



NWWAC Irish Sea working group meeting 9/9/2021



# Summary of BIM trials pre-2017

Selective measure	Whiting < 27 cm (MCRS)	Whiting < 20 cm	Nephrops ≥ 25 mm	
300 mm SMP	~ -52	~ 0	~ + 14	
SELTRA 300	~ -53	~ 0	~ + 11	
Sorting grid 35 mm (2015)	~ -77	~ -77	~ -4	
Sorting grid 35 mm (2010 to 2014)*	~ -60	~ -50		
90 mm codend**	~ -58	~ -58	~ -21	
90 V 80 mm codend**	~ -62	~ -62	~ -10	

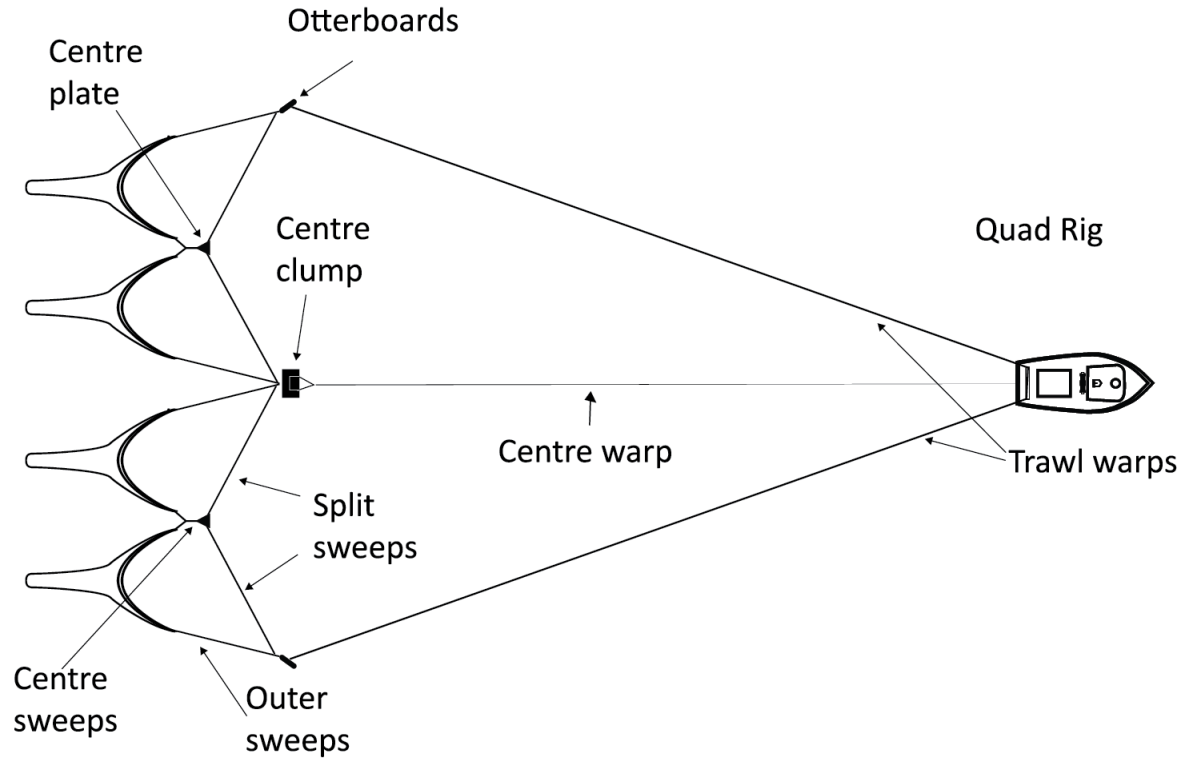
\* Based on observer coverage of long-term use by Industry

\*\* Codend only (not extension piece)

