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MRV *Alba na Mara*

Survey 0621A

PROGRAMME

08 May – 28 May 2021

Ports

Loading: 06 May 2021, Fraserburgh

Unloading: 28 May 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: 21 days, SU02N0

Objectives

1. To carry out a survey of scallop stocks on the east coast of Scotland.
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.
4. To collect information on by-catch of other commercial fish and shellfish species.
5. To identify and quantify numbers of starfish species in all dredge tows
6. To record and retain marine litter obtained during the dredging process (for MSFD).

Procedure

The survey will depart Fraserburgh on 08 May (weather dependent) and, after vessel drills, fishing will commence at the stations nearest Fraserburgh.

Some stations have been completed during the previous survey, due to technical issues with the vessel, the ship had to return to Fraserburgh for repairs. Once repaired the decision was taken to undertake east coast stations, as time did not permit the vessel to return to the previous survey area.

Scallop dredge hauls will be made at sites used on previous surveys as shown Figure 1. Hauls will be of 30 minutes duration. 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 and starfish numbers and species.

The vessel will return to Fraserburgh for 28 May.

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:

J. Turriff

06 May 2021

Approved:

I. Gibb

06 May 2021

Figure 1

