APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN AREAS UNDER NATIONAL JURISDICTION OF
UNITED KINGDOM

Date : April 29, 2011

1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Cruise name and/or number : **EVHOE 2011 on research vessel *Thalassa***

1.2 Sponsoring institution :

Name :	**IFREMER**
	Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer
Address :	155, rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau
	92138 ISSY LES MOULINEAUX FRANCE
Phone	+33 1 46 48 21 00
Fax	+331 46 48 21 21
Director :	Jean-Yves PERROT

1.3 Scientist in charge of the project :

Name :	Jean-Claude MAHE
Address :	IFREMER- 8, rue François TOULLEC
	56100 LORIENT FRANCE
Telephone :	+33 2 97 87 38 18
Telefax :	+33 2 97 83 38 01
Email :	Jean.Claude.Mahe@ifremer.fr

1.4 Scientist (s) from UNITED KINGDOM involved in the planning of the project.

Name (s) :	Dr. Brian Harley
Address :	Ministry of Agriculture CEFAS Fisheries Laboratory Lowestoft Suffolk NR33 OHT UNITED KINGDOM
email	brian.harley@cefas.co.uk
Phone:	(direct) +44 (0) 1502 524254 (switchboard) +44 (0) 1502 562244
Fax:	+44 (0) 1502 513865

1.5 Submitting officer :

Name:	Jean-Xavier CASTREC
Adress :	Ifremer Centre de Brest – Secteur Programmation Flotte
	B.P. 70 - 29280 Plouzané
Phone :	33 (0)2.98.22.44.53
Fax :	33 (0)2.98.22.44.55
Email :	jean.xavier.castrec@ifremer.fr

2 – DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

(Attach additional pages as necessary)

2.1 Nature and objectives of the project :

The French Bottom Trawl Surveys in Bay of Biscay and Celtic Sea (survey code : EVHOE)

a) Purpose of survey

The main objectives of the survey are :
- obtain abundance indices per age group and annual recruitment estimates for the sampled species ;
- build a reliable time series of those indices ;
- follow the evolution of the demographic structures of the main exploited fish populations ;
- map the spacio-temporal distribution of the fisheries resources per age group.

b) Area surveyed (fig. 1)

This French survey began in 1987. The area was limited to 48°30' N in the north and to the northern margin of Gouf de Cap Breton in the south (ICES divisions VIIh, VIIIa,b,c and d). In 1990, the survey area was extended towards the north (51°15' N) to cover the grounds of the Celtic Sea deeper than 100 meters (ICES divisions VIIe,f,g,h and j).

c) Methodology

The GOV 36/47 bottom trawl is used with a 20 mm mesh codend liner. The trawl is deployed with plane oval trawl boards of 1300 kg and with 10-20 cm rubber discs on the footrope.

The haul duration is 30 minutes and the towing speed 4 knots. Trawling is carried out during day time only.

In the Bay of Biscay (ICES divisions VIIIa,b,c and d) and in the Celtic Sea (ICES divisions VIIe,f,g,h and j), a stratified sampling scheme is used. The area is divided according to latitude into 5 blocks and the hauls were distributed in seven depth zones (15-30, 31-80, 81-120, 121-160, 161-200, 201-400, 401-600 m). 160 stations will be occupied at locations given in fig. 2.

Catch weight and catch numbers are recorded for all species, only selected finfish and shellfish are measured.

d) Extension of the study area in 1999 and 2000

Following the European contract DG XIV 98/057 " International Program of Standardised Bottom Trawl Surveys off Northwestern Europe", a comparative study of the different fish species catchabilities to the French/Irish and Irish/Scottish fishing boats/gears has been conducted in the Irish and U.K. waters (fig. 2). Following the SESITS program (1997-1998) involving the French, Spanish and Portuguese surveys, the whole study has led to the integration of the different data collected during surveys covering the area from Northern Scotland to the Strait of Gibraltar into an common international data base.

e) Improvment of knowledge on meso and bathy pelagic species

In 2001, 2002, 2003, 2007 and 2008,2009,2010 several hauls using a pelagic trawl have been carried out in the northern part of of Bay of Biscay, at immersions between –1500 m and – 50 m, in order to collect information on species which show a vertical migration during the night and can potentially be preys of marine mammals.

f) Observations of fishing grounds

In order to prepare future hauls on deep sea species planed to be carried out in 2011 and continued in following years, video profiles by SCAMPI (Système de CAmeras Ponctuel Interactif) will be done on grounds between –400m and –1000 m offshore the Great Sole bank, giving direct observations on the deep sea ecosystem. In the medium term, one of the aims is to produce a historical series of abundance indices for deep sea species which can be used by the ICES WGDEEP/WGDEC.

