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MRV *Alba na Mara*

Survey 0518A

PROGRAMME

14 April – 2 May 2018

Ports

Loading: 11 April 2018, Fraserburgh

Half landing: 22 April 2018, Oban

Unloading: 02 May 2018, Greenock

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.

Personnel

P Gibson (SIC)

J Turriff

S Kinnear

Fishing Gear: Scallop dredges

Project: 19 days, SU02NS

Objectives

1. To carry out a survey of scallop stocks on the West Coast.
2. To age, measure and assess shell damage on all scallops caught.
3. To Identify and sample additional areas of commercial interest to the scallop fishery.
4. To collect information on by-catch of other commercial fish and shellfish species.
5. To identify, quantify numbers, and damage assess of starfish species in all dredge tows.
6. To collect frozen whole scallops for heavy metal testing as part of the OSPAR assessment of hazardous substances in the marine environment.
7. To undertake underwater filming trials using a Go-pro camera in sheltered areas.

Procedure

The survey will depart Fraserburgh on 14 April, and after vessel drills will make passage for the west coast stations on the survey plan.

Scallop dredge hauls will be made at sites used on previous surveys as shown Figure 1. Hauls will be of 30 minutes duration. In addition to the historical tows, additional tows will be done in the Clyde if time permits. From each haul, all of the scallops will be measured to the half centimeter below and aged. Numbers and size distribution of commercial fish and shellfish species will be recorded along with scallop shell damage, starfish numbers and species. Tissue samples will also be collected from selected sites and frozen for heavy metal analysis back at the laboratory.

The survey will end in Greenock on the 2 May where all equipment and staff will then return to the laboratory.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the laboratory.

Submitted:
P Gibson
03 April 2018

Approved:
I Gibb
03 April 2018

Figure 1

