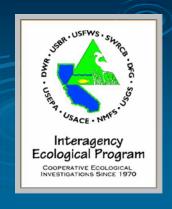
# Behind The Science: The Underwater Story Of The Midwater Trawl

Dave Contreras, Jennifer Messineo, Steven Slater, and Randy Baxter

California Department of Fish and Game



IEP Conference May 26, 2010



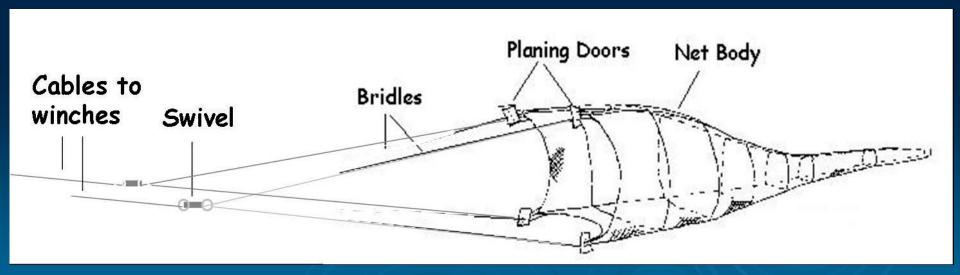
#### Overview

- > Fall Midwater Trawl (FMWT) survey background
- Project goals
- Net Track system
- > Results

> The big picture

#### FMWT Survey

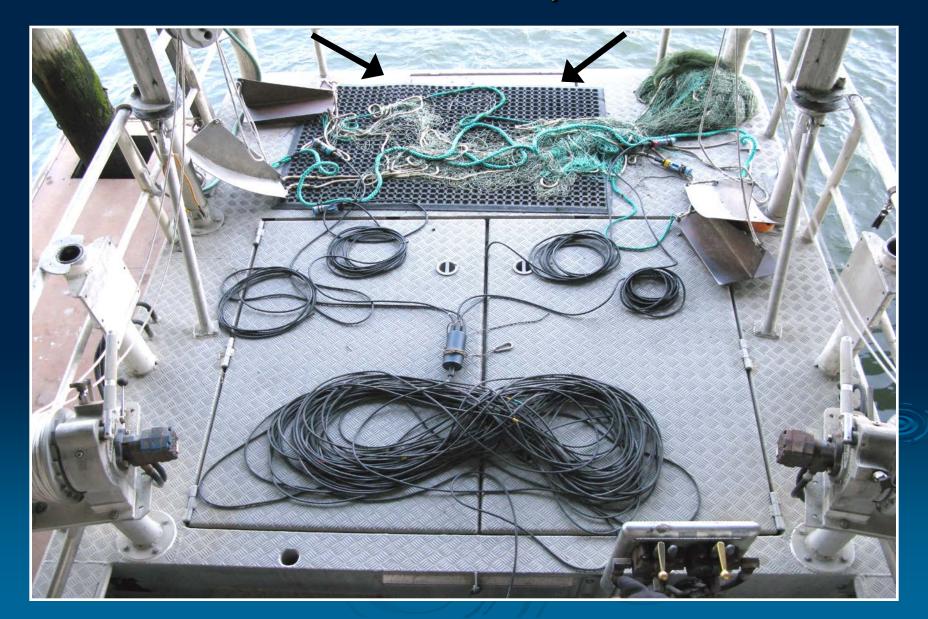
- Tows a midwater trawl net (MWT)
- > 12 minute, oblique tows
- Deployment length based on water depth



#### Project Goals

- 1. Determine net mouth area during tow
- 2. Compare to previous estimate
- 3. Differences among vessels
- 4. Location in water column

