Essential Fish Habitat project status report

Reporting date: 10/30/2007

Project number: 2006 - 2

Title: Modify trawls to reduce fishing impacts / Better characterize fishing's footprint

PIs: Craig S. Rose

Funding year: FY 2006

Funding amount: $49,860

Status: ☒ Complete ☐ Incomplete, on schedule ☐ Incomplete, behind schedule

Planned completion date if incomplete:

Reporting: Results were presented to the ICES Boston Symposium on Fishing Technology in the 21st Century (10/30-11/3, 2006) and at the December 2006 meeting of the NPFMC. Rose, C. 2006. Development and evaluation of trawl groundgear modifications to reduce damage to living structure in soft bottom areas. Available NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle WA 98115.

Results:

Installing widely spaced disk clusters on the sweeps of bottom trawls reduces damage or disruption to sessile seafloor invertebrates without reducing the herding of flatfish into the trawl.