

## TR1 Observer Data 2017

### Overview of observed trips

Between January 1st 2017 and September 28th 2017 fifteen individual TR1 fishing trips were observed and a total of 81 hauls sampled. The trips were undertaken by seven vessels and lasted between 1 and 6 fishing days with 1 to 12 hauls, mean length of hauls was 10 hours. The distribution of hauls sampled is shown in Figure 1.

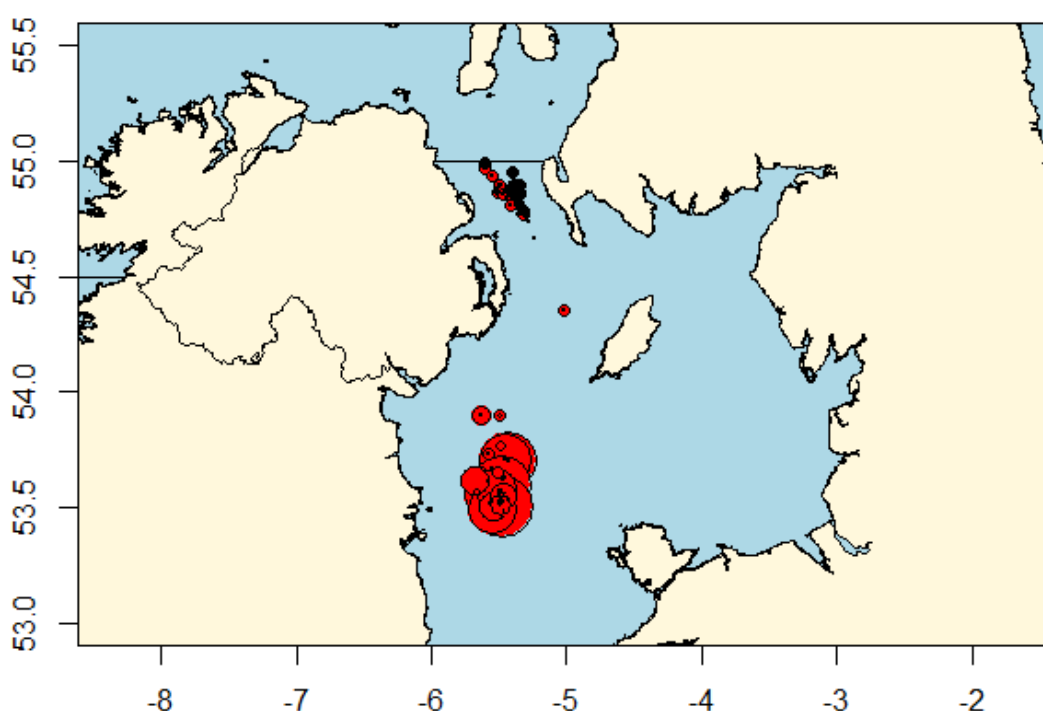


Figure 1. Position of hauls observed during TR1 fishing activity in 2017. Catches of haddock are in red, of hake in black.

### Bycatch

During the TR1 fishery 24 non-target species (target species being haddock and hake) were observed with a total weight of 21.3 t, representing 20% of the total catch. The largest single bycatch proportion was pollack with a total weight of 4t, accounting for 3.7% of the total observed catch. A full overview of the catch composition is shown in Table 2, including the amount discarded and retained as well as the proportion discarded. A figure displaying the discarded and retained catches of the most important commercial species can be seen in Figure 2.

Table 1. Aggregated catch composition from all observed trips onboard vessels using 'TR1' gear.

