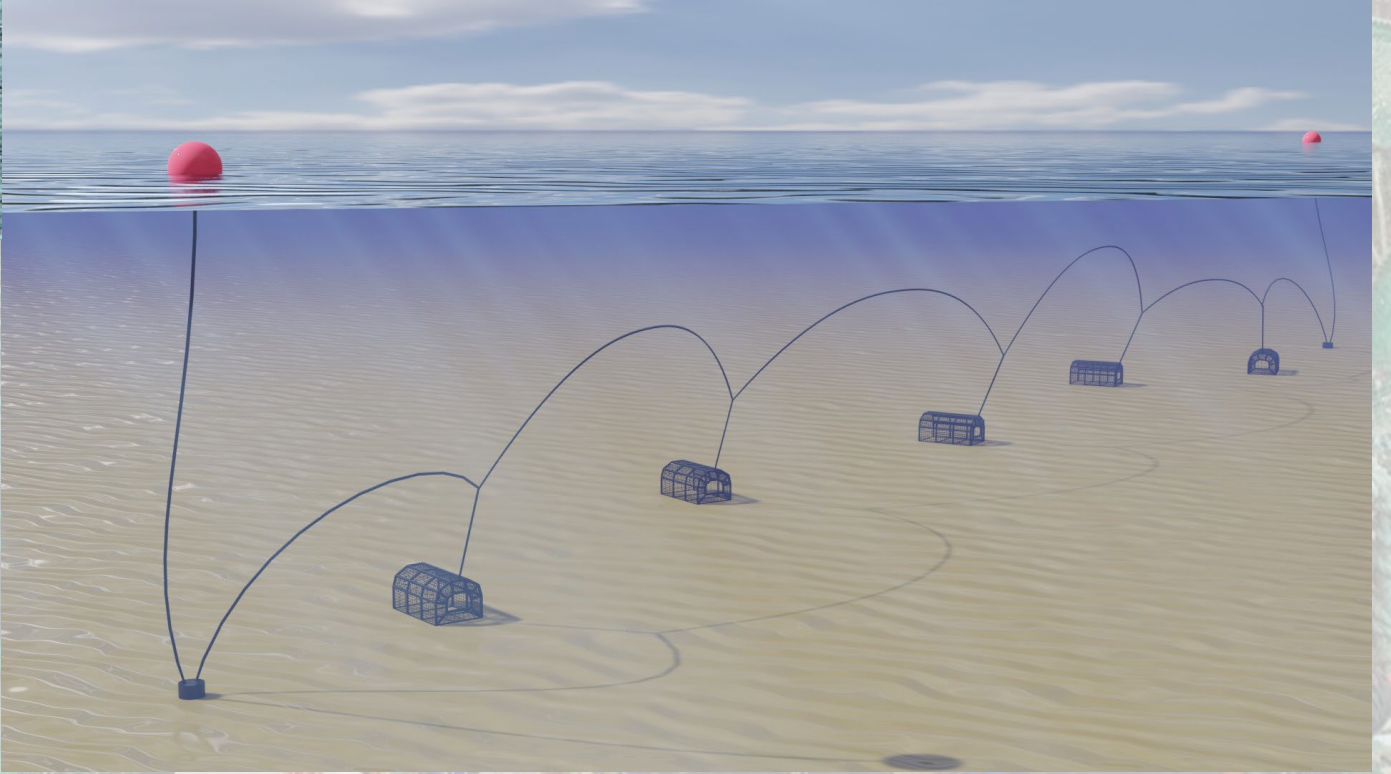
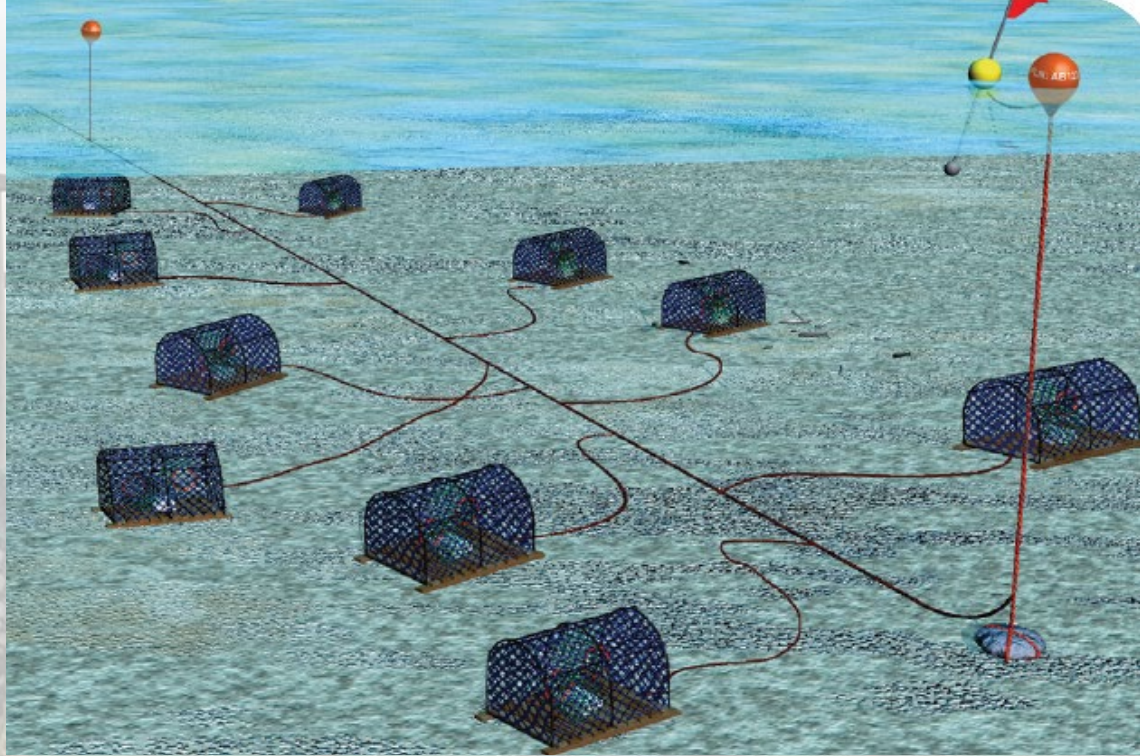




