



Centre for Environment
Fisheries & Aquaculture
Science



Research Vessel Survey Report: RV Cefas Endeavour CEND17A/22

**Clean Seas Environmental Monitoring Programme
(CSEMP)**



English Channel, Celtic and Irish Sea

**Freya Goodsir, Manuel Nicolaus, Izzy Lake, Matt Green, Michelle Stone,
Richard Humphreys, Diana Minardi, Stuart Ross, Josh Davison, Peter Randall,
Karen Vanstaen, Peter Hamstead, Joanna Uzyczak and Danja Hoehn.**

November 2022



© Crown copyright 2022

This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/

This publication is available at www.gov.uk/government/publications

www.cefasc.co.uk

Cefas Document Control

Submitted to:	
Date submitted:	22/11/2022
Project Manager:	Gary Saggars
Report compiled by:	Freya Goodsir, Manuel Nicolaus, Izzy Lake, Matt Green, Michelle Stone, Richard Humphreys, Diana Minardi, Stuart Ross, Josh Davison, Peter Randall, Karen Vanstaen, Peter Hamstead, Joanna Uzyczak and Danja Hoehn.
Quality control by:	Jon Barber
Approved by and date:	
Version:	V1 Draft
Recommended citation for this report:	

Contents

Research Vessel Survey Report: RV Cefas Endeavour CEND17A/22	1
Survey Aims.....	2
Primary aims.....	2
Secondary Aims	3
Tertiary Aims	3
Survey Team	4
Survey particulars	7
Stations.....	8
Survey Narrative	12
Results.....	25
Fishing stations.....	25
CTD profiles.....	28
Sediment stations	29
CSEMP contaminants.....	29
Rapid fines assessment.....	29
Porosity.....	29
Seafloor litter	34
Surface Microplastics collection.....	35
Microtox analysis	36
Annex 1.....	39

Survey Aims

The information generated during this survey will be used to meet UK's obligations for reporting of contaminant, eutrophication and marine litter data to MERMAN and the ICES database and for subsequent assessments for OSPAR and Good Environmental Status (GES descriptors 5, 8, & 10) assessment as part of the 25-year Environmental Plan H4 indicator. After discussions with the Environment Agency (EA) and National Resources Wales (NRW) colleagues a coordinated approach is being taken to help deliver additional dab samples to meet EQSD requirements for these agencies.

Primary aims

1. To collect samples of demersal fish for chemical analysis from the North Sea, and English Channel (Table 1; Figure 1) in support of the Clean Seas Environmental Monitoring Programme (CSEMP) (OSPAR Common indicator and UK specific Indicator assessments).
2. To collect fish samples at CSEMP sites for fish disease, biochemical markers (e.g. EROD and bile metabolites analysis and AChE) (UK specific Indicator Assessments).
3. To sample representative CSEMP stations (Table 1; Figure 1) using day grab, for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), trace metal contaminants, organic contaminants (PCBs, PBDEs), sediment particle size analysis (PSA) and marine litter (OSPAR Common indicator and UK specific Indicator assessments).
4. To conduct marine litter surveys of seafloor macrolitter (following the ICES guidelines) and microplastics in sediment and biota, to gather data towards the OSPAR Commission Common Indicator and UK Evidence Group marine litter indicators.
5. To conduct marine litter surveys (OSPAR Common indicator and UK specific Indicator assessments) by collecting benthic litter information from collecting sediment samples for litter analysis.
6. To conduct manta trawl sampling of surface waters for microplastics, to gather data and evidence towards method and indicator assessment developments, supported by the Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP).
7. To conduct opportunistic sampling of seafloor macro litter for Non-Native Species (NNS) research and development under the Clean Atlantic 2 programme.

8. Dab stomach content analysis to feed into the dabstats database to assess benthic community changes over time.

Secondary Aims

1. To collect water conductivity, temperature, nutrient, and depth information, and Plankton community information to provide additional knowledge on Eutrophication levels (OSPAR Common indicator and UK specific Indicator assessments). Calibration exercise at Liverpool Bay (53.5333, -3.35) using CTD Rosette.
2. To collect additional fish for the EA and NRW to analyse as part of their Water Framework Regulations remit. EA require 9 fish from stations 534, 584, 706, 715, 769, 796 and Liverpool Bay trend. NRW require up to 9 Dab from Welsh stations 616, 649, 654 and 776.
3. To collect mackerel and sediment from four stations (English Channel, Celtic Sea, Cardigan Bay, and Irish Sea) following a request via the Working Group on Marine Chemistry (MCWG). Samples will be collected as close as possible to complementary fishing and sediment stations. Samples will be used to investigate the distribution of a specific mackerel parasite as part of a large international study.

Tertiary Aims

1. To collect sediment samples using a day grab to detect rapid toxicity within sediments samples using the Microtox® rapid test methodology.

Survey Team

Our survey team consisted of skilled staff members from both Weymouth and Lowestoft, including histopathologists, chemists, ecotoxicologists, research scientists, fisheries scientists, and marine litter scientists (Figure 1). Staff were split into 12-hour shift patterns, with the majority on day working. Two staff members worked night shift to accommodate grabbing and water sampling. Two marine litter scientists worked opposite shifts on a 12-12 watch. Shift patterns reflected the requirement for carrying out critical training due to staff shortages. AWSM crew included a bridge team (Figure 2) of four, and two back to back deck crew teams working 12-12 shifts (Figure 3, Figure 4) and the engine team (Figure 5).

Name	Role
Freya Goodsir	SIC
Manuel Nicolaus	2SIC
Matt Green	Deck master; FD
Stuart Ross	Deck master; FD
Isobel Lake	Water, fish data (CSEMP Data manager)
Joanna Uzyczak	Sediment & Water
Peter Hamstead	Sediment & Water
Danja Hoehn	Water, litter
Michelle Stone	FD
Josh Davison	Ecotoxicology, Micro tox
Stuart Ross	FD
Richard Humphreys	Stomach, Otolith
Peter Randall	Water, litter
Karen Vanstaen	Data, fish sorting



Figure 1: CSEMP Survey Team



Figure 2: Bridge Team



Figure 3: Deck crew day shift



Figure 4: Deck crew night shift



Figure 5: Engine Room Crew

Survey particulars

DURATION: 12th November from Portland (06:00 Pilot) – 21st November in Liverpool (05:00).

LOCATION: English Channel, Celtic and Irish Sea

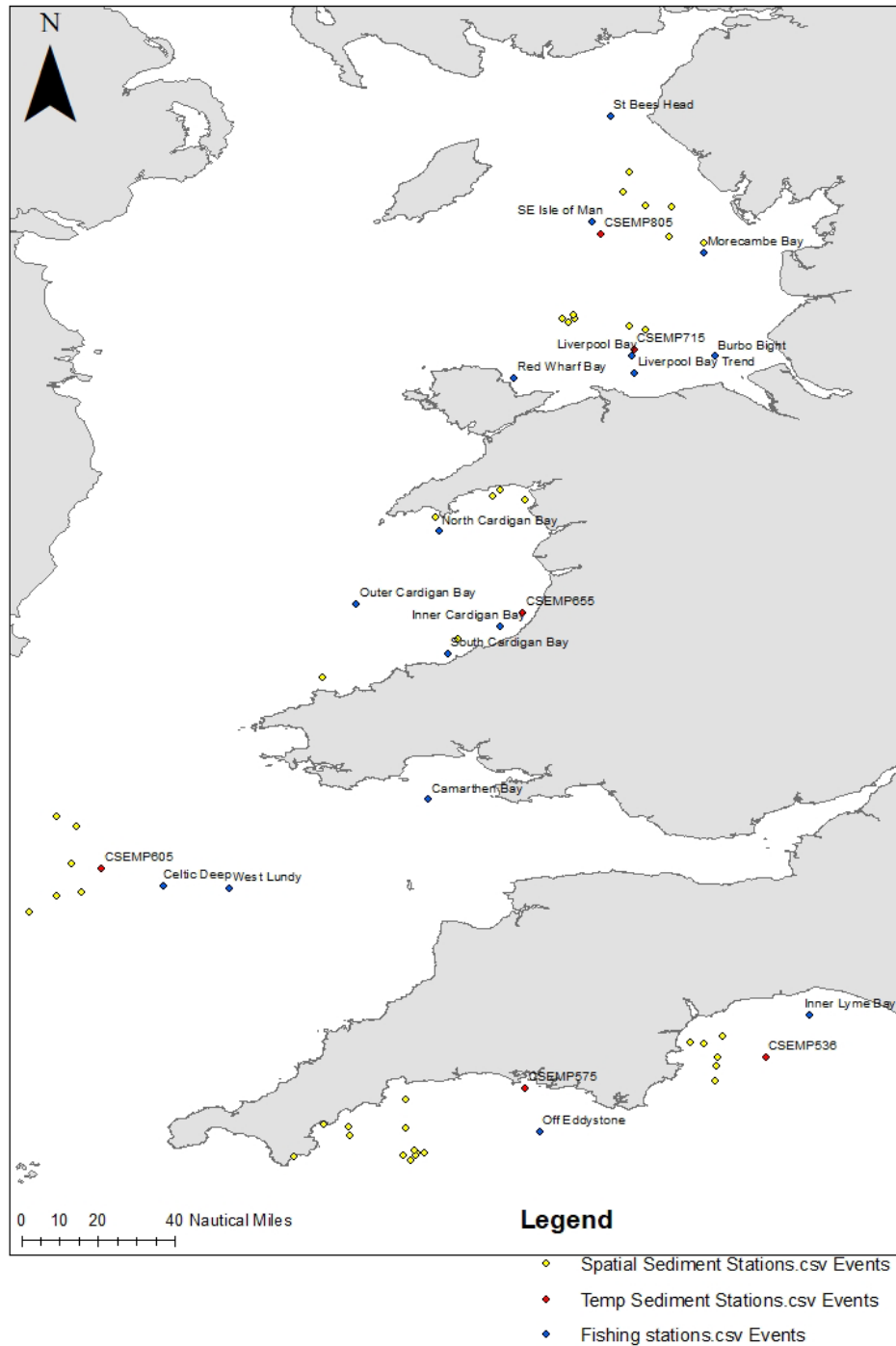


Figure 6: CSEMP fishing and temporal/spatial sediment stations.

Stations

The survey plan included the following stations for sampling. Note, the sediment stations marked priority 4, 5 and 6 (coloured green) in Table 3 are alternative stations to be visited only if stations marked priority 1, 2 and 3 (coloured blue) couldn't be sampled.

Table 1: CSEMP fishing stations positions

Additional 9 fish collected per site for the EA. Additional 9 fish collected per site for NRW.

CSEMP Number	Location	Mid tow Lat. Long.
534	Inner Lyme Bay	50 43.86 N 02 55.82 W
584	Off Eddystone	50 06.44 N 04 06.06 W
New	West Lundy	51 09.79 N 05 26.67 W
605	Celtic Deep	51 10.29 N 05 43.75 W
616	Camarthen Bay	51 32.82 N 04 35.13 W
649	North Cardigan Bay	52 42.44 N 04 32.29 W
654	South Cardigan Bay	52 10.90 N 04 29.87 W
706	Burbo Bight	53 28.24 N 03 20.47 W
715	Liverpool Bay	53 28.32 N 03 41.91 W
Trend_Liv	Liverpool Bay Trend	53 23.76 N 03 41.50 W
769	St Bees Head	54 30.71 N 03 47.63 W
776	Red Wharf Bay	53 22.46 N 04 12.84 W
796	Morecambe Bay	53 55.31 N 03 23.23 W
805	SE Isle of Man	54 03.36 N 03 52.47 W

2 replicates for metals and Particle Size Analysis (PSA), and organics, and one for microplastics at the temporal grabbing stations, and 1 replicate for metals and PSA, and organics at the spatial grabbing stations.

