VisNed

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Improving Selectivity

running for a long time now and ongoing

A Dutch Flatfish Fisheries Point of View

European Parliament Committee on Fisheries

13 April 2015

Pim Visser, chief executive VisNed

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About VisNed

National Association of Producer Organisations in Dutch Demersal Fisheries

VisNed's mission

- Stable Conditions
- Sustainable Operations
- Predictable Returns

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VisNed's focus:

- *Fishery Policy*
  - *All CFP related issues*
- Spatial Planning
- Sustainability, Market Issues + Certification
- *Social and Technical Issues and Innovation*
  - *Innovations improving sustainability*

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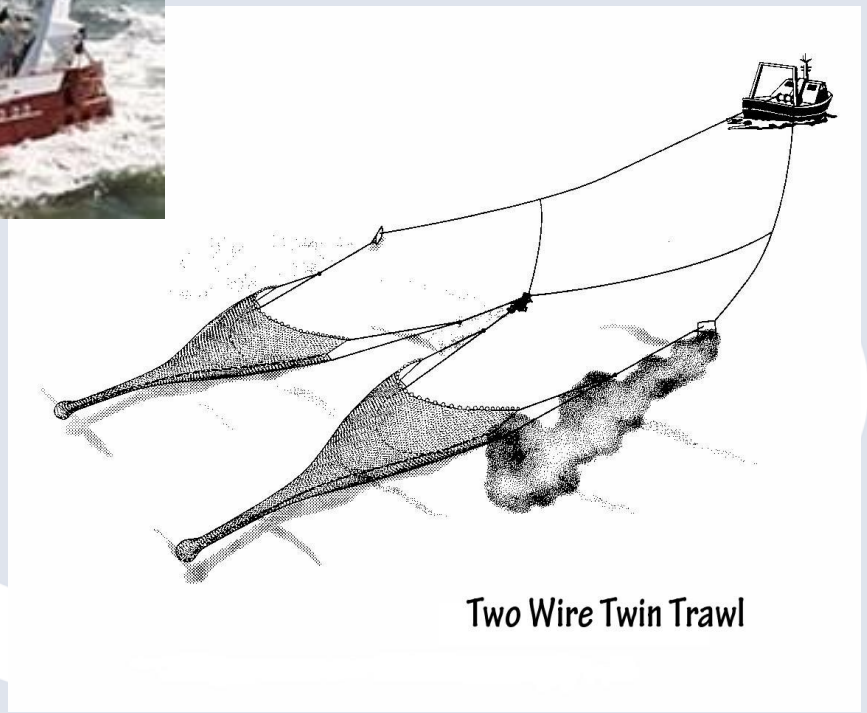
Small scale brown shrimp fisheries