2.2 Relevant previous or future research cruises :

The survey was conducted in the fourth quarter (October-November) of each year from 1987 to 1990, in 1992 and 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000 and also in the second quarter (May-June) of 1988 and 1991. The survey is intended to be carried in the future at least in 2011 and 2012 as the objective is the construction and the maintaining a long time series.

2.3 Previously published research data relating to the project :

		Nombre
1	Publications d'articles originaux dans des revues avec comité de lecture référencées SCI	48
2	Publications dans d'autres revues scientifiques	13
3	Publications sous forme de rapports techniques	7
4	Articles dans des revues / journaux grand public	1
5	Publications de résumés de colloques	
6	Communications dans des colloques internationaux dont communications orales dont posters	49 2 9
7	Communications dans des colloques nationaux dont communications orales dont posters	7 7
8	Nouvelles espèces (animales, végétales, microorganismes) découvertes et décrites	1
9	Rapports de contrats (Union européenne, FAO, Convention, Collectivités …)	11
10	Applications (essais thérapeutiques ou cliniques, AMM …)	
11	Brevets	
12	Publications d'atlas (cartes, photos)	
13	Documents vidéo-films	
14	Publications électroniques sur le réseau Internet	
15	DEA ou MASTER ayant utilisé les données de la campagne	7
16	Thèses ayant utilisé les données de la campagne	7

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3 – METHODS AND MEANS TO BE USED

3.1 Particulars of vessel

Name : ***Thalassa***
Nationality : French
Owner : Ifremer
Operator : Genavir
Overall length : 74,5 m
Maximum draught : 6,10 m
Gross tonnage : 2 803 UMS
Propulsion : Diesel Electric
Average operating cruising speed and survey speed : 11 knots
Call sign : FNFP
Method and capability of communication (including telex, frequencies) :
- *GSM : 33.6.07.32.44.87 (bridge) - 33.6.16.87.10.69 (captain)*
Fax : 33.6.20.18.50.20
Inmarsat :Tel : 00.870.7.731.600.16 (bridge) - Fax : 00.870.7.831.600.57
- *Vsat : Tel : 33.2.98.22.48.05 (bridge) - Fax : 33.2.98.22.48.06*
- *Telex Inmarsat C1 : 058x.4.227.297.10 - Telex Inmarsat C2 : 058x.4.227.297.11*
(Codes: East Atlantic: 0581 - West Atlantic: 0584 - Pacific : 0582 - Indian Ocean: 0581)
email : TL.Commandant@thalassa.ifremer.fr
Email Telex C1 : ThalassaC1@skyfile-c.com
Email Telex C2 : ThalassaC2@skyfile-c.com
Name of master : DELBARRE Michel
Number of crew : 25
Number of scientists on board : 25

3.2 Aircraft of other craft to be used in the project : NIL

3.3 Particulars of methods and scientific instruments

Types of samples and data	Methods to be used	Instruments to be used
biological observations on fish	trawling	bottom trawl GOV 36/47 Echo sounders
hydrographic observations	Temperature and salinity	Sonde KE 300m and 600 m
Video observations	Submarine camera	SCAMPI

3.4 Indicate whether harmful substances will be used : NIL

3.5 Indicate whether drilling will be carried out : NIL

3.6 Indicate whether explosives will be used : NIL

4 – INSTALLATIONS AND EQUIPMENTS

Details of installations and equipment (dates of laying, servicing, recovery, exact locations and depth) : NIL

5 – GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS

5.1 Indicate geographical areas in which the project is to be conducted (with reference in latitude and longitude) :

The survey will be conducted in Bay of Biscay and Celtic Sea from : 43°20' N to 52°30 N and 1°20' W to 12°00' W, the western limit of the studied area by bottom trawl will follow the 600 metres depth and 2000 metres depth for pelagic trawl. Sub marine shooting using SCAMPI will be carried out selectively on grounds offshore Small Sole Bank between –400 and –1000 m.

5.2 Attach chart (s) at an appropriate scale showing the geographical areas of the intended work and, as far as practicable, the positions of intended stations,the tracks of survey lines, and the locations of installations and equipment.

See figures 1 and 2

6 - DATES

6.1 Expected dates of first entry into and final departure from the research area of the research vessel:

entry date : October 17, 2011
departure date : December 1, 2011

6.2 Indicate if multiple entry is expected :

Yes

7 – PORT CALLS

7.1 Dates and names of intended ports of call in UK : NIL

7.2 Any special logistical requirements at ports of call

7.3 Name/Address/Telephone of shipping agent (if available) :

8 - PARTICIPATION

8.1 Extent to which UNITED KINGDOM will be enabled (name of coastal State) to participate or to be represented in the research project :

One or two scientists could participate to the survey.

