
Mitigating bycatch of Bigeye on purse seine FAD operation using light stimuli

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Abstract

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Mitigating bycatch of juvenile Bigeye on purse-seine FAD operation is an urgent issue.

Feasibility of using light stimuli to force Bigeye escape from the net was examined. Cage experiments showed that Skipjack tend to evade more from intermittent light than Bigeye does, which makes separation between both species. Combination of intermittent and continuous lights were applied at the FAD fishery ground. Reactions of both Bigeye and Skipjack to the light stimuli were tracked with coded pingers. Some preliminary results will be discussed.

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Keywords: bigeye, purse seine, mitigation technique

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