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Not to be cited without prior reference to Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen.

FRV Scotia

Cruise 1409S

PROGRAMME

23 October – 3 November 2009

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 D Lichtman, within four weeks of a cruise ending. In the case of the Cruise Summary Report a nil return is required, if appropriate.

Personnel

R Kynoch (SIC)
F Burns
K Coull
P Copland
J Drewery
E Armstrong
C Davis
I Penny
M Montgomerie SEAFISH (visitor)

Project: MF01ta (12 days)

Fishing Gear

Top drum: GOV trawl (BT137) rigged with ground gear D (Rockhoppers)
Lower drum: GOV trawl (BT137) rigged with ground gear C

Objectives

1. Comparative fishing trials using GOV trawls (BT137), one rigged with ground gear C and the other with the new rockhopper ground gear D.
2. All catches will be worked up as per standing instructions.

General

Loading of the trawl gear and scientific equipment will take place between 19-22 October. One BT137 rigged with the new rockhopper ground gear D to be fully rigged on the top net drum and the BT137 rigged with ground gear C to be rigged onto the lower net drum. This was the same setup as the previous inter-calibration cruise 0806S. *Scotia* will sail on Friday 23 October and make two training hauls using both trawls during the passage north to ensure all fishing gear/sensors are working effectively. *Scotia* will then proceed north and commence fishing operations the next morning on fishing tows at the Shetland Islands. Weather conditions at the time will determine the exact start area. During the cruise two sampling teams will operate with R Kynoch leading one and F Burns the other. Team 1 will work between 0700-1700 and team 2 from 1200-2200.

Trawling

At each trawl station 2 repeat 30 minute carried out using both ground gears in sequence. Each station will be towed either with the same ground gear to measure disturbance or with the different ground gears to measure gear effects. By alternating gear types at each trawl station a complete picture of disturbance between each gear will be observed.

Fishing operations will take place between the hours of 0700-2000 with each pair of hauls completed either during daylight or dark periods. It is anticipated that a maximum of 8 paired hauls will be completed each day. The time spent between hauls should be as constant as possible and it is anticipated that the first half day will indicate the overall time taken to complete a set of 2 hauls. The aim will be to keep the pattern and timing of deployments as constant as possible and with a quick turn around between the first and second tows in each pair.

Normal contact will be maintained with the Marine Laboratory.

Submitted:
R Kynoch
11 August 2009.

Approved:
I Gibb
7 September 2009.