assessment in progress

Twin rigged otter trawl



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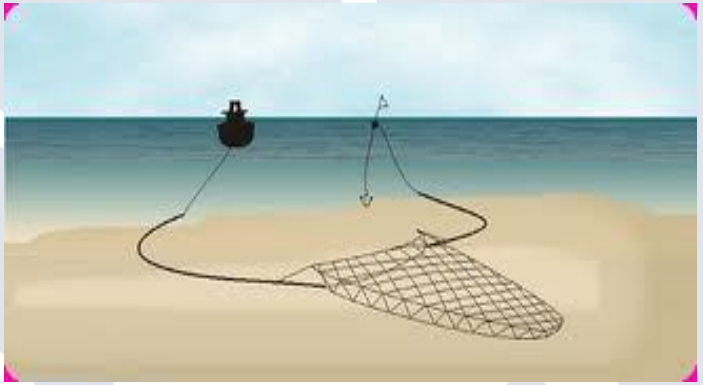
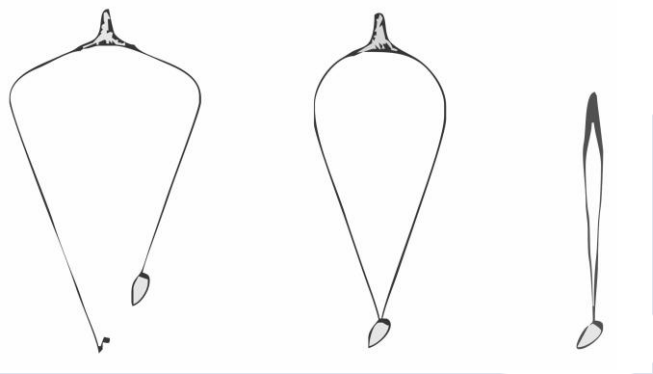
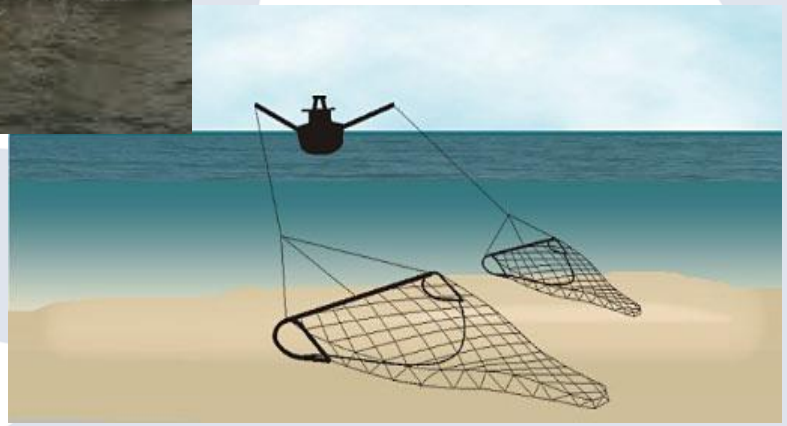
Scottish seine net or fly shoot





Traditional beamtrawl with tickler chains phasing out



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Less impact beam trawl with pulse gear phasing in

assessment in progress

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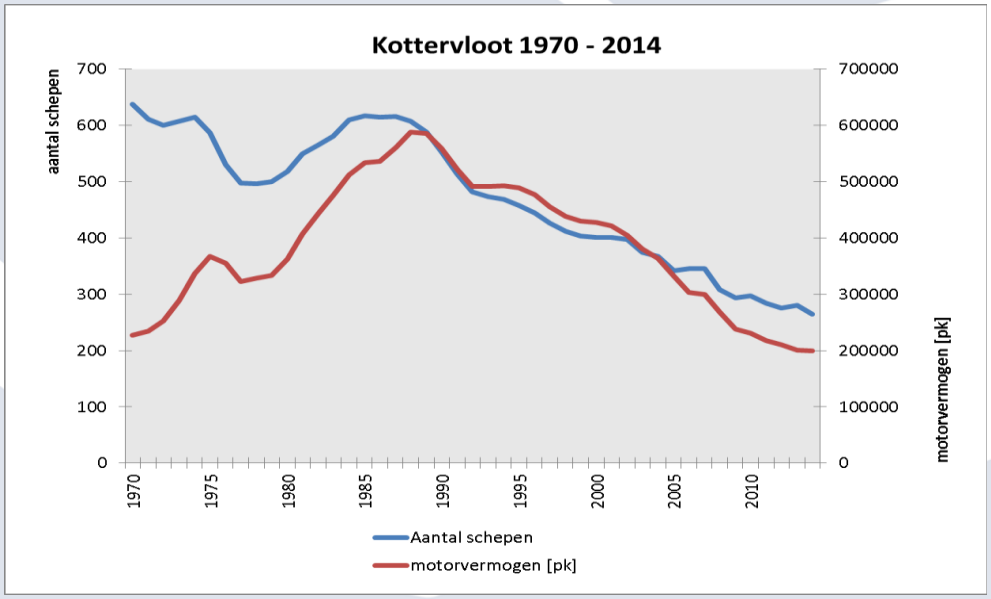
Beamtrawl fleet development since 1970

	1990		2014
Nr of vessels	588	↓↓	276
Engine power	586.000	↓↓	212.000
kW days	>40.000.000	↓↓	≈ 21.000.000



