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MRV Scotia

Survey 1619S

PROGRAMME

26 October - 1 November 2019

Loading: Aberdeen, 24 October 2019 Unloading: Aberdeen, 01 November 2019

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 (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.

Equipment:

Day grab; sieve table; time lapse cameras and associated moorings, acoustic device mooring with broadband receiver.

Objectives

- 1. To recover the time lapse cameras used to assess the macro benthic ecology of drill cuttings around the Murchison oil field.
- 2. To deploy an acoustic mooring at approximately 60 NM east of Arbroath (JOMOPANS).
- 3. To undertake grab sampling to assess carbon content on the sediment samples captured.

Estimated Days per Project:

7 days - RE01T0 (5 days), JOMOPANS (2 days)

Procedure

MRV Scotia will depart from Aberdeen Harbour at 09:00 hours on 26th October (LW, 06:27) and, after all safety drills have been undertaken, make passage to the decommissioned Murchison platform. The completion of the survey work will be heavily dependent on the prevailing weather conditions encountered and a daily plan will be agreed between the SIC, Captain and Fishing Master. The survey techniques are no different to previous similar surveys conducted by MSS using MRV Scotia.

Time Lapse Camera

Six time lapse cameras deployed during *0619S* in April 2019 will be collected from the seabed. One of the seven initially deployed cameras has already been collected.

Acoustic mooring deployment

An acoustic mooring will be deployed approximately 60 NM due east of Arbroath. This mooring is composed of an anchoring chain, an acoustic release device for its retrieval and two sound recording devices.

Grab Samples

Grab samples of surface sediments will be collected to be sampled for carbon content. Grabs will be taken at regular intervals during steaming activity to assess the changes in sediment carbon content in relation to distance from land.

A cluster of grabs will be done in the Firth of Forth area if time allows.

Hydrographic sampling

Surface water parameters will be monitored and recorded constantly with the ship's thermosalinograph. Water samples will be taken from the same locations where grab sampling will be done.

Normal contact will be maintained with the Marine Laboratory.

Submitted: R. Watret 17 October 2019

Approved: I. Gibb 17 October 2019



Figure 1: Map showing approximate activity locations.