DISTRIBUTION OF SPINY LOBSTERS ALONG THE WEST COAST OF THAILAND WITH OBSERVATIONS ON THEIR FISHING GROUNDS

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ABSTRACT

Distribution, abundance, habit and substrate preferences, behaviour and ecology of six species of spiny lobsters along the west coast of Thailand, *Panulirus versicolor*, *P. homarus*, *P. ornatus*, *P. longipes*, *P. penicillatus* and *P. polyphagus*, were studied by diving operations. The distribution of each lobster with relation to depth, turbulence, turbidity of sea-water, etc. are discussed. The nature of fishery and fishing techniques locally applied are briefly presented.