

RCEP

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The Institution of Environmental Sciences

The professional body for environmental scientists

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RCEP Study on the Environmental Effects of Marine Fisheries

Response by: The Institution of Environmental Sciences

We have read the background notes to the new study with interest and are generally in agreement that the five issues identified should provide a reasonable framework within which to carry out the study.

As a part of one or other of these issues we would expect that consideration be given to the following specific topics:

- (i) screening the entry of contaminated fish (by mercury, lead or other harmful substances) into the food chain.
- (ii) the impacts of fishing gear on coral formations
- (iii) the disturbance of marine infrastructure over wide areas with the indirect effect on fish breeding patterns (e.g. the destruction of plankton).

We look forward to receiving further consultation in the future.