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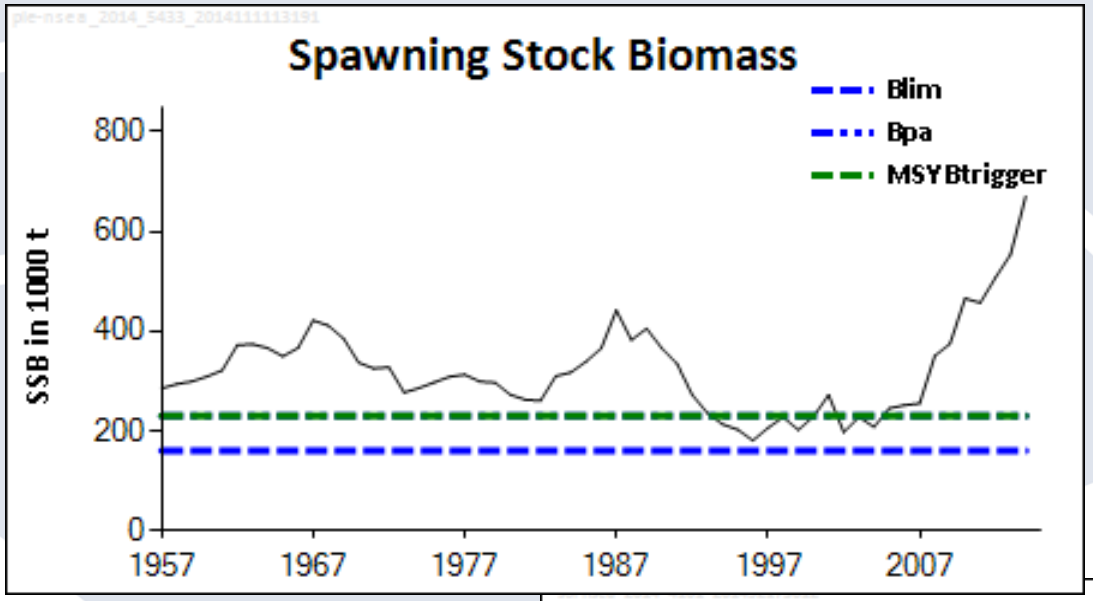
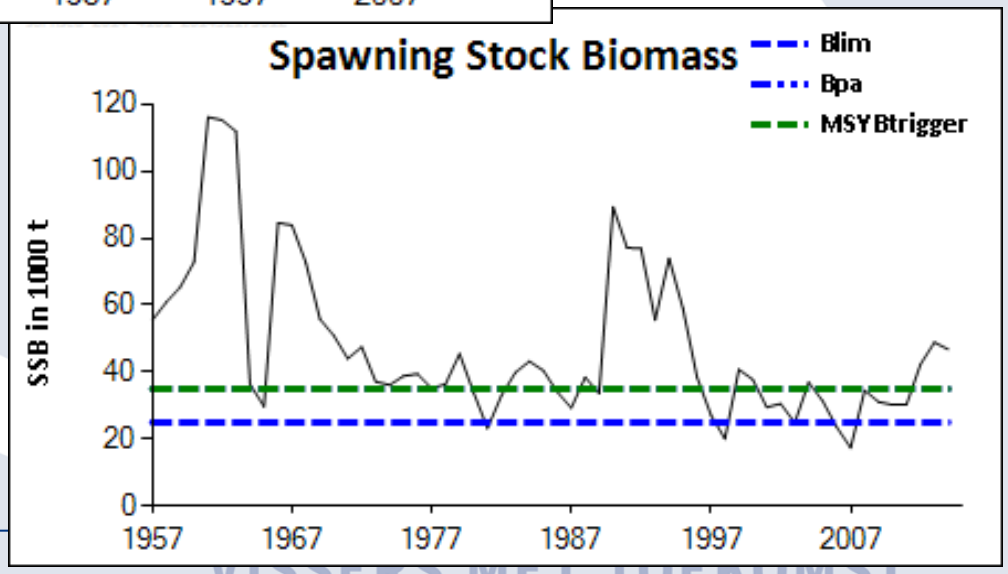
Target/bycatch species Sole and Plaice

