

**CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE  
SCIENCE  
LOWESTOFT LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK NR33 OHT  
2007 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME**

**PROGRAMME: RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR: SURVEY 6 & 7**

**STAFF:**

J Ellis (SIC 6/07)  
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**DURATION:** 01 April – 05 April (6/07) and 06 April –12 April (7/07)

**LOCATION:** South-western Approaches

**AIM (6/07):** To carry out a benthic and trawl survey of coarse ground biotopes in the western English Channel and south-western Approaches, in support of project AE1148, to:

- a. Examine the distribution, size composition, abundance and diversity of fish and epibenthos on shell gravel biotopes;
- b. Evaluate catch variability and the degree of replicate sampling required to determine accurately indices that may be applied to benthic communities;
- c. Collect sedimentary and biological samples for further studies supporting the development of ecological objectives for benthic communities

**AIM (7/07):** The work will (a) describe the impacts of trawling disturbance on the structure and productivity of benthic communities (b) examine the effects of fishing on the trophic structure of fish and invertebrate communities (c) describe spatial variation in carbon, sulphur and nitrogen isotopes at the base of marine food chains. The work is being carried out in support of project MF10-1:

- a. To sample infaunal and epifaunal invertebrates at a series of sites subject to different levels of trawling disturbance for production studies.
- b. To sample infaunal and epifaunal invertebrates and fish at a series of sites subject to different levels of trawling disturbance for food web studies.
- c. To collect fish and benthic invertebrate species for stable isotope analysis

RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR will sail from Portland on 01 April and steam westwards to undertake sampling on the survey grids in the western English

Channel and south-western Approaches. The approximate locations of the sites are indicated below. Sites will be sampled with 2m-steel beam trawl, 4m-beam trawl, Agassiz trawl and either a grab or corer.

GEAR:

List distributed separately and marked to relevant individuals for action.

J Ellis/T Maxwell

21 February 2007

INITIALLED SIR/SJ

DISTRIBUTION:

Basic list

Staff on Cruise

Fishing Skipper: Endeavour

Isles of Scilly SFC

Cornwall SFC

Devon SFC

