

Key findings from the study include _____:

- Before 1900 most fish landings (caught) were bottom-dwelling fish. Following industrial expansion post-WWII, fisheries landings increased to include greater quantities of smaller fish in the water column. In recent years, there has been a relative expansion of valued landings of tuna, shrimps and squid, reflecting the ability of fleets to roam widely, work at night and use energy-intensive methods of fishing with support of modern technologies.
- There has been an increase in bottom trawling, which can impact marine habitats and cause damage.

“Much can be learnt from looking at historical patterns of fishing, and they can help inform decisions vital to maintaining the marine resources and their environments that mankind depends on,” Professor Watson said.

The research paper can be viewed at

www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X18300605

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