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Not to be cited without prior reference to the FRS Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen

FRV *Alba-Na-Mara*

Cruise 0108A

PROGRAMME

1-17 April 2008

Ports

Loading: Fraserburgh

Unloading: Fraserburgh

Personnel Exchange/Half Landing: Kyle

Working: Surveys of sea disposal sites at Stonehaven, Whiteness, Inverness, Scrabster, Crowlin Islands, Rothesay, Ayr Bay, Maidens and Stranraer. Provisional underwater TV (UTV) surveys to be carried out at Gills Bay, SW of Islay and Sound of Eigg.

***In setting the cruise 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 FRS' Working Time Policy (which is published on the Intranet). In addition, the Scientist-in-Charge must formally review the risk assessments for the cruise with staff on-board before work is commenced.**

In the interest of efficient data management it is now mandatory to return the Cruise Report, to John Morrison and the Cruise Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to Dougal Lichtman, within four weeks of a cruise ending. In the case of the Cruise Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

Personnel

*C Megginson	1-17 April 2008
C Shand	1-17 April 2008
P Hayes/DCMoore	1-8 April 2008
D Walker	1-8 April 2008
G Graham	1-8 April 2008
P Hayes/DCMoore	8-17 April 2008
F Thompson	8-17 April 2008
P Stainer	8-17 April 2008

Sampling Gear

TV sledge, TV drop frame, TV winch and cable, 2 x day grabs and 2 x Agassiz trawl Frames and 3 Agassiz Nets, RoxAnn.

Project Codes

AE02n 17 days

Objectives

1. To undertake grab (cores) at Stonehaven sea disposal site (Contingency in the event of winch slipping being unavailable for UTV work to be undertaken).
2. To undertake grab, RoxAnn and Agassiz surveys of the sea disposal site at Whiteness. (Contingency in the event of winch slipping being unavailable for UTV work to be undertaken).
3. To undertake underwater television (UTV), grab and RoxAnn surveys of the sea disposal site at Inverness.
4. To undertake underwater television (UTV) at Gills Bay disposal site prior to use of the site for disposal of sediments from Dounreay.
5. To undertake underwater television (UTV) and RoxAnn surveys of the sea disposal site at Scrabster.
6. To undertake grab, underwater television (UTV) and RoxAnn surveys of unused disposal site south of Crowlin Islands and inspection for the distribution of man-made debris with a view to reusing the site.
7. To undertake grab and underwater television (UTV), Agassiz and RoxAnn surveys of the sea disposal sites at Rothesay, Ayr Bay, Maidens and Stranraer, assess the condition of the seabed, identify the predominant benthic epifauna species, and the distribution of man-made debris.
8. To undertake underwater television (UTV) surveys of sites visited in 2007 at SW Islay and the Sound of Eigg (Contingency).
9. Sediment samples for Objectives 1, 2, 6, and 7 will be analysed for chemical and physical parameters.

Procedure

Scientific staff and equipment will be transported to Fraserburgh during the morning of 28 March, to load the vessel and set-up selected survey equipment. The staff will return to Aberdeen later that day. Cruise personnel will join the vessel at Fraserburgh during the morning of 1 April. *Alba-Na-Mara* will depart Fraserburgh as soon as possible, and proceed to Inverness sea disposal site (or Stonehaven sea disposal site if the TV winch slipping has not arrived) to start the work programme outlined in Objectives 1-8. Each of the areas of proposed works will be surveyed in sequence, moving south to Stonehaven (contingency) or north along the northeast coast and into the Moray Firth, along the north coast and then travelling along the west coast as far south as Stranraer. On completion of work at the Crowlin Islands sea disposal site on the west coast, the *Alba-Na-Mara* will head for Kyle to undertake the crew change, where Peter Hayes/Derek Moore, Paul Stainer and Fiona Thompson and will replace Peter Hayes/Derek Moore, Douglas Walker and Gillian Graham. These transfers will occur on 8 April at a time dependant on tide. *Alba-Na-Mara* will then proceed to Rothesay to continue with the remaining Objectives.

Depending on time, and to complement data obtained during 2007, UTV surveys will be carried out at sites SW Islay and in the Sound of Eigg on the journey back to Fraserburgh.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory

Colin Megginson
18 March 2008