

# **Survey of a commercial push net fishing targeting krill (*Sergestidea*) of a Samut Sakhon province boat**

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## **Abstract**

Push net targeting krill (*Sergestidae*) is a fishing gear that conducted, both small and commercial scale around the coastal province, in the gulf of Thailand including Samut Sakhon. The krill is very important material for producing the shrimp paste, a popular seasoning garnish for many Thai cuisines. The objectives of this study were examining the push net fishing such as the gear construction, fishing method, fishing ground, including expense and income of a commercial scale boat. The fishers at Ban Kum Phra, Samut Sakhon were interviewed. A commercial onboard survey was conducted on 27 Aug 2018. Some papers also were reviewed. The results found the net was bag-shaped, made from polyethylene (PE), blue mesh color with the mesh size of 2×2 mm. The net mount attached to the end of the both sides of the push fishing rods. The engine was diesel, 280-525 HP, with the speed of 1.2-1.7 knot while pushing. During the operation, the ground rope height was maintained 0.5 – 1.0 m above the seabed. The boat conducted about 5.4 km with the depth of 6-20 m. The important fishing grounds of the interviewed fishers boat are Samut Prakarn, Chonburi, Chachoengsao coastal areas, and some areas of Samut Sakhon province. The push net was understood and rumored, be a fishing gear type that destroy the fishing ground and associated to the discards problem but from our survey and studies, we found that they were not serious problems. Besides, from the fisheries statistics (DOF, 2018), in 2017, the push nets caught all aquatic animals 7,154 tons in total. The catch composed 83.56 % of the target species (krill) while other animals composed 16.44 % which most of these were marketable value fish. More field surveys and studies including the catch analysis are needed to understand how serious of the negative impacts of this fishing both to the species and environment.

## **References**

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