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MRV Alba na Mara

Survey 1112A

PROGRAMME

30 June – 04 July 2012

Ports

Loading : Fraserburgh, 28 June 2012

Unloading : Fraserburgh, 04 July 2012

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

C Hall (SIC)

N Collie 30 June – 03 July

Reson Engineer and additional MSS staff (TBC) 3 July

Estimated days by project: 5 days – FRPRM9 (20040)

Sampling Gear

VMUX towed TV chariot

TV Drop Frame

Flowmeters

1700m net-sonde cable

Objectives

- 1) To test the deployment, recovery and towing characteristics of the VMUX chariot, loaded with a variety of instrumentation and cameras.
- 2) To calibrate flow-meters.

- 3) To monitor and test the thermosalinograph (TSG) and fluorometer instrumentation.
- 4) To train MSS staff in the use of the Reson swathe system (3 July).

Procedures

General

Loading of equipment will take place on Thursday 28 June, including spooling a new 1700 m net-sonde cable onto the TV winch. Setting-up and testing activities may continue on Friday 29 June. On completion of safety drills and vessel tours on the morning of Saturday 30 June, *Alba* will sail and commence trials on the VMUX towed platform. The working area will be the Moray Firth in at least 100 m water depth. Practical deployment and recovery procedures will be developed, before carrying out a series of reciprocal tows to calibrate and test the on-board cameras and instrumentation. The towing load of the VMUX platform will be monitored using a self-recording load-cell. On completion of VMUX trials, a calibration ring supporting up to three flow-meters will be towed at a variety of fixed speeds, in reciprocal directions. Throughout the survey, the TSG will be monitored to confirm operation. It is proposed to offload the net-sonde cable during the afternoon of Monday 2 July, for which a powered spooler will be tested (local agent Bruce Strachan Ltd). This will require the vessel to be moored stern-on to the pier. If the powered spooler is not practical then the cable will be removed by hand. A Reson engineer will visit *Alba* on Tuesday 3 July to demonstrate the use of the new swathe system to MSS staff

Alba will return to Fraserburgh each evening after completion of work.

Gear will be off-loaded on Wednesday 4 July.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory.

Submitted:
C D Hall
6 June 2012

Approved
I Gibb
22 June 2012