Table 2: CSEMP temporal sediment grabbing stations

Temporal Stations	CSEMP	Latitude	Longitude
CSEMP536	536	50.43	-3.1217
CSEMP575	575	50.295	-4.1622
CSEMP605	605	51.25	-6
CSEMP655	655	52.3583	-4.175
CSEMP715	715	53.5	-3.6917
CSEMP805	805	54	-3.8333

Table 3: CSEMP spatial sediment grabbing stations

CSEMP Number	Station	Latitude	Longitude	Priority
536	536_1	50.4864	-3.3907	1
536	536_2	50.5218	-3.30898	2
536	536_3	50.4299	-3.32708	3
536	536_4	50.3272	-3.33851	4
536	536_5	50.3933	-3.33663	5
536	536_6	50.4943	-3.45004	6
575	575_1	50.0888	-4.9246	1
575	575_2	50.12356	-4.68269	2

575	575_3	50.24813	-4.68251	3
575	575_4	50.1255	-4.92969	4
575	575_5	49.99683	-5.16373	5
575	575_6	50.13646	-5.03488	6
585	585_1	50.01662	-4.59983	1
585	585_2	50.00329	-4.69439	2
585	585_3	50.01404	-4.63349	3
585	585_4	50.00215	-4.63919	4
585	585_5	50.02585	-4.64413	5
585	585_6	49.98106	-4.66021	6
605	605_1	51.1465	-6.08697	1
605	605_2	51.1288	-6.19617	2
605	605_3	51.4325	-6.10676	3
605	605_4	51.2704	-6.133	4
605	605_5	51.4758	-6.19402	5
605	605_6	51.0597	-6.31596	6
655	655_1	52.077	-5.04296	1
655	655_2	52.8658	-4.30277	2
655	655_3	52.24582	-4.45463	3
655	655_4	52.8925	-4.27252	4
655	655_5	52.77188	-4.55319	5

655	655_6	52.8457	-4.16649	6
715	715_1	53.6356	-3.94896	1
715	715_2	53.61827	-3.97566	2
715	715_3	53.60327	-3.7108	3
715	715_4	53.58369	-3.64351	4
715	715_5	53.65081	-3.95627	5
715	715_6	53.63252	-4.00441	6
805	805_1	53.9611	-3.39075	1
805	805_2	54.1232	-3.64093	2
805	805_3	54.2669	-3.70927	3
805	805_4	54.1846	-3.73993	4
805	805_5	53.9868	-3.54159	5
805	805_6	54.1191	-3.5275	6

Table 4: CTD Calibration sample and plankton net at Liverpool Bay Smart Buoy

Station name	Latitude (Decimal degrees)	Longitude (Decimal degrees)
Liverpool Bay Smart Buoy	53.533	-3.35

Survey Narrative

10th November

Scientific staff from Lowestoft joined the *RV CEFAS ENDEAVOUR* at 19:00.

11th November

Scientific staff from Weymouth arrived at the vessel for 08:00. A visual risk assessment was carried out before the sampling equipment from Weymouth was unloaded from the vans to the dockside. All staff carried out an induction of the vessel at 09:00, this was followed by fire drill and a muster exercise. The vessel was then mobbed with all scientific equipment and chemicals. A toolbox talk was carried out on the deck with crew and Cefas staff, to go through standard operating procedures (SOPs) of all equipment deployed from the vessel, this included covering side and stern gantry deployments (day grab, plastic pump, manta trawl, CTD rosette, zooplankton net and granton trawl). A sailing time was agreed between the Master and SICs this was influenced by staff shortages for pilots at Portland port with a slightly later sailing time.

12th November

The vessel sailed at 06:26 from Portland via pilot and made its way west towards the first CSEMP fishing station Lyme Bay. The wet lab was set up ready for processing (Table 7).

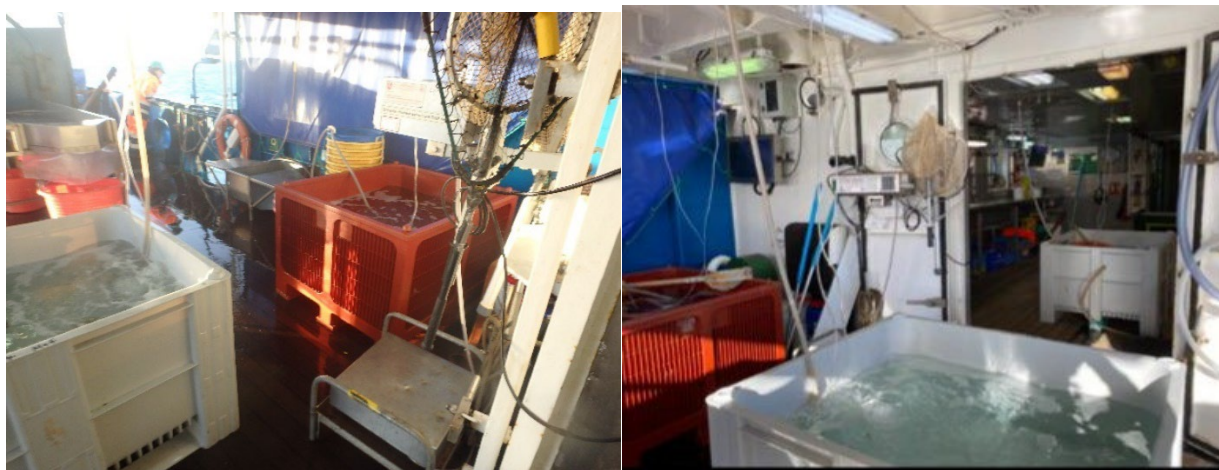


Figure 7: Tank set up on deck and wet lab

Arrived at Lyme Bay at 09:52, a line was run for static gear, due to fishing vessels in the area. A CTD and two fishing tows were carried out for this station, for the third tow, the manta trawl was deployed in parallel and recovered successfully. A fourth tow was performed and then the station concluded with deployment of the plastic pump. Target species were limited at site; however, all

other aims were completed. Finally, the day completed with day grabbing at Lyme Bay with six successful grabs in Lyme Bay (Figure 8 Figure 9).

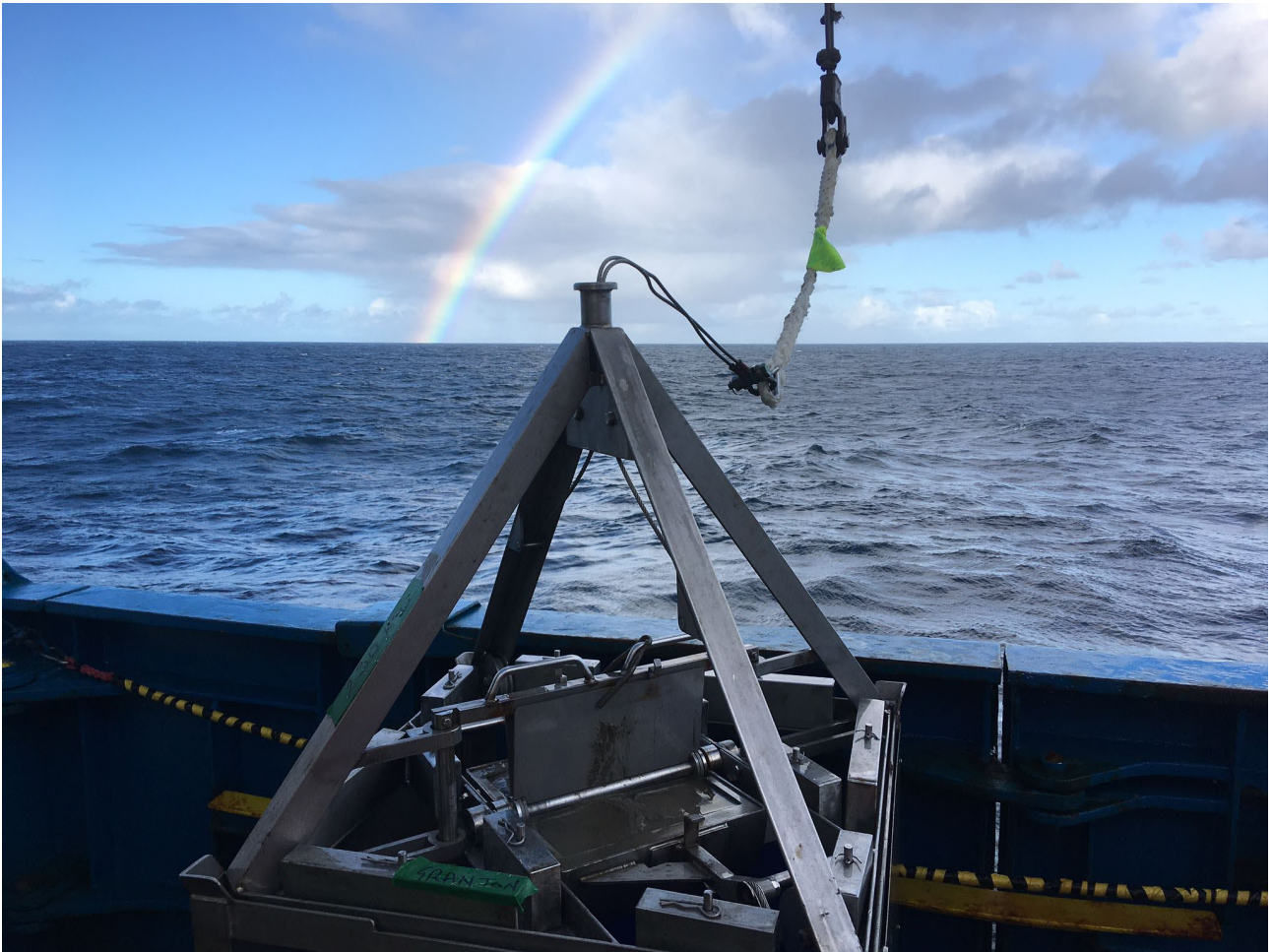


Figure 8: The Day grab on the side gantry ready to be sampled.

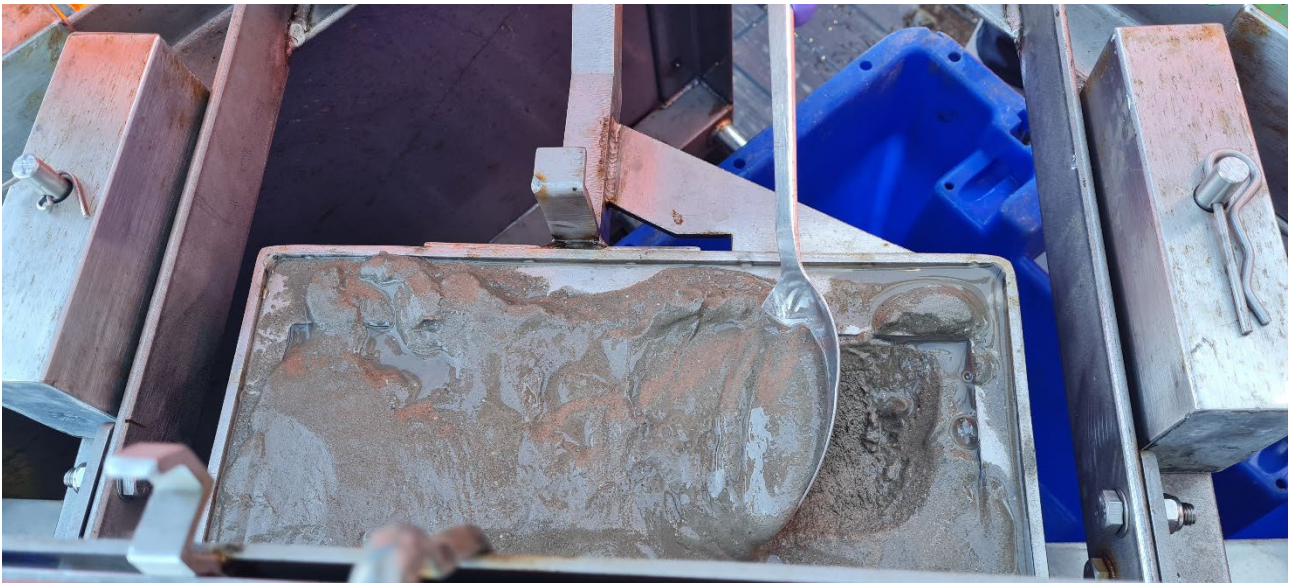


Figure 9: Day grab contaminants sampling.

