

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

**2008 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME**

**PROGRAMME: RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR: 06/08**

**STAFF:**

S. Kupschus (SIC)  
S. Walmsley (2IC)  
I. Holmes  
R. Humphreys  
S. McCully  
A. Little  
K. Burnett  
L. Readdy  
A. Brown

**DURATION:** 18 March – 31 March.

**LOCATION:** Western Channel (ICES area VIIE)

**AIMS:**

1. To carry out a beam trawl survey of the Western Channel for stock assessment purposes using standardized 4m beam trawls in order to obtain information on:
  - a) Distribution, size composition and abundance of all fish species caught.
  - b) Age – length distribution of selected species.
  - c) Distribution of fish in relation to their environment.
  - d) Distribution of macrobenthos and anthropogenic debris.
  - e) Surface and bottom temperature and salinity data using CTD.
  - f) Length weight & maturity information using individual fish measurements, in support of the EU Data Regulation.
2. To collect acoustic data at two operating frequencies (38 kHz and 120 kHz) continuously throughout the cruise. An attempt will be made to use this data to determine habitats and the scale at which these vary.
3. To determine if it is possible to collect qualitative and quantitative information on habitat using an underwater camera system without lights mounted on the gear to ground truth the acoustic information collected on habitats.

PLAN:

Provisionally RV CEFAS Endeavour will sail from Swansea on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March, where staff will join the vessel after travelling down from Lowestoft by hire car. The survey will fish with two 4 m beam trawls, one fitted with a blinder the other without. The survey will aim to sample a minimum of 80 randomly chosen stations and to collect acoustics data on route. On completion of the work the ship will return to Lowestoft.

**GEAR:**

List distributed separately and marked to relevant individuals for action.

Sven Kupschus  
21/1/08

**DISTRIBUTION:**

Basic list +  
S. Kupschus  
S. Walmsley  
I. Holmes  
R. Humphreys  
S. McCully  
A. Little  
K. Burnett  
L. Readdy  
A. Brown