# Net Track System



# Net Track System



#### Net Track Responders





### Net Track Responders

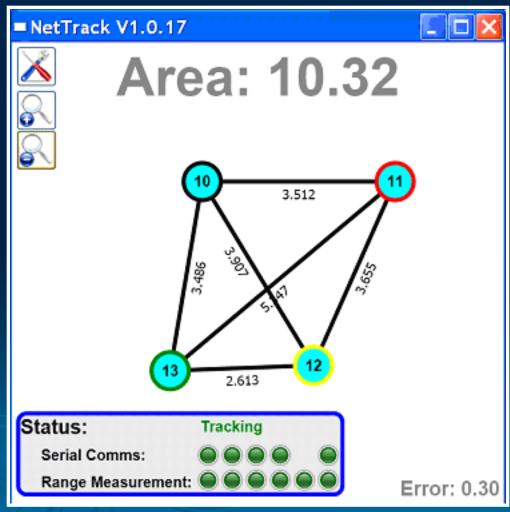


#### Net Track Software

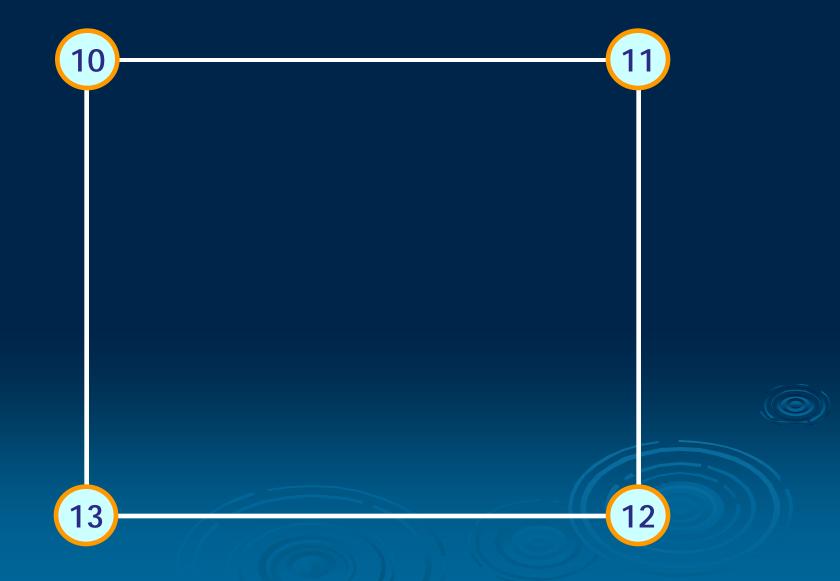
Range measurements
 and area calculation
 (meters and meters²)

