

Not to be cited without prior reference to Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen.

FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 0311S

PROGRAMME

22 February –16 March 2011

Loading: Aberdeen, 17/18 February 2011

Half landing: (Flexible)

Unloading: Aberdeen, 16 March 2011

In setting the cruise programme and specific objectives, etc the Scientist-in-Charge needs to be aware of the restrictions on working hours and the need to build in adequate rest days and rest breaks as set out in Marine Scotland's Working Time Policy (Lab Notice 34/03). In addition, the Scientist-in-Charge must formally review the risk assessments for the cruise with staff on-board before work is commenced.

In the interest of efficient data management it is now mandatory to return the Cruise Report, to I Gibb and the Cruise Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to M Geldart, within four weeks of a cruise ending. In the case of the Cruise Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

Personnel

F Burns	(SIC)
R Kynoch	(Deck)
J Drewery	
M Gault	
L Allan	
A Jaworski	Part 1
P Clark	Part2
L Ritchie	(MIK)
L Drury	(Visitor)
R Ayers	(Part 1) (visitor)

Out-turn days: 23 - RV1102

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

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

Objectives

1. Demersal trawling survey of the grounds off the north and west of Scotland in ICES Subarea VIa.
2. To obtain temperature and salinity data from the surface and seabed at each trawling station.
3. Collect additional biological data in connection with the EU Data Collection Framework (DCF).

4. Collect abundance data on herring larvae using the Methot net.

Procedures

General

Loading of the trawl gear will take place on 17 February with rigging and testing being completed on the same day. Loading of the scientific gear will take place on 18 February. *Scotia* will then sail on the morning of Tuesday 22 February. A training haul will be undertaken during the passage north to ensure all fishing gear/sensors are working effectively. *Scotia* will then proceed north and commence fishing operations the next morning on predefined stations off the north Scottish coast and west of 4°W with weather conditions thereafter determining the route taken on the survey.

Trawling

This year the survey design, rather than relying on fixed trawling locations will move to a new random-stratified survey design with trawl locations randomly distributed within 6 predefined sampling strata. (See fig.1.) The random positions have still to be generated and once this takes place they will be circulated to the vessel in advance of the survey for the fishing master to examine. The intention is for trawls to be undertaken on suitable ground as near to the specified sampling position as is practicable and where possible within a radius of 5 nautical miles of the sampling position. Hauls will be of 30 minutes duration and in the main fishing operations will be restricted to daylight hours between 0700 and 1800 though exact start and finish times will vary slightly according to geographical location. 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 ground-gear. 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

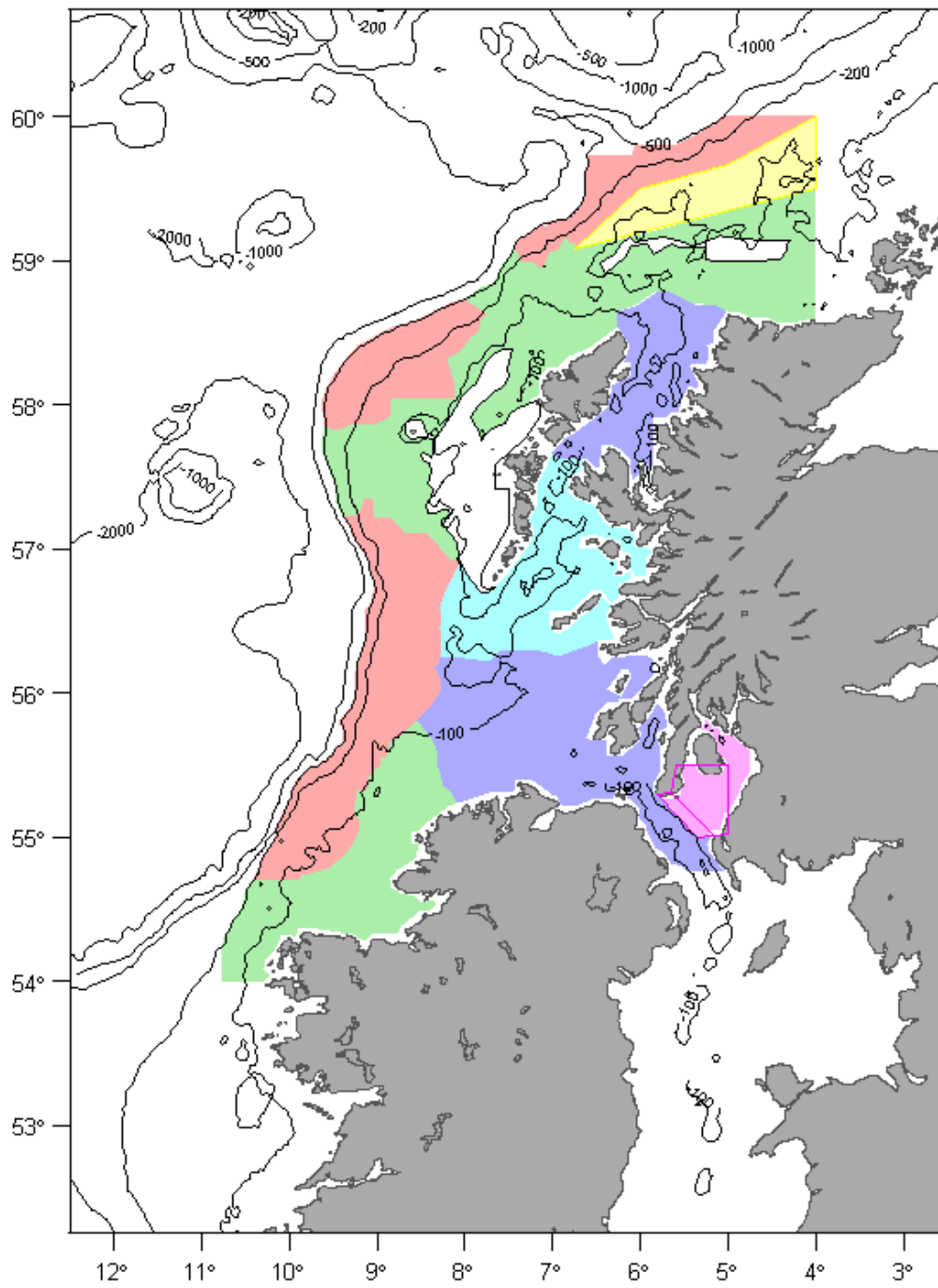
Oblique tows will be carried out in all ICES statistical squares where the trawl is deployed. It is the objective to complete 2 methot samples in each square. These will be undertaken during the hours of darkness using the Methot mid-water trawl (round frame).

Normal contact will be maintained with the Marine Laboratory.

Submitted:
Finlay Burns
25 January 2011

Approved:
I Gibb
27 January 2011

Figure 1: 0311S - 2011 ICES Subarea VIa Survey Strata



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FRV Scotia

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PROGRAMME AMENDMENT

E Barreto will be replacing A Jaworski on part one of 0311S.

I Gibb

20 February 2011