

Not to be cited without prior reference to Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen

MRV *Alba na Mara*

Survey 0614A

PROGRAMME

26 April – 13 May 2014

Ports

Loading: Ullapool (24-26 April 2012)

Unloading: Fraserburgh (13 May 2012)

Personnel Exchange: Oban (4th May 2012)

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 (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

* M Bland	26 April – 13 May 2014
C Shand	26 April – 4 May 2014
R Main	26 April – 4 May 2014
A Keir	26 April – 4 May 2014
A Sutherland	26 April – 4 May 2014
D Walker	4-13 May 2014
C Green	4-13 May 2014
L Morely	4-13 May 2014
J Hunter	4-13 May

Sampling Gear

TV drop frame, TV winch and cable, 2 x day grabs and RoxAnn.

Project Codes: 10244 -18 days

Objectives

1. To undertake grab, underwater television (UTV) and RoxAnn surveys of West Coast and Clyde sea disposal sites at Ullapool, Tayinloan, Cambelltown, Rothsay Bay, Hunterston Port Ellen, Tiree and Loch Stonasaig and assess the condition of the seabed, identify the predominant benthic epifauna species, and the distribution of man-made debris. Some of the disposal sites are added as contingency.

2. To undertake grab, UTV and RoxAnn surveys of the North Irish Sea and Solway sea disposal sites at North Channel Scotland, Stranraer Port Patrick, Burrow Head A and Burrow Head B and assess the condition of the seabed, identify the predominant benthic epifauna species, and the distribution of man-made debris. Some of the disposal sites are added as contingency.
3. To undertake grab, UTV and RoxAnn surveys of the Western Isles sea disposal sites at Loch maddy, Leverburgh and Stornoway and Orkney sea disposal sites at Stromness B, Stromness C and Scapa and assess the condition of the seabed, identify the predominant benthic epifauna species, and the distribution of man-made debris. Some of the disposal sites are added as contingency.
4. To undertake grab, UTV and RoxAnn surveys of the North Sea disposal sites at South Buchan Ness, South Buchan Ness B, Middle Buchan Ness, Middle Buchan Ness B, North Buchan Ness and Peterhead and assess the condition of the seabed, identify the predominant benthic epifauna species, and the distribution of man-made debris. Some of the disposal sites are added as contingency.
5. Contingency: To undertake UTV survey of Noss Head MPA to survey benthic epifauna and priority marine features in MPA in the area of cable corridor for Moray Caithness cable project.
6. Contingency: To undertake UTV survey of Moray Firth Wind Farm cable corridor to survey benthic epifauna.
7. Sediment samples for Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be analysed for chemical and physical parameters.

Procedure

Scientific staff and equipment will be transported to Ullapool during 23-26 April, to load the vessel and set-up selected survey equipment. Survey personnel will join the vessel at Ullapool during the morning of 26 April. The *Alba na Mara* will depart Ullapool as soon as possible, and proceed to Ullapool sea disposal site to start the work programme outlined in Objectives 1-4. Each sea disposal site will be surveyed in turn, moving south to the Firth of Clyde/Solway before heading north via Loch Stonasaig sea disposal site to Oban. The scientific crew change will occur on 4 May. The *Alba na Mara* will then proceed to Tiree and on to western isles to continue with the remaining objectives as outlined above, arriving in Fraserburgh for unloading on 13 May.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the laboratory

Submitted:
Mike Bland
01 April 2014

Approved:
I Gibb
09 April 2014