

CHARACTERIZATION AND EXPLOITED STATUS OF BENTHIC ANIMAL RESOURCES AT THE THUY TRIEU LAGOON, VIET NAM

Phan Duc Ngai, Vo Si Tuan, Nguyen Van Long

Summary

The characterization and exploited status of benthic animal resources at the Thuy Trieu lagoon, Viet Nam was determined by data synthesis of previous researches and four trips inquiring and survey carried out from 2011 to 2015. The results have pointed out 11 benthic animal species that have primarily economic value, in which crustacean possess dominantly about species (7 species) and yield (possess 78 - 80% of the entire commercial yield of benthic animal), especially *Portunus pelagicus* possess 64 - 72% of the entire commercial yield of crustacean. The majority of benthic animal resources are epifauna, inhabit in subtidal zone, sandy mud bottom and seagrass. Species and yield of benthic animal have decreased seriously. These changes were primarily determined caused by the time of the average activity of catching fish above year of job types is highly, especially fishery exploit destructively and artistically (mesh cages, electric fishing). The results of this study will contribute the scientific basis for further studies on the trophic relationship, food web and data for planning, zoning and exploitation of appropriately fisheries resources.

Keywords: *Benthic animal resources, exploited status, Thuy Trieu lagoon.*