Title: Comparing Energy intensity Results for Commercial Fisheries in

France

Authors: Pascal Le Floc'h, UMR AMURE, Université de Bretagne Occidentale

(France)

Isabelle Dangeard, Université de Brest, UEB (France)

Fabienne Daures, IFREMER (France)

Olivier Guyader, IFREMER (French research institute for The exploitation

of The sea) (France)

Abstract:

The main objectives assigned to ecosystemic indices are to fuel the debate on the best ways to reduce the impact of global warming. Fishing activities are also concerned with the debate. The assessments carried out about fish products show that the use of fuel in the fishing stage has the strongest impact on the environment. This paper addresses the issue of the significance of energy intensity from results obtained for French fishing fleets. The Atlantic French fleet exploits a hundred commercial species or more, but only a few of them are targeted. Energy intensity is estimated on the basis of global production (target and by-catch) using allocation methods. It is then possible to calculate energy needs for individual species. Moreover, fishing gears are separated in two groups, active and passive methods. Methods used in the paper are very close to Life Cycle Assessment methodology but restricting system boundaries to fishing sector. International studies devoted to energy intensity in fisheries concluded that fishing fleets are the main polluters compared to transportation of fish products and marketing sectors (land-based processors and fishmongers). Compared with measures from other international studies, the results prove to be lower when the scale of analysis is large. Quantifying intensity energy on a global scale for fisheries could then be called into question.