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MRV *Alba na Mara*

Survey 0713A

PROGRAMME

23 May – 10 June 2013

Ports

Loading: Fraserburgh (21 May 2013)

Unloading: Fraserburgh (10 June 2013)

Personnel Exchange: Scrabster (31 May 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 (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

C Megginson	23 May – 10 June
C Hall	23 May – 10 June
D Walker	23-31 May 2013
T Roberts	23-31 May 2013
A Sutherland	23-31 May 2013
R Main	31 May – 10 June 2013
A Keir	31 May – 10 June 2013
A Ford	31 May – 10 June 2013

Sampling Gear

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

Project Codes: 10244 -19 days

Objectives

1. To undertake grab, underwater television (UTV) and RoxAnn surveys of Orkney sea disposal sites at Orkney, Kirkwall, Stromness and Scapa and assess the condition of the seabed, identify the predominant benthic epifauna species, and the distribution of man-made debris.
2. To undertake grab, underwater television (UTV) and RoxAnn surveys of Shetland sea disposal sites at Scalloway and Lerwick and assess the condition of the seabed, identify the predominant benthic epifauna species, and the distribution of man-made debris.

3. To undertake grab, UTV and RoxAnn surveys of the North Coast sea disposal sites at Scrabster, Thurso and Gills Bay 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 Moray Firth sea disposal sites at Wick, Helmsdale, Sutors, Cromarty, Nairn, Burghead, and Buckie 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. To undertake grab, UTV and RoxAnn surveys of the Ardersier area with a view to investigating possible temporary storage areas for turbines and bases prior to transfer to marine offshore wind farms.
6. To undertake grab, UTV and RoxAnn surveys of the East Coast disposal sites at Aberdeen and Montrose and assess the condition of the seabed, identify the predominant benthic epifauna species, and the distribution of man-made debris. This objective has been added as a contingency.
7. Sediment samples for Objectives 1-6 will be analysed for chemical and physical parameters.

Procedure

Engineering staff and equipment will be transported to Fraserburgh on 21 May and set-up accordingly. On 23 May staff will be transported to Fraserburgh to load the vessel and set-up selected survey equipment. The *Alba na Mara* will depart Fraserburgh as soon as possible, and proceed to Orkney to start the work programme outlined in Objectives 1-6. Each sea disposal site will be surveyed in turn, starting at Orkney (FI020) before moving north to Shetland then returning south to further Orkney sites, along the North Coast and into the Moray Firth. The crew change, where R Main, A Keir and A Ford will replace D Walker, T Roberts and A Sutherland will occur on 31 May in Scrabster. The *Alba na Mara* will then move east to continue with the remaining objectives as outlined above, arriving in Fraserburgh for unloading on 10 June.

Submitted:
Colin Megginson
09 May 2013

Approved:
I Gibb
16 May 2013