

**DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS
CEFAS, LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND**

2006 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME: RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR: CRUISE 16/05

STAFF: D. Righton (SIC), J. van der Kooij (2IC), K. Sullivan, C. Mills, J. Pinnegar, K. Lees, V. Hobson, S. Hetherington, G. Daskalov.

DURATION: 9th May to 21st May 2006

LOCALITY: North Sea

AIMS:

1. To use acoustic & fishing survey methods to estimate the abundance and distribution of sandeels on sandeel fishing grounds on the North West Riff (Dogger Bank) & The Hills.
2. To use fishing survey methods to estimate the abundance and distribution of predatory fish feeding on sandeels on the sandeel fishing grounds on the North West Riff & The Hills.
3. To search for fish tagged during cruise END 03/05
4. To use fishing survey methods (Bongo net) to estimate the abundance and distribution of plankton on the sandeel fishing grounds on the North West Riff & The Hills.

PLAN: (all times are Universal Time)

The cruise staff will join ENDEAVOUR at Lowestoft on the evening tide (~1600hrs) on Tuesday 9th May 2006 and proceed to The Hills (~54° 25' N, 1° 00' E) where surveying will commence. Surveying will take place over established grids on the Hills and the North West Riff. ENDEAVOUR will return to Lowestoft for the afternoon tide (~1600hrs) on Sunday 21st May 2006.

D A Righton

Distribution list:

Basic list + scientific staff, Eastern Region and Northeastern Region Sea Fisheries District, Sea Fisheries Inspectorate.