14th November

The vessel transited from Lyme Bay to Off Eddystone, to CSEMP temporal sediment station 575, grabbing continued through the early morning with three successful grabs at CSEMP 575. The vessel transited to Off Eddystone (Figure 10), during the transit the manta trawl and litter pump were successfully deployed during the approach to the fishing station. A CTD and four successful fishing tows were carried out. Fishing at Eddystone was successful with all primary and secondary aims completed. It was noted that the fishing at this station was better than previous years.

Grabbing continued in Eddystone areas picking up spatial station clusters at 585 and 575. During this time the officers noted an issue with the steering gear where the steering was locked into starboard, with 40 minutes of downtime. Operations re-commenced shortly after, before transiting overnight to Celtic Deep.



Figure 10: Vessel steaming to Eddystone fishing station

14th November

At 06:30 we were notified that the officers were concerned about deployment of the fishing gear, with the current steering issues. During this time, the vessel awaited further advice from shoreside AWSM. It was agreed that we could continue to carry out side gantry operations which included sediment grabbing, which was one of the primary aims for the survey. Grabbing continued throughout the day picking up temporal (605) and spatial station around Celtic Deep. The weather deteriorated over the course of the day and there was no further response from shoreside regarding advice around commencing fishing operations and so it was agreed we would continue with side gantry operations in Cardigan Bay. Due to the weather conditions, we could not carry out a CTD rosette, microplastic pump or Manta trawl deployment at Carmarthen Bay.

15th November

Operations continued picking up primary and secondary aims in South Cardigan Bay, with no fishing activities. Focus was placed on picking up microplastic case studies using the Manta trawl and the microplastic pump. Our case study area for the 15th November was Cardigan Bay. Water samples for microplastics were collected in 1-hour intervals while steaming through Cardigan Bay to the different sediment stations. Water samples were collected from near the seafloor and the surface to measure the oxygen concentrations, salinity, water temperature and nutrients.



Figure 11: Common Dolphin spotting off Cardigan Bay.

16th November

Steamed along the Welsh coast and collected 2 hourly water samples and carried out some manta tows on route to the Liverpool Bay sediment stations. We collected all the priority sediment samples around Liverpool Bay.

17th November

Sampling continued in Liverpool Bay and Burbo Bight areas. Samples were collected for sediment contaminant analysis, water samples for microplastics, nutrients, salinity, and dissolved oxygen (Figure 12). The vessel side gantry experienced a hydraulic leak, coming from the hydraulic pipe which resulted in 3 hours and 20 minutes of downtime for the vessel. The vessel then transited towards the Liverpool smart buoy where a calibration exercise was performed. This included taking water samples for Chlorophyll (Figure 13), turbidity, suspended particle matter, salinity, nutrients and bottom oxygen. A plankton ring net was also deployed to collect samples for zooplankton (Figure 14).



Figure 12: Water samples, including dissolved oxygen samples, being collected from the CTD Rosette from the Smartbuoy site.



Figure 13: Filtering rig used for filtering out suspended particulate matter and Chlorophyll



Figure 14: Zooplankton ring net being deployed off the side gantry.

Manta trawls were deployed between stations to collect microplastics in the water column. Wind and swell conditions increased during the day which meant the manta trawl and plastic pump deployments could not continue. The day completed with grab stations around Morecombe Bay (CSEMP805).

18th November

Water sampling continued in St Bees, starting with water collection using the CTD and microplastics sampling (Figure 15). A clear thermocline and halocline were seen during deployment of the CTD at St Bees, demonstrating a stratified water column (Figure 16).



Figure 15: Scientist recording data from CTD deployment

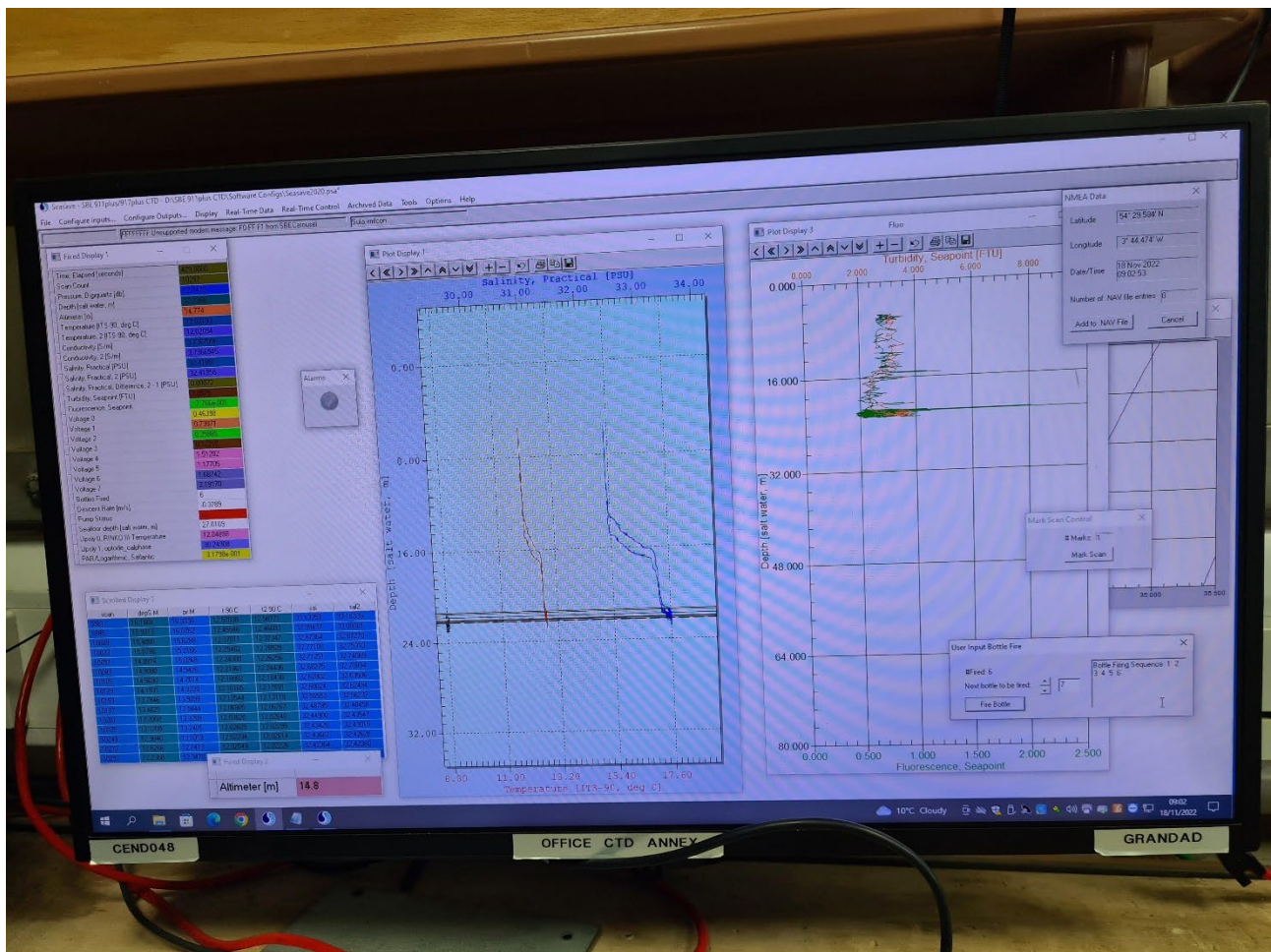


Figure 16: Thermocline and halocline from St Bees CTD deployment

The plastic pump (Figure 17) was also deployed to collect plastic from the surface. Due to weather conditions the manta trawl could not be deployed at this time. Transited to South East Isle of Man

for CTD and further water sampling throughout the day. The day finished with Day grabs at CSEMP 805 with six deployments completing one of our primary survey aims.



Figure 17: Marine plastics pump left: on deck, right: Being deployed from the side gantry.

19th November

Over the last 24 hours we brought the nightshift back to daytime hours by giving staff the night off. We completed packing up most of the survey equipment while still collecting microplastic samples using the Manta trawl, microplastic pump and CALPS filtration system. Engine trials were also carried out to test all 3 engines.



Figure 18: Sun setting on last day of survey

20th November

The survey finished with the completion of water sampling techniques for microplastics on the way to Liverpool port (Figure 17). Packing of calicos and last cleaning schedule ready for demobbing.

21st November

Scientific crew demobbed all CSEMP equipment and left the vessel to return home to Lowestoft and Weymouth.

Results

Fishing stations

Out of the fourteen fishing stations, two fishing stations were completed successfully (Table 5), before a decision on the steering gear was made that it was no longer safe to deploy fishing gear. Four tows were performed at Lyme Bay in good sea conditions. The site did not fish well for target species, however eighteen dab of different size ranges were collected for chemistry analysis. Target species for microplastics were collected, this included 25 plaice, 25 whiting and 25 mackerel.

Four successful tows were completed at Off Eddystone, this station fished better than in previous years. Twenty dab were sampled for biomarkers in the correct size range and a further 60 dab were sampled for fish disease, including recording of stomach contents (Table 6). At this site, disease levels were low with the main occurrence being skins ulcers (Table 7). A Further 50 dab were taken for chemistry, with a further 9 collected for the EA in target size ranges. Target fish species for microplastics were also collected, these included 25 plaice, 25 mackerel, 25 whiting, 25 dab.

