

R1/3

Not to be cited without prior reference to the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen

MV *Endeavour* BF515

Charter Cruise 0899H

REPORT

11-22 November 1999

Personnel

K J Peach (In charge)
P L Clark
C Lordan Visitor (MIA Dublin)

Gear

Twin Rig 2 x Seaway Nets 150 ft 16 inch disc groundgear
110 mm codend
Single Rig J Sinclair Net 160 ft 18 inch hopper groundgear
110 mm codend

Objectives

1. To map the distribution of monkfish and megrim at 200, 400, 600, and 800 metres along the shelf break from 5730N to 6130N.
2. To sample monkfish and megrim for age, length, weight, sex and maturity.
3. To obtain megrim ovaries to validate maturity stages.
4. To obtain temperature at depth using a minilog sampler.

Narrative

Endeavour sailed from Kinlochbervie at 2000 hours and headed northwest to the first trawling position (58°53'N 07°33'W) arriving at 0500 hours 12 November. Over the next ten days, a total of 37 hauls of approximately three hours were completed in moderate to fair weather conditions. Given the appropriate conditions, the Twin Rig trawls were normally deployed, but on seven occasions, however, poor weather and unfamiliar trawling positions necessitated the use of the single trawl. Damage to fishing gear was minimal except for haul 10 when the gear came fast after 35 minutes in 600 m of water. After some anxious moments, the trawls were recovered with a broken sweep the only damage. *Endeavour* returned to Kinlochbervie at 1000 hours 22 November.

Results

Catches ranged from 15 to 150 baskets of bulk with the largest haul comprising small saithe. Catches of monkfish and megrim were steady throughout the survey (see Table 1). In order to validate megrim maturity keys 66 ovaries were collected. Haul 18 yielded a 180 cm female frilled shark (*Chlamydoselachus anguineus*) which was returned to Aberdeen to be photographed. A total of 410 boxes of marketable species were offered for sale at Kinlochbervie. All survey objectives were met. The experience and hard work of Skipper Lovie and his crew ensured the success of this charter.

TABLE 1

Catch per depth stratum

<i>L. piscatorius</i>					
Hours fishing depth	49/200	24/400	21/600	26/800	Totals
Full sample	282	49	58	113	502
Part sample	350	4	3	153	510
Totals	632	53	61	266	1012
<i>L. budegassa</i>					
Full sample	51	1	0	0	52
Part sample	100	1	0	0	101
Totals	151	2	0	0	153
<i>L. whiffiagonis</i>					
Full sample	251	137	55	18	461
Part sample	854	228	90	18	1190
Totals	1105	365	145	36	1651
<i>L. boscii</i>					
Measure only	21	79	23	3	126

Full sample (*L. piscatorius* and *L. budegassa*)

Length, sex, maturity, total weight, gutted weight, liver weight, gonad weight, both sagitta, illicium

Part sample (*L. piscatorius* and *L. budegassa*)

Length, sex, maturity

Full sample (*L. whiffiagonis*)

Length, sex, maturity, total weight, gutted weight, stomach contents, ovaries, both sagitta

K J Peach
23 November 1999

Numbers per hour

