

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

2013 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME: RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR: SURVEY 18/13

STAFF:	Part One	Part Two
	I Holmes (SIC)	I Holmes (SIC)
	R Bush (2IC)	S Shaw (2IC)
	S Walmsley	S Walmsley
	T Gooding	T Gooding
	S Shaw	P Dolder
	M Etherton	J Smith
	K Vanstaen	G Thomas
	S Murphy (Irish Observer)	S Murphy (Irish Observer)
	T Hull (11-13 Sept)	
	D White (NOC Southampton) – 11-13 Sept.	
	L Suberg (NOC Southampton) – 11-13 Sept.	
	A Nother (NOC Southampton) – 11-13 Sept.	

DURATION: 11 September – 3 October 2013

LOCATION: Irish Sea (VIIa), Bristol Channel & Celtic Sea (VIIfg).

AIMS:

1. To carry out a 4m beam-trawl survey of groundfish (Figure 1) to i) obtain fisheries independent data on the distribution and abundance of commercial flatfish species, and ii) derive age compositions of sole, plaice, cod and whiting for use in stock assessments.
2. To collect biological data including maturity and weight at age of sole, plaice, lemon sole and other commercially important finfish species as part of CEFAS' requirements under the EU Data Collection Framework.
3. To determine the distribution and relative abundance of juvenile and adult sole and plaice.
4. To collect surface & bottom temperature/salinity data using CTD and Niskin Bottle.
5. To quantify epibenthos using 4m beam trawl by-catch.
6. Collect length/weight & maturity information using individual fish measurements, in support of the EU Data Collection Framework.
7. To collect surface sea-water samples for processing on return to Lowestoft for the analysis of tritium (AE001) (K Leonard - Cefas).
8. To collect fish samples in support of other Cefas projects and training courses.
9. To collect water alkalinity and dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) samples – (N Greenwood - Cefas)
10. To deploy and carry out sea trials of slocum sea-glider for National Oceanography Centre (Southampton)

PLAN:

RV Cefas Endeavour will sail from Lowestoft on the 11th September (on the early morning tide [0039 GMT]) and will head directly to an area close to the Scilly Isles where Cefas/NOC staff will deploy and carry out sea trials using a slocum sea-glider. The early tide sailing will allow this team a full 'daylight' working day to complete this task. Upon completion, RV Cefas Endeavour will head to the first priority sampling 'grid' in the inner Bristol Channel (BCI). The 'glider' team will disembark by small boat at a location on the North Cornish coast around day 3 of the survey. Upon completion of the BCI survey grid, RV Cefas Endeavour will then head north fishing stations en-route to the other priority sampling grids in the Irish Sea south and north sectors (ISS/ISN). Once completed, the remaining survey grids of Irish Sea West (ISW), St. Georges Channel (SGC) and Bristol Channel outer (BCO) will be fished.

At the first and last fishing stations of each working day, a CTD profile and associated salinity, alkalinity and DIC samples will be collected. In addition, it is expected that at some point during the survey, the RV Cefas Endeavour will complete a 'grid' of water sampling in the Severn Estuary.

It is anticipated that a mid-survey break will occur around day 13 of the survey to allow for a changeover of staff and take on fresh supplies and water (location likely to be Douglas IOM). At the end of the survey, RV Cefas Endeavour will dock in Lowestoft on the 3rd October and unloading of equipment and samples will be carried out the same day.

I D Holmes
10th July 2013

INITIALLED: B Harley

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List +
Cefas survey staff
National Oceanography Centre staff
T Owen (P&O Marine)
Master Cefas Endeavour
B Harley
S Kupschus
P Connolly (Marine Institute, Galway)
FCO (for Republic of Ireland)
Marine Management Organisation (MMO)
Welsh Assembly Government (WAG)
Devon & Severn IFCA
Cornwall IFCA
Isles of Scilly IFCA
North Western IFCA