Table 5: Fished Stations and number of fish caught for specific analysis

Date	Location	CSEMP code	Mid tow Lat. decimal	Mid tow Lon. decimal	time shot	time haul	Fish numbers for Chemical analysis	Dab numbers for Biomarker analysis; Fish Disease (FD)	Environment Agency	Microplastics
12/11/22	Lyme Bay	CSEMP 534	50.5970875	-2.9092875	10:47	11:17	1 x 18 (various size ranges)	None	NA	Plaice, Mackerel, Whiting
13/11/22	Off Eddystone	CSEMP 584	50.10310833	-4.15152083	07:19	07:49	2 x 25 (17-20 cm)	20 biomarkers and 60 additional FD	9 fish	Plaice, Mackerel, Whiting, Dab

Table 6: Stomach content of 20 sampled dab at Off Eddystone on 13th November 20, 2022

CSEMP ST. NO.	Length (cm 1dp)	Weight (g)	SEX	STOMACH ANALYSIS
584	21.2	91.3	M	BRITTLE STAR, FULLNESS 1
584	23.5	127.2	M	EMPTY
584	21.6	95.1	M	HYDROIDS, SMALL SWIMMING CRAB, FULLNESS 2
584	22.3	110.1	M	BRITTLE STAR, FULLNESS 1
584	20.8	83.6	M	HYDROID, FULLNESS 1
584	23.4	134.1	M	EMPTY
584	21.5	93.4	M	EMPTY
584	24	129.9	M	SAND, FULLNESS 1
584	20	77.4	F	EMPTY
584	22.8	118.8	F	EMPTY
584	22.5	108.5	M	HYDROIDS, FULLNESS 1
584	20.9	85.6	M	EMPTY
584	23.2	123.7	F	HYDROID, SMALL QUEEN SCALLOP, BIVALVES, FULLNESS 3
584	24	149.1	F	MACROPODIA X 2, FULLNESS 4
584	21.6	107.9	F	EMPTY
584	23.5	139.4	F	SMALL QUEEN SCALLOPS X2, FULLNESS 1
584	22.8	122.1	F	HYDROID, SAND, FULLNESS 2
584	24	147.3	F	HYDROIDS, SAND, FULLNESS 2

CSEMP ST. NO.	Length (cm 1dp)	Weight (g)	SEX	STOMACH ANALYSIS
584	24.1	141.6	F	QUEEN SCALLOPS X3, FULLNESS 1
584	23	116.4	F	HYDROID, FULLNESS 1

Table 7: Observed occurrences of the fourteen recorded external and internal fish diseases

Lymphocystis	Skin Ulcer	epidermal hyperplasia/papilloma	hyperpigmentation	liver disease - nodule/tumour	X-cell gill lesions	Stephanostomum sp	Lepeophtheirus sp.	Acanthochoondria sp.	Nematodes	Glugea sp	Lateral lipoidosis	Skeletal deformity	fin rot/erosion
0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CTD profiles

Prior to each fishing station, a CTD rosette was deployed to establish a full water profile of salinity, temperature, oxygen, fluorescence and turbidity. Water samples were collected from surface waters (~4m) for salinity and chlorophyll. A summary of the CTD stations can be found in Table 8.

Table 8: CTD rosette samples collected.

Station Information			Sample Information			Grab Information		
Station Number	Station Code	Analysis Type	Replicate Attempt	Water Depth (m)	Date	Time	Lat DD	Long DD
2	CSEMP534	Nutrients/Salinity/ Oxygen	A1	35	12/11/2022	10:02	50.59206	-2.9212
12	CSEMP584	Nutrients/Salinity/ Oxygen	A1	72	13/11/2022	06:36	50.11011	-4.07883
24	605 Celtic deep	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	95	14/11/2022	13:41	51.24678	-6.00751
32	CSEMP655	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A2	26	15/11/2022	10:31	52.36401	-4.16862
36	CARDIGAN BAY	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	79	15/11/2022	15:12	52.49833	-4.9925
55	CSEMP715	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	38	16/11/2022	19:59	53.50067	-3.69777
58	CSEMP776	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	35	17/11/2022	00:46	53.42494	-4.00912
61	CSEMP LBT	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	22	17/11/2022	05:10	53.41551	-3.65371
69	CSEMPBBT	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	20	17/11/2022	12:36	53.46429	-3.38537
72	CSEMP LBSB	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	30	17/11/2022	14:50	53.52606	-3.37616
75	CSEMP796	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	22	17/11/2022	20:10	53.92694	-3.36449
82	CSEMP796	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	28	18/11/2022	09:01	54.49334	-3.74205
84	CSEMPSEIM	Chlorophyll/Nutrients/Salinity/SPM/Oxygen	A1	53	18/11/2022	13:38	54.05799	-3.86641

Sediment stations

CSEMP contaminants

Sediment samples were collected for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), trace metal contaminants, organic contaminants (PCBs, PBDEs) and sediment particle size analysis (PSA), marine litter (microplastics), porosity, and rapids fines assessment (RFA) from temporal stations CSEMP536, CSEMP575, CSEMP605, CSEMP655, CSEMP715, CSEMP805. Sediment was also collected from all spatial stations, at least 3 replicates were collected from each of the stations. The breakdown of what was collected for which analysis is shown in Figure 19. Table 10 also shows the separate images of the sediments in the Day grab to assess the sediment type.

Rapid fines assessment

The Rapid Fines Assessment (RFA) is a quick, cheap and easy technique designed to calculate percentage fines by volume. It can be used in the field to pinpoint where more targeted sampling is needed and alongside complementary biogeochemical analysis. It is a natural extension of existing sediment techniques, such as PSA, but allows the nature of packing and volume of silt flocculates to be determined.

Sediment is tumbled, left to settle, and then photographed. Image analysis of the tubes is performed in Adobe Photoshop. The mud layer depth is measured in pixels and then calculated as a percentage of the total depth. Sediment samples for RFA were collected alongside organic contaminant samples, these samples were photographed and logged on board the vessel (Figure 11).

Porosity

Porosity is a measure of the void space in the sediment mixture. Porosity sediment samples were collected alongside organic sediment samples. This was collected to compare porosity measured from the organic sediment contaminant sample.

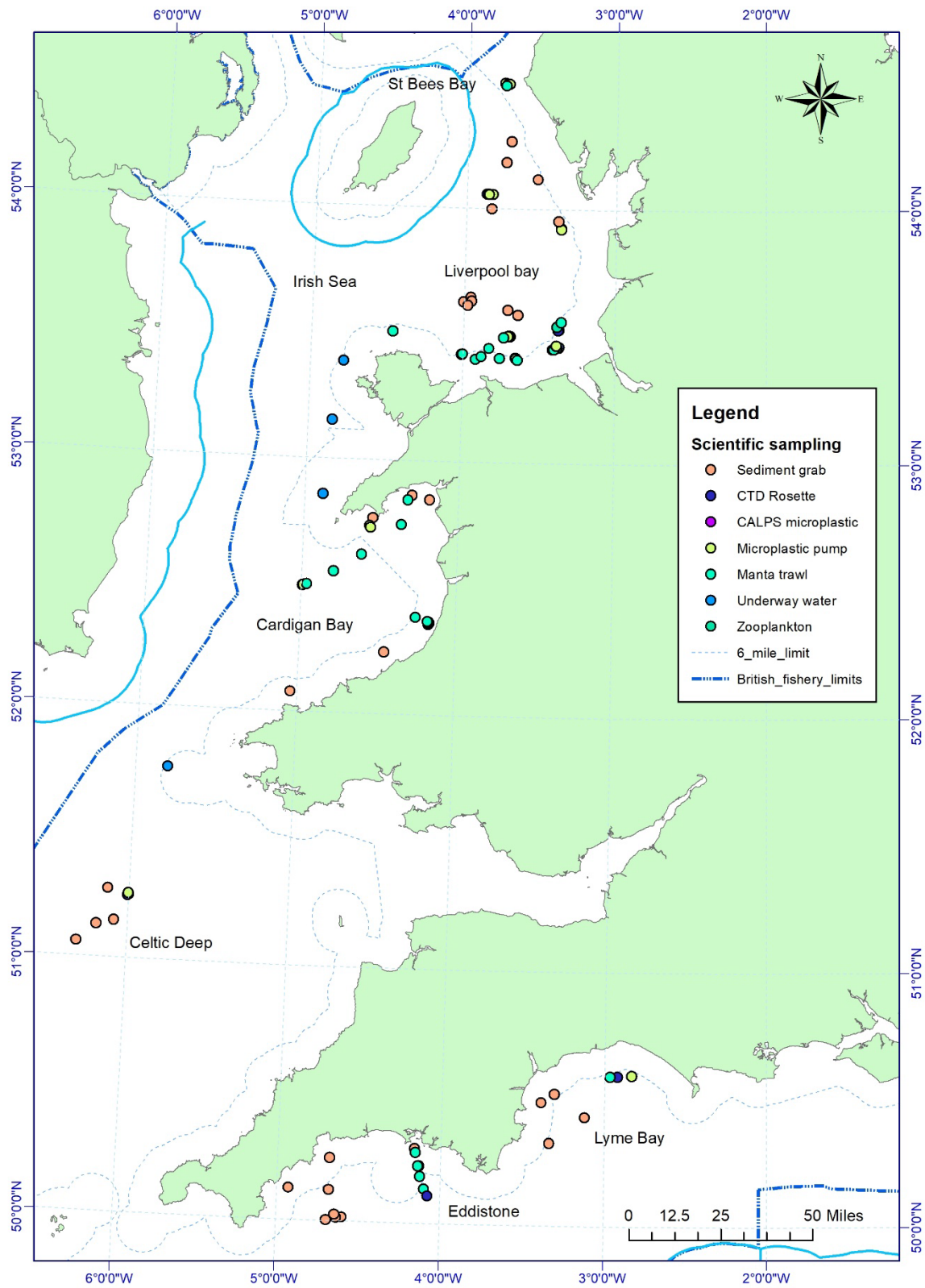


Figure 19: Survey maps showing stations sampled for sediments, microplastics and water.

Table 9: Sampled sediment stations metadata

Station Information			Sample Information			Grab Information		
Station Number	Station Code	Analysis Type	Replicate Attempt	Water Depth (m)	Date	Time	Lat DD	Long DD
5	CSEMP536	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/MCWG	A2	52	12/11/2022	18:33	50.43012	-3.12182
5	CSEMP536	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/MCWG	B1	52	12/11/2022	18:46	50.4301	-3.12184
6	CSEMP536_2	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	28	12/11/2022	19:57	50.5219	-3.30902
7	CSEMP536_1	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	29	12/11/2022	20:37	50.48648	-3.39053
8	CSEMP536_4	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	58	12/11/2022	21:57	50.32741	-3.33857
9	CSEMP575	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/MCWG	A2	40	13/11/2022	01:39	50.29503	-4.16227
9	CSEMP575	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/MCWG	B1	40	13/11/2022	01:57	50.295	-4.16213
13	CSEMP585_1	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A2	75	13/11/2022	14:10	50.01657	-4.59996
15	CSEMP585_5	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	76	13/11/2022	15:47	50.02593	-4.64416
16	CSEMP585_2	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	79	13/11/2022	16:33	50.00329	-4.69439
17	CSEMP575_2	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	71	13/11/2022	17:37	50.12362	-4.68277
18	CSEMP575_3	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/MCWG	A1	50	13/11/2022	18:43	50.24898	-4.6818