Real-time graphic of net mouth

Refreshes every 4 seconds

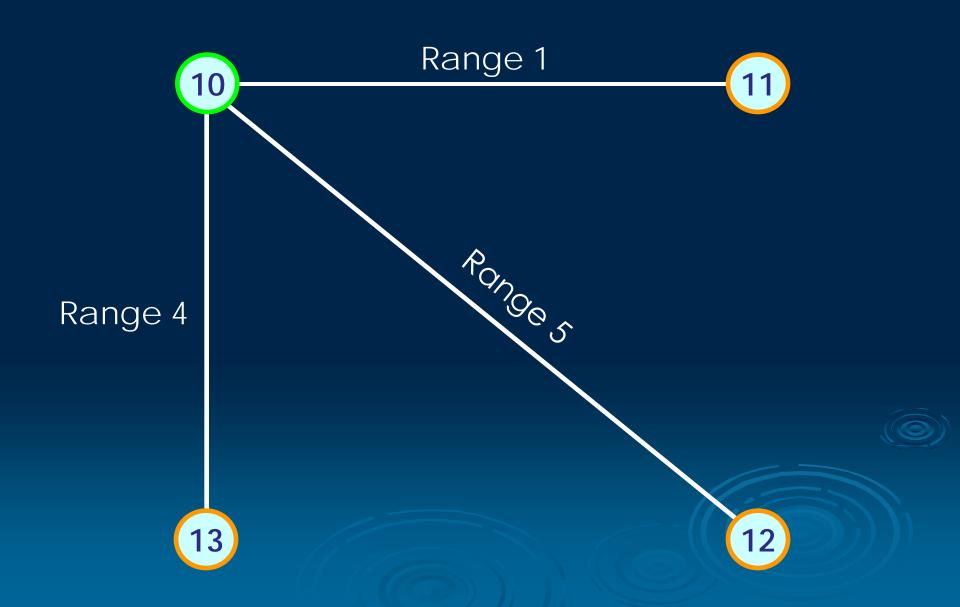


#### How Does it Work?









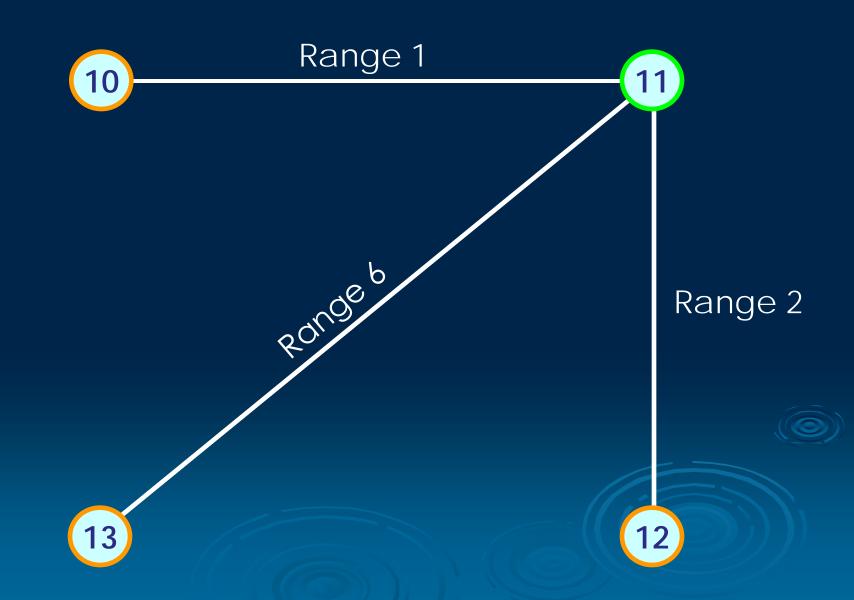


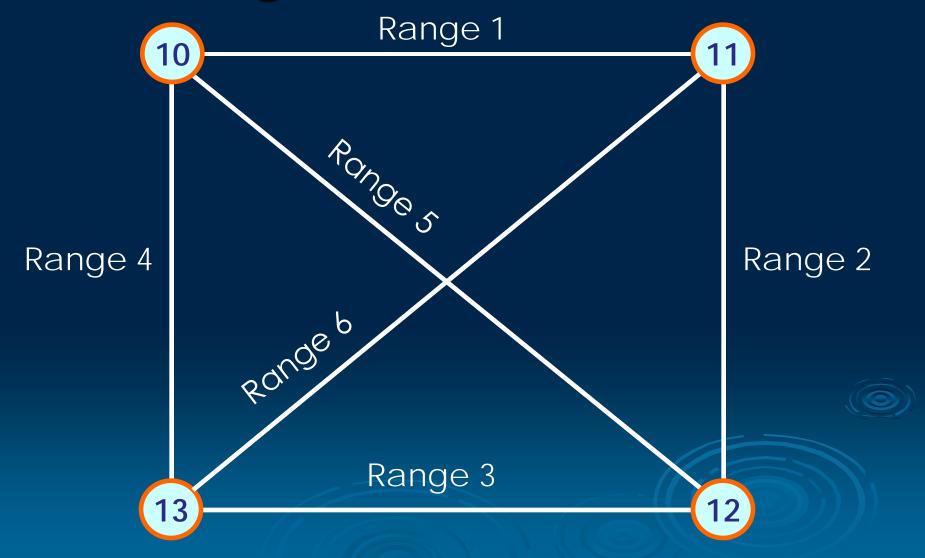


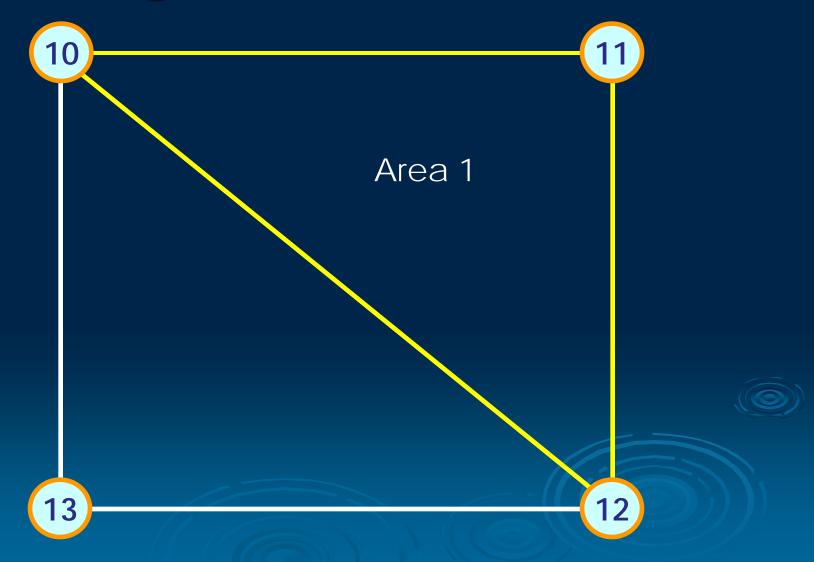


