

**STATUS OF MARINE RESOURCES CAUGHT BY PAIR TRAWLER LENGTH
18-25 METERS IN THE UPPER GULF OF THAILAND IN 2002 - 2004**

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ABSTRACT

Catch rate, species composition and total length of marine resources caught by a pair trawler (boat length 18-25 meters) during 2002-2004 were investigated from the upper Gulf of Thailand. The result showed that fishing effort was increasing whereas catch per unit effort (CPUE) was decreasing. Fishing effort were increased from 125.12 hr/boat/trip in 2002 to 134.46 hr/boat/trip in 2003 and to 142.42 hr/boat/trip in 2004. Mean catch rate in 2002 was 132.592 kg/hr which was decreased to 116.484 kg/hr in 2003 (or 12%) and to 105.039 kg/hr in 2004 (or 10% from year 2003). The ratio of economic fish and trash fish almost the same which were 58:42 in 2002, 2004 and 56:44 in 2003. Species composition of economical marine species were dominated by squid, threadfin bream, bigeye, croacker, lizardfish, mackerel and scad. Species composition of trash fish were composed of small size economic fish and true trash fish, the ratios between them were 70:30, 69:31 and 69:31 in 2002-2004, respectively. The length of economic marine resources such as threadfin bream, most of them were increased except *Nemipterus japonicus*, lizardfish: *Saurida undosquamis* was increasing whereas *S. elongata* was decreasing, bigeye was decreasing whereas mackerel was increasing. The length of small size economic fish in trash fish was found that lizardfish and squid were increasing whereas mackerel was decreasing.

Key words: Pair trawler, catch rate, species composition, upper Gulf of Thailand