

**THE CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE SCIENCE,
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, NR33 0HT.**

2013 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME: RV ENDEAVOUR: SURVEY 15/14

STAFF:

S Songer (SIC)

R Ayers (2IC)

M Brown

G Burt

B Harley (17th – 24th July)

C Jennings (17th -24th July)

J Smith (24th -31st July)

N Pearson (24th -31st July)

W Dawson (24th -31st July)

DURATION:

17th July – 31st July 2014

LOCALITY:

English Channel (VIId), North Sea (IVc).

PRIMARY AIMS:

1. To undertake a beam trawl survey in the southern North Sea and eastern Channel as part of an ICES co-ordinated research programme.
2. To obtain fisheries independent data on the distribution and abundance of commercial flatfish species.
3. To collect biological data, including maturity and weight at age, of commercial species, to satisfy the requirements of the EU data regulations.
4. To identify the epibenthos by-catch taken in the 4-metre beam trawl and to quantify 12 species as agreed at the Beam Trawl Working Group.
5. The undertake additional trawling on coastal grounds (15–40 m water depth) between Selsey and Lulworth to provide further information on the distribution of undulate ray.

SECONDARY AIMS:

6. To carry out additional water sampling for nutrient analysis.

PLAN:

The scientific crew will travel to Portland on the 16th July joining the Endeavour in the afternoon and staying onboard that night. Endeavour will sail from Portland on the morning tide of 17th July after the gear is loaded, checked and rigged.

Shakedown tows will be carried out before the start of the survey to ensure all systems are working correctly. Once complete, sampling will commence in the English sector of VIId before an overnight steam to begin sampling at the Western end of the French sector of VIId on the second day. Sampling will continue heading East along the French coast (see appendix 1), until about 22nd July, the vessel will then steam overnight back to the English sector of VIId. C Jennings and B Harley will be put ashore on or around the 24th July and N Pearson, J Smith and W Dawson will join the vessel. On completion of the VIId survey, including extra tows for undulate rays (see aim 5) on or around 29th July, the North Sea stations will be worked in a northerly direction and if time permits stations off the Belgian coast will be fished. All stations will be fished using a warp ratio of 3.5:1 if practical. The additional tows, as indicated on the map, will be picked up during the course of the survey, time permitting.

On completion of the survey the vessel will dock in Lowestoft. This is expected to be on the evening of July 31st.

S Songer
30/06/2014

INITIALLED:

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list +
Cruise staff
Fishing Skipper Cefas Endeavour
W Demare, Belgium
Frans v Beek, Netherlands
Joel Vigneau, France
MMO and Welsh assembly
DARD Northern Ireland