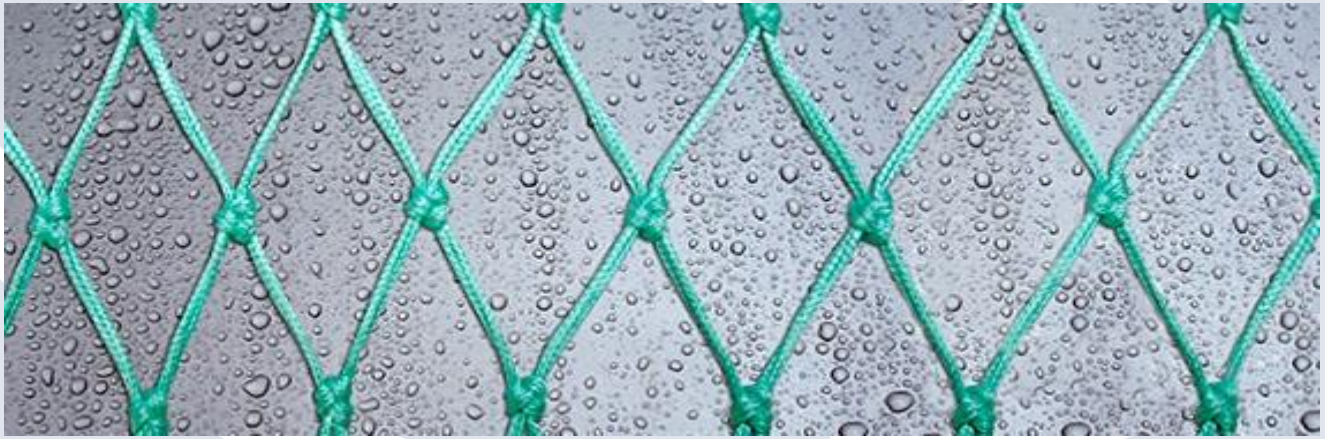




Sole and Plaice : Rizla vs Cardboard

The Sole and Plaice dilemma

- To catch Sole mesh size**< 80mm**
- Escape juvenile Plaice cs mesh **size > 120** mm



Maximum selectivity is the ultimate goal

- We only want to catch what we can sell
- Sole is the most valuable fisheries in Europe
- Sole main economical driver NL beamtrawl fleet

- Solving the Sole Plaice dilemma
  - the ultimate challenge
  - days @ Sea regime kills initiatives

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Transition to pulse fisheries huge contribution

- Less fuel per kilo fish (-48%)
- More selective on sole(+14%)
- Less bycatch plaice (-41%)
- Less catch of benthos (-30/-50%)

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Looking for solutions

- Research cooperation with science
- Developing escape panels since early nineties
- Discards reduced by 20%
- Pulse fisheries major step forward
- Projects 2013-2015 (EFF funded)
  - Existing projects prolonged
  - Inclusion of large group of fishers
  - Benelux science cooperation

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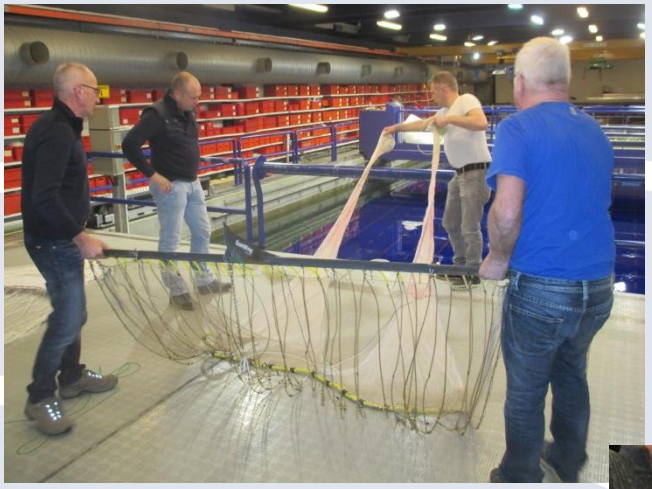

