

**CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, SUFFOLK, NR33 0HT**

2013 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME: Cefas Endeavour: Survey3/13 MPA.

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DURATION: 17/03/13 – 31/03/13

LOCATION: English Channel

AIMS: To collect additional acoustic (Sidescan sonar, multibeam backscatter and bathymetry) data and ground-truthing data (grab and underwater video footage) from two candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs) in the English Channel.

PLAN: To sail from Portland at 08:00 on 17/03/03 and conduct a HIPAP calibration exercise (12 hours). During this calibration exercise we will have a Kongsberg representative onboard. It will be necessary to get him/her off Cefas Endeavour before we begin our transit to our first site (Wight-Barfleur Reef). This will be discussed / planned in full with the Master in advance of sailing.

It is anticipated that on arrival at Wight-Barfleur cSAC an acoustic survey will be carried out followed by a ground-truthing programme using benthic grabs and underwater camera systems.

On completion of this survey Cefas Endeavour will transit east to the second area of interest (Bassurelle Sandbank cSAC). On arrival it is anticipated that an acoustic survey will be carried out followed by a ground-truthing programme using grabs and underwater camera systems. Some discussion regarding work limitations at this site due to its location (traffic separation zone and vicinity to the French border) will be needed.

On completion of the survey work Cefas Endeavour will dock in Lowestoft at 11:00 on 31/03/13 (Figure 1). Acoustic survey lines will be planned in advance and where possible sent to the ship. However, the majority of ground-truthing stations will be

based on the acoustic data collected during the survey. These will be planned during the survey and provided in a format which can be directly uploaded in to TRANSAS. Opportunistic samples from rMCZ sites may also be collected during transits if time allows.

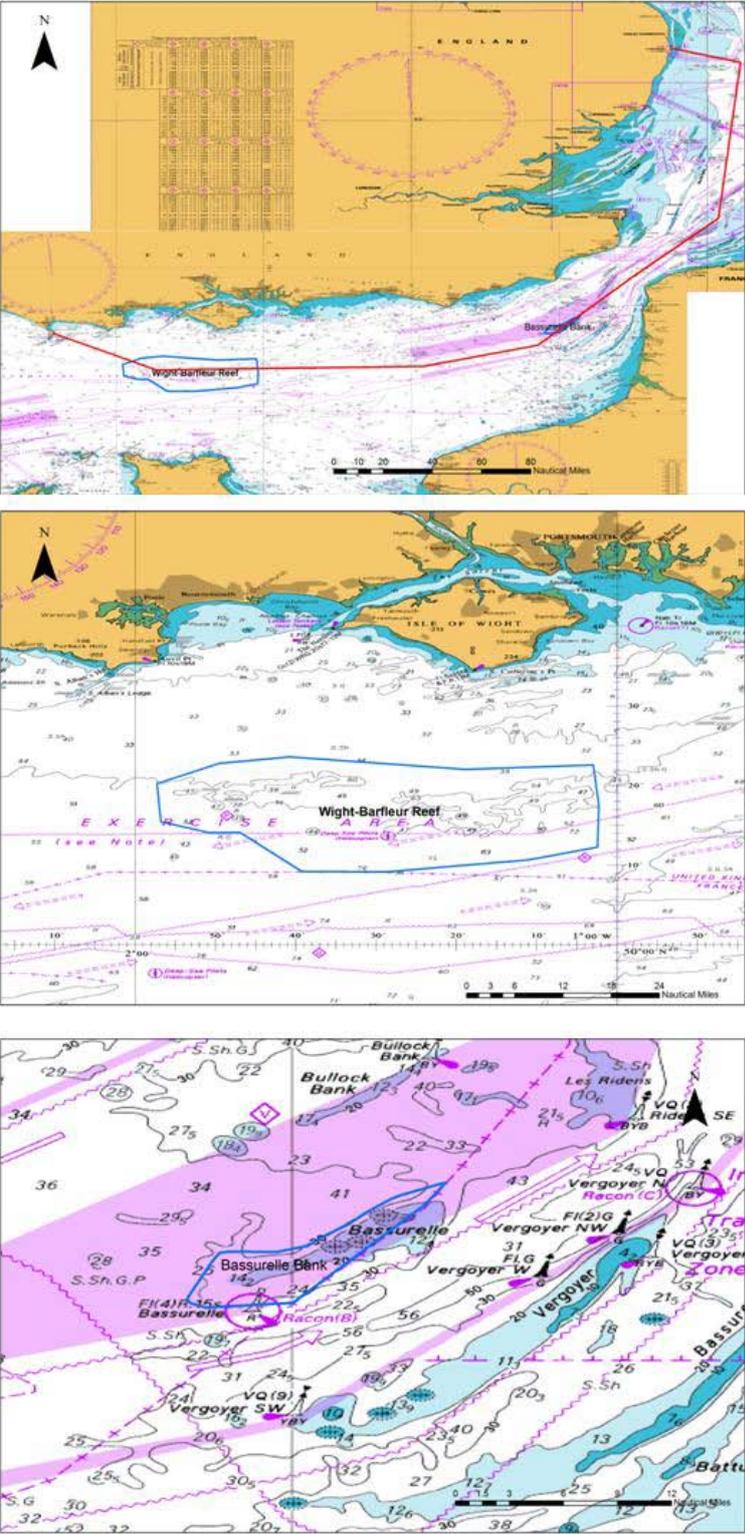


Figure 1 proposed cruise track and survey areas

GEAR: mini Hamon grab, Day grab, drop camera, camera sledge, sidescan sonar and multibeam system.

Paul Whomersley
Scientist In Charge
18/02/13

INITIALLED:PW

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