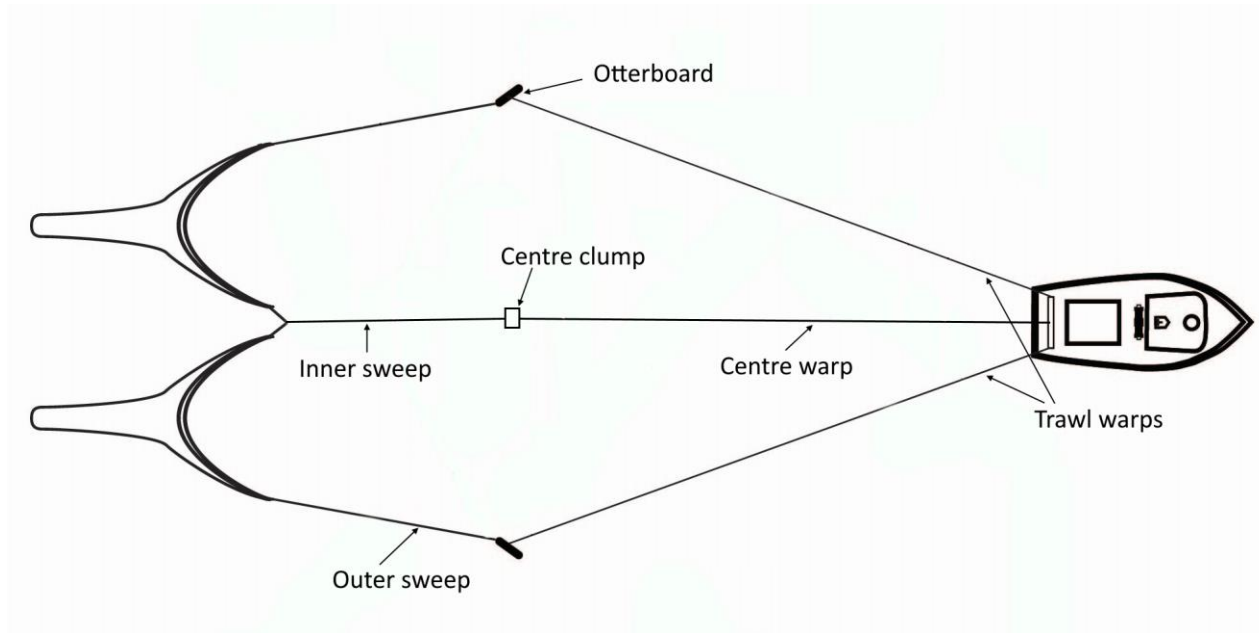
# Summary of BIM trials post-2017

Trial	Whiting < 20 cm	Whiting < 27 cm	Nephrops ≥ 25 mm	Nephrops < 25 mm
Standard 80 mm codend V 90 mm codend	-60	-47	-31	-56
Standard 80 mm codend V reduced circumference 80 mm codend (80 meshes round)	-15	-6	-12	-30
Standard 80 mm codend V 90 mm codend <i>sensu stricto</i>	-68	-45	-34	-18
Standard 80 mm codend V 90 mm SELTRA 300	-78	-75	-19	-34