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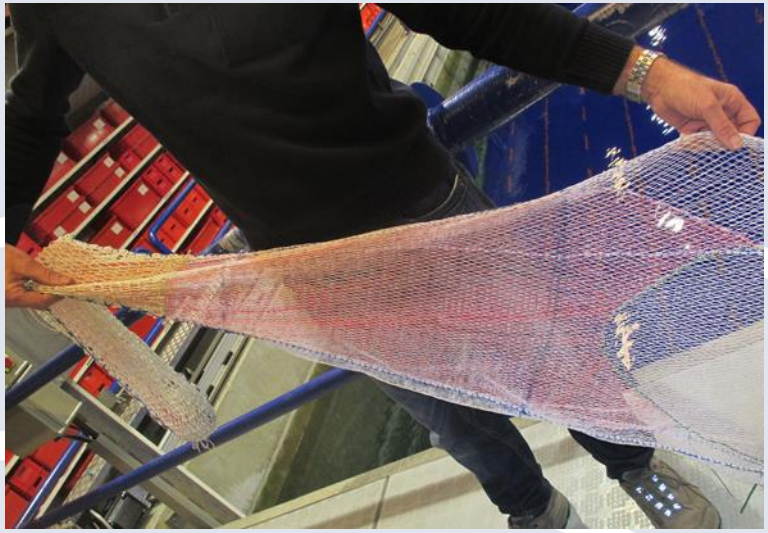

