

The contact of constraint nets as an MPA soft bottom observing method

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Introduction

Gill nets have been utilized for centuries as a fishing technique, known for their simplicity and effectiveness in catching a wide variety of fish species. Despite the ongoing debate surrounding their impact on the environment, gill nets offer several distinct advantages that make them a popular choice among fishermen worldwide. In this article, we will explore the advantages of gill nets, delving into their efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and versatility, while also addressing some of the concerns associated with their use. Gill nets are designed to maximize efficiency in catching fish. These nets are typically made of fine mesh that allows fish to pass their head through but prevents their escape as the net tightens around their gills. This design ensures a high catch rate, as fish become entangled and are unable to swim away. The efficiency of gill nets can be particularly advantageous when targeting specific fish species or conducting population surveys, as it allows for precise and targeted fishing. One of the notable advantages of gill nets is their ability to facilitate selective fishing. By using different mesh sizes, fishermen can target specific fish sizes, avoiding the capture of undersized or overgrown individuals. This selectivity helps in conserving fish stocks and promoting sustainable fishing practices. Gill nets can also be employed with specific modifications to reduce bycatch, such as the use of escape panels or larger mesh sizes in certain areas of the net.

Description

These modifications allow non-target species to escape, minimizing their impact on the ecosystem. Gill nets offer a cost-effective fishing method when compared to other gear types. The relatively low cost of materials, combined with their simplicity and ease of use, makes them accessible to fishermen with limited financial resources. Moreover, gill nets can be set and left unattended for a certain period, allowing fishermen to cover a larger area with fewer resources. This aspect of gill net fishing enables fishermen to optimize their

time and effort, making it an attractive option for small-scale operations and subsistence fishing communities. Gill nets are known for their versatility in different fishing environments. They can be used in various water bodies, including rivers, lakes, and marine environments, making them adaptable to different fishing conditions. Gill nets can be set at different depths and locations, targeting specific fish species and their preferred habitats. This versatility allows fishermen to customize their fishing strategy, increasing the chances of a successful catch. Compared to certain fishing methods like trawling or dredging, gill nets have a significantly lower impact on the seafloor or other underwater habitats. This reduction in habitat disturbance helps to preserve the overall ecological balance and protect fragile marine ecosystems. Gill nets allow for targeted fishing without causing extensive damage to the surrounding environment, making them a more sustainable choice in certain circumstances.

Conclusion

Gill nets, despite their controversies, provide several advantages that make them an attractive fishing method for many fishermen worldwide. Their high efficiency, selectivity, cost-effectiveness, versatility, reduced habitat disturbance, and contribution to data collection and research are notable benefits. By employing responsible fishing practices, implementing proper gear modifications, and adhering to sustainable management approaches, the advantages of gill nets can be maximized while minimizing potential negative impacts. Striking a balance between fishing efficiency and environmental conservation will be key to ensuring the long-term viability of gill net fisheries and the preservation of marine ecosystems.

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