SLEEVE FOR CLAM JETTING HOSE CONNECTION

By Phillip S. Parker*

This is the second in a series of gear notes describing specific units or pieces of gear used by the BCF Exploratory Fishing and Gear Research Base, Gloucester, Mass., during exploratory sea clam surveys along the Middle Atlantic seacoast. The piece of gear described is a steel sleeve (fig. 1) similar to those used throughout the commercial sea clam industry to connect two sections of clam jetting hose.

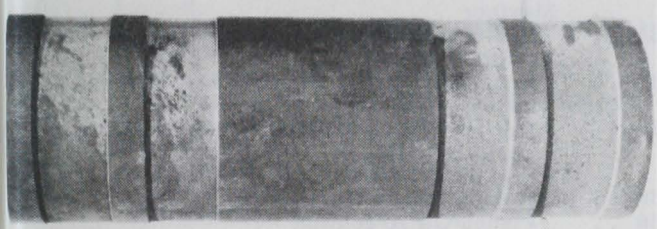

Fig. 1 - Eighteen-inch steel sleeve used for connecting clam jetting hose aboard the Delaware.

Whereas sleeves used by commercial fishermen are beveled from the center to each end, the sleeve used aboard the M/V "Delaware" for sea clamming has four depressions 2 inches wide and $\frac{1}{16}$ inch deep cut into the steel tubing with 1-inch spacings. The sleeve is 18 inches by 6-inch outside diameter, which allows it to slip easily into the 6-inch inside diameter end of the clam jetting hose. The hose is compressed into the depressions by clamps placed on the outside of the hose over these cuts (fig. 2). The main advantages of this arrangement of hose connection are that the union is more secure, and lengths of hose can be added or taken off with comparative ease in less time than disconnecting the beveled sleeves. With beveled sleeves, the jetting hose is compressed with steel bands, which generally have to be discarded.

To further strengthen the holding capacity of the clamps, a short section of chain is connected between the two inside clamps to keep them from pulling apart. With this arrangement, we have had no trouble with the hoses parting at the union even at pressures of above 175 pounds per square inch.

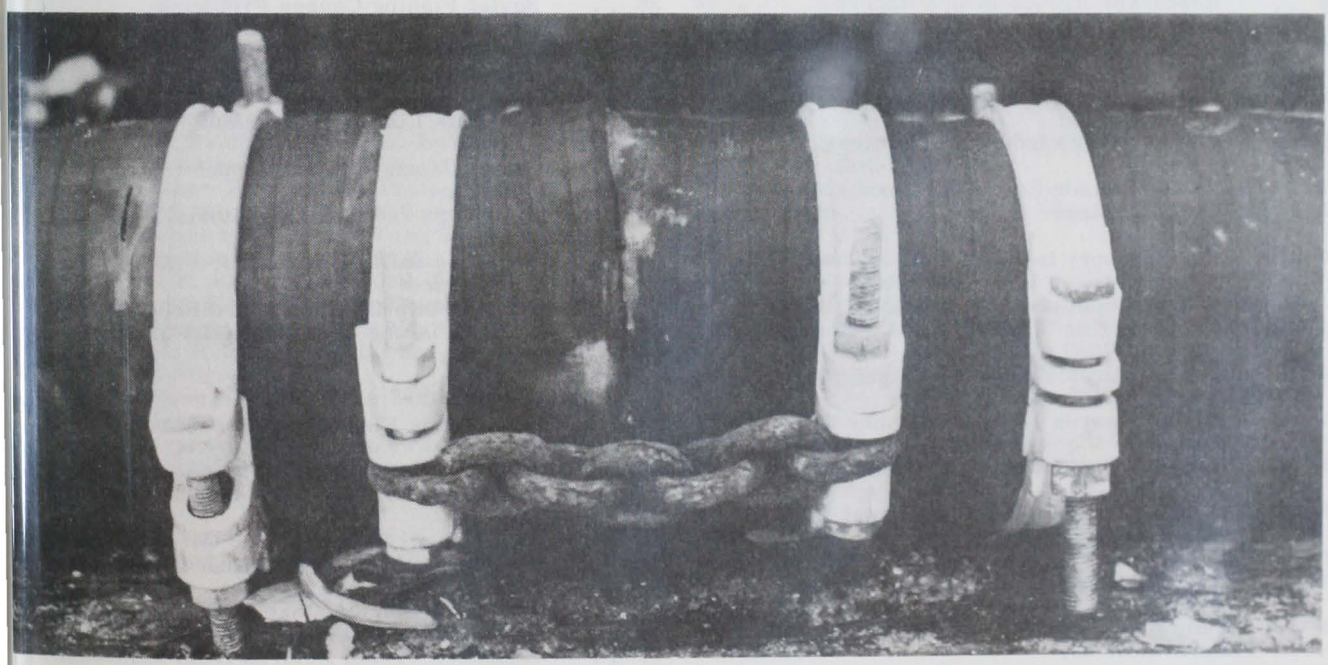

Fig. 2 - Clamp arrangement over two sections of clam jetting hose.

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Note: This is Equipment Note No. 21.

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