

Not to be cited without reference to the FRS Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen

FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 0308S

Programme

1-21 March 2008

Half-landing: Flexible

Personnel

F Burns (SIC)
R Kynoch
K Summerbell
O Goudie
A Edridge
A Jaworski Part 1
S Clarke Part 2
R Watret Part 1
M Gault Part 2

Out-turn days: 20 days RV0803

Fishing Gear: GOV Trawl (BT 137) fitted with ground gear C.

Plankton Sampling Gear: Full size Methot Net with round frame.

Objectives

1. Demersal trawling survey of the grounds off the north and west coast of Scotland.
2. To obtain temperature and salinity data from the surface and seabed at each trawling station.
3. Identify, quantify and record all Benthic species caught.
4. Collect additional biological data in connection with the EU Data Directive 1639/2001.
5. Collect abundance data on herring larvae using the Methot net.

Procedures

General

Loading of the trawl gear and scientific equipment will take place on the 25 February with rigging and testing being completed by the end of the following day. *Scotia* will then sail on Saturday 1st March and commence fishing operations the next morning on the stations to the west of Orkney. Weather conditions at the time will determine the exact start area.

Trawling

At least one haul of 30 minutes duration will be carried out as near as possible to the positions indicated on the attached chart. The scanmar system will be used to monitor the headline height, wing spread and door spread for each haul. Bottom contact data from each trawl will also be collected using the NOAA bottom contact sensor which will be mounted on a bar in the centre of the groundgear. In addition to the routine sampling, biological data will be collected for target species in line with the EU data regulation. All fish will be processed in accordance with Standing Instructions.

Hydrography

CTD casts will be taken at each trawl station; in addition the thermosalinograph will run continuously to obtain sea surface temperature and salinity throughout the survey area.

Methot Net Sampling

Oblique tows will be carried out in all squares where the trawl is deployed. It is the objective to complete 2 methot samples in each square. These will be undertaken during the hours of darkness using the Methot mid-water trawl (round frame).

Normal contact will be maintained with the Marine Laboratory.

Finlay Burns
22 February 2008

PROGRAMME AMENDMENT

Kenneth Couston and Lynette Ritchie will now be replacing Alex Edridge and Keith Summerbell for the whole survey and Lynda Allan will also replace Sarah Clarke for Part 2 of the survey.

Brendan O'Hea (visitor) from the Marine Institute in Galway will be participating on the first half of the survey.

2008 Provisional Station Positions

