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

FRV *Scotia*

## **Cruise 0409S**

### **PROGRAMME**

#### **Dates**

9 March – 29 March 2009

#### **Ports**

Loading : Aberdeen, 6 March 2009  
Half landing : Flexible  
Unloading : Aberdeen, 29 March 2009

**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 Iain 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**

F Burns (SIC)  
R Kynoch (Deck)  
P Copland  
M Gault  
L Ritchie (MIK)  
C Davis Part 1  
L Allan Part 1  
R Watret Part 2  
P Clark Part2  
C Cronin (Visitor – Cork Ecology)  
A Batty (Visitor – Cork Ecology)  
D O'Sullivan (MI, Galway)

**Out-turn days:** 21 - RV0902

#### **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 9 March with rigging and testing being completed on the same day. *Scotia* will then sail on Tuesday 10 March. 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 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.

Submitted  
F Burns  
3 February 2009

Approved  
I Gibb  
5 February 2009

# 2009 Provisional Station Positions

