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

MRV *Scotia*

Survey 1217S

PROGRAMME

2-13 September 2017

Ports

Loading: Aberdeen, 30 August 2017
Unloading: Ullapool, 13 September 2017

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.

Rockall Haddock Survey

Personnel

J Drewery	(SIC)
R Kynoch	(Deck)
F Burns	
M Gault	
N Ensor	
G Hermann	
D Stirling	
G Martin	(Visitor)
K Tulbure	(Visitor)
R Watret	(Visitor)

Estimated Days per Project: 12 days – RV1713/20442

Fishing Gear

GOV Trawl (BT 137) with ground gear D

Other Gear

CTD – Seabird 19+
Day grabs

Objectives

- To undertake the bottom trawl survey of haddock on Rockall Bank to a depth of 350 m.
- To deploy a CTD at selected trawl stations to collect temperature and salinity profiles.
- To collect sediment samples at selected stations
- To record marine litter at each trawl station for MSFD

Procedure

The primary objective of this survey is to assess the state of the haddock stock on the Rockall Plateau. The survey employs a semi random stratified design, comprising four sampling strata separated according to depth. Sampling intensity within each of the four strata reflects the fish density observed in each of these during previous surveys. Trawling will be carried out during the hours of daylight at randomly selected locations within the 350 m contour. Forty primary tow positions have been generated and their allocation within each depth stratum is displayed in Figure 1. The number of stations within each depth strata is as follows: five stations at 0-150 m, 21 stations at 150-200 m, 10 stations at 200-250 m and four stations at 250-350 m. *Scotia* will undertake a haul within five miles of each station where possible or, failing that, choose an alternative. A further 22 secondary stations across the various strata have been generated to provide a source of additional stations and/or alternatives should any primary station prove unfishable. Where time allows additional hauls will be conducted outside our strata (at depth below 350 m).

One haul of 30 minutes duration will be made at each sampling station. Daily start times for survey stations will be at approximately 06:00 hours and continue until approximately 20:00 hours. The Scanmar system will be used to monitor wing spread, door spread and distance covered during each haul. A bottom contact sensor will be mounted on the footrope to record the distance of the trawl off the seabed. Catches will be worked up according to the protocols for International Bottom Trawl Surveys. A CTD will be deployed at selected trawl stations.

At night sediment samples will be collected using Day grabs. The samples positions will be decided on a day to day basis and will be influenced by vessel location at the end of each trawling period.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory.

Submitted:
J Drewery
21 August 2017.

Approved:
I Gibb
29 August 2017.

Figure 1: Survey map showing stations generated for 1217S. Red stratum = 0-150 m depth, green stratum = 150-200 m, blue stratum = 200-250 m and light-blue stratum = 250-350 m.

Boxes/polygons represent restricted or closed areas. Closed circles = primary haul positions, open circles = secondary haul positions.