Estimates of humpback and minke whale entanglements in the Scottish static pot (creel) fishery

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“Considerably more whale entanglements occur in the Scottish creel fishery than previously thought based on strandings alone, with estimates of 6 humpback whales and 30 minke whales becoming entangled each year. Where entanglement type was reported, **83% of minke and 50% of humpback whales were caught in groundlines between creels.**”





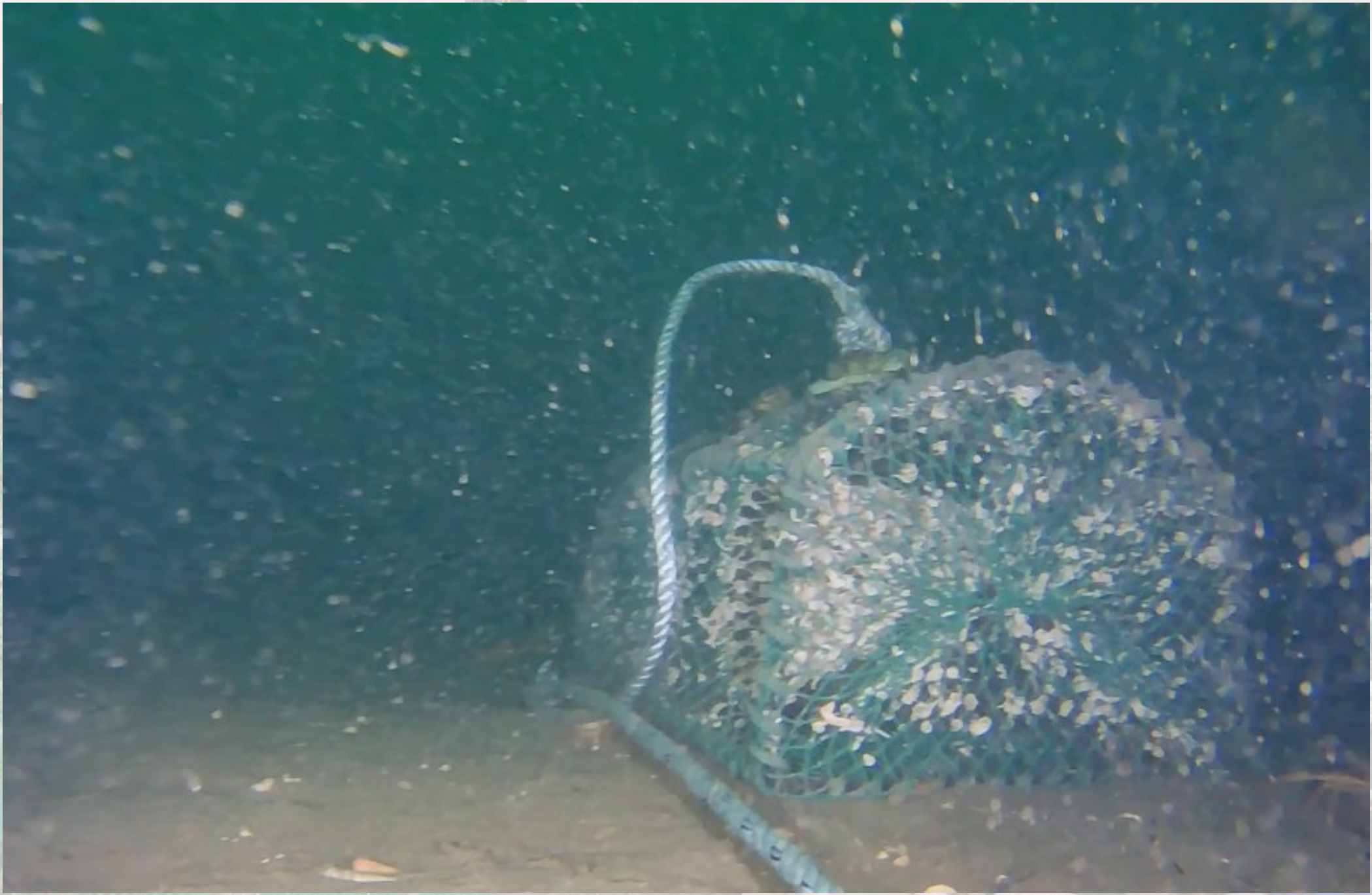
Collaborating with Scotland's creel fishers to reduce entanglement of minke whales, basking sharks and other megafauna through gear modifications















- Collaboration efforts between scientists, NGOs, and the commercial sector
- Bottom-up approach using the expertise and experience of fishers
- Wider consultation around Scottish coast on implementation
- Allows effective mitigation to take place to fulfil Scotland's legal obligations under 2020 Fisheries Act and provide a global example of best practice