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Charter Vessel Urchin (1607H), Farsain (1707H), Seol na Mara (1807H)

## **PROGRAMME**

7-11 May 2007

### **Ports**

### **Diver Survey to assess for the Benthic Impact of Scallop Dredging in the Firth of Lorne**

**Loading:** Croabh Haven Marina, 7 May 2007

**Loading:** Croabh Haven Marina, 11 May 2007

**Location:** the Garvellachs, Firth of Lorne

### **Vessels:**

Seol Mara – 0830 Mon 7/5/07 to 1400 Fri 11/5/07 (ROV Support Vessel)

Farsain - 0830 Mon 7/5/07 to 2000 Mon 7/5/07 (Diving Support Vessel)

Urchin - 0830 Tues 8/5/07 to 1400 Fri 11/5/07 (Diving Support Vessel)

**Project Codes:** MF02q (10460)

### **Personnel:**

Mike Breen (In charge)

Trevor Howell

Keith Summerbell

M Harding

M Burns

Sue Marr (SNH)

David Donnan (SNH)

Laura Baxter (SNH)

A.N.Other (SNH)

### **Equipment:**

SCUBA Breathing Apparatus;

Nitrox Pumps (x2);

Mobile Air (Breathing ) Compressor;

Miscellaneous personal diving equipment;

Generator (240v AC, 3KW)

Through-Water Communications;

Underwater Photography and Video equipment;

Remotely Operated Vehicle; and

Drop Frame Camera.

## **Objectives**

To conduct a video survey assessing the benthic impact of scallop dredging along pre-defined transects, in the Garvellachs using both ROV and diver operated systems.

## **Procedures**

1. FRS staff and equipment will travel from Aberdeen to Croabh Haven on Sunday 6th May, 2007 (rendezvous time to be arranged);
2. The Diving Team (M Breen, T Howell, K Summerbell, M Harding and two SNH divers) will load the diving charter vessel (Mon: the "Farsain"; Tuesday-Thursday: the "Urchin") at 0830 each day and head out to the survey site. A sub-littoral survey will be conducted at a number of pre-determined sites at the Garvellachs; details of the survey methods to follow;
3. The ROV Team (M Burns and at least one from SNH) will load and prepare the "Seol Mara" for ROV operations on Monday morning. If time allows, they will use the remainder of the day to familiarise themselves with the ROV system in sheltered waters, before heading out to the Garvellachs on Tuesday. From Tuesday onwards the ROV team will be surveying a number of pre-determined sites at the Garvellachs; again, details of the survey methods to follow;
4. Work will continue until Friday lunchtime (~1300) at the latest, when the vessels will be offloaded; and
5. Staff and equipment will return to Aberdeen on Friday 11 May, 2007.

J A Morrison  
2 May 2007