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MRV *Scotia*

Survey 1212S

PROGRAMME

15-27 September 2012*

Ports

Loading: Aberdeen, 3 September 2012 and Ullapool, 15 September 2012*

Unloading: Aberdeen, 27 September 2012

* Ullapool date TBC during 1111S

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 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:

F Burns (SIC)
R Kynoch
F Neat
J Drewery
L Allan
M Gault
E. Dalgarno
C Trueman (Visitor – Southampton University)
M Chung (Visitor – Southampton University)
N Scully (Visitor – Marine Institute, Ireland)

Estimated Days per Project: 13 days – SU02ND, Deepwater Slope Survey

Fishing Gear

BT 184 Deepwater trawl with 16" ground-gear and Morgere 1700 kg doors (monkfish)

Objectives:

- To map the composition, distribution and abundance of continental slope species including invertebrates on the deepwater slope west of the Hebrides and Rosemary Bank to depths of 1800 m.

- To collect temperature at depth during all deepwater hauls using a data storage sensor attached to the trawl headline.
- To collect samples (genetics and otoliths) for key species for population and contaminant studies (Marine Assessment) and undertake any other sampling requests, e.g. MSFD litter recording.

Procedures:

The deepwater slope survey will commence 24 hours after coming into Ullapool at the end of survey 1111S and proceed south trawling the shelf slope between 500-1800 m. The primary objective is to map the composition, distribution and abundance of fish species on the deepwater slope west of the Hebrides (see Figure 1). Trawling will mainly be at fixed stations at 500, 750, 1000, 1500 and 1800 m. In square 44EO additional stations at intermediate depths will be undertaken. Trawl duration will be one hour. The exact locations of the trawling stations will be notified to the vessel at the commencement of the cruise. If time permits trawl stations on Rosemary Bank will be conducted as has been done in previous years. The schedule has been set under the WTD and the expectation is that trawling will be conducted within the hours of daylight. It may be necessary to trawl at night if daylight fishing time is lost due to poor weather or other problems, but the night-time will mainly be spent in passage from one sampling area to the next. From all tows the entire catch will be sorted, weighed and length-frequency data collected. Benthic invertebrate by-catch will also be recorded. A ground gear bag will be attached on certain tows for sampling of benthos. Additional sampling to be carried out as outlined in the objectives.

Scotia will return to Aberdeen on the morning of 27 September.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory.

Submitted:
F Burns
16 August 2012

Approved:
I Gibb
17 July 2012

Figure 1: Shelf slope with stations – 1212S.

