**Diel Use of Nearshore Habitats by Fish in Prince William Sound**

*J.F. Thedinga, S.W. Johnson, and A.D. Neff*

NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Auke Bay Laboratories, Juneau, Alaska

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**Question**

- Does fish use of nearshore habitats differ between day & night?

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**Day & Night Sampling**

- 6 locations in late August 2007
- Beach seined same sites day & night
- 62 hrs later

**What we found**

**Composition**

- Kelp
  - Day: Crescent gunnel, Pacific herring, Bay pipefish, Eelgrass
  - Night: Saffron cod, Bay pipefish, Eelgrass

- Eelgrass
  - Day: Saffron cod, Crescent gunnel, Bay pipefish, Eelgrass
  - Night: Saffron cod, Crescent gunnel, Bay pipefish, Eelgrass

**Catch & Size**

- Most abundant species
  - Saffron cod
  - Pacific herring
  - Crescent gunnel
  - Bay pipefish
  - Tubeshrimp

- Catch similar day & night
- Catch greatest in Eelgrass
- Mean fish size increased at night

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**Answer**

- Fish abundance was similar between day & night but species composition & fish size changed.
- Sampling only during the day may underestimate the importance of nearshore habitats.

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