

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council Updates

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Presentation to False Killer Whale Take Reduction Team
April 29 – May 1, 2015



Catch-triggered Deterrence Device

- 2 catch-triggered deterrence device tested in Australia and Fiji (Hamer et al. 2015)

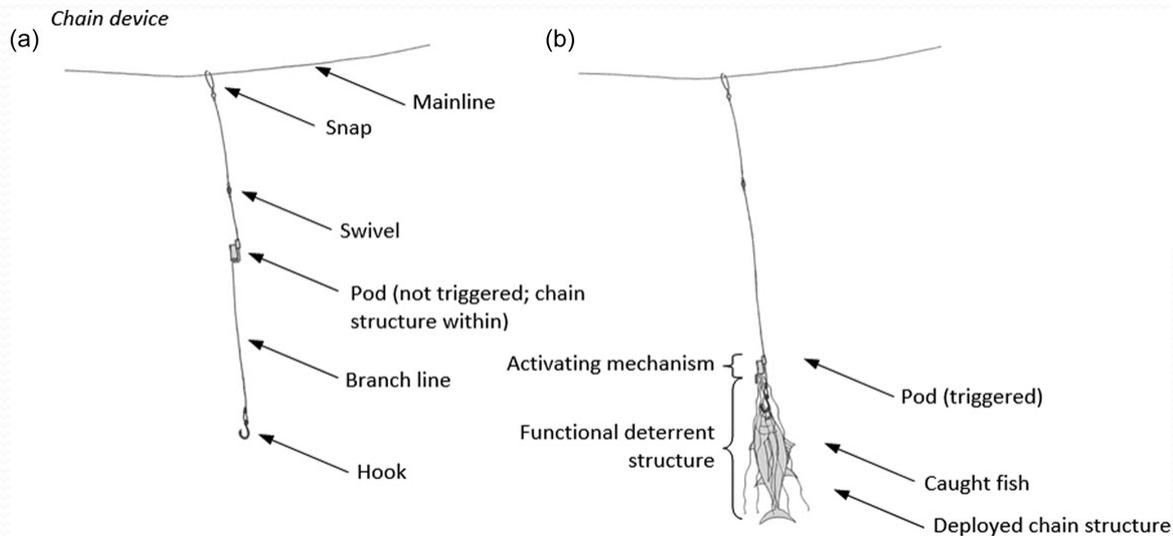
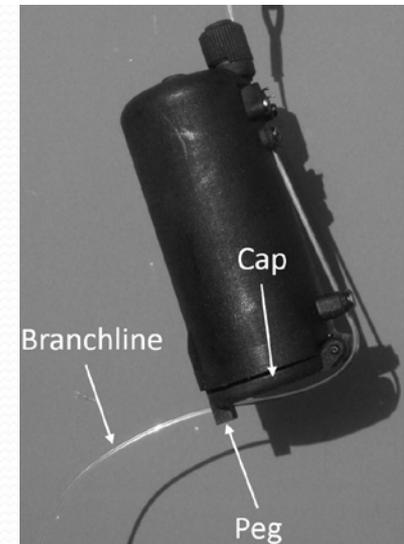


Figure source: Hamer et al. 2015



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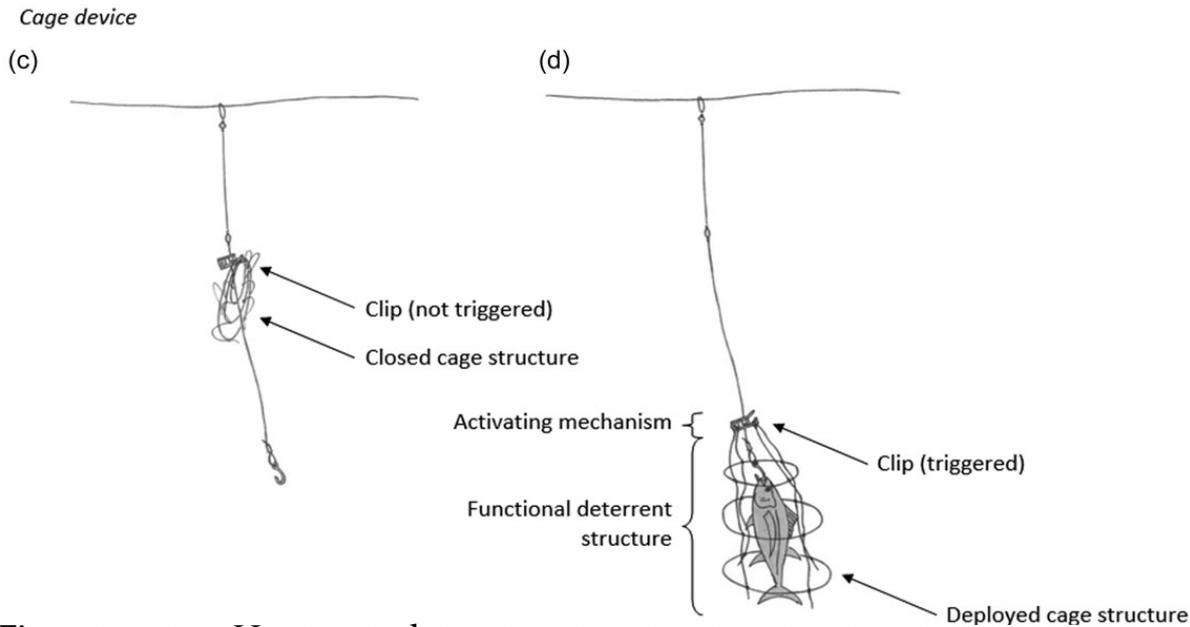


Figure source: Hamer et al. 2015

Catch-triggered Deterrence Device

Fiji/Australia trials (Hamer et al. 2015)

- Negligible impact on soak depth
- Catch rates increased
- Size of catch not affected or slightly increased
- No impact on set time with extra crew member
- *Slower sink rate*
- *Slower haul time*
- ~90% depredation occurred on control hooks (n=24); device failed to deploy on remaining depredation events (n=3)
- Odontocete bycatch (n=4) only observed on control hooks
- Shark (cookie cutter & large pelagic) depredation significantly lower with devices



Catch-triggered Deterrence Device

- Industry interest in testing the chain device on HI longline vessels
- Joint effort between HLA members, PIFSC (Bigelow & Curran), Derek Hamer and Council staff to develop funding proposal
 - Develop modified chain device
 - Test Fiji chain device & modified device
 - Objective: determine commercial viability & practicality of devices
- Proposals in review... to be continued





Questions?