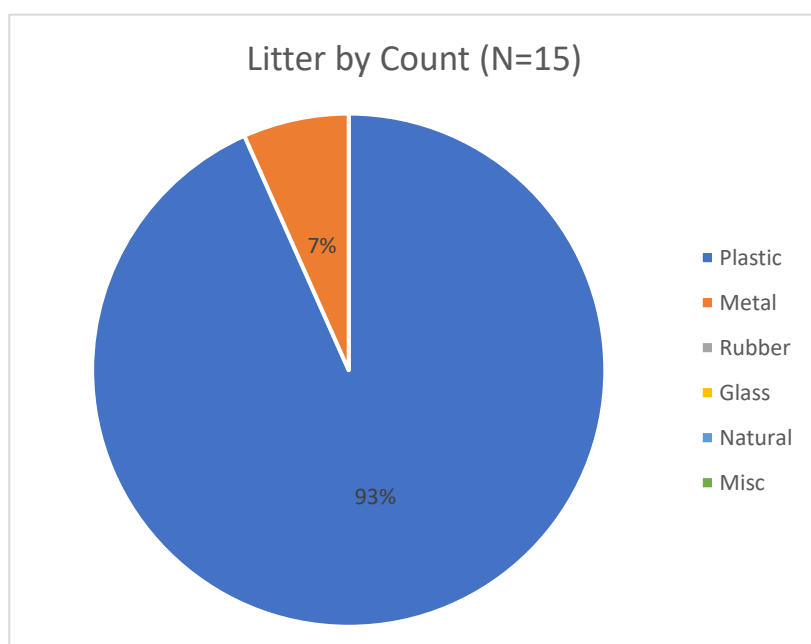
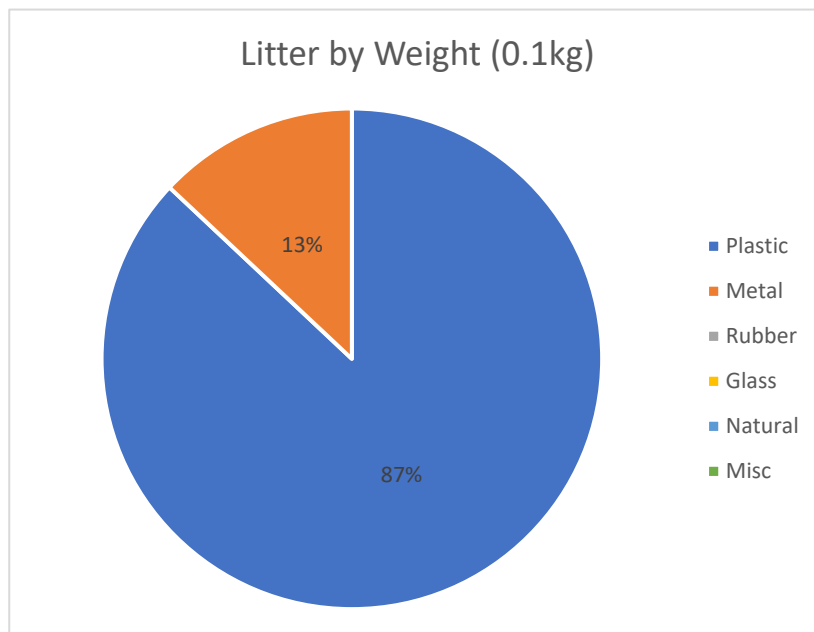
19	CSEMP575_4	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/MCWG	A2	59	13/11/2022	20:12	50.1256	-4.92974
20	CSEMP605	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/MCWG	A2	98	14/11/2022	08:20	51.25008	-5.99983
20	CSEMP605	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/MCWG	B1	98	14/11/2022	08:35	51.25012	-5.99982
21	CSEMP605_1	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	102	14/11/2022	10:02	51.14652	-6.08693
22	CSEMP605_2	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	106	14/11/2022	10:53	51.12906	-6.19578
23	CSEMP605_6	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	103	14/11/2022	11:49	51.06	-6.31555
26	CSEMP605_4	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A3	104	14/11/2022	17:05	51.2706	-6.13299
30	CSEMP655	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	25	15/11/2022	08:28	52.35792	-4.17484
30	CSEMP655	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	B1	25	15/11/2022	08:46	52.35804	-4.17491
39	CSEMP655_6	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A2	17	16/11/2022	00:31	52.84919	-4.18779
40	CSEMP655_2	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	21	16/11/2022	01:11	52.86566	-4.30257
48	CSEMP715_6	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	48	16/11/2022	14:58	53.63242	-4.00478
49	CSEMP715_5	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	45	16/11/2022	15:26	53.65075	-3.95673
50	CSEMP715_1	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	47	16/11/2022	15:43	53.63541	-3.94927
52	CSEMP715_3	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	41	16/11/2022	17:37	53.60314	-3.71127
53	CSEMP715_4	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	43	16/11/2022	18:13	53.58368	-3.64362

54	CSEMP715	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	37	16/11/2022	19:15	53.49988	-3.69191
54	CSEMP715	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	B1	37	16/11/2022	19:24	53.49992	-3.69189
54	CSEMP715	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	D1	37	16/11/2022	19:38	53.49988	-3.69215
77	CSEMP_805_1_v2	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	23	17/11/2022	21:28	53.95599	-3.38342
78	CSEMP_805_6	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/eDNA	A1	26	17/11/2022	23:31	54.1188	-3.52721
79	CSEMP_805_4	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/eDNA	A1	30	18/11/2022	00:49	54.18453	-3.7393
80	CSEMP_805_3	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity/eDNA	A1	39	18/11/2022	01:40	54.26688	-3.70928
88	CSEMP_805	PSA/Metals/Organics/RFA/Microtox/Porosity	A1	40	18/11/2022	16:35	54.0000	-3.83321

Seafloor litter

During our trawling activities, and as part of our survey objectives, we conducted analysis of any collected seafloor litter. In total, 15 litter items were collected over 2 trawls, weighing a total of 100.041 g. Of these litter items, 13 items were plastics accounting for 87%. The highest litter station was Off Eddystone where we collected 10 litter items. Figure 20 shows a breakdown of all litter collected by count and weight, split by material type.

Figure 20: Pie charts showing marine litter composition (%) by count and weight.



Surface Microplastics collection

Microplastics in surface waters were sampled during CSEMP using three different methods including the 'manta' trawl, the microplastic pump and the CALPS (flowthrough system) on the RV Endeavour. In total 30 manta trawl, 27 microplastic pump and 56 CALP samples were collected on the west coast, from the English Channel to Liverpool Bay (Figure 19).

This comparison study will contribute to the development of standardised methods for the monitoring of microplastics in surface waters and benefit the development of a monitoring programme. Furthermore, these findings will give some insights of how microplastics transfer from the surface to the sediment through the water column.

Microtox analysis

Microtox® rapid toxicity detection is an *in vitro* test system. It uses the bioluminescent bacteria *Allivibrio fischeri* for the detection of toxicity and is used as a screening system to detect the relative toxicity of environmental samples. It responds to chemicals or combinations of chemicals that are toxic to cells or reduce their speed of replication.

The field method followed for this study was the Modern Water Microtox® 81.9% B-tox test for low toxicity samples. The test procedure is described in full in the Deltatox® II User's Manual (01/2013) and follows similar principles to ISO11348-3 (2007). It comprises a highly sensitive luminometer, liquid reagents and freeze-dried bacterial reagents. An aliquot of *A. fischeri* culture is reactivated and 100 µl added to each test vial. The light output from bacteria in these vials (time zero) is recorded. 900 µl of sample or control media is added to the vials and they are left to incubate for 30 minutes at ambient temperature, after which time the light output is read again. The luminosity change in the control over this time period is considered to represent 100% of that expected for the combination of temperature and time used. The luminosity change in each sample is then measured and compared to the luminosity of the control, with the difference expressed as a positive or negative percentage difference from the control.

Sediment samples are expected to contain a mixture of known and unknown chemicals at various concentrations. The Microtox technique is an investigative step using one test species to start the process of understanding how the environment might be reacting to these contaminant mixtures. If the mixture present in the sample has an overall inhibitory effect, leading to less growth of the *A. fischeri* bacteria, then this will lead to reduced luminescence which will be reported as a light loss compared to the control. This can be considered as inhibition of growth. Samples showing an increase compared to the control might be experiencing enhanced nutrient levels with no inhibitory effects from toxic chemicals.

3 (±0.1) g of sediment weighed into 40ml plastic pots within 24 hours of sampling where possible. 7ml natural seawater added with pipette, samples were shaken by hand for 30 seconds and left to settle until clear (settling time between 115 and 260 min dependent on sediment type and sea state). Clear overlying water was extracted with a Pasteur pipette. Same 81.5% tox method as previous report. See (Figure 20) for laboratory set up.

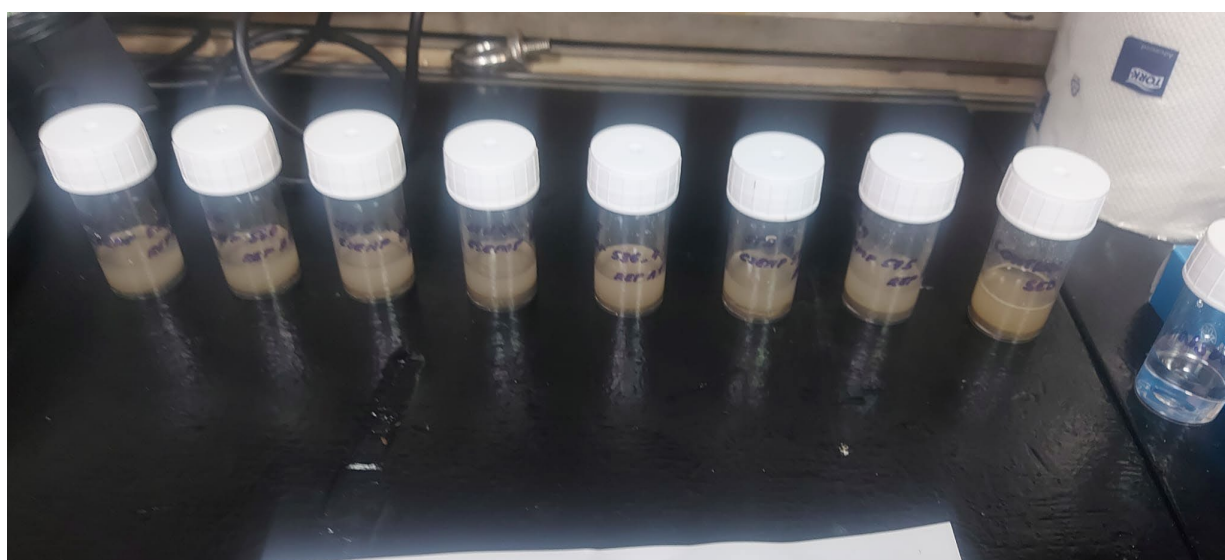


Figure 21: Microtox set up in annex on Cefas Endeavour (top), close up of sediment samples ready for analysis (bottom)

37 sediment samples were analysed in total, from 30 individual sites along the south-west and western English nearshore seabed. Multiple replicates were taken from 6 stations, averages are presented for these stations. Results are presented in Figure 16, which demonstrated >85% expected luminescence are highlighted in green and indicate no toxicity. Up to 15% luminescence inhibition is expected within the test resulting from inherent variation. For those stations where averages are presented, no individual sample demonstrated >15% inhibition. A number of sites demonstrated enhanced luminosity, this is likely due to the effects of nutrients in the sediment enhancing bacterial growth or from turbidity in the sample interfering with luminescence readings.

Samples from Celtic Deep (Stn. 805) demonstrated the highest enhancement of luminescence (Figure 22). Samples from stations in coastal waters off the southern coast of Devon / Cornwall (536, 575 & 585) demonstrated the highest inhibition of luminescence, suggesting possible differences due to the proximity to sources of anthropogenic pollution. However, all results were within the variance of the test and can also be attributed to failure of sediments to settle sufficiently or variation in bacterial activity.

