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MRV *Scotia*

Survey 0415S

PROGRAMME

7 - 20 April 2015

Ports

Loading: Aberdeen, between 1 - 5 April 2015 (depending on vessel refit)

Sailing: Aberdeen 7 April 2015

Unloading: Aberdeen, 20 April 2015

In setting the survey 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 survey with staff on-board before work is commenced.

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

Personnel

Name:	Work Pattern		
	PM (12:00 - 24:00)	AM (00:00 - 12:00)	Day (06:00 to 18:00)
R. Kynoch (SIC)	x		
L. Ritchie	x		
E. Barreto	x		
I. Busturia Cerezo	x		
J. Drewery		x	
E. Mackenzie		x	
R. Gillespie-Mules		x	
J. Forbes Birnie (SFF)		x	
L. Smith (MSc, Aberdeen University)			x

Project Code: RV1504 (20284) 14 days

Gear

- Jackson BT 195 monkfish bottom trawl
- 400mm x 45.7m Rockhopper ground gear with tickler chain
- 2 x sets of Morgere Ovalfoil OF12 1700 Kg trawl doors.
- Net sensors; standard Scanmar sensors, bottom contact sensor and depth / temperature logger (DST).

Objective

1. To undertake a nationally co-ordinated demersal trawling survey of anglerfish on the Rockall Plateau and to the west of the Hebrides.

Procedure

This is a nationally co-ordinated trawl survey to estimate the abundance and distribution of anglerfish. The survey follows a set of protocols drawn up by an industry / science survey planning group made up of Marine Scotland scientists and fishing representatives. These protocols share much in common with the sampling regimes described in Marine Scotland's standing instructions for demersal trawl surveys.

The survey track and sampling locations (randomly selected) will be delivered to the Captain and Fishing Master prior to departure and giving as much notice as possible. An approximate map of the sampling area giving the locations of all of the co-ordinated surveys is appended as Figure 1. Trawling in Irish waters will take place as necessary.

Trawling:

Fishing operations will take place on a 24 hours basis, with scientific teams split into two teams working 12 hours on, 12 hours off (midnight – midday – midnight).

One haul of 60 minutes duration will be made at each sampling station; trawling operations will occur in waters up to a maximum of 1000 m. The Scanmar system will be used to monitor trawl parameters such as wing spread, door spread and headline height. A bottom contact sensor will be mounted on the footrope to record touch-down/lift-off at block up/knockout and if the ground gear leaves the seabed during the haul.

Anglerfish and megrim catches will be worked up according to the protocols for this survey. Other target species such as haddock, cod, saithe, blue ling, lemon sole and skates etc will be sampled as and when available.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory and the other vessels (charters) on the survey will be contacted periodically.

Submitted:

R. Kynoch
16 March 2015

Approved:

I. Gibb
18 March 2015

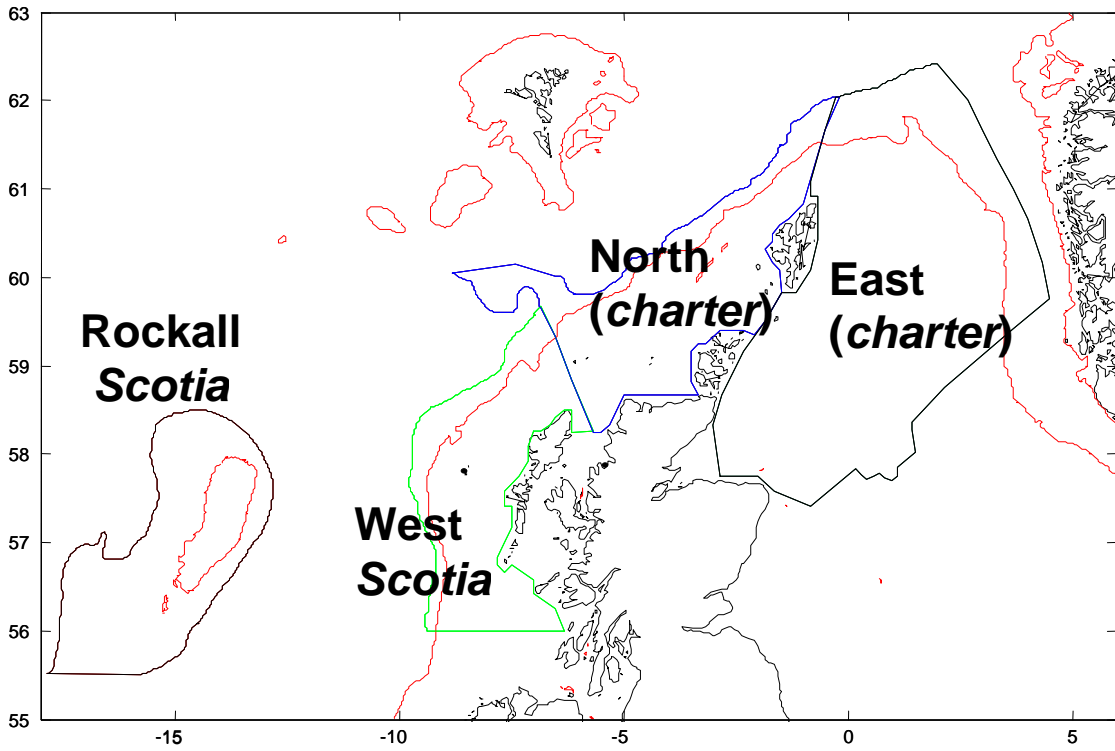


Figure 1: 0414S

Map of the Northern Shelf of the North East Atlantic with the areas to be surveyed by the vessels (in italics) in the forthcoming anglerfish survey. (The red lines indicate the approximate position of the 200 m depth contour). Details of stations assigned to the Rockall and 'West' area will be conveyed to the vessel prior to sailing