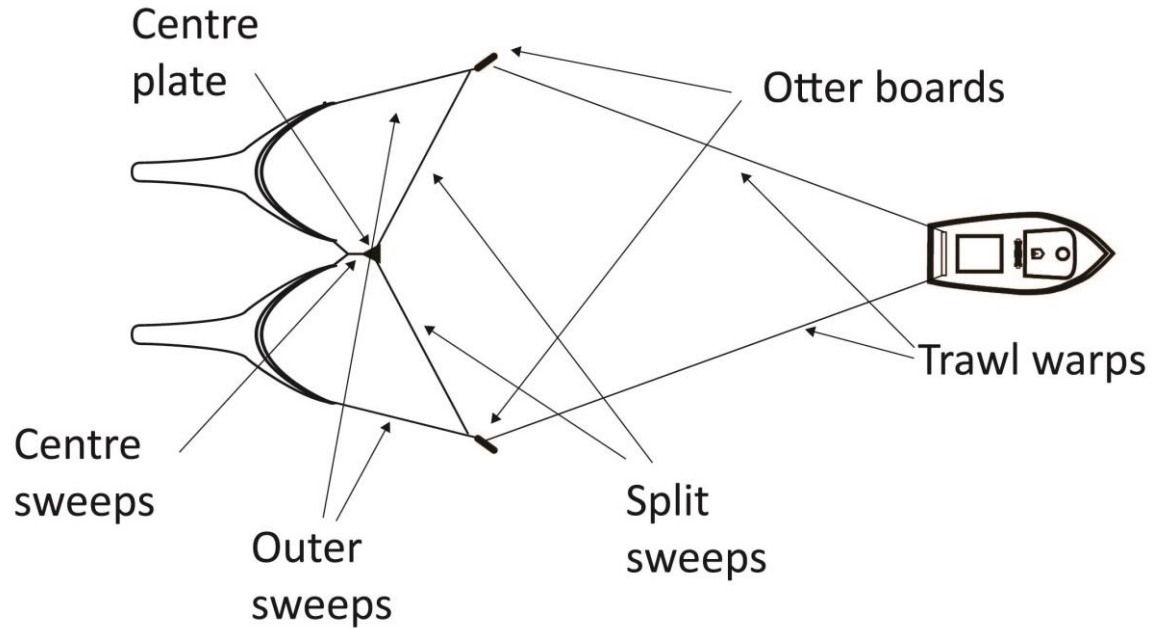
# Quad-rig schematic – introduced 2013 replacing twin-rig



