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FRV *Scotia*

Cruise 1110S

PROGRAMME

8-20 September 2010

Ports

Loading: Aberdeen, 6 September 2010
Unloading: Aberdeen, 20 September 2010

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 Marine Scotland's 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 I Gibb and the Cruise Summary Report (old ROSCOP form) to M Geldart, within four weeks of a cruise ending. In the case of the Cruise Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

Estimated days per project: 13 days – MFO1TA / 10066

Personnel

K A Coull	(In Charge)
F Neat	
R Kynoch	
J Drewery	
A Jaworski	
P Copland	
M Gault	
L Allan	
C Trigg	(Visitor – SNH)
V Khlivnoy	(Visitor)

Fishing Gear
GOV Trawl (BT 137) with ground gear D

Other gear
CTD – Seabird 19+

Objectives

1. To undertake a nationally co-ordinated demersal trawling survey of haddock on the Rockall Plateau.

2. To deploy a CTD at each trawl station to collect temperature and salinity profiles.

3. To carry out a series of transects to map the seabed using the vessels Swathe Bathymetry system.

Procedures

The primary objective of the survey is to assess the state of the haddock stock on the Rockall Plateau. Although the Rockall haddock survey has existed for a number of years a new sampling design is currently being developed. Trawling will be carried out during the hours of daylight at randomly selected locations within the 400 metre contour. The exact locations of the trawling stations will be notified to the vessel at the commencement of the cruise. When the opportunity arises, the vessel will carry out a series of transects using the vessels Swathe Bathymetry system to map the sea bed. Initially, this work will be carried out between the hours of 2000 and 0600 depending on the location of the vessel. Once the fishing survey area has been completed, further work with the Swathe Bathymetry system will be conducted at locations agreed between the cruise leader and representative of Scottish Natural Heritage.

Trawling

One haul of 30 minutes duration will be made at each sampling station; trawling operations will occur in waters up to a maximum of 400 m. Daily start times for survey stations will be at approximately 0600 and continue until approximately 2000. The Scanmar system will be used to monitor wing spread, door spread and distance covered during each haul. A bottom contact sensor will be mounted on the footrope to record the distance of the trawl off the seabed.

Catches will be worked up according to the protocols for International Bottom Trawl Surveys and in line with MSS Standing Instructions.

Hydrography

A CTD will be deployed on the trawl at each station. The ships thermosalinograph will be operated throughout the cruise.

Acoustics

The Swathe Bathymetry system will be used to map the seabed at a series of locations on the Rockall Plateau with the vessel operating between 4 – 6 knots. Positions to be surveyed will be agreed by the cruise leader, representative of Scottish Natural Heritage and the vessel.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory.

Submitted:
K Coull
23 August 2010

Approved:
I Gibb
23 August 2010