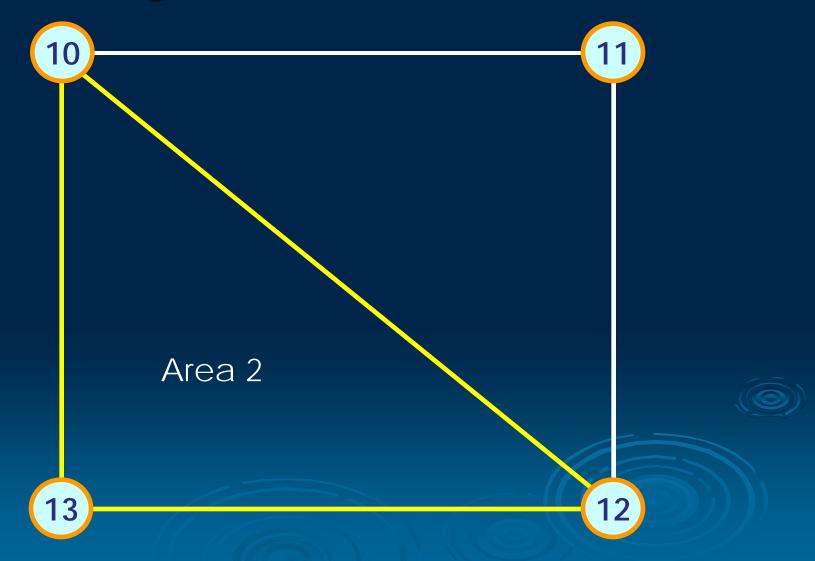








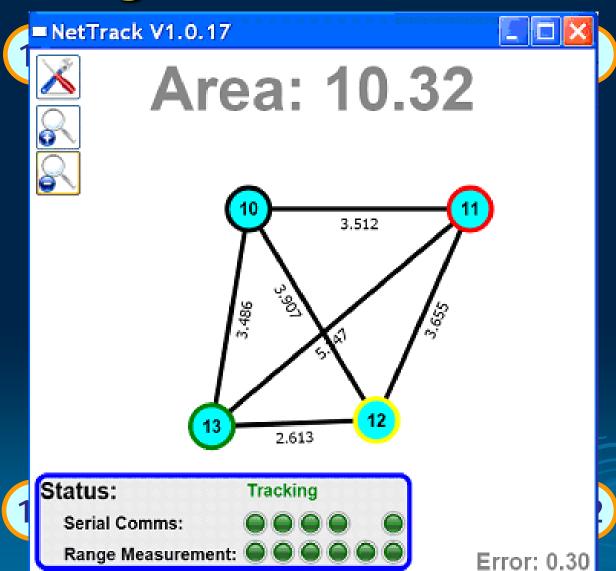




10 Area 1 + Area 2 = **Net Mouth Area** 

13

12



# Field Sampling

> August and September, 2009

Goal: 12 tows/vessel

