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FRV *CLUPEA*

Cruise 2293C

REPORT

9-16 December 1993

Personnel

R Payne	HSO (in charge)
R D Adams	SO
M Lyons	PhD student (9-14 December)

Objectives

1. Recover six current meter moorings in the Scottish North Sea coastal zone.
2. To conduct a hydrochemical survey along the east coast of Scotland from the Moray Firth to the Firth of Forth.
3. Recover the bottom disturbance project mooring off Stonehaven.

Out-turn Days Per Project: Seven days BGE1, one day BGF1

Narrative

Scientific staff joined *Clupea* at Fraserburgh on the morning of Thursday 9 December. Sailing was delayed until 2300 due to poor weather conditions. A night passage was made to the area of the moorings between Fife Ness and Arbroath and moorings 3 and 4 were successfully recovered. *Clupea* then steamed to Dundee to off-load these moorings. On 11 December, moorings 6 and 2 were recovered in rapidly deteriorating weather conditions and these moorings were once again off-loaded in Dundee. On 12 December conditions were very poor and the vessel anchored near the mouth of the Tay. This anchorage had to be abandoned as the wind increased and passage was made back to Dundee where the vessel berthed alongside. The weather then became severe and *Clupea* was forced to leave the pier and anchor in Dundee Roads. The vessel remained stormbound and at anchor through 13 December. Taking advantage of a slight lull in the weather conditions, mooring 1 was recovered on 14 December and this mooring was landed at Dundee. Transport was arranged to move the recovered moorings to Aberdeen. Due to the time lost through adverse weather conditions and the continuing poor weather forecasts it became obvious that objective 2, the survey, could no longer be attempted and the opportunity was taken to reduce the scientific complement and M Lyons left the vessel at Dundee. On 15 December conditions improved slightly and mooring 5 was recovered am. Passage was then made to Stonehaven where the difficult task of recovering the heavy mooring there was completed by 1700. *Clupea* then proceeded to Fraserburgh, docking at 2230.

Results

Objective 1 was completed successfully, despite the poor weather conditions prevailing throughout. All the instrumentation was recovered and preliminary examination of the data suggests a 100% return. Surface buoy No 44 was not recovered and is presumed lost.

Owing to bad weather conditions, objective 2 was not carried out. Objective 3 was successfully accomplished.

R Payne
5 January 1994

Seen in draft: S Clark, OIC *Clupea*

SCOTTISH NORTH SEA COASTAL ZONE PROJECT 1993