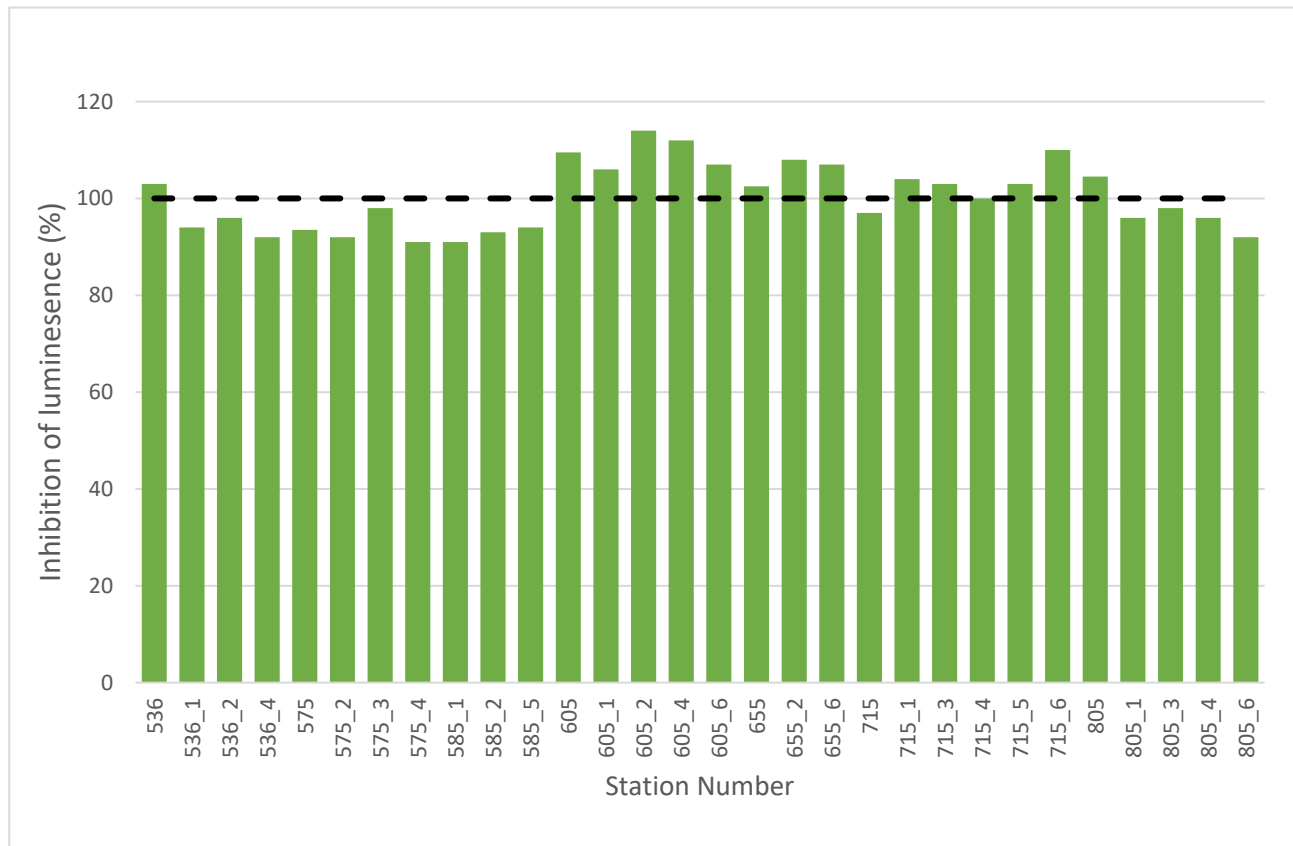
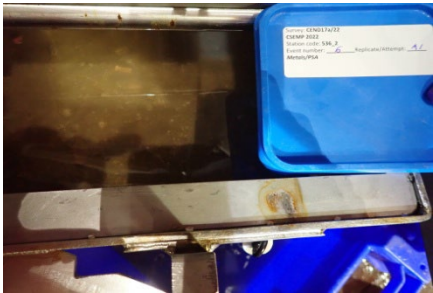


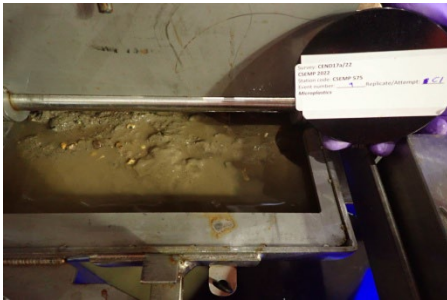
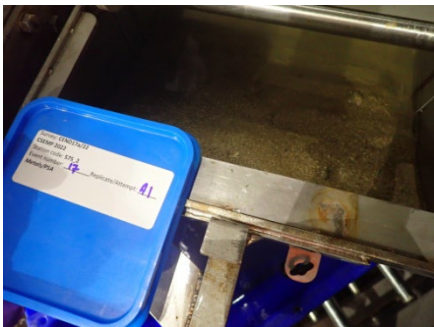
Figure 22: Microtox levels in sediment grab samples. Black line indicates the theoretical zero ('normal' luminescence), green bars are good ($x > -10\%$).

Annex 1

Table 10: Sampled sediment stations for chemical analysis as part of the CSEMP with preliminary sediment description and sample depth.

Station	Picture	Sediment Description	Sediment Depth (cm)
CEND17A22_STN_536_A2		muddy sand	6
CEND17A22_STN_536_B1		muddy sand	6.5
CEND17A22_STN_536_C1		muddy sand	5

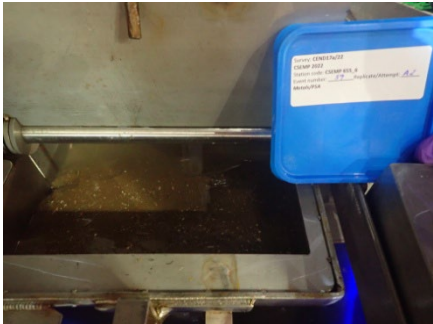
CEND17A22_STN_536_2_A1		sandy shelly gravel	9
CEND17A22_STN_536_1_A1		sandy mud	8
CEND17A22_STN_536_4_A1		muddy sand	11
CEND17A22_STN_575_A2		gravelly mud	11
CEND17A22_STN_575_B1		gravelly mud	10.5

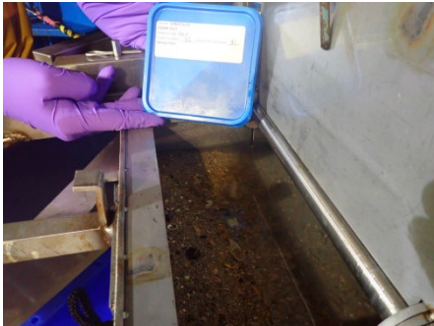
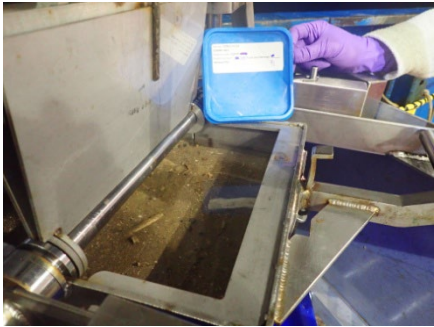
CEND17A22_STN_575_C1		sandy mud	11.5
CEND17A22_STN_585_1_A2		slightly shelly muddy sand	5
CEND17A22_STN_585_5_A1		slightly muddy shelly sand	5
CEND17A22_STN_585_2_A1		muddy shelly sand	6
CEND17A22_STN_575_2_A1		slightly sandy mud	5

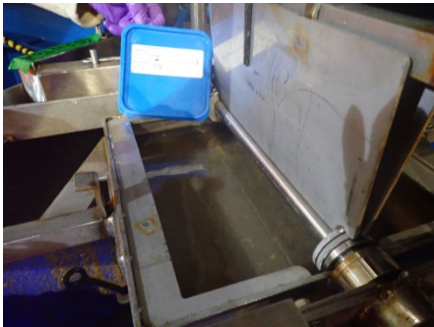
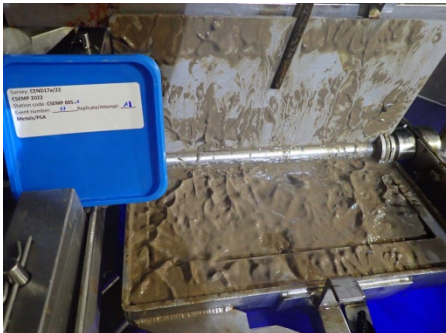
CEND17A22_STN_575_3_A1		slightly muddy shelly sand	11
CEND17A22_STN_575_4_A2		gravelly sand	8.5
CEND17A22_STN_605_A2		muddy sand	13
CEND17A22_STN_605_B1		sandy mud	13
CEND17A22_STN_605_C1		sandy mud	13

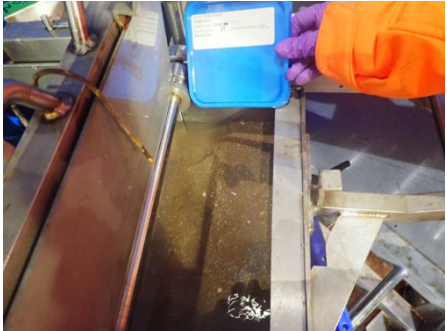
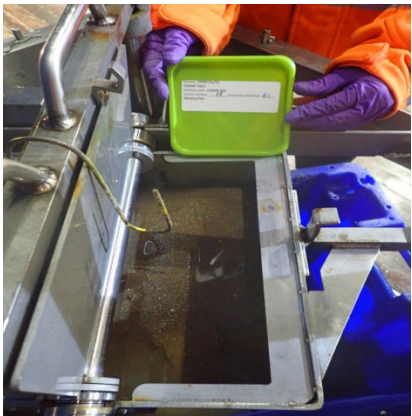
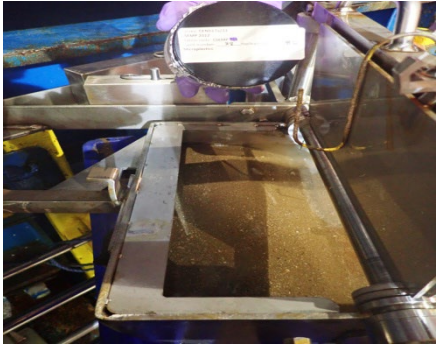
CEND17A22_STN_605_1_A1		sandy mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_605_2_A1		sandy mud	14.5
CEND17A22_STN_605_6_A1		muddy sand some shell	8
CEND17A22_STN_605_4_A3		Mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_655_A1		Sandy mud	14

CEND17A22_STN_655_B1		Mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_655_C1		Shelly muddy sand	13
CEND17A22_STN_655_D1		Sandy mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_655_E1		Sandy mud	14

CEND17A22_STN_655_F1		Muddy sand	14
CEND17A22_STN_655_6_A2		mud	6
CEND17A22_STN_655_2_A1		mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_715_6_A1		very shelly sand	8
CEND17A22_STN_715_5_A1		gravelly shelly sand	6

CEND17A22_STN_715_1_A1		gravelly shelly sand	7
CEND17A22_STN_715_3_A1		shelly sand	6
CEND17A22_STN_715_4_A1		shelly sand	7
CEND17A22_STN_715_A1		sandy silt	8
CEND17A22_STN_715_B1		sandy mud	8

CEND17A22_STN_715_C1	no photo taken	sand	5
CEND17A22_STN_715_D1		sandy gravelly mud	6
CEND17A22_STN_805_01_A1		Mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_805_03_A1		Mud	15
CEND17A22_STN_805_04_A1		Mud	9

CEND17A22_STN_805_06_A1		Mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_805_A1		Slightly shelly sand	6.5
CEND17A22_STN_805_B1		Slightly shelly sand	8
CEND17A22_STN_805_C1		Slightly shelly muddy sand	7