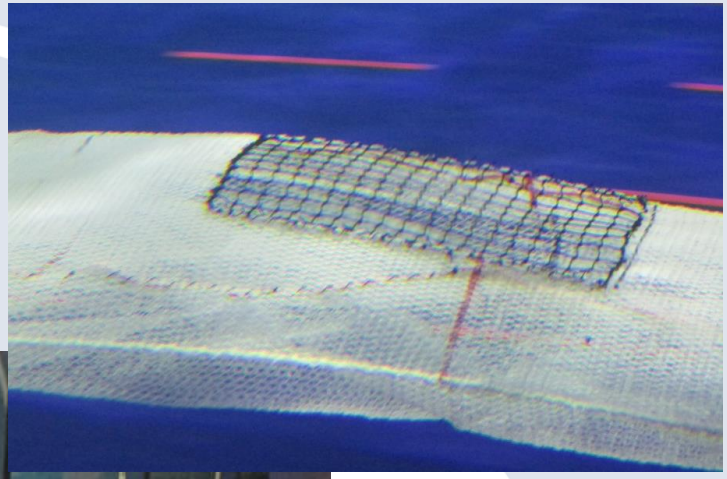

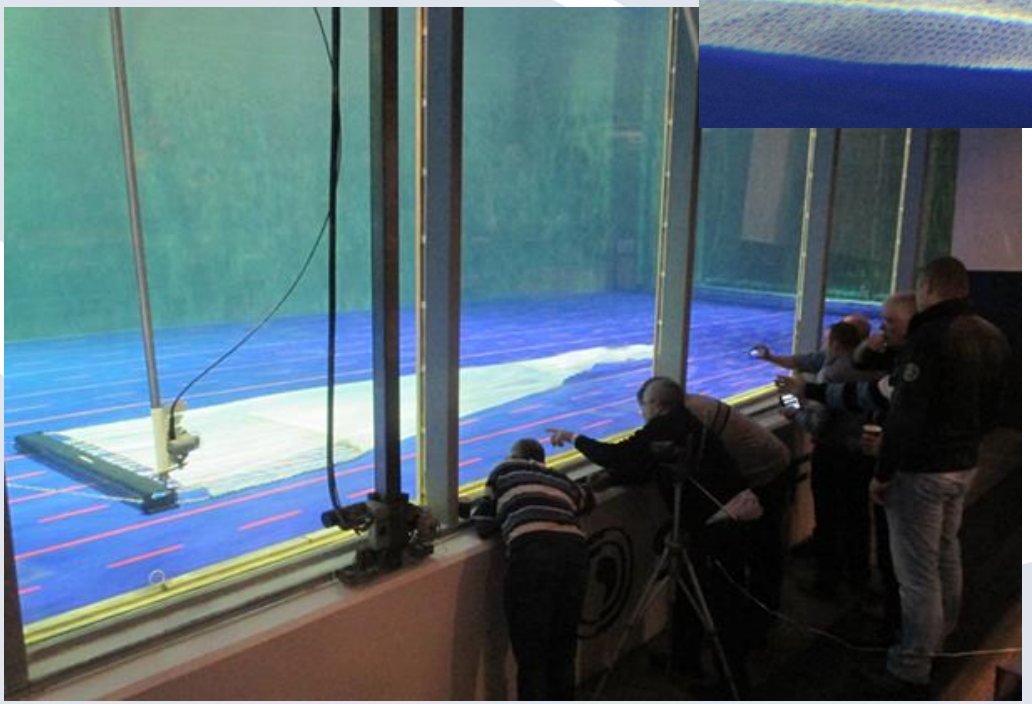

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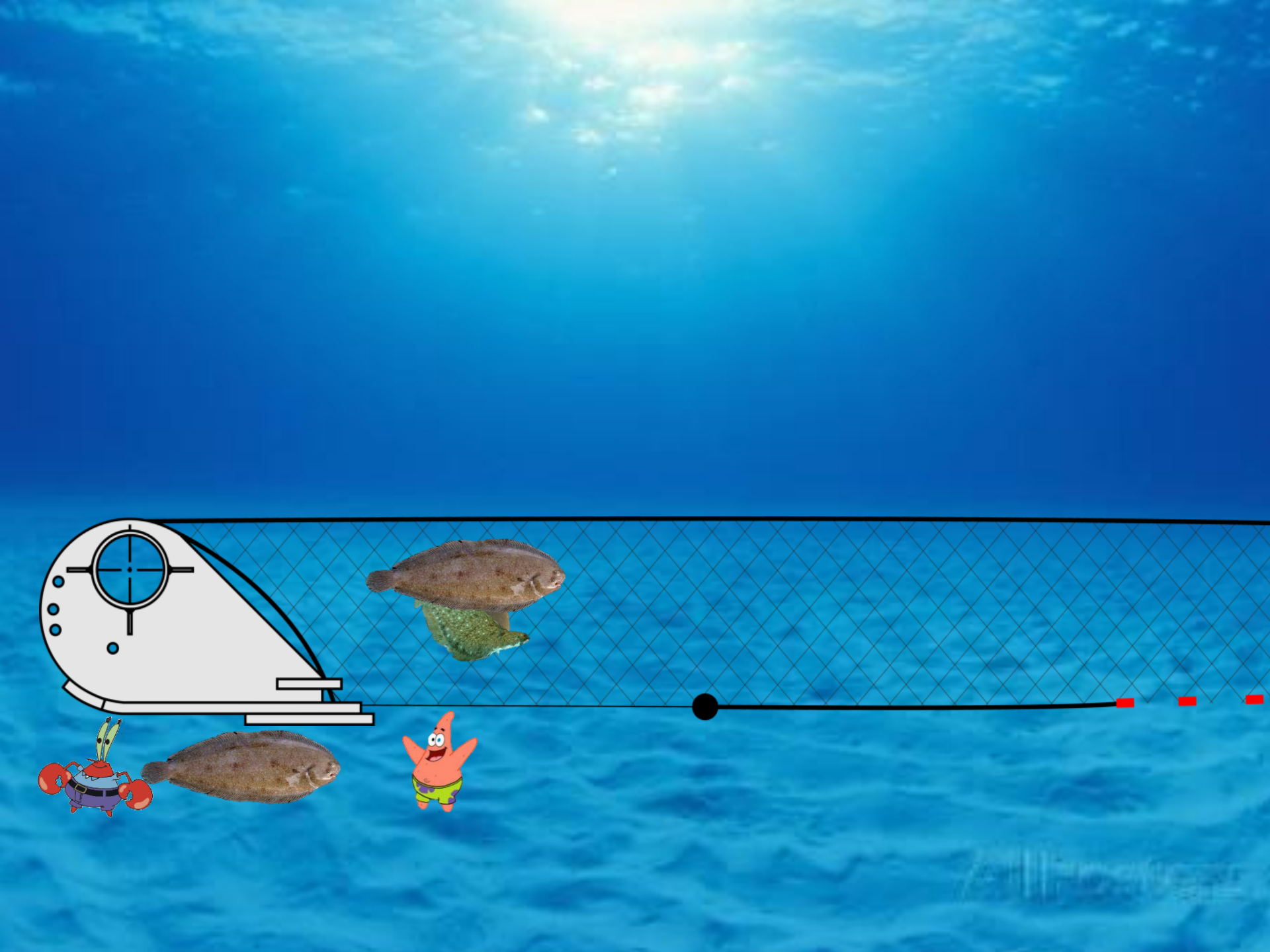