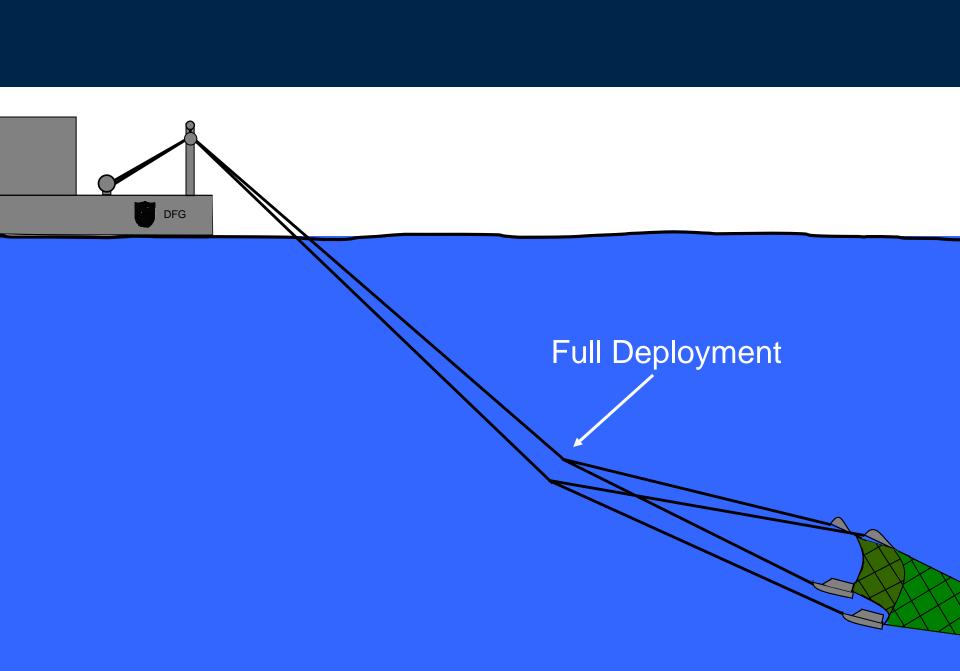
> Similar weather & tidal conditions

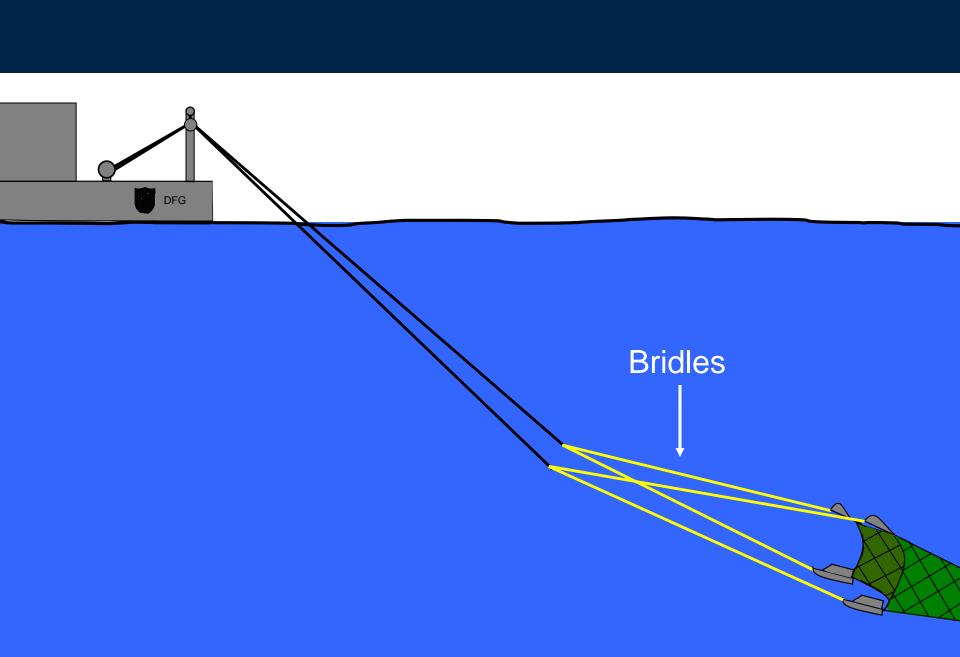
Upstream of Antioch Bridge, channel

#### How Data Was Processed

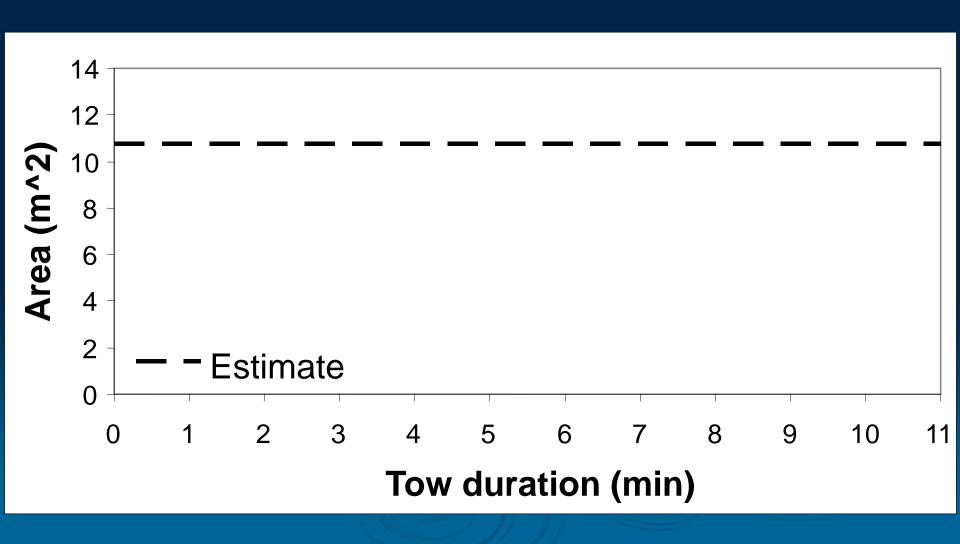
- > Net mouth area
  - Averaged by minute

