* The 2019 snow crab survey vessel change was accompanied by significant increases of 30-40% among male and mature female snow crab from 35mm to 95 mm CW.
* The scale and size range of these increases effectively rules out natural processes (i.e. recruitment, migration or low mortality) as a cause, implying rather an increase in survey catchability.
* Investigations suggest that an increase in the duration of latent bottom trawling phase during hauling of the net, referred to as the passive trawling phase, explains these catch increases, though only partially.
* Protocol changes brought in during the 2020 survey largely failed to solve these issues, with only a modest 5-10% decrease in catches observed in the above groups.
* In contrast, commercial sized-crab have remained at similar levels over the same period (2018-2020).