

P17/15

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

FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 0605S

PROGRAMME

25 April – 2 May

***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 (which is published on the Intranet). 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 John Morrison 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 transfer: Peterhead (evening of 28 April)

Personnel

E Jones (SIC)

R Kynoch

N Collie

I Penny

M Stewart

A McIntosh

M Robertson (Part 2)

L Robinson (Part 2)

B Wigham (Oceanlab, University of Aberdeen)

A Jamieson (Oceanlab, University of Aberdeen)

S Davie (Student, University of Aberdeen)

Student (Student, SOC)

I Hudson (Part 1) (Southampton Oceanography Centre)

M Dennis (Part 1) (Oceanlab, University of Aberdeen)

Gear

BT 137 (Gov trawl) fitted with ground gear B and scanmar

FRS baited camera frame

ROBIO lander (Oceanlab)

Van Veen Grab

Box Core

EM 950 swathe multibeam

Objectives

To repeat the biological baseline survey of the Buzzard platform site and adjacent control area carried out in 2004, prior to installation of the platform. This will include:

- Baited time lapse camera deployments.
- Sediment samples collected by Van Veen and box core.
- GOV trawl samples.
- In addition, carry out a swathe multibeam mapping exercise of the area.

Procedure

Equipment will be loaded onto *Scotia* in Aberdeen on 21 and 22 April. Staff will join the vessel on Monday 25th April and *Scotia* will steam to the Buzzard site (57°48'N, 0°58'W). Once on station the FRS baited camera mooring will be deployed. A series of deployments will be made over the following 2-3 days. Whilst the camera mooring is in the water, *Scotia* will remain close by. During the daytime, sediment samples will be collected using the Van Veen Grab in this time period. Once lander deployments have been completed, trawling operations will commence. Trawls will last 30 min and the catch will be processed following the IBTS protocol. On Thursday evening *Scotia* will proceed to Peterhead to transfer personnel (small boat transfer unless weather prevents this). From Thursday night onwards, the ship will operate a night shift to carry out the swathe bathymetry survey and continue trawling and / or lander operations during the day. Once the swathe survey and associated sediment sampling has been completed, a series of box core sampled will be taken at the platform and control sites. Once these have been completed, *Scotia* will return to Aberdeen on 2 May.

Normal contact will be maintained with the Marine laboratory.

J A Morrison
4 April 2005