- Depth loggers
  - Averaged by minute

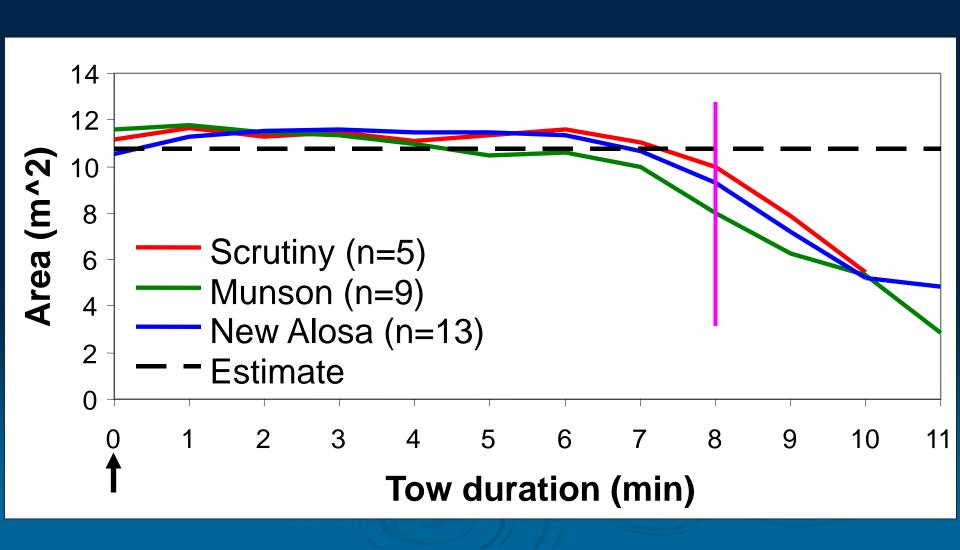


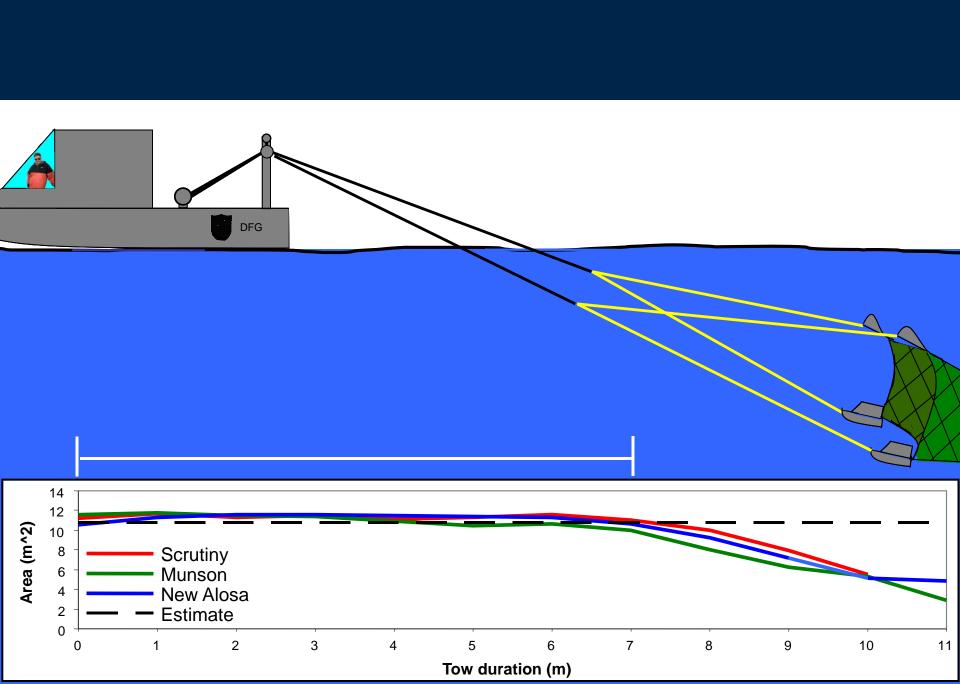


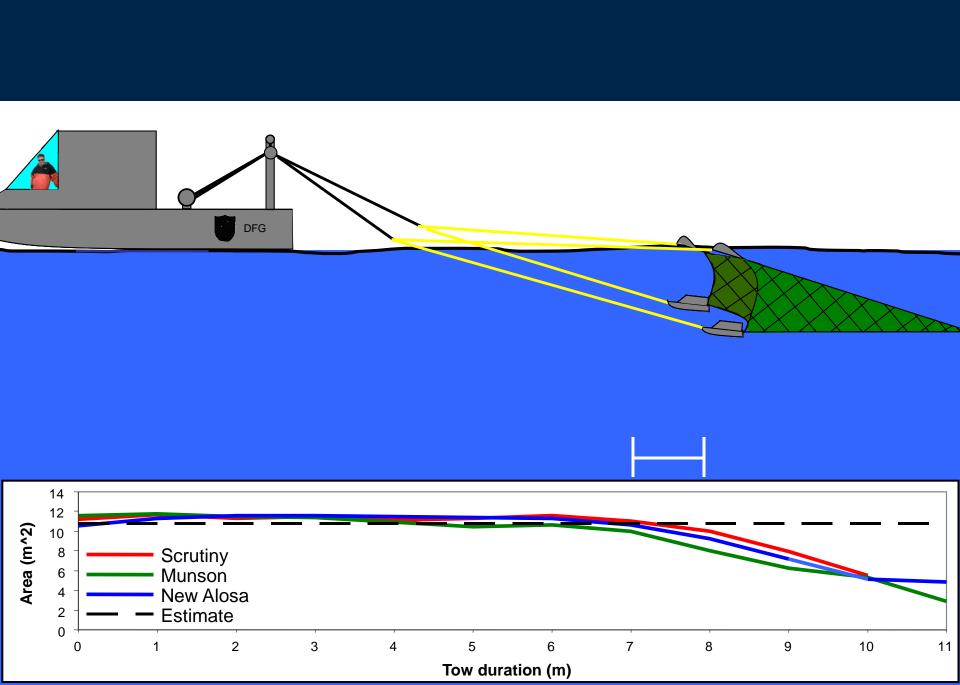
#### Average Net Mouth Area

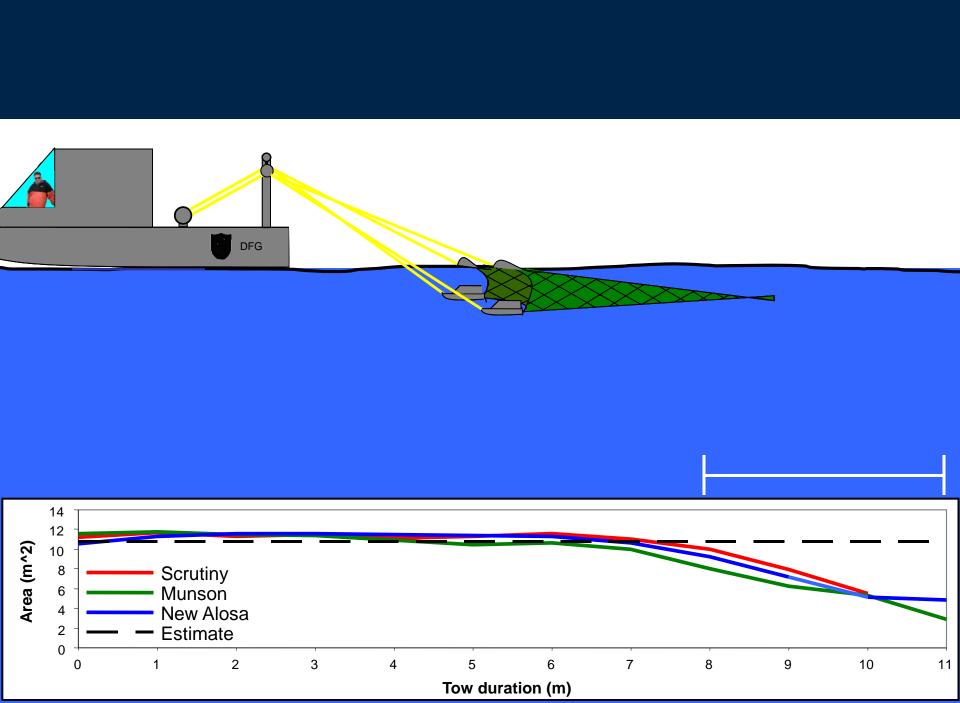


#### Average Net Mouth Area







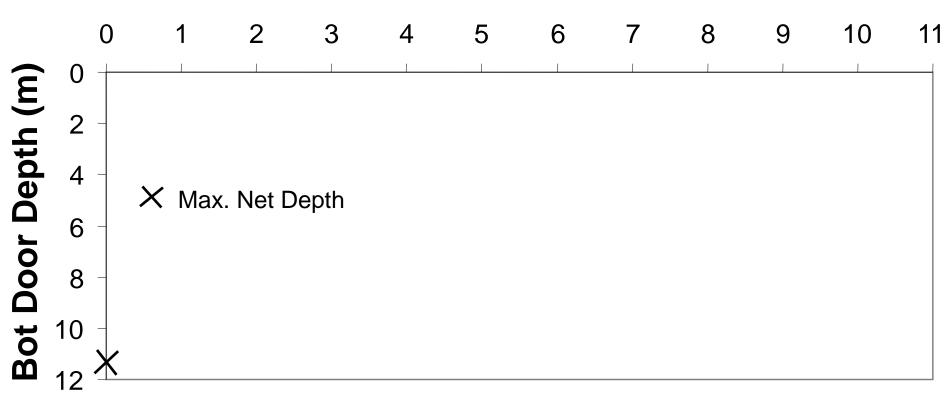


# The Depth Logger

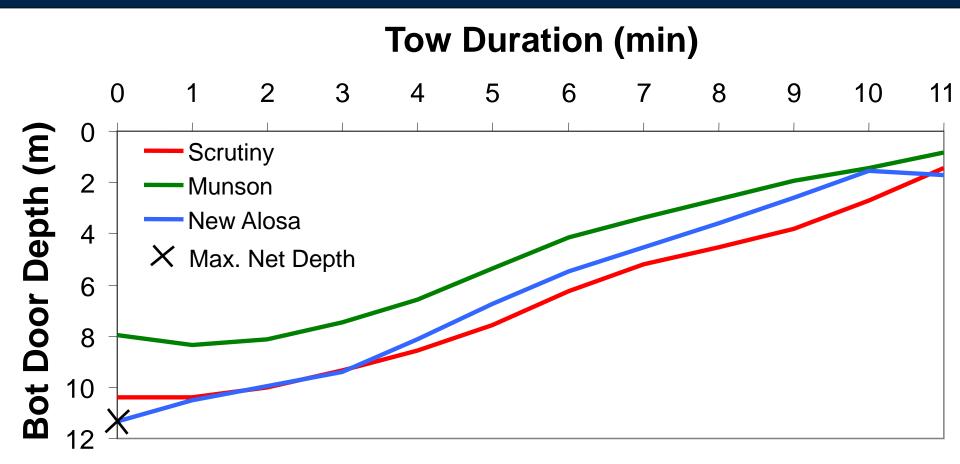