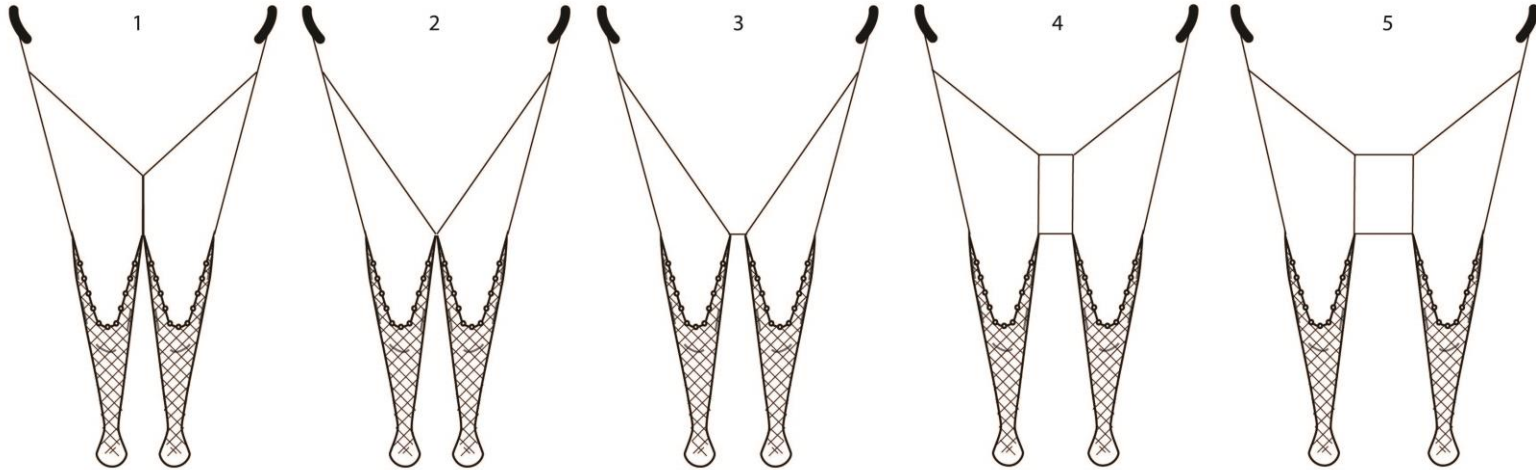
# Twin-rig schematic



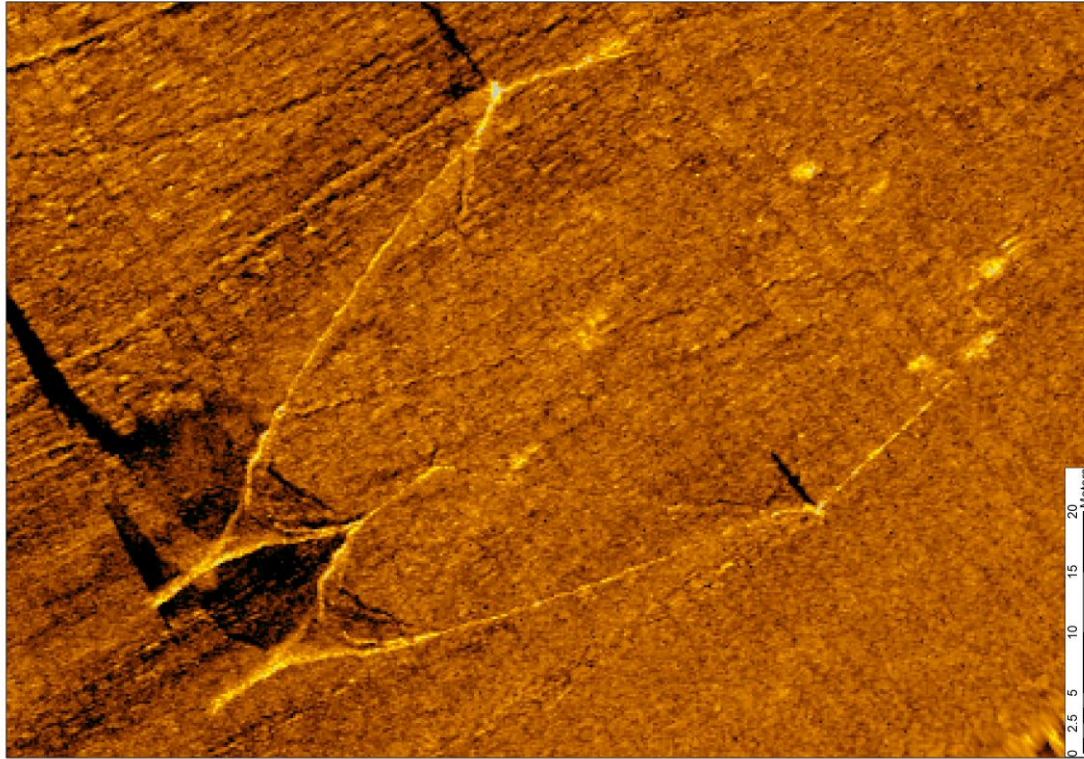
# Half quad-rig schematic



# Development of new rigging options to reduce whiting catches using side scan sonar and half quad-rig

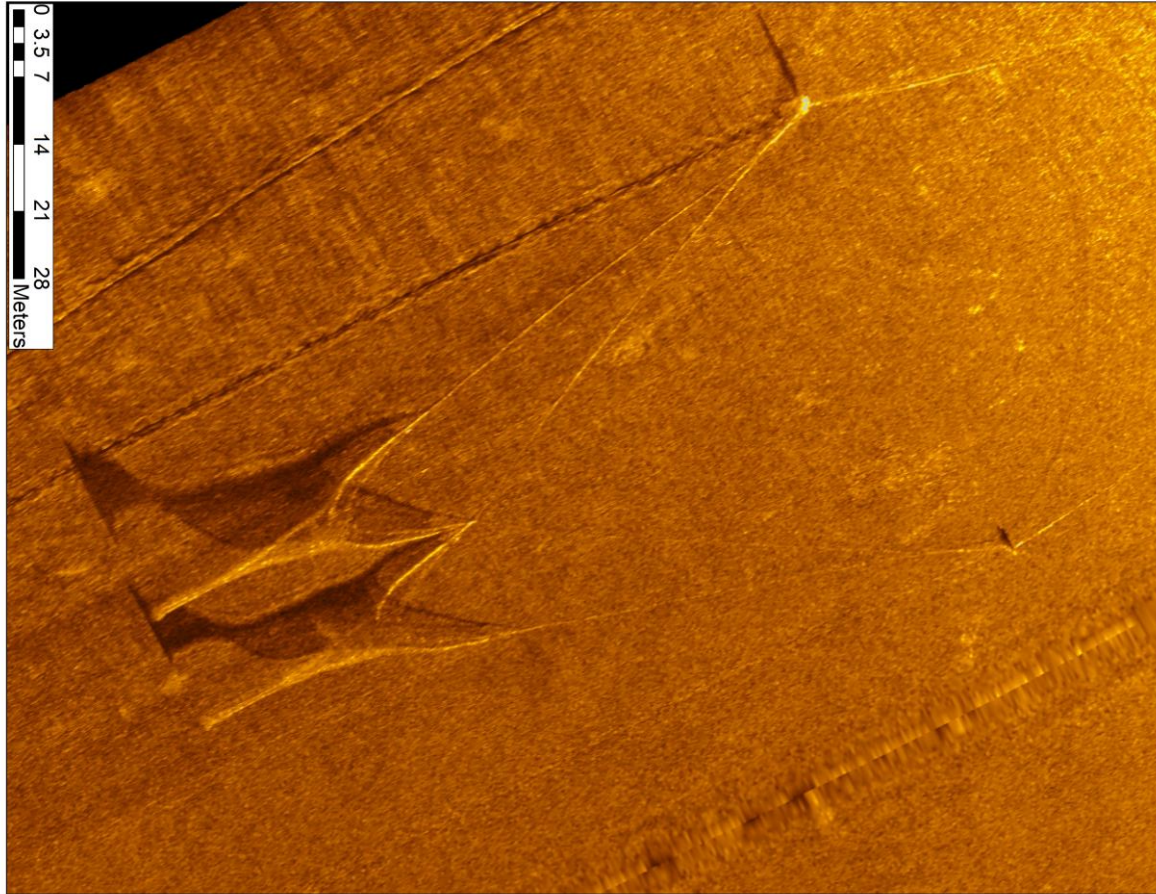


