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MFV *Aquarius*

Survey 0613H

## **PROGRAMME**

2 - 15 September 2013

**Loading:** Mallaig, 2 September 2013

**Unloading:** Mallaig, 15 September 2013

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.

## **Scientific Personnel**

### **2 – 15 Sep**

Jo Clarke (SIC)

Sophie Elliot

**Project:** 14 days allocated under TR2 Scheme

### **Gear**

2 x drop camera frames (each 25 kg; 1.5 x 2 m footprint)

2 x 120m rope + surface buoys

Digital video camera

### **Objectives**

Fish abundance survey

0613H will survey the Marine Protected Area (MPA) search location sited in the waters around the Small Isles (Fig. 1). It is the primary objective to survey fish abundance and relate this to habitat data generated by 1012A and 1213A, Marine Scotland Science surveys conducted from Alba na Mara. The work underpins work package 1 of the research ROAME SP004.

## **General**

Weather permitting the vessel will depart Mallaig early on 2 September (07:00 hrs) heading for the Small Isles. During the time at the survey site the vessel will deploy and retrieve 2 camera frames repeatedly during the working day (8 -10 deployments are anticipated per day). All trials will take place within the general waters around the Small Isles, mainly concentrating on specific areas around Rum and Canna (Figure 1). The exact position of each deployment will be decided by the lead scientist each day in liaison with the skipper of the vessel. Two members of scientific staff will participate during the trials. The vessel will return to Mallaig at the end of each working day whereupon the two scientists will disembark for the evening. Drop camera frames and frozen bait will remain on board overnight.

The survey will cease on the evening of the 15 September at Mallaig. Equipment will be unloaded and scientists will disembark at this time.

Normal contact will be maintained with the Laboratory.

Submitted:  
P Boulcott  
28 August 2013

Approved:  
I Gibb  
29 August 2013.

**Figure 1:** Map of the study area in the waters adjacent to the islands of Canna and Rum. Boxes and filled circles denote potential areas of scientific study