#### Gear Depth

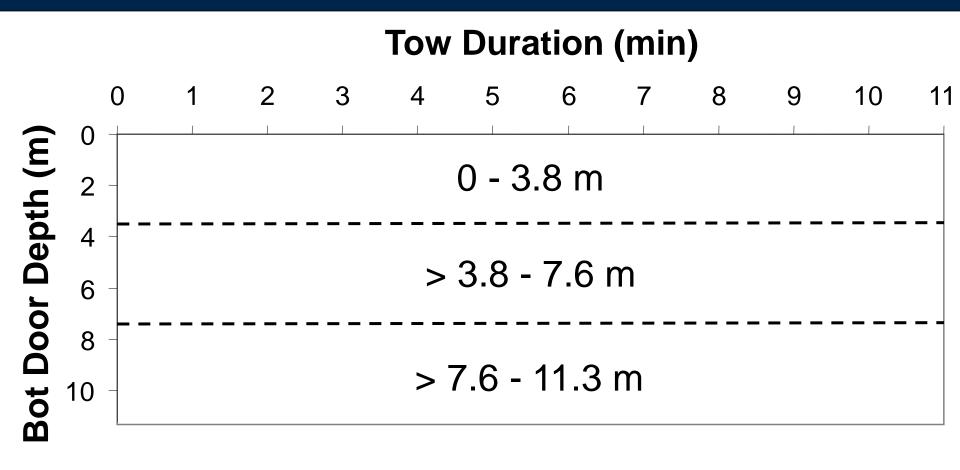




#### Gear Depth



#### Water Strata Breakdown



# Gear Depth Strata Time Durations

| Depth Strata (m) | Scrutiny | Munson | New Alosa |
|------------------|----------|--------|-----------|
| 0 - 3.8          | 40%      | 53%    | 43%       |
| > 3.8 - 7.6      | 33%      | 43%    | 26%       |
| > 7.6 - 11.3     | 27%      | 4%     | 31%       |

### The Big Picture

Mouth area comparable to estimate

Mouth area comparable among vessels

Net reached expected depth (Munson?)

What's next?

# A Big Thanks To...

- Erwin Van Nieuwenhuyse (USBR)
- Interagency Ecological Program
- Desert Star Systems Inc.
- Gary Webb, Kent Hespeler, Ken Flowers, Mike Silva, Brian Delano, David Hull, Amber Aguilera, Garrett Peterson, Cole Paris, and Cynthia Laughlin for their assistance in the field.