eBRP: first results

Catch weights VS normal net	**240 mm BRP**	**240 mm eBRP**
Benthos	**-80%**	**-80%**
Trash	**-50%**	**-50%**
Sole (all sizes)	**-40%**	**-15%**
Undersized Sole	**-50%**	**-40%**
Undersized plaice	**-10%**	**-10%**
Undersized whiting	**-**	**-30%**
Undersized pouting	**-**	**-70%**

ILVO

ILVO

Electrified Benthos Release Panel (eBRP)

eBRP:

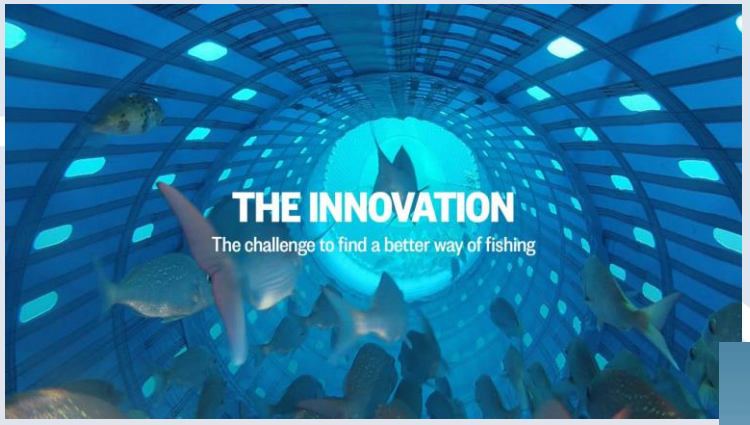
- Suitable to reduce catch of undersized fish for a selection of species
- Option to increase survival of discards
- Not suitable to separate different flatfish species

Lessons learnt from other ILVO selectivity trials with beam trawls:

- Separate different flatfish species (e.g. sole & plaice) to improve their selectivity without losing the main target species (sole) has not been achieved

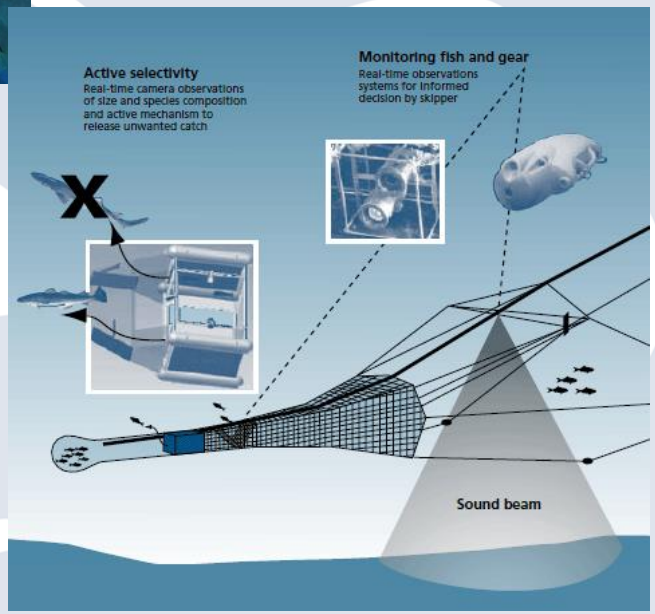
ILVO

Some other forward thinking examples World Wide



>Innovation from New Zealand

Innovations from Norway>



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New plans 2015-2020

- Continu with the panels and grids
- Include info from forward thinkers worldwide
- Start up ‘ out of the box’ program

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Major Challenges

- Keep the spirit up despite relative low progress
- Keep funding despite relative low progress
- Landing Obligation may kill the spirit of innovation
- Landing Obligation must be stimulus no show stopper

Cross border EMFF financing possibilities required

Improving Selectivity

process in constant need of incentivisation

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