

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

1990 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORYSTES: CRUISE 13

STAFF:

S M Rowlatt
H L Rees
R G Lees
D S Limpenny
P M Hudson
R Edwards
A Kenny
D Lovell

DURATION:

Sailed 1130 h 7 December
Docked 0930 h 20 December
(All times are Greenwich Mean Time)

LOCALITY:

English Channel, Southwest Approaches and Southern
North Sea

AIMS:

1. To collect samples of sediment and benthos from various North Sea Task Force Stations.
2. To identify sites for long term monitoring of sediment quality and benthos.
3. To collect samples for the Joint Monitoring Group Baseline sediment survey.
4. To collect samples of sediment and benthos from various aggregate extraction sites off Lowestoft.

NARRATIVE:

Corystes sailed at 1130 h on 7 December and proceeded to the Straits of Dover where a sediment survey was started. This continued until the morning of 17 December with only two short (<10 h) breaks due to poor weather. It extended the length of the Channel and throughout the Western Approaches, 132 samples being collected for use in MAFF presentations to the North Sea Task Force and Joint Monitoring Group.

On 17 December Mr Lovell was put ashore in Brixham and Dr Rees and Mr Kenny joined the ship. Corystes then proceeded to the Hastings Shingle Bank where a sidescan survey on 18 December revealed areas impacted by aggregate extraction activities.

On 19 December aggregate extraction area 319 off Lowestoft was surveyed using anchor dredge, beam trawl and sidescan sonar. Corystes docked at 0930 h on 20 December.

RESULTS:

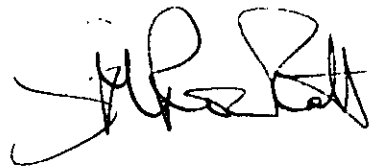
Aim 1. Four North Sea Task Force sites were examined although the nature of the substrate precluded successful sampling for benthos at all but one.

Aim 2. No sites suitable for long-term benthic monitoring were identified.

Aim 3. A comprehensive sediment survey of the Channel and South-west approaches was carried out.

Aim 4. Samples of sediment and benthos were collected from aggregate sites at Hastings and Lowestoft. Sidescan surveys were also carried out.

Further results will be available after laboratory analysis of the samples.



S M Rowlatt
4 January 1991

SEEN IN DRAFT: J R F (Master)

INITIALLED: P M (Senior fishing mate) J.R.F.



DISTRIBUTION:

Basic List +
H L Rees
R G Lees
D S Limpenny
P M Hudson
R Edwards
A Kenny
D Lovell

LATITUDE

