

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

**2003 CHARTER VESSEL PROGRAM**

**PROGRAMME:** Prince Madog eastern Irish Sea plankton surveys.

**STAFF:**

C Fox (SIC)  
N Bunn (2IC)  
P Davison  
H Rossetti

**DURATION:**

13 - 16 Jan	PM 1/03
03 - 06 Feb	PM 2/03
17 - 21 Mar	PM 3/03
07 - 10 Apr	PM 4/03
28 - 30 Apr	PM 5/03

**LOCATION:**

Irish Sea (VIIa)

**AIMS:**

A series of plankton surveys in the eastern Irish Sea to;

1. Determine plaice egg spawning and production,
2. Collect zooplankton samples for copepod production and fish larval feeding studies.

**PLAN:**

Staff will load equipment on the last working day available before each survey and travel to Menai Bridge by road. RV Prince Madog will sail early morning on the first day of charter and commence a grid of 49 plankton tows covering the eastern Irish Sea (see map attached). The ship will dock at the end of the third day of charter, or on completion of the grid if sooner. Staff will return to Lowestoft the following day.

N Bunn  
8 January 2003

**DISTRIBUTION:**

Basic List +  
Steve Milligan  
Peter Witthames  
Dr R Nash (PEML)  
Sea Fisheries Committees:  
North Western and North Wales  
Cumbria

# EASTERN IRISH SEA PLANKTON SURVEYS – STATION POSITIONS

