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MRV *Scotia*

Survey 1216S

PROGRAMME

28 August – 8 September 2016

Ports

Loading: Aberdeen, 25 August 2016
Unloading: Scrabster, 8 September 2016

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.

Personnel

J Drewery	(SIC)
R Kynoch	(Deck)
M Gault	
N Ensor	
R Kilburn	
A Edridge	
G Hermann	
T Bean	(Visitor)
T Gibson	(Visitor)

Estimated Days per Project: 12 days – RV1616/20391

Fishing Gear

GOV Trawl (BT 137) with ground gear D

Other Gear

CTD – Seabird 19+
Day and Van Veen grabs

Objectives

- To undertake the bottom trawl survey of haddock on Rockall Bank to a depth of 350 m.
- To deploy a CTD at selected trawl stations to collect temperature and salinity profiles.
- To collect sediment samples at selected stations.
- To record marine litter at each station for MSFD.

Procedure

The primary objective of this survey is to assess the state of the haddock stock on the Rockall Plateau. The survey employs a semi random stratified survey design comprising four sampling strata separated according to depth. Sampling intensity within each of the four strata reflects the fish density observed in each of these during previous surveys. Trawling will be carried out during the hours of daylight at randomly selected locations within the 350 m contour. Forty primary tow positions have been generated and their allocation within each depth stratum is displayed in Figure 1. The number of stations within each depth strata is as follows: four stations at 0-150 m, 21 stations at 150-200 m, 10 stations at 200-250 m and five stations at 250-350 m. Where time allows additional hauls will be conducted outside our strata (at depth below 350 m). The positions of these will be influenced by trawls undertaken in the April 2016 Rockall monkfish survey where haddock were observed. A further 22 secondary stations across the various strata have been generated to provide a source of additional stations and/or alternatives should any primary station prove unfishable.

One haul of 30 minutes duration will be made at each sampling station. Daily start times for survey stations will be at approximately 0600 hours and continue until approximately 2000 hours. 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. A CTD will be deployed at selected trawl stations.

At night sediment samples will be collected using Day or Van Veen grabs. The samples positions will be decided on a day to day basis and will be influenced by vessel location at the end of each trawling period.

Normal contacts will be maintained with the Laboratory.

Submitted:
J Drewery
09 August 2016.

Approved:
I Gibb
17 August 2016.

Figure 1: Survey map showing stations generated for 1216S. Red stratum = 0-150 m depth, green stratum = 150-200 m, blue stratum = 200-250 m and light-blue stratum = 250-350 m. Boxes/polygons represent restricted or closed areas. Closed circles = primary haul positions, open circles = secondary haul positions.