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

1982 RESEARCH VESSEL PROGRAMME

REPORT: RV CORELLA : CRUISE 4 A

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

STAFF:

A R Folkard
S R Jones
R J Chapman
S Leigh-Pearson
P More (North Shields)

DURATION:

Left Lowestoft 0930 h 9 March
Arrived Lowestoft 0500 h 19 March
All times are Greenwich Mean Time

LOCALITY:

Offshore River Tyne

AIMS:

1. To carry out a water quality survey of the offshore Tyne area from Blyth to Seaham to assess the impact of sewage dumping.
2. To occupy 3 anchor stations close to the dump site and measure water quality and currents over 13 hour periods.

NARRATIVE:

CORELLA left Lowestoft at 0930 h 9 March and steamed north to the Tyne area. Work was begun at the inshore anchor station at 0920 h 10 March and observations made throughout the day in strong to gale westerly winds. CORELLA remained at anchor overnight, and the next day with severe gales forecast it was decided to remain at anchor and repeat the inshore anchor station. This was done with winds at times gusting to 50-60 knots. After completion of the station the wind had moderated slightly and the ship ran offshore to dodge for the night. On the morning of 12 March winds were SW severe gale and CORELLA steamed south and dodged throughout the day off Seaham Harbour before anchoring overnight off Sunderland when the wind had moderated. The Souter Point anchor station was worked on 13 March after which the ship laid for the night.

The Tyne grid was begun on the morning of 14 March off Blyth and continued until 2000 h when the ship anchored off the Tyne. The grid was continued on 15 March as far as Sunderland when the ship again anchored overnight. On the morning of 16 March CORELLA anchored on the Tyne offshore station but with freshening SW winds the station had to be abandoned and the ship was moved to the Tyne anchorage to the north of Tyne entrance. While laid there a tidal cycle station was worked to provide more background information on the area. CORELLA left the anchorage at 1145 h and the two remaining legs of the grid were completed by 1945 h. A 50 litre sample of seawater for Caesium analysis was collected at the Tees Fairway buoy after which course was set for Lowestoft. On the passage home several stations were worked to provide extra data for the calibration of the Guildline shallow water CTD system.

CORELLA anchored off Corton at 1830 h 18 March and docked in Lowestoft 0500 h 19 March.

RESULTS:

Most of the samples collected at sea were analysed on board but as yet concentration values have not been computed.

A R Folkard
Scientist-in-Charge
31 March 1982

SEEN IN DRAFT:

G S
R C N

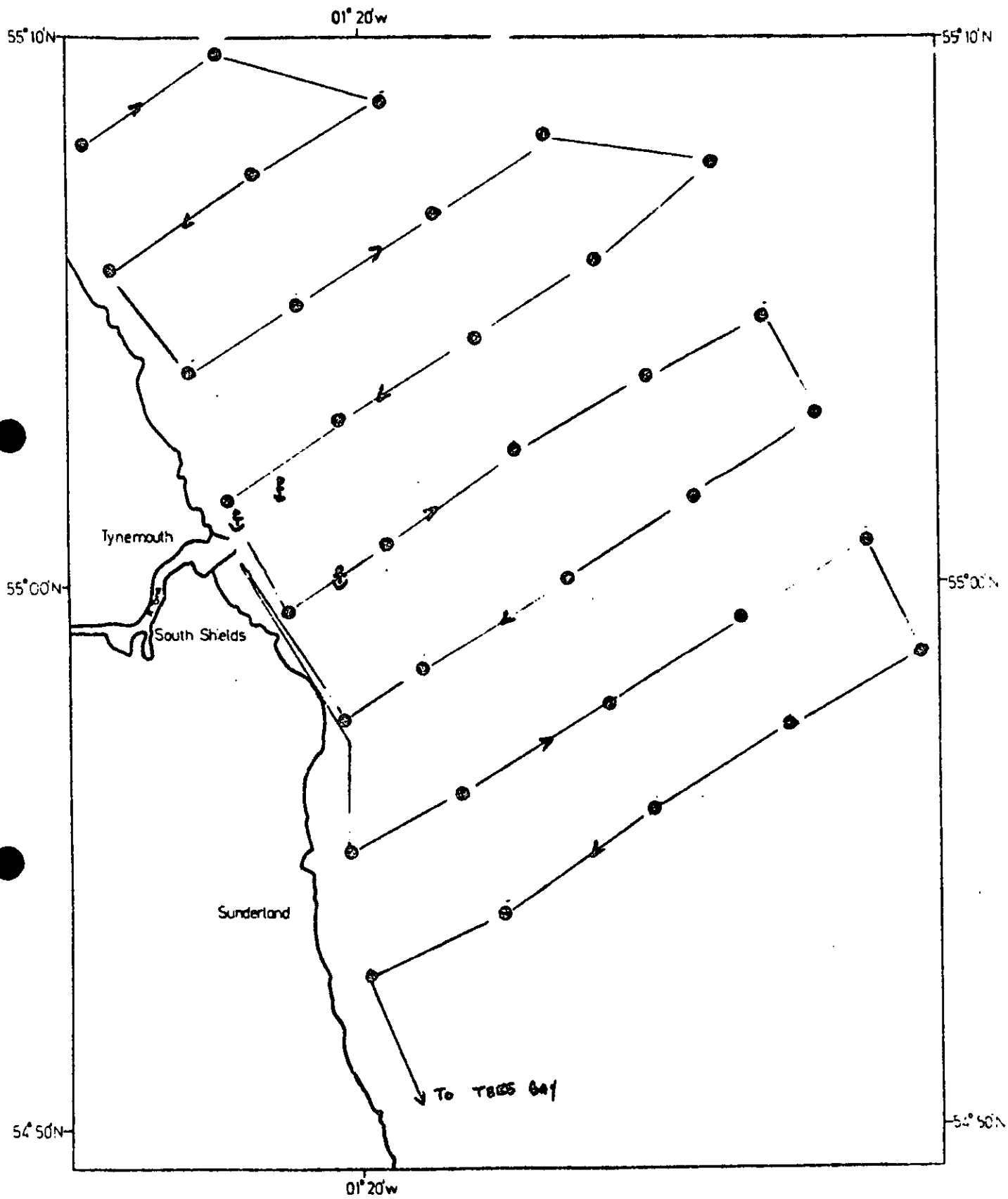
INITIALLED:

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CORELLA 4A/B2