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

FRV *Alba na Mara*

Cruise 1108A

PROGRAMME

6-25 October

Loading: 6 October, Fraserburgh
Half Landing: 13 October, Ardrossan (Provisional)
Unloading: 25 October, Fraserburgh

In setting the cruise 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 FRS' Working Time Policy (Lab Notice 34/03). In addition, the Scientist-in-Charge must formally review the risk assessments for the cruise with staff on-board before work is commenced.

In the interest of efficient data management it is now mandatory to return the Cruise Report, to Iain Gibb and the Cruise Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to Dougal Lichtman, within four weeks of a cruise ending. In the case of the Cruise Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

Personnel

W Turrell	(SIC, Part 1)	6 – 11 October
P Boulcott		6 – 23 October
D Bova		6 – 11 October
A Dale (SAMS)		8 – 11 October
Student (SAMS)		8 – 11 October
T Howell	(SIC, Part 2)	11 – 23 October
M Burns		11 – 23 October
S Dewey (SeaStar)		13 – 22 October
J Doran (SeaStar)		13 – 22 October
B Leslie (NAFC)		22 – 23 October

Gear

FRS:
Proteus workboat and 100 L unleaded fuel
CTD equipment
Drifters
Pyramid Drop frame associated camera and electrical equipment
RoxAnn system
Day Grab and sieve-table

SeaStar Survey:
Edge-tech 4200 400 / 100 kHz high resolution digital sidescan sonar
Marimatech HMS 1820-P CTD
TSS CMS 25 Compact Motion Sensor
Drop frame with Kongsberg digital underwater camera and light array.

Objectives

Part 1

- To deploy drifters in the region of the Firth of Lorn SAC in order to validate an oceanographic circulation model (Figure 1).

- To perform supporting CTD survey.

Part 2

- To carry out an acoustic mapping survey with ground truthing of the Lamlash Bay closed area (S.S.I. 2008/317) and adjacent areas (Figure 1).

- To develop a Pyramid drop frame sampling system for scallop and associated habitat assessments.

Estimated Project Time:

20 Days MF02Q

Procedure

Part 1
Drifters will be released, monitored and recovered in the Garvellachs, Scarba and Corryvrechan areas between 8–11 October. For the recovery stage the Proteus workboat will be used in areas inaccessible to *Alba na Mara*. A series of CTD measurements will be also be taken.

Part 2
The acoustic mapping phase of the survey will be carried out over 5 days. *Alba na Mara's* RoxAnn system/single-beam sonar will be used concurrently with SeaStar's high resolution sidescan sonar along pre-determined transects, as far as possible. Priority will be given to the closed area, followed by Lamlash Bay and finally the ground to the east of Holy Island and Cauchlands. Ground truthing will be carried out over the following 3 days using the drop frame camera system and grab sampling. The pyramid sampling system will be developed during the acoustic mapping and ground truthing phases, as time allows, and during the last 2 working days

General

The Proteus, oceanographic equipment and TV cable will be loaded in Fraserburgh. The FRS Pyramid drop frame and associated TV equipment will be loaded at the Part 1/Part 2 changeover. SAMS staff will join *Alba na Mara* in Oban/Dunstaffnage on 8 October. Staff and Part 1/Part 2 equipment change over will take place in Oban on morning 11 October. SeaStar Survey staff will join with their equipment during the half landing 13 October and depart 22 October. The NAFC scientist will join on the 22 October; the NAFC scientist and FRS staff will depart 23 October. Two day visitors have been invited aboard during Part 1 of the cruise, timing and pick up point to be arranged. All timings are provisional depending on operational conditions.

Normal contacts will be maintained with FRS.

Contact numbers
Tel: 00 871 764 837 476 (satellite phone)
Tel: 00 871 764 837 477 (satellite phone)
Fax: 00 871 764 837 478(satellite phone)
Tel: 07500066961 (Cellnet)

I Gibb
26 September 2008

Figure 1