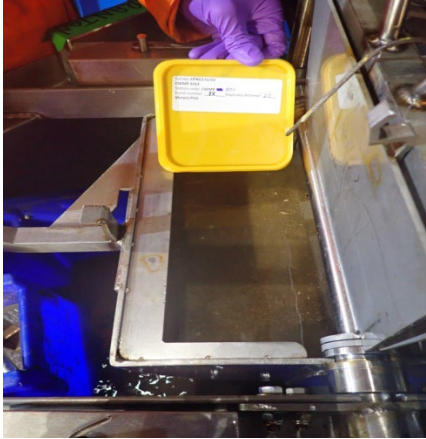
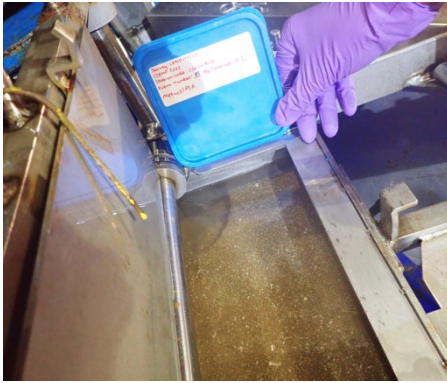
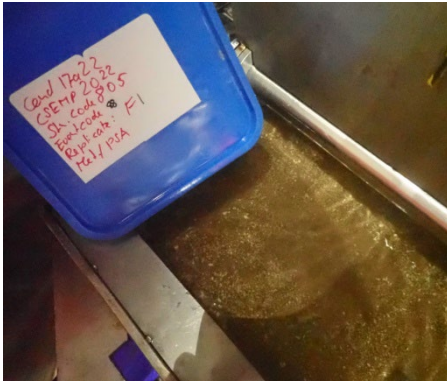
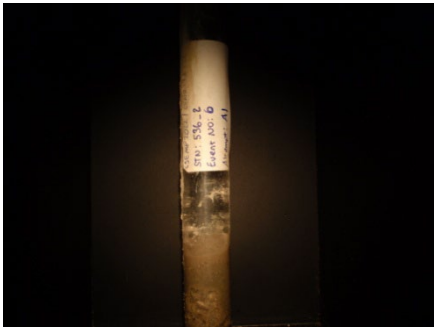
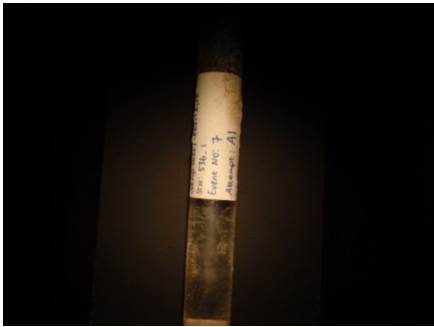
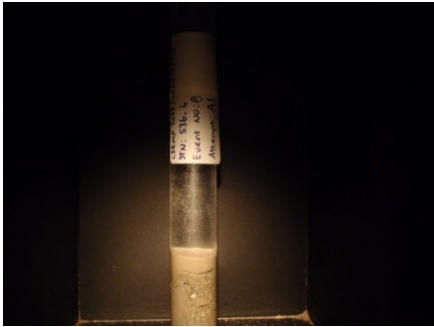
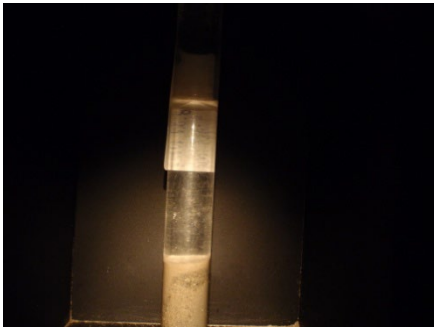
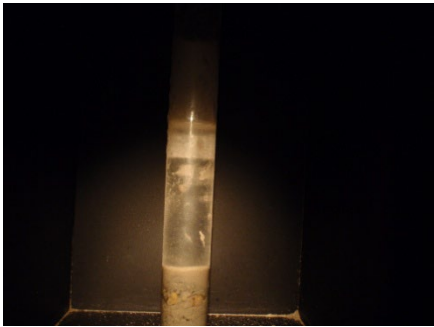
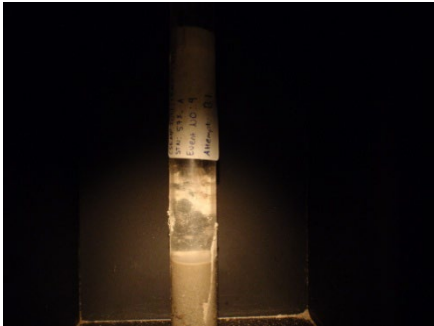
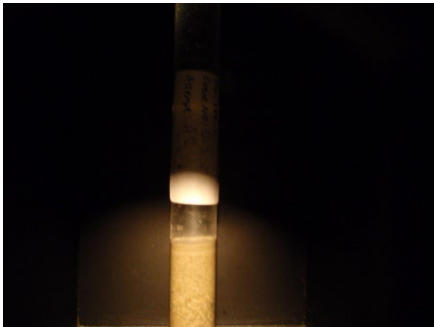
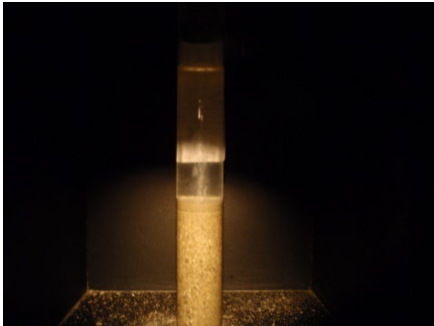
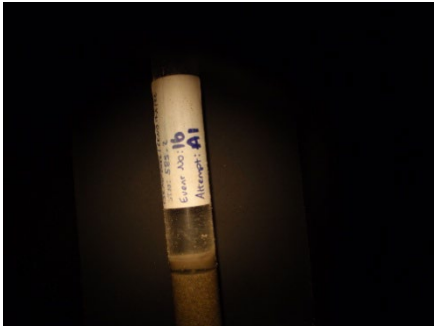
CEND17A22_STN_805_D1		Slightly shelly sand	7
CEND17A22_STN_805_E2		Slightly shelly sand	8
CEND17A22_STN_805_F1		Slightly shelly muddy sand	11

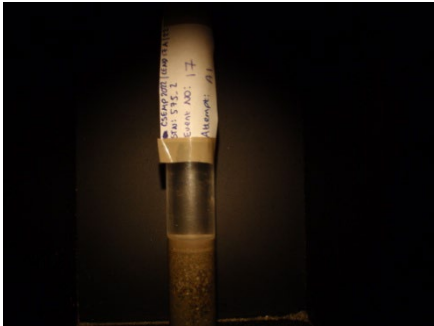
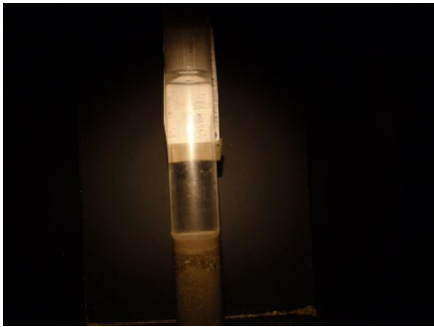
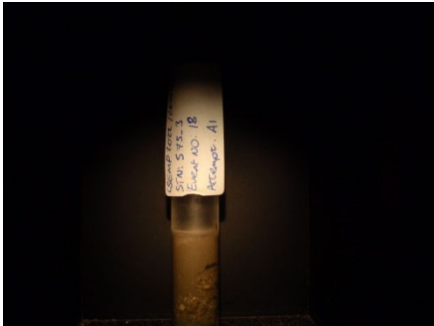
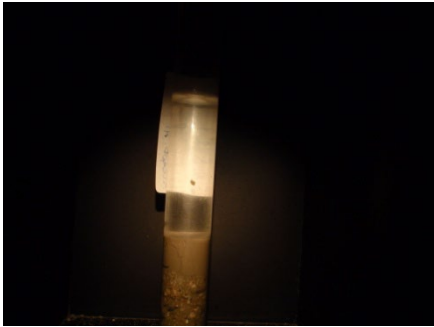
Table 11: Rapid fines assessment photos for each sediment station

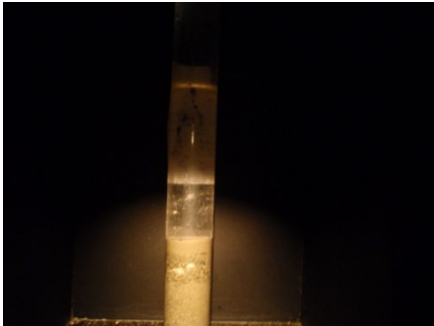
Station	Picture	Sediment Description	Sediment Depth (cm)
CEND17A22_STN_536_A2_1		muddy sand	6
CEND17A22_STN_536_A2_2		muddy sand	6
CEND17A22_STN_536_B1_1		muddy sand	6.5
CEND17A22_STN_536_B1_2		muddy sand	6.5

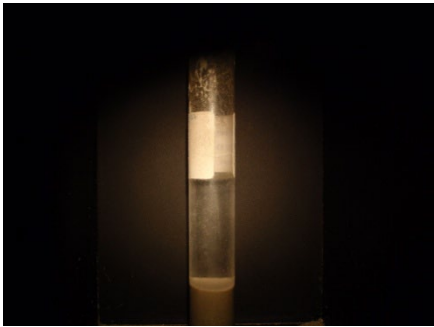
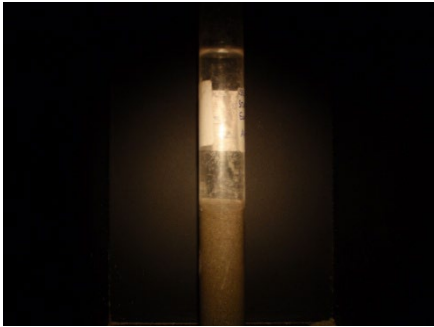
CEND17A22_STN_536_2_ A1_1		sandy shelly gravel	9
CEND17A22_STN_536_2_ A1_2		sandy shelly gravel	9
CEND17A22_STN_536_1_ A1_1		sandy mud	8
CEND17A22_STN_536_1_ A1_2		sandy mud	8
CEND17A22_STN_536_4_ A1_1		muddy sand	11

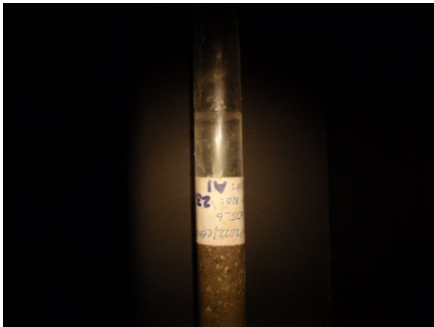
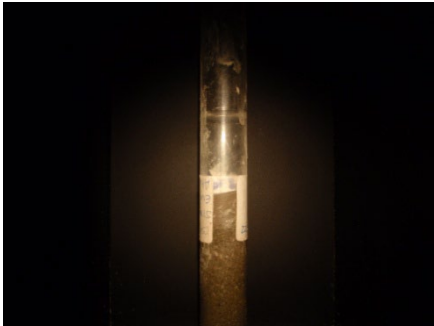
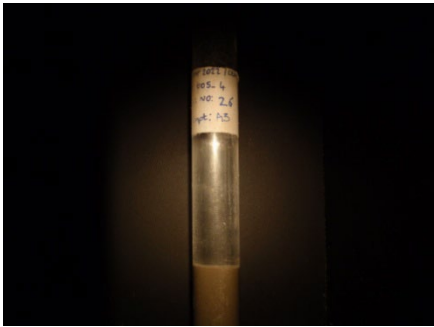
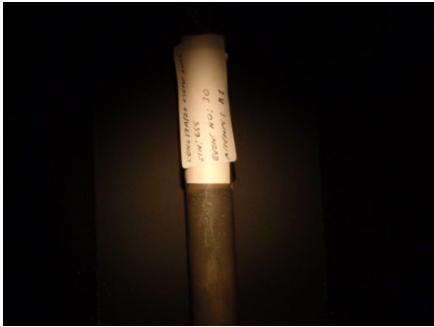
CEND17A22_STN_536_4_A1_2		muddy sand	11
CEND17A22_STN_575_A2_1		gravelly mud	11
CEND17A22_STN_575_A2_2		gravelly mud	11
CEND17A22_STN_575_B1_1		gravelly mud	10.5
CEND17A22_STN_575_B1_2		gravelly mud	10.5

