

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

1979 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CLIONE: CRUISE 2

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

STAFF

A. R. Folkard

D. S. Tungate

J. Swainson

R. J. Chapman

D. Hyland (Fleetwood)

DURATION

Left Lowestoft 1100 h 1 February

Arrived Lowestoft 0930 h 13 February

LOCATION

North East coast (Tyne-Tees and JONSIS stations)

AIMS

1. To carry out the last of the pre-dumping water quality surveys in the proposed sewage sludge dumping area off the River Tyne.
2. To carry out a water quality survey in the Tees Bay area in connection with Methyl methaerylate waste dumping.
3. If time permits to trawl for young gadoids and sprats for predation studies.
4. To test the sub surface mechanical pumping system.
5. To collect samples of plankton for Dr Thompson.
6. To service the JONSIS stations.

NARRATIVE

CLIONE sailed at 1100 h and steamed for JONSIS 1 in fair weather. Late in the afternoon CORELLA reported that she was dodging off Scarborough in northeasterly winds so speed was decreased to arrive in the region of the JONSIS stations by daybreak 2 February. JONSIS 1 was reached at breakfast and the station was recovered and relaid in marginal weather conditions during the forenoon. With freshening winds from the northwest it was decided to run for shelter in Bridlington Bay. CLIONE remained at anchor overnight and on Saturday 3 February the opportunity was taken to successfully test the sub-surface mechanical pumping system in the sheltered waters of Bridlington Bay. With moderating winds CLIONE left her anchorage at 2300 h and steamed for the R. Tyne. The three anchor stations in the area were worked on 4, 5 and 6 February. The first half

of the Tyne grid was completed during the daylight hours of 7 February and a trawl haul was made after tea. The vessel dodged overnight in gale force winds and the wind and heavy swell delayed the resumption of work on the Tyne grid until the afternoon of 8 February when 4 more stations were worked in marginal conditions. Moderating conditions in the evening enabled two trawl hauls to be made. The remainder of the Tyne grid was completed on 9 February in good weather followed by two more trawl hauls. On Saturday 10 February an abbreviated version of the Tees Bay grid was worked in strong gale ESE winds after which CLIONE delayed overnight off the R. Tyne. Because of adverse weather forecasts and the unlikelihood of being able to achieve further results in the Tyne area course was set for JONSIS II at 0900 h 11 February. By 0900 h 12 February CLIONE was still some 20 miles short of the JONSIS II position and at 1100 h when the ship experienced an engine stoppage in winds gusting to 70 mph it was decided to terminate the cruise and return to Lowestoft.

RESULTS

Aims 1-4 were completed but the collected data are yet to be worked up. Because of the weather Aim 5 could not be attempted. JONSIS I (Aim 6) was recovered in good condition and relaid.

A R Folkard
22 February 1979

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