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Not to be cited without prior reference to the Laboratory

RV AORA

Charter Cruise

REPORT

20-24 November 1989

Personnel

P W Balls

SSO (in charge)

F Muller M Moffink Visitor (Southampton University) Visitor (Southampton University)

Objective

To collect samples of water and suspended particulate matter from the Clyde estuary, Inner and Outer Firths of Clyde and the North Channel.

Narrative

The Southampton personnel loaded the ship and set up the Laboratory during its maintenance day (17 November); P Balls joined on the morning of 20 November and following some additional loading Aora made passage from Millport to the outer Firth of Clyde. Surface and deep water samples were collected from stations 7 and 8 and the night was spent in Girvan. The following day surface and deepwater samples were collected at stations 9 and 6 but adverse weather prevented sampling at station 10. After an overnight stay at Millport, stations 5, 4, 3 and 2 were occupied on the 22nd before docking at Greenock.

Sixteen stations were occupied in the Clyde estuary during the flood tide on the 23rd; station 1 in Loch Long was also occupied before proceeding to Millport for the night. Sample processing was completed on the 24th and following unloading scientific staff left the boat.

Results

The samples collected await analysis for trace metals (Southampton University) and nutrients (Marine Laboratory). This cruise was the second of six which form part of the MAFF Chief Scientists Group sponsored project to examine the fate of trace metals in the Clyde system.

P W Balls

8 January 1990