CEND17A22_STN_585_A2_1		slightly shelly muddy sand	5
CEND17A22_STN_585_A2_2		slightly shelly muddy sand	5
CEND17A22_STN_585_5_A1_1		slightly muddy shelly sand	5
CEND17A22_STN_585_5_A1_2		slightly muddy shelly sand	5
CEND17A22_STN_585_2_A1_1		muddy shelly sand	6

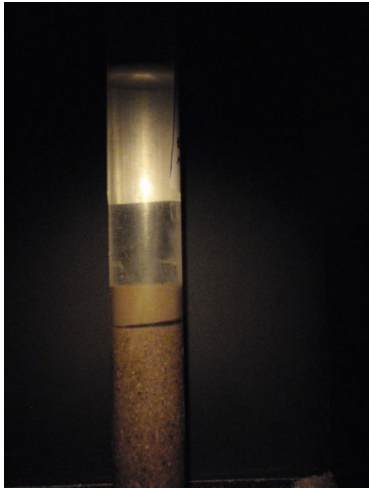
CEND17A22_STN_585_2_A1_2		muddy shelly sand	6
CEND17A22_STN_575_2_A1_1		slightly sandy mud	5
CEND17A22_STN_575_2_A1_2		slightly sandy mud	5
CEND17A22_STN_575_3_A1_1		slightly muddy shelly sand	11
CEND17A22_STN_575_3_A1_2		slightly muddy shelly sand	11

CEND17A22_STN_575_4_A2_1		gravelly sand	8.5
CEND17A22_STN_575_4_A2_2		gravelly sand	8.5
CEND17A22_STN_605_A2_1		muddy sand	13
CEND17A22_STN_605_A2_2		muddy sand	13
CEND17A22_STN_605_B1_1		sandy mud	13

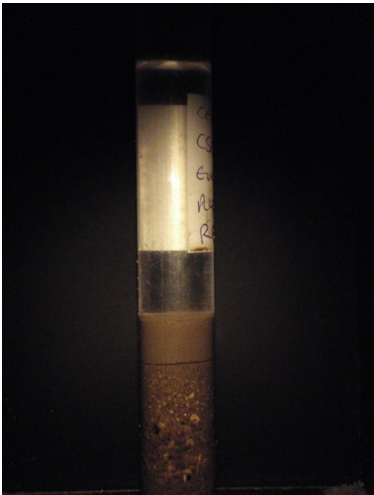
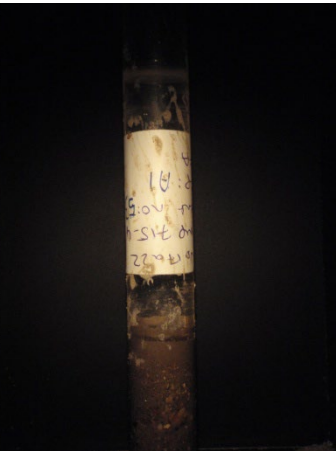
CEND17A22_STN_605_B1_2		sandy mud	13
CEND17A22_STN_605_1_A1_1		sandy mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_605_1_A1_2		sandy mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_605_2_A1_1		sandy mud	14.5
CEND17A22_STN_605_2_A1_2		sandy mud	14.5

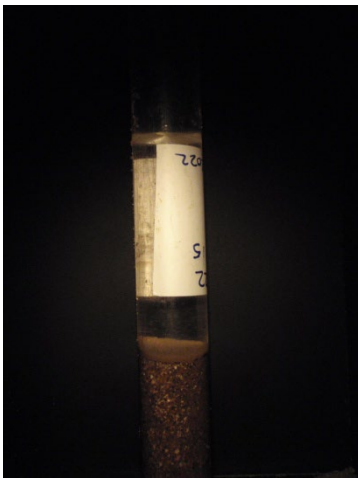
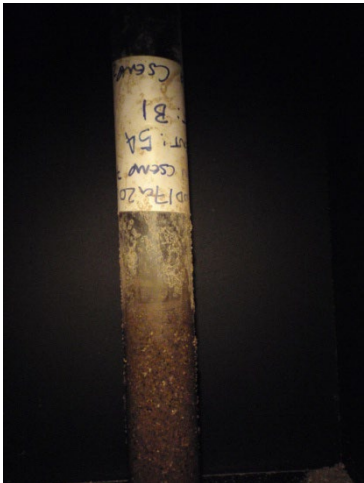
CEND17A22_STN_605_6_A1_1		muddy sand some shell	8
CEND17A22_STN_605_6_A1_2		muddy sand some shell	8
CEND17A22_STN_605_4_A3_1		mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_605_4_A3_2		mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_655_A1_1		sandy mud	14

CEND17A22_STN_655_A1_2		sandy mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_655_6_A2_1		mud	6
CEND17A22_STN_655_6_A2_2		mud	6
CEND17A22_STN_655_2_A1_1		mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_655_2_A1_2		mud	14

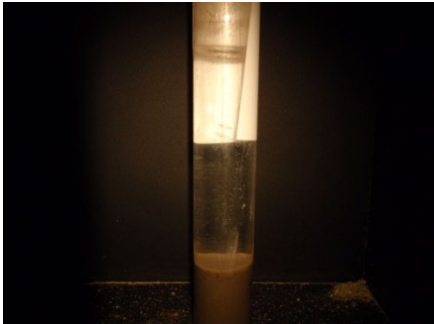
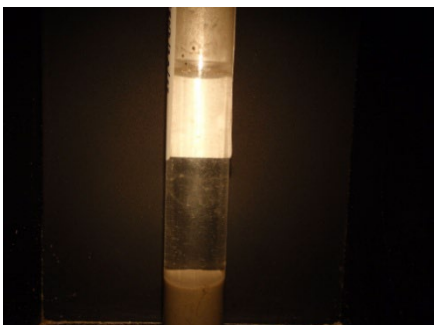
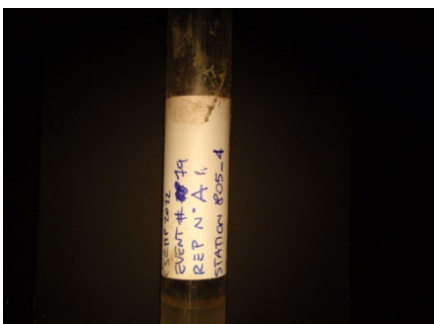
CEND17A22_STN_715_6_ A1_1		Very shelly sand	8
CEND17A22_STN_715_6_ A1_2		Very shelly sand	8
CEND17A22_STN_715_5_ A1_1		gravelly shelly sand	6
CEND17A22_STN_715_5_ A1_2		gravelly shelly sand	6

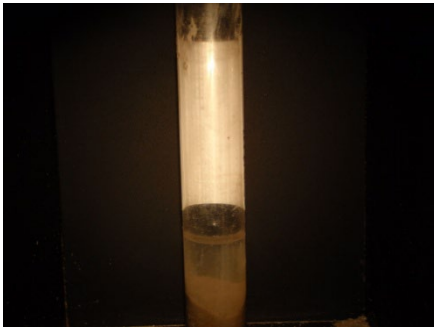
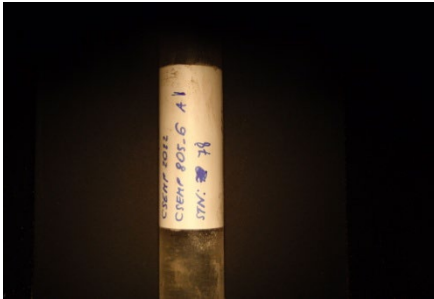
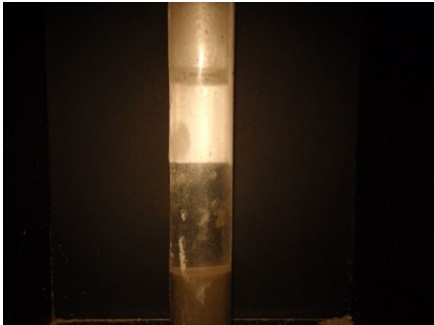
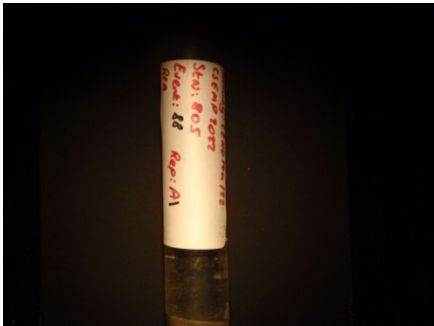
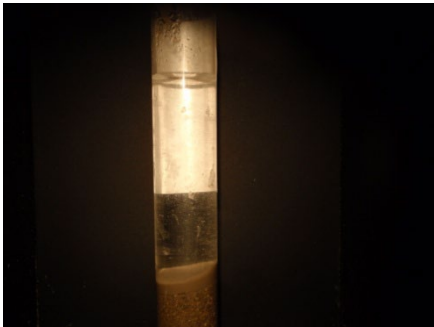
CEND17A22_STN_715_1_ A1_1		gravelly shelly sand	7
CEND17A22_STN_715_1_ A1_2		gravelly shelly sand	7
CEND17A22_STN_715_3_ A1_1		shelly sand	6

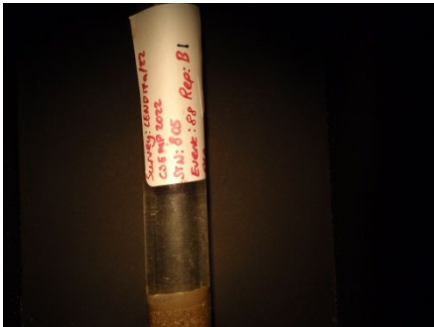
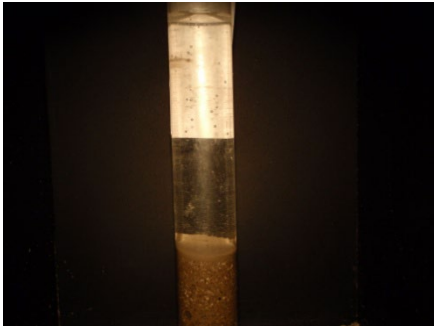
CEND17A22_STN_715_3_ A1_2		shelly sand	6
CEND17A22_STN_715_4_ A1_1		shelly sand	7
CEND17A22_STN_715_4_ A1_2		shelly sand	7

CEND17A22_STN_715_A1 _1		sandy silt	8
CEND17A22_STN_715_A1 _2		sandy silt	8
CEND17A22_STN_715_B1 _1		sandy mud	8

CEND17A22_STN_715_B1 _2		sandy mud	8
CEND17A22_STN_715_D1 _1		sandy gravelly mud	6
CEND17A22_STN_715_D1 _2		sandy gravelly mud	6

CEND17A22_STN_805_01_A1_1		Mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_805_01_A1_2		Mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_805_03_A1_1		Mud	15
CEND17A22_STN_805_03_A1_2		Mud	15
CEND17A22_STN_805_04_A1_1		Mud	9

CEND17A22_STN_805_04_A1_2		Mud	9
CEND17A22_STN_805_06_A1_1		Mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_805_06_A1_2		Mud	14
CEND17A22_STN_805_A1_1		Slightly shelly sand	6.5
CEND17A22_STN_805_A1_2		Slightly shelly sand	6.5

CEND17A22_STN_805_B1 _1		Slightly shelly sand	8
CEND17A22_STN_805_B1 _2		Slightly shelly sand	8

Freya Goodsir, Manuel Nicolaus

Scientist in Charge, 2SIC

21/11/2022

INITIALLED:

DISTRIBUTION:AW; BODC