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

FRV Alba na Mara

Cruise 0409A

### **PROGRAMME**

9 -16 March 2009.

**Loading:** 3 March Fraserburgh **Unloading:** 16 March Fraserburgh

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 FRS' 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 lain Gibb and the Cruise Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to Dougal Lichtman, within four weeks of a cruise ending. In the case of the Cruise Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

### Personnel

T Howell (SIC, 11-16 March)
P Boulcott (SIC, 9 -10 March)

C Shand M Burns

## Gear

Pyramidal camera frame (dimensions: 2.2m x 2.2m @ base; 2.2m tall)

Konsburg, video cameras and lighting equipment to be supplied by the TV section

2 x 200 m umbilical cables with 37 Male pin connectors to be operated from the TV winch

2 x day grabs and sediment tables

ROV and ancillary equipment

# **Objectives**

- 1. To set-up and test UW camera survey equipment to produce survey quality video footage and digital stills of the benthos
- 2. To collect preliminary data on species distribution and scallop population variance for the design of a larger survey of the Firth of Lorn SAC (Figure 1)

- 3. To perform rough scale ground truthing of 5 potential sample areas in the Firth of Lorn.
- 4. To collect grab samples from each of the 5 areas.
- 5. To produce a species identification key for future surveys based on objectives 2 & 4

Estimated Project Time: 8 Days - MF02Q

### **Procedure**

The pyramid camera frame will set up and tested to determine the optimum configuration for recording survey quality digital and still images of the benthos and scallop habitat. The system will then be used in the Firth of Lorn SAC to record preliminary data on species distribution and scallop population variance to be used in the design of a more comprehensive survey of the SAC later in the year. Five potential sample areas, denoted by the circles in Figure 1, will be examined using the pyramid system and concurrent ground truthing using benthic grab sampling and ROV runs. Grab samples will be brought back to the Laboratory for analysis

### General

After leaving Fraserburgh 9 March Alba na Mara will make for Oban to pick up T Howell and then proceed to the Firth of Lorn SAC.

Normal contacts will be maintained with FRS.

Contact numbers

Tel: 00 871 764 837 476 (satellite phone) Fax: 00 871 764 837 478 (satellite fax)

Tel: 07500066961(Cellnet)

Submitted T Howell 10 February 2009

Approved I Gibb 19 February 2009 Figure 1.

