

**CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE  
SCIENCE  
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK NR33 0HT**

**2011 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME**

**PROGRAMME: RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR: 05/11**

**STAFF:**

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| S. Kupschus (SIC) | R. Bush         |
| S. Walmsley (2IC) | D. Brown        |
| I. Holmes         | L. Nelson       |
| Jon Elson         | M. Nicolaus     |
| J. Silva          | James Pettigrew |

**DURATION:** 6 March – 23 March.

**LOCATION:** Western Channel (ICES area VIII)

**AIMS:**

1. To carry out a beam trawl survey of the Western Channel for stock assessment purposes using standardized 4m beam trawls in order to obtain information on:
  - a) Distribution, size composition and abundance of all fish species caught.
  - b) Age – length distribution of selected species.
  - c) Distribution of fish in relation to their environment.
  - d) Distribution of macrobenthos and anthropogenic debris.
  - e) Surface and bottom temperature and salinity data using CTD.
  - f) Length weight & maturity information using individual fish measurements, in support of the EU Data Regulation.
2. To collect fisheries acoustic data at three operating frequencies (38, 120 & 200 kHz) and multibeam data continuously throughout the cruise. An attempt will be made to use this data to determine habitats and the scale at which these vary.
3. Collect micro plastic samples at each station using the manta-trawl towed for about an hour at 4-8 knots (Manuel C5112).

**SECONDARY AIMS:**

1. Collect length weight information for DCF work (Ian)
2. Tag rays not needed for DCF maturity work (Joana undulate, cuckoo, common skate and blonde ray)
3. Collect radiology water samples for Trevor Bailey (Rob Bush AE001)
4. Use and evaluate the litter evaluation protocol where time permits (Manuel C5112)
5. Collect 30 vertical lift net samples for mnemiopsis project (James)

PLAN:

Provisionally RV CEFAS Endeavour will sail from Portland on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March, where staff will join the vessel after travelling down from Lowestoft by hire car. The survey will fish with two 4 m beam trawls, one fitted with a blinder the other without. The survey will aim to sample a minimum of 80 randomly chosen stations and to collect acoustics data on route. On completion of the work the ship will return to Lowestoft.

**GEAR:**

List distributed separately and marked to relevant individuals for action.

Sven Kupschus  
31/12/10

**DISTRIBUTION:**

Basic list +

S. Kupschus (SIC)

S. Walmsley (2IC)

I. Holmes

Jon Elson

J. Silva

R. Bush

D. Brown

L.Nelson

M. Nicolaus

James Pettigrew

Thomas Maes

Sophie Pitois

Trevor Bailey

