

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
FISHERIES LABORATORY, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

1983 RESEARCH PROGRAMME

REPORT: CHARTERED COMMERCIAL VESSEL: FV CHALLENGE AND PUSHNETTING

PROVISIONAL: Not to be quoted without prior reference to the author

STAFF:

T Watson
J M Last

DURATION:

October 18-23

AIMS:

- 1) To repeat the young Flatfish Survey following the oil spillage in the Humber Estuary on 29 September.
- 2) To collect sediment samples for hydrocarbon residues (for AEP2).

NARRATIVE

CHALLENGE sailed from Wainfleet Haven at 4.45 on 18 October. Sampling was carried out with the 2 metre beam trawl and Kahlsico mini-grab off Mablethorpe and Clee Ness Sand on route to the Humber. In spite of bad weather sampling was completed in the estuary by mid day on 21 October and CHALLENGE made passage to Wainfleet Haven sampling on the Haile sand flat and Rosse Spit on route. CHALLENGE docked in the Haven at 1800 hours.

The pushnet stations inside the spurnhead, at Cleethorpes and Mablethorpe were sampled on 22 and 23 October. Staff arrived back at Lowestoft at 1815 23 October.

RESULTS:

- 1) The September Young Flatfish Survey in the Humber and off the North Lincs coast was repeated except for one station, (this was due to winch failure) replicate hauls being carried out at each position. Additional single hauls were done at 9 positions in the estuary between Barton on Humber and inside Spurn Head.
- 2) 26 sediment samples were collected for hydro-carbon residue analysis (for AEP2) and stored in the Hull office deep freeze.
- 3) Live specimens of Carcinus crangon and other Crustacea were collected for Dr Uglow (Hull University).
- 4) The small number of legal size fish caught in the beam trawl were preserved in the deep freeze at the Hull office (for Mr A Franklin, Burnham Laboratory).

GENERAL:

The help and cooperation of Mr I Martin, skipper of the CHALLENGE and the staff at the Hull office was greatly appreciated.

T Watson
31 October 1983

INITIALLED: DJG

DISTRIBUTION:

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