Species	Catch (t)	Retained (t)	Discarded (t)	Discarded (%)	Discards > MCRS (%)
Haddock	84.69	84.16	0.53	0.6%	75
Anglerfish (Monk)	0.14	0.15	0.00	0.00%	-
John Dory	0.06	0.04	0.02	32.4%	-
European Hake	14.21	14.21	0.00	0.00%	-
Pollack	3.98	3.98	0.00	0.0%	100
Tub Gurnard	0.01	0.01	0.00	12.0%	-
European Conger Eel	0.47	0.44	0.03	6.2%	-
Cod	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.9%	100
Spurdog	0.20	0.00	0.20	100.0%	-
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	0.10	0.00	0.09	95.1%	-
Whiting	0.11	0.00	0.11	100.0%	-
Grey Gurnard	0.05	0.00	0.05	100.0%	-
European Plaice	0.56	0.51	0.04	7.6%	-
Thornback Ray (Roker)	0.85	0.85	0.00	0.00%	-
Cuckoo Ray	<0.01	0.00	0.00	100.0%	-
Spotted Ray	0.22	0.22	0.00	1.0%	-
Common Ling	0.31	0.31	0.00	0.00%	-
Nurse Hound	0.04	0.00	0.04	100.0%	-
Blonde Ray	0.23	0.22	0.01	2.3%	-
Red Gurnard	<0.01	0.00	0.00	100.0%	-
Herring	<0.01	0.00	0.00	100.0%	-
Starry Smooth Hound	<0.01	0.00	0.00	100.0%	-
Sole (Dover Sole)	<0.01	0.00	0.00	100.0%	-
Witch	<0.01	0.00	0.00	100.0%	-
Saithe	<0.01	0.00	0.00	100.0%	-
Lemon Sole	<0.01	0.00	0.00	100.0%	-

The catch composition, with discarded and retained portions is shown in figure 2. The main species caught was the target species - haddock, hake and pollack. The length frequency distribution of selected by catch species, namely cod, pollack and whiting are shown in Figure 3. Figure 4 shows the length frequency distributions of the target species haddock and hake. The mean length of hake caught was 77.3 cm, haddock 40.4 cm, pollack 72.2 cm and cod 76.2 cm.

