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FRV *Clupea*

Cruise 0405C

REPORT

30-31 March 2005

Personnel

*C Shand In Charge
N Morrison

Ports

Loading: Fraserburgh
Unloading: Fraserburgh

Objectives

- a) To test operation of new grab system on TV sledge, and make modifications as necessary, ensuring that the grab does not interfere with TV or still images taken from the sledge.
- b) Develop a protocol for use of the grab during TV operations with the sledge.

Out-turn Days per Project: 2 days MF02n

Narrative

Clupea sailed from Fraserburgh at 0940 on Wednesday 30 March and steamed west for 16 miles to find suitable *Nephrops* grounds at depths of 95–100 m.

A total of three deployments were made to test and commission the new mini grab on the TV sledge, with minor adjustments being made between runs as necessary. Twenty four still photographs were taken to check that the garage arrangement for the grab did not interfere with the field of view of the stills camera. *Clupea* docked at Fraserburgh at 1600 hours to allow time for processing of the film taken earlier that afternoon.

The following day *Clupea* sailed at 0800 hours in a heavy swell and steamed west to find calmer waters for further trials. Four deployments were completed before the cruise was aborted at 1430 due to a broken cooling pump for the hydraulic oil on the TV winch. *Clupea* docked in Fraserburgh at 1530 the same afternoon and the pump was put ashore for repair.

Results

Although the grab worked well during the seven deployments made during the cruise, improvements to the basic design of the launch and recovery system were identified to make retrieval of the sample faster than at present. It is planned that these modifications will be carried out in the Laboratory's Engineering Workshop in the near future.

The protocol used during this cruise for operating the grab during TV operations with the Sledge will be documented separately for future cruises.

C W Shand
8 August 2005

Seen in draft: A Simpson, OIC FRV *Clupea*