

Selectivity measures and how they could reduce discards

Discard Reduction Device	Released pre-capture or post capture	Species	How effective	Size of fish it is effective for	Areas used in UK
Square mesh panels					
Regulatory square mesh panels	Post	Haddock,	Very good	Smaller fish, size dependant on mesh size	All around UK
		Whiting	Very good	Smaller fish, size dependant on mesh size	All around UK
		Cod	Poor	Smaller fish, size dependant on mesh size	All around UK
		Flats	Minimal effect		All around UK
Extra square mesh panels	Post	Similar to above			West coast and NE <i>Nephrops</i> fishery
Larger mesh square mesh panels	Post	Similar to above			West coast and NE <i>Nephrops</i> fishery
Large diamond mesh panels	Post	Similar to above			West coast and NE <i>Nephrops</i> fishery
Separator panels					
Separation device - used with second release device for max benefit	Post	Whiting, haddock etc	Good	More effective for larger fish above 175 mm	Not in common use commercially
Separator panels	Post	Cod, flats, <i>Nephrops</i> etc	Little effect	All sizes	Not in common use commercially
Inclined separator panels	Post	Similar to above			Not much commercial use. Some use in the Irish Sea to release cod

Coverless trawls					
Coverless trawls	Pre capture	Whiting, haddock, higher swimming	Very good	More effective for larger fish above 175 mm	Used by many in the smaller class of <i>Nephrops</i> trawlers around the UK. Been trialled recently in the NE <i>Nephrops</i> fishery
Coverless trawls	Pre capture	Cod, flats etc	Little effect	All sizes	
Grids					
Flexible grids fitted in top panel	Post	Haddock, whiting	Works in similar manner to square mesh panels		Not used commercially
Flexible grids fitted in bottom panel	Not very effective for release of fish or size selection of <i>Nephrops</i>				Not used commercially
Inclined grid in lower panel (French grid)	Post	<i>Nephrops</i>	Good	Release small <i>Nephrops</i> depending on gap spacing	Used by trawlers in Brittany
Grid in side of extension stiffened nylon netting	Post	Hadd, cod, whiting etc	Good	Smaller fish, size dependent on mesh size	Used in some Baltic fisheries. Not used in UK.
Right inclined grids (steel)	Post	Cetaceans, turtles etc	Very good	Effective for larger species	USA, Australia, Far East <i>Nephrops</i> /hd shrimp fisheries
Right inclined grids (steel)	Post	Haddock, whiting etc	Very good	Effective for larger species	
Semi flexible plastic grids	Post	Cod, hadd, whiting etc	Very good	Effective for larger species	Trialled by Scottish/Danish <i>Nephrops</i> vessels.
Other methods					
Reduction of sweep/bridle length to reduce capture of unwanted bycatch	Pre capture	Most round fish and some flats	Good	Effective for all sizes	Inshore <i>Nephrops</i> fisheries, sole fisheries
Reduction in headline height to reduce capture of higher swimming fish	Pre capture	Haddock, whiting	Good	More effective for larger fish	<i>Nephrops</i> fisheries, flatfish fisheries
Large mesh sizes in wings and body of the trawl	Post	All species	Good	Effective for small fish	All areas
Large mesh sizes in codend and extension	Post	All species	Good	Effective for small fish	All areas

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