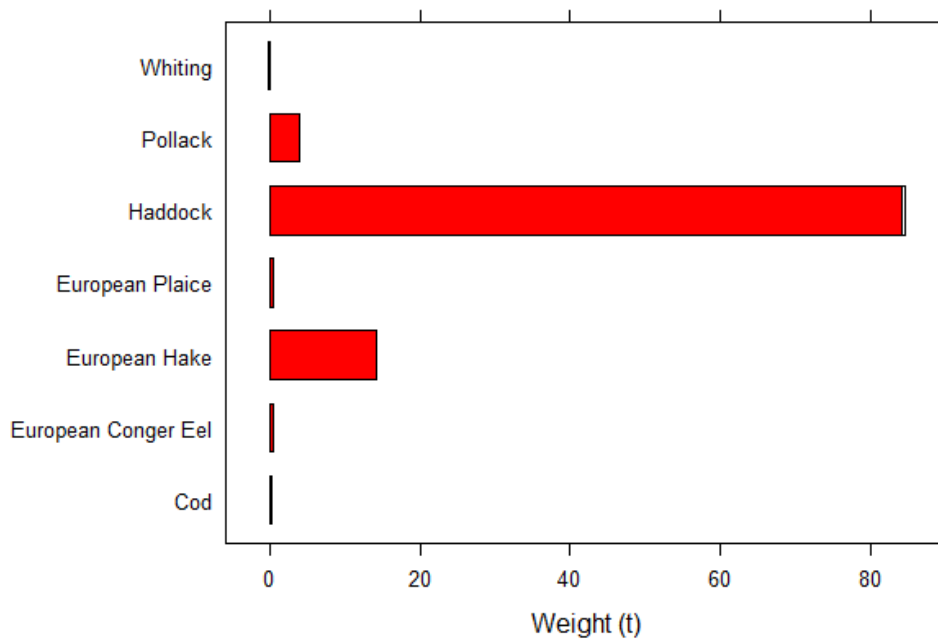
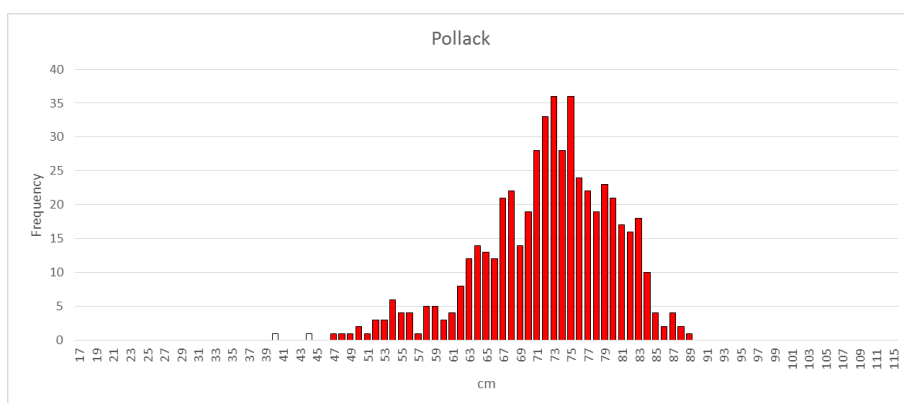
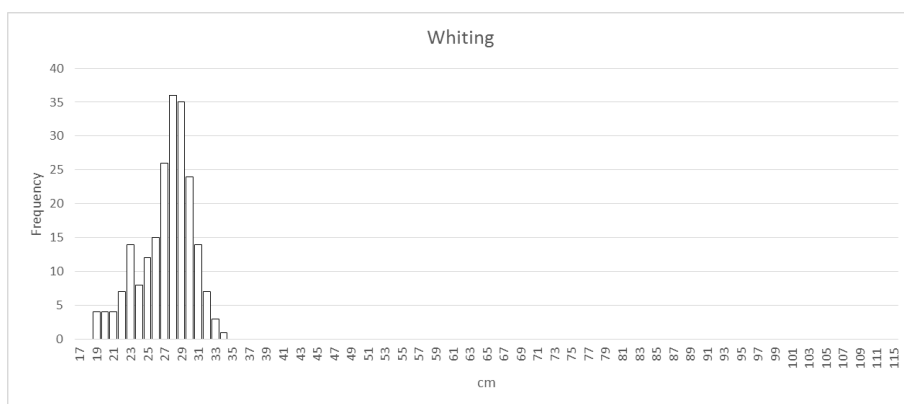


Figure 2. Main species caught in all TR1 observed trips. Retained fish are represented by red shaded bar portion and discards unfilled.



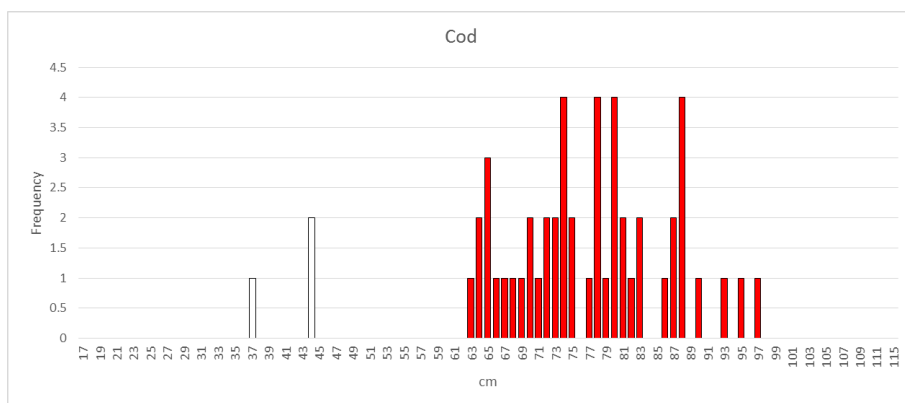


Figure 3. Length frequency of non target species in catches made during TR1 in the Irish Sea during 2017. Retained fish are represented by red shaded bar portion and discards unfilled.

