

DCF Pilot Project. Fisheries landing skates and rays in the Bay of Biscay (ICES Subarea VIII) and mainland Portugal (ICES Division IXa)

- NWWRAC: Grupo de Enfoque sobre Ráyidos y Tiburones
- Fecha: 29-febrero-2012
- CNPMEM - París

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OBJECTIVE

in response to the Council Regulation (EC No 43/2009) which prohibits the landings of *Raja undulata*, *Dipturus batis* and *Rostroraja alba* in Iberian waters (ICES subareas IXa and VIII).



WHY?

There is not enough information or evidence of declines in the populations of these species in the subareas mentioned. Also socio-economic impact of this regulation has not been evaluated.

PARTICIPANTS

It is a study coordinated by **AZTI-tecnalia** (Division VIII) and **IPIMAR** (subareas IXa). Project has a common work plan but adapted to the particular characteristics of the fleets and fishery in each Subarea.



FUNDING

Pilot project (from 2011 to 2013) funded by the national Data Collection Framework (and in the Basque Country also by the Dpto. de Medio Ambiente, Planificación Territorial, Agricultura y Pesca of the Basque Government)

COMMON WORKPLAN

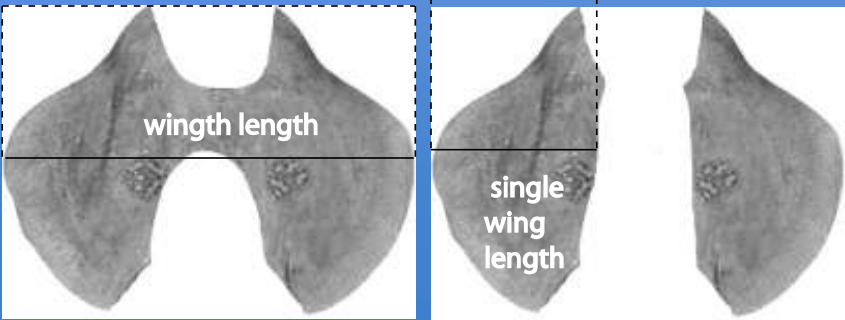
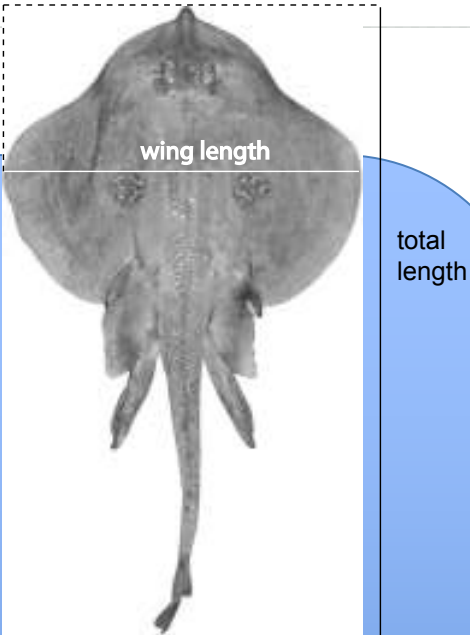
Fishery data collection:

- Revisions and up to date of historical landings data according to the specific composition of rays by month, fishing gear and geographical distribution.
- Characterization of fleets landing skates.
- Standardised effort and CPUE by month by specie.
- Estimate of discards by specie and fishing gear
- Preparation of a Guide of Rays in Iberian waters, (in Spanish, Portuguese and English versions)

COMMON WORKPLAN

Biological study:

- Obtaining of length frequencies, sex proportion, and maturity determination for the most important species.
- Description of condition of landings (whole, wings...) by port.
- Estimation of conversion factors (wing weight/total weight by specie)



COMMON WORKPLAN

Economic study:

- Study of economical importance of landings of rays by fleet, based on inquiries.
- Description of markets and the historical evolution of prices.

METHODOLOGY: study in Bay of Biscay

Two fleets:

1.- Basque Artisanal trammel net fleet in ICES Division VIIIc

fleet characterization:

nº vessels, size, landing ports,
fishing gear, fishing grounds, fishing period,

fishery data:

collection of landings and discard data,
identification of landing condition (wings or whole),
calculation of effort and LPUE (kg by trip/KW),
estimation of ray landings/total landings

biology:

identification of ray species, length frequencies and sex
photo catalogue,
biometric relationships (wings weight/total weight/gutted weight)

economy:

collection of price data



METHODOLOGY:
study in Bay of Biscay study.

Two fleets:

2.- Basque Bottom Otter Trawl in ICES Divisions VIIIabd

fishery data:

estimation of less common species landings (wings or whole),
calculation of specific effort (fishing days) y LPUE (kg/ fishing day)

biology:

identification of less common species, length frequencies and sex,
characterization of maturity stages in most abundant species,
photo catalogue,
biometric relationships (wings weight/total weight/gutted weight)

economy:

collection and analysis of evolution of historical price of rays



RESULTS

**Annual report (2011) in preparation.
Available in May 2012**



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