8.2 Proposed dates and ports for embarkation/disembarkation :

start	date :	October 17, 2011	Brest
end	date :	December 1, 2011	Brest

9 – ACCES TO DATA, SAMPLES AND RESEARCH RESULTS

9.1 Expected dates of submission to UK of preliminary reports which should include the expected dates of submission of the final results :

Cruise report within two months of the cruise ending

9.2 Proposed means for access by United Kingdom to data and samples :

Research data will be available on ASCII files two months after the cruise ending.

9.3 Proposed means of making research internationally available :

All information will be available through the ICES International Bottom Trawl Surveys Working Group.

ANNEX

List of the scientific team

Not available yet
Scientific manager leg 1: Jean.Pierre.Leaute@ifremer.fr
Scientific manager leg 2: Michele.Salaun@ifremer.fr
Scientific manager leg 3: Robert.Bellail@ifremer.fr

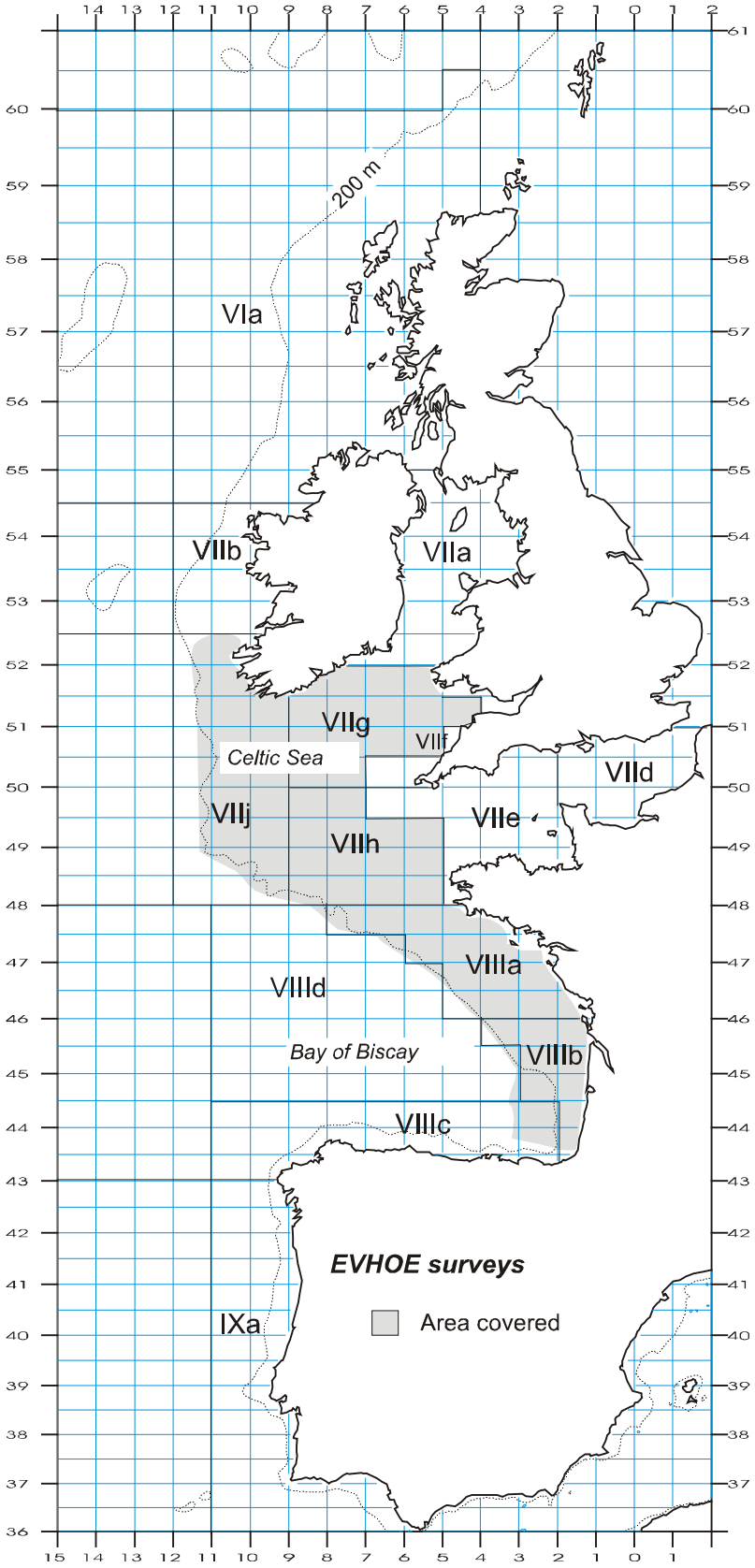

Fig. 1. - North-Eastern Atlantic ICES Statistical Areas and area covered during the EVHOE surveys.

