

**THE CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE SCIENCE,
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, NR33 0HT.**

2013 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME: RV ENDEAVOUR: SURVEY 12/13

STAFF:

S Songer (SIC)

J Smith (2IC)

R Ayers

M Sherlock

C Jennings

G Burt

J Pettigrew

P Gardiner (11th -17th July)

1x Student?

DURATION:

11th July – 24th July 2013

LOCALITY:

English Channel (VIId), North Sea (IVc).

PRIMARY AIMS:

1. To undertake a beam trawl survey in the southern North Sea and eastern Channel as part of an ICES co-ordinated research programme.
2. To obtain fisheries independent data on the distribution and abundance of commercial flatfish species.
3. To collect biological data, including maturity and weight at age, of commercial species, to satisfy the requirements of the EU data regulations.
4. To identify the epibenthos by-catch taken in the 4-metre beam trawl and to quantify 12 species as agreed at the Beam Trawl Working Group.

SECONDARY AIMS:

5. To carry out additional water sampling for nutrient analysis.

PLAN:

The scientific crew will join the Endeavour on the morning of the 11th July and the Endeavour will sail from Lowestoft on the morning tide of 11th July after the gear is loaded, checked and rigged.

Shakedown tows will be carried out on North Sea stations to ensure all systems are working correctly. Once the shakedown tows are complete the vessel will proceed to the top Eastern end of the VIId English sector to commence sampling. Sampling will continue heading West along the English coast (see appendix 1), until about 17th July, Paul Gardiner will be put ashore at a convenient port and then the vessel will steam overnight to the French sector of VIId and work will continue Westwards along the French coast. On completion of the VIId survey on or around 21st July, the North Sea stations will be worked in a Northerly direction and if time permits stations in the Belgian sector will be fished. All stations will be fished using a warp ratio of 3.5:1 if practical. The additional tows, as indicated on the map, will be picked up during the course of the survey, time permitting.

On completion of the survey the vessel will dock in Lowestoft. This is expected to be on the evening of 24th July.

S Songer
17/04/2013

INITIALLED:

Brian Harley

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list +

Cruise staff

Fishing Skipper Cefas Endeavour

W Demare, Belgium

Frans v Beek, Netherlands

Joel Vigneau, France

MMO and Welsh assembly

DARD Northern Ireland