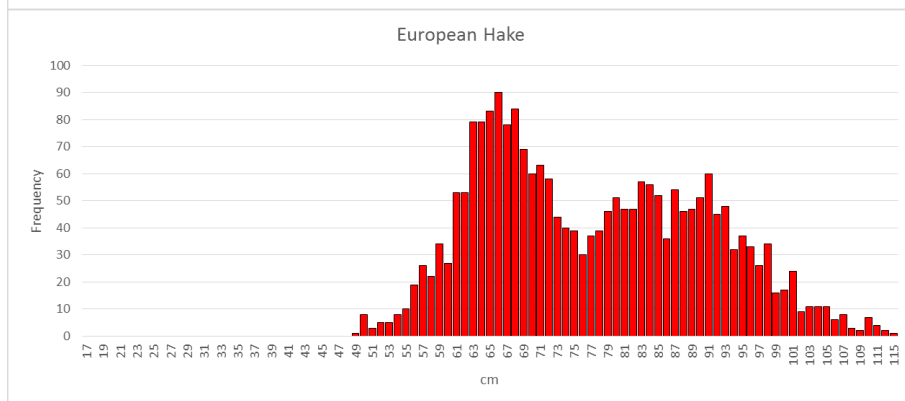
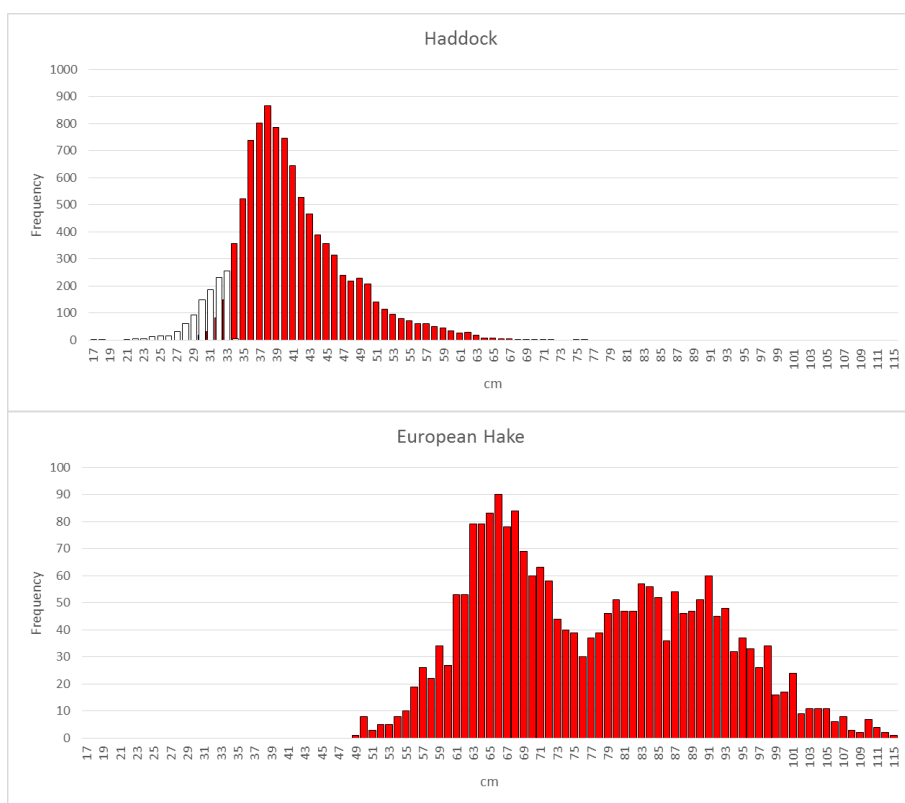


Figure 4. Length frequency of target species in catches made during TR1 in the Irish Sea during 2017. Retained fish are represented by red shaded bar portion and discards unfilled.

P. Schuchert & M. Lundy, September 2017

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