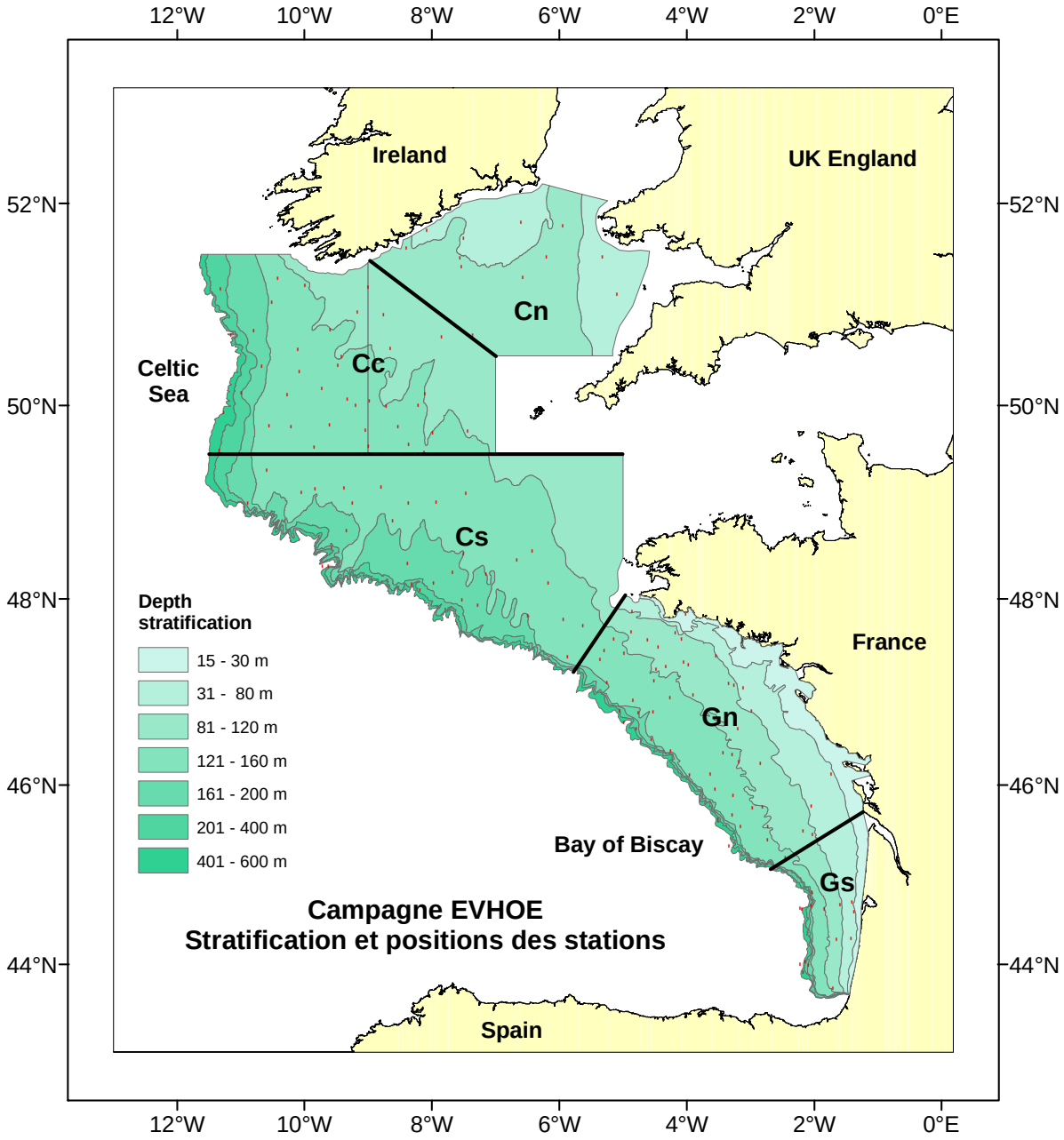

Fig.2 - EVHOE 2011 survey. Trawling and hydrographic stations locations.