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MRV *Alba na Mara*

Survey 0221A

PROGRAMME

26 January – 10 February 2021

Ports

Loading: 22 January 2021, Fraserburgh

Unloading: 10 February 2021, Fraserburgh

In setting the survey 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 Marine Scotland's Working Time Policy (Lab Notice 34/03). In addition, the Scientist-in-Charge must formally review the risk assessments for the survey with staff on-board before work is commenced.

In the interest of efficient data management it is now mandatory to return the survey report, to I Gibb and the survey Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to M Geldart, within four weeks of a survey ending. In the case of the survey Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

Fishing Gear: Scallop dredges

Project: 16 days, SU02NS

Objectives

1. To carry out a survey of scallop stocks around the Shetland Islands.
2. To age, measure and assess shell damage on all scallops caught.
3. To collect whole scallops for heavy metal testing as part of the OSPAR assessment of hazardous substances in the marine environment.

Procedure

The survey will depart Fraserburgh on 26 January (weather dependent) and, after vessel drills, make passage for Shetland (Lerwick).

Scallop dredge hauls will be made at sites used on previous surveys as shown Figure 1. A list of priority sites will be highlighted prior to the survey commencing to allow for any disruption encountered due to bad weather. Hauls will be of 30 minutes duration.

Dredge tows will be operated in daylight hours, with vessel transits operable out with this period.

The vessel will return to a port each night where all scallops will be measured to the half centimeter below, aged and damaged indexed. Weather dependent, the vessel will sample areas operable initially from Lerwick, then Yell Sound and Scalloway. Scallops samples will also be collected from selected sites and frozen for heavy metal testing.

All shore staff and crew can operate from Lerwick for the full duration of the survey.

The survey will end in Fraserburgh on 10 February .

All operations on board will be performed in compliance with the required regulations and guidance associated with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the laboratory.

Submitted:
S Kinnear
15 January 2021

Approved:
I Gibb
21 January 2021.

Figure 1