# Sidescan sonar sonogram - configuration 1 (half-quad rig)

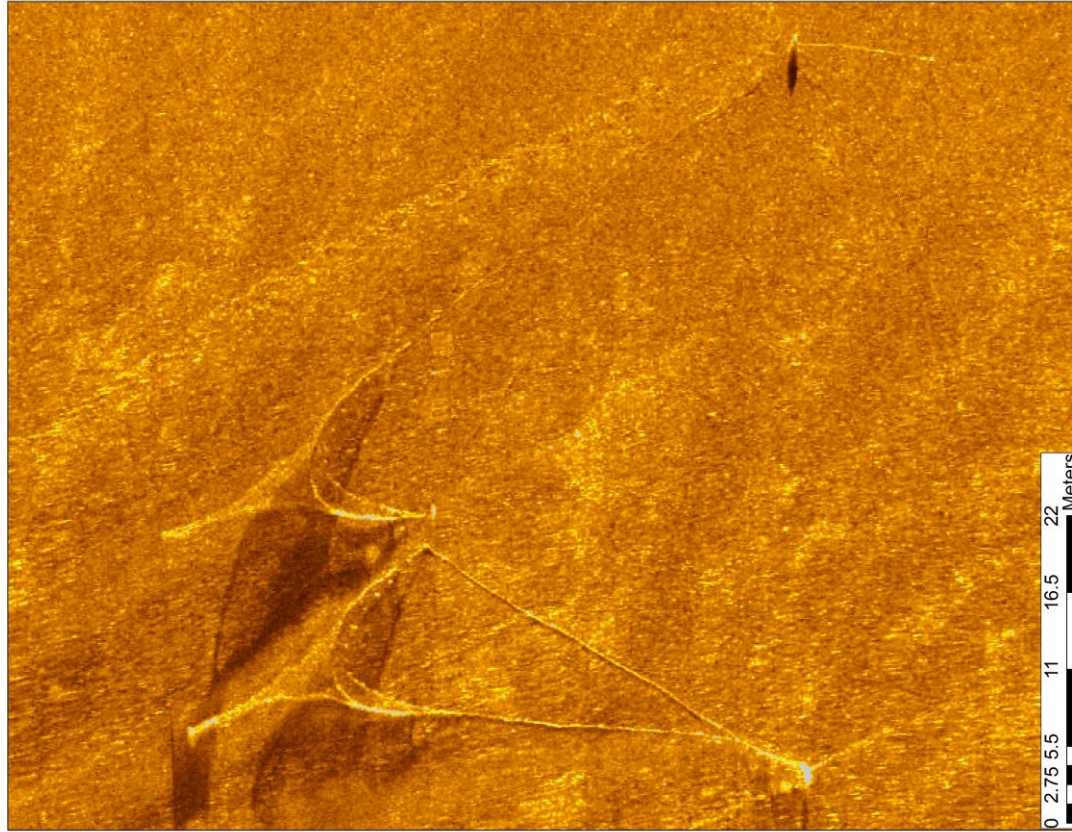




# Sidescan sonar – configuration 2 (modified vee sweeps)

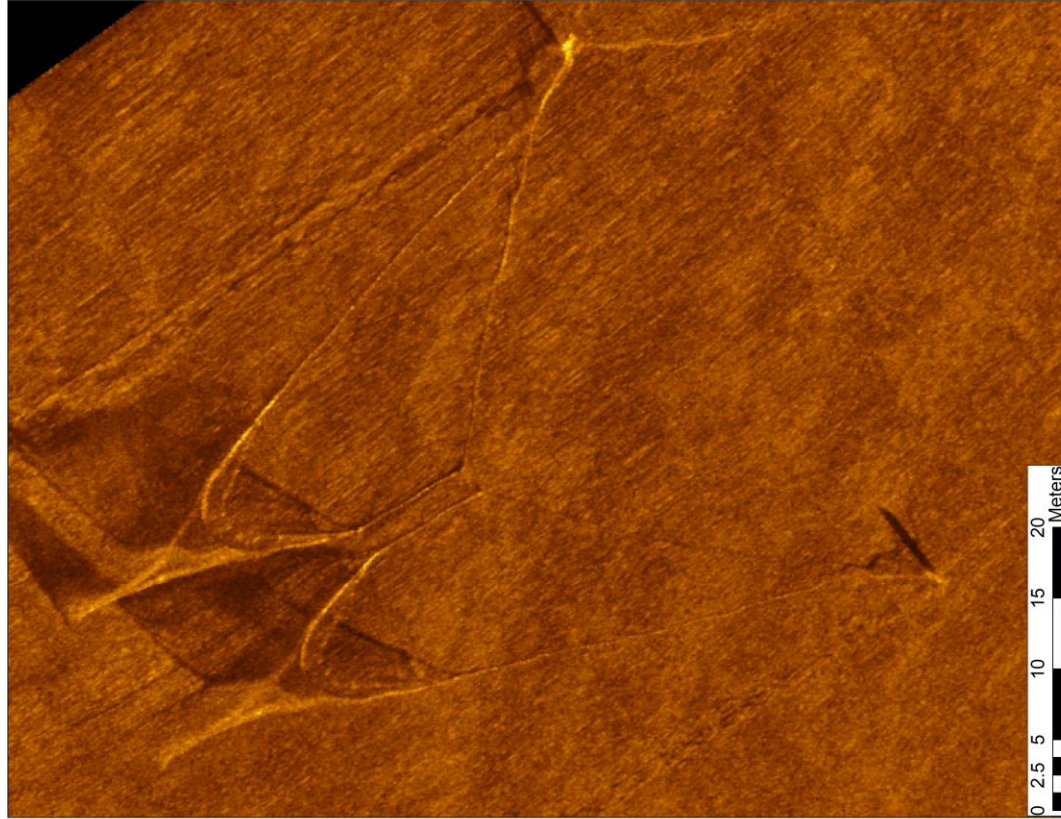


# Sidescan sonar – configuration 3 (modified vee sweeps & escape gap)

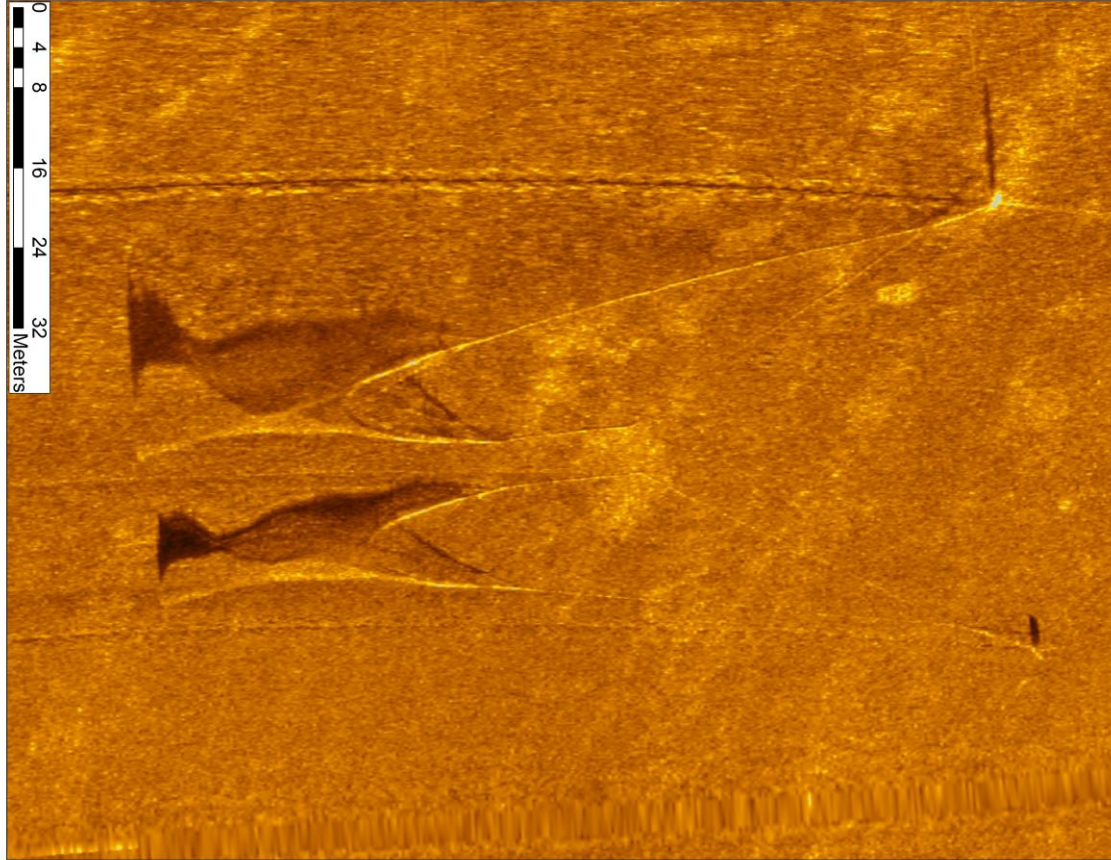




# Sidescan sonar – configuration 4 (half-quad with escape corridor)



# Sidescan sonar – configuration 5 (half quad & wider escape corridor)



# Next steps

- **Catches using the newly developed escape corridor will be tested against standard gears during 2022**
- **Further development of the escape corridor may be necessary to optimise utilisation by small whiting (< 20 cm), e.g. using Dyneema/ floating connecting ropes at the fore and aft ends of the corridor**

# Thank you