Some Non-European thoughts from an Australian !!

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Some Non-EU thoughts:

Other Discard Bans:

Norway – 1987

Iceland – 1984

But before these...

India – 1982

Ganapathiraju Pramod (2010):

Regulation 5, of the Maritime Zones of India Rules 1982:

“Crews may not discard substantial surplus catch, catch exceeding authorized quantities shall be retained onboard, recorded, and surrendered as required by authorized officers”.

But….

- “mechanized vessels have never abided by this law,
- no records on quantities of discards …..but
- over the last three decades, fisheries discards have been assumed to be low.”

Australia:

- 4 weeks ago, a Major National Workshop

- Representatives of all the prawn (shrimp) trawl fisheries
- Fishing-gear experts

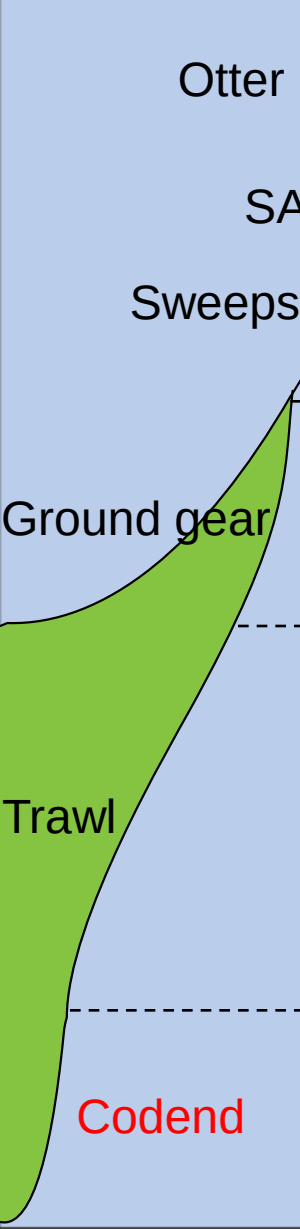
Objectives:

- Previous work to reduce discards and improve fuel efficiency
- Identify industry's priorities for the next steps.

Designs, gears and practices included:

- Modifications at or near the codend (the traditional location in the trawl where such work has occurred)
- Modifications to the anterior trawl

Within systems.....



	% of system drag	Potential for Discard reduction
Otter boards	30-55%	Negligible
SAFE	~2%	Key species = up to 42%
Sweeps	~5%	Total = up to 44% Key species = up to 95%
Ground gear	10-15%	Key species = up to 49%
Trawl	25-55%	Total = up to 57% Key species = up to 95%
Codend	~5%	Total = ~60-90% Key species = up to 70%

Next Steps:

- No new research yet ……. but
- A “travelling roadshow” (the “Trawl Toolbox Roadshow”) to reach as many fishermen as possible to explain the various options available.
- Then, individual fisheries will be encouraged to select, scientifically trial and modify options for their own situations.
- Overseas developments in this field will be monitored—particularly DiscardLess — to identify additional options for the Toolbox.

- Europe is a huge player in the world's fisheries (as a producer and consumer) and
- LO is probably the single biggest fisheries policy initiative currently occurring on the planet.
- So…..

- Everyone is watching:
- Scientists – with interest on the developments that such a policy (and its urgency) is driving
- Fishers – with trepidation but also with interest in new opportunities (new markets)
- Managers and politicians – with nervousness (in perhaps having to deal with it)

What happens if, under pressure from the fishing sector, Europe’s huge consumer base restricts imports from countries that do not have a Landings Obligation?

Recent examples:

- BRDs in Nigerian shrimp (exports to EU)
- TEDs in SE Asia shrimp (exports to USA)
- Papua New Guinea Tuna (exports to EU)

What happens if, under pressure from the fishing sector, Europe's huge consumer base restricts imports from countries that do not have a Landings Obligation?

It becomes a global issue…..
And DiscardLess' work takes on a much broader context