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MRV *Alba na Mara*

Survey 1022A

PROGRAMME

15 July – 2 August 2022

Ports

Loading: 11 July 2022, Fraserburgh

Unloading: 02 August 2022, 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: 19 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 information on by-catch of other commercial fish and shellfish species.
4. To identify and quantify numbers of starfish species in all dredge tows
5. To record and retain marine litter obtained during the dredging process (for MSFD).
6. To collect whole scallops for heavy metal testing as part of the OSPAR assessment of hazardous substances in the marine environment.
7. To collect tissue samples for genetic testing and shellfish analysis.

Procedure

The survey will depart Fraserburgh on 16 July (weather dependent) and, after vessel drills, fishing will commence at the stations nearest Fraserburgh.

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. Scallops (ten individuals per station) will also be collected from selected sites and frozen for heavy metal analysis back at the laboratory. Additional Scallops (ten individuals) per station will be

collected and frozen for genetic and shell isotope analysis by Heriot-Watt University. Any litter collected in the dredges will be recorded as set out in the SOP and placed in bags to be disposed of on return to port.

The vessel will return to Fraserburgh for unloading by 2 August.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the laboratory.

Submitted:
P Gibson
30 June 2022

Approved:
I Gibb
15 July 2022

Figure 1

