



# Advances in Seine net fishing 1965-2008

## Leslie Tait NAFC Marine Centre

Full time fisherman 34 years Skipper/owner 22 years Prosecuting mainly seine net fishing

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#### Brighter Dawn LK 47 1965

Ropes on open deck
Net hauled by hand
Fish from bag into deck punds
Belt driven winch
Wheelhouse equipment: compass, mark
Decca navigator, Kelvin Hughes echo
Sounder long range wireless



# Typical Scottish seine netter (1970's)

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# Hauling by power block (early to mid 1970's)

# Advancement to rope bins (late 1970's)

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## Advancement to rope reels (late 1970's)

## Catch handling system!



## WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY BUT THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION HAVE NOT CHANGED

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#### Radiant Star LK 71 2008



Pre-determined seine net tow highlighted on GPS chart plotter

1°38H

142

1 º36H

a=2fN

P



#### Limitations on types of seabed

LFN2

50

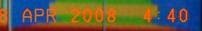
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EASE OF HAULING ESPECIALY IN POOR WEATHER

## DIRECT PULL ONTO REELS REDUCED WEAR AND TEAR ON ROPES

1

STBWINCH



## LIVE FRESH CATCH SOAK TIME UNDER 1 HOUR

## GUTTING AND SELECTING THE CATCH

## FIRM SHINY FISH REQUIRE CAREFULL WASHING FOR LONG SHELF LIFE



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- Fuel usage 50% lower than comparable trawler.
- Very effective for low horsepower vessels
- Less engine wear due to lower output demands.
- High quality of catch.
- Relatively low gear costs.
- Minimal damage to seabed.





- Demersal fishery built on seine net through 60's, 70's and early 80's.
- 40 vessels capable of prosecuting fishery in 1983.
- Only 4vessels remaining by 2001 (before large scale decommissioning in 2002).
- Resulted in loss of experience and expertise of this type of fishery.

#### WHAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEMISE OF THE FLEET?

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- Low price of fuel?
- Quotas, the need to diversify to other high value species e.g. Monkfish?
- Mesh size? Larger mesh size pushing vessels to increased horsepower to counter effect of losing traditional fisheries?





### Conclusion



- Seine net technology has advanced dramatically over the past 40 years.
- Current trends in fuel prices and demands for a high quality product may pave the way for a resurgence in this type of fishery.
- However, under the current quota regime we require a diverse fleet to fully utilise quota allocations